ST. JOSEPH PARISH

11045 St. Joseph Blvd. ❖ Mantua OH 44255

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Rev. Edward Stafford
Pastor

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Permanent Deacon

Sr. Joyce Schreiber, SND
Pastoral Minister

Mrs. Margaret Haney
Director of Religious Education

Mr. Bill Davies
Music Minister

Mrs. Kathi Trares
Parish Secretary

Mrs. Cindy Clark
Business Office Manager

Mrs. Ruth Fitzgerald
Ox Roast Fair Financial Secretary

Mr. Jason Garey
Maintenance

LITURGY SCHEDULE

SATURDAY *5:00 p.m.*

SUNDAY *8:30 and 11:15 a.m.*
8:30 and 10:30 a.m. (Summer)

WEEKDAY *8:00 a.m. Tues.-Thur.*

HOLY DAYS & SPECIAL LITURGIES
(please refer to bulletin)

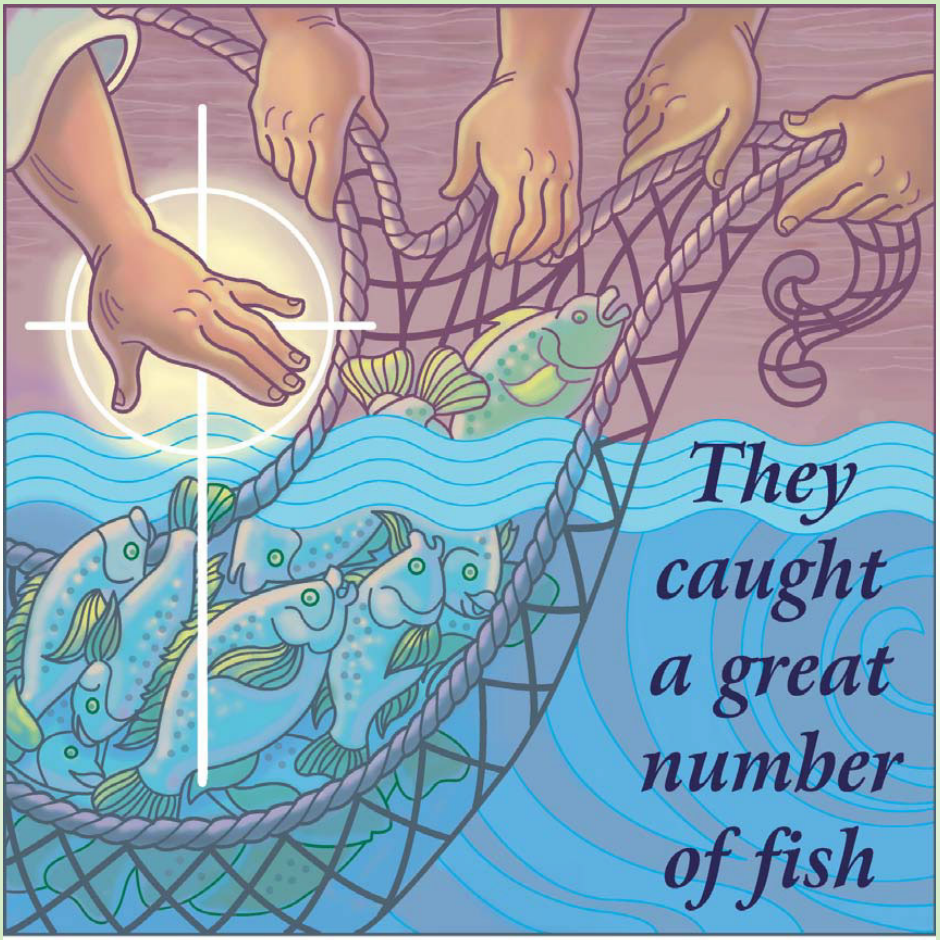
RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)
Saturdays 4:00-4:30 p.m.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
First Friday each month
6:00-9:00 p.m.

Please call the Parish Office for Mass & Prayer Intentions, Carillon Memorials, Catholic Exponent, Family Info. Changes, Bulletin News, Parishioner Registration, or details about any Parish Organizations, Committees and Ministries.

Proud Home of the Ox Roast Fair!

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
February 7, 2016



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JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

During this *Jubilee Year of Mercy*, Pope Francis calls us to share with everyone the tender compassion of God that we ourselves have experienced. In today's Gospel, Luke uses a special Greek word conveying just such tenderness. In the other Gospels, Jesus calls the disciples to be "fishers," *haleis*, the same word that means catching fish with hooks or nets, to be killed and eaten. But Luke uses *zogron*, from *zoe* or "life," meaning "*catch* or *gather* people *alive*," as animal lovers capture without harming, rescue from "the wild" for a better life, and protect in aquarium or zoo, tenderly cared for by professionals committed to the creatures' well-being. So in Luke's vision—and Pope Francis' as well—we who have been "caught alive" by God's mercy ourselves are to become "missionaries of mercy" during this *Jubilee Year of Mercy*, rescuing fellow sinners from danger and gathering them into Jesus' community to enjoy fullness of life. *—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.*

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

As the Roman Empire shattered and collapsed, the bishops were the people best equipped to catch the falling stones. In the West (that's us), they sought to stabilize society by weaving a structure of laws and courts to uphold the rights and dignity of married couples in a chaotic world. The bishops in the East had a different approach, even allowing the dissolution of marriages in certain cases. To an extent, the bishops took a measure of control away from the fathers of families in order to provide pastoral care for those who suffered most in the social collapse: women and children.

In the West, much of the marriage law was contained in the "penitential books" the bishops devised to regulate the lives of public sinners. In the seventh century, Theodore of Canterbury's penitential book said that he had the power to give consent to remarriage in the case of a poor fellow whose wife had been carried off by the Vikings. If the Vikings subsequently brought her back, she could remarry, too! No bishop ever made peace with divorce, but there was never a time when the pastoral concern of the church was not struggling with how to care for people in unhappy situations.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Sun.	8:30 a.m. Mass	*Jane Ann Bernier*
	11:15 a.m. Mass	*Ron Surgeon*
Mon.	No Liturgy	
Tues.	8:00 a.m. Mass	*For Vocations*
ASH WED.	8:00 a.m. Mass	*People of St. Joseph*
	7:00 p.m. Mass	*Anne Chebra*
Thur.	8:00 a.m. Mass	*For The Sick*
Fri.	No Liturgy	
Sat.	4:00-4:30 p.m. Reconciliation	
	5:00 p.m. Mass	*Marian Kosey*
Sun.	8:30 a.m. Mass	*Bert O'Donnell*
	11:15 a.m. Mass	*Aileen Hyden*

SUPPORT APPRECIATED

I sincerely appreciate all the prayers and support so many wonderful friends offered to me and my family at the time of my dear Mom's death. Your thoughtfulness meant so very much to me. Many heartfelt thanks.

—Jan Huter

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Mon: 1 Kgs 8:1-7,9-13; Ps 132:6-7,8-10; Mk 6:53-56
Tues: 1 Kgs 8:22-23,27-30; Ps 84:3-5,10-11; Mk 7:1-13
Wed: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14,17; 2 Cor 5:20-6:2; Mt 6:1-6,16-18
Thur: Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4,6; Lk 9:22-25
Fri: Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab,18-19; Mt 9:14-15
Sat: Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32

To Prepare For Next Weekend's Mass . . .

Sun: Dt 26:4-10; Ps 91:1-2,10-15; Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13

PASTOR'S CORNER

Today's scriptures invite us to open our lives to the saving, merciful grace of God. Our human weaknesses cause us to feel discouraged and doubtful of God's forgiveness, graces and gifts. However, we are encouraged to believe and renew our belief each day in the saving power of God. St. Paul's letter reminds us that it is by the grace of God that we are who we are, and God's grace to us is not ineffective. Jesus repeatedly expresses to his disciples: "Do not be afraid!" May we overcome any doubts, anxieties and fears by turning to our Lord and trusting in His mercy.

Fr. Ed Stafford

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Let us always pray for our sick and homebound.
In particular, please remember in prayer:

Suzy Hafemeister	Paula Krebs	Lynn Davis
Joe Robine	Diane Sanderson	Jo Marie Bailey
Sabina Delgado	Irene Welling	Dan Nuti
Andy Kollarik	Cheryl Erickson	Susan Temple
Joan Kodash	Dean Kohanyi	Angie Daczko
Mary Ann Feddor	Jane Raps	Zoe Craig (Pinter)
Dan Baumbick	Kathy Morcarski	Bunny Fritz
Natalie Jahn	M. Theresa Surgeon	Pat Smith
Alivia Julliana	Vic Santillo	

SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME PRAYER LINE: 440-279-1163

LITURGICAL MINISTER SCHEDULE—2/13-14:

	5:00 p.m.	8:30 a.m.	11:15 a.m.
SERVERS	T. Gall	J. Gerhardt	L. Engelhart O. Glova
LECTORS	B. Caldwell M. Clapp	B. Custer R. Custer	J. Daczko D. Engelhart
EUCH. MIN.	J. Cymanski K. Gray G. Scopilliti	K. Trares C. DeLair J. Duriak D. Kruis J. Kruis B. Kasubick	K. Fejes R. Fitzgerald T. Gross B. Haas J. Herman B. Marinelli
SUPPORT MINISTRIES:			
MASS SET-UP		W. Custer	C./J. Ober
CLOW CATECHIST			No Session
CLEANERS	K. Hogue, J. Kropp		

2015 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

Requested 2015 Contribution Statements are available for pick up in the Narthex. You may request a statement by signing up in the Narthex or calling the Parish Office.

STEWARDSHIP WAY OF LIFE

SUNDAY COLLECTION (1/31):	$4,317.00
ONLINE GIVING (1/31):	$ 287.00
WEEKLY AMOUNT NEEDED:	$6,125.00
OVER/UNDER:	—$1,873.00
# OF ENVELOPES & ONLINE:	168 (of 568)
CHILDREN'S OFFERING:	$ 1.00

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Every day – in little ways and in big ways – God asks, "Whom shall I send?" Whether it is someone to take on a new ministry or just someone to open a door for a stranger, God constantly provides doors of opportunity. The next time you hear God calling, have the courage to walk through the door and say "Here I am, Lord."

Visit us on the web at www.stjosephmantua.com

HUNGERING FOR THE JOURNEY

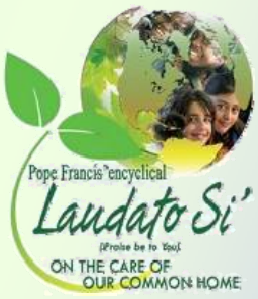
Join our parish community—and nearly 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States—in a life-changing Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl. Pick up your family's rice bowl from the Narthex and don't forget to download the CRS Rice Bowl app! Remember, what you give up for Lent changes lives.

ADULT FAITH OPPORTUNITIES IN LENT

BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study resumes on Monday afternoon, February 29, 1:00-2:30 p.m. in the Parish Center. We will use the ***Threshold Bible Study's*** "Stewardship of the Earth" book. Register by Ash Wednesday, February 10, to order your text. Cost: $13.00. New participants are welcome.

LAUDATO SI /OUR COMMON HOME



A *new* **Study Group** for Pope Francis encyclical on the environment will begin on Thursday, March 3. Our first group met this past fall for an 8 week program on Thursday evenings 7:00–8:30 p.m. This time, meetings will be **Thursday afternoons** from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. Register by Ash Wednesday, February 10. Cost: $10.00.

THE WORD AMONG US FOR LENT

St. Joseph Parish now subscribes to *The Word Among Us* monthly magazine. Pick up your Lenten issue in the Narthex on the *Sunday before* Ash Wednesday. Have you read the stories in the January issue? The editor explains how and why the magazine was started 35 years ago? He witnesses to the power of the Holy Spirit through the encounter with Sacred Scripture. A power shared now for 35 years in *The Word Among Us*.

PARISH LAY MINISTRIES

Are you interested in participating in St. Joseph's liturgical ministries? New lay ministers are always needed and most welcome. Training will be provided for Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Choir, Musicians. Share your time and talent and get to know your fellow parishioners better.

Please contact Sr. Joyce to register or to inquire

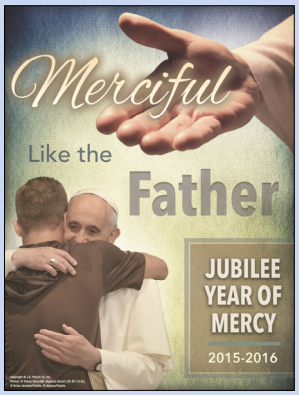
Ash Wednesday, February 10, marks the beginning of our Lenten journey towards Easter and eternal life. Now truly is our time to be healed and reconciled to God and to one another. The mark of ashes on our foreheads reminds us of our sinfulness and our turning back to God for forgiveness, healing and mercy. The ashes are made by the burning of palms from last year's Palm Sunday -- palms that were waved in victory and praise. After we leave the church, we leave the ashes on our foreheads until they wear off naturally from the course of the day's activities. They are a public witness to those things our society does not wish to embrace: the reality of death, and the hope of resurrection in Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES > 8:00 A.M. & 7:00 P.M.
You are welcome to attend either service.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Please plan to join our parish family as Joanne Sawyer leads the Stations of the Cross based on the Stations led by Pope John Paul II. Everyone may gather Friday afternoons of Lent at 3:00 p.m. in the church as she leads prayer & reflection for the Way of the Cross. On March 4, Stations of the Cross will be led by Deacon Gerry Scopilliti at 7:00 p.m. (instead of 3:00 p.m.) and will include Eucharistic Adoration. All are welcome.

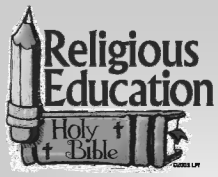
MERCY CORNER



"True religion . . . means welcoming the revelation of God who is father, and who has cared for every one of his creatures, even the smallest and most insignificant in peoples' eyes," said the Pope in his homily this past Sunday.

The ***Catholic Catechism*** clearly and strongly criticizes a distorted sense of human dominion over creation: "Each creature possesses its own particular goodness and perfection...Each of the various creatures, willed (by God) in its own being, reflects in its own way a ray of God's infinite wisdom and goodness. Man must therefore respect the particular goodness of every creature, to avoid any disordered use of things."(*CC*339)

During this Lenten season, our weekly bulletin inserts ***Lent 4.2*** will help expand our notion of who or what is the "object of our acts of mercy." And that may suggest to you *your own story* to drop in our **Mercy Corner Box**. Here is mine: I followed a stray cat to a nearby yard. Wondering, I knocked on the door to see if the cat belonged there. "No," was the reply, "but we are feeding it since it was starving when it appeared four months ago. But we are afraid it will be hit by a car." I asked the woman if I could try to trap it. It *seemed* non-feral and perhaps a home could be found. I called my friend who is a TNR advocate. God-willing and St. Francis interceding, we will see this little calico kitty off the street and into a caring home.



CONFIRMATION NEWS

Confirmation Rehearsal—There will be rehearsal for the February 28th Confirmation on Sunday, February 7, beginning at 9:50 a.m. and will end by or before 11:00 a.m. We will gather in Hughes Hall for prayer and welcoming then proceed to the church. The rehearsal is for Confirmation candidates and their sponsors. Parents and other family members are welcome to attend.

Sacrament of Confirmation—This year's Sacrament of Confirmation is on Sunday, February 28, at 2:00 p.m. at St. Columba Cathedral in Youngstown. Our Confirmation class will join several other classes from around the diocese for this special Mass presided by Bishop George Murry. Please join me in praying for our candidates as they begin the final phase of their preparation.

WINTER GAMES

This year's Winter Games are on Sunday, February 21, during PSR. There will be a meeting of all parents who have signed up to participate on Sunday, February 7, in Hughes Hall at 9:50 a.m. If you are interested in helping out, you are welcome to join us. For more information, please contact Peg Haney @ 330-274-2268 or phaney@stjosephmantua.com.

NO PSR—Sunday, February 14, in honor of Presidents' Day

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

We congratulate Jessica Gerhardt, a senior at Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin in Chardon, for earning Merit Roll honor level for the first semester. Great job, Jessica!

BISHOP MURRY TO SPEAK

Bishop George Murry will be speaking about his experiences at the Synod on the Family and on his service as a Synod Father. The talk will be on Thursday, February 11, at 7:00 p.m. at the Fr. Stenson Center, St. Joan of Arc Parish, 8894 St. Rt. 14 in Streetsboro.

VALENTINE'S DAY SPECIAL BINGO

St. Michael Church, 9736 E. Center St. (St. Rt. 303) in Windham, is hosting a Valentine's Day Special Bingo on Sunday, February 14. Games start at 1:30 p.m. This event is open at adults 18 years old and older and includes refreshments, raffles, baked goods, and a gift table. Come on out for great fun, great food, and great games!!

ST. JOSEPH CARES PROJECT

Our parish's outreach effort, working to serve needy residents of Portage County, is sponsoring a collection of new items for The Horizon House, a residential drug and alcohol treatment center for women, and The Root House, a residential treatment center for men, both of which are in Ravenna serving Portage County. A collection basket will be in the Narthex Feb. 13/14 and 20/21.

WISH LIST FOR THE ROOT HOUSE (ABOUT 12 RESIDENTS):

Shower shoes	*Razors*	*Shaving cream*
Toiletries	*Snacks*	*Non-perishables*

WISH LIST FOR THE HORIZON HOUSE (ABOUT 12 RESIDENTS):

Bedding for twin size beds (pillows, sheets, blankets, comforters)
Bath Towels/Washcloths/Bath Rugs
Toiletries, Makeup/Nail polish (no perfume)
Kitchen Towels
Individual candies/treats
Gift Cards: Goodwill, Movie, Bowling, Gabriel Brothers

THE CATHOLIC EXPONENT

In today's first reading, we hear how Isaiah had a vision of God in the temple and heard God's voice asking: "Whom I shall I send" to preach His word. Today, through Christ, we know that God is calling each of us to spread His word. The Catholic Exponent, your diocesan newspaper, through reporting news, offering commentary, Scripture reflection, and adult faith formation offers you invaluable assistance in growing in your faith and knowing how to share the Word of God in today's world. Subscribe or renew your subscription today by dropping the green "Special Contribution Envelope" from your parish packet into the collection basket (check Catholic Exponent). Or call 330-744-5251 for subscription information. Share the Word of God. Read and support the Exponent.

TWO PART LENTEN DAY OF REFLECTION

Brother Mickey O'Neill McGrath, an Oblate of Saint Francis de Sales, a writer, and an artist will present a two part Lenten Day of Reflection series at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, 342 S. Chillicothe Rd., Aurora on Saturday, February 20. Session I: *Heavenly FBB's: Saints, Sinners, and Us* will take place from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Cost for the session is $5.00. Session II: *Coloring Your Spirit* will begin with a light supper at 6:00 p.m. followed by the presentation from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Cost for the session is $10.00. Participants are invited to attend either or both sessions. The 4:30 p.m. Vigil Mass will take place between the sessions.

LEAF MINISTRY

The Leaf Ministry, sponsored by the Cleveland Diocesan Ministry to the Incarcerated, supports families, who, because of the incarceration of a loved one, experience isolation, shame and an overwhelming sense of being alone. Nine different groups across the Cleveland diocese meet monthly. Schedules available at www.leafministry.org. No pre-registration is required.

12TH ANNUAL WOMEN'S RENEWAL

St. Helen's Parish, 12060 Kinsman Rd., Newbury, is holding it's 12th Annual Women's Renewal Saturday, February 27, beginning at 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Sunday, February 28 (you must be able to stay the entire time). This overnight event is open to women 18 years or older who would like to improve their relationship with God, develop friendships with other Christian women, and become more involved in the church community. There is no cost to attend. Freewill offerings will be accepted on the last day. Please do not let finances hinder your attendance. Brochures with registration form are available in the Narthex. Registration deadline is February 17.

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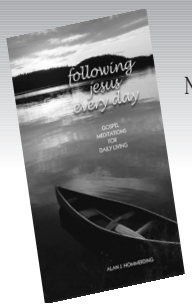

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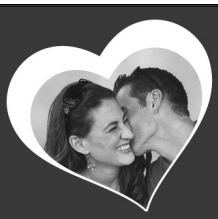

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Schedule of Events

~ For the Week of Feb. 7 - 14 ~

Sun.	9:30-10:50 a.m.	PSR Classes w/Palm Burning (Clsrms/P. Lot)
	9:30-11:00 a.m.	Boy Scout Eagle Breakfast (Hall)
	10:15-11:00 a.m.	Confirmation Rehearsal (Church)
	At 11:15 a.m.	CLOW (Conf. Rm.)
	1:00-4:00 p.m.	Girl Scout World Friendship Day (Hall)
Mon.	6:30-7:30 p.m.	Exercise Class (1/2 Hall)
	7:00-8:00 p.m.	Cub Scout Mtgs. (Classrooms)
Tues.	7:00 p.m.	Men of St. Joseph Mtg. (Ch/Clssrm.)
	7:00-9:00 p.m.	Boy Scout Mtg. (Hall)
Ash Wed.	8:00 a.m.	Ash Wednesday Mass
	7:00 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Mass
	7:30 p.m.	K of C 4th Degree Mtg. (K of C)
	8:00 p.m.	AA Mtg. (Hall)
Thur.	6:00-7:30 p.m.	G.S. Troop #90015 Mtg. (APR)
	6:30-7:30 p.m.	Exercise Class (1/2 Hall)
	7:00 p.m.	Finance Council Mtg. (PC)
	7:00 p.m.	Music/Choir Rehearsal (Church)
Fri.	3:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross (Church)
Sat.	9:00 a.m.-Noon	Umpire Training Class (Hall)
Sun.	No PSR/CLOW (President's Day Weekend)	

2016 ANNUAL BISHOP'S APPEAL FOR CATHOLIC CHARITIES AND CHURCH

This weekend our parish will be joining parishes throughout the Diocese of Youngstown making a commitment to the ***2016 Bishop's Appeal for Catholic Charities and Church***. This year's goal is **$4.2 million**. The Appeal, in its **20th year**, is the primary funding source for Catholic Charities in our six-county diocese. There has been an ever-increasing number of needy persons coming to Catholic Charities for help and they depend on our support of the Bishop's Appeal. The Bishop's Appeal also helps to subsidize traditional Church ministries including Religious Education, Youth and Young Adult Ministries. Bishop Murry is counting on our support of the 2016 Bishop's Appeal. It is his fervent hope that every parish will reach their goal. Thank you to those members of our parish who have responded to the in-mail phase. If you are not prepared to make a commitment this weekend, please take some time to read the in-pew appeal packet and prayerfully consider how you can best respond with a commitment next weekend. Thank you for your prayerful reflection and generous response to the Annual Appeal.

THEY LEFT EVERYTHING AND FOLLOWED JESUS

When called, will you be ready to let go of everything to follow Christ? If you sense that Jesus may be calling you to the priesthood, diaconate or consecrated life, find out more by contacting Fr. Christopher Luoni (330-744-8451 or cluoni@youngstowndiocese.org).

SINCERE SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to the families and friends of *Stella Malisiak*, mother of David, and of *Zbigniw "Ziggy" Przybylski*, father of Teresa Sargiovanni, who recently passed away. May our Lord comfort this family and welcome Stella and Ziggy to New Life in His Kingdom.

PARISH STAFF UPDATES

We welcome Cindy Clark as our Business Office Manager as of February 1. Working part-time she will take on the tasks of keeping the parish financial business in order and coordinating with our accountant. This was previously done by Ruth Fitzgerald after Jan Huter's retirement. A member of the parish since 1989, Cindy and her husband, Ron, live in Mantua. The couple has three adult children and four grandchildren. She is a member of St. Joseph's Garden Club, K of C Women's Auxiliary, and the Reception Committee, and serves as a Eucharistic Minister.

Ruth Fitzgerald will still be a part of the office staff focusing on the task of coordinating the financial side of the Ox Roast Fair. She'll be handling the Fair's bookkeeping, budgeting, licenses, contracts, and any of the office dealings for our big event and working with members of the Core Group and chairpeople. She continues as an office manager for a commercial real estate company in addition to her part-time duties as Ox Roast Fair Financial Secretary at St. Joseph Parish. Having moved to Ohio in 1997, Ruth and her husband, Shawn, live in Aurora with their two sons. She volunteers her time at St. Joseph's as a Eucharistic Minister, Mass Set-up, and Children's Liturgy of the Word Catechist.

Working in the Parish Office since September, 1992, Kathi Trares continues as Parish Secretary handling the administrative duties of the parish. Among her many tasks are bulletin editing, administrator of our parish's website & Facebook pages, maintaining the parish database, serving as Parish Council secretary, and handling Ox Roast Fair publicity & T-Shirt Booth. She also volunteers as a Eucharistic Minister. Living in Shalersville since 1984, Kathi and husband, George, have three adult children and one grandson.

In addition, we have a new Sacristan, Jan Huter. She will be filling this much needed volunteer position that involves not only overseeing the sacristy and its contents but also assisting with various liturgical aspects of our parish. Serving the parish as Administrative Secretary for nearly 20 years until her retirement in February, 2015, Jan is a long time parishioner who has been involved in a variety of aspects of the parish including Worship Committee, Garden Club, Ox Roast Fair, and the Home & School Association. She is the proud mom of three daughters, one son, and three grandchildren.