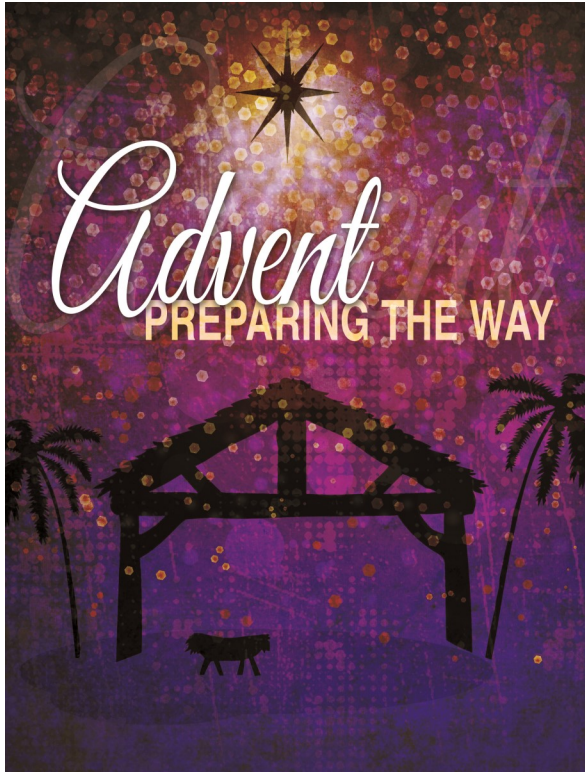




St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church

December 1, 2024—First Sunday of Advent



OUR PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

St. Joan of Arc Parish is a growing community of Roman Catholic Christians in the Chagrin Falls area. We are a diverse, gifted, and joyful people who share a common belief in the Word of Jesus Christ. Our Mission, like that of Jesus Christ and His apostles, is to proclaim the Kingdom of God through living the gospel.

WE GATHER AS A CHRIST-CENTERED COMMUNITY TO:

Celebrate our faith and the presence of God in the Eucharist and in one another.

Imitate our Savior in His service to others.

Teach our beliefs at all levels.

Welcome the participation of all in our Christian fellowship.

Parish Information

496 E. Washington St.
Chagrin Falls, OH 44022
Phone: 440-247-7183
Email: stjoanchagrin@gmail.com
Website: www.stjoanofarcchurch.org

Parish Staff

Fr. Gary J. Malin, *Pastor*
Rev. Mr. Jeffrey Dunlop, *Deacon*
Rev. Mr. Dennis Guritza, *Deacon*
Mrs. Mary Vincenti, *Director of Religious Education*
440-247-3606 | officeoffaithformation@stjoanofarc.org
Ms. Mary Horvath, *Pastoral Minister*
440-247-1141 | mhorvath@stjoanofarc.org
Ms. Allie Gall, *Coordinator of Youth Ministry*
40-247-4316 | agall@stjoanofarc.org
Mr. Jon Thibo, *Music Director*
440-247-7183 ext. 131 | jthibo@stjoanofarc.org
Mrs. Stacie M. Webster, *Principal*
440-247-6530 | swebster@stjoanofarc.org
Rev. John R. Olsavsky, Pastor Emeritus

Mass Schedule

Weekend Mass:

Saturdays 4:30pm, Sundays 9:00am and 11:00am

Weekday Mass:

Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays 8:00am
Tuesdays 9:00am September–May, 8:00am June–August
Holy Day Masses and Civic Holidays subject to change—see bulletin and/or website.

Sacramental Information

Baptism: Celebrated at most weekend masses or on most Sundays at noon. Contact the Parish Office.

Reconciliation (Confession): Saturdays 3:30pm until all are heard. Advent and Lent Saturdays 3:15pm –4:00pm.

For other Sacramental Information, please see PAGE 3.

New parishioners welcome! Please contact the Parish Office to register.

From the Pastor

Greetings of Peace.

I hope you had a blessed Thanksgiving.

This column is being written on November 9 – much earlier than usual – since I will be out of town and early “due dates” for our bulletin because of deadlines from our “bulletin company” and our Parish Office’s schedule due to Thanksgiving and the holiday weekend...

This weekend we begin Advent! It is less than four weeks until Christmas! Wow. I often reflect on a verse that sums up Advent very well:

When the days were cold
and the nights were long
and our need for a redeemer was great
God sent his son as our Savior!

That says it, doesn't it? Amen.



And as we enter this Advent Season it might be good to reflect on the meaning and purpose of a symbol we often use in this Season: The Advent wreath. Fr. Paul Turner writes about this season and symbol of this season by saying,

“An Advent Wreath symbolizes our longing for the coming of Christ. The wreath is a circle of evergreen branches into which are set four candles. Traditionally three candles are violet and one is rose, but four violet or four white candles may also be used.

“The wreath symbolizes many things. Evergreens signify God’s enduring promise of redemption, evident like green branches in the midst of snow. The circle signifies our hope for the return of Christ, whose kingdom will have no end. The colors of the candles match the traditional colors of the vesture for the four Sundays of Advent. Violet garments signify our penitent hope for salvation. The rose color, which may be worn on Advent’s Third Sunday, signals that the season is nearly over – joy is at hand!

“The wreath’s most luminous symbol is its growing light. One candle is lit on the First Sunday of Advent; two on the Second, three on the Third and all four on the Fourth. In the northern hemisphere, Advent comes at a time when the days decrease to their shortest length. As the hours of darkness increase, we light more candles on the wreath. The wreath, which symbolizes the coming of Christ, grows in intensity as the anniversary of Jesus’ birth draws near.

"The Advent wreath may be used at home or at church. It could be blessed on the First Sunday of Advent. When used in homes, the wreath could be blessed by a family member and lit during the evening meal, to remind everyone of the true meaning of this holy season."

Fr. Paul Turner is the pastor of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Kansas City, Missouri and director of the Office of Divine Worship for the Diocese of Kansas City-St Joseph. He holds a doctorate in sacred theology from Sant' Anselmo in Rome.

As we wait in joyful hope, let us be attentive to the coming of the Lord – who is with us every day!



The Giving Tree is up in the church Gathering Area. Feel free to take a tag and bring in your gift to help those in need by "Giving Sunday," December 8. What a wonderful way to bring the warmth of God's love to others! Thank you for your generous support.

Finally, looking ahead, as of this writing, we are told that December 9 is a Holy Day of Obligation this year. It happens that this year, in 2024, December 8 falls on the Second Sunday of Advent – so the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is transferred to Monday, December 9. Previously, in the USA, when the date of this Holy Day was transferred to a Monday the obligation to attend mass was abrogated ("lifted"). This is no longer the case. "Long story short," Rome recently decreed that when Immaculate Conception is transferred to Monday, the feast must be observed as a day of obligation on the day to which it is transferred. In light of this new directive, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception on Monday, December 9, 2024 is to be observed as a Holy Day of Obligation.

Here at St. Joan of Arc, masses on Monday December 9 will be celebrated at 9 AM and 7 PM, in observance of this Holy Day of Obligation.

One more thing! This weekend we will have a speaker who will talk to us about the "Angel Scholarship" in our parish and the Diocese of Cleveland. Contributions to the Angel Scholarship Fund helps to provide tuition assistance for students to attend our Catholic schools and donors may receive a 100% Ohio income tax credit of up to \$750 (\$1,500 for married couples filing jointly) against their state tax liability. In other words, the state of Ohio allows you to spend some of the state income taxes you must pay anyway to provide tuition assistance for students seeking an education in our Catholic schools. The Angel Scholarship Fund is a win-win-win for taxpayer donors, scholarship recipients, and our diocese! Contributions can be made online or through a mail-in form. Thank you for your consideration and support!

Have a great week. You are in my heart and in my prayers.

Blessings and peace.

Fr. Gary

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24

9:00am Bette Lewis (Nally)

11:00am SJA

Monday, November 25

8:00am No Mass

Tuesday, November 26

9:00am No Mass

Wednesday, November 27

No Mass

Thursday, November 28

8:00am No Mass

Friday, November 29

8:00am No Mass

Saturday, November 30

**4:30pm Tatiana Sindely
(Sindley)**

Sunday, December 1

9:00am SJA

11:00am Richard Yoe (Yoe)

OTHER SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Please contact a priest or deacon at least one year before the anticipated date.

Care of the Sick and Elderly: Please inform us of those who are sick, aged, unable to come to church, homebound, hospitalized, or may need the Sacrament of Anointing.

FUNERALS

Please contact the parish office before scheduling or publishing (generally through a funeral director).

SPONSOR CERTIFICATES

May be obtained by registered, practicing members of our parish who have received the three sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist (and, if married, were married in the Church). Please contact the Parish Office for more details.

SESSIONS IN THE CATHOLIC FAITH (RCIA)

Thursdays at 6:30pm, September - May. Contact Deacon Jeff at 440-376-9177

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction at St. Joan of Arc: Will be the Thursday before the First Friday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.



Baptism Class

The Sacrament of Baptism is a very special time where we receive into the Church newly Baptized, along with welcoming their family and sponsors to share in the beginning of their child's journey of faith. Classes are offered both in person and online Zoom. To sign up or get further information on the classes or with questions on Baptism at SJA , call Diana at 440-552-1046 or email at dianag@stjoanofarc.org

DAILY ROSARY—ST. JOAN OF ARC AVILAS



Please join us to pray the Rosary, Weekdays following the 8:00am Mass in the Chapel.

The St. Joan of Arc AVILAS, an organization of men and women, joined together under the patronage of St. Theresa of Avila, praying for religious vocations, meet on the Second Friday of each month. Member's attend the 8:00am Mass, followed by the Recitation of the Rosary and praying the Avila prayers for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

For more information , contact Matthew " Mickey" O'Hearn at 440-338-5914 or mohearniii@gmail.com

Giving Tree



This Christmas tree will be in the Narthex starting the weekend of November 16-17, and continuing until December 8th.

Please take a tag or tags off the tree and return the gifts on or before December 8th. This outreach initiative has been so well received and appreciated for over 30 years. Please note the organizations next to the tree that have been recipients of your generosity.

Women's Guild Christmas Social



The SJA Women's guild invites ALL (women and men) to a wine and Cheese Christmas Social to be held on Friday, December 6th, in the Parish Hall from 5pm-7pm. Enjoy an early evening of merriment as you take tags off the Christmas tree to benefit Doors of

Hope Geauga. Doors of Hope Geauga is a home in Middlefield that serves homeless families in Geauga County.

Advent Wreath-Making Event



Save the date! Our annual Advent Wreath-Making Event will be **TODAY, December 1 from 2pm-4pm in the Parish Hall.** Cost is \$30 via cash or check (payable to St. Joan of Arc Parish) to the Parish Office or at the door.

To register, scan the QR code, visit the Parish website, or contact Allie Gall at agall@stjoanofarc.org or 440-247-4316



FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION IN THE NARTHEX

Please bring your non-perishable food donations (canned vegetables, fruits, spaghetti sauce, soup, pasta, rice, ramen noodles, peanut butter, etc. when you come to Mass. Thank You for your support!



WEEKLY COLLECTION

WEEKEND COLLECTION \$ 11/16-11/17

Collection: \$ 9,508.00

WEEKLY COLLECTION ONLINE

Online: \$ TBA

Thank You for your continued support!

FOOD PANTRY THURSDAY

There will be a car in the SJA parking lot this Thursday, December 5th from 10:00 - 11:00am for you to drop off items.

*****There is no list for this week *****

Thank you so much for helping us stock the pantry shelves. **Please call Jane Zilly with any questions 216 -402-8912**



HOME VISITATION MINISTRY

Do you know of someone in the parish who is homebound and would like to receive the Eucharist? The Home Visitation Ministry teams bring the Eucharist to the sick and the homebound on a regular basis. These visits afford the opportunity for prayer and social visitation.

Please contact Jan Nally at 440-840-5087 or the parish office to arrange for our teams to visit.

OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION

Happy Advent to all our PSR families! May your days be blessed as we get ready for the coming of Christ on Christmas!

December PSR Classes:

Grades K-6: Mondays, December 2, 9, 16

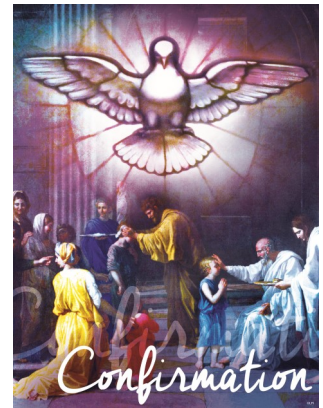
Grades 7,8: Sundays, December 8, 15 (no PSR December 1 for 7th, 8th)

High School: Sundays, December 1, 8, 15



CONFIRMATION

The next Confirmation preparation session for the teens will be Thursday, December 5 from 6:30-8:00 pm. This is session #5.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Children's Liturgy of the Word for children is for those children in grades K-3 during the 11:00 Mass. Without more volunteers we will not be able to provide CLW every Sunday. We need additional adult volunteers to offer this ministry every week! Please contact Mary Vincenti in the Office of Faith Formation if you are interested or for more information at 440-247-3606. Or email mvincenti@stjoanofarcchurch.org



HOLIDAY BREATHE EVENT FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

BREATHE is a respite night for parents to enjoy a **FREE** evening of babysitting for their children with special needs and their typical brothers and sisters

Friday, December 13th from 6:00 - 9:00 pm

Holy Angels Church

18205 Chillicothe Rd, Chagrin Falls, OH 44023

***You do NOT need to be from Holy Angels to attend**

BREATHE is an event for children with special needs, over the age of 2, along with their typical siblings. All children enjoy a **FREE** supervised evening of food and fun, while parents and caregivers enjoy a night off to relax. During the 3 hour event, children enjoy activities such as dinner, arts and crafts, games, yoga, therapy dogs, and special entertainment. Santa will even be with us this evening!

Families: Since this is a drop off event, families **MUST** register their children ahead of time and **MUST** have filled out all paperwork in order to attend. Sign up deadline is December 6th. Registration is limited. To sign up and to request registration forms please email Linda at 1250linda@gmail.com

Volunteers: Any person age 13 and above are needed. Many options available for volunteering from prepping food during the day, to watching the doors as "security" or being a special needs buddy for the event. We are happy to sign community service hour forms! **We REALLY need a doctor or nurse practitioner to attend in case of any emergencies.**

USE the QR CODE BELOW TO SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER or email us with questions at alwayshopehere242@gmail.com



ADVENT STUDY



The Infancy Narratives

Little Rock Scripture study 3 weeks

12/4, 12/11, 12/18

Wednesdays 8:30 – 10:00 AM CHURCH HALL

Deepen your longing for our Messiah's coming and encounter his relevance at this time in your life.

Video lectures and discussion of questions in study book

Please rsvp to mpvalencic@gmail.com to reserve a book

Cost \$14. Refreshments provided.

Your Taxes. Their Tuition. **ST. JOAN OF ARC'S FUTURE.**



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

Enriching Lives In Northeast Ohio



ANGEL
SCHOLARSHIP FUND

*Turning taxes into tuition with the
Catholic Community Foundation*

NEW OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS!

Ohioans can now receive a dollar for dollar tax credit of up to \$750 for donations to the Angel Scholarship Fund. If you are filing a joint return and both you and your spouse make eligible donations, each of you can claim this credit (up to \$1,500 total).

Donations to the Angel Scholarship Fund at SJA are awarded as scholarships for students in our parish. This is a great opportunity to provide tuition assistance for families who wish to send their children to St. Joan of Arc!!

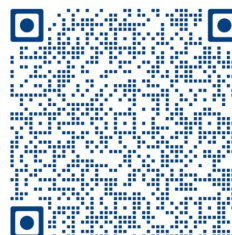


YOUR SUPPORT

- ✓ Directly impacts an SJA family's ability to afford a Catholic education
- ✓ Helps provide high quality Catholic education to students at **St. Joan of Arc**
- ✓ Allows you to choose what your tax dollars support



SCAN HERE TO CONTRIBUTE ONLINE:



**THANK YOU FOR
YOUR SUPPORT!**

IT'S QUICK. IT'S EASY. WE ARE HERE TO HELP!

CALL: 216-902-1312 ONLINE: WWW.CATHOLICCOMMUNITY.ORG/ANGEL