



ST. JOSEPH PARISH

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PARISH STAFF

Rev. Edward Stafford
Pastor

Deacon Gerry Scopilliti
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.

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

HOLY ROSARY
First Saturday each month
4:20 p.m.



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FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

March 5, 2017



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STRENGTH AGAINST TEMPTATION

The first Sunday of the season of Lent always includes a Gospel account of the temptation of the Lord Jesus in the desert by the devil. This year, the story is set against the backdrop of the first reading from Genesis, which recounts the very first temptation by the devil. That story is set in a garden of delight. The Gospel story is set in the desert. As believers, we know that temptation comes our way in our own gardens of delight as well as the deserts of our lives. As Lent begins, our attention is drawn to that temptation within each of us to become like God—we want control, power, and answers to all of life's difficult questions. As communities of faith, we are given this season of repentance so that we can join our hearts with others on the difficult journey of conversion. We look to God and to one another for strength against temptation.

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TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

In recent years, there has been a resurgence of interest in various forms of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Some people suggest that this recovers an ancient tradition in the church, when in fact the practice belongs to a later time. The custom of showing the consecrated host to the people, encased in a vessel called a monstrance, developed in a period of history when even very pious people received Communion only rarely. The opportunity to see the host raised high above the head of the priest at Mass, or to see the host exposed outside of Mass, was thought by many to be a form of spiritual Communion. Without question, our Catholic practice of reserving the consecrated host both for adoration and Communion of the sick and dying is a cherished tradition. Over the next few weeks, we'll look at how these traditions developed and how the Church envisions reservation and adoration today. We do this by the light of the liturgical reforms that have restored a heightened appreciation for how receiving the Body and Blood of Christ is central to our worship. "Perpetual Adoration," "Reservation," "Benediction," and "Reposition" are all part of the Catholic vocabulary. Often the terms are misused, and a tangled history--as well as widely varying practices in our parishes--adds to the confusion. Many Catholics today have never participated in Benediction, or even spent time in adoration on Holy Thursday night. There's plenty of interesting history, much of it surprising and challenging, and we will do our best to inform you along the way.

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

LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Sun. 8:30 a.m. Mass..... *John & Florence Trares*
 11:15 a.m. Mass..... *Rita Kotkowski*
 Mon. No Liturgy
 Tues. 8:00 a.m. Mass..... *Marty Drlik*
 Wed. 8:00 a.m. Mass..... *Fr. Maximo Ortiz, OSA*
 Thur. 8:00 a.m. Mass..... *People of St. Joseph*
 Fri. 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross
 Sat. 4:00-4:30 p.m. Reconciliation
 5:00 p.m. Mass..... *Bert O'Donnell*
 Sun. 8:30 a.m. Mass..... *Austin Heritage*
 11:15 a.m. Mass..... *Sam Head*

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Mon: Lv 19:1-2,11-18; Ps 19:8-10,15; Mt 25:31-46
 Tues: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7,16-19; Mt 6:7-15
 Wed: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4,12-13,18-19;
 Lk 11:29-32
 Thur: Est C:12,14-16,23-25; Ps 138:1-3,7c-8;
 Mt 7:7-12
 Fri: Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26
 Sat: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2,4-5,7-8; Mt 5:43-48
To Prepare For Next Weekend's Mass . . .
 Sun: Gn 12:1-4a; Ps 33:4-5,18-20,22; 2 Tm 1:8b-10;
 Mt 17:1-9

PASTOR'S CORNER

Jesus understands our human vulnerability for temptation and our inclination to sin, although He did not sin. Jesus Christ will always be our advocate for He came to call sinners and is seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us. Lent is a time for serious reflection upon our sinfulness and openness to hear the voice of the Lord, who deeply desires for us to turn away from sin and be faithful to the gospel. May these 40 days of Lent be a time to examine and confront sinfulness by seeking and relying upon God's compassion, mercy and power to save us.

—Fr. Ed Stafford

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Suzy Hafemeister	Joe Robine	Dan Nuti
Diane Sanderson	Sabina Delgado	Irene Welling
Cheryl Erickson	Andy Kollarik	Joan Kodash
Mary Ann Feddor	Dean Kohanyi	Jane Raps
Zoe Craig (Pinter)	Dan Baumbick	Kathy Morcarski
Bunny Fritz	Natalie Jahn	Alivia Julliana
Vic Santillo	Chuck & Marcia Verardi	Tammy Cozzzone
E. Louise Clark	Reynaldo S. Bernardo	Kathy Paroff
Sharon Olszak	Lily Peterson	Marcia Reed
Timothy Holka	Chuck Holka	Kathy Morris
Sarah Tedrick	Klara Rose Fitzpatrick	Mary Leinen
Barb Moore	Kyle Painley	Keith Ruffner



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LITURGICAL MINISTER SCHEDULE—3/11-12:

	5:00 p.m.	8:30 a.m.	11:15 a.m.
SERVERS	S. Bretz	J. Rowe	L. Gedeon G. Schweickert
LECTORS	L. Brugmann K. Cofojohn	W. Custer T. Murphy	D. Bultinck J. Daczko
EUCH. MIN.	J. Cymanski J. Cofojohn	C. Baumbick A. Carlisle S. Carlisle D. Festa V. Festa C. Bichsel	B. Haas J. Herman G. Scopilliti C. Kotkowski D. Rich-Gross B. Sabol
MASS SET-UP	Staff	R. Custer	R. Fitzgerald
CLEANERS	D. Fedor		

ATTENTION LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Schedules for April-June will be prepared soon. If you need any major change in your scheduling as Lector, Server or Eucharistic Minister, please contact the Parish Office (330-274-2253 or ktrares@stjosephmantua.com) **by Monday, March 13.**

STEWARDSHIP WAY OF LIFE

SUNDAY COLLECTION (2/26): \$4,268.20
 ONLINE GIVING (2/26): \$ 290.00
 WEEKLY AMOUNT NEEDED: \$6,125.00
 OVER/UNDER: —\$1,566.80
 # OF ENVELOPES & ONLINE: 155 (of 488)
 CHILDREN'S OFFERING: \$ 0
 CHURCH ROOF FUND (2/26): \$3,400.00

FEBRUARY TOTALS	
Collections:	\$20,524.70
Donators:	656
Budget Amt:	\$24,500.00
Deficit:	\$ 3,975.30

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Tempted between the riches and power of this world and service to God, Jesus chose service to His Father. If we wish to truly follow Jesus, we, too, must decide to turn away from power and riches and put God at the center of our lives. How is God calling you to serve?

Visit us on the web at www.stjosephmantua.com



Be Faithful to the Gospel

LENT

WE'RE WORTH IT

When we commit ourselves to prayer, fasting, and almsgiving this Lent, we will encounter obstacles. The devil hates to see us grow closer to God. Even if our Lenten progress is microscopic, the devil wants to thwart us. We are God's beloved children, so we are valuable. We are worth the devil's time. Expect difficulty. Expect obstacles. Expect temptation. Above all, expect God's unfailing help. Staying close to God's Word will strengthen us, as it strengthened Jesus in the desert. Today's Gospel shows us that Jesus desires to accompany us, especially in our weakest and most difficult moments. Whatever temptations we face, Jesus understands. Whatever sacrifices we make, Jesus offers them with us. Whatever goodness we show to encourage others, our Lord rejoices with all the angels and saints. Let us approach this Lent as if it is the only Lent we will ever have. God wants to do great things for us in this holy season.

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ENCOUNTER INNOVATION

We encounter the Singh family in India, where a mother and father are using innovative farming techniques to feed their family amidst a flood. How is God inviting us to think outside the box in service to others this Lent? Our entire parish is



invited to participate in CRS Rice Bowl this Lent. Look for ways you and your family may make CRS Rice Bowls part of your Lenten journey at www.crsricebowl.org. Consider downloading the CRS Rice Bowl app to receive daily reflections and inspiration directly to your phone. Rice Bowls are available in the Narthex.



Without prayer, fasting and almsgiving are merely actions we do out of tradition without much meaning. Prayer is our conversation with God. It is through prayer that we find the strength to fast. It is through prayer that

we develop a closer, more intimate relationship with God. This relationship makes us so grateful for the blessings he has bestowed upon us, that we eagerly give to those less fortunate than us. The Church, in its wisdom, understands that prayer is essential to any action we Christians may undertake.

CELEBRATING ST. PATRICK DAY



Since Saint Patrick Day, March 17, falls on a Friday during Lent this year, Bishop George Murry is granting a dispensation for Catholics in the Diocese of Youngstown from the obligation to abstain from eating meat on that day. In granting this dispensation, he is requiring the faithful, if they take advantage of the dispensation to undertake the Friday abstinence on another day that week of their choosing.



Please plan to join our parish family for Stations of the Cross Fridays of Lent at 7:00 p.m. in the church. On the Friday, April 7, they will begin at 6:00 p.m. and included with our Eucharistic Adoration. Please come pray and reflect on our Lord's passion and its meaning for Catholics. All are welcome.

FIRST COMMUNION NEWS

There will be a First Communion Parents Meeting on Sunday, March 12, at 9:50 a.m. in Hughes Hall. We will be making plans for First Communion and the Jesus Day Retreat at this time.

CONFIRMATION NEWS

Confirmation rehearsal will be held on **Sunday, March 12, at 12:30 p.m.** at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Aurora. All candidates and sponsors must attend. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be held on **Sunday, March 19, at 2:00 p.m.** at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Aurora. A reception will follow in the church hall. The Recognition Mass for the Confirmation candidates is on **Sunday, March 26, at 11:15 a.m.** here at St. Joseph Church.

PARENTS—We need three pictures of your candidate for the Confirmation reception: one of your child's baptism, one of First Communion, and a current photo. Please submit these at the Parish Office as soon as possible.

SINCERE SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to the families and friends of those who have recently passed away: **Valerie Flachbart**, wife of Neal, and **Ann Salva**, long time parishioner who served as St. Joseph School Principal (1980-1987) and educator/administrator in Portage County and the Diocese of Youngstown. May these families find comfort and strength as their loved ones live in the eternal presence of God in whom all find comfort and peace. (A Memorial Mass for Ann will be planned here at a later date.)



REMEMBERING JOE HORAN

A memorial service is planned for Joe Horan, husband of Peg (SJS Principal 1990-1995) on Saturday, April 1, at the Village of St. Edward, 3131 Smith Rd., Fairlawn, OH 44333. The Memorial Mass will be at 11:00 a.m. in the chapel with a luncheon to follow in Edward Hall (same building). Please RSVP for lunch count (FLpeghoran@gmail.com). All friends are welcome.

ADDICTION HELPLINE AVAILABLE IN PORTAGE

Residents in need of addiction treatment and support can call the Addiction Helpline for Portage County, being operated by Townhall II with funding from the Mental Health & Recovery Board of Portage County. The phone number is 330-678-3006 and is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. People can call with questions about alcohol or drug treatment, whether they are struggling with an addiction themselves, or are concerned for a friend or family member. Individuals calling will be assessed for referral to area detoxification centers including the UH Medical Support Program, which treats symptoms of addiction withdrawal. Callers also may be referred to the local residential treatment facilities or recovery housing available - Root House or the On Track to Recovery House for men, Horizon House or Portage Area Recovery Center for women. Information is available about medication assisted treatment providers, intensive outpatient, and individual and group counseling. Helpline staff also has a listing of the area AA and other support group meetings.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION ENGAGED COUPLE RETREAT

The next diocesan-sponsored one-day marriage preparation retreat days for engaged couples will be held April 1 at St. Columba Cathedral Hall. This experience is ideal for engaged couples and all involved in parish marriage preparation. Reservations are required. To view the entire schedule for 2017, visit www.doy.org and scroll down to the bottom of the home page.

CHURCH CLEANERS NEEDED



Won't you consider joining our small but mighty crew to help clean throughout the year? Typically, you are scheduled with another person about every six weeks to vacuum and straighten the church and Narthex. Supplies are provided, cleaning may take place any time at your convenience. For more info., please call Cindy at the Parish Office (330-274-2253).

LENTEN DAY OF REFLECTION

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Aurora, will present a Lenten Day of Reflection with the director of Little Rock Scripture Study, Cacki Upchurch on Saturday, March 11, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. A morning session *Lost and Forgotten, Clothed and Dignified* will be presented at 10:00 a.m. A second session *We've Seen His Face* will begin at 12:45 p.m. Ms. Upchurch taps into years of experience in Bible study and adult faith formation to share the life-giving message of Scripture. In addition to serving as director of Little Rock Scripture Study, she is the general editor of the *Little Rock Catholic Study Bible*, an associate editor of *The Bible Today* and contributor to *Give Us This Day*. She is the author of three volumes of the *Alive in the Word* series: *Mary, Favored by God*; *Moses, Called and Equipped*; and *Hospitality: Welcoming the Stranger*. 2.5 hours of General Religious Education Credit will be offered. The fee for the morning session and lunch is \$15.00. The fee for the entire day is \$25.00. To register, please call the parish at 330-562-8519 X0 or visit www.olphaurora.org for more info.

TETÉLESTAI ~ "IT IS FINISHED"

This musical portrayal of the Trial, Execution and Resurrection of Jesus the Messiah is produced by Cleveland Performing Arts Ministries, a non-profit organization. Tétélestai is an inter-denominational production with an all volunteer cast & crew ranging in age from infant to 80+ years. Typically, they perform 23 shows a year throughout Northeastern Ohio for the past 40 years. The show was created by Joel & Russ Nagy of Upper Arlington Lutheran Church in 1974 to be performed by local youth as a ministry outreach. Tétélestai has become a Lenten tradition for thousands each year. Admission is free of charge (donations accepted) and all are welcome. They invite each and everyone of you to share the Good News and LIVE THE PASSION! Upcoming performances held at 8:00 p.m. Fridays & Saturdays and 2:00 p.m. Sundays include Mar. 3-5, First Christian Church of Medina - Mar. 10-12, St. Jerome Catholic Church (Cleveland) - Mar. 17-19, St. Paul Lutheran Church & School (Napoleon) - Mar. 24-25, St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Cathedral of Parma - Mar. 31-Apr. 2, Lakewood United Methodist Church - Apr. 7-9, The United Methodist Church of Macedonia - Apr. 13 & 14 (both 8 p.m.). For more information, please LiveThePassion.org or call 440-944-0635.

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Schedule of Events

~ For the Week of Mar. 5 - 12 ~

- Sun.** 9:30 a.m. Appalachian Experience Mtg. (Hall)
9:40-11:00 a.m. PSR Classes (School Bldg.)
At 11:15 a.m. Mass CLOW (Conf. Rm.)
1:00-3:00 p.m. Mantua Soccer Sign-Ups (Pavilion)
- Mon.** 6:30-7:30 p.m. Exercise Class (1/2 Hall)
7:00 8:00 p.m. Cub Scout Den Mtgs. (Classrooms)
7:00 p.m. K of C Women's Aux. Mtg. (K of C)
7:30 p.m. K of C Mtg. (K of C)
- Tues.** 7:00-9:00 p.m. Boy Scout Mtg. (Hall)
7:00 p.m. ORF Core Group Mtg. (Jake's)
7:00 p.m. St. Joseph Cares Mtg. (APR)
- Wed.** 3:00 p.m. Parish Staff Mtg. (PC)
6:00-7:00 p.m. G.S. Troop #90311 Mtg. (Rm. #3)
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. (Rm. #3)
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.** 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Promise Homeschool Co-Op (Sch.Bld.)
7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross (Church)
- Sat.** 6:30 p.m. Parish Dance (Hall)
- Sun.** ~ **St. Joseph Cares Collection Weekend** ~
9:40-11:00 a.m. PSR Classes (School Bldg.)
9:45 a.m. 1st Communion Parents' Mtg. (Hall)
11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Private Hall Rental (Hall)
At 11:15 a.m. Mass CLOW (Conf. Rm.)
1:00-3:00 p.m. Mantua Soccer Sign-Ups (Pavilion)



BISHOP'S APPEAL FOR CATHOLIC CHARITIES & CHURCH

Last weekend, our parish joined with parishes throughout the Diocese of Youngstown in making a commitment to the 2017 Bishop's Appeal for Catholic Charities and Church. This year's goal is \$4 million with our parish goal of \$32,983.16. The Appeal is the primary funding source for Catholic Charities in our six-county diocese. There continues to be 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. Bishop Murry is counting on our support of the 2017 Bishop's Appeal. It is his fervent hope that every parish will reach their goal. This weekend, we ask that you prayerfully make a gift to the Annual Appeal, using the envelope in your pew or the response card mailed to your home. Thank you in advance for your reflection and generous response to the Bishop's Appeal.



PARISH DANCE

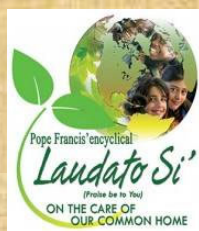


Dance your way into spring with the 80's music at our Parish Dance on Saturday, March 11, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in Hughes Hall. Pizza will be provided—please bring a dish to pass if you are able. **This event is for singles, couples, families—all are welcome!** Questions? Please contact Deacon Gerry Scopilliti at 330-569-4795 or gscopilliti@yahoo.com.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

The Holy Land - A Pilgrimage Through the Footsteps of Jesus

This Catholic audio-video course will take you on a virtual pilgrimage to places Jesus walked giving you a vivid insight into the Gospels. The author, Fr. Donald Senior, biblical scholar, has taught and led pilgrimages to the Holy Land for over 25 years. Each session will include a 25 minute presentation by Fr. Donald followed by our own group discussion. **Gospel enrichment for the Lenten season.**



Laudato Si Study Group

This study group will read the encyclical of Pope Francis "On Care for Our Common Home." We are responsible for handing on to succeeding generations the beautiful gift of our planet Earth. With this letter Pope Francis joins faith and science to educate us in responding to the urgent "cry of the earth." **A repeat offering for new participants.**

Stewardship of God's Creation Bible Study

Text by Stephen Binz from *Threshold Bible Series*. Complements and reinforces Laudato Si by elevating the biblical passages underlying the call to stewardship of the earth, from the Book of Genesis through to the Book of Revelation. A powerful, fresh encounter with the Word of God and the gift of creation. **A repeat offering for new participants.**

The New Rosary Study/Prayer Group

We will study the history of Catholic devotion to Mary of Nazareth using the classic papal encyclical *Marialis Cultus* by Pope Paul VI. We will learn and use new ways of praying the rosary in answer to the call of the encyclical to develop Marian devotions in our times. **(women only)**



Seasons of Hope - Bereavement Group

We will resume the fourth part of our bereavement program, six weekly sessions, mid-March through early May. New registrants welcome. Prior participation not required.



Please sign-up in the Narthex or call Parish Office 330-274-2253.

Classes usually scheduled Tuesday & Thursday - daytime &/or evening.

Bereavement has been held on Wednesday, early afternoons.

Deadline to register for Spring series is March 7.