

## WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday, March 12**  
**4:00pm SFX** Fr. Bernie Krajcovic by The Thompson Family  
**6:00pm SG** Don Zwick by Elaine & Ray Burger

**Sunday, March 13**  
**8:30 am SFX** Living & Deceased of Both Parishes  
**10:30 am SG** Bob Biggins by Ron & Jeanie Markle

**Monday, March 14**  
**8:00am SFX** Carole Sinar by Rich & Theresa Andreski

**Tuesday, March 15**  
**9:00am SG** Fred Snider

**Wednesday, March 16**  
**8:00am SFX** Frank Burwell by Elizabeth Burwell

**Thursday, March 17—St. Patrick**  
**9:00am SG** Joan Nicolet by Friends

**Friday, March 18—St. Cyril of Jerusalem**  
**9am SG** Communion Service

**Saturday, March 19**  
**4:00pm** Helen Buzzelli by Husband and Son  
**6:00pm SG** Living & Deceased of Both Parishes

**Sunday, March 20**  
**8:30 am SFX** Virginia Greeneisen by Bill & Pat Peters  
**10:30 am SG** Barbara Romano by Sandy & Louis

## CHURCH SUPPORT:

*May God bless you for your generosity to our parishes on March 5/6, 2016*

**St. Gabriel:** Adult \$2,105; Loose \$116; Cap. Improve. \$173; New Hall \$270; CRS \$260; Flowers \$85; Adopted Child \$13.88.

**St. Francis Xavier:** Adult \$2,132; Loose \$188; Bldg Fund \$297; New Hall \$635; CRS \$215; Flowers \$360.

**PARISH SUPPORT:** *Please make any Checks covering your Regular Church contributions payable to the parish in which you are formally registered.* This will help us with our new bookkeeping system initiated by the Diocese 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 be made payable to: St. Francis Church. Thanks.

**VOCATION VIEWS:** God continues to open a way for us. How is God doing something new in your life? Perhaps God is inviting you to be a priest or religious. (Isaiah 43:16-21)

## 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:** Shirl Bonar; Patricia Burman, Ivette Martinez,  
**Eldercare:** Mildred Rennier, Joe Casper (SFX)  
**Arbors (Great Trail) Nursing :** Richard Lane, Doris Ferguson.  
**St. Luke Minerva:** Stella Kiko; Mary Wadsworth  
**Woodlawn:** Jerry Nicolet

## Prayer Chain for St. Gabriel and St. Francis:

For the prayer list for **St. Francis**, please call Dolores Hudson at 330-863-0273; 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 RITE OF ELECTION.

Please pray for our Catechumens preparing for Baptism and the Easter Sacraments:

Deborah Carroll Berecek and Douglas Jeffery.

And our Candidates preparing for Confirmation, Eucharist and Full Communion in the Church:

Kevin Booth, Ronnie McClellan,  
Zachery Schoeppner, and Rita Woodruff.

Please make them feel welcome among us. Kindly keep them in your prayers.

## LENT 2016

**New!** “Stations of the Cross with Pope Francis”

Every Wednesday of Lent at 7pm, alternating churches each week. March 16 at St. Gabriel

**New!** “Untold Blessings: Three Paths to Holiness”

Adult DVD video and discussion, by Fr. Robert Barron and facilitated by Linda Shaw.

Track A: Immediately following Wednesday Stations of the Cross at St. Gabriel this week

**New!** “Renew Our Hearts” A free booklet of daily meditations by Pope Francis, available in the narthex of each church. Pick one up, give one away today!

**Reminder:** Abstinence from eating Meat is observed on ALL Fridays of Lent. This is done in recognition of our

**NEW IMPROVED WEB SITE** [stgabriel-stfrancis.org](http://stgabriel-stfrancis.org) Check it out! Anyone able to help enter data, please call the church office at 330-868-4498.



**“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” Phase —Target Goal” 96.4%  
Reached!**

**Will you help us get to the top?**

Offerings as of 03/07/2016:

**\$266,501.05** Pledges & Gifts  
**\$ 38,750.00** Brick and Window sponsorships  
**\$ 21,000.00** Block sponsorships  
**\$ 11,603.00** Memorial Donations.  
**\$337,854.05** [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. 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

**Week of March 13, 2016**

Acknowledging that we are sinners and being able to ask for forgiveness is the first step in a decisive response to the question that Jesus asks each of us directly: “are you with me or against me?” Pope said as he invited us to open ourselves unconditionally to God.

“Scripture tells us,” Francis explained, “of many things that God did in order to attract the hearts of his people. The “unfaithfulness of the People of God”, like our own unfaithfulness, “hardens the heart: it closes the heart!” and it keeps out “the voice of the Lord who, as loving Father, asks us to always open ourselves to his mercy and his love”

However, “when your heart is hard you cannot understand this”, Francis explained. In fact, “God’s mercy is understood only if you are able to open your heart, so it can enter and you can utter the word ‘forgiveness’ — ‘Forgive me, Lord!’”

“Jesus explains this failed faithfulness by saying, “Whoever is not with me is against me”. In the language Jesus used, the Pope said, it is clear: “either you are faithful, with your heart open to God who is faithful to you, or you are against him: Someone may think that there is perhaps “a middle ground for negotiations”, to escape the clarity of Jesus’ words, “either you are faithful or you are opposed”. In essence, Francis replied, “there is a way out: confess, sinner!” because “if you say, ‘I am a sinner’, your heart opens, God’s mercy enters, and you begin to be faithful”.

**LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE:** Lent is the time for us to make changes in our lives. To reconnect ourselves to the Lord. Therefore we invite you and your family to attend our area wide (Minerva, Malvern, Carrollton, Morges, Waynesburg) communal Lenten Penance Service **THIS TUESDAY, March 15, 2016 at St. Francis Xavier, Malvern at 7:00pm.** There will be 7-8 priests to hear individual confessions. Make this a family event!



**SYMPATHY** St. Gabriel and St. Francis parishioners offer our prayers of sympathy to the family of William Zwick, especially Martha (Jeffery) Davis, Chris (+John) Zwick, and Raymond (Martha) Zwick of St. Gabriel parish, on the death of their brother. May all of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.



**CONGRATULATIONS** to Kathy and David Winter of St. Gabriel Church who is celebrating their 40th Wedding Anniversary this weekend. May you be blessed with many happy years ahead.

## 2016 DIOCESAN/PARISH SHARE CAMPAIGN TO BEGIN SOON.

As Bishop Monforton reminded us last week, "An effective way we share God's mercy with others is through the Diocesan/Parish Share Campaign." An *Advanced Gift Letter* and *Fact Sheet* was mailed to all registered parishioners this week. Thanks to ALL who gave so generously to our Campaign in 2015. Because of **YOU** each parish exceeded its goal, with generous rebates being returned to the parish. Please prayerfully consider how you might help us once again with the 2016 Campaign. God Bless you! **God bless your generosity! God bless your love!** Fr. Victor Cinson

**STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT:** *For his sake I have accepted the loss of all things and I consider them so much rubbish, that I may gain Christ...* (Philippians 3:8)

The first commandment says that we shall not put other gods before the Lord. Detaching ourselves from material possessions and considering them "rubbish" does just that. It strengthens our relationship with Jesus and allows us to live more freely and joyfully.

**Our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Quarter Auction** at St. Francis Xavier is scheduled for April 10, 2016. The response to our basket donations has been wonderful and is very much appreciated.

There are some remaining "Theme Idea" Gift basket ideas on the tree in the narthex for those who would like to donate a prize basket. **Please make sure to turn in the baskets to the church by Sunday, March 20.** Please put them in the coat room or take them downstairs.

There are also a number of areas where we need volunteers. Anyone interested in helping, please sign the sheet in the narthex under the position you prefer. For more information, check out the flyers on the table.

**ENTRANCE TICKETS NOW ON SALE:** The tickets are now on sale for the Quarter Auction. They are \$5 each and include 1 paddle. You may buy more paddles for \$1 each at the door that day. There are only 200 tickets for sale, so buy early, they will go fast. Tickets will be sold at St. Francis after Masses, at the Fish dinners or by calling Jan Prevot at 330-863-0789.

### PARISH SHARE CAMPAIGN. Items needed:

**March 12/13** Paper Products (Necessities)

**March 19/20** Hot Drink mix, coffee, tea, etc.

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

**FISH FRY DINNERS: THIS COMING FRIDAY, March 18** will end our Fish dinners at both parishes. Thank you to all who helped in any way and all who came to dine with us.

**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER:** *Dinners served from 5-7pm. Carry-Outs call 330-863-0760.* Volunteer Sign up sheets in the narthex. Profits support our New Hall Fund. Please help us in whatever way you are able.

**ST. GABRIEL:** *Dinners served from 4:30-7pm. Carry-Outs call 330-868-4610.* Please help, *Sign-up sheets* on the desk. **DESSERTS NEEDED:** Pies, cakes and brownies are needed at St. Gabriel. If you are able to help, use the sign-up sheet also in the narthex.

### BIBLE STUDY THURSDAY EVENING GROUP

The Thursday evening Bible Study group is studying the Gospel of St. John, meeting at 7-8:30 pm, in the Annex room at St. Gabriel. All are welcome, and bibles are available. Schedules for bible study are available in the narthex of each church.

**ST. FRANCIS CWC** will meet on **Mon. March 7 at 2:30pm** in the basement of the church for the regular monthly meeting.

**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.** For more information contact Mrs. Denise Laubacher 330-868-3808.

### FREE ADORATION TOTE BAGS AT ST.

**GABRIEL:** The free Adoration Bags are through the efforts of Dick Rainone of St. Gabriel. Dick has a friend in the east whose church discontinued Adoration and gave the bags to Dick for our use. Feel free to take one. Thank you Dick!

**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.

### MOTHER OF HOPE DEANERY CWC:

Our parish Catholic Women's Club (CWC) units are collecting recipes for a "Mother of Hope Cookbook". *Mother of Hope Deanery CWC is our area of the Diocesan Catholic Women's Club.* Please submit your favorite family recipe. The recipe cannot be from an already published cookbook. It needs to be original. Please look through your recipes and choose one to send in. Details will be announced in future bulletins.

# 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

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

**PHONE:** 330-868-4498

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

### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITIONS:

Three years ago, as we made the shift in the Eucharistic Prayer from "Benedict" to "Francis", we named a "treasure" in our tradition. From apostolic times, the Church has sent disciples on mission with a mandate to proclaim the gospel. Paul and Barnabas and Timothy come to mind as men invested with responsibility for community and mission. First we see bishops "Overseers", good men appointed by the acclaim of their people, the center of leadership, of prayer, of word and sacrament. Their territories were small initially, small enough to get everyone into one room and for the bishop to know everyone's name.

In time, men were appointed to function as a council of advisers, "elders", or presbyters. That isn't a comment on chronological age, rather it indicates the maturity of their wisdom and faith. Before long, and only when the bishop was absent, some of these men "stood in" for him to do what bishops usually did: preaching, presiding at Eucharist. The deacons had a strong and visible role in liturgy and service, especially in the care of the poor, but were gradually overshadowed by the new importance of the presbyter. As the Roman Empire first tottered and then collapsed completely by 475, bishops increasingly became civil servants to maintain order and dispense justice. Conferences and duties summoned bishops away from their home posts, and presbyters were entrusted with the sacramental and preaching duties, even though at one time runners were sent out from the bishop's Mass to bring fragments of the host to drop into chalices as a sign of the church's unity around its bishop.

-Rev. James Field, Copyright J.S. Paluch Co.



**5th Sunday of Lent, March 13, 2016**