

MEMBER OF  
ST. LUKE DEANERY

# ST. LOUIS PARISH, CUSTAR

BROTHER PARISH WITH ST. PATRICK, PROVIDENCE

22792 Defiance Pike  
P.O. Box 125  
Custar, OH 43511

St. Louis Parish: 419-669-1864  
St. Patrick Parish: 419-832-5215

email: [admin@stlouisparish.net](mailto:admin@stlouisparish.net)  
[pastor@stlouisparish.net](mailto:pastor@stlouisparish.net)

website: [www.stlouisparishcustar.com](http://www.stlouisparishcustar.com)

 Follow us on Facebook!

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### Parish Office Hours:

Mon., Wed., Thurs. 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

### Parish Staff:

Pastor - Fr. Francis Mariadas, SAC  
Deacon – David Krempec  
Administrative Assistant – Lindsay Tussing  
Bookkeeper - Sue Stokes  
Parish Nurse - Joyce Walker, R.N.  
Music Coordinator- Jennifer Tussing  
Finance – John Maas  
Pastoral Council-Joyce Walker (Secretary)  
Cemetery Board –Robert Boyle (President)  
School Advisory – Lindsay Tussing  
Altar Rosary Society - Julie Lause (419-601-3319)  
Mission Coordinator - Mary Jane Flowers  
Religious Education & Youth Group Facilitator -  
Joyce Walker  
Prayer Hotline – Dianne Hoile (419-669-2504)



**Established 1864**

***Mission:** We, the members of St. Louis Catholic Church, come together under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to promote the mission of Jesus Christ. We encourage and support the development of the sacramental life of each member in our communities through liturgical, education, social and service activities. The stewardship of our time, our talents and our treasures expresses the continuous accountability to God and the shared responsibility to each other, to our communities and to the world.*

## St. Louis School ♦ Established 1875

22776 Defiance Pike  
P.O. Box 125  
Custar, OH 43511  
419-669-1875

email: [stlouiscustarohio@gmail.com](mailto:stlouiscustarohio@gmail.com)

website: [www.stlouiscustaroh.com](http://www.stlouiscustaroh.com)

 Find us on Facebook!



### School Staff:

Superintendent- Fr. Francis Mariadas SAC  
Principal- Jennifer Tussing  
Secretary- Danielle Klinge  
Custodian- Tim Schroeder

**Dear Brothers and Sisters,**

This week, we begin the holy season of Lent. Once again, the Church gently invites us to pause, to return, and to begin anew. Lent is not meant to be just another season that comes and goes. It is a sacred time given to us for our conversion, healing, and salvation. Let us not allow it to slip by unnoticed.

Lent is God's gift of mercy—a call to step away from the noise of daily life and to listen more closely to His voice. It is a time to take our faith seriously and to walk more intentionally with the Lord who loves us.

The Church places before us the three pillars of Lent: Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving. Through prayer, we open our hearts to God and deepen our relationship with Him. "Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you" (James 4:8). Lent calls us to pray more faithfully—personally, as families, and as a parish community.

Through fasting, we learn self-discipline and create space within our hearts for God. Jesus reminds us, "When you fast... your Father who sees in secret will repay you" (Matthew 6:17-18). Fasting helps us let go of what weighs us down and refocus on what truly matters.

Through almsgiving, we live our faith through acts of love and generosity. "Give, and it will be given to you" (Luke 6:38). Caring for those in need opens our hearts and reflects God's compassion to the world.

**Please mark your calendars now for Ash Wednesday on February 18th:**

- 9:15 a.m. Mass at St. Louis
- 7:00 p.m. Mass at St. Patrick

**I strongly encourage you to make time for the Stations of the Cross, especially as families:**

- St. Patrick – Every Friday at 7:00 p.m.
- St. Louis – Every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

Lent passes quickly, but its grace lasts forever. *Mark your calendars as well for the Holy Thursday Mass and Good Friday services. Please do not skip them.*

Let us walk this Lenten journey together, supporting one another in prayer and sacrifice. May this season draw us closer to Christ and lead us to a truly fruitful and blessed Lent.

God bless,

Fr. Francis Mariadas, SAC

**2026 Annual Catholic Appeal Weekend**

This weekend officially kicks off the 2026 ACA for the diocese. Countless lives are touched by the ministries of the Diocese funded by the Annual Catholic Appeal. Seminary education and formation, children, the sick, the aged, the needy – they all depend on our generosity. Every gift is tax – deductible, and no gift is too small. We kindly ask all families to pray for the ACA's success and consider donating to help meet our parish goal and ensure the continuation of these efforts.

**Religious Education Classes**

February classes will be held on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup>. There will be NO class on the 15<sup>th</sup>. Also, the **NEW SCHEDULE** for classes are on the table in the back of church!!

**School News – 2026/27 Preschool**

Currently **the 4-year-old preschool class is full for next year**, with 1 person on a waiting list. We are still registering parishioners and children with siblings who attend St. Louis for the 3-year-old program. We have 5 spots left. Please feel free to call the school office at 419-669-1875 if you have any questions.

**Mardi Gras Prizes:**

We are in need of gently loved stuffed animals to use as prizes for our **Mardi Gras celebration held on Tuesday, February 17**. If you have any that you would like to donate, you can drop them off in the back of the church by tomorrow Monday, February 16. Thank you!

**Reverse Raffle and Silent Auction**

Just one week left until we can celebrate liberty and luck at the 18th Annual Reverse Raffle and Silent Auction "*Night of Liberty*", **Saturday, February 21, 2026, at Nazareth Hall in Grand Rapids, OH.** We welcome Steve Powell again this year as our emcee. **WE HAVE SOLD ALL THE TICKETS!**

Donations are still being collected for our LIVE and silent auction to be held throughout the evening. They can be dropped off at the parish or school office or by contacting committee members Cathy Hanna, Mandi Seedorf or Jennie Tussing. We are looking forward to a night of American spirit, community, and fun, while supporting St. Louis School!

**Bottles of Wine Needed**

As we prepare for the Reverse Raffle, we will be featuring a game of chance for bottles of wine, gift cards and other fun items. To help make it a success, we are asking for donations of bottles of wine. Any variety or price point is appreciated and will directly support our fundraising efforts! Please drop off your donation in the church office or at the back of the church. Thank you for your generosity!

**High School Youth Group**

With grateful hearts, the St. Louis Youth Group would like to thank everyone who supported our bake sale last Sunday. We raised \$430 to put towards our Youth Group activities. Your support is greatly appreciated!

**Festival Committee**

The festival committee is still in need of two Volunteers to join the committee for a three-year term. If interested, please contact Zach Tussing at 419-601-4203 or email him at [Tussing41@gmail.com](mailto:Tussing41@gmail.com).

**Rosary/Stations of the Cross**

All are welcome to join in praying the Stations of the Cross on **Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.** at St. Louis church through the Lenten Season **beginning on Ash Wednesday.** We will gather to pray the Sorrowful Mysteries of the **Rosary at 6:00 p.m.** All ages are welcome. Readers and cross bearers are needed. Please contact the parish office, by email at [admin@stlouisparish.net](mailto:admin@stlouisparish.net), call the parish office at 419-669-1864, or sign up on the sheet in the narthex if you'd like to participate. Participating in the traditions and prayers helps us to have a holy Lenten Season.

Stations of the Cross prayers are available in the narthex for those who'd like to pray the outdoor Stations of the Cross at St. Louis cemetery through the Lenten Season.

**Diocese of Toledo Scholarship Fund**

In 2021, House Bill 110 established a program that allows Ohio taxpayers to receive a 100% tax credit against Ohio income tax liability for contributions made to a certified Scholarship Granting Organization. The maximum credit amount is \$750 for singles, or \$1,500 if married and filing jointly. In 2023 the Diocese of Toledo Scholarship Fund was formed, a registered non-

profit 501 (c) 3 Scholarship Granting Organization. The organization collects funds to assist students in grades K – 12 to attend non-public schools within the Diocese of Toledo. Donations received before April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026, may be applied to the 2025 tax year. The tax credit cannot exceed the Ohio tax owed. Your donation can be designated to a specific school, like St. Louis School, Custar. You can donate online at <https://www.dotsgo.org> or by mail. Forms are located in the back of church. Questions contact Jennie Tussing at the school or the church rectory.

**\*SNOW EMERGENCIES\***

In case of a level 3 snow emergency for our county, all events scheduled at the church will be cancelled. Catholics are encouraged to participate in Holy Mass via tv, radio, or internet, making a spiritual Communion.

**Formed org.**

Diving into the beauty of the Faith has never been easier: at home, on the go, or from any internet connected device. Discover thousands of books, audio talks, movies, documentaries, and studies... there is something for every member of the family to help them grow closer to Christ and His Church.

**Go to FORMED.org/signup**  
**Enter your zip code (43522) or**  
**St. Patrick Church, Providence**  
**Enter your name and email**

**Please keep in your prayers:** Kendyll Hoile, Oliver John Wilhelm, Sr. Joyce Hoile, Tricia Gerken, Breckin Maas, Presley Speakman, Kim Maas, Gwenn Maas, Jim Flowers, Ralph Porter, Moe Pantenburg

**Mass Attendance**

**February, 08 2026** **136**

**Parish Stewardship**

|                    |             |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Offering Envelopes | \$ 2,770.00 |
| Loose              | \$ 108.00   |
| Fund Drive         | \$ 150.00   |
| Fuel               | \$ 130.00   |
| First Offering     | \$ 5.00     |
| Latin America      | \$ 35.00    |
| Altar Rosary       | \$ 20.00    |
| Solemnity of Mary  | \$ 10.00    |
| Eastern Europe     | \$ 15.00    |
| Indian Mission     | \$ 15.00    |

## MASS SCHEDULE

|               |                          |                        |  |
|---------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Sun. Feb. 15  | St. Louis                | 9:00 a.m.              | Tom Hermiller, Larry Ickes, Barb Clink, Bill & Lois Schwab, Jim Wagner, Gene Maas, and Ron & Jeff Trumbull   |
| Mon. Feb. 16  | St. Louis                | 9:00 a.m.              | <b>Mass</b>  |
| Wed. Feb. 18  | St. Louis<br>St. Patrick | 9:15 a.m.<br>7:00 p.m. | <b>Ash Wednesday</b>   |
| Thur. Feb. 19 | St. Patrick              | 8:30 a.m.              |  |
| Fri. Feb. 20  | St. Patrick              | 8:30 a.m.              |  |
| Sat. Feb. 21  | St. Patrick              | 4:30 p.m.              |  |
| Sun. Feb. 22  | St. Patrick              | 7:15 a.m. 10:45 a.m.   |  |
| Sun. Feb. 22  | St. Louis                | 9:00 a.m.              | Don, Sue, Irene, & Robert Maas, Dan & Sybil Knoble, Jim Crouch, James, Mary Lue, & Ron Stein, Linda Kramp, Emil & Dolores Goris, Paul DeSmith, Charles Stein, and John, Dolores, & Jim Schneider |

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS February 22, 2026

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Ministers of Holy Communion</b> | <b>Sun:</b> Alex Sifuentes, Rick Stokes, Audra Tolles, Joyce Walker, Diane Wensink |
| <b>Lector</b>                      | <b>Sun:</b> Diane Wensink  |
| <b>Servers</b>                     | <b>Sun:</b> Luke & Tommy Van de Heijning, James Mahlman                            |
| <b>Offertory</b>                   | <b>Sun:</b> Mark & Missy DeSmith   |
| <b>Hospitality</b>                 | <b>Sun:</b> Ben & Emily Flowers, Dave & Josh Flowers                               |

## UPCOMING EVENTS

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Feb. 15, 2026 | <b>Have a Great Week!</b>   |
| Feb. 15, 2026 | <b>NO Religious Education classes for K-8<sup>th</sup> students today</b>   |
| Feb. 15, 2026 | <b>High School Youth Group meeting after Mass today</b>   |
| Feb. 22, 2026 | <b>Religious Education classes for K-8<sup>th</sup> students</b>  |
| Feb. 21, 2026 | <b>18<sup>th</sup> Annual Reverse Raffle &amp; Silent Auction at Nazareth Hall -</b><br><b>**Doors open at 5p.m. **</b> |