

THOUGHTS FROM SALESIAN SPIRITUALITY

"Never be in a hurry; do everything quietly and in a calm spirit. Do not lose your inner peace for anything whatsoever, even if your whole world seems upset. What is anything in life compared to peace of soul?" - St. Francis de Sales



Parish staff						
<u>Title</u>	Staff Member	Direct Line	<u>Email</u>			
Pastor	Rev. Robert M. Rutledge, OSFS	919-973-0006	RRutledge@holyinfantchurch.org			
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Pastoral Associate	Lynn Sale	919-973-0018	LynnS@holyinfantchurch.org			
Deacon	Tom Hill	919-544-7135	Tomh@holyinfantchurch.org			

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Rev. Robert M. Rutledge, OSFS, Pastor

Laura Terpack, Peter Barrett, Co-Chairmen, holyinfantpfcchair@gmail.com

John Martin, Director of Operations and Finance

Kathy Auten, Bob Dieter, Mike Pearl, Bob Radcliffe

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Rev. Robert M. Rutledge, OSFS, Pastor

Kim McAllister	Collin McKiney	Laura Terpack
Bob Dieter	Carol Owen	ex-Officio
Lindsay Glenn	Julio Revueltas	Lynn Sale,
Matt Luedke	Mark Szczesiul	ex-Officio

Midge Bowers, Chair, midge2031@gmail.com

FIND IT ON THE WEB

Our parish website is your <u>primary</u> source for the most complete and up-to-date information about the parish. Visit holyinfantchurch.org for details on many topics, including:

- † Mass and Liturgy Times
- **† Office Hours and Contact Information**
- **Calendar of Events**, including event details
- **News** within the parish and around the diocese
- Worship & Sacraments, including sacramental prep information for Baptism, Reconciliation (Confession), Eucharist, Confirmation, Marriage, Anointing of the Sick, and Holy Orders; Vocations for men and women; and Funerals
- Faith & Learning for adults, teens, and children; becoming Catholic; Catholic schools
- Salesian spirituality and the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales
- † Joining the parish
- **†** Getting Involved
- **†** Ministries & Groups

Safe Environment Victim Assistance Hotline

Call 866-535-SAFE

PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND HOMEBOUND

During the General Intercessions at our weekend Masses, we remember all members of our parish and community who are homebound or suffering any illness. Please remember the following in your prayers this week:

Jean Arlotta; Mary Anthony; Jo Agusta; Nancy Balding; Jeff Baker; Colette & Clayton Bean; Jerry DeBenedetto; Jennifer Bland; Margaret Burnett; Marcia Brown; Joanne Callahan; Maria Capone; Alice & Christos Chamis; Albina & Chin Chua; Lillian Davids; Bea Davis; Jerry DeBenedetto; Rosemary Donohue; Eileen Dowling; Christine Drap; Irene Dunbar; Jason Ferrigan; Susan Fleming; Zosima Flores; Adela Florey; Dot & Jack Gregory; Marjorie Goode; Fran Hamacher; Mary Jane Haga; Mary Jane Harvey; Jane Helmer; Denise Herron; Ruth & Kenneth Jones; Dave Jognia; Bernadette Kilroy; Aileen Koch; Bill & Donna LaMountain; Alice Lefebvre; Walter Lupa; Peggy McIntyre; Cris and Terry Mercaldo; Maria Mitch; Monique Mueller; Nelida Muniz; Kathleen O'Donnell; Chris Ogonowski; Johnathan Palermo; Louise Peloquin; Bill Perkins; Helen Pischak; Rosalind Riggio; Nancy Rizzo; Shelia Rogers; Julia Schmidt; Tom Shreve; Betty Short; Kathy Smith; Bob Smith: Hugo Sotolongo: Corrine Stavely: Katherine Strubing: Marisa Suarez; Maria Tadipa; Richard Thomas

Mass Times & Intentions February 12th to February 18th

Masses are livestreamed & in person unless otherwise stated.

Monday, 9:00 am Tuesday, 9:00 am Wednesday, 8:00 am Wednesday, 12:00 pm Wednesday, 7:00 pm

Wednesday, 7:00 pm Thursday, 9:00 am Friday, 9:00 am Saturday, 9:00 am *Saturday, 5:30 pm *Sunday, 8:30 am Malena Family (honor) Cunthia Fisher

Vocations

Wednesday, 12:00 pm Parishioners of Holy Infant

Cheryl Herfort †

Peace in the Middle East

Rick Young † Abner Sebua †

Otto Joseph Hoffman † Barbara A. DeMayo †

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday Jas 1:1-11 Ps 119:67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76 Mk 8:11-13 **Tuesday** Jas 1:12-18 Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19 Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday Jl 2:12-18 Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17 2 Cor 5:20-6:2 Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday Dt 30:15-20 Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 Lk 9:22-25 **Friday** Is 58:1-9a Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19 Mt 9:14-15 **Saturday** Is 58:9b-14 Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 Lk 5:27-32 **Sunday** Gn 9:8-15 Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9. 1 Pt 3:18-22 Mk 1:12-15

WE'RE CREATING A

Parish Directory



Photography Dates set for February 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd & 24th

All participating families receive a free 8x10 photo and directory!

Stewardship of Treasure | July 1 - January 31

	Budgeted	Received	Difference
First Offertory	\$601,485	\$593,454	(\$8,031)
Christmas Offertory	\$25,000	\$26,427	\$1,427
Easter Offertory		\$422	\$422
Holy Day Collections	\$6,000	\$8,996	\$2,996
Maintenance Offertory	\$25,000	\$23,693	(\$1,307)
	\$657,485	\$652,992	(\$4,493)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb 13 Virtual Centering Prayer, 8 am

Feb 13 Justice Garden Workday, 9 am

Feb 13 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, 4:30 pm

Feb 13 Catholic Table Study, 6 pm

Feb 13 Stephen Ministry Meeting, 6:30 pm

Feb 14 Ash Wednesday Masses at 8 am. 12 pm & 7 pm

Feb 14 Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, 4:30 pm

Feb 15 Marian Prayer, 9:30 am

Feb 15 Health Ministry Meeting, 10 am

Feb 15 Eucharistic Adoration, 12 pm

Feb 15 PFC Meeting, 2:30 pm

Feb 15 Stephen Minister Training, 6:30 pm

Feb 15 Yarn Ministry, 7 pm

Feb 16 KofC Fish Fry at ICC, 4 pm

Feb 16 Soup before Stations, 5 pm

Feb 16 Stations of the Cross, 6:30 pm

Feb 17 Justice Garden Workday, 9 am

Feb 17 Servants of God Prayer Group, 3 pm

Feb 17 Rosary Making, 3:30 pm

Feb 17 Reconciliation, 4 pm

Feb 18 UMD Shelter Dinner

Feb 18 Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, 9:45 am

Feb 18 Family Formation, 9:45 am

Feb 18 Catechumenate Session, 11:30 am

Feb 18 JYM, 6:30 pm

Feb 18 St. Monica Ministry of Praying Parents, 7 pm

The parish library is open on Sundays from 8 am-4 pm



Your support of the Bishop's Annual Appeal plays a critical role in funding ministries in the areas of evangelization, discipleship, worship, liturgy, sacramental preparation, and a wide variety of programs that pour forth God's grace, love, and mercy.

We'd like to invite our entire parish community to help us continue to spread the good news celebrating 100 years of our Diocese: Learning from our History and Shaping our Future.

Faith Development

Families & Children Michalene Sutton 919-973-0013

Youth & Adults Amber Shastri 919-973-0012

Msutton@holyinfantchurch.org AmberS@holyinfantchurch.org



VAULT THEATRE PRODUCTION IN MARCH

C.S. Lewis' classic story is brought to life in this innovative retelling of the heroic tale of love, courage, and triumph of good over evil. Through this magical hour of storytelling, Lucy and Peter weave the tale of the struggle for the control of Narnia.

Join Vault Theatre for this public performance on March 3rd at 3 pm in the DeSales Center. Use the QR code to purchase tickets. Tickets with the code HIDiscount are \$5.



FAT TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

Fat Tuesday is synonymous with celebration, often seen as the last opportunity to indulge in rich and indulgent foods before the penitential period of fasting and abstinence during Lent. It serves as a joyful farewell to the carefree days of Ordinary Time, emphasizing the imminent spiritual journey of self-reflection and preparation for Easter.

Join the Knights of Columbus for a Pancake Supper at Holy Infant on February 13th at 4:30 pm in the DeSales Center. \$10 per plate.

SOUP BEFORE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Hosted by FYM, parishioners are invited to partake in a soup dinner prior to attending Stations of the Cross on February 16th. Join us in the DeSales Center from 5-6:30 pm before you make your way to the church for Stations from 6:30-7:30 pm.



WEEKLY PODCAST

This week Amber interviews singer and songwriter Sarah Hart who will be visiting Holy Infant for multiple events March 9th and 10th!

MOMS COFFEE DATE

Moms of all ages are invited to join. We welcome you to enjoy coffee in Christ for the chaos of motherhood at our newest event: Mommy and Me, Coffee and Tea.

This casual fellowship group will meet at Bean Traders on February 20th at 9:30 am. This is a drop-in experience - no need to register ahead! For more information, reach out to Amber using her email listed above.

PLAYGROUP RETURNS

Playgroup is starting up again once a month during the school year. We will meet in between Sunday masses on February 25th from 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. We will meet on the main lawn by the playhouse! Come enjoy donuts, hot drinks, and juice with other parents while the kids get time to play together. If the weather is inclement, we will be in the DeSales Center.

FRIDAY FISH FRY



The first fish fry of the year will be hosted by Immaculate Conception Catholic Church on February 16th from 4:30-7:30 pm in their Fellowship Hall.

Next Friday's fish fry will be at Holy Infant from 4-7 pm in the DeSales Center.

Ministries

Pastoral Associate
Lynn Sale
lynns@holyinfantchurch.org

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

It's official, the Chapel Hill 40 Days for Life Spring Campaign starts on Ash Wednesday, **February 14**. You're invited to join other pro-life Christians for 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion; to stand and peacefully pray in the public right-of-way outside the Chapel Hill Planned Parenthood. Use the QR code for more information.

HEALING LOVE THROUGH CHRIST

For some people, Valentine's Day is a painful reminder of a broken relationship, the death of a loved one, a recent relocation, a chronic illness, or another life challenge.

If you are going through a difficult time, our Stephen Ministers can bring Jesus' love (God's ultimate Valentine) back into your life. Stephen Ministers provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care.

To find out more about Stephen Ministry and how you or someone you know could be matched with a Stephen Minister, talk with Lynn Sale.

PEACE STARTS HERE

Abortion is experienced by millions of women, many of whom are Catholic. The Project Rachel ministry assists women who have been wounded by abortion to find healing and peace. There is a support group beginning in the Triangle area in March.

If you have experienced an abortion and would like (confidential) information about the support group, contact Project Rachel by phone at (919) 852-1021 or project.rachel@raldioc.org.

Calls and appointments are kept strictly confidential.

PREPARING FOR GREENER LENT

Greener Lent focuses the 40 days of fasting, prayer and almsgiving for the poor throughout the world who are being disproportionally affected by the climate crisis. "Not to enable the poor to share in our goods is to steal from them and deprive them of life. The goods we possess are not ours, but theirs." -St. John Chrysostom



FEBRUARY UMD SHELTER DINNER

February's UMD shelter dinner will occur on **February 18th**. We will be serving a spaghetti dinner, which will include spaghetti, salad, fruit, bread, and cookies. Please consider using the QR code to sign up as a volunteer or to donate food towards the meal.

NAME THAT TUNE

NAME-THAT-TUNE – Holy Infant Version - featuring songs from the 50's, 60's, and 70's **March 1st** at 6:30 pm Holy Infant - DeSales Center. For adults of all ages.

Invite your friends to form a team to compete for "bragging rights"! Don't have a team? No worries – come as a single or a couple - we'll find you some teammates.

Bring your own drinks and a snack to share.



CHECK OUT OUR PARISH CALENDAR FOR MORE UPCOMING EVENTS AT HOLY INFANT



Liturgy & Music

Director of Liturgy & MusicJeff Rice
JeffR@holyinfantchurch.org

INVITING OTHERS TO JOIN YOU ON THE JOURNEY OF LENT

Like Christmas and Easter, where many people return to church or consider worshiping for the first time, Ash Wednesday and the season of Lent have a powerful attraction. Ash Wednesday masses are the third most attended of the year! The beginning of Lent calls for a fresh start and a return to God. Ash Wednesday masses, in particular, speak to the existential experience of the human person.

All of us are plagued by our choices and our sins. At the core of the human person is the need and desire to acknowledge one's own sinfulness and fragile condition. The liturgy of Ash Wednesday perfectly speaks to our human fragility when she says, "Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return."

With so many newcomers joining us on Ash Wednesday, we are reminded that Jesus identifies himself with those who are strangers to us - "I was a stranger and you welcomed me" (Matthew 25:35). How, then, can we see Jesus in our visitors this Ash Wednesday?

- Consider parking towards the back of the parking lot or across the street on Ash Wednesday. There's no better feeling than rolling into the parking lot two minutes before mass and finding a parking space in the parking lot!
- Save the seats at the end of the pew for those showing up late, if you are able. It can be uncomfortable for a first-timer to have to climb over others seated at the end.
- Don't recognize the person sitting next to you? Introduce yourself, ask them their name, and welcome them to Holy Infant! If they are not parishioners here, let them know that we are glad they are with us.
- Does someone look confused? Ask if they need help

with something. Be the friendly face that can direct visitors to the bathroom or nursery.

As we enter the desert, let us all be reminded that we too, were once wanderers.

REFLECTING ON THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE

Leviticus 13:1–2, 44–46 The leper will dwell apart, making an abode outside the camp.

Psalm 32 "I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation."

1 Corinthians 10:31—11:1 Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

Mark 1:40-45 The leprosy left him, and he was made clean.

In ancient times, when people contracted leprosy they were immediately excluded from the community, and barred from contact with anyone else. But Jesus changed all that when a single leper came to him. Not only did he heal him, he did so by reaching out and touching him, breaking down the barrier between healthy and sick, between "clean" and "unclean." As Jesus did, so did Paul, the apostle to the Gentiles, who wrote that he became an imitator of Christ.

May the words we hear today inspire us to be imitators of Christ as well, breaking down barriers and reaching out to those who have been excluded. Who can I reach out to help make my family/community/world whole? How can I go about doing so?

SING IT AGAIN, SAM

This weekend we sang "This Little Light of Mine", and African American Spiritual. Use the QR code below to listen to a beautiful arrangement of this favorite song arranged by Moses Hogan, sung by the St Olaf Choir.

Next weekend we celebrate the First Sunday of Lent when we hear of the temptation of Jesus in the desert; setting the tone for our Lenten journey. During these 40 days, we are encouraged to strip away many of the distractions of our life to be able to focus in on our journey with Christ in a new way.

Oblates of St. Francis de Sales



READY?

In the Introduction to the Devout Life, Francis de Sales identifies ready acts of charity as one of the descriptors of true devotion. As someone who slowly reaches for his wallet when the bill comes, I have a hard time seeing myself as ready to act with love. When reflecting on the Gospel passage where Jesus calls the apostles to follow him, we hear from Mark 1:20 that, "immediately they left their nets and followed him." Immediately? I think I would have been left in the boat dragging my feet. I still say to the Lord, "Now is the wrong time, I am not ready."

This past Saturday, I buried my third Oblate since becoming Provincial. Fr. Rich Yost, OSFS, died and was welcomed to eternity on January 13, 2024. There is always grief when a brother Oblate dies, but we are not toppled by death. As Francis himself admitted when he grieved at the death of his sibling, "I have a human heart." We have human hearts and so we cry, but we cry tears of sorrow and hope.

As part of my responsibilities, I write the obituaries. To prepare, I always read the letters requesting entrance to the novitiate, vows, and ordination. After he graduated from St. Francis in Toledo, Fr. Rich entered the Oblate Novitiate in Childs, Maryland in 1965. In his letter of acceptance to the Oblate Novitiate, the Provincial, V. Rev. John Conmy, OSFS, wrote to him, "Never doubt that what the good Lord has given you the grace to begin, He will also give you the grace to finish." Rich kept those words in his heart. I know this because similar words appear when he wrote to the provincial requesting priestly ordination, "I recognize that requesting to be ordained to the Order of Priest is principally a faith response and I do this trusting that God's grace will sustain me." While I sat with Rich in hospice, the last words he said to me were, "No regrets. I've had a wonderful life." Fr. Conmy's words were true; the Lord did sustain Rich and blessed him with a wonderful life.

As someone who delays in responding to the Lord and being ready for acts of charity, I think Fr. Conmy's words hit my heart, "Never doubt that what the good Lord has given you the grace to begin, He will also give you the grace to finish." We will be given the grace even if we are not ready - no regrets, I've had a wonderful life.

May God be Praised!

Fr. Joe Newman, OSFS Provincial Toledo-Detroit Province