LAKEWOOD CATHOLIC PARISHES

St. Clement • St. James • St. Luke December 14, 2025



3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Gio

"This is the one about whom it is written: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you." - Mt 11:10

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass @2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

CLP

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

*The Lakewood Parishes now have a consolidated office at St. Luke Parish. Any business related items should be directed to the central office at St. Luke Church.

Parish Devotions

Adoration

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

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

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

Readings and Intentions for the Week of December 14, 2025

<u>Monday, December 15:</u> Nm 24:2-7, 15-17/Ps 25:4-5, 6, 7, 8-9/Mt 21:23-27 Mass Intention 8:15am St. Luke:

Intentions of Alyssa and Zachary, Niece and Nephew of Fr. Kevin

<u>Tuesday, December 16:</u> Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23/Mt 21:28-32

Mass Intention 8:15am St. Luke: Vivian Fox \uparrow

Wednesday, December 17: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17/Mt 1:1-17

Mass Intention 8:15am St. Luke: Frank Coneglio 🕂

<u>Thursday, December 18:</u> Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25

Mass Intention 8:15am St. Clement: Carolyn Toth +

Friday, December 19: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

Mass Intention 8:15am St. James: James Edwin Eink 🕂

<u>Saturday, December 20:</u> Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

Mass Intention 4:00pm St. Clement: Rita McMaster +

Mass Intention 4:30pm St. Luke: For the People

<u>Sunday, December 21:</u> Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

Mass Intention 8:30am St. Clement: Intentions of the Tomsic Family

Mass Intention 9:00am St. Luke: Charmaine Hennessey †

Mass Intention 10:30am St. James:

Intentions of Debbie and Kenneth Hanzel, on the Occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary

Mass Intention 11:00am St. Luke: Eileen McGann 🕂

Parish Staff

Pastor: Fr. Kevin Elbert

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Cameron Popik 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 Annemarie Hutchinson, Secretary

St. Clement Parish Staff:

Colleen Houk, Faith Formation Frank Stasko, Maintenance

St. James Parish Staff:

Colleen Houk, Faith Formation Frank Stasko, Maintenance

December 14, 2025 Third Sunday of Advent Matthew 11:2-11

When I was 11, I was riding my bike on a Friday night in Scottsdale, Arizona. I saw giant spotlights swirling in the sky. Something amazing had to be happening. I pedaled after them with excitement. Sweaty and tired, I arrived, only to find a used car lot. Bright lights, flapping banners, inflatable balloon men swaying wildly in the wind. I stood there, heart sinking. All that spectacle, and all my effort ... for this?

As life proceeds, we learn what it is like to pursue promising but fruitless searches. This week we hear Jesus ask the crowds regarding John the Baptist: "What did you go out to the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind?" (Matthew 11:7). He's not just describing the crowd's misaimed pursuit. He's naming our tendency to chase after what's flashy but flimsy.

What are our swaying reeds? For me, it is endless video reels on my phone, worldly pleasures, entertainment in sports, and the good opinion of others. Inflated distractions that bend whichever way the wind blows. But they can't satisfy my soul. What are your flimsy reeds?



Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve 4pm at St. Luke 4pm at St. James 6pm at St. Luke 8pm at St. Clement

Christmas Day 8:30am at St. Clement

ristmas Day 8:30am at St. Clement 10am at St. Luke 10:30am at St. James

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

New Year's Eve 4pm at St. Luke
New Year's Day 10am at St. Clement

*Please note there was a misprint last week and this is the correct schedule.

John the Baptist wasn't a swaying reed. He was rooted, grounded, unafraid to speak the solid truth. The people went to see him because, deep down, they were starving for something real.

This Advent, the Church asks us to reassess: What are we really looking for? Are we chasing the dazzling but hollow? Or are we seeking what is solid and lasting — that which points to Christ?

- Father John Muir

Pancake Breakfast at St. Luke Hosted by the Knights of Columbus

Join us today, Sunday, December 14, for a festive Pancake Breakfast in McBride Hall following the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Masses at St. Luke. In the spirit of Advent come gather as a Catholic community for good food, warm conversation, and the kind of fellowship that strengthens the heart of parish life. The Knights of Columbus will be serving up a hearty breakfast with their trademark hospitality.

All are welcome. Come share the season.



St. Luke Giving Tree

As we enter the Advent season, keep in mind our annual St. Luke Giving Tree, which is located in the church. Each year, this beloved tradition spreads the joy of Christmas to those in need throughout our community. Through your generosity, we support local organizations including St. Augustine Health Center, Zelie's Home (for moms in need), The Centers, O'Neill Nursing and Assisted Living Residents, Community Meal, and many others. Please return wrapped gifts, with the tag attached, to St. Luke by December 14. Gifts can be dropped off in McBride Hall, at the stage, before/after the weekend Masses up till the due date. Thank you for your kindness and generosity to help those in our community.

Request for Bakery Donations

As we prepare to celebrate Fr. Kevin's farewell reception on Sunday, December 28, we're hoping to offer a warm, welcoming table for our Lakewood Catholic Community. To help make the gathering festive, we are asking for donations of bakery—homemade or store-bought—cookies, pastries, bars, or any simple treats that can be shared. If you are able to contribute, please contact Barb Price at the parish office: 216-521-0184. Your generosity will help us create a gracious send-off for Fr. Kevin and reflect the hospitality that defines the Lakewood Catholic Parishes. Thank you for considering this small but meaningful way to support the celebration.

Thank You for Your Remarkable Giving Tuesday Generosity

St. Luke Family, thank you for your generosity to our Giving Tuesday campaign in helping maintain our parish buildings for their continued use in worship, ministry, and sporting activities.

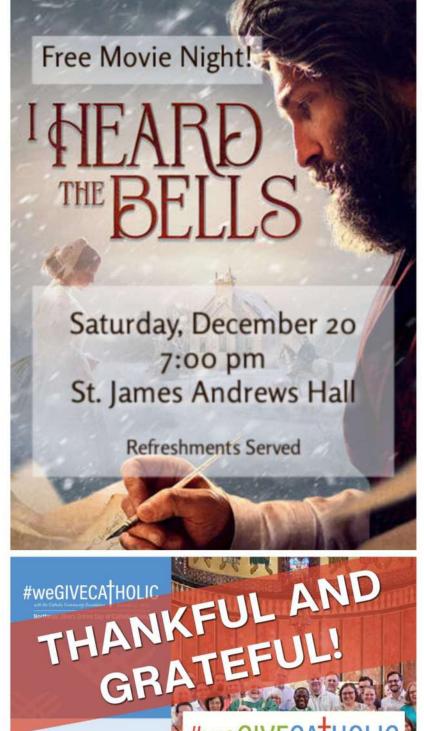
Your generosity reflects a community that believes in its mission and invests in its future. Each contribution becomes part of a larger story, one in which our parish continues to grow, welcome, serve, and carry the Gospel forward with confidence.

We are deeply grateful for your support and for the way you continually help St. Luke remain a place of faith and fellowship.

A Gift for You

In this season of holy expectancy, we are blessed by the quiet generosity of an anonymous parishioner who has made it possible for us to place a spiritual gift into your hands. To support your formation and fortify our parish's culture of prayer, we are offering *An Introduction to Prayer* by Bishop Robert Barron—a concise, compelling guide to encountering the Lord with renewed depth.

Copies are available in the back of the church. Please take one home at no cost, and allow it to accompany you through these Advent days of preparation and hope.



Northeast Ohio's Online Day of Catholic Giving

ST. JAMES GIVING TREE

As we enter this season of hope and generosity, our parish once again invites you to participate in our annual Holiday Giving Tree. This year, we are again honored to support Catholic Charities and the Division of Migration and Refugee Services, both of provide essential care, dignity, compassion to families in great need. Beginning November 30, you will find baskets filled with gift tags at the church entrances. Each tag lists a specific item that will help brighten Christmas for someone facing hardship. We encourage parishioners to take a tag, shop for the requested item, and return your gift unwrapped by December 14. Your kindness makes a real and immediate difference. For any questions, please contact Tina at tinaruts1@gmail.com

MOVIE NIGHT

Join us on Saturday, December 20, 7pm in Andrews Hall (St James lower level) for a FREE night at the movies. We will be showing "I Heard the Bells", the true story of poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, whose world is shaken by personal tragedy and national turmoil. Silenced by grief, Longfellow rediscovers his voice through the healing power of Christmas. We'll provide popcorn and pop...just come and enjoy! Hope to see you there!!

We Give Catholic

We are delighted to report that together we raised a total of \$124,125 from 193 generous donors like yourself in our 2025 #weGiveCatholic campaign! Starting with an initial goal of \$60,000, we repeatedly raised our target, finally setting it at \$122,000—and surpassed that too! In addition, we will be awarded prize money of \$2,000 from the Catholic Community Foundation for securing 1st place in the number of unique donors within our parish category.

This achievement was made possible through the extraordinary kindness of all our donors and campaign advocates. We extend special appreciation to our anonymous benefactor who provided the highly motivating \$50k Matching Gift for our campaign. Many thanks to the Hayden family for their Fundraiser in memory of our beloved Francine Hayden. Thanks to all who prayed for the success of the campaign and worked hard to spread the word. Your support was indispensable! As you know, the proceeds will enable us to continue the vital repairs and partial roof replacement of our landmark church next year. Your gifts have truly made a difference for St. James.

CHRISTMAS PRAISE & WORSHIP

Join us Mon, Dec 15, 7pm at St Clement for Christmas Praise & Worship. It's a one-hour prayer service with Adoration, Benediction, Scripture, Worship songs, and prayer. The songs will be more "reflective" in nature, rather than "talking to Jesus". For those that would like to join, we'll head to a nearby restaurant for dinner and drinks afterward. Hope to see you there...



Please join us for coffee and donuts on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month after the 8:30am Mass. A special invitation is extended to new parishioners and visitors.

Prayer Ministry



Website

Adoration Chapel





Pot of Gold is Back And The Winners Are... \$25 Winners

Maurice Trentel • Tracy Rehl • Curtis Ross
Christine Cleary • St. Vincent de Paul • Maurico Colombo
Congrats!

Potluck Thank You

Thank you for everyone who came to the Pot Luck. We had 15 main dishes, many salads and can't forget the delicious desserts. A great big THANK YOU goes out to the ones who helped advertise, organize, set-up and clean up. Could not be a success without these helping hands.

Knights of Columbus – Lakewood Council 2643 Seeking Catholic Men of Action

The Knights of Columbus of Lakewood Council 2643 invite Catholic men to step forward in service, leadership, and fraternity. Our council is blessed to serve the four parishes of our Lakewood Catholic community—St. Luke, St. Clement, Transfiguration, and St. James—by offering our time, skills, and commitment wherever they are needed. We are Catholic men who strive to lead, serve, protect, and defend. We seek to become better husbands, fathers, sons, neighbors, and role models by putting charity and community first. Founded in 1882 by Fr. Michael J. McGivney, now a candidate for sainthood, the Knights were established on the enduring principles of charity, unity, and fraternity. Their purpose was simple and profound: to provide assistance to the sick, the disabled, and families in need. Today, we continue that mission with the same conviction and hope. If you feel called to join a brotherhood rooted in faith and committed to action, we welcome you.

Contact: lakewoodoh.knightsofcolumbus@gmail.com / Facebook: facebook.com/Lakewoodoh.KOC2643

Preparing for Christmas: A Practical Spiritual Reflection

As Christmas draws near, the pace of life picks up and the heart can fall behind. But preparing for the Lord doesn't require grand gestures—just steady, intentional steps that make room for Him to enter.

Here are a few simple practices:

1. Carve out a moment of quiet.

Take one minute a day—over coffee, in the car, before bed—to rest in God's presence. Small silence creates real clarity.

2. Sit with a Gospel passage.

Choose one Advent or Nativity story and return to it through the week. Let the Word reshape your perspective.

3. Offer a small act of mercy.

Send a note, extend patience, forgive someone. These everyday choices soften the heart for Christ's arrival.

4. Simplify one thing.

Lighten a commitment or scale back a task. Creating space is itself a form of spiritual preparation.

5. Reconnect with the Sacraments.

Come to Confession or attend one extra Mass. These anchor us in the grace we're preparing to celebrate.

Christmas isn't something we sprint toward; it's something we ready our hearts to receive. Small steps make a wide path for the Lord.

Rock Salt Distribution - From the City of Lakewood

With the winter weather making its first appearance over Thanksgiving weekend, the Public Works team is filling the salt bins that allow residents to pick up rock salt for keeping their sidewalks and driveways clear. The boxes are located at Kauffman, Madison, Cove, and Lakewood Park as well as the Lakewood Dog Park. Residents may take home up to 5 gallons of salt for personal use. Contractors and businesses are prohibited from using this salt, and the box locations are under video surveillance to prevent abuse. Interested residents must bring their own shovel (a metal gardening shovel is recommended) and bucket, and must load the salt themselves. Please remember to secure the cover after use to help prevent the salt from hardening due to rain/moisture!

THINGS FIROUND TOWN

December 14 • Breakfast with Santa at St. Luke Church, after Sunday Masses

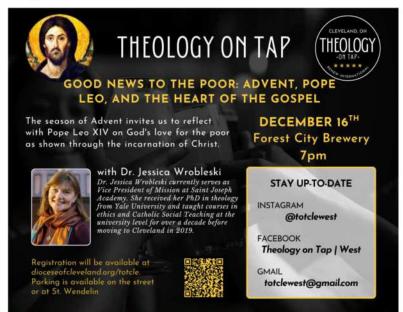
December 15 • Praise and Worship at St. Clement at 7pm.

December 16 • Theology on Tap, for Young Adults, at Forest City Brewing at 7pm

December 17 • Community Meal at St. Luke at 5:30pm

January 11 • Baptism Class for new parents at St. Luke at 12:15pm.

January 23 • Mass for Life at the Cathedral at 10am





Over 110 years of quality with today's technology

• Heating • Air Conditioning • Installations & Service 18502 Detroit Ave • Lakewood 216-221-2036 www.lakewoodfurnace.com

All major credit cards accepted

Estates, Wills, Probate, Business Matters Litigation, Accidents & Injury 13363 Madison Ave., Lakewood, OH 440-331-9142



IAN CANEPA D.M.D. M.S.

20024 Detroit Rd. Rocky River - (440) 331-1464 Canepaortho.com

Specialist in Child and Adult Orthodontics



FRIENDS OF SAINT JAMES

17500 Franklin Ave. Lakewood, OH 44107 friends of saint james@gmail.comFriends of St. James, Inc.

DEDICATED TO **JUSTICE**



PRACTICE AREAS Medical Malpractice · Personal Injury Birth Injuries · Wrongful Death · Nursing Home Neglect

19704 Center Ridge Rd. • Rocky River, OH 44116 | (440) 333-3800 | www.mellinolaw.com



SKILLED NURSING CARE & Assisted Living

13315 Detroit Ave., Lakewood, OH 44107 216.226.3858 • www.enniscourt.com



For All Your Plumbing Needs since 1997

David Slawinski, Parishioner 216-671-2675

slawinskiplumbing.com



Plain Bros. Auto Service 216-251-9155 FXHAUST SYSTEM GENEKAL REPAIR
AIR CONDITIONING SERVICE
OHIO E-CHECK STATION

12144 Triskett Road, Cleveland, OH 44111





Greenest Lawns in the Red, White & Blue!

Complete Lawn Fertilization & Weed Control Call or Text (440) 235-9694 **BuyDirtLawnCo.com** PARISHIONER



15106 Detroit Ave., Lakewood, OH **216-529-2328** A NEIGHBORHOOD SHOP... A WORLD OF TREASURES!



Gasoline & Convenience Store

Beverages • Beer • Wine Candy • Snacks

14235 Madison Ave / Lakewood





Premier Indoor Golf Training & Entertainment Venue with 10 Simulators & Full Service Bar!

ALWAYSGOLF.COM

Seasonal Leagues Lessons & Memberships Corporate Outings Birthday Parties • Club Fittings

25027 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake, OH



EMILY K. ZEISLER RIVER DENTAL ARTS:

A welcoming, family-owned office for children & adults



440-331-7380



www.riverdentalarts.com



"Finances with heart — because we invest in listening before numbers. Your goals, our guidance."

Retirement Planning · Life Insurance · Medicare

ACA Health Insurance · Social Security Planning

Arcie Petty St. Luke Parishioner

O: 216-245-7557 • M: 216-780-1635 advice@mymapadvisor.com • MyMapAdvisor.com



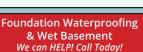
undation & Basement Repair • Driveways COULTER WATERPROOFING & CEMENT, INC. (440) 899-4999 • Cell: (216) 402-7526

uality Service • Free Estin

Professional

Proactive

Planning





216-376-4633 oncretewaterproofing.com

Free Estimates, Affordable Pricing, and Quality Work! Read our Reviews!

Basement Waterproofing • Cracked Brick Bowed Walls • Stamped Concrete • Wet Basement Concrete • Snow Removal



SALES - SERVICE - INSTALLATION 13729 Madison Ave., Lakewood, OH Phone 216-221-0310 www.slife-hvac.com OH LIC# 16431

The Gas Station Inc. "Complete Auto Repair" 216-228-4300

16016 Hilliard Rd • Lakewood

JOHN CRAIGHEAD 'Your Lakewood Specialist'

Mega Million Dollar Producer OAR President's Sales Club John Craighead@Howard Hanna.com



KESSELMAN WEALTH MANAGEMENT

> Jonathan Kesselman, JD, CFP® St. Luke Parishioner

> 440-709-3315 • KesselmanWM.com

Securities and advisory services offered through LPL Financial, a registered investment advisor. Member FINRA/SIPC



ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary Fire Safety
- Flood Detection Carbon Monoxide

833-287-3502





17117 Detroit Avenue • 216-221-0300 We'll Give You Something to About

For ad info. call 1-800-477-4574 • www.4lpi.com

EDWARD M. GRAHAM Attorney

13363 Madison Ave. 216-228-1166

St. Luke Parishioner

Lic #'s: 19482 & 26607 16419 Lorain Ave • 216-251-3283

WIEMELS-HIROS
PLUMBING CO.
Serving Western Cuyahoga County Since 1940
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
Plumbing • Sewer • Water • Gas
Service



McGorray-Hanna

HOMES



St. Luke Parish

Russ Gordvan, IT Consultant 330-650-3636 rgdigital.com

25529 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake

14133 Detroit Ave., Lakewood

www.mcgorray-hanna.com

216.226.5356

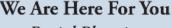


Cottage of Flowers

14519 MADISON AVE. LAKEWOOD, OH 44107 (216) 221-2100 WWW.COTTAGEOFFLOWERS.NET



Skilled Nursing Assisted Living Independent Living Hospice Care Dialysis



Burial Planning Memorials Grief Support

A CATHOLIC CEMETERIES ASSOCIATION

www.clecem.org 216-641-7575

Susan J. Battiato, SRES, CRS, Realtor

LAKEWOOD

COMPLETE AUTO SERVICE

Three generation Parishioners, the Birsic Family have fulfilled Lakewood's automotive needs since 1987!

WE OFFER COMPLETE AUTO REPAIR

PLUS ALL TIRE BRANDS INCLUDING CONTINENTAL, GENERAL, HERCULES, MICHELIN, & FIRESTONE

LakewoodTirePros.com

oward Mega Million Dollar Producer

Cell: 216-973-7516 🚊 🗓

OAR President's Sales Club
Parishioner for 40+ Years

susanbattiato@howardhanna.com





"We Treat You Like Family"



Ashleigh Vaccaro Joe Vaccaro

Office: 216-731-9500 joe@vaccaroteam.com ashleigh@vaccaroteam.com vaccaroteam.com



"We love and live in Lakewood. Please ontact us today for a free consultation!



Full Service Accounting & Taxes 216-226-0300

Joe and Kathy Stepan, Parishioners

440.871.1112 • www.kpcohio.com

13900 Detroit Avenue (216) 228-7650 | ONeillHC.com



- 3dgeneralcontractors.com
- **New Construction**
- Kitchen and Bathroom Remodels
- Windows and Doors
- LVP and Tile Flooring
- · Basements and more ...

Serving The Greater Cleveland Area

Funeral Home McGreevey & Cremation BERRY Service McGreevey Lakewood • Westlake (216) 221-0220 • www.ZMFH.com



Kiddie Kastle Childcare

5-Star SUTO Rated Center

Transportation/Hot Meals Hours: 6am-midnight

Infants 6 Weeks to Age 12 unty Voucher's Accepted - Bilingual 11411 Lake Ave - Cleveland, OH 44102

Celebrating 50 years in business 440-937-9134 - www.stackheating.com



216-767-5590 · CapCorks.com

16708 Detroit Ave., Lakewood, OH 44107



23755 Lorain Rd., North Olmsted, OH 44070 440.779.8730 OSullivanFamilyDentistry.com

O'Sullivan



Oster Services LLC Custom Home Build & Remodel

LET'S BUILD SOMETHING TOGETHER 440.596.8489 • osterservices.com



Anna Lee Rindskopf

eam Teader

THE ANNA LEE + CO HOME GROUP 216-389-5389

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS



Loved Ones at Ease 15644 Madison Ave., Ste. 106 • Lakewood, OH 216-505-5789

P.C.S. Auto Repair & Body Shop I & II
SPECIALIZING IN
Preventative Maintenance, Tires, Batteries, Exhausts,
Struts, CV Shafts, Brakes, Shocks, and Tune-Ups
FREE ESTIMATES & INSPECTIONS

FREE ESTIMATES & INSTECT.

PAUL ZIMMER
C.S. Auto Repair & Body Shop | P.C. Auto Body & Collision Repair
13920 Triskett Rd., Cleveland
(216) 25-1310
Call (216) 952-3625
Call (216) 952-3625



- De-clutter
- Organize
- Downsize
- Complete Home Clean Out

216-218-9475 downsizeandthrive.com

HAVEN 1341 Marlowe Avenue Lakewood

> Stephen Kenyon, LNHA Exexutive Director 216-228-2266 havenatlakewood.com

RONALD P. KOLODZIEJ SPECIALIST IN ORTHODONTICS

PLUMBING COMPANY

WE DO IT ALL!



Celebrating **26** years of providing quality service!

1495 Warren Road **Downtown LAKEWOOD** 216-529-8422

Your Hometown Orthodontist

Lakewood Resident, Practice Owner & St. James Parishioner for 25 yrs

Fees are ALWAYS Priced for Great Value Routine consults are ALWAYS FREE

Board Certified, Reputable Results

Modern Technology for BRACES & ALIGNERS



Nickels & Andrade Funeral Home Nancy J. Andrade Burial ~ Cremation ~ Preplanning ~ Luncheon Facilities

"Committed to Caring"

NOW A PART OF SLONE & CO. FUNERAL **DIRECTORS**

216-221-7800

13115 LORAIN AVENUE, CLEVELAND

216-941-3434