

LAKEWOOD CATHOLIC PARISHES

St. Clement • St. James • St. Luke

MARCH 9, 2025 • FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



Parish Contact Information

St. Luke Church

1212 Bunts Rd, Lakewood, Ohio 44107
216-521-0184 • www.stlukelakewood.org

St. Clement Church

2022 Lincoln Ave, Lakewood, Ohio 44107
216-226-5116 • www.stclementlakewood.com

St. James Church

17400 Northwood Ave, Lakewood, Ohio 44107
216-712-6755 • www.stjameslakewood.com

Parish Devotions

Adoration

Second Tuesday from 7:00pm-8:00pm at St. Luke
Daily at St. Clement Parish (Call office for info)

Rosary

Thursdays at 7:45am at St. Clement Parish
Thursdays at 7:00pm at St. James Parish
Saturdays before 4:30pm Mass at St. Luke Parish

Mass Schedule

Weekday Masses:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday • 8:15am at St. Luke
Thursday • 8:15am at St. Clement
Friday • 8:15am at St. James
First Saturday • 8:15am at St. Luke

Weekend Masses:

Saturday • 4:00pm at St. Clement
Saturday • 4:30pm at St. Luke

Sunday • 8:30am at St. Clement
Sunday • 9:00am at St. Luke
Sunday • 10:30am at St. James
Sunday • 11:00am at St. Luke

Confessions:

Saturday • 3:00-4:00pm at St. Luke
Saturday • 3:00-3:30pm at St. Clement

Readings and Intentions for the Week of March 9, 2025

Monday, March 10: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mt 25:31-46

Mass Intention 8:15am St. Luke: **Thomas Gurbach †**

Tuesday, March 11: Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19/Mt 6:7-15

Mass Intention 8:15am St. Luke: **Special Intention**

Wednesday, March 12: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/Lk 11:29-32

Mass Intention 8:15am St. Luke: **Dottie Salata †**

Thursday, March 13: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8/Mt 7:7-12

Mass Intention 8:15am St. Clement: **Sophie Heng**

Friday, March 14: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8/Mt 5:20-26

Mass Intention 8:15am St. James: **Mary Ann Shaw †**

Saturday, March 15: Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/Mt 5:43-48

Mass Intention 4:00pm St. Clement: **Patricia Hesland †**

Mass Intention 4:30pm St. Luke: **Special Intention**

Sunday, March 16: Gn15:5-12,17-18/Ps27:1,7-9,13-14/Phil3:20-4:1/Lk9:28-36

Mass Intention 8:30am St. Clement: **Angela Barrett †**

Mass Intention 9:00am St. Luke: **For the People**

Mass Intention 10:30am St. James: **Christa Marie Fry**

Mass Intention 11:00am St. Luke: **Mary Catherine Lynch †**

Parish Staff

Pastor: Fr. Kevin Elbert

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Patrick Schultz

Parish Deacon: Deacon Tom Bizon

Priest in Residence:

Fr. Peter Paul Ibeagha

St. Luke Parish Staff:

Max Hall, *PCL/Pastoral Associate*
Lawrence Wallace, *Music Ministry*
Holly Nixon, *Office Manager*
Tim Conley, *Facilities Manager*
Barb Price, *Hospitality Coordinator*
Therese Bendahan, *Secretary*
Annemarie Hutchinson, *Secretary*

St. Clement Parish Staff:

Colleen Houk, *Faith Formation*
Susan Simmons, *Secretary*
Frank Stasko, *Maintenance*

St. James Parish Staff:

Colleen Houk, *Faith Formation*
Andrea Krueger, *Secretary*
Frank Stasko, *Maintenance*

Christ in the Desert: A Reflection for the Beginning of Lent:

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil. [Luke 4:1-2](#)

If someone is attacked or feels threatened, it is common to be defensive. For example, if soldiers suddenly find themselves under attack from an enemy, they will most likely take up a defensive position. Similarly, when we feel personally attacked by another or are tempted by the devil, we will often try to defend ourselves. However, within the worlds of games, sports and military activity, there is a common adage that says, "the best defense is a good offense." In other words, the best way to keep the opponent from winning is to go on the offensive rather than to sit back and take up a defensive position.

In many ways, this is what Jesus did when He entered the desert. He was aware that the evil one wanted to destroy Him. Therefore, when Jesus entered the desert for 40 days to pray and fast, He did so in a sort of offensive attack upon the devil. Jesus' temptations in the desert were not primarily difficulties He had to endure and resist. Rather, they were first and foremost ineffective attacks from the evil one, because Jesus had already embraced the opposite virtues.

What temptations and sins are among your greatest struggles? In what ways do you find yourself experiencing defeat? In what ways have you taken up a defensive position to try to overcome your struggles? Too often we approach temptations in the wrong way. We see them as attacks from the evil one that we must resist and defend ourselves against. And though that is true, it is not the full truth. The full truth is that the best way to overcome the struggles we face is to confront them directly in a vigorous and offensive way by choosing the opposite virtue.

Consider the three temptations Jesus overcame in the desert: gluttony, vainglory and greed. Jesus' entrance into the desert for those 40 days was the way by which He destroyed these temptations before they were even presented to Him. By voluntarily choosing to fast from food for those 40 days, Jesus rendered the temptation toward gluttony ineffective. By choosing the humility of entering into the solitude of the desert to be alone with His Father, Jesus robbed the temptation toward vainglory of its power. By choosing a life of poverty and simplicity, He overcame any temptation toward earthly wealth, even before it was offered to Him.

As we begin this forty-day Lenten journey, reflect, today, upon the sins and temptations in your life that need to be overcome. If you find yourself in an ongoing defensive position toward certain struggles, especially if you find yourself losing the battle at times, it's time to change your strategy. Embrace the opposite virtue of the sins you are most tempted with this Lent. Embrace those virtues in an offensive manner. Choose kindness if you struggle with anger. Choose fasting if you struggle with gluttony. Choose generosity if you struggle with greed. Whatever your struggle, turn to the virtue you need the most and make it your focus this Lent so that you, too, will be well-prepared to reject the evil one and his lies when temptation comes your way.

My tempted Lord, You resisted all temptation in Your life by choosing every good virtue and living them to perfection. Please help me to see the virtues I need the most right now and give me the strength I need to run toward them this Lent with all my heart. Jesus, I trust in You.



The Annual St. Patrick's Day Party is here!

Don't Miss out on the fun.

Come on over to the gym after the 11 o'clock Sunday Mass and enjoy some wonderful Irish Music, Corned Beef, and more.



New! St. Colman's Donation Bin!

The donation bin is located just inside the rear western door of the church. We will be collecting personal hygiene products for St. Colman's Church to help with their outreach services to those in need. This bin will be a year-round collection site for items such as: toothpaste, toothbrushes, floss, feminine hygiene products, deodorant, shampoo, soap, baby wipes, etc. All sizes welcome. The donations will be taken to St. Colman's on a monthly basis by several St. Luke parishioners who volunteer there. The donations will be taken to St. Colman's on a monthly basis by several King's Men volunteers. Thank you in advance for your generosity, the King's Men volunteers and the Social Action Ministry.

A word or two about St. Colman's

St. Colman Catholic Church, located on West 65th Street, was founded in 1880 as a response to the growing Irish immigrant population on Cleveland's West Side. Today, Saint Colman Church continues its tradition of service by offering a number of outreach programs to the community they serve. These programs include: meals, a food pantry, literacy programs, emergency assistance as well as a refugee resource center. Outreach programs are supported by the parish and by donations from parishioners, friends and supporters. To help them with their ministry, we will be collecting personal hygiene products. See the bulletin notice about the new St. Colman donation bin for more details.



St. Monica Prayer Ministry at St. Luke Parish

We'd like to pray with you and for you,
and your intentions.

To submit a prayer request:

- Visit the Parish Website
- Call the Parish Office
- Scan the QR Code

SCAN THE QR CODE TO
SUBMIT YOUR PRAYER
REQUEST



WWW.STLUKELAKEWOOD.ORG

PARISH OFFICE: 216-521-0184

Financial Corner

January

In Pew \$14,303.00

Faith Direct \$29,638.00

February

In Pew \$22,520.45

Faith Direct \$30,029.00

*Thank you for your
incredible generosity
to our parish.*



Lenten Drive: March 5th - April 6

It's almost time for our yearly Lenten Drive! This year we will be collecting Diapers (all sizes), canned soup and individually wrapped snacks/treats! The donations will go to The Centers, our Community Meal guests and our friends at St. Herman's! Bins will be at back of church beginning Ash Wednesday (3/5/25). - From the Social Action Ministry Note: Please watch the dates on food items: no expired food please! Thank You!

Introduction to Real Prayer with Deacon Tom

Join us on the Sundays of Lent beginning March 16, 6:30-8pm at St Luke (In the Seton Room - the upstairs room in the school building) for "Introduction to Real Prayer". This series teaches everything you need to know about prayer...not just what it is, but how to do it! We'll gather to watch the video series and discuss.

For a preview or to sign up for individual study, check out www.scienceofsainthood.com.

Take Action Against Childhood Hunger

1 in 5 children in Cuyahoga County are food insecure – they don't have enough to eat on a daily basis.

Proposed funding cuts to programs like WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) and SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) will worsen the childhood hunger crisis in our own community and nationwide.

You can help! Join Catholics from throughout our Diocese and nationwide who are making an **Offering of Letters** during the month of March. Contact your US Representative and Senators and urge them to protect these programs.

Childhood hunger is a non-partisan issue - as Catholics, we believe food is a basic human right, not a privilege. Your voice on behalf of children who will be harmed by cuts to these programs is a simple, but powerful way to put our Catholic faith into action.

For more info, pick up a flyer and sample letter at the back of St. Luke, visit Social Action Ministry

<https://stlukelakewood.org/social-action/>
or Bread for the World <https://tinyurl.com/2646z6s9>

Supported by the USCCB, Bread for the World is a collective Christian voice urging our leaders to end hunger at home and abroad.



Join the Avila's Vocation Prayer Group on the 1st Monday, after Mass, to pray for priests and seminarians in formation



St. James Fish Fries

SIX FRIDAYS IN LENT

MAR 7, 14, 21, 28, APRIL 4, 11, 2025

5:00 - 7:30 pm


Andrews Hall (St. James lower level)
17514 Detroit Ave., Lakewood, OH

Cash or checks accepted | MENU | Take-out orders available

All full dinners come with 2 sides:
Potatoes OR Mac & Cheese AND Coleslaw OR Applesauce

Beer Battered Cod	\$13
Non-Battered Baked Fish	\$13
Fried Shrimp	\$13
Pierogies	\$11
Combo/Double Meal: 2 Entree Choices	\$16
Clam Chowder or Cabbage & Noodles	\$5
Pizza Slice	\$2
Kid's Meal: Mac & Cheese and Applesauce	\$4
Desserts	\$2-3
Beverages	\$1
Complimentary Coffee	

Holy Mackerel! You can't beat these prices and menu choices! Friday, March 7th thru April 11th from 5-7:30 pm in St. James Church - Andrews Hall (lower church), 17510 Detroit Ave, Lakewood Ohio. Come enjoy Beer Battered Cod or Non-Battered Baked Fish \$13, Fried Shrimp \$13, Pierogi's \$11 or Choose 2 Entrees for a Combo Meal \$16. Full Meals include choice of 2 sides Mac and Cheese or Potatoes AND Cole Slaw or Applesauce. Delicious Clam Chowder \$5, Cabbage and Noodles \$5, Pizza Slice \$2, Kid's Meal of Mac and Cheese AND Applesauce \$4, Desserts \$2-3, Beverages \$1, Complementary Coffee - FREE. Takeout Available, Cash or Check. Enjoy the Music! We're Family Friendly! Questions or if you would like to volunteer contact Mary (216) 521-9150 or Tom (216) 798-5523.



FAMILY FRIENDLY


Stations of the Cross

LENTEN FRIDAYS
MARCH 7 - APRIL 11
4:30P | ST. JAMES

ALL AGES WELCOME

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In Collaboration with the Sounds of St. James



presents:

Mothers and Sisters of the Veil

March 22, 2025
7:00 pm
St. James Church
Lakewood, OH

Mothers and Sisters explores the lives of medieval nuns through their spiritual familial experience, with repertoire drawing from both Western Catholic and Byzantine Orthodox traditions of chant.

Free admission | Free will offering accepted

Trobár is a small band of voices and instruments dedicated to bringing medieval music to modern audiences. | <https://www.trobarmedieval.org>

Trobár Concert at St. James – March 22


Trobár is a unique and creative group of artists dedicated to exploring human experience through medieval music and stories. In this concert, Trobár will be featuring chant in the Western Catholic and Byzantine Orthodox traditions. Be immersed in the transcendent beauty of chant! The concert will be on Saturday, March 22 at 7pm here at St. James. Free to attend; free will offerings are appreciated. All are welcome!

FAMILY-FRIENDLY STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Come walk with Jesus during St. James' Family-Friendly Stations of the Cross from 4:30-5p, Fridays during Lent, beginning March 7 and concluding April 11. All ages and from any parish are welcome and invited to participate, especially families with young children. Immediately followed by the legendary St. James Fish Fry -- come for God; stay for cod!

New at St. James? Welcome!

We're glad you're joining our parish family! If you haven't registered yet, please scan this QR code to obtain a registration form. We're looking forward to meeting you--please let us know how we can help!



Parish Paypal is Unavailable

Due to some technical difficulties, the St. James Parish Paypal is unavailable. If you need to make a payment, please contact the parish office for alternative arrangements.

St. Clement Scholarship Program

The Saint Clement Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce that in furtherance of Catholic education, once again this year, the Parish will provide scholarship assistance to eligible students in the Parish. The Committee will be awarding scholarships to active parishioners who will be attending a Catholic grade school, high school, college or university in the 2025-2026 school year. The recipients will be chosen by the Scholarship Committee based upon applications submitted and interviews with the Committee. Applications will be available beginning February 9th, on the Saint Clement website, and will be due by March 16th. The winners will be announced on April 27th, 2025. For more information, visit the Saint Clement website: www.stclementlakewood.com.



Divine Mercy Chaplet

During Lent the Divine Mercy Chaplet will take place on Friday's at 3 pm, beginning March 7th through April 11th. Sign-up sheets are available after Mass in the front of the church. The event is sponsored by the Saint Clement Prayer Ministry. All are welcome!



Newly Baptized

We welcome our newly baptized to our parish family

Luca Antonio Powell

Son of Steven and Fiorella Powell.



Pot of Gold Winners

\$25 Winners

Donna Miller • Barbara Merritt • Jack Curtis

Tyler Parabeck • Donna Miller • Maria Gatica

Congrats!

Soup ~n~ Bread Night



Saturday, March 15th, 2025

5:30 pm

St. Clement Church Hall

**Come with your friends and family
for Soup-n-Bread Night!**

**Bring your favorite soup (already warmed
in a crock pot), or bread or a dessert to
share.**

**We will provide bowls, spoons, napkins,
coffee, water... All are welcome!**

Finance Corner

Monthly Contributions for January - 2025

Weekly Collection - \$ 18,395.60

Monthly Collection - \$ 3,670.00

St. Augustine Hunger Center - \$ 924.50

All Other Collections - \$ 4,593.79

Online giving:

Weekly - \$ 3,642.00 - Monthly - \$ 1,731.00

St. Augustine Hunger Center - \$ 153.00

St. Vincent de Paul Society - \$ 70.00

Thank you for your continued support
and generosity to our parish.

Our Lakewood Community

A GUIDE TO LENTEN FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

WHAT?

ABSTINENCE: REFRAINING FROM
EATING MEAT (FLESH & ORGANS OF
MAMMALS AND FOWL)



FASTING: ONE MEAL A DAY & TWO
SMALLER MEALS, WHEN IF ADDED
TOGETHER WOULD NOT EXCEED ONE
FULL MEAL



WHEN?

ASH
WEDNESDAY

GOOD
FRIDAY

FRIDAYS IN
LENT

FASTING
AND
ABSTINENCE

ABSTINENCE

WHO?

CATHOLICS

14+



CATHOLICS

18-59

ARE OBLIGED
TO PRACTICE
ABSTINENCE



ARE OBLIGED
TO FAST

THOSE OUTSIDE THE AGE LIMITS

AND THOSE WHOSE STATE IN LIFE (E.G., PREGNANT
OR NURSING WOMEN, THOSE WHO ARE ILL) ARE
EXCUSED FROM FASTING & ABSTINENCE, BUT ARE
ENCOURAGED TO TAKE UP SOME OTHER FORM OF
PENITENCE & ACTS OF CHARITY OR PIETY.



Our Lakewood Community

LEVEL UP YOUR PRAYER LIFE THIS LENT!!



Stations of the Cross – Fridays of Lent
4:30pm @ St James (Family Stations)
7pm @ St Luke
(Way of the Cross for the Bereaved,
Mary's Way of the Cross, and more)



Introduction to Real Prayer
Vocal Prayer, Contemplation, & Meditation
This program doesn't just talk about prayer,
it shows you how to do it!!
Sunday nights beginning March 16
6:30-8pm @ St Luke



Benediction Prayer Services @ St Clement
Lenten Praise & Worship Wed, March 12 @ 7pm
Musical Journey to the Cross Wed, April 9 @ 7pm

LENTEN PRAISE & WORSHIP

Join us Wed, March 12, 7pm at St Clement for Lenten Praise & Worship...including Adoration, Benediction, Worship songs, and prayer. Kick off Lent by spending an hour with the Lord. For those that would like to join, we'll head to a nearby restaurant for dinner and drinks afterward. Hope to see you there...

Pray for the Intentions of the Holy Father

March - For families in crisis

Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

The Behold Retreat is a mother-daughter retreat (any mother-daughter-like relationship) designed specifically for adult and teen women in the spirit of Mary's fiat. The retreat will be held at



Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine on Saturday, March 22 from 10am to 4pm. The theme is "Behold Our Mission," keynote speaker is Crystalina Evert, and the reflections will shed light on the life and example of St. Therese of Lisieux. The retreat will close with the Sunday vigil Mass at 4pm celebrated by Fr. Joe Menkhous. Registration is now open. Only 100 tickets will be sold. For more information visit dioceseofcleveland.org/behold

Evening of Confessions - March 19

The diocesan Evening of Confessions will be on Wednesday, March 19th, from 5pm-8pm. Almost every parish in the diocese will have confession available during this time. Here in Lakewood, both St. Clement Parish and St. Luke Parish will be open to hear your confession. Stop on by at any time and receive the grace of this sacrament.



Podcast

Slaking Thirsts

Stream on Apple, Spotify, or any major podcasting platform.

THINGS AROUND TOWN

March 9 • St. Luke - St. Patrick's Day Party

March 9 • Baptism Class at St. Luke Church (12:15pm)

March 19 • Evening of Confessions across diocese.

March 22 • "Behold" - A mother/daughter retreat at Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine. Register @ dioceseofcleveland.org/events

March 22 • Catholic Men's Fellowship Conference featuring Bishop Edward Malesic, Fr. Mitch Pacwa, and Elvis Grbac. For more info and to register visit cmfneo.com.

March 22 • Trobar Concert at St. James Parish at 7:00pm

March 29 • Women's Lenten Retreat at Mary Queen of Peace. Call 216-749-2323 to register.

March 30-31 • Who is God and Why does it Matter with Jon Leonetti, Catholic author and Speaker: at St. Albert the Great Parish. (6:30pm in Church)

Women of the Parishes

We all need prayer... our priests need prayer too! Seven Sisters Apostolate, an international ministry, has a mission to pray for individual priests through small groups of seven. Each woman chooses a different day of the week and offers one Holy Hour. Thus the priest receives a Holy Hour every day. This is a blessing for the priest and a privilege and blessing for the intercessor. The initial recipient of a Seven Sisters group is the pastor and Fr. Kevin's group is formed; please be in touch to support Fr. Patrick in this same way! Seven Sisters Contact: Patti Hunt 234-222-0353.

Cleveland Catholic

Men's Fellowship Conference - March 22nd

On March 22nd, the Diocese of Cleveland will host the Cleveland Catholic Men's Fellowship Conference at Holiday Inn Rockside in Independence. Featured speakers include Bishop Edward Malesic, Fr. Mitch Pacwa, S.J. of EWTN, and Elvis Grbac, retired NFL quarterback and motivational speaker. The day includes Mass, Reconciliation, outstanding speakers and music. For more information and to register visit cmfneo.com, or call 216-633-3502.

PILGRIMAGE TO EMERALD IRELAND

11 DAYS: SEPTEMBER 8 -18, 2025

VISITING: WATERFORD • KILLARNEY • CLIFFS OF MOHER
GALWAY • CONNEMARA • KNOCK • SLIGO • DUBLIN



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FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Fr. Kevin P. Elbert

Tel: (216) 521-0184

Email: frkevin@stlukelakewood.org

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