

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 30

4:00pm SFX Albert & Gerald Burkhart by Family

6:00pm SG Living & Deceased of Both Parishes

Sunday, January 31—4th Sunday Ordinary Time

8:30 am SFX Don Casper by M/M Tom Shearer

10:30 am SG Anna & Louis Romano by Sandy & Louis

Monday, February 1

8:00am SFX Albert & Gerald Burkhart by Wilma

Tuesday, February 2

9:00am SG Tony & Diane Petrarca by Tim & Joanne Martin

Wednesday, February 3

8:00am SFX Joseph Petenzi by Zina Borsellino

Thursday, February 4

9:00am SG Norbert Huck by Family & Friends

Friday, February 5

9am SG Communion Service

Saturday, February 6

4:00pm SFX Fr. Dominic Orsini

6:00pm SG Ted Moeglin by Helen Garafalo

Sunday, February 7

8:30 am SFX Living & Deceased of Both Parishes

10:30 am SG Ruth Pilati by Ann Marie Hank

CHURCH SUPPORT:

May God bless you for your generosity to our parishes on January 23/24, 2016

St. Gabriel: Adult \$1,845; Loose \$245; Capital Improv.\$30; Initial Offering \$10; New Hall \$15.

St. Francis Xavier: Adult \$2,149; Loose \$75; Bldg Fund\$25; New Hall \$337; Initial Offering \$20.

PARISH SUPPORT: Whichever parish you are formally registered, **St. Francis Xavier, or St. Gabriel, please make any checks covering your Regular Church contribution payable to your registered parish.** This will help us with our new bookkeeping system which the Diocese of Steubenville is initiating and also enable us to give you an accurate statement at the end of the year for your accounting and tax preparations. The exception would be if you are making a donation to the New Church Hall Fund., which should, of course, be made payable to St. Francis Church. Thanks for your help.

PARISH SHARE CAMPAIGN. Items needed:

January 30/31 Condiments, salad dressings, etc.

February 6/7 Toiletries

Please place items in shopping cart at St. Gabriel Hallway, and the marked boxes in the St. Francis coatroom.

SICK AND SHUT-INS OF THE PARISH

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

At Home: Gary Kovacic

Stone Crossing: Vera Kompara

St. Joseph Care Center: Steve Marmo; Fran Montella

ST. GABRIEL

At Home: Shirley Bonar; Patricia Burman, Ivette Martinez,

Eldercare: Mildred Rennier, Joe Casper (SFX)

Arbors (Great Trail) Nursing: Richard Lane.

St. Luke Minerva: Stella Kiko; Mary Wadsworth

Prayer Chain for St. Gabriel and St. Francis:

If you know of someone who is in need of prayer and would like them to be put on the prayer list for **St. Francis**, please call Dolores Hudson at 330-863-0273; To be put on the list for **St. Gabriel**, please call Darlene Mackey at 330-868-6639.

FOR ILL & HOSPITALIZED: Please call Parish Office as soon as one is hospitalized, to request home visits and Holy Communion, from either parish. The Eucharistic Ministers are not to make these arrangements. Whenever one is admitted to an area hospital, or nursing care facility please inform the Admissions Office you are Catholic and your Parish. Due to the Privacy of Information Act, hospitals no longer give out personal information.

RCIA SESSIONS. The sessions for those preparing for adult baptism and/or full communion in the Church meet on Monday evenings from 7-9 PM in the Annex Rooms. Please continue to keep our Catechumens, Candidates, and team in your prayers as they prepare for the Easter Sacraments of Initiation.



FISH FRY DINNERS:

Many Volunteer Helpers are needed for the success of our Lenten Fish Fry Dinners. Please give us a hand.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER: Sign up sheets are available in the narthex at St. Francis for Lenten Fish Fry Dinners which will begin on February 12, 2016. Helpers are needed in a variety of areas. Profits go to our New Hall Fund. Please help us in whatever way you are able as often as you are able.

ST. GABRIEL: The First Fish Fry at St. Gabriel will begin on February 5, the week before Ash Wednesday, to give us an extra week. Anyone able to help would be greatly appreciated. Please see the Sign-up sheets on the desk in the narthex of St. Gabriel Church.

DESSERTS: Pies, cakes, brownies and cupcakes are needed for the Fish Fry at St. Gabriel. If you are able to help out

SPECIAL MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST SESSIONS We will begin our sessions on Tuesday, February 9 at 7 pm in the annex rooms at St. Gabriel for all new ministers and current ministers as a refresher course. Call rectory for information/registration.



“Come Together, Build Our Future, “Leave a Legacy”

Help keep the momentum growing. Support The Pledge Drive Phase for a New “Parish Hall”.

“Pledge Drive—Target Goal” **96% Reached!**

Will you help us get to the top?

Offerings as of 1/26/2016:

\$265,126.05 Pledges & Gifts

\$ 38,750.00 Brick and Window sponsorships

\$ 21,000.00 Block sponsorships

\$ 11,533.00 Memorial Donations.

\$336,409.05 [Note: Pledge Goal is \$350,000]



Dear Parishioners, Family Members, Visitors, and Friends: Please help our dream to become a reality! As many of you are aware, the original quonset hut hall at St. Francis has served us well for over 65 years and has reached the stage of being beyond repair. As you know when doing improvements to your own homes, the process is not always easy. The parish has decided that a facility is still needed for us in which to gather and celebrate special occasions, provide for wedding receptions, high school graduations, parish functions, and to be of witness and service to the wider community. The only viable solution is to replace the existing structure. For the past 15 years St. Francis and St. Gabriel have been served by one pastor. It makes great sense for our two parishes to work together for our future growth and development. We are anxiously awaiting the drawings from the architect in order to proceed with our plans for a new hall in 2016. The **Pledge Goal Phase** is only **one source** of funding for our project. **Part Two** is the **Savings** which are earmarked in our “Building Fund” and, **Part Three** will require a **Bank Loan** to cover any unpaid pledges and any amount needed to complete our project. Please prayerfully consider ways in which you may be able to help make this project a reality: A Pledge, a One Time Gift, Use of the Monthly Envelope, Volunteering of time and talent with Fund raisers, Gifts in Kind, or a Memorial Gift. **Information sheets and pledge cards available in the narthex of church, or by calling Parish Office.**



KEEP THE MOMENTUM GROWING!



MOMENTS OF MERCY—January 2016



Pope Francis reminds us that, as Christians, our “every word and gesture, ought to express God’s compassion, tenderness and forgiveness for all”. If our hearts and actions are inspired by charity and divine love, he says, then our communication will be touched by God’s power too.

As sons and daughters of God, we are called to communicate with everyone, without exception. Communication, the Pope insists, has the power to build bridges, to enable encounter and inclusion, to heal wounded memories and thus to enrich society. In both the material and the digital world, he says, our words and actions should help us all “escape the vicious circles of condemnation and vengeance which continue to ensnare individuals and nations, encouraging expressions of hatred”.

We are all invited to rediscover the power of mercy to heal wounded relationships and to restore peace and harmony to families and communities. Even when ancient wounds and lingering resentments stand in the way of communication and reconciliation, he says, mercy is able to create a new kind of speech and dialogue.

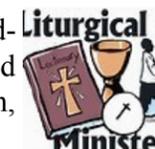
True communication, the Pope says, means listening, valuing, respecting and being able to share questions and doubts. Online or in social networks, he stresses, we must remember that it’s not technology which guarantees authentic communication, but rather the human heart and our capacity to use wisely the means at our disposal.



STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT “Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, it is not pompous.” (1 Corinthians 13:4)

Do you get jealous? Do you focus more on the things that other people have than on the gifts that God has given to you? Are you pompous? Do you acquire more possessions to impress others? At times we are all guilty of these things. Pray for more humility. Pray to become less self-centered and more God-centered.

MINISTER SCHEDULE: The schedules have been mailed. If you haven't received yours in the mail by Thursday, February 4th, please call the church office.



SYMPATHY: St. Francis and St. Gabriel parishioners offer our prayers of sympathy to:
† The family and friends of **Laura Mitchell** formerly of St. Francis Xavier who died this past week.

† Judith (Madak) Roach and family on the death of Judy’s son **Anthony Carl Roach (44)** of St. Gabriel Parish. May all of the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace.



The Annual St. Francis Xavier Quarter Auction, scheduled for *April 10, 2016*, has begun to be planned. The following are the co-chairwomen and the areas they are responsible for: Vendors – Jackie Contini; Silent Auction – Marty Reed; Live Auction – Bonnie Newell Chiurco; Entrance Tickets – Jan Prevot; Advertising – Linda Faa; Decorating – Lynette Angeloni; Auction Paddles – Dolores Hudson; Donations/Door Prizes – Marty Reed; Raffle – Karen Wackerly. We are asking for donations of baskets to be auctioned again. There will again be a tree with suggested baskets in the Gathering Space. These baskets **HAVE TO BE RETURNED** by March 20, 2016. Donations for the Silent Auction are also welcomed. The more help we get the more money we can raise for the New Hall. Any questions, please call the appropriate co-chair.

CWC MEETINGS:

The next meeting for **St. Francis CWC** will be held on Monday, February 1 at 2:30pm in the basement of the church with rosary beginning at 2pm in the church.

St. Gabriel CWC will meet on Wednesday, February 3 at Noon in the annex meeting rooms of St. Gabriel. Lunch will be provided during the meeting. Planning for the 2016 events will be discussed. All ladies of the parish are urged to attend.

MEN'S DAY OF RENEWAL: The seventh annual Men's Day of Renewal will take place at St. Stephen Church in Caldwell on Saturday, February 27. The theme for the day is *"RISE UP! Men of God."* Mr. Matthew Leonard, executive director of the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology in Steubenville will be the guest speaker. Registration forms are available in the narthex of each church. Call Dave Cinson at 330-868-5613 for information.

DINNER OUT: The Justice and Social Concerns Committee of St. Gabriel and St Francis will begin "Dinner Out" on the *first Thursday of every month*. This coming month will be Thursday, February 4. The dinners will be held at *Minerva Senior Center, 1200 Valley Street, Minerva*. Serving time is 5pm but you should arrive at the Center no later than 4:45pm. Cost of each well balanced, delicious meal is only **\$6.00**. **The menu for February 4th is Stuffed peppers and mashed potatoes and all the trimmings. Reservations must be called into Norma Marko at 330-868-4502 or the Senior Center at 330-868-6004 NO LATER than 5pm on the Wednesday before.** If you call the Center, please tell them you will be with the "Catholic Church group" so we can all sit together. Our first "dinner out" will be **February 4**. This will be a great way to socialize with our fellow parishioners.

STATE OF THE PARISH REPORT:

All registered parishioners/households should have received in the mail a copy of *"The State of the Parish Report"* for the parish in which you are currently registered. This report contains facts about each individual parish, sacramental information and an accounting of our income and expenses from *July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015*.

Note: Explanations to St. Francis Report: (1) A misplaced comma on *"Other Accounts,"* should read \$448,294." (2) Increase in Bldgs. Grounds was due to furnace replacement, lighting work on church and sound system upgrades. (3) Property Taxes: "Prior Year" of \$1,134 was only for 6 mos. "This Year" was for 2015 taxes of \$2,733. **A more complete explanation will be mailed to all registered St. Francis parishioners this week.**

May God bless all who continue to give of your time, talent and treasure for the good of St. Francis and St. Gabriel parishes.

BIBLE STUDY THURSDAY EVENING GROUP

The Thursday evening bible study group is finishing the end discussion on the book of Exodus and will begin the Gospel of St. John beginning this Thursday, Jan 28th at 7-8:30 pm, in the Rachel Elizabeth annex rooms. All are welcome, and bibles are available; the New American Bible translation is used if you would like to bring your own. Schedules for bible study have been left in both gathering spaces of our parishes.

CALLING ALL TEENS: SPRING TEEN RETREAT -

April 10th Mark your calendars now to attend the Franciscan University of Steubenville's *SENT* team hosted **Spring Teen Retreat** for all teens of our parishes on Sunday April 10th from 12 noon - 4 pm **right at St Gabriel's**. This is a great opportunity for our parishes' teens to meet and interact with excellent Catholic college student leaders who serve in this special ministry. Dinner is provided at the end of day. Invite a friend, they don't have to be Catholic to attend. Sign-up sheets will be available in the gathering spaces this early spring. For more information contact Mrs. Denise Laubacher 330-868-3808.

PSR NOTES LOOKING AHEAD:

- * **Sat/Sunday in February**, BAKE SALE YOUTH GROUP - date to be announced
- * **Sunday February 21st, 2016:** First Reconciliation 1 pm St Gabriel
- * **Sunday March 2016:** MINERVA SKATE RINK: date to be announced
- * **Sunday April 10th, 2016:** TEEN RETREAT, FUS Sent Team on site at St Gabriel, 12 noon- 4 pm
- * **Saturday April 30th, 2016:** First Communion Photos & Practice
- * **Sunday May 1, 2016:** First Communion, St. Gabriel at the 10:30 Mass

ST. GABRIEL

400 West High Street ▪ Minerva, OH 44657

OFFICE ADDRESS: P.O. Box 275 ▪ Minerva, OH 44657

PHONE: 330-868-4498

EMAIL: smstgabriel@frontier.com ▪ **WEBSITE:** stgabriel-stfrancis.org

PASTOR: Fr. Victor Cinson 330-868-4498

SECRETARY: Mrs. Peggy Romine

FAITH FORMATION DIRECTOR: Ms. Linda Shaw

PSR COORDINATOR: Mrs. Denise Laubacher

SOCIAL HALL PHONE: St. Gabriel 330-868-4610

St. Francis 330- 863-0760

OFFICE HOURS:

9am – 5pm Monday - Thursday; 9am—2pm Friday

REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 4:00pm at St. Francis

6:00pm at St. Gabriel

Sunday: 8:30am at St. Francis

10:30am at St. Gabriel

Weekdays 8:00am Mon. and Wed. at St. Francis

9:00am Tues. and Thurs. at St. Gabriel

9:00am Fri. St. Gabriel Communion Service

[See *Weekday Schedule* inside for changes & special days.]

Holy Days of Obligation

Vigil (evening before) 7:00pm at St. Francis

Holy Day 9:00am and 7:00 pm at St. Gabriel

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 2:00 – 2:45pm St. Gabriel

3:15 – 3:45pm St. Francis

Other times by request. [Note: Confessions will be cancelled when there is a wedding at either church. Check weekly bulletin.]

BAPTISMS

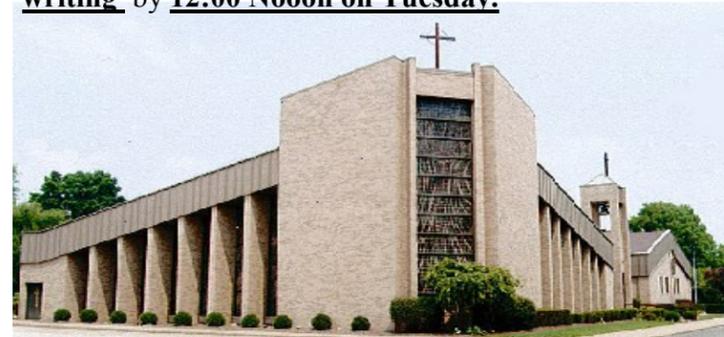
Parents are to call the Parish Office to arrange for a preparation meeting. The child need not yet be born to make these arrangements.

MARRIAGES

Couples intending to marry **must** consult the pastor personally at least 6 months prior to the desired date. No date will be set until this meeting takes place.

BULLETIN DEADLINE:

All items must be submitted to the Parish Office **in writing** by **12:00 Noon on Tuesday**.



ST. FRANCIS

125 Carrollton Street ▪ Malvern, OH 44644

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

For the first four centuries or so, there seems not to have been a sense of marriage as a church institution. Christians followed civil law, which kept the wedding in a family setting. Bishops wanted people to be good citizens insofar as possible, and so they recognized the government's role in marriage. In general, they expected Christians to know that marriage was good, that marriage to other Christians was best, and to take it easy on the wild wedding parties. They agreed that marriage was a divine institution, that Christ blessed it especially, and they loved referring to the miracle at the wedding feast of Cana. Still, even when Christianity became the official religion of the empire in 380, marriage remained a family matter.

On wedding days people gathered in the bride's house, where the father would "give her hand" to her husband, draping a garland of flowers over the couple. There were no official words to say, there was no blessing to be given. Everyone walked in procession to the bride's new home for the concluding rites and the feast. In the Eastern Empire, it soon became customary to invite a priest or bishop to give a blessing at the meal or the day before. It was a nice thing to do, completely optional, but had a "photo-op" feel to it that was widely emulated. Before long, at least in the East, it looked as if the priest were joining the couple in marriage and blessing the union.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

LOW GLUTEN HOSTS AVAILABLE: We have a special ecclesiastically approved low-gluten(0.01%) host available for any with glucose intolerance (celiac disease). Please inform the ushers **before** Mass begins. Those receiving this special host should come forward in the line in which the priest is distributing the Eucharist.

VOCATION VIEWS: *"Love never fails."* Trust the love of God and follow your heart. (1 Corinthians 12:31-13:4-13)



4th Sunday Ordinary Time, January 31, 2016