

ST. MARY PARISH

401 North Street Chardon, Ohio 44024 Office 440-285-7051 • Fax 440-286-3886 **Pastor**

Rev. Scott Goodfellow

Parochial Vicar Rev. Fabian Han



Pastoral Ministers

Deacon Lawrence A. Boehnlein Deacon Thomas J. Peshek

MASS & ADORATION

Low-gluten hosts available in the priest's communion line upon request.

Portable hearing devices available – ask an usher for assistance.

Responses to Mass parts can be found in the first pages of the Gather hymnal.

Parish prayers and Sunday Spotlight can be found on the inside back cover of the Gather hymnal.

Weekend Mass

Saturday Vigil Mass – 4:30 p.m. Sunday – 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Weekday Mass

Monday, Thursday, Friday – 7:30 a.m. Tuesday – 8:30 a.m. Wednesday – 12:00 p.m.

Rosary following Mass

Holy Day Mass

Please consult the bulletin.

Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday – 12:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m. *12:00 p.m. Mass followed by Adoration* Benediction from 6:45-7:00 p.m.

Parish Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Wednesday 8:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation

Saturday, 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Confessions must end promptly at 4:15 p.m. so the priest can prepare Mass Confessions also available by appointment with a priest.

Last Sunday of the month, following the 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., and 12:00 p.m. Masses

Baptism for Infants

Sundays at 1:00 p.m. or during weekend Masses. Please call the Parish Office at least two weeks in advance to make arrangements. Required Baptism Preparation classes are hevery other month, with locations alternating between St. Mary and St. Gabriel.

Baptism for Adults

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is an ongoing inquiry program about the Catholic faith. Call the Parish Office for more information.

Marriages

Couples should contact the Parish Office at least six months before the proposed date of the wedding.

Homebound Parishioners

Please call the Parish Office at 440-285-7051 to arrange a sacramental visit to your residence, nursing home, or hospital room.

WELCOME!

If you are new to the area, please register at the Parish Office during the week. Notification of any change of address is appreciated.

We, the Roman Catholic Community of St. Mary Parish under the patronage of our Blessed Mother, will proclaim, celebrate, and live our faith in God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit and who sanctifies us in word and sacrament.





www.stmarychardon.org

PARISH DIRECTORY	
PARISH OFFICE	440-285-7051
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Mrs. Judi Parker, VBS Coordinator	
jparker@stmarychardon.org	ext. 107
Mr. Mike Rohr, Art & Environment	
mmrohr426@gmail.com	
WFRSITF	

PARISH DIRECTORY

WEBSITE

www.stmarychardon.org, www.stmaryschoolchardon.org

OUTREACH TO THOSE IN NEED

- Our Bereavement Ministry offers assistance during your time of grief following the death of a family member. Please call the Parish Office.
- Catholic Social Services provides professional counseling for personal or family issues.
 - Geauga County: 440-285-3537; Lake County: 440-352-6191
- The St. Vincent de Paul Society responds to the needs of the poor through direct aid and advocacy. Please contact the Parish Office.
- **Pregnant, scared, need help?** Call 1-800-395-HELP for 24/7 consultation. Call the Parish Office at 440-285-1873 to entrust your prayer requests to fellow parishioners.

MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Parish Family,

On December 18, the Vatican's Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith published the Declaration *Fiducia Supplicans (FS)*, "On the Pastoral Meaning of Blessings." There's been confusion both inside and outside the Church about what this document says and means that I'd like to address in my column today. While the Declaration offered some remarks on the nature of blessings and encouraged pastors to make themselves available to those who seek blessings from the Church, the main concern regards the "possibility of blessing couples in irregular situations (i.e., invalid marriages) and same-sex couples without officially validating their status or changing in any way the Church's perennial teaching on marriage" (*FS*, Opening Presentation).

Most importantly, FS restates the Church's teaching on the nature of marriage as the "exclusive, stable, and indissoluble union between a man and a woman, naturally open to the generation of children" (4). It clarifies that the Church does not have the power to "impart blessings on unions of persons of the same sex" (5) or "confer its liturgical blessing when that would somehow offer a form of moral legitimacy to a union that presumes to be a marriage or to an extra-marital sexual practice" (11). It says that "pastoral prudence and wisdom - avoiding all serious forms of scandal and confusion among the faithful - may suggest that the ordained minister join in the prayer of those persons who, although in a union that cannot be compared in any way to a marriage, desire to entrust themselves to the Lord and his mercy, to invoke his help, and to be guided to a greater understanding of his plan of love and of truth" (30).

FS intends to both close the door to the possibility of offering liturgical blessings for "couples in irregular situations and for couples of the same sex" (31), and, guided by pastoral wisdom and prudence, widen the door of God's grace to offer spontaneous blessings outside of the liturgical rites of the Church to those who are "in situations that are morally unacceptable from an objective point of view" (26). A blessing of this kind could be offered to those who, "recognizing themselves to be destitute and in need of [God's] help – do not claim a legitimation of their own status, but who beg that all that is true, good, and humanly valid in their lives and their relationships be enriched, healed, and elevated by the presence of the Holy Spirit" (31).

Again, pastoral prudence is needed in order to offer blessings in these situations in order to not give the false impression that the Church is blessing or legitimizing a way of life that is sinful or is in any way not in keeping with the Gospel call of Christ. If the request is really just to bless an immoral relationship, the priest or deacon cannot offer a blessing since doing so would hinder rather than help the persons in living Christ's call to chaste love.

Keep in mind that the Church does not have the authority to change Christ's teaching on marriage. FS reminds us, however, that with "untiring wisdom and motherly care, the Church welcomes all who approach God with humble hearts, accompanying them with those spiritual aids that enable everyone to understand and realize God's will fully in their existence" (32). Remember that regardless of our state of life or status in the Church, we all receive a blessing at the end of each Mass by the Sign of the Lord's Cross with the commission to go in peace to glorify the Lord by our lives and announce the Gospel of the Lord.

As I offer these remarks, I want to honor all those in our parish and in our Church who experience same-sex attraction and all who are in an invalid marriage who strive to live a chaste and holy life according to the Gospel call of Christ. Please know that you are an amazing witness and gift to our Lord, Church, and world! God's grace and the blessing of Holy Mother Church has always been and forever will be with you. I hope you never forget that your noble pursuit of purity inspires me and many others to be a saint. Our Church supports and accompanies you in your aspirations to holiness.

Finally, please pray for people and ministers to use the blessings of the Church as God intends, for our Pope and his counselors who are called to lead our Church, for our bishops, priests, and deacons who are entrusted with the administration of blessings at the local level, for men and women living the Sacrament of Matrimony in the Church who provide an invaluable witness to strengthen the Gospel values of family life, and for all our brothers and sisters who struggle courageously to live Christ's call to purity and holy love. Please reach out to me if you have questions or concerns after reading the Declaration. May we be open to the grace of continuing conversion as we strive to live the Gospel of Christ and His commandments of love, joy, and peace.

I am yours in Christ, Fr. Scott Goodfellow

WEEKLY OFFERTORY DECEMBER 30-31, 2023 Regular Sunday Collection (RSC) \$ 15,908.75 (251 givers) ACH Weekly (31 givers) 1,537.00 ACH Monthly (57 givers) 1.847.25 (\$7,389 divided by 4 Sundays) OSV Online Giving (38 givers) 5,824.20 **Total Weekly Offertory** \$ 25,117.20 **Weekly Budgeted** \$ 18,500.00 **Monthly Offertory - November:** November Total (includes RSC, ACH, OSV) \$ 81,528.31 November Budgeted \$ 74.000.00 Number of Donors by Envelope Usage 613 Year-to-Date YTD Total (includes RSC, ACH, OSV) \$ 440,984.58 YTD Budgeted \$ 407,000.00 Adopt-a-Student Fund Balance \$ 43,879.73

UPCOMING WEEK: JANUARY 13-21

Saturday, January 13

3:00 p.m. Confessions

Sunday, January 14

6:00 p.m. Life Teen (Cafeteria)

NO PSR CLASS

Monday, January 15

NO PSR CLASS

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

Tuesday, January 16

6:30 p.m. Life Teen Faith Formation (Hospitality Room)

Wednesday, January 17

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study

12:30 p.m. Adoration

6:45 p.m. Benediction

Saturday, January 20

3:00 p.m. Confessions

Happy Birthday, Father Fabian!

Sunday, January 21

8:00 a.m. Empty Nesters Breakfast

6:00 p.m. Life Teen (Cafeteria)

6:00 p.m. PSR Class Grades 6-8

MASS INTENTIONS: JANUARY 13-21

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday, January 13, 2024

4:30 p.m. Danielle Blaha – Larry & Karen Blaha

Sunday, January 14, 2024

8:00 a.m. Hazel & Carl Kuklica – Teresa Hahn

10:00 a.m. Ray Streiner – *Mitzi Vlach*

12:00 noon Annemarie Lyons – Laura Deimling

Monday, January 15, 2024

7:30 a.m. Stanley & Maria Mudzyn – *Bernie & John Greaves*

Tuesday, January 16, 2024

8:30 a.m. Jack McMeechan – Shirley McMeechan

Wednesday, January 17, 2024

12:00 noon Terez Dunai – Jamie & Melinda Schafer

Thursday, January 18, 2024

7:30 a.m. Mary Ann Bednarski – John Bednarski

Friday, January 19, 2024

7:30 a.m. For the People of the Parish

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday, January 20, 2024

4:30 p.m. Rachael Tillison – *The Grau Family*

Sunday, January 21, 2024

8:00 a.m. Liz Kaufman – *Brenda & Tom Zapotosky*10:00 a.m. Joseph R. Greaves – *Bernie & John Greaves*12:00 noon Deceased Members of the Taddie Family – *Mike Kawalec*

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:

Bill Wieland, husband of Audrey Wieland Gary Farinacci, husband of Diane Farinacci Michelle Lupo, mother of Corrie Lesiak

Andrew Kochevar

Johnny Anton Kusar

Maggie Wellhouse Lee

Francis Pawlikowski

Karen Korycki

Karen Lanstrum

Thomas Martin

Janice McGinley

Jennifer Phipps

Maggie Polinski

Nora Rodriguez

Gail Moriarty

Lucia Opfer Carolyn Ovark

Bud Piras

Ianet Price

Mike Saley

Marty Seufer

Lana Shumney

Crystol Vecchio

Ned VonLindern

Charlette Whiting

Marlene Zeigler

Mark Shoag

Joey Tromba

Ioe Warren

Iace White

Anita Zagar

Lauren Watts

PRAY FOR OUR SICK Jules Berry Carol Betori Addison Boehnlein **Bob Bowver** John Bowyer Linda Bowyer Vikki Carlson Kevin Chartrand Robert Choate Nathan Cole Phil Conti Serena Conti Charles Deck Afia DiFranco John Dipre Karen Doering Zeke Dornbus **Autumn Edmiston**

Don Gentile John Greaves Kathy & Anthony Gross Ierry Heil Iaretta Hissom Brian Hurless Anne Ibold John Kipp Tom Kirchner

Albert Finley

Jean Gehring

Iames Kniskern

Additions or Deletions -Please contact the Parish Office at 440-285-7051.

Our Parish Prayer Line receives prayer requests via email each week. To entrust your prayer requests to fellow parishioners, please email office@stmarychardon.org or phone the Prayer Line at 440-285-1873. You may also phone the Parish Office directly at 440-285-7051. Please contact the parish office if you would like to join the Prayer *Line as a parishioner who prays for these intentions each week.*

SMS PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

The hallways are alive with the return of the students. This week the students received their report cards for the 2nd quarter. After Mass we celebrated students who were kind to others with our Viking Pride Awards. Next week will be our 2nd quarter honors ceremony. We have so much to celebrate as we begin our New Year!

Preschool Registration began last Wednesday. If you have a child who is ready for preschool, our registration form can be found on our website, in the school lobby and in the Gathering Space. A complete registration has 1) the completed application, 2) Birth Certificate 3) Baptism Certificate 4) Registration Fee. Contact Mrs. Kimberly O'Keeffe if you have any questions at kokeeffe@ stmaryschoolchardon.org.

St. Mary Viking Quest will be Saturday, February 3rd. I hope to see you there as it is so nice when our church family and school family can come together. More details can be found at www. stmaryschoolchardon.org/viking-quest-2024.







Buy Tickets Here!

PARISH NEWS

SVDP NEWS

Thank you to all who donated to St. Vincent de Paul this past year. Our generous parish enabled us to give nearly \$25,000.00 to those in need of housing assistance. Housing assistance could consist of: eviction prevention, rent payments, water, gas and electric utility bills, moving expenses, required house painting and buying furniture. Gas was given to those who ran out and had no money for more. This did not include donations of turkeys, hams and all other food. Many, many bags of groceries were distributed. We continue to pray that we will be able to help in the future. Thank you!

BAPTISM PREPARATION PROGRAM

We want to make sure your child's welcome into the church happens joyfully, in a meaningful way and with your full understanding of what your commitments will be. Our program is put on by parish families and will cover the details of the sacrament, choosing Godparents, Christian parenting and some practical ideas about raising children in the church. We hope to see you at our next session on **Thursday, January 25th** at 7:00 p.m. Please call the Parish Office to register.

SCIENCE FAIR JUDGES NEEDED

The St. Mary 7th and 8th graders will be holding a Science Fair on **Saturday, January 27th** in the St. Mary cafeteria from 9:00-11:00 a.m. Please contact

Sarah Allin via email at sallin@stmaryschoolchardon.org if you are interested in judging. Thank you!

MEN ON A JOURNEY RETREAT

Accept the challenge as 2024 unfolds to "BE HOLY!" And to help with this challenge, join us for a one-day Men's Retreat (adults and teens) on **Saturday**, **February 10th**.

The theme of the retreat is "BE HOLY" and it will be held at St. Mary, Chardon. We start with Mass at 8:00 a.m. and will end about 2:00 p.m. Both breakfast and lunch are provided and a freewill offering of \$15.00 is suggested. Who doesn't need more holiness in their life? To register, email Gary Burling: garyWburling@gmail.com.



PRE-CANA FOR ENGAGED COUPLES

St. Mary, St. Patrick and St. Helen are offering a one-day Pre-Cana event for engaged couples who are planning to marry in the coming year. The event will be held **March 16th, 2024** at

St. Mary, Chardon. This is an excellent way to begin preparing for your life together, beyond the sometimes-overwhelming details of wedding planning. The link to the **online registration form** is on the St. Mary website at www.stmarychardon.org/marriage.

The deadline for registration is March 2nd, but space is limited, so if you are interested, please sign up soon. This unique opportunity will allow you to hear from married couples and discuss with your fiancé your future life together. We promise you will enjoy the day!



ST. MARY SCHOOL VIKING QUEST 2024

There are Viking Quest Sponsorship Forms and Ticket Purchase Forms at the Weekend Desk. Please contact Kelly McCloskey with any questions at kmccloskey@stmarychardon.org. Scan the QR code to purchase tickets online, sponosor the event or donate in honor or

memory of a loved one. Remember, we have special New Year's Pricing right now!

Thank you to our Event Sponsors for the Viking Quest 2024!





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SACRED HEART REFLECTION

How do you relax and unwind? When I ask this question to clients, I use the word recreation. The word recreation is derived from the Latin root recreare or re-create. I specifically use that word because our leisure time should re-create and nurture our sense of meaning, purpose, and motivation. A good way to find out if you are recreating yourself is by reflecting on the outcome of your leisurely activities. Do you feel better afterwards? Are you motivated to go back to work? Do you feel more capable of loving others? If not, maybe it is time to consider a new activity. On weekends, a temptation can be to watch Netflix for about ten hours straight. When I have spoken to people who spend their weekends this way, many say that Mondays loom larger, they do not want to be around others, and they feel badly about themselves. Compare this to spending the weekend watching Netflix for a bit, then exercising, grabbing coffee with a friend, and praying. I would wager that the latter would result in feeling much more refreshed and rejuvenated than the former. Time spent on most activities is perfectly fine, but they can become an issue when they are our sole form of recreation. Some activities are like cheesecake - we feel very differently after we have eaten one piece versus the entire cheesecake. Balance is needed in life for health in all areas - physical, mental, and spiritual. This week, consider taking some time to reflect on your recreational activities and changes you can pursue to make your free time truly a time of recreation.

- Luke Brown, LPCC (sacredheartcleveland.com)

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COMMUNITY NEWS

PAID SUMMER INTERNSHIP FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS!

The FEST is looking for motivated college interns for a paid internship this summer! If you are an event, marketing, communications, logistics, or theology major and interested in building your resume while getting hands-on, real-life experience creating an event for 40,000 people, apply today. Jillian was a first-year intern this past summer and shared, "Spending my summer helping build The FEST was one of the coolest, most valuable experiences I have ever had. From the amazing team I worked with to the friendships I made along the way with The FEST community, my summer as a FEST intern was an absolute blast and I loved every second of it!" Send your resume to Caitlin at Caitlin@theFEST.us by January 15th to apply!



HEALTHY DISCIPLESHIP RETREAT & COOKING CLASS WHEN: Saturday, January 20th from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. *BONUS OPTION AVAILABLE*

WHERE: Trilogy Retreat Property, 4171 US 422, Southington, OH

WHAT: Retreat led by Millie Prebel, Pastoral Minister at St. Joan of Arc Parish. She is passionate about health – mental, physical, and spiritual. *Millie is a Certified Spiritual Director and Lay Ecclesial Minister. She is a podcaster, speaker, and author, and is also a self-taught whole foods chef who shares her creations on Instagram @milliesmindfullkitchen.*

OVERNIGHT BONUS + RETREAT:

Friday & Saturday, January 19-20 | \$200.00/person *Includes FRIDAY:* Meet & Greet with food & drinks, Movie, and Discussion.

SATURDAY: Breakfast & Lunch, Retreat program, Cooking Class and Resources

DAY RETREAT ONLY:

Saturday, January 20, from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. | \$125.00/person Includes Breakfast & Lunch, Retreat program, Cooking Class and Resources.

FEBRUARY 2024 – JESUIT RETREAT CENTER PROGRAMS & RETREATS

Jesuit Retreat Center, 5629 State Road, Parma, OH 44134. https://www.jesuitretreatcenter.org

Leading Like Loyola: Jesuit Retreat Center 125th Anniversary Spring Lecture and Retreat. Friday, February 2, 5:00 p.m.-Saturday, February 3, 5:00 p.m. *Presented by Chris Lowney* who will speak on how Ignatian Spirituality informs our personal and organizational leadership practices. How can the lessons from Ignatius and the Society of Jesus from the 17th century inform our lives, our church, our organizations, and our businesses in today's world? \$80.00 (Commuter), \$150.00 (Resident).

Liturgy & Ignatian Spirituality: Mass & Ignatian Reflections in February. Tuesday, 8:00-8:45 a.m. February 6, 13, 20, 27. On Tuesdays, the Jesuit Retreat Center offers Mass in the Main Chapel followed by a brief reflection on Ignatian Spirituality. Freewill offering (registration is not necessary).

February Morning Prayer for Women. Monday, February 19, 9:30-11:00 a.m. Women from all walks of life are invited to pray together and learn more about the beauty of prayer. Led by Sr. Mary Ann Flannery, S.C., this prayer group will refresh your spirit and help you find strength in regular prayer habits. Freewill Offering (walk-ins welcome, registration not required).

Four-Week Ignatian Retreat: Weeks #3-4. Everyday Life, Ignatian Spirituality, Spiritual Exercises – A Virtual Retreat. Wednesdays, 7:00-8:30 p.m. EST. February 21, 28, March 6, 13, 20. Presented by Fr. Paul O'Connor, SJ. A four-week, everyday life journey of Ignatian Spirituality through "Week #3" and "Week #4" of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola. The Exercises are meditations, prayers, and contemplative practices developed by St. Ignatius and structured into four "weeks" or movements. The cost is \$225.00

Being Transformed in Christ Jesus. Friday, February 23, 5:30 p.m.-Sunday, February 25, 1:00 p.m. *Presented by Fr. Bernie Owens, SJ.* A Weekend Retreat in Lent, Preparing you for Easter and more. Begins with Friday Dinner at 6:00 p.m.; introductions at 7:15 p.m. Ends with Sunday Mass at 11:15 a.m. and lunch at noon. The cost is \$300.00.

February Sabbath Days – a Personal Retreat Day. Monday, February 26, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Come and spend a day of renewal and prayer at the Jesuit Retreat Center. Cost: \$50.00.

Cinema & Conversation: *The Shoes of the Fisherman.* Monday, February 26, 7:00-9:00 p.m. Join us at Jesuit Retreat Center each month for films that inspire and entertain. After each movie, there will be time for conversation and questions. We continue in February with the 1968 film, *The Shoes of the Fisherman.* Freewill Offering (walk-ins welcome, registration not required).

Disciple-ing in John's Gospel: A Four-session Virtual Lenten Program on Zoom. Tuesdays, 7:00-8:30 p.m. EST. February 27, March 5, 12, 19. *Presented by Michael Reiling, M.Ed.* In our virtual sessions, we will reflect on this enriched understanding of the Gospel of John and its meanings for us. These sessions will include short presentations, reflective writing time, and the sharing of our insights. The cost is \$40.00.

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