

Holy Spirit Catholic Church

4341 East 131st Street
Garfield Heights, Ohio 44105

216.581.0981
www.holyspiritcleveland.org



Office hours:
Tuesday — Friday
9:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.

26 February 2023

Sunday Mass
10:30 a.m.

**Saturday
Vigil Mass**
4:00 p.m.

Weekday Mass
Wednesday
6:30 p.m.

**Sacrament
of Reconciliation**
Wednesday
5:00 — 6:00 p.m.



Holy Spirit Church

In the greatness of
your compassion wipe
out my offense.

— Psalm 51: 3b



Mission Statement

We come together as a diverse and welcoming community to glorify, praise, and give thanks to God in Christ Jesus. Inspired by God's Word and the Eucharist, we go forth to serve the needs of our parish and the extended community.

We are called through the Holy Spirit to spread the Gospel message and reach out to the poor and oppressed. We are committed to know, understand, and love each other as members of Christ's body.

COME, WORSHIP WITH US

THE PENITENTIAL ACT

Almost every celebration of the Mass includes the Penitential Act, after the Processional Hymn, the Sign of the Cross and Greeting. It is part of disposing ourselves to participate fully in the great act of thanksgiving that the Eucharist is. The Penitential Act can be prayed in three ways, but at Holy Spirit Church we almost always use the third form. I have definite reasons for preferring to use that form, which I'd be happy to explain to anyone who is interested.

As happens in human behavior, when we never exercise an option, slowly our awareness that there is an option fades from consciousness. I realized this when Bishop Roger was here on Epiphany Sunday and chose the first form of the Penitential Act and many of us were caught off guard and unable to easily recite the prayer from memory, including myself.

Lent is a particularly appropriate time to use the first form with its clear focus on our admission that we are sinners in need of God's mercy and forgiveness, and that we need the prayerful support of our brothers and sisters to live as virtuously and faithfully as we can. To help us learn the prayer so that we can easily say it from our hearts, we will use the first form of the Penitential Act each of the first five Sundays of Lent. If you need to see the text in print, it is on page one of the missal at the end of the pews. And then later in the year, we'll use the second form for a period of time in order to make sure we can fully participate whenever a priest uses it at Mass.

J. David

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Registrations continue to come in for the planned study of the last book of our Bible. The sessions will be in the parish center on Thursday evenings from 6:30 - 8:00 beginning on March 9th. It's not too late to save a place for yourself.

MASS INTENTIONS

- Saturday, 25 February 2023* THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
4:00 pm Nellie Allen
- Sunday, 26 February 2023* THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
10:30 am The People of Holy Spirit Parish
- Wednesday, 01 March 2023* WEEKDAY IN LENT
6:30 pm Rachel Jackson
- Saturday, 04 March 2023* THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
4:00 pm The People of Holy Spirit Parish
- Sunday, 05 March 2023* THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
10:30 am John Garner

EARTHQUAKE RELIEF IN TURKEY AND SYRIA

This message arrived from the bishop's office late last week:

The February 6 earthquake that struck Turkey and Syria has caused the deaths of more than 40,000 people, injured countless more, and devastated the Turkish and Syrian people who are mourning unimaginable losses. Bishop Edward C. Malesic is requesting the prayers of the faithful for all those impacted by this disaster, and is asking those who are able to give generously to support relief efforts.

Please join with Bishop Malesic and our Holy Father Pope Francis in praying for the souls of the departed, for the many others suffering in the wake of this tragic event, and for the emergency responders tending to them.

Please donate to the Catholic organizations providing emergency humanitarian relief to our brothers and sisters in need:

Catholic Relief Services
<https://support.crs.org/donate/earthquakes>
 P.O. Box 5200
 Harlan, IA 51593-0700

Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA)
<https://cnewa.org/work/emergency-syria/>
 1011 1st Avenue, Floor 15
 New York, NY 10022-4195

These links will direct your donation toward relief efforts in the wake of this devastating earthquake. Please also be aware that *Operation Rice Bowl* is an initiative of the U.S. bishops that funds Catholic Relief Services' work internationally. Further, on March 19th there is a designated second collection for the work of Catholic Relief Services.

The customary foldout cardboard container for Operation Rice Bowl is available at the church entrances. Please take one for your home and invite all the members of your family to fill it with your spare change.

| HAPPY BIRTHDAY | | |
|----------------|---|--|
| 02/26 | Michael Chukwu Jr. Willie Pearson Jr | Sheneia Wilson |
| 02/28 | Horace Bowling | Penelope Whatley |
| 03/02 | Billy Dodd | Patricia Todd |
| 03/03 | Patricia Tabor Brittany Forte Alanna King Ivy King | Isaiah Penn Colleen Sauvain Joseph Vallery Jr. Amara Penniman-Whatley |
| 03/04 | Sharon Booker Marcella Lash | Dolores Posey Demetrius Ledgyard |

MULLIGAN HALL AND ACCESSIBILITY MASTER / STRATEGIC PLANNING



When the parish's finance council met late in January, a portion of the conversation was devoted to a review of the successful anniversary celebration we had earlier that month and the enthusiasm that has been building for our plans to renovate Mulligan Hall and address its accessibility issues. To further the conversation, the council agreed to meet in

an extraordinary session and asked Mr. David Tucker to join the conversation in his capacity as a co-chair of the pastoral council.

This group met for a lengthy face-to-face meeting on Thursday, February 9th. In the end, the group sees a clear need to develop a Master Plan or a Strategic Plan for the parish, a guide for decision making that takes account of our strengths and weaknesses, our opportunities and challenges. It's an exercise that goes beyond renovating part of our church building to articulating how every resource we have here – not only, but including Mulligan Hall – helps us fulfill our mission and propels us into a future full of faith and hope.

While we are laying the groundwork for proceeding with developing such a plan, we are also taking steps to reengage and connect with the young adults of our parish, the cohort of young people in their twenties to mid-thirties.

fr. David

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Beginning this week at the 10:30 Mass there will be a minister of the Eucharist assigned to distribute Communion to those seated in the side chairs on the Blessed Mother altar side of the church, and then to those throughout the church unable to come forward in the Communion procession. With this practice, we're returning to what was customary for us in the pre-pandemic days.



For this reason, we'll be calling on more of our eucharistic ministers to return to service by helping to distribute Communion. If you're willing to be on the minister's schedule again, please leave a message at the parish office.

A GRACIOUS THANK YOU NOTE

Last week we received a lovely thank you note from Mark Tomecko of Saint Francis Xavier Parish in Medina; he is one of the candidates for the permanent diaconate who was here with our two bishops on February 11th for our 4:00 pm Mass. His note is worth reproducing in full:

I cannot thank you, your staff, and the parishioners of Holy Spirit enough for the warm welcome and prayerful support they have shown me and my classmates as we were instituted as acolytes last Saturday: the Mass affected me, my family, and so many others I've talked to in profound ways. Please share my profound gratitude with all who were involved.

I have never felt so welcomed as I did at Holy Spirit. You have given me a gift that I will never forget. And you and the people of the parish will now be in my daily prayers. I wish I could do more to show my deep appreciation, but please use the enclosed donation as you see fit.

May God bless you and your parish.

Thank you, Holy Spirit Parish, for living what we proclaim, for being what we hope to be.

A UNIQUE REQUEST FOR OUR HELP

Please consider helping this student at Saint Ignatius High School conduct a research project. Father David has completed the survey; it can easily be done in less than twenty minutes.

"My name is Owen Leneghan, and I am a junior at Saint Ignatius High School in Cleveland, Ohio. I am conducting a research project that examines the correlation between religious participation and mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite benefits to mental health resulting from religious participation, a decline in religious opportunity and its implications on mental health have and will continue to occur. For this project, I and fellow students are prompted to research a specific field of inquiry that has never been researched before; therefore, we need to gather our own data and analyze it for an eventual research paper. For my project, I aim to conduct a case study that explains the extent to which the COVID-19 pandemic has affected religious congregations, and in turn, the extent to which these implications have impacted individual mental health. I intend to gather data through religious sources – primarily churches or other religious institutions in the area and their communities; thus, I created a questionnaire that investigates this field of inquiry. Would you please consider sharing the following survey link with members of your congregation? <https://forms.gle/36ZDpZXEmv9LPFXz9>."

As we bring Black History Month to a close, it is imperative to remember that we must respect all human life, from conception through natural death. At a time when we are seeing continued division in our country in all forms of media, Bishop Edward C. Malesic is asking parishes to communicate to their congregations that racism is a sin that we must recognize and be vigilant against.

We encourage you to use the attached statement as you see fit; place it in your bulletin, promote it on social media, or otherwise share it with your parishioners. Here is a [link to the message](#) on the Diocese of Cleveland website. We also make a variety of [educational resources](#) available on our website to those seeking to learn more about and promote racial harmony.

Thank you for distributing this important message to the faithful.

Nancy Fishburn
Executive Director, Communications
Catholic Diocese of Cleveland

Bishop Edward C. Malesic Statement - February 2023

To follow Jesus, we must stand against the inhumane treatment of others – a special message from Bishop Malesic.



As Catholic Christians, we know that God created us in his image and likeness; each of us is a unique and beautiful reflection of our creator. We are all brothers and sisters in Christ, yet what we see in the news regularly is division – whether it's based on the color of our skin, our political affiliation, our religious beliefs or other differences that lead to the inhumane treatment of others. We must recall that Jesus prayed just before he died that we might all be one. We also know that united we stand, divided we fall. I'm inviting everyone to reflect on one particularly painful sin of division – racism – and ask that you consider ways to actively reject this insidious evil wherever it is found.

In 2018, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops issued a statement, "Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love – A Pastoral Letter Against Racism." In that document, the bishops stated: "Racism still profoundly affects our culture, and it has no place in the Christian heart. This evil causes great harm to its victims, and it corrupts the souls of those who harbor it."

The statement went on to say: "What is needed ... is a genuine conversion of heart, a conversion that will compel change, and the reform of our institutions and society. Moving our nation to a full realization of the promise of liberty, equality and justice for all is even more challenging. However, in Christ we can find the strength and the grace necessary to make that journey."

As you reflect on this, I ask you to join me in prayer, using these beautiful words from St. John Paul II:

"Lord our God, you created the human being, man and woman, in your image and likeness, and you willed the diversity of

peoples within the unity of the human family. At times, however, the equality of your sons and daughters has not been acknowledged, and Christians have been guilty of attitudes of rejection and exclusion, consenting to acts of discrimination on the basis of racial and ethnic difference. Forgive us and grant us the grace to heal the wounds still present in your community on account of sin, so that we will all feel ourselves to be your sons and daughters."

We should pray, too, for ourselves, that we will never fail to understand that our power as followers of Jesus comes in our loving one another. We not only pray for victims of the sin of racism, but for all victims of discrimination, violence and abuse, from conception to natural death.

An African American saint in the making is the Servant of God Sister Thea Bowman, who inspired people of all races to work together for the justice that leads to peace. Sister Thea, at a meeting of USCCB in 1989 said, "The Church is a family of families, and the family (has) got to stay together ... if we do stay together, if we walk and talk and work and play and stand together in Jesus' name – we'll be who we say we are – truly Catholic. And we shall overcome – overcome the poverty – overcome the loneliness – overcome the alienation and build together a holy city, a New Jerusalem, a city set apart where they'll know that we are here because we love one another."

May we, as faithful Catholics, lead the way to a vision that Jesus has for this world, where we are all sons and daughters of God, and all brothers and sisters to each other. May we ask the Lord to wash away the ashes of sin in our own hearts, and replace them with the waters of grace – so that we may worship in spirit and in truth, proclaim the Gospel in its beauty, and serve the Lord with gladness.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH EMMETT TILL ANTILYNCHING ACT

The Emmett Till Antilynching Act is a landmark United States federal law which makes lynching a federal hate crime. The act amends the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act and prior hate crime laws to define lynching as any conspired bias-motivated offense which results in death or serious bodily injury. It was passed by the U.S. House of Representatives on February 28, 2022, and the U.S. Senate on March 7, 2022; it was signed into law on March 29, 2022, by President Joe Biden.

The legislation had been attempted some 200 times before and failed. Over 100 years of lynching in this country was largely ignored by local authorities; such crimes had slim chances of being investigated. The victims were mostly Black Americans. The killing of Emmett Till and his mother's courageous response sparked a new beginning of the modern Civil Rights Movement.

At the time of the law's signing, President Biden said, "Thank you for never giving up, never ever giving up ...". The Senate voted unanimously for the passage of the bill and the House of Representatives passed it with only three Republicans voting against it, arguing that there already was a hate crime bill which covered lynching.

HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH ON THE DIOCESAN WEBSITE

"The Latest News" section of the diocesan website ([dioceseofcleveland.org](https://www.dioceseofcleveland.org)) features an article about the visit of our two bishops on February 11th, the ritual for instituting diaconal candidates into the ministry of acolyte, and a summary of the celebration, including Bishop Malesic's kind words about our parish at the end of the Mass. It's worth a few minutes of your time to read the article: <https://www.dioceseofcleveland.org/news/2023/02/16/diaconal-candidates-called-to-ministry-of-acolyte>.

Holy Spirit Catholic Church Parish Staff

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Rev. Mr. Ron James, *Deacon Emeritus*

Rev. Mr. Shelby Friend, *Deacon Emeritus*

Join fellow
 parishioners
 in praying
 the Stations
 of the Cross
 on Friday nights
 during Lent
 at 6:30.

MASS WITH THE SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK



The Wednesday evening Mass on March 22nd will include the opportunity for those in attendance to celebrate the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. The sacrament takes place after the homily and before the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

The sacrament is not only for those who are in danger of imminent death and should not be thought of in that way. The sacrament may and should be given to anyone whose health is seriously impaired. The instruction on the sacrament offers these general guidelines for who rightly asks to receive the sacrament:

- * those whose health is seriously impaired by sickness or old age;
- * the sacrament may be repeated if the sick person recovers after being anointed and then again falls ill, or if during the same illness the person's condition becomes more serious;
- * elderly people may be anointed if they have become notably weakened even though no serious illness is present;
- * sick children may be anointed if they have sufficient use of reason to be strengthened by this sacrament.

Celebrating the sacrament during Mass gives us the opportunity to collectively bring our weakness and ill health to God for blessing and healing. By the sacrament, we present ourselves and our loved ones to God for healing, and we are strengthened by praying together for each other. Even if you are not in need of this sacrament at this time, come and pray with brothers and sisters here, who beg God's healing Spirit in their lives.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday Gn 2;7-9; 3:1-7; Rom 5:12-19; Mt 4:1-11

Monday Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday Is 55:10-11; Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday Jon 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32

Thursday Est C: 12, 14-16, 23-25; Mt 7:7-12

Friday Ez 18:21-28; Mt 5:20-26

Saturday Dt 26:16-19; Mt 5:43-48

Sunday Gn 12:1-4a; 2 Tm 1:8b-10; Mt 17:1-9

Please silence all cellular phones and other electronic devices prior to the beginning of our liturgies.



Thank you to all who are participating in the Catholic Charities 2023 Annual Appeal. Because of your support, over 425,000 individuals will receive help and hope through the programs and services made possible by your generosity.

If you have not had a chance to make a gift, it's never too late. Pledge envelopes are still available in the church pews and at the doors. You may also give: by visiting CatholicCommunity.org/donate; by mailing your donation to the Catholic Community Foundation

at 1404 E. 9th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44114; or by texting CCHOPE to 41444.

May God continually bless you and your loved ones.

| COLLECTION | |
|---|-------------------|
| <i>19 February 2023 — online contributions</i> | \$3,190.00 |
| <i>19 February 2023 — envelope contributions</i> | \$3,486.00 |
| <i>Sunday collection total</i> | \$6,677.00 |
| <i>Ministries of Mercy — online contributions</i> | \$15.00 |
| <i>Ministries of Mercy — envelope contributions</i> | \$65.00 |
| <i>Ministries of Mercy total</i> | \$80.00 |
| <i>Thank you so much for your continuous support!</i> | |

PRAY FOR OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS

If you or members of your family are admitted to the hospital and would like to be visited and remembered in prayer, please notify the parish office. If you are unable to attend Mass and want to receive a visit from the pastor or deacons, please contact the parish office.

Let us always pray for our sick and shut-in parishioners. In particular, please remember in prayer:

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Rochelle Larkin-Carr | Estella Fortson | Catherine Powell | Amanda Lewis | Hal Wyant |
| Dwight A. Carpenter | Henry Tucker | Carrie Aaron | John P. Jones, Jr. | Maxine & Shelby Friend |
| Cole Whaley | Marvin Young | Jimmy Owens | Wendy Lewis | Shirley Liston |
| Roger & Connie Raines | Jesse & Jessica Carr | Demateress Richards | Jean & Len Rosky | Jerry Freeman |
| Rosemarie McBride | Fletcher & Delores Posey | Gerri Fracasso | Cordell Curry | Bill & Monica Starks |
| Vera Payne | Pauline Reed | Catherine Wilson | Tammy Larkin | Bettina & Horace Bowling |
| Beverly Jordan | Marian Mauldin | Marlene Land | Maria Hanan | Barbara Galloway |
| Carmen Whaley | Don Miller | Denise Curry | Patricia Pendleton | Clementine Jefferson |
| Edith Richardson | Allyssa Brand-Bey | Theresa Talbott | Preston Whatley | Thelma Arnold |
| Helen Collier | Reaver Jones | Margaret Luton | Daniel Jefferson | Tyrone & Terry Lester |
| Sr. Kathleen McCafferty | Della Powell | Sr. Mary Beth Daly | Sharm Starks | Horace Reese |
| Sandra Rose | Raman Belinson | Maureen Belinson | Linda E. Williams | Jonathan Traylor |
| Doris St. Clair | Ruby Fett | Eunice & Jesse Smiley | Cora Williams | Merline Goodson |
| Kiana Pearson | Mildred Jackson | Star Lewandowski | Barbara Oliver | Sophonria Reed |
| Jerry Cohea | Tyric Green | | | |

If you decide that it is no longer necessary for your name to appear on this list because your condition has improved, please contact the parish office.

PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS IN THE MILITARY:

| | | |
|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Sandra Clark | Mario Williams | Maurice Williams |
| Steven Rau | Sadé Powers-Morgan | Uchechi Onwuanaibe |

