# O NIGHT

CHRISTMAS

Divine

# 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, January 1 ~ Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God 9:00 Celebrant's Intention

Tuesday, January 2 ~ Saint Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen 8:30 Carmine DiFranco

Wednesday, January 3 ~ The Most Holy Name of Jesus 8:30 Don and Irene Fanelli

Thursday, January 4 ~ Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton 8:30 Barbara Marinoni

Friday, January 5 ~ Saint John Neumann 8:30 Nancy Marko

Saturday, January 6 ~ Saint Andre Bessett 4:30 Raymond Schmidlin Sr.

Sunday, January 7 ~ The Epiphany of the Lord
8:00 Celebrant's Intention
10:00 Celebrant's Intention
12:00 Celebrant's Intention

**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, January 1 Mass 9:00 a.m. (Not a Holyday)

Tuesday, January 2 Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle, 9:15-10:00 a.m. No RCIA

Wednesday, January 3 Eucharistic Adoration, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Confessions, 12:00-1:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 4 Avilas, 9:00-10:15 a.m., (Ch)



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.

# Telephone Directory: 440-449-4242

# THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Readings for the Week of January 1						
Monday	Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21					
Tuesday	1 Jn 2:22-28/Jn 1:19-28					
Wednesday	1 Jn 2:29–3:6/Jn 1:29-34					
Thursday	1 Jn 3:7-10/Jn 1:35-42					
Friday	1 Jn 3:-11:21/Jn 1:43-51					
Saturday	1 Jn 5:5-13/Mk 1:7-11					
Sunday	Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12					

# 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, Diane Minor, 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

Capital Improvement Contributions				
Fiscal year Beginning 07/	01	/23		
Year-to-Date through 11/30/2023	\$	31,658.00		
Goal for the Year	•	90,000.00		
	•	,		
Parish Support				
FOR WEEK OF December 17,2023				
WEEKLY OFFERTORY GOAL	\$1	L6,000.00		
WEEKLY AVERAGE (25 Weeks)	\$1	L4,035.75		
	•	,		
Weekly Offertory Contribution	\$	5,755.00		
Online Weekly Offering	\$	5,853.61		
Fee Offset Donation	\$	27.00		
Children's Offering		6.00		
Loose Checks		825.00		
Loose Cash		883.00		
Total Weekly Offering		13,349.61		
Capital Improvement	•	8,862.00		
Online Capital Improvement		453.00		
Saint Clare Community Outreach		-		
Thank you for your consistent	gi	iving!		
· ·	-	-		

Parish Support

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

# Saint Clare Calendar Lottery

December 23	J. Arth	\$ 25
December 24	Tom Hartnett	\$ 50
December 25	Jose Urrutia	\$200
December 26	Joseph Santiago	\$ 25
December 27	Dina Connole	\$ 50
December 28	Russ Wardell	\$ 25
December 29	Vic Flinner	\$ 25

Congratulations to all of our winners!

# Pray for These Priests and Seminarians

<u>Sunday, December 31</u> Rev. Martin Polito Rev. Thomas Acker, SJ Those Discerning God's Call

<u>Monday, January 1</u> Our Holy Father Benjamin Baratian, Borromeo

<u>Tuesday, January 2</u> Bishop Martin Amos Rev. William Patrick Jonathan Green, Borromeo Wednesday, January 3 Rev. Jerome Duke Rev. Joseph Brankatelli Andrew Bendaban, Borromeo

<u>Thursday, January 4</u> Rev. Donald Dunson Rev. Ernest Falardeau Thomas Byrne, Borromeo

# Friday, January 5

Rev. Allan DaCorte, OFM Rev. Thomas Weise Augustine Drexler, Borromeo

# Saturday, January 6

Rev. Eric Orzech Rev. Gary Malin Stephen Vavro, Borromeo

# Be an Angel in 2023!

Donations to the Angel Scholarship Fund (ASF) helped make it possible for our parishes and schools to raise more than \$4.5 million in 2022, and for a growing number of families to receive tuition assistance for their children to attend a high quality Catholic school.

As we approach the end of the 2023 calendar year, our hope and prayer is for the number of ASF supporters to grow so that we may achieve even greater success. We encourage all Ohio taxpayers to consider making an ASF donation by December 31, 2023 that may be eligible for the state tax credit when filing a 2023 Ohio tax return.

**IT'S A WIN-WIN-** Eligible donors receive a dollar-for-dollar tax credit\*, and students get scholarships! There are multiple ways to donate:



Contact the ASF office for more information on how to **"Be an Angel!"** 216-902-1312 / <u>asfinfo@catholiccommunity.org</u> / <u>www.catholiccommunity.org/angel</u>

\*Up to \$750 for an individual or \$1,500 if married filing jointly.

This does not constitute legal or tax advice – please contact your tax professional.

# Spiritual Faith Formation Thank You!

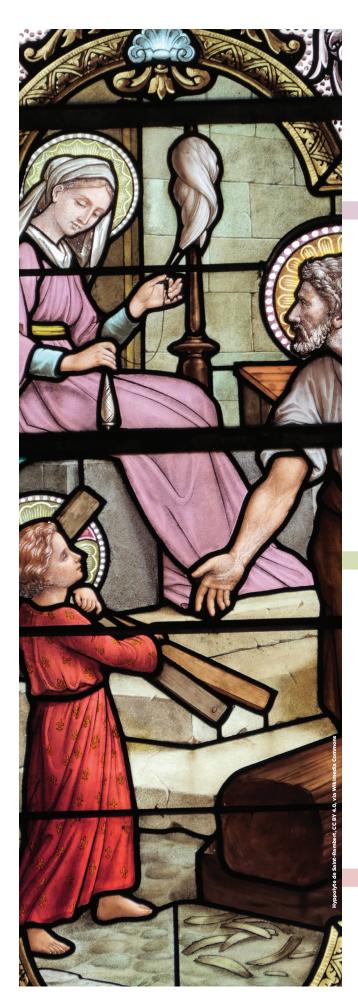
THANK YOU and CONGRATULATIONS to every facilitator and participant completing the recent Spiritual Faith Formation Fall 2023 Semester, *The Eucharist in Scripture*. Your passion and commitment to faith and community helped all of us grow a deeper understanding of our Bible, the Eucharist and Tenants of our Faith.

Have you ever desired to have deeper meaning and understanding of your Faith in your life? Do you wish to grow your love for Jesus beyond attending Mass? Do you want to grow or strengthen your Catholic community through meaningful conversations and fellowship? If you answered Yes to any of these, a Small Faith Sharing Group is for you!

Spiritual Faith Formation will be announcing its next session of classes in this Bulletin for Lenten Season 2024. Be on the lookout for registration information, class dates and topics. We hope you will join this vibrant community! Classes are offered on weekdays with options in the morning, afternoon and evening.

May God bless you abundantly in the coming weeks!

Rosalie Lewis and Christine Davis



December 31, 2023

# Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

lary and Joseph

Written by

DISCIPLE

THE FAITHFUL

Gen 15:1-6; 21:1-3 | Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 | Lk 2:22-40 or Lk 2:22, 39-40

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

St. Teresa of Calcutta once said, "If we love, naturally we will try to do something. First in our own home, our next door neighbor, in the country we live, in the whole world." In this quote we see a shift from the idyllic to a hard dose of reality: love means sacrifice and service. Perhaps it's worth asking ourselves: Does our family always get our best self? None of us is perfect, so the honest answer is probably no. If it's tempting to think, "well, the Holy Family was perfect, so what does this feast have to do with our family?" let's remember we are celebrating the Feast of the HOLY Family, not the feast of the perfect family. Yes, they were holy. They embodied this in their faith and devotion in those expanding circles of which St. Teresa spoke. They gave to God first - in today's Gospel we see the family travel to Jerusalem to present Jesus in the temple. They then returned to Nazareth where Jesus grew strong and was "filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him."

### GO EVANGELIZE PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

What does this feast mean for us today? It means that being a *holy* family is not unattainable. St. John Paul II once said: "The Redeemer of the world chose the family as the place for his birth and growth." (2001) In other words, God's will was fulfilled in the simplest and most ordinary of human circumstances when Jesus was born to Mary and Joseph in a stable. He sanctified what had been profaned by sin. Are our families perfect? No. But are we holy? That is our baptismal vocation and is within our reach each and every day. With the dawn of the new year, let's make an effort to place Christ at the center of our lives. Let's try to love our family members with all our heart, and bear witness in our actions and words. And finally, and most importantly, we must pray with and for one another.

**PRAY** Family prayer is powerful and transformative, uniting and equipping us to go out into the world each day and bear witness. Pray together: *Jesus, Mary and Joseph, graciously hear our prayer.* 



What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. John 1:3-5

What a great image for meditation: "...the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." This line completes the unique approach taken by John's Gospel to introduce Jesus, the Eternal "Word" Who existed from the beginning and through Whom all things came to be.

Though there is much to meditate on in the first five lines of John's Gospel, let's consider that ending line about light and darkness. Within the material world, there is much we can learn about our Divine Lord from the physical phenomenon of light and darkness. If we briefly consider light and darkness from the perspective of physics, we know that the two are not two opposing forces fighting with each other. Rather, darkness is simply the absence of light. Where there is no light, there is darkness. Similarly, heat and cold are the same way. Cold is nothing other than the absence of heat. Introduce heat and the cold disappears.

These basic laws of the physical world also teach us about the spiritual world. Darkness, or evil, is not some powerful force fighting against God; rather, it's the absence of God. Satan and his demons do not try to impose a dark power of evil on us; rather, they seek to extinguish the presence of God in our lives by getting us to reject God through our choices, thus leaving us in spiritual darkness.

This is a very significant spiritual truth to understand, because where there is spiritual Light, the Light of God's grace, the darkness of evil is dispelled. This is clearly seen in the line "and the darkness has not overcome it." Overcoming the evil one is as easy as inviting the Light of Christ into our lives and not allowing fear or sin to turn us from the Light. Invite Christ the Light, and His Divine Presence will quickly and easily replace any darkness within.

Lord, Jesus, You are the Light Who dispels all darkness. You are the Eternal Word Who answers every question in life. I invite You into my life this day so that Your Divine Presence may fill me, consume me and lead me down the path toward eternal joys. Jesus, I trust in You.

