



THE HOLY FAMILY



He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. - Lk 2:51-52

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday — 4:30 PM
Sunday — 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM
Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri — 8:00 AM

CONFESSIONS

Saturday — 3:00 - 4:00 PM
1st Tuesday — 6:00 - 6:45 PM
Other times by appointment

EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION/ ADORATION

Thursday — 12:00 - 7:00 PM
Resources available in the Narthex.

BAPTISM

Those expecting their first child are encouraged to attend preparation sessions before the birth. Godparents must be practicing Catholics. Contact Father Kawalec.

MARRIAGE

Couples should contact Father Kawalec before any wedding plans have been made. Preparation begins at least six months before the marriage date.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Parish Life Night (PLN)
Weekly - September-May.
(Wednesdays 6:30-7:30PM)

SPONSOR CERTIFICATE

May be obtained at the parish office by registered and active parishioners who are confirmed and, if married, in a valid Catholic marriage.

R.C.I.A.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: a faith formation program for those interested in becoming Catholic. Contact Father Kawalec.

PAROCHIAL SCHOOL

St. Francis de Sales School is available to Nativity children. Contact Fr. Kawalec before registering your child.

BETHLEHEM CAVE AND NATIVITY MUSEUM

Tours are available year-round to the public. Contact Kathleen Conrad at 330-896-0565 or tours@nativityofthelord.org

OFFICE AND MUSEUM HOURS

Monday – Friday: 9:00AM – 4:00PM
Mailboxes open until 8:00PM
PARISH PHONE: 330-699-5086

OHIO CATHOLIC CREDIT UNION

2720 S. Arlington Rd., Akron 44312
1-888-696-4462
www.ohiocatholicfcu.com

MISSION STATEMENT

We are Nativity of the Lord Jesus Parish, a Roman Catholic Church, providing a gathering place for all in the name of Jesus Christ. We encourage the participation of each individual for the betterment of the parish and community.

We seek to give birth to Jesus Christ in the hearts of all people through loving service, Christian example, and Spiritual growth.

Serving southern Springfield Township and northern Green at the corner of Killian and Myersville Roads.

PARISH WEBSITE

www.nativityofthelord.org



STAFF

Pastor:	Rev. Zachary Kawalec	father@nativityofthelord.org
Parish Catechetical Leader:	Ada Honeck	nativitydre@ “
Maintenance Director:	Kim Haas	maintenance@ “
Secretary/Assoc.Bookkeeper:	Helen Hershberger	office@ “
Secretary:	Mary Ann Laston	secretary@ “
Bookkeeper:	Karen Treen	books@ “
Bulletin Editor:		bulletin@ “

JOIN NATIVITY BY REGISTERING

cleveland.parishsoftfamilysuite.com/



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Chairperson: Ed Eitner	330-524-2779	eeeitnersr@gmail.com
Vice Chairperson: Betty Mitchell	330-644-2513	elizabeth.mitchell01@gmail.com
Corres. Secretary: Tessa Miller	216-374-5233	mwmiller1969@gmail.com
Youth Representative: Tessa Miller	216-374-5233	mwmiller1969@gmail.com
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Raul Herrera	330-807-0690	raulherrerajr@yahoo.com

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Due Mondays by 10:00AM.
Submit announcement and duration by email to bulletin@nativityofthelord.org or in writing to the parish office.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sun. December 26

8:30AM Pro Populo (For the People)
11:00AM Mary Ann Traina/Carl & Family

Mon. December 27 NO Mass

Tues. December 28 NO Mass

Wed. December 29

8:00AM Raffaella Mellace/Rich & Ada Honeck

Thurs. December 30

8:00AM Don Brown/Family

Fri. December 31 NO Vigil Mass

Sat. January 1

4:30PM Wayne Hershberger/Helen

Sun. January 2

8:30AM Pro Populo (For the People)
11:00AM Jack Kelly/Janis Gallagher

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

DECEMBER 12, 2021	NUMBER OF ENVELOPES 65
TOTAL OFFERTORY	\$3,723.00
MAINTENANCE	\$ 497.00
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL & POOR BOXES	\$ 269.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND AND GENEROUS SUPPORT

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Names will be kept on this list for two months unless the office is notified. Names removed will be in prayer basket in church.

Chuck Pritt
Ellianna Livengood
Gage Laston
Katherine Wallace
Linda Cuckler
Manuel Smart

Nina Kennedy
Sarah Turner
Shelia Cumberlandle
Stephanie Crangle

and all caregivers

PRAY FOR OUR BELOVED DECEASED

Indeed for your faithful, Lord, life is changed not ended, and, when this earthly dwelling turns to dust, an eternal dwelling is made ready for them in heaven. (Roman Missal)

Ronald Angelo Powell: d. December 11, 2021;
Funeral December 27 at 10AM

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 26, 2021

Sun: *Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/ 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52*
 Mon: *1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8*
 Tues: *1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18*
 Wed: *1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35*
 Thurs: *1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40*
 Fri: *1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18*
 Sat: *Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21*
 Sun: *Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/ Mt 2:1-12*

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 26, 2021

Sun: The Holy Family
 Mon: St. John, Apostle and Evangelist
 Tues: The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
 Wed: St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr
 Fri: St. Sylvester I, Pope; New Year's Eve
 Sat: New Year's Day; Mary, The Holy Mother of God; World Day of Peace
 Sun: The Epiphany of the Lord; Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church

©LPI

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sun. December 26
Guided Cave & Museum Tours 2:00PM

Mon. December 27
Office Closed
Guided Cave & Museum Tours 2:00PM

Tues. December 28
Guided Cave & Museum Tours 2:00PM

Wed. December 29
Guided Cave & Museum Tours 2:00PM

Thurs. December 30
Guided Cave & Museum Tours 2:00PM

Fri. December 31
Office Closed at Noon

Sat. January 1
New Year's Day

Church Open

Sun - 7:30AM - 8PM
 Mon - Closed
 Tues - 9AM - 8PM
 Wed, Thurs - 7:30AM - 8PM
 Fri - 9AM - Noon
 Sat - Noon - 8PM

Office Hours

Tues - Thurs 9AM-4PM
 Fri - 9AM - Noon

The Holy Family:

Today is the feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, and so we can celebrate that we all belong to the holy family of God which makes us brothers and sisters to each other.

At Christmas this year, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to bring joy and hope to our "brothers and sisters" who are poor by assisting area families, providing food, grocery cards, gifts, and assistance with utility and rent bills. Thank you!



Nativity News

ROSARY FOR OUR COUNTRY Please join us in prayer every Tuesday at 4:00PM in church. Pamphlets available on table inside the Weekday entrance door. If you have any questions, please call Barb Bergdorf at 330-714-6446 .

ADORATION AND EXPOSITION is every Thursday from noon—7:00PM in church. Materials are available in the Narthex for your use. *“Be still and know that I am God!”* (Psalms 46:11)

Bible Study on The Eucharist Join us as we explore the Old Testament roots and New Testament fulfillment of this mystery.

Thursdays: January 6, 13, 20, and 27 , directly after Eucharistic Adoration at 7:00 pm in the Holy Family Room.



Tours of the Nativity Cave and Museum

Nativity of the Lord Jesus

Catholic Church

2425 Myersville Road, 44312

2PM Daily, Dec.26-30



Ladies' Guild would like to thank everyone who helped with our Cookie Sell-A-Bration: bakers, wrappers, and buyers! With your assistance, we were able to raise \$806 to use toward the church projects we support.

God Bless You All and Merry Christmas!



CONGRATULATIONS

to our newly Baptized and Confirmed Catholics, as well as those who received their First Holy Communion on December 12th!! Their dedication and patient studies over the past year has granted them a truly blessed membership in the Universal Church and into our local parish of Nativity of the Lord Jesus. We are happy for, and proud of, ALL of You!





FOR HIGH SCHOOL BOYS DADS & MENTORS

are encouraged to join us for talks and resources tailored to those that are raising young men.

YOUNG CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

Keynote Speaker: Father Larry Richards



also...

- Bishop Malesic
- Father Jacob Bearer
- Father Ryan Mann
- Father Mike McCandless
- Luke Brown, LPCC
- Tommy Dome
- Erin Hogan
- Jim Hogan
- Paul Koopman
- Dean Robinson
- Drew Vilinsky
- The Culture Project



TEEN SESSIONS

TOPICS INCLUDE:

- sports, science, dating,
- managing stress,
- spiritual growth,
- culture and integrity

SACRAMENTS

- Mass,
- confession opportunity

YCMC is an initiative to encourage and strengthen men in their Catholic life and how to live it in today's culture. With cooperation of religious, this event is wholly produced by a group of committed lay Catholics who recognize the vast challenges of Christian manhood.



Saturday, January 29th 2022 @ Walsh Jesuit High School

www.YCMC.us



for more info
and to register

DANCING THE NEW YEAR IN WITH "LAFLAVOUR" AND COMMANDERS CATERING

Hosted by Bob Scofield with special guest
host Craig Debock

Friday, December 31, 2021
Queen of Heaven Roberts Hall
Doors open at 6:30 p.m.
Dinner Buffet is from 7:00-8:30 p.m.
Sauerkraut & Pork at Midnight

Bring in the New Year in style with the area's hottest show band
"LaFlavour" and Commanders Catering from the 356th Fighter Group.

Sponsored by Queen of Heaven Holy Name Society. For more information
or large group reservations call Bob Scofield at 330.806.7501. Purchase your
\$50.00 tickets online at EventBrite.com or at Queen of Heaven Parish Office.

Queen of Heaven Parish, 1800 Steese Road, Uniontown, OH 41685
330.896.2345 | www.queenofheavenparish.org

Dear Parish Family,

Once again from our entire Parish Staff, I offer you and your loved ones a very Merry, Blessed, and Holy Christmas Season!! Even though we celebrated the longest Advent possible (27 days); unfortunately, it also means that we celebrate the shortest Christmas Season possible: only 16 days! So, the flood of Solemnities and Feasts race by before we get to soak in Christmas Day. Today's **Feast of the Holy Family** invites us once again to ponder the mystery of our own nuclear family: How does it mirror the Holy Family? Why is it made up of these particular people? What is God teaching me about myself by placing me into this family? What is my role in this family? How does that specific role impact my general responsibilities to my larger spiritual family, The Church? Do I honor and pray for any family members who have drifted away from the Faith or from being close-knit as we were created to be?

The **Feast of the Holy Innocents** (Dec. 28th) reminds us of the dignity and sanctity of human life, especially at its earliest stages. What events and insights within our own life give testimony to the Right To Life of all human persons? How have I encouraged, praised, and supported pregnant women in their gift of motherhood? Do I pray for those contemplating or procuring

abortion, contraception, or fetal stem-cell use/research? How well-educated in these topics am I becoming with the guidance of Catholic Church Teaching? Do I demonstrate compassion, understanding, and forgiveness towards those who struggle with these sinful acts?

The **Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God** (Jan. 1st) is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year since it occurs on a Saturday. Nevertheless, we begin our calendar year by honoring Jesus' natural Mother and our spiritual Mother, Mary most holy! How does Mary's Motherhood effect my own openness to God's Word, my willingness to conceive within me the Word made flesh, and my ability to bear Christ forth into the world around me, by visibly incarnating Him as a Reality for all to see and hear through my own actions? Is Mary a role-model for me, a help and guide in my decision-making, a comfort and strength to me in times of distress, and a powerful intercessor as I prayer to and through her for myself and others? Does Mary's "Yes" echo in my heart daily and then reverberate out, directing my choices? Do I foster a true devotion to Christ's Mother within the rhythm of my daily duties and activities?

God bless you – *Fr. Kawalec*



Hi Folks,

As you may recall, last week I started telling you about one of the best Christmas adventures of mine while sharing family Christmas at Granny's. (you can read it on the Nativity website if you missed the bulletin). My trip was uneventful, and as I got closer, Cousin Cletus ran out to meet me and help me get to the barn where we would celebrate together.

The cows helped keep it warm inside, and the straw gave us a cozy corner to burrow into. Granny pulled out the most lavish feast of tasty morsels she had saved from retreat dinners at Loyola, and we ate our fill. Then came the fun gift exchange. Mom & Dad loved the bead, and bolt, and they gave me the most beautiful creche. "We thought that since you live at Nativity, you might like your own nativity set. So, your dad and I made this one out of bits of straw and brightly colored foil," Mom explained. It was a tiny set that will fit just perfectly in my place.

Cousin Shorty accepted my olive leaf, and we decided to put aside our past disagreements. He then surprised me with a gift—a beautiful shiny button. He said that he has found many useful ways to use a button, so it should come in handy. Cousin Cletus

let out a big whoop when he saw the cookie crumbs, and then handed me a package. Inside was a small piece of goat cheese. "I'm sorry I couldn't do better," he said apologetically. "I know that cheddar is your favorite, but it is hard to find that out in the country." I assured him that it would make a tasty dinner. Aunt Irma and Uncle Iggie burst out laughing as they opened their gifts of a scarf and a sleeping bag. As I opened my present from them, I understood why. We had all given gifts to keep each other warm! They gave me a set of mittens that Aunt Irma had knitted; there were four of them—one for each paw.

Finally, Granny read the card I had given her that was my spiritual bouquet promise to pray five rosaries, and five Our Fathers for her. She smiled, and with a tear in her eye said "Chatter, it is a perfect gift and just what I needed." Then she gave me a Christmas stocking that I could fill with all my new presents to carry them home. I stayed the night and, in the morning, set out for home, carrying my new treasured gifts.....to be continued....

So long for now from Chatter, your friendly church mouse,



TIDBITS FROM THE CHURCH MOUSE

COMING BACK TO CHURCH

I have been away from the Church for a few years and really want to get active again, not so much for me, but for my children. Is this a bad reason to come back to Church?

If you are on your way to the supermarket, and you are forced to detour from your usual route because of road work, does the food you buy taste different? Is the meal less filling? Are the vegetables less tasty? Of course not. In our faith journey, there are many detours called sin. Some are greater than others, some are even a bit longer. But God's grace comes to us in ways we understand and recognize and need. Your children leading you back to the Church is not as important as the fact that you are back. This is an opportunity for you to renew, strengthen, and deepen your faith. Regardless of how we get to Church, or what draws us closer to God, the fact is we are there. Do what you need to do to get right with God and the Church. Go to confession, begin good family religious practices, and be involved in the ministries your parish offers. Be more than a lukewarm parishioner. Be the kind of Catholic you want your children to be. ©LPi

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph



Families can be very difficult things to negotiate. This is true not only of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our Church, our society, and our global family as well. Everything human can be found in family stories. Those stories speak of wonderful life-giving successes as well as painful spirit-robbing abuses. Our greatest joys and our greatest wounds are usually connected with the experience of family. Our needs, experiences, and unresolved baggage often color what we bring to our familiar relationships. They contribute to our level of defensiveness, how guarded and protected we become, and what prejudices we believe.

In order to break the cycle of dysfunction we have to remember that it is not only by human effort that we negotiate the difficult and challenging events of our lives. There is a Divine Effort at work as well. For sure, the human effort can create quite a mess and easily destroy

lives. This is true of any family with which we are associated. Today's Feast of the Holy Family serves to help us understand that there is a Divine Story being told as well. It is a story of perseverance in the face of hardship, determination in the face of despair, healing when we see nothing but wounds, and light where there is darkness.

Do we believe that God is always working, guiding, restoring, and leading? Unless we do, we will never be free from the imperfections and wounds that bind us and never be able to understand what it really means to forgive. Pope Francis tells us that the "light which comes from the Holy Family encourages us to offer human warmth to other families." While this is most certainly true, we can only really begin to do this when we realize that we are still works in progress, not anchored to the wounds and sins of our past, and still a leading star in God's continually unfolding story of love. The Holy Family persevered and radiated warmth because they knew they were not alone. We can too. ©LPi



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