

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 13

4:00pm SFX Virginia Kintz by Ron & Linda Kintz

6:00pm SG Don Zwick by Maurice & Mary Margaret Fowler

Sunday, February 14

8:30 am SFX Tom Nieschwitz by Judy & Vince Palleschi

10:30 am SG Living & Deceased of Both Parishes

Monday, February 15

8:00am SFX Pauline Halter by Tom Wingerter

Tuesday, February 16

9:00am SG Marty Rainone by Lisa Burman & Norma Marko

Wednesday, February 17

8:00am SFX Thomas Burkhart by Judy & Vince Palleschi

Thursday, February 18

9:00am SG Joseph Pottmeyer by the Huck Family

Friday, February 19

9am SG Communion Service

Saturday, February 20

4:00pm SFX Dan Bitzel by Rita & John Hoffee

6:00pm SG Living & Deceased of Both Parishes

Sunday, February 21

8:30 am SFX John Pirolozzi by Sam & Kathy Pirolozzi

10:30 am SG Michael Canestraro by John Dunlap Family

CHURCH SUPPORT:

May God bless you for your generosity to our parishes on February 6/7, 2016

St. Gabriel: Adult \$2,200; Loose \$207; Capital Improv. \$47; New Hall \$200; Eastern Europe \$60; Prop of Faith \$55; Adopted Child \$7.86.

St. Francis Xavier: Adult \$1,820; Loose \$108; Bldg Fund \$108; New Hall \$452; Eastern Europe \$47; Propagation of Faith \$\$10.

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.

NEW ON THE WEBSITE: Check out the Minister Schedule for both St. Gabriel and St. Francis on our website at stgabriel-stfrancis.org.

SICK AND SHUT-INS OF THE PARISH ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

At Home: Gary Kovacik

Stone Crossing: Vera Kompara

St. Joseph Care Center: Steve Marmo; Fran Montella

ST. GABRIEL

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

Eldercare: Mildred Rennie, 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:

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 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.

Our catechumens and candidates will be presented to Bishop Monforton at the *Diocesan Rite of Election* being celebrated at St. Agnes Church, Mingo Junction this Sunday. We are proud to have them as part of our parish family. We offer them our prayers and our welcome.

FISH FRY DINNERS: Spread the Word! Patronize our Dinners. Many Volunteer Helpers are needed for the success of our Lenten Fish Fry Dinners. Please help.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER: Dinners served from 5-7pm. Carry-Outs call 330-863-0760. See Sign up sheets in the narthex to volunteer. Helpers are needed in a variety of areas. Profits go to 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. All help is greatly appreciated. See the Sign-up sheets on the desk at St. Gabriel Church. **DESSERTS NEEDED:** Pies, cakes, brownies and cupcakes are needed for the Fish Fry at St. Gabriel. If you are able to help out with these items, use the sign-up sheet in the narthex.



“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” **96.3%**
Reached!

Will you help us get to the top?

Offerings as of 02/09/2016:

\$265,661.05 Pledges & Gifts
\$ 38,750.00 Brick and Window sponsorships
\$ 21,000.00 Block sponsorships
\$ 11,533.00 Memorial Donations.

\$336,944.05 [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. **Inform-**

NEW MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST

SESSIONS Our first session begins Tuesday, February 16 at 7 pm in the annex at St. Gabriel for all *New Ministers* and any current ministers as a refresher course. We will set future dates at this meeting.



MOMENTS OF MERCY Week of February 14, 2016

Lent is a time of conversion and a time to deepen one's faith, demonstrating and sharing it through the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. "Faith finds expression in concrete everyday actions meant to help our neighbors in body and spirit. Feeding the hungry, visiting

the sick, welcoming strangers, offering instruction, giving comfort -- on such things will we be judged," the pope said. Particularly during the Year of Mercy, he said, Catholics are called to recognize their own need for God's mercy, the greatness of God's love seen in the death and resurrection of Christ and the obligation to assist others by communicating God's love and mercy through words and deeds. "In the corporal works of mercy we touch the flesh of Christ in our brothers and sisters who need to be fed, clothed, sheltered and visited," he wrote. "In the spiritual works of mercy -- counsel, instruction, forgiveness, admonishment and prayer -- we touch more directly our own sinfulness." In the Christian life, Pope Francis said, "the corporal and spiritual works of mercy must never be separated."

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT "I have now brought you the first fruits of the products of the soil which you, O Lord, have given to me." (Deuteronomy 26:10) This line from the Old Testament offers two challenges. First, do you give to God from your “first fruits”, the best that you have to offer, or do you give from what is leftover? Second, do you remember that everything you have has been given to you by God? Ask God for a grateful and generous heart, every day

LENT 2016

New! “Stations of the Cross with Pope Francis” Every *Wednesday of Lent at 7pm*, alternating churches each week. **February 17 at St. Gabriel.** *Volunteers needed to help.*

New! “Untold Blessings: Three Paths to Holiness” Adult DVD video and discussion, by Fr. Robert Barron and facilitated by Linda Shaw.

Track A: Following *Wednesday Stations of the Cross* at the respective church for that week (see schedule) St. Gabriel, February 17; St. Francis, February 24..

Track B: Offered again every *Thursday of Lent, at 1pm* in the *Annex room at St. Gabriel.*

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

Reminder: *Abstinence from eating Meat is observed on ALL Fridays of Lent.* This is done in recognition of our Lord offering his life on the Cross for us on Good Friday.

UNTOLD BLESSINGS Are you looking for something to do this Lent that will help you to a more faithful follower of Christ? Why not plan to join us for the series entitled, Untold Blessings by Fr. Robert Barron and facilitated by Linda Shaw. **Track A** will meet on Wednesday evenings immediately following Stations of the Cross. **Track B** will offer the same session on Thursday afternoons at 1 PM at St. Gabriel in the annex. All welcome.



The Annual St. Francis Xavier Quarter Auction, is scheduled for **April 10, 2016**. We are asking for donations of baskets to be auctioned. There will be a tree with suggested baskets in the Gathering Space soon. Donations for the Silent Auction are also welcomed. The second meeting for our annual Quarter Auction will be **Monday, February 29 at 7pm in the Narthex at St. Francis**. There are a number of areas we need volunteers. Anyone interested in helping, please sign the sheet in the Narthex under the position you prefer. The more help we get, the more successful we will be. **For more info, see the flyers in the narthex of the church.**

YOUTH GROUP BAKE SALE: The teens of our parishes are hosting a bake sale on the weekend of **March 6/7th at both parishes, following all Masses**. We need many baked good donations, so youth group members may be asking family and friends to help. Proceeds for the bake sale will go toward the PSR Sponsor Child of Honduras, Roxana Lopez, and for a special roller skate event for the PSR families at Minerva Skate Rink. More information will be given to students in PSR, and date for roller skate party to be announced.

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.

PARISH SHARE CAMPAIGN. Items needed:
February 13/14 Pasta & Fixin's
February 20/21 Flour, Sugar and Shortening
 Please place items in shopping cart at St. Gabriel hallway, and the marked boxes in the St. Francis coatroom.

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.

MEN'S DAY OF RENEWAL: The 7th annual Men's Day of Renewal will take place at St. Stephen Church, Caldwell on Sat., February 27. The theme for the day is *"RISE UP! Men of God."* Registration forms are available in the narthex of each church. Call Dave Cinson at 330-868-5613 for information.

TRIDUUM AND EASTER CHOIR: Anyone able to assist with our choirs (voices and instruments) for Easter Triduum (Holy Thur.-Sat) and Easter Sunday Masses, please contact Peggy Romine at 330-868-4498. Practices will be every Thursday from February 25—March 17 from 7-8pm at St. Gabriel Church. No auditions, no fear—you are not required to sing a solo at any time if you are unwilling. Please consider giving of your Time and Talent to make our Holy Week Liturgies prayerful and our worship a true gift to God!

LENTEN CALENDAR: The Message from Fr. Vic and Lenten Calendar was mailed out this past week. If you don't receive yours by Tuesday, February 16, please contact the church office at 330-868-4498.

VOCATION VIEWS: God brings us through difficult experiences and always leads us to life. Depend on the Holy Spirit to guide you on the path of life. (Luke 4:1-13)

WORLD MARRIAGE DAY-FEBRUARY 12th
Prayer for our Marriage



Heavenly Father, we thank You for your tremendous gift of the Sacrament of Marriage. Enable us to grow in our intimacy with You and with each other. Teach us the beauty of forgiveness so we may become more and more one in heart, mind and body. Strengthen our communication with each other, and help us become living signs of your Love. Help us to be examples of commitment, love and service to our families and children. Make us a sign of unity which Jesus prays for at the Holy Spirit, who empowers us to love in Jesus' name and walk in his footsteps. Amen.

NEW IMPROVED WEB SITE Check this out. It is still a work in progress: stgabriel-stfrancis.org



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

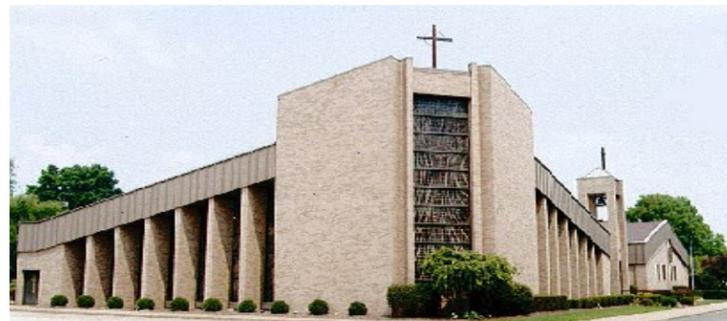
Parents are to call the Parish Office to arrange for a preparation meeting. The child need not yet be born to make these arrangements.

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

Today Lent begins. Ash Wednesday initiates the forty days of the Lenten fast, but since Sundays are not tallied in the days of fasting, today is the solemn opening of the forty days of Lent. The Church has work to do today, principally the calling forward of those chosen (the proper word is elected) for the Easter sacraments. Some of those who have been catechumens may now make a transition to a new way of life as the "elect." For them, this Lent will be a time of "purification" and "enlightenment." For us who accompany them, it is a time of helping them discern God's call and prepare for new life.

This year, while the readings from the third year of the Lectionary cycle are usually read, they are set aside on certain Sundays for the benefit of the elect. We turn then to the readings from Year A, and we give those who journey to the font of baptism three extraordinary companions. In the Gospels for those days, we meet the woman of Samaria and the man born blind, and we come to the tomb of Lazarus three days after his death. Many bishops celebrate the Rite of Election on or near today, affirming God's choice for these new faithful, and also offering them the solidarity of many companions. In 2013, over 38,000 adults entered the baptismal waters in the United States, a remarkable testimony to the vigor of our tradition of receiving and nurturing adult faith.

—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.



1st Sunday of Lent, February 14, 2016