



SACRED HEART of JESUS
CATHOLIC CHURCH
❧ Bethlehem • Founded 1833 ❧

March 9, 2025
First Sunday of Lent

5742 State Route 61 S.
 Shelby, Ohio 44875
 (419) 342-2256

A Sister Parish with St. Joseph, Crestline.

Tuesday

6:30 pm - Mass at Sacred Heart
Mass Intention: Dorothy Blum; Francis, Marie & Joe Biglin

Wednesday

8:30 am - Mass at Sacred Heart
Mass Intention: Roger Broach

Thursday

5:30 pm - Confession at St. Joseph
6:30 pm - Mass at St. Joseph
Mass Intention: Maureen Hoffman

Friday

8:30 am - Mass at St. Joseph
Mass Intention: For the People of Sacred Heart & St. Joseph Parishes

2:00 pm - Student Led Stations of the Cross at Sacred Heart

7:00 pm - Stations of the Cross Both Parishes

Saturday

3:30 pm - Confession at SHJ
4:30 pm - Mass at Sacred Heart
Mass Intention: Madonna Gamble Chancellor

Second Sunday of Lent

7:00 am - Mass at St. Joseph
Mass Intentions: NO MASS

8:30 am - Confirmation Mass Sacred Heart
Mass Intention: For All Confirmandi

10:30 am - Mass at St. Joseph
Mass Intention: Brady Sinnes; Dan & Martha Schroeder

Greetings Parishioners,

Next week is Confirmation for our St. Joe's and Sacred Heart youth! It is always an honor to host the Bishop for this event every 2 years! This year the Mass of Confirmation will take place next **Sunday 8:30am at Sacred Heart on March 16th.**

Everyone is welcome to attend this special and slightly longer Mass, but the large crowd might not be everyone's cup of tea or preferred experience. If that is the case, please consider attending either Saturday's 4:30pm Mass at Sacred Heart or Sunday's 10:30am Mass at St. Joe's next week. **Sadly, we were unable to get a substitute to cover Sunday March 16th's 7am Mass at St. Joe's. Please be sure not to attend that Mass time!**

I hope next Sunday's circumstances for no 7am St. Joe's and a very populated 8:30 at Sacred Heart does not cause anyone to miss out on the 2nd Sunday of lent!!! Once again Saturday 4:30pm at Sacred Heart and Sunday 10:30am at St. Joe's are (business/ Mass) as usual at my parishes.

If these circumstances at my parishes are inconvenient to your schedule ...I very much encourage you to attend Mass elsewhere. Some options might be the following:

- Sunday morning March 16th:
- 7:30am St. Peter's =Mansfield
- 8am St. Bernard's =New Washington
- 8am St. Joseph =Plymouth
- 8:30am Holy Trinity =Bucyrus
- 9am Resurrection parish = Lexington
- 9:30am St. Peter's = Mansfield

**In Christ,
 Fr. Jeff**

COLLECTION:

March 2, 2025
\$ 5,174.00

Reg. Offertory
\$ 5,174.00

No Specialty Offerings



Thank you!

Online
\$ 611.00
Heart of Bethlehem
\$ 50.00

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Wednesday, March 12
School Mass

Saturday, March 15

Sunday, March 16

MUSIC MINISTER

Kevin Willis

SERVERS

Deacon Wyer

Tessa Biglin

OFFERTORY

Jake & Jessica Rietschlin Family

EXTRAORDINARY

MINISTERS

Jake Rietschlin

Doug & Tammy Lucius

USHERS

Jacob Gosser

Dave Kromer

LECTOR

Joe DiLullo

(Please check Ministry Scheduler Pro
for the most up to date assignments)

MUSIC MINISTER

Dorothy Frye

SERVERS

Brooke, Tyler & Lane Zucker

Titus Beeson, Blaise Metzger

Lincoln Milligan

OFFERTORY

Confirmation Students

EXTRAORDINARY

MINISTERS

Bishop Daniel Thomas, Lisa Myers

Fr. Jeffery Smith & Deacon Steve Vogt

USHERS

Jacob & Cody Gosser

LECTOR

Katie DiLullo; Keri-Ann Kalavity

COUNTERS

*Rhonda Gregson, Steve Metzger
Veronica Cain*

Bible Readings for the Week of March 9, 2025

- Monday** Lv 19:1-2, 11-18, Ps 19:8-10, 15, Mt 25:31-46
- Tuesday** Is 55:10-11, Ps 34:4-7, 16-19, Mt 6:7-15
- Wednesday** Jon 3:1-10, Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19, Lk 11:29-32
- Thursday** Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25, Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8, Mt 7:7-12
- Friday** Ez 18:21-28, Ps 10:1-8, Mt 5:20-26
- Saturday** Dt 26:16-19, Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8, Mt 5:43-48
- Sunday** Gn 15:5-12, 17-18, Ps 27:1, 7-9, 13-14, Phil 3:17-4:1 or 3:20-4:1, Lk 9:28b-36



BULLETIN SPONSORS OF THE WEEK:

**Cole
Distributing, Inc.**

*Propane, Diesel Fuel,
Home Heating Oil,
Motor Oil*

419-342-FUEL (3835)

Family Owned~~Reliable Service

www.coledist.com

**STUDER
ELECTRIC, INC.**

6656 Remlinger Road
Crestline, Ohio 44827

419-683-1201

Ohio License # 18040



**Continued
Prayers for Pope Francis**

O God, shepherd and ruler of all the faithful, look favorably on your servant Francis, whom you have set at the head of your Church as her shepherd; Grant, we pray, that by word and example he may be of service to those over whom he presides so that, together with the flock entrusted to his care, he may come to everlasting life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Mansfield Tri-Parish Lenten Mission
Sunday, March 16 - Wednesday, March 19.
6:00-8:00 pm each night.
Featuring Fr. William Slattery**



Sunday and Monday at St. Peter's, Mansfield
Tuesday at St. Mary of the Snows, Mansfield
Wednesday at Resurrection, Lexington

March Meetings



Parish Council CANCELLED
School Advisory March 18th
Finance Council March 25th

F.I.S.H. food pantry most needed items:

All shelf stable food items are being accepted. Including Canned potatoes, mashed potatoes, box cheesy potatoes, beef stew and pineapple.

Thank you for your continued support!



The flowers at Mary's altar are in loving memory of Charlie Studer from Chuck, Darla and Family

Attention High School Students !

Please join Steve & Sheila Vogt at the parish center for PSR. The dates are as follows: **March 12, 19 & 26. April 2 and 9.** Each session will begin at 7 and last approximately 1 hour. Hope to see you there!

**Save the Date! Easter Egg Hunt April 6th
9:30am Sacred Heart Gym**

Confirmation Mass with Bishop Thomas

Confirmation will be held Sunday, March 16th at our 8:30am Mass. Please keep the following students in your prayers as they prepare for their Confirmation: Eva Mae Joan Beeson, Rudy Michael Hubert Belcik, Grant Anthony Francis Biglin, Caron Michael Francis Del Greco, Adam Christopher Gregory Gosser, Berkley Mae Margaret Mary Hoffman, Adam Alexander Hubert Keller Derek Russell Philip Keller, Quinn Noah Sebastian Keller, Sophia Leane Clare Keller, Augustine Thaddeus Jean Metzger, Sarah Ann Elizabeth Plazek, Karen Mae Martha Rietschlin, Louise Samuel Isidore Rietschlin, Veronica Marie Lucy Rietschlin and Weston Nicholas Andrew Vogt.

The celebration of the Rite of Election (or Enrollment of Names) closes the period of the catechumenate. In this ancient rite of the Church, the Bishop listens to the testimony of the sponsors, godparents, and assembly. Based upon this testimony, he judges their state of readiness and "elects" or "chooses" them to receive the sacraments of initiation at the coming Easter Vigil. **Sunday, March 9** at Holy Rosary Cathedral.

Please keep our elect in your prayers as they travel to Toledo this Sunday:

Keith Ball, Brayden Burkhalter, Amy Davies, Luke Davies, Alex Potter, Emily Potter, Madison Sipes, and Olivia Thoman.

First Reconciliation

Wednesday, March 19th after 8:30am Mass.

Please keep the following students in your prayers as they prepare for their First Reconciliation and First Communion: Claire Coffman, Conall Drain, Anderson Gwartz, John Paynter, Simon Ratliff, Oliver Rietschlin and Nathan Vogt.

Right to Life Flower Sales



Students at Sacred Heart School are selling flowers to benefit Right to Life. Please contact Mrs. Myers at 419-342-2797 to place your order! Orders will be taken through March 17th @ 3pm (no late orders will be accepted). Flowers will be delivered on May 6th, in time for Mother's Day. Checks should be made out to CCRL.

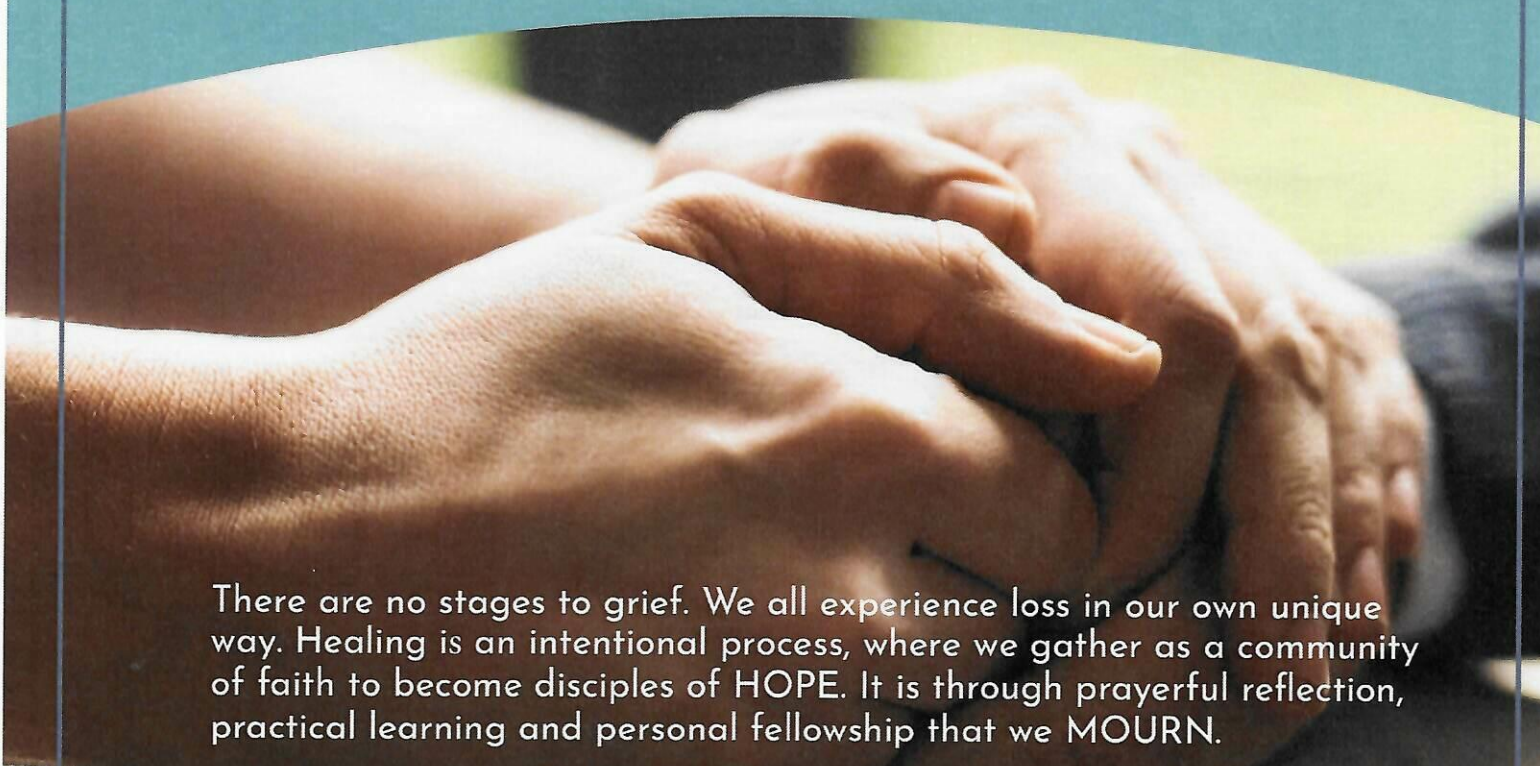
SORROWFUL MOTHER SHRINE WELCOMES YOU TO

GRIEVING WITH GREAT HOPE

Friday, May 16 (7-9PM) & Saturday, May 17 (10-4PM)

4106 St. Rt. 269 • Bellevue, Ohio 44811

419-483-3435 • sorrowfulmothershrine.org



There are no stages to grief. We all experience loss in our own unique way. Healing is an intentional process, where we gather as a community of faith to become disciples of HOPE. It is through prayerful reflection, practical learning and personal fellowship that we MOURN.

Grieving with Great HOPE is a weekend workshop for anyone who is grieving the death of a loved one. Fr. Jim Seibert, C.P.P.S. will join John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy from Good Mourning Ministry, a Catholic Bereavement Apostolate, who will facilitate the workshop.

Please complete the registration on the back of this flyer or call 419-483-3435 option 4



SORROWFUL
MOTHER SHRINE



GOOD MOURNING MINISTRY



Missionaries of the
Precious Blood
UNITED STATES PROVINCE

GRIEVING WITH GREAT HOPE

"It went above and beyond my expectations."

Registration is \$30.00 which includes a continental breakfast, boxed lunch and a workshop book. Please complete the information below and submit with your

payment to:

The Sorrowful Mother Shrine
4106 State Route 269N
Bellevue, OH 44811

One registration for each participant.

Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Male Female Age group: 18-25 26-35 36-45 46-55 56-65 65+

Please tell us loss or losses:

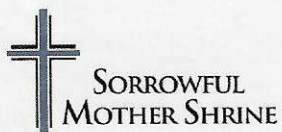
Spouse _____ Date of death _____

Child/grandchild _____ Date of death _____

Parent _____ Date of death _____

Other _____ Date of Death _____

Please tell us anything else you would like us to know:



Growing in FAITH™

Discovering **hope** and **joy** in the Catholic faith.

March 2025

Rev. Jeff Smith, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

St. Agnes of Bohemia

Imagine refusing marriage proposals from two kings and the Holy Roman Emperor.

For Agnes, daughter of Queen Constance and King Ottokar I, none but the King of Heaven could win her heart. In 1236, after financing the construction of a Poor Clare monastery in Prague, she entered this monastery with seven other noblewomen. Elected abbess, she continued to perform the lowliest tasks in the community. She exchanged letters with St. Clare of Assisi, which survive today.

Scripture is God's love letter

Sacred Scripture isn't just a record of events that happened long ago but is intended for us today. When we read the Bible through the lens of Church teaching, we see God revealing the ways of the love of His heart for each of us, "back then" and still today.

"And what is the secret of perseverance? Love.

Fall in Love, and you will not leave him." —St.

Josemaría Escrivá

Cultivate a heart for Lent

Just as an experienced gardener prepares the soil before planting to ensure healthy growth, we must prepare the "soil" of our hearts during Lent. This season invites us to clear away obstacles that hinder our relationship with God and nourish our spirits through prayer and the Sacraments. By doing so, we cultivate the "good fruits" that lead to a renewed and vibrant spiritual life.

Uproot the Weeds: Studies suggest that forming a new habit takes at least three weeks, depending on its nature. Begin by uprooting unhealthy habits and replacing them with holy, life-giving practices. Start small but be consistent — like waking up just five or ten minutes earlier to pray. Even small acts of self-discipline build the spiritual strength needed to face greater

challenges, including temptations.

Nourish the Soil: Spiritual growth isn't possible without grace. Mother Teresa, despite her incredible work, insisted on a daily Holy Hour, affirming, "How can we last even one day living our life without hearing Jesus say, 'I love you'— impossible." Follow her example by creating and following a routine of daily prayer, weekly Mass, and monthly Confession.

Preserve the Fruits: Commit to practices that bring new life, like choosing kindness over gossip, and prayer over screen time. By nurturing these habits, you'll encounter Jesus' love more deeply and reflect that love to others.

As we journey through Lent, may our hearts become fertile ground where faith, hope, and love can blossom abundantly.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics give something up for Lent?

Catholics around the world make sacrifices during Lent to remind us that God is greater than anything the world can offer. By giving up small comforts or practicing acts of self-denial, we acknowledge that every good gift comes from Him. The sacrifice serves to remind us.

True love requires sacrifice. God demonstrated this perfectly by giving His only Son for our salvation (John 3:16). Our Lenten sacrifices help us imitate this divine love. By uniting our sacrifices with Christ's ultimate sacrifice on the Cross, we become more like Him.

The virtue that leads to a balanced life

Prudence is the virtue of wise decision-making, guiding us to apply moral principles in everyday life with clarity and integrity. It empowers us to navigate complex situations with fairness and sound judgment.

Act justly and fairly by treating others with justice, free from favoritism or prejudice. For example, when caring for children, prudence ensures we give equal attention to each child, fostering an atmosphere of respect and equality.

Balance courage and caution by finding the middle ground between fear and recklessness. Prudence empowers us to make bold yet responsible choices. For

example, taking out a mortgage for a comfortable home is a prudent investment, whereas going into excessive debt to impress others is not.

Master desires and avoid greed to keep from becoming enslaved by life's pleasures. This virtue helps us avoid excessive consumption. Prudence allows us to appreciate good food, fine entertainment, or the latest technology without falling into excessive consumption.

Prudence brings us practical wisdom. When we practice prudence, we not only make better decisions but also move closer to living a balanced, fulfilling life.

from Scripture

John 9:1-41, Faith gives us true sight

In this Gospel reading, Jesus cured a blind man on the Sabbath by making mud and smearing it on the man's eyes. This cure was two-fold; the man received both physical sight and the sight of faith. As he was being questioned by the Pharisees, his understanding of who Jesus was moved from knowing Him as simply a man, to acclaiming Him as a prophet, and finally, to worshipping Him as the Son of God.

While the faith of the cured man progresses, the spiritual sight of

the Pharisees does the opposite. In their anger, they were blinded to the truth—that the curing of the blind man was God's work. Furious that Jesus failed to observe the Sabbath, they refused to believe that the man had been blind from birth and had been healed by Jesus.

In Baptism, we are given the gift of faith—the ability to “see” God and our life in relation to him. The longer we follow Jesus and learn from Him, the better we understand Him. However, through sin, we can become spiritually blind.

Q & A Why don't I feel better after Confession?

After Confession, many feel lighter, more peaceful. Other times, we may feel no change, or even sadness. Still, we are forgiven. Here's how to find peace.

Make amends: That lingering unease might be God's gentle nudge to make things right. Forgiveness is given in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, but healing continues through restitution. If you confessed to stealing \$20, you're forgiven—but you still need to return it. Making amends completes the reconciliation process.

Reject false guilt: “Healthy” guilt alerts us to sin, like a burglar alarm. Once you've confessed, the alarm should turn off. If guilt lingers, recognize it as a temptation to doubt God's mercy. God doesn't hold grudges and neither should you. If you're struggling, seek help from a priest, counselor, or trusted Catholic friend.

Then do what pleases Him most – be still and let Him love you.

Feasts & Celebrations

March 6 - St. Colette (1447). St. Colette was born in Corbie, France. She was orphaned at seventeen and gave her inheritance to the poor. She later became a Franciscan Tertiary and later reformed the Poor Clares. She founded seventeen convents under the reformed rule.

March 17 - St. Patrick (493). Born in Scotland, St. Patrick was kidnapped and brought to Ireland as a slave. He escaped but later returned to become the bishop of Ireland and is credited with establishing the Church there.

March 19 - St. Joseph, Husband of Mary. Jesus' earthly foster father and husband to the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph is a model of fatherhood and protector of families.

March 20 - St. Cuthbert (687). St. Cuthbert joined the Benedictines at the Melrose Abbey. For his holiness, fervor and charity, he was made abbot of the Lindisfarne Abbey. He retired to be a hermit.

March 25 - the Annunciation. The angel Gabriel visited the Blessed Virgin Mary with the extraordinary news of her role as the mother of God. Even at her young age, she had complete confidence in God's grace and trusted in his wisdom.

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.
 Success Publishing & Media, LLC
 Publishers of *Growing in Faith™* and *Partners in Faith™*
 (540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax
<http://www.infaithpublishing.com>
 (Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible - Revised)

PARISH CONTACTS

**FR. JEFFERY SMITH ,
PASTOR**

419-683-2015

JSMITH@TOLEDODIOCESE.ORG

DEACON STEVEN VOGT

419-564-6331

SRVOGT@NCOOL.NET

DEACON STEPHEN KELLER

RETIRED

419-347-6940

**MS. JOANN PALM
BUSINESS MANAGER**

419-683-2015

419-342-2256

JPALM@STJOSEPHCRESTLINE.ORG

HOURS: M & T 9AM TO 3PM-SACRED HEART
TH & FRI 8AM TO 3PM-ST JOSEPH

**MRS. BECKY KROMER
PARISH SECRETARY**

419-342-2256 (SHELBY)

BKROMER@SACREDHEARTBETHLEHEM.ORG

OFFICE HOURS: W & TH 9AM TO 3PM

**MRS. LISA MYERS
SCHOOL PRINCIPAL**

419-342-2797 (SHELBY)

419-683-1697 (CRESTLINE)

LMYERS@SHELBY SACREDHEART.ORG

**MRS. JESSICA RIETSCHLIN
SCHOOL SECRETARY**

419 342-2797 (SHELBY)

419 683-1697 (CRESTLINE)

JRIETSCHLIN@SHELBY SACREDHEART.ORG

**JONAH STUDER
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR**

419-543-0119

JO55ST@YAHOO.COM



Lenten Fish Fry

It's Knights of Columbus Season 2025! Join us in our Crestline St Joseph Convocation Center on these six Lenten Fridays: March 7, March 14, March 21, March 28, April 4 and April 11. Come and enjoy the area's best deep fried or baked fish dinner including baked potato and two sides. We serve from 5:00 PM until sold out. Fried Pollock Dinner—\$12 Baked Haddock Dinner—\$14 Cash or Credit Card Accepted Your purchase supports Crestline St Joseph School. We thank you! All six dates offer both Dine-In & Drive-Thru options. Dine-In at 333 N Thoman Street, Crestline, or enter Drive-Thru Line BEHIND Convocation Center, approaching from Main Street entrance across from former Rite Aid Store.

Thank you for your support and God Bless!

Senior Citizen Dinner at St. Joseph

Tuesday, March 18 @12:15 pm

St. Joseph Convocation Center

Menu: Mashed Potato Bowls (popcorn chicken over mashed potatoes topped with corn, cheese, and gravy), Peaches and Dinner Roll. Cost is \$4. **Please RSVP to the school office (419-683-1284) by Thursday, March 13.**

Plymouth St. Joseph Altar & Rosary

Spaghetti or Lasagna Dinner

Dine-In or Carry Out

Sunday, March 16, 2025 - 9:30 am - 1:00 p.m.

Spaghetti or Lasagna with Homemade Sauce

Breadsticks, Salad, & Dessert

Free Will Offerings Accepted



**Your gift to the ACA supports
seminarian formation, so
that we may have good and
faithful shepherds serving
the people of God.**

Because the Annual Catholic Appeal helps defray the cost of my seminary education, I am afforded the ability to answer God's call to the priesthood.

— Deacon Travis Kahle,
Seminarian

acatoledo.org



Looking for Servers to help Deacon Steve with Stations of the Cross on **March 28, April 4, and April 11**. Please contact the parish office to schedule.