

February 14, 2021



# St. Monica

Catholic Church



13623 Rockside Road  
Garfield Heights, Ohio

Parish Office:  
(216) 662-8685

Fax: (216) 662-1245  
website: [saintmonicachurch.net](http://saintmonicachurch.net)

St. Benedict: (216) 662-9380  
Early Learning Center  
(216) 475-3633  
OCFCU (216) 663-6800

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office is open  
8:00am—4:00 pm. Mon.,  
Tues. & Thurs & 8:00 am—  
Noon on Wed. & Fri. We  
request anyone who comes  
to the parish office to please  
wear a mask. Thank you.

**MASSES:** 7 days a week  
Saturday: 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 9:00 a.m.  
and 10:45 a.m.  
Monday-Friday: 8:00 a.m.

Bulletin Announcements due to  
[sshepka@saintmonicachurch.net](mailto:sshepka@saintmonicachurch.net) by  
NOON on Friday

## PARISH CLERGY

Rev. Thomas A. Haren, **Pastor**  
Rev. Theodore Marszal,  
**Senior Parochial Vicar**  
Rev. Jerome Lukachinsky,  
**Retired, in Residence**  
Rev. Thomas G. Montavon,  
**Retired, in Residence**  
Stan Drozell, **Deacon**

## PASTORAL STAFF

Sister Helene Skrzyaniarz  
SSJ-TOSF,  
**Parish Catechetical Leader**  
[shelene@saintmonicachurch.net](mailto:shelene@saintmonicachurch.net)  
Bob Soeder, **Director of**  
**Liturgy and Music**  
Stan Jakosh, **Business Mgr**  
Susan Shepka, **Office Mgr**  
Kathy Piggford,  
**Pastoral Council Chairman**  
Kathy Wendling,  
**Finance Council Chairman**

**PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:** We, the parish of St. Monica, work to create a Christlike family, welcoming all people where one encounters a loving God, by serving the spiritual, educational and social needs of the community.

**BAPTISM:** Please make arrangements in advance. Baptisms are performed on Sundays, immediately following the 10:45 a.m. Mass. Pre-Baptismal instruction is required for parents. Please call the Parish Office for time of next scheduled class.

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA):** Adults and school-age children seeking full membership in the Catholic Church through the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist can make an appt. to continue their conversion process by calling the Parish Office.

**RECONCILIATION:** Opportunities to celebrate God's forgiveness in one's life are available on Saturday afternoons from 3:15-3:45 p.m. Individual appointments with a Priest can be arranged.

**MATRIMONY:** The Diocese of Cleveland requires a 6-month preparation period for marriage. Call the Parish Office to set your wedding date and plan your celebration.

**CONFIRMATION:** Any adult or high school student needing Confirmation, please call the Parish Office to schedule preparation.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** Celebrated upon request. Call the Parish Office to make arrangements with one of our Priests.

**NEW PARISHIONERS:** Please call the Parish Office to register.

**ST. BENEDICT CATHOLIC SCHOOL:** Provides Catholic education for students K-8. School hrs.: 8:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. *Before & After Care* available. Mrs. Lisa Oriti, *School Principal*

**EUCHARIST FOR THE HOMEBOUND:** Parish Team and Staff Members visit the homebound on a monthly basis. If you or someone you know is homebound and would like to receive communion, call the Parish Office.



## LITURGY SCHEDULE

Monday –Friday 8:00 a.m.

### Sunday, February 14

#### *Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

9:00 Ann Bednarchik  
10:45 People of the Parish

### Monday, February 15

#### *Weekday*

8:00 George Billings

### Tuesday, February 16

#### *Weekday*

8:00 Joseph Arena

### Wednesday, February 17

#### *Ash Wednesday*

6:30 William, Clara & Lawrence Moczulski  
9:00 Diane Fargo  
7:00 Dorothy Markiewicz

### Thursday, February 18

#### *Thursday after Ash Wednesday*

8:00 Helen Russin

### Friday, February 19

#### *Friday after Ash Wednesday*

8:00 Mary Walker

### Saturday, February 20

#### *Saturday after Ash Wednesday*

3:15 Confession  
4:00 Florence Eppele

### Sunday, February 21

#### *First Sunday in Lent*

9:00 People of the Parish  
10:45 Jim Polak



**Please keep in your prayers the following members of our Parish Community:**

**Johnnie, Carol, Barb, Judy Watters, Philp-Michael Lockhart, Larry & Lorna Piechowiak, Concetta Rimmel, John Spadaro, Michael Wyrzykowski, James Gorman, Carol & Gerald**

**DeLooze, Special Intention, Alexandria Romanowski, Patricia Chesney, Vivian Budd, Baby Harrison Justin, Bill Paluscsak, and Joanne Reddinger.** *The names will remain in the bulletin for two weeks. Please call the parish office if your name or a loved one's name needs to be added to the list. If you have a special intention you would like remembered in prayer, please call Lillian Neptune (216) 662-5464.*



Our sincere sympathy and prayers are extended to the family and friends of those who were recently buried:  
**Dianne Stoltz.** May she and all our faithful departed, rest in peace.

## Pastoral Scene

### Succumbing to Life

2021 is not much different (so far) than the “Year of the Mask (2020),” or so it would seem. We’re still social distancing, we’re still wearing masks, we’re still quarantining. The number of those contracting Covid-19 is still high and the number of those expiring from the virus is still growing. A vaccine is on its way (or here in some cases), and although many have received it, there are many more who have not. Our social-political scene is a mess (or not – depending on one’s point of view). It would seem that we are slowly succumbing to the inevitable. But while all of these things are true, I would suggest that rather than succumbing to death, we also have the opportunity instead to succumb to life.

I realize that by definition, the word “succumb” carries a negative connotation. We might think of succumbing as submitting or surrendering – like giving in or succumbing to temptation. The origin of the word actually come from Latin *succumbere*, which means “to fall down.” So what could possibly be the positive aspect of succumbing to life?

Once upon a time there was a prince who wore about his neck a valuable amulet containing a precious gem. One day, he and his entourage approached a small brook which they needed to cross. They did so for the most part without much difficulty. However, just before the prince reached the opposite shore, the chain around his neck broke and the amulet containing the gem fell into the water. The prince sent his servants into the water to find his treasured possession. They splashed around and searched frantically, but to no avail. Growing more panicked and impatient, the prince himself entered the water, splashing and searching, but he also came up empty. Meanwhile, sitting on the shore and watching the whole thing was a monk, who was also travelling with him. “Good friar,” the prince yelled out, “help us find my amulet – it contains a most precious gem.” The monk responded, “I am helping you!” and continued to sit quietly and watch. The prince, now infuriated by his response, traped out of the water, sat down on the shore and began to cry in despair. After a time, the monk slowly stood up and calmly walked a short way into the brook and stooped over. Reaching under the water, he picked up the amulet. Then, still as calm as could be, he made his way over to the prince and handed him the amulet. The prince was astonished. He asked, “How did you know exactly where to find the amulet? It was if you could actually see it!” “I did actually see it,” replied the monk, “you and your men stirred up so much sediment while haplessly splashing about, that you disguised the location of your amulet. I simply waited until it all calmed down, and in the crystal clarity of the water, I saw your treasure and retrieved it.”

The prince succumbed to panic and despair. The monk succumbed to life. The water and the sediment didn’t go away, but they calmed down. He let all of the turmoil around him go by the wayside. All of that was out of his control. Instead, he focused on calm and clarity – and with that he attained his goal.

Moral of the story: rather than being upset about all of the Covid-19 restrictions and regulations, the social-political scene and so on (they’re not going to go away any time soon, but they will calm down), maybe it would behoove us to take some time to just quietly sit on the shore, wait for things to settle, let our vision become focused, and then calmly proceed with the things in our life that we can control and nurture. Succumb to life.

Bob Soeder

**Bishop Edward Malesic Is Coming**

We received word from the Diocesan Offices that **Bishop Malesic** has accepted our invitation to come to St. Monica Church to celebrate the **10:45 AM Mass on February 21<sup>st</sup>**. We look forward to his visit, and the opportunity to meet with him.

**The Season of Lent**

The Season of Lent starts on Ash Wednesday with the distribution of Ashes. It begins for Catholics a period of forty days of prayer and penance. The role model for the Season of Lent is Jesus Christ, who spent forty days in the desert at the beginning of His Public Life. Jesus used this time communicating with His Father to prepare Himself for the next three years of very special ministry, culminating in His Death on the Cross and Resurrection from the Dead.

As followers of Jesus, it is important that we make His example our own. The Church recommends that in imitation of Jesus, we perform Penance during the Season of Lent. There are three forms of Penance that are recommended by the Church: Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving. We can do these in many ways.

Lent is a special time of Prayer. There are many forms of prayer available to us: Weekday Masses and Sunday Masses, the Rosary, Eucharistic Adoration, Liturgy of the Hours, Reading the Bible, Stations of the Cross, Reception of the Sacrament of Penance, and the Practice of Daily Prayer.

Lent is a special time of Fasting. There are several ways we can accomplish this: Fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, Abstaining from meat on the Fridays of Lent and on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, giving up other foods we cherish, or giving up activities that we enjoy.

Lent is a special time of Almsgiving. There are many ways we can accomplish this: charitable giving, doing kind deeds for others, and volunteering acts of service for those who need our help.

Whatever way you choose to spend your time during the Season of Lent, please take advantage of this Season to grow in your relationship with Jesus Christ.

Fr. Thomas Haren

**Religion Question of the Week**

What are the Three Theological Virtues that pertain to God?

**Did You Know?**

Did you know that the original property for St. Monica Church was located on Monica Lane?

**One Liner**

“What can you serve, but not eat? A tennis ball.”



**Join us every Thursday at 6:00 pm in CHURCH as we pray the Rosary. All are invited.**

**Vatican Modifies Distribution of Ashes**

*The Congregation for Divine Worship releases a note laying out the procedures priests around the world are to follow for the distribution of ashes at the start of Lent.*



By Vatican News (January 12, 2021)

The health situation caused by Covid-19 continues to forces changes on daily life, which are also reflected in the Church’s sphere. Ahead of the beginning of Lent, on Wednesday, 17 February, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments has published a note detailing how Catholic priests are to distribute ashes.

**Instructions**

After blessing the ashes and sprinkling them with holy water in silence, the priest addresses those present, reciting once the formula found in the Roman Missal: “Repent, and believe in the Gospel” or “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return”. At that point, the note continues, the priest “cleanses his hands, puts on a face mask, and distributes ashes to those who come to him or, if appropriate, he goes to those who are standing in their places.” He then sprinkles the ashes on each person’s head “without saying anything.”

**A Lenten Reflection for all Liturgical Ministers**

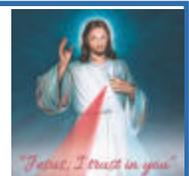
will take place on Monday, February 22, 2021 at 7:00PM. There will be three options for attendance. You may attend **in person**, by **livestream** or through **Zoom.com**.

*Whether you have been active or not during the COVID crisis all are welcome and encouraged to attend!*

Because of Zoom time restrictions, this will be an abbreviated gathering - lasting about 40 minutes.

For more details as well as Zoom and Livestream instructions, visit our website: <http://saintmonicachurch.net>

There will be a Divine Mercy Holy Hour this **Sunday, February 14th at 2:30 pm** in Saint Monica Church. Please wear a mask. All are welcome!



PARISH ACTIVITIES

**MONDAY, February 15**

4:15 p.m. Walking Group

**TUESDAY, February 16**

4:15 p.m. Walking Group

**WEDNESDAY, February 17 ASH WEDNESDAY**

6:30 a.m. Mass (+)

9:00 a.m. Mass (+)

5:00 p.m. G.A. (+)

7:00 p.m. Mass (+)

**THURSDAY, February 18**

4:15 p.m. Walking Group

6:00 p.m. Rosary (+)

**FRIDAY, February 19**

**SATURDAY, February 20**

12:00 p.m. RCIA

4:00 p.m. Mass

**SUNDAY, February 21**

9:00 a.m. Mass (+)

10:45 a.m. Mass (+)

Stewardship Offertory Collections

February 7, 2021

Regular Offertory.....	\$ 5,717.00
St. Monica Fund.....	\$ 320.00
Misc specials.....	\$ 697.00

*Please continue to mail in your donations,  
Donate online or drop off at the office .  
Thank you for your continued support.*

CALENDAR FUNDRAISER

In order to help raise much needed monies to make up for the shortfall in our budget caused by the pandemic we are excited to announce a new church fundraiser!



In a few weeks you will be receiving a letter and calendar for the month of April with prizes listed for each day of the month. We are asking you to buy and or sell these calendars for the cost of **\$25.00 each**. Each day of the month will have a designated prize assigned to it and each day a name will be drawn and the winner will be notified of that day's prize. Once your name gets picked, it will go back into the drawing for additional chances to win again! For \$25.00 you will get 30 chances to win a daily prize worth a \$25.00 value, with some days being more!

If anyone would like to donate cash or gift cards of any amount to help keep the cost down that would be greatly appreciated! Please call **Angie & Bill Noyes at (216) 912-8679** for more information.

**New Mission Statement**

Over the past six months our Pastoral Council has been working on a new Mission Statement for St. Monica Church. They received input from our parish staff, and the final product has gone through many revisions. The members of the Council believed that our Christlike and welcoming environment were essential to who we are as a Parish.

This new Mission Statement is found on the front page of our bulletin: "We, the parish of St. Monica, work to create a Christlike family, welcoming all people where one encounters a loving God, by serving the spiritual, educational, and social needs of the community". We thank the members of our Pastoral Council for this work on our new mission statement for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Fr. Thomas Haren

**Answer to This Week's Religion Question**

What are the three Theological Virtues which pertain to God?

**Answer:**

Faith, Hope, and Charity.

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, February 14th in honor of President's Day. The office will reopen Tuesday morning at 8:00am.



Congratulations and Best Wishes to **Michael and Bernadette**



**Nanadovich.** They are celebrating their **50th Wedding Anniversary** by renewing their vows in church this weekend.

**Catholic Cemeteries Association Monthly Sunday Grief Support February 21<sup>st</sup>:**

Catholic Cemeteries Association continues with our free monthly in-office grief support groups on February 21<sup>st</sup> with limited seating for social distancing. We offer a comfortable, private, and safe environment where you are free to explore your grief. Meetings are open discussion format, surrounding a monthly topic or whatever is on your heart. They do not build off each other so you can stop in any month and fit right in. If you are not yet able to talk about your grief, come and listen and be in the presence of those who understand. The February topic is "Experiencing God's Loving Embrace". We meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month from 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. at six locations:

- Saint Joseph Cemetery, Avon (NEW office);
- Holy Cross Cemetery, Akron (office);
- Holy Cross Cemetery, Brook Park (office);
- Calvary Cemetery, Cleveland (office);
- All Saints Cemetery, Northfield (office);
- All Souls Cemetery, Chardon (office).

Meeting sites are sanitized and seating is arranged so everyone is at a safe distance. Participants are asked to RSVP so we can plan appropriate social distancing at each location. We require all in attendance to wear protective facial coverings. To RSVP or for questions, please contact Rhonda at [rabrams@clecem.org](mailto:rabrams@clecem.org) or 216-930-4866.

**Garfield Heights Knights of Columbus Wednesday Night Dinners:**

**February 24 Chicken Marsala**  
**Reservations by Sunday February 21... 8PM**  
**Adults -\$10 Children under 12 - \$8**

Prepared by Lori's Custom Catering ---  
 phone 216-662-2277 --- MAILBOX #2

**Dinner consists of 2 pieces of Chicken, Garlic Roasted Red Potatoes, Green Bean Almandine, Salad, Roll & Butter**

**- EVERYTHING IS PACKAGED - PRE-ORDER ONLY - TAKE-OUT-Curbside Pickup- NO BAKERY-SERVING TIME 4-6 PM**  
*Please leave your complete name, phone number and number of dinners you will be picking up. We will need your phone number in case we need to contact you due to an unfortunate situation that we may need to cancel due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Please no changes day of. Thank you for your continued patronage. If someone else is picking up - leave their name also.*

All Saints Federal Credit Union is running a Balance Transfer Promotion, which applies to new and existing accounts!

Transfer any credit card debt that you have onto an All Saints FCU Visa Credit Card at 2.99% APR for 24 months. This promotion runs from **February 1, 2021,**

**through April 30, 2021.** Visit or call any of our three branch locations at 216-524-0414, 216-587-0631, or 440-888-3663; for hours, addresses, phone numbers, and additional information, please visit our website at [www.allsaintsfcu.com](http://www.allsaintsfcu.com).



**Pray Always – EVEN on Your Phone**

From ancient times the Church has had the custom of celebrating each day with the Liturgy of the Hours, also known as the Divine Office and the "Work of God (Opus Dei)". The Liturgy of the Hours is the prayer of the whole People of God, who we became through our Baptism. It is through this prayer that the Church fulfills Jesus' precept to "pray always".

In the Roman Catholic Church priests are required by canon law to pray five of the seven Hours, while Deacons are required to pray morning and evening Hours and members of religious congregations pray the Hours required by their constitutions. The Liturgy of the Hours is like an extension of the Eucharistic celebration and the Church has always encouraged the laity to also pray these prayers. Okay, I 'hear' some of you asking, "Nice history lesson, Sister, but **what has this to do with me?**" Let me explain!

Until 2010 the only 'real way' to pray the Liturgy of the Hours was to purchase a collection of four books that contained the year's prayers. Depending upon the type of set of books one chose, the cost ranged from \$150 to \$200.

However, in the late 2010s, Don Paolo Padrini, Pastor of the Parish of St. Giorgio in Stazzano, Italy was holding his mobile iPhone in his hand and thought, "Why can't the Breviary (common name for the Liturgy of the Hours) be on my phone?" That idea blossomed into the Breviary application connected to the idea of mobility. This new mobility made it possible to do many things while travelling on the train, on the bus, in the park, in the church.

iBreviary's purpose is simply this: to link technology with the faith and the human need to talk with God, to feel closer to Him through the prayer at any time of the day. The iBreviary offers the complete texts of the Liturgy of the Hours in five languages, downloadable daily or for a full week.

The iBreviary also offers the complete texts of the Mass, the complete texts of rites for the celebration of all the sacraments, the funeral rites, the rosary, and other prayers of the Church.

The iBreviary TS is available online (<https://www.ibreviary.org>) for iPhone, iPad, iPod Touch, Android, Kindle Fire, Windows Phone 7, Blackberry, mobile version, widgets. AND the best part is that iBreviary TS app is FREE!!!

Be creative this Lent and try a new way to pray. You just may like it!  
 Sister Helene

# Lenten Schedule - 2021



## **Ash Wednesday - February 17, 2021**

Masses will be at 6:30am, 9am & 7pm

## **Stations of the Cross**

Fridays - Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> , Mar. 5<sup>th</sup> and Mar. 19<sup>th</sup>  
at 3:30PM in Church



## **Mary's Way of the Cross**

Fridays - Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> , Mar. 12<sup>th</sup> and Mar. 26<sup>th</sup>  
3:30PM in Church.

## **Welcome Bishop Edward Malesic**

The Most Reverend Edward C. Malesic, Bishop of Cleveland  
First Sunday of Lent (February 21st) at 10:45AM



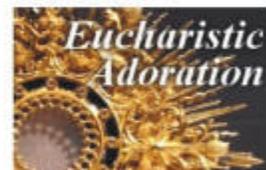
## **Liturgical Ministers - Lenten Recollection**

Monday, February 22, 2021 at 7PM

More info: [http://saintmonicachurch.net/Liturgical\\_Ministers.html](http://saintmonicachurch.net/Liturgical_Ministers.html)

## **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament With Confessions**

Mondays - March 1<sup>st</sup> , March 8<sup>th</sup> ,  
March 15<sup>th</sup> , March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30pm



## **Confessions**

Saturdays - 3:15pm (Except on Easter Vigil), or by appointment

ST. BENEDICT CATHOLIC SCHOOL

# VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

## Zoom Sessions

St. Benedict Catholic School  
Main Campus Grades 1-8  
13633 Rockside Road,  
Garfield Heights 44125



- Informational Virtual Open House Zoom Sessions
- Morning Sessions - 10:00 AM - January 27, February 3, & February 10
- Evening Sessions - 7:00 PM - February 4, February 11 & February 18



Call  
216-662-9380 to  
register for a  
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House Sessions!



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# ST. VINCENT De PAUL SOCIETY



## FOOD PANTRY

AT

## ST. MONICA PARISH

**SPECIFIC ITEMS ARE NEEDED - please no expired items**

Apple Sauce - Jar or Cans	Pancake Mix
Baked Beans - Canned	Pancake Syrup
Brownie Mix	Paper Towels & Toilet Paper
Cake Mixes - Any Variety	Peanut Butter
Canned Pasta (ravioli, spaghetti O's)	Pop Tarts
Cereal - Box or Bag	Potatoes (specialty) Box/Pouch
Chicken - Canned	Potato Flakes
Chili - Canned	Ramen Noodles - Any Variety
Cookies - Any Variety	Rice - White or Brown
Cookie Mix	Salad Dressing - Any Variety
Crackers - Saltines or snack	Sloppy Joe Mix
Dish Soap - Liquid	Snack Pack Pudding
Fruit - Canned or Jars	Soup - Boxes
Gravy - Jars, Cans or Packets	Soup Broth - Any Variety
Hamburger Helper	Soup - Canned, Any Variety
Jello - Regular & Sugar Free - Any	Spaghetti Sauce - Jars or Cans
Laundry Detergent - Liquid	Stew - Canned
Mac & Cheese	Taco Shells & Mix
Muffin Mix - Any Variety	Tuna - Canned
Oatmeal - Instant & Tubs	Tuna Helper



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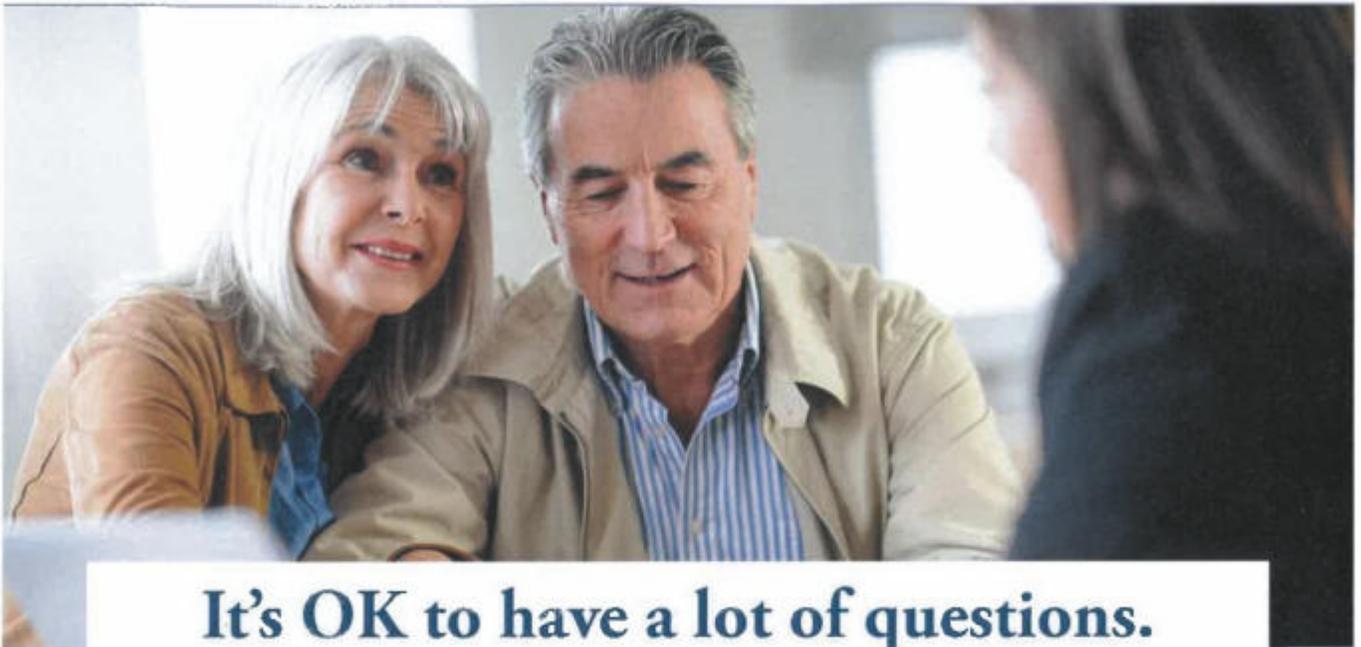
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- ♻️ Mail
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- ♻️ Magazines
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**It's OK to have a lot of questions.  
We're here to answer them.**



**March 13, 2021  
1:00 PM**

**Holy Cross Cemetery**  
14609 Brookpark Rd.  
Cleveland Ohio 44142  
216-641-7575 Ext. 3

**Attend our FREE seminar to learn more about the burial planning process including:**

*Full body, cremation, and natural burial  
In-ground vs. above-ground burial  
Catholic funeral tradition*

We kindly ask that you RSVP to this event, so we can make arrangements for proper social distancing. Attendees are required to wear a face covering throughout the seminar.

Please contact Bob DeJohn at 216-570-5839 or [bdejohn@clecem.org](mailto:bdejohn@clecem.org).

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