



# DIVINE WORD

CATHOLIC CHURCH

8100 Eagle Road • Kirtland, Ohio 44094

Parish Office Phone: 440-256-1412

Fax Number: 440-379-7491

Parish Website: [www.divinewordkirtland.org](http://www.divinewordkirtland.org)

Shari Allwood  
*Business Manager*

Reverend Jim Caddy  
*Retired Priest in Residence*

Dee Germano  
*Bookkeeper/Membership Coordinator*

Deacon John Grazia  
*Deacon*

Becky Harper  
*Music Director*

Debbie Lokar  
*Pastoral Associate*

Taylor Long  
*Youth Minister*

Helen Petruziello  
*Parish Secretary*

Gina Rensi  
*Director of Religious Education*

Rachel Scott  
*Bulletin Editor/DRE Admin. Assistant*

Jonathan Withrow  
*Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson*

Reverend Dave Woost  
*Pastor*

#### MASS SCHEDULE:

Monday through Friday: 8:30 AM

Saturday Evening Vigil: 4:30 PM

Sunday: 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Rosary: Monday through Friday: 8:00 AM

**RECONCILIATION:** Saturday from  
3:30–4:15 PM or anytime by appointment.

**BAPTISM:** Arrangements are to be made  
in advance. Parent Baptismal Class and  
Sponsor's Certificate are required.  
Please call the Parish Office to register.

**MARRIAGE:** Arrangements must be  
made at least 6 months before the wedding.  
**Please contact the Parish Office before  
you set your date or reserve your hall.**

#### OFFICE HOURS:

Monday–Friday 9:00 AM–5:00 PM  
Closed Saturday & Sunday

*1st Sunday of Lent*  
*February 21st, 2021*

FIRST SUNDAY OF  
**LENT**



## Mass Intentions & Readings for the Week

## Anniversary

<b>MONDAY</b> <b>FEB 22</b>	The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle (1 PT 5: 1-4; MT 16: 13-19) 8:30 AM + Carmen Fatica	Russell Dieterich, Patricia McFarlane, Michael Rhoa
<b>TUESDAY</b> <b>FEB 23</b>	Lenten Weekday, <i>St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr</i> (IS 55: 10-11; MT 6: 7-15) 8:30 AM + Mark West	Michele Cesa, Anna Mae Girgas, Eleanor Kirchner, Dorothy Kriss, Sam Piazza, Donna Wiatrowski
<b>WED.</b> <b>FEB 24</b>	Lenten Weekday (JON 3: 1-10; LK 11: 29-32) 8:30 AM + John Berila	Joseph Kolenko
<b>THURSDAY</b> <b>FEB 25</b>	Lenten Weekday (EST C: 12, 14-16, 23-25; MT 7: 7-12) 8:30 AM + Deacon Carl Varga	Mary Kay Damian, William Dolan, Anna Mary Rossi
<b>FRIDAY</b> <b>FEB 26</b>	Lenten Weekday (EZ 18: 21-28; MT 5: 20-26) 8:30 AM + Barb Stuart	Barry Conforte, Helen Zappia
<b>SATURDAY</b> <b>FEB 27</b>	Lenten Weekday (DT 26: 16-19; MT 5: 43-48) 4:30 PM + Rich Nice and James Warnack	Edward Finlayson, Robert O'Brien, Stanley Pokelsek
<b>SUNDAY</b> <b>FEB 28</b>	Second Sunday of Lent (GN 22: 1-2, 9-13, 15-18; ROM 8: 31-34; MK 9: 2-10) 8:30 AM + Beverly Gerstenberger 11:00 AM + Barb Stuart	Frances Gratz Dwire, Lois McNeill

## THE WEEK AHEAD

### **SUNDAY, FEB 21** *SVDP Easter Food Collection*

8:30 AM Mass-Livestreamed

11:00 AM Mass

### **MONDAY, FEB 22**

8:00 AM Rosary followed by 8:30 AM Mass

9:00 AM to 9:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration

1:30 PM Divine Mercy Cenacle via Zoom

### **TUESDAY, FEB 23**

8:00 AM Rosary followed by 8:30 AM Mass

11:00 AM St. Joseph Consecration via Zoom

### **WEDNESDAY, FEB 24**

8:00 AM Avilas followed by 8:30 AM Mass

7:00 PM St. Joseph Consecration via Zoom

### **THURSDAY, FEB 25**

8:00 AM Rosary followed by 8:30 AM Mass

7:00 PM St. Joseph Consecration via Zoom

### **FRIDAY, FEB 26**

8:00 AM Rosary followed by 8:30 AM Mass

### **SATURDAY, FEB 27** *SVDP Easter Food Collection*

4:30 PM Mass

### **SUNDAY, FEB 28** *SVDP Easter Food Collection*

8:30 AM Mass-Livestreamed

11:00 AM Mass

12:15 PM Baptisms: Evelina Mary DiFranco  
Alexandria Maria Paolucci

## **Q** Does it matter what leg you kneel on **A** when genuflecting?

Genuflection is an act of devotion that literally means "to bend the knee." For many Catholics, it's an almost automatic gesture that we perform before entering our pew or row of seats at Mass. But, like many of the symbols and gestures of our faith tradition, genuflecting can also be an invitation for deeper reflection.

The practice of "bending the knee" is an ancient way of recognizing the presence of someone greater than we are. It has been said that the practice dates back to the time of Alexander the Great, but it became a common part of etiquette in the royal courts of the Middle Ages. From throne rooms and palaces, it was a small step to genuflecting, becoming part of the devotional lives of Christians who used this secular gesture as a way of recognizing the presence of the One who is King of Kings, especially in the Eucharist. In our tradition, although many have been taught or prefer to genuflect by placing their right knee on the ground, there is no prescribed way to genuflect. This is especially important to keep in mind if physical limitations or age make certain movements difficult for us.

Today, Catholics are asked to genuflect in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament (whether in the tabernacle or exposed on the altar during Eucharistic Adoration). So, while it has become second nature to genuflect before entering your seat in church, we should pay attention to where the Blessed Sacrament is kept in each church or chapel we visit, and genuflect in the direction of the tabernacle where the Blessed Sacrament is kept. In churches or chapels in which the tabernacle is in a separate space, we are invited to simply bow toward the altar. ©LPi



### *This week's message from Fr. Dave....*

As many of you know we lost a good man from our parish family on Friday, February 12. Deacon Carl Varga faithfully served the Divine Word parish community for more than 35 years as an ordained permanent deacon. We certainly keep him in our prayers along with his wife, Liz, who died just 10 years ago. We also hold in our hearts the consolation of Carl's daughters, Carolyn, Jenny, and Katie. Carl and Liz were married for 49 years. Together they were a good team and spent their time raising their children and helping with the raising of their grandchildren.

We will miss Carl here at Divine Word. Through the time he spent in Kirtland he stood alongside three different pastors. I have stood together with Carl on the altar for sixteen years. He was ordained in June of 1980 and retired in January of 2019. Through his retirement he continued to provide care with a Bible Study and taking communion to our homebound and sick. Carl will be remembered as that constant presence through many years of growth and challenge in the Divine Word parish community.

The apex of his ministry was his time spent at St. Philip Neri. As a part of the "Church in the City" Initiative, Carl took on the role as Parish Life Coordinator. He provided leadership and direction for St. Philip Neri Parish and Ministry Center. Along with many good people in that community, Carl extended the life of the parish. Unfortunately, the parish would close in 2008. Of course, as he has done throughout his life, Carl picked himself up and came back to Divine Word and spent his time as presider, preacher, reaching out to those disenfranchised from the Church through the program, "Catholic Coming Home," and taking communion to the sick and homebound. He never gave up. Even during retirement, he continued to keep his eyes on serving others even though physically limited.

I am so grateful to God for giving me the opportunity to spend these sixteen years with Carl. I can tell you there were times of great joy and moments of sorrow that we shared together. I hope we can pray that Carl has made a permanent mark on our community. Please continue to pray for his eternal rest and for his entire family. Carl was a good man, with a good heart, who faithfully served us in so many ways. Our best response to his death is to strive for greater faith and trust in the Lord. May Deacon Carl Varga rest in peace. Amen.

The First Sunday of Lent is here. We find ourselves confronted by the familiar story of Jesus' temptation in the desert. Mark's rendition of this story is short, direct and to the point. The Spirit drives Jesus into

the desert. The devil tempts him. Jesus is among wild beasts, and the angels minister to him. That is it. Why so short? Why so direct? I think it makes us reflect on where the desert is for us. The desert sand is not under our feet but in our hearts. We all go through incredible temptations at some point in this life.

Could the desert be the daily annoyances, irritations, loneliness we feel? Has not COVID set up the perfect desert for all of us no matter where we live? When we become so familiar with our surroundings, including the people we live with, the desert can easily take its shape. The temptation is to give in, to think things can be different, that if only this were not here or this person would act differently the desert would be more like, "Home, Sweet, Home!"

I hope and pray that your Lenten journey will be filled with strength to ward off any temptation that might get in the way of your spiritual growth. I hope that using the Consecration to St. Joseph and the many temptation he encountered, especially around the birth of Jesus, can encourage your own strength in Christ. Remember these are good days. We are called to allow Jesus Christ to teach us how to live. There is no better way for this to happen than to allow him to look through us, because we are always allowed to look through Him.

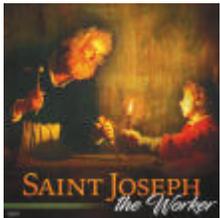
Today we have the Annual Catholic Charities Appeal. I hope if you have not already donated to Catholic Charities that you take the time to do so today. This past year has been difficult for our Catholic Charities family. COVID had caused many interruptions and the need for many alternative plans. I am grateful for all that you can do for us regarding a donation to Catholic Charities. Thank you.

As we enter the second week of the Consecration to St. Joseph you can join a Zoom session. These sessions have been lined up so you can share your experience of the Consecration and hear from others. The Zoom sessions are as follows: Tuesday, February 23rd at 11AM; Wednesday, February 24th at 7PM, and Thursday, February 25th at 7PM. You only need to attend one session per week if you desire. The reason for three different sessions each week is due to the number of people who are participating in the Consecration.

I hope and pray that the second week of Lent is filled with many spiritual moments of growth. Keep on track with the Consecration to St. Joseph. Keep the Faith!

*Fr. Dave*

## St. Joseph Consecration



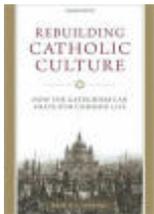
Our St. Joseph Consecration books have arrived and are in the Gathering Area. Please pick up your copy and cross your name off the list, so that we know that you received it. More books are on order and should be arriving shortly.

Please feel free to also grab an information sheet, bookmark and/or prayer cards.

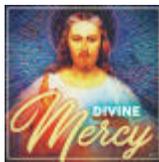
Our Youth Minister, Taylor Long, will be sending weekly emails during the consecration to provide more information on the three different opportunities we will have throughout the consecration. You may simply read the readings on your own, pair up with someone else, or attend one of our weekly Zoom meetings to discuss the readings. Thank you so much for joining us as a parish to grow in prayer, faith, and devotion to Saint Joseph.

## Four Seasons Book Club

The next book we will be reading for the Four Seasons Book Club is *Rebuilding Catholic Culture* by Dr. Ryan Topping. Book Club will take place on **Wednesday, April 14th** at 7PM. Participants can purchase the book on their own if interested in joining. Please let Debbie Lokar know if you will be joining this discussion.



## Divine Mercy Cenacle



The group will be meeting again on **Monday, February 22nd** at 1:30 PM via Zoom at the following address: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83025899884>. We will be reviewing

week 33. All are welcome.

## Lenten Resource Information

A special Lenten resource page will be available on the diocesan website at [dioceseofcleveland.org/lent](http://dioceseofcleveland.org/lent). Included will be a daily Lenten reflection from Bishop Edward Malesic providing meaningful insight and focus for reflection during the season of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, as well as links to relevant videos and other resources to help the faithful observe Lent in a more meaningful way.



## Prayer Chain Ministry



Have a prayer request? Reach out to [prayerchain@divinewordkirtland.org](mailto:prayerchain@divinewordkirtland.org) or call Gina Rensi at 440-256-1412.

## Humor from the Caddyshack



A burly man showed up at the parsonage and asked to see the minister's wife—a woman well known for her generosity. "Madam," he said, "I wish to draw your attention to the terrible plight of a family in your neighborhood. The father died recently, the wife is too sick to work and their seven children are starving. They will have to live on the street unless someone pays their rent." "How terrible," exclaimed the lady. "May I ask who you are?" "I'm their landlord," he replied.

*Father Jim*

## St. Vincent de Paul

In today's Gospel, Jesus overcomes the temptations to wealth, power and esteem. As we begin Lent, may we open our hearts to the grace of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

*This month, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to assist five families, providing \$50 in food and \$2682.32 for utility and rent bills. God Bless You!*

## CRS Rice Bowl – Hunger in Our World



Jesus told us that whatever we did for one of these least brothers of his we did for him. Reflect on the challenge of global hunger – it is a reality for millions of our sisters and brothers. What will you do to support the hungry in our community and around the world? Visit [www.crsricebowl.org](http://www.crsricebowl.org) to learn more.

## Easter Food Collection Begins



This weekend kicks off our Annual Easter Food Collection. Please bring non-perishable foods, cleaning supplies and paper products to fill the bins in the Gathering Area. All donations will be used to fill the Easter Food Baskets that will be

distributed to those in need in our community on **Saturday, March 27th**. Monetary donations are also gratefully accepted. Please place them in a separate envelope marked "Food Collection" and drop them in the collection baskets on the baptismal font. *Thank you in advance for helping your neighbor in need.*

## American Red Cross Blood Drive



This is the time to take care of one another. Your blood donation is essential to ensuring the health of those in our community. Be a part of the lifesaving cause on **Sunday, March 28th** from 8AM - 1:30PM in Hanson Hall. Please register online at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org). This drive is by appointment only (**no walk-ins**) to adhere to social distancing. Please contact Debbie Lokar at the parish office if you have any questions.

## Catholic Charities Annual Appeal



The 2021 Catholic Charities Annual Appeal is underway with an in-pew commitment process taking place this weekend. This is not a special collection; rather, the Catholic Charities Annual Appeal represents the chance for all Catholics to make a significant pledge, payable in installments, to Catholic Charities, Diocese of Cleveland in order to support its mission of a society that stands united in its support of the "least among us." Many parishioners have received a letter from Bishop Malesic requesting their support. If you have not received this letter, please respond to the in-pew commitment process today! If you have received the mailing, please respond to it. There is a box on the in-pew envelope to indicate that you have responded by mail.

**Love Your Neighbor.** Your support of the 2021 Catholic Charities Annual Appeal helps us to carry out the mission that Jesus entrusted to us: 'I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.' Please consider a generous gift that will change the lives of the 400,000 who are served each year in Northeast Ohio. Please pray for the success of the Appeal, which provides for essential programs and services in need throughout all eight counties of the Diocese of Cleveland.

**Double your impact! A generous donor, who believes in the mission of Catholic Charities, will match your gift, up to \$1 million. Do twice as much good when you give online at [CatholicCommunity.org/Match](http://CatholicCommunity.org/Match).** On behalf of the poor and needy of Northeast Ohio, thank you!

## Church Sanitizing Teams

Sunday following 8:30 AM Mass

Feb 21st	Team Kukura/Correnti
Feb 28th	Team O'Toole/Ehredt

## Parish-wide Survey

Divine Word will be participating in a parish survey about discipleship conducted by the Catholic Leadership Institute, and we need your help!

**Please help us by participating in a 10-15 minute survey online.** The survey asks you to reflect on your own spiritual growth and enables you to provide feedback on our parish's efforts to help you grow. **All responses will be confidential** and the parish will only receive information about the community as a whole. The survey can be accessed at this link: <https://portal.catholicleaders.org/dmi/survey/d8dd6dp116>.

We are trying to get the highest response rate possible. This information will be invaluable to Fr. Dave and our various ministries as we plan for the future and strive to be the best disciples we can be. We will receive the results this Spring/Summer, at which time we will share what we have learned with the entire parish.

If you prefer a paper copy, you may pick up a paper copy of the survey after daily and Sunday Masses or contact Helen at the office via 440-256-1412. Paper copies will be located in the Gathering Area. Please drop off your completed paper survey **in a sealed envelope** in the box located on the table with the paper copies, or return the paper copy to the church via mail:

Divine Word  
**ATTN: Parish Survey**  
8100 Eagle Road  
Kirtland, OH 44094

Thank you for helping with this important project!

## An Invitation to Students in Gr. 4 - 12



The annual "Respect Life" Art, Digital Art, Essay & Poetry Contest is an opportunity for students to share their artistic and written talents, celebrate the sanctity of human life, and be one of the many cash prize winners at our spring Awards Ceremony! To enter, please go to [www.LifeWorksOhio.org](http://www.LifeWorksOhio.org); at the bottom of the News & Events scroll, just click on the Contest Details for your grade level. **Entries must be postmarked or e-mailed by February 26, 2021.** Questions: 216-661-6616 LifeWorks Ohio. LifeWorks Ohio's programs are endorsed by Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus Roger W. Gries.

## Stewardship Report

Weekend of February 14, 2021

Weekly Collection (146 donations): \$7,575

Weekly Collection Goal: \$11,500

Weekly Collection net surplus/deficit: (-) \$3,925

YTD Collection: \$465,749 / YTD Goal: \$401,600

YTD Collection surplus/deficit: (+) \$64,149

Usually I have the stewardship report sitting on Fr. Dave's desk for review long before now, as I'm finally putting pen to paper, or in this case, fingers to keyboard. But this week has been busy with planning for Deacon Carl's funeral.



I've known Carl (and Liz before her passing) for about a quarter century. I got to know Carl when we both served on the very first Board of Directors for Joseph House, our Home for

Refugees (and now a clothing bank for refugees as well). For a number of years, my husband Rod and I would pick up one of the priests at Divine Word and head west for Sunday Mass at St. Philip Neri. Deacon Carl played a **major** role in keeping St. Philip Neri Masses and the parish alive and well. I loved Mass at St. Phil's. The sign of peace required about ten minutes, as nobody stayed in their pews – we'd all wander around to be sure we greeted and shared love and peace with everyone. I think Carl loved that. I know I did. When preparing the program for Carl's Funeral Mass, seeing the Prelude Song as "Soon and Very Soon" brought back a flood of fond memories from St. Philip Neri. None of those wonderful memories excluded Carl.

Carl also led RCIA when I went through the program. He always took time to answer the questions I had. None were stupid, he'd assure me.

Pre-COVID, Carl would ride with me to our Joseph House Board Meetings. He loved that ministry and served it well for decades. I was touched to see Joseph House of Cleveland as one of the recommended places to contribute in lieu of flowers.

If you're like me, you can immediately call to mind the laugh of Liz and the laugh of Carl (and what a duo when they were cracking up together!) While I feel immense sadness, I feel great joy knowing that Carl has been issued the "well done my good and faithful servant" line, and he's enjoying time with Jesus, Liz and so many who have gone before us from Divine Word and St. Philip Neri. While it's still hard to lose those we love and respect, it's so comforting to have faith and knowledge that they are in a far better place and that we will be together again.

*Shirley*

## Remember Our Sick & Suffering!



Pat Aquila, Maria Babic, Samantha Bagdasarian, Mary Barresi, Charlie Bartzen, Cecilia Bertha, Jeff Bonfanti, Premo Bonfanti, Cristan Smudz-Bregar, John Brown, Anne Busch, Mike Camino, Rachelle Marie Carlson, Michael Cholak, Courtney Clair, Daniel Clair, Izzy Corbin, Susan Daly, Nicole Dixon, Rose Dixon, Vera Draksic, James Drown, Cindy Evans, Jackie Fatica, Joe Fontana, Christopher Gilbey, Vickie Gilbey, Alice Gilmore, Rosemary Giorgi, Lou Godfrey, Toni Grabowski, Vince Granito, Judith Gruber, Ida Guest, Richard Guest, Vicki Gullo, Mary Lou Hanslik, George Harchick, Rose Harchick, Kolbe Hepker, Lynn Hogye, Michelle Holbury, Gabrielle Holicky, Bill Horton, Donna Horton, Nancy Hummer, Elizabeth Hunter, Allan Jenisek, Mike Keresman, David Kirek, Kelly Konya, Audrey Kramer, Kallie Kramp, Lynne Kravos, Darlene Kuhar, Ralph Kutcher, Fred Lazar, Emily Levi, Cathy Lombardo, Nicholas Lombardo, Joshua MacDonald Jr., Marie Mauer, Phyllis McNally, Neil McReynolds, Dave Mekker, Ronald Minadeo, Katy Nicolli, Gwen Novak, Ed Nye, Mollie Obersear, Lynn Odell, Natalia Rose Ortega, Marty Parent, Father Fred Pausche, Bobby Petruziello, Michael Popovich, Erin Potter, Kevin Powers, Dominic Puianno, Breda Radej, Christian Rassi, Sharon Regovich, Judy Rigo, Kris Ruhe, Steve Sabol, Camille Salerno, Jennifer Sanderson, Elaine Sargi, Rosemary Schaller, Marie Siggins, Marie Smith, Peter Sussen, Judy Sustar, Gene Trela, Ken Udovic, Donald Victor, Jay Vukcevic, Angela Wandle, Bernadette Wasserman, Tammy Webb, Dale White, Michael White, Tilly Wilke, Michael Wojnar, Father Dave Woost

*Please take a moment to lift these individuals up in prayer this week. Please notify the parish office when a name can be removed from the list. Thank You.*



Deacon Carl Varga

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE February 27th and 28th, 2021

	Extraordinary Ministers	Lector
Saturday 4:30 PM	J. Kelleher J. Kelleher D. Lokar C. Rodak	A. Simerale
Sunday 8:30 AM	J. Dangler B. Heckman-O'Toole R. Lowery M. Walsh N. A. Walsh	K. Sweet
Sunday 11:00 AM	J. A. Brown J. Grazia D. Meeks G. Rensi T. Smitley	D. Trombetti

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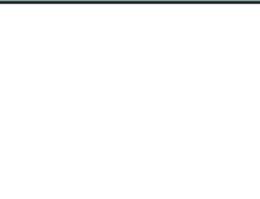


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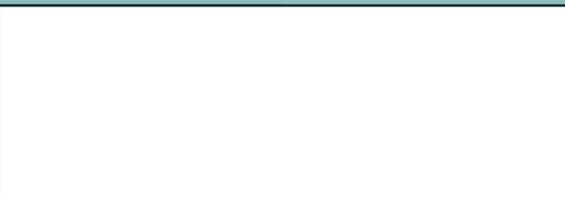
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