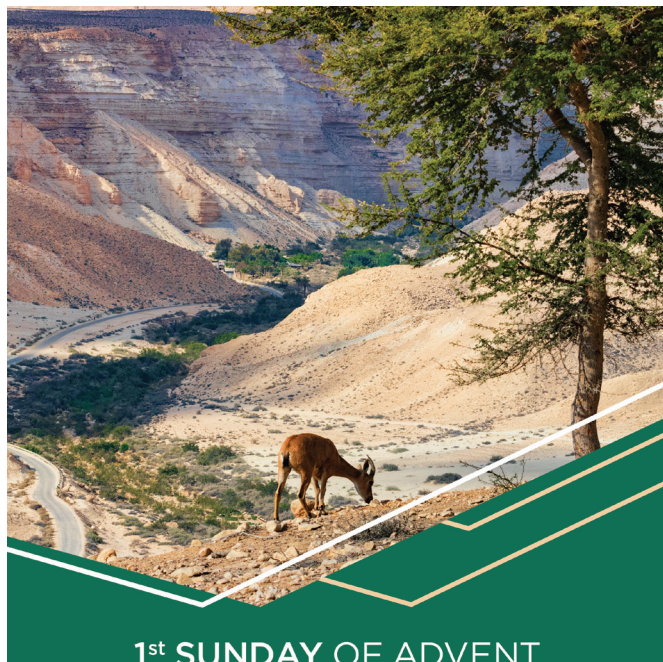




# ST. JOAN OF ARC CATHOLIC CHURCH

First Sunday of Advent - December 3, 2023



## 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](mailto:stjoanchagrin@gmail.com)  
**Website:** [www.stjoanofarcchurch.org](http://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](mailto:officeoffaithformation@stjoanofarc.org)  
**Mrs. Millie Prebel**, *Pastoral Minister*  
440-247-1141 | [mprebel@stjoanofarc.org](mailto:mprebel@stjoanofarc.org)  
**Ms. Allie Gall**, *Coordinator of Youth Ministry*  
440-247-4316 | [agall@stjoanofarc.org](mailto:agall@stjoanofarc.org)  
**Mr. Jon Thibo**, *Music Director*  
440-247-7183 ext.131, [jthibo@stjoanofarc.org](mailto:jthibo@stjoanofarc.org)  
**Mrs. Stacie M. Webster**, *Principal*  
440-247-6530 | [swebster@stjoanofarc.org](mailto: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, July and 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 as we begin Advent! This year Christmas is just over 3 weeks away from the beginning of Advent! That is not even a month!! As a matter of fact Advent is the shortest it can possibly be this year. The 4th Sunday of Advent is actually December 24th – Christmas Eve!

Please note: This column is being written in early-to-mid November because of the Thanksgiving holiday, early due dates from our bulletin company and our parish office, and my travels.

In the Season of Advent, we “wait in joyful hope.” And we hope “things will get better in our world” in the midst tension, wars, violence, and also dealing with CoVid, RSV, and Colds/the Flu. Preparations for Christmas (in our homes and church) may need to be “flexible.”

This is the season we have our “Giving and Sharing Tree” in our church Gathering Area. This year we are accepting Gift Cards as well as gifts – as requested on the tags on the tree. This is one great way to bring the joy of the Christmas Season to those who may need it. Thank you for your generosity and support of this outreach ministry and to those who coordinate this wonderful service in our parish. Gifts are “due” prior to the 11 AM mass on Sunday December 10. Thank you for your generosity.



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 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.

Friday of this week is December 8th, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Immaculate Conception is a Holy Day of Obligation. To honor this day, masses will be celebrated at 9:00 AM and 7:00 PM on December 8th.

In this Advent Season – as we wait in joyful hope – let us be attentive to the coming of the Lord ,who is with us every day!

**Blessings and Peace,**  
**Fr. Gary**





## Mass Intentions

### Sunday, December 3

9:00am SJA

11:00am Richard Yoe ( Clark)

### Monday, December 4

8:00am Yvonne Grider ( Brail)

### Tuesday, December 5

9:00am Sean Bush ( Kearney)

### Wednesday, December 6

No Mass

### Thursday, December 7

8:00am Marty Lamprecht ( Gleason)

### Friday, December 8

9:00am Jean Dolly ( Strong)

### Saturday, December 9

4:30 Jean ( Mimi) O'Connell ( Strong)

### Sunday, December 10

9:00 Edna Fay ( John Murphy  
co-workers)

11:00 SJA

## 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**

**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.**

"The Church and the world have a great need for Eucharistic worship. Jesus awaits us in this sacrament of love. Let us not refuse the time to go to meet him in adoration..." - Pope St. John Paul II

**Any questions please contact**  
**Paulina Rudmann, (440)**  
**724-1468**



## 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 the 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 St. Joan of Arc, call **Diana at 440-552-1046** or email **dinah627@windstream.net**



# *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 100% tax credit of up to \$750 (\$1,500 for married couples filing jointly) for donations to the Angel Scholarship Fund. The aim of this tax-credit scholarship program is to award scholarships for elementary and high school students. This is a great opportunity to provide tuition assistance for families who wish to send their children to our Catholic schools.

### **NEW in 2023!**

HB 33 passed by the Ohio State legislature in July 2023, extended the scholarship tax credit deadline- donors now have until April 15, 2024 to make a contribution to the Angel Scholarship Fund that is eligible for a 1:1 state tax credit in 2023.



## 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



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

CALL: 216-902-1312 ONLINE: [WWW.CATHOLICCOMMUNITY.ORG/ANGEL](http://WWW.CATHOLICCOMMUNITY.ORG/ANGEL)





### Food Pantry Thursday

There will be a car in the SJA parking lot this Thursday December 7th from 10-11:00 AM for you to drop off items.

**-Eggs-Butter-**

**-Sugar-**

**-Milk-**

**-Kielbasa-**

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

## Weekly Collection

**11/18-11/19**

Collection: \$ TBA

Online: \$ TBA

**11/25-11/26**

Collection: \$ TBA

Online: \$TBA

**Thank You for your continued support!**

### Home Visitation Ministry

Do you know 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 homebound on a regular basis. These visits afford a 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.**



If you are 70 1/2 or older, you are able to make a gift of a Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA that will help St Joan of Arc Parish 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 St Joan of Arc.

As you plan to make the most of your charitable donations in 2023, know that we gratefully accept gifts of cash and appreciate such as stocks or bonds.

## A BIBLICAL WALK WITH MARY

"Journey with Mary toward Christmas and Beyond," study begins Thursday Dec 7th, 8:30 - 10 AM.  
8 sessions: Dec 7, 14, 21, Jan 4, 11, 18, 25, Feb 1  
\$20 (for workbook and videos).

**Must register at [mpvalencic@gmail.com](mailto:mpvalencic@gmail.com) by NOVEMBER 22, 2023**





TAKE TIME TO PREPARE

# “PROMISES”

AN ADVENT MORNING OF REFLECTION

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2023  
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

PRESENTED BY GREG WASINSKI

TRILOGY RETREAT PROPERTY  
4171 US 422  
SOUTHINGTON, OH 44470  
833.538.6323

th & real life  
re • encourage • restore



SPACE IS LIMITED

Register for this event at  
[www.Trilogy.center/retreats](http://www.Trilogy.center/retreats)

**WHEN:** Saturday, December 9 from 9am - 1 pm

**WHERE:** Trilogy Retreat Property, 4171 US 422, Southington, OH

**WHAT:** Program, materials & lunch included \$50/per.



When we take time out to prepare our hearts in faith, we are better able to experience His goodness even in the waiting, or in the struggle. Together we will spend time looking at our Advent journey toward Christmas with hope, and remembering that a promise from God will never go unfulfilled. Don't miss this unique Morning of Reflection and make your Advent more meaningful this year!

## From the Desk of Millie Prebel:

### **Advent Taizé Prayer Service**

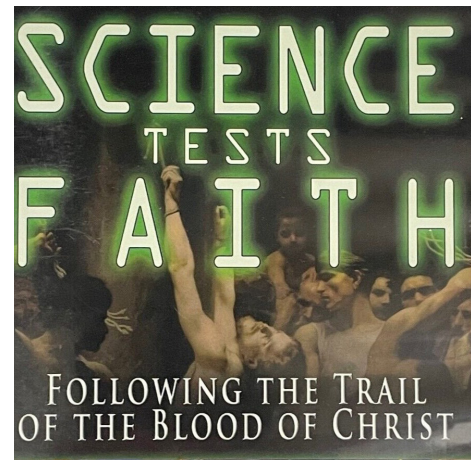
Sunday December 3, 2023, at 6:30

Join us as we begin the season of Advent by opening the Inn of our hearts to receive Jesus.



### **Brown Bag Lunch Series**

Our second Brown Bag Lunch Presentation Science Tests Faith will be December 5, 2023 at noon in the Parish hall. Join us for this fascinating documentary!



### **SERVICE DAY 2023**

THANK YOU to all the volunteers that made our Service Day a huge success! Special thanks to Debbie Fitzmaurice, Michelle Martino and all that helped the day run smoothly! We are looking to add more service events to our parish calendar.. Stay tuned!



**\*\*RCIA Update\*\* Please pray for Aaron and Matt who have joined our RCIA class!**





## Office of Faith Formation

### HAPPY ADVENT!!

#### Parish School of Religion

Our K-6th grade Parish School of Religion classes will hold an Advent Prayer Service on Monday, December 4th from 4:35pm – 4:50pm in the school gym. Parents are invited to drop your children off then proceed to the gym and sit on the bleachers. After the teacher's take attendance, the children will proceed to the gym as well and sit on the gym floor with their class. Please join us for this beautiful ceremony to start this Advent Season!

#### December PSR Classes:

High School: Sundays, December 3, 10, 17

Grades 7 and 8: Sundays, December 3, 10

Grades K-6: Mondays, December 4, 11

#### CLW

Good news!! The Children's Liturgy of the Word program is coming back. Thank you to the volunteers who said "Yes". We could use a few more people, however! We hope to have it up and running again after the start of the new year in January. **For more information, please call Mary Vincenti in the Office of Faith Formation at 440-247-3606.**





## **The Annual Giving Christmas Cookie Project**

Will be the first week in December. We hope that everyone will share their Christmas Cookies for the Inner City families. **You can drop your cookies off at the December 2nd and December 3rd Masses. There will be boxes for your cookies in the Parish Hall. On December 4th till Noon, cookie donations will be accepted.** This is a wonderful way to start the Christmas Season, and you will be making many families so happy. Blessings to you during the Christmas Season. **For information: Gerry Koprowski, 440-339-0587.**



## **GIVING TREE**

**The tree will be in the Narthex until December 10th. Please take a tag off the tree and return with the gift on or before December 10th. 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. Thank you so much.**





