# Church of Saint Clare

#### 5659 Mayfield Road, Lyndhurst, Ohio 44124 Phone: (440) 449-4242 Fax: (440) 646-9648 Parish Web Site: saintclare.net

Fr. Stanley J. Klasinski, Pastor Fr. Joseph R. Brankatelli, Parochial Vicar Mrs. Lori Mascia, Pastoral Associate Daniel and Nancy Maier, Pastoral Musicians



#### Masses:

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 p.m.; Sunday 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., and 12:00 noon Weekdays: 8:30 a.m. Holy Day of Obligation Vigil: 4:30 p.m. Holy Day: 8:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

#### **Confessions:**

Saturday: 3:30-4:00 p.m. or by appointment

#### Baptism:

First and third Sunday of the month at 1:00 p.m. Please contact the Business Office to make arrangements.

#### Marriage:

Arrangements must be made at least six months in advance. Initial contact is to be made directly with a priest of St. Clare.

#### **Communion for the Sick and Shut-Ins:**

We are most anxious that all who cannot get to Church be able to continue to receive the Eucharist. Please call the Business Office and a Eucharistic Minister will be provided.

#### Anointing of the Sick:

A priest will gladly come to your home by request to anoint the ill or aged. Anointing for hospital patients is provided by the hospital chaplain.

#### **Sponsors:**

Sponsor certificates are given to those who are registered parishioners, confirmed and practicing Catholics. Contact Business Office.

#### **Registration:**

Welcome! Please register in person at the Business Office.

#### CHURCH OF SAINT CLARE

#### LYNDHURST, OHIO



Mass Intentions

Prior to Daily Mass, Rosary and Divine Mercy, 7:50 a.m. Come Join Us!

Monday, December 18 8:30 Peter Thomas

Tuesday, December 19 8:30 Joseph Germano

#### Wednesday, December 20

8:30 Academy Mass 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Eucharistic Adoration 12:00-1:00 p.m., Confessions

Thursday, December 21 ~ Saint Peter Canisius 8:30 Lou Lopardo

#### Friday, December 22

- 8:30 Floriano and Filomena DiFranco and Giuseppe Licata
- Saturday, December 23 4:30 Celebrant's Intention

#### Sunday, December 24 ~ Fourth Sunday of Advent

- 9:00 Celebrant's Intention 11:00 Celebrant's Intention
- 4:00 Celebrant's Intention
- 6:00 Celebrant's Intention
- 12:00 For Our Parish

#### Telephone Directory: 440-449-4242

#### **Business Office** Office of Faith Formation Lisa Gros, Business Administrator <sup>113</sup> Lori Mascia, Pastoral Associate 119 Barbara Dokar, Parish Secretary 101 Brad Jasko, Administrative Assistant 122 Janet Homa, Accounting 114 Gayle Jameson, Office Assistant <sup>115</sup> Parish Ministries St. Clare Outreach (Voicemail) 161 Fax: 440-646-9648 Caregiver Support 165 Youth Ministry, SCYGA 139 Rectory 105 Business Office and Chapel Hours Fr. Stanlev Klasinski 107 Monday-Tuesday - 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Fr. Joseph Brankatelli 2 Wednesday-Friday - 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Mass Schedule Saturday - 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

#### This Week at Saint Clare

Monday, December 18 Nourish, 6:30 p.m. (HR)

Tuesday, December 19 Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle, 9:15-10:00 a.m. RCIA, 6:00-8:30 p.m. (HR)

Wednesday, December 20 Eucharistic Adoration, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Confessions, 12:00-1:00 p.m.

**Thursday, December 21** Breakfast with Saints, 9:00-10:15 a.m. (HR) Outreach, 7:00 p.m. (HR)



Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you. Matthew 11:10

Chrístmas Busíness Office Schedule The Busíness Office will be closed: Monday, December 25 Tuesday, December 26 Monday, January 1

W - W - W

#### **Academy**

Matthew Tabar, Principal	117
Loretta Pilla, Admissions Coordinator	102
Michael Smith, Administrative Assistant	118
Cara Mia Duncan	
Pre-K Director/Teacher	129
Fax: 440-449-1497	
Aftercare	131
Clinic	132
Gym Kitchen	130
Food Services (Voicemail)	164

#### Saint Clare Parish Mission Statement

Saint Clare Parish is a Roman Catholic community that cherishes its faith tradition, celebrates the sacraments, and cultivates lives of Gospel service and stewardship.

#### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Readings for the Week of December 18		
Monday	Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25	
Tuesday	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25	Year
Wednesday	ls 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38	Goal
Thursday	Sg 2:8-14/Lk 1:39-45	
Friday	1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56	WEEKI WEEKI
Saturday	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66	Week]
Sunday	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Rom 16:25-27 Lk 1:26-38	Onlin Fee ( Child

#### Pray for Our Sick



Elizabeth Bryson, Frank Casarona, Joseph Casarona, Laurie Casarona, Sally Chervenak, Joe Covay,
Nicholas Covelli, Ken Cudnik, Mary Jane De Penti,
Roger De Penti, Darlene Dula, Elizabeth Ferenczi,
Marie Fiore, Crissy Horacek, Joseph Kollar,
Tony LaVerde, Tommy Lewis, Carmella Mastrandrea,
Justin Montello, Karyn Nowak, Anthony Paluckas,
Rosemarie Paluckas, Alyssa Parino, Agnes Parsons,
Lauri Powaski, James Razzante, Divine Rinella,
Mary Ann Rody, Lena Salvatore, Bob Sheridan,
Dorothy Skiba, Edward Synk, Arch Tunnell,
Tom Warner, Joseph Wentzel, Donna Zenobi

> **Pray for Our Deceased** Michael Mitri, Angelo Monaco

Capital Improvement Contributions Fiscal year Beginning 07/01/23 c-to-Date through 10/31/2023 \$27,644.00 for the Year \$90,000.00

Parish Support

Parish Support		
FOR WEEK OF December 3,2023		
WEEKLY OFFERTORY GOAL	\$16,000.00	
WEEKLY AVERAGE (23 Weeks)	\$14,130.46	
Weekly Offertory Contribution	\$ 6,874.00	
Online Weekly Offering	\$ 7,408.63	
Fee Offset Donation	\$ 51.00	
Children's Offering	\$ 0.50	
Loose Checks	\$ 1,003.00	
Loose Cash	\$ 1,016.25	
Total Weekly Offering	\$16,353.38	
Capital Improvement	\$ 980.00	
Online Capital Improvement	\$ 370.00	
Saint Clare Community Outreach	\$ 244.85	

Thank you for your consistent giving!

Please consider Online Giving. Download the app or call the parish office for details.

#### Saint Clare Calendar Lottery

December 9	Laura Peterson	\$ 25
December 10	Kenneth Cudnik	\$150
December 11	Larry Sherlock	\$ 25
December 12	Larry & Janet Kilgore	\$ 25
December 13	Eric Wag	\$ 25
December 14	Christine Santiago	\$ 25
December 15	Janet Dorazio	\$ 25

Congratulations to all of our winners!

Sunday, December 17 Bishop Roger W. Gries, OSB All of Our Seminarians

#### Monday, December 18

Rev. Daniel Schlegel Rev. David Trask Christopher Villarreal, Pre-Theology

Tuesday, December 19 Rev. Richard Evans

Rev. Richard Evans Rev. Sean Ralph

#### Pray for These Priests and Seminarians

Wednesday, December 20 Rev. John Singler Maxwell Giori, Seminary

Thursday, December 21 Rev. Anthony Simone

Rev. Donald Petkash, SJ Jeremy Vinluan, Seminary

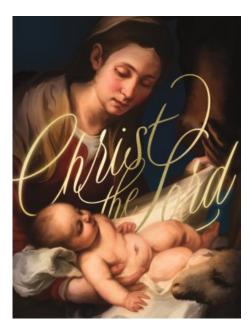
#### Friday, December 22

Rev. John Pfeifer Rev. Theodore Haag, OFM Deacon Kevin Bertleff, Saint Mary

#### Saturday, December 23

Rev. David Halaiko Rev. Emile Nsengimana Deacon Michael Garvin, Saint Mary

#### DECEMBER 17, 2023



# PEACE ON EARTH

# ADVENT-CHRISTMAS 2023 CHURCH OF SAINT CLARE

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday, December 23 4:30 PM Mass Sunday, December 24 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Masses

# THE VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS

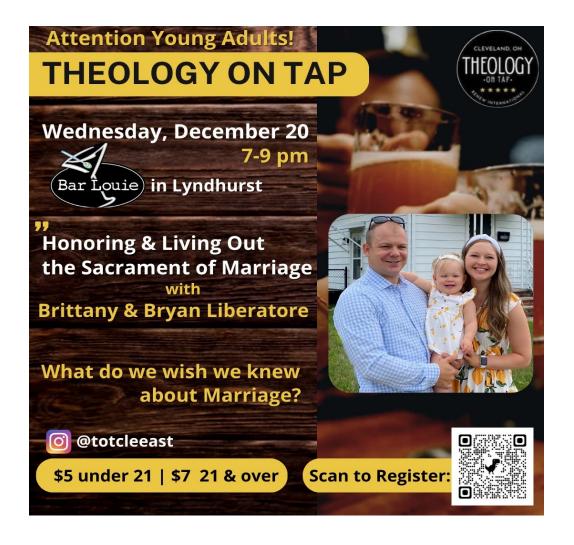
Sunday, December 24 4:00 PM 6:00 PM 12:00 AM (Midnight) Masses

THE SOLEMNITY OF CHRISTMAS

Monday, December 25 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Masses

# THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Not a Holyday of Obligation in 2024 Monday, January 1 9:00 AM Mass



#### Calendar Lottery

The 2024 Saint Clare Calendar Lottery tickets with donations are currently being received in the business office. The drawings begin January 1. You can return the calendar stubs with your donation in the collection basket during Mass, by mail, or drop off at the business office. Call or stop in the business office for additional tickets. Proceeds go to the parish operating fund. The sooner you play, the more drawings you are eligible to win.

There will be 366 winners this year.

#### 2023 Year-End Contributions

Any Church donations that you wish to be credited to 2023 for tax purposes, must be in the business office no later than noon, Friday, December 29. Any donations received after that date will be credited to 2024. Statements for contributions in 2023 will be mailed to parishioners who have contributed \$500 or more in 2023, and to all contributors who asked for their statement last year. To request your contribution statement, call Lisa in the business office, extension 113.





Year-End Giving Opportunities

In this season of giving, consider making a year-end gift to our parish in gratitude for all the blessings you have received in life. As you plan to make the most of your charitable donations in 2023, know that we gratefully accept gifts of cash and appreciated assets such as stocks or bonds. We wanted to take this time to remind you of some important CARES Act provisions that are scheduled to expire at year's end. These provisions may affect you—and even make it easier for you to make a gift to your parish. They include:

- An expanded charitable giving incentive that allows taxpayers who take the standard deduction to make up \$300 in charitable cash contributions for single files (\$600 for married couples) to qualified charities like ours this year.
- For those who do itemize their deductions, the law allows for cash contributions to qualified charities such as ours to be deducted up to 100% of your adjusted gross income for the 2023 calendar year.

And, if you are 70 1/2 or older, you may be able to make a gift of a Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA that will help us in our ministry and reduce your taxable income. Talk to your advisors and IRA administrator for more information and to be sure that your IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution gift is made directly from an IRA to a qualified charity such as our parish.

Questions? Contact Lisa Gros in our parish office at 440-449-4242, extension 113 or via email at <u>stcllkg@att.net</u>. You are also welcome to contact **Jean Ann Montagna** of the Catholic Community Foundation at 216-669-6525, extension 8070.

Thank you so much for your consideration and for the many ways you support our parish community!

#### Catholic Cemeteries Association

The Catholic Cemeteries Association offers free, safe, and compassionate monthly Grief Support meetings and Memorial events throughout the year. The next Grief Support meeting is Sunday, December 17, 3:00 p.m. for in-person support (at six locations), and 5:00 p.m. for virtual support. The topic is "The Gift of God's Presence. You Never Walk Alone."

For details, visit: <u>https://www.clecem.org/Information/Bereavement.aspx</u>.

# Saint Clare Christmas Eve 4:00 p.m. Program

At our 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Liturgy, the **young children** in our parish are invited to participate in a special way by **coloring a special card and saying a prayer** of comfort and cheer to bring joy to someone in need this Christmas. Children are to **bring the cards to church on Christmas Eve and give them as gifts to Jesus by putting them in the gift box placed by our Nativity scene in the front of the church BEFORE or AFTER the 4:00 p.m. Mass Christmas Eve only. These will then be distributed to those in The Greens this Christmas. Cards are available on our parish website under Resources or click here: <u>https://saintclare.net/religious-education</u> and <b>at the doors of the church and in the office**.



In this letter-writing program, pen pals anonymously (via pen names) develop a friendship through faith-sharing and prayer.

You may be surprised to know that this ministry works both ways. You minister to us as well!

If you would like a pen pal to write to you on a regular basis, please send a request to:

Saint Ladislas Prison Ministry Pen Pal Request/George 2345 Bassett Road Westlake, Ohio 44145



Feel free to share this paper invitation with others who may be interested in having a pen pal. There may be a waiting period as we seek additional volunteers.

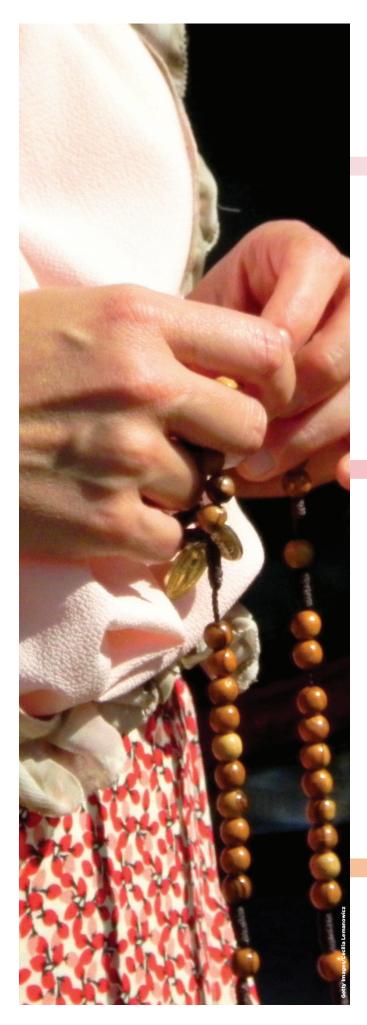
Please understand that this ministry does not allow pen pals to send money or gifts, or to provide any legal advice. Inmates may not request a pen pal of a particular age or gender.



All the good works in the world are not equal to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass because they are the works of men; but the Mass is the work of God.

GATHERED & GATHERED & BLESSED BROKEN &

St. John Vianney



#### December 17, 2023 FAITHFUL Third Sunday of Advent DISCIPLE Is 61:1-2A, 10-11 | 1 Thes 5:16-24 | Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Written by THE

**GROW** AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

"Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing." Such simple words from today's second reading. And yet it is not always easy to put them into practice. It is difficult to rejoice if we or people we love are hurting. It can be hard to pray when life is pulling us in a thousand different directions. But on this Gaudete Sunday, the Sunday of rejoicing, we are asked to focus on a truth that can make both rejoicing and praying easier: Jesus entered humanity in flesh and blood to save us from our sins. This truth means that even if we don't feel like there is much gladness or joy in our lives today, we can rejoice in the knowledge that we all have the chance to spend eternity in a place where pain, disappointment and suffering will be no more. With our eyes focused on that prize, praying can become a natural part of our days.

#### GO EVANGELIZE

#### PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Sometimes, I can make everything so complicated. I want to create charts and checklists to ensure that I am doing everything just right. But St. Paul's words today make me realize that living well is really not that complicated. He writes: "Retain what is good. Refrain from every kind of evil." That's it! Of course, while this is not complicated, it does require us to make prayerful, faithful efforts toward this end - and it is an end for which God has given us his grace, the help of the Church, and the prayers of our brothers and sisters in Christ. This includes St. Paul, who prays for us, "May the God of peace make you perfectly holy and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." This is what is good in these dark days of Advent: the light of Christ is coming into our world. The Gospel says that John the Baptist testified to this truth - to the light. We can too! Let us continue to pray, to rejoice and to give thanks for God's gifts, especially the gift of his Son.

**SING** Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim One more light the bowl shall brim, Shining beyond the frosty weather, Bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love, the star, is on the way.



The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." Luke 1:26-28

What an amazing experience this would have been. This humble servant of God, a young girl, was visited by the archangel Gabriel and greeted with the salutation, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." Try to imagine her experience. She was humble beyond comprehension, filled with every heavenly virtue, loved God with all her heart and suddenly came face-to-face with this glorious and most magnificent archangel. And, this heavenly visitor showered the deepest of praises upon this lowly servant of the Lord.

At first, in her humility, Mary simply pondered this greeting. She pondered it in her heart through prayer and faith. Then the archangel spoke further: "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Though Mary inquired further about how this could be, she quickly gave her consent: "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." And it was these words of this young woman that continuously echoed in her heart throughout her life.

Mother Mary was great for many reasons. She was the Immaculate Conception—the one singularly conceived without sin in the womb of her own mother. She was the one chosen by the Father to bring forth the Savior of the World as her only begotten Son. But her greatness is especially found in her ongoing submission to the will of God. "May it be done to me according to your word." This is what she said over and over throughout her life. This is her perfect "fiat" to her God. All she knew was surrender and submission to all that God asked of her. And it is this, more than anything else, that made her the worthy Mother of God without sin throughout our lives. We must all strive to be inspired by this holy woman. We must all ponder her deep humility and her willing acceptance of God's will in her life. And we must all strive to imitate her fiat and her perfect virtue.

Imitation of our Blessed Mother is accomplished by first coming to know her, understand her, and love who she is. Gazing upon her interior beauty and holiness presents us with the vision of the perfection to which we are all called. As we prayerfully gaze upon her heart and come to understand her virtues more clearly, we will be inspired to open our own hearts so as to imitate her by the grace of God. This prayerful exercise is one of the best and quickest ways to obtain the heights of holiness to which God has called us.

Reflect, today, upon this holy daughter of the Most High. She is not one we can "figure out." Instead, she is one whom we can come to know through prayer and through God's inspiration. Ponder her prayerfully. Be open to her inspiration. And allow the Holy Spirit to also overshadow you so that you will more closely be able to imitate her in her holy virtues.

My dearest Mother, you lived a life of perfect virtue and holiness. You continuously pondered the mysteries of God in your heart and always surrendered to the will of God with perfection. Please inspire me so that I may not only learn from you, but also be able to share in the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit given to you. Mother Mary, pray for us. Jesus, I trust in You.



Catholic Communit<sup>®</sup>

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Donations to the Angel Scholarship Fund are awarded as scholarships for elementary and high school students in the Diocese of Cleveland. This is a great opportunity to provide tuition assistance for families who wish to send their children to our Catholic schools!

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