

# **Ministries at**



**Many ways to become involved**

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# **Welcome to The Church of Saint Clarence!**

We, the Faith Community of Saint Clarence, guided by the Holy Spirit, and inspired by Word and Sacrament, embrace the mission of Jesus

Christmas to comfort the sick and to heal the brokenhearted, to teach love of God and neighbor, to reconcile the alienated, to serve the poor and to witness God's Good News to all, especially the least of our brothers and sisters. We claim as our charism the virtue of hospitality, and we name ourselves as a welcoming community in the Name of the Lord Jesus.

## **Mass Times:**

### **Weekends:**

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:30 PM

Sunday: 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00PM (Noon)

### **Weekdays:**

Monday – Friday: 8:30AM

### **Holy Days**

Holy Day Vigil Mass: 7:00 PM

Holy Days: 8:30 AM

### **Confession**

Saturday: 4:00 - 4:30 PM

Or by appointment

### **Parish Office Hours / Contact Info**

Monday - Friday: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Office Phone: 440-734-2414

## **A Call to Stewardship...**

God has blessed each of us with different gifts and talents. It is important for us to share those gifts with others, to help us grow closer to the Lord and help build and bring God's mercy and compassion to our world. At St. Clarence, we are blessed to have several ministries, in which we can share your time and talent while building up the Kingdom of God within our Parish Community.

## **Liturgical Ministries**

*"Where two or three are gathered in my name,  
there am I in your midst." Matthew 18:2*

### **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy**

#### **Communion/Eucharistic Ministers**

Eucharistic Ministers have heard God's call to minister to the people at Mass by helping to distribute the Body and Blood of Christ. They may also bring the Eucharist to those who cannot be with us at Mass, especially those who are ill or homebound.

Contact: Pat Opremcak, [popremcak@st-clarence.org](mailto:popremcak@st-clarence.org)

### **Proclaimers of the Word**

Proclaimers give voice to the scriptures, which are part of each liturgy that is celebrated. They help the faithful to hear God's word which heals and nourishes us.

Contact: Pat Opremcak, [popremcak@st-clarence.org](mailto:popremcak@st-clarence.org)

### **Greeters**

Greeters help ensure that our parish welcomes all who come to our doors. Every person reflects the face of Christ, and as such every person will be made to feel welcome.

Contact: Pat Opremcak, [popremcak@st-clarence.org](mailto:popremcak@st-clarence.org)

## **Altar Servers**

Altar Servers assist the priest as he presides at Mass. This ministry is open to younger children through adulthood.

Contact: Larry Kravovsky, [LarryKrakovsky@gmail.com](mailto:LarryKrakovsky@gmail.com)

## **Ushers**

Ushers lend assistance to those who come to celebrate Mass. They help in seating people, especially those who may need extra help, and take up the collection. Ushers also make sure that those who may not be able to walk in procession receive Communion by alerting Eucharistic Ministers or the presider.

Contact: Bud Martynowski, [lbmartyn@yahoo.com](mailto:lbmartyn@yahoo.com)

## **Music Ministries**

*Worship the Lord with gladness; Come into His presence with singing. Psalm 100:2*

## **Adult Choir**

The adult choir is open to parishioners and community members who are age 16 and older. The ability to read music is helpful, but not necessary. The choir rehearses on Thursday evenings in the church from 7:00 to 8:30 PM and sings the 10:00 AM Mass every Sunday, from the week after Labor Day until Pentecost. In addition, the choir sings for the Evening Prayer for the Dead on the first Sunday of November, Christmas Eve, 10:00 PM Mass, Mass of the Lord's Supper, Good Friday Liturgy, Easter Vigil, and Easter Sunday, 10:00 AM.

## **Cantors**

The ministry of Cantor is more specialized and requires a larger commitment than the Adult Choir. Cantors sing on a rotating basis at

all weekend liturgies at St. Clarence and rehearse with the music director during the week.

## **Children's Choir**

The Children's Choir is an academic year ministry that is open to all children of the parish and community in grades 2 through 8. The Children's Choir begins the second week of PSR and sings for 3 weekend Masses in the fall and on Christmas Eve at the 4:30 PM Mass. The Children's Choir continues in the spring singing for 4 weekend Masses, concluding with the 12:00 Mass on Mother's Day.

## **Funeral Choir**

The Funeral Choir sings for all funerals and memorial Masses. Anyone may be a member of the funeral choir. Members should arrive one half hour before the funeral begins to receive information about what will be sung and to have any last minute rehearsing of new music or to hear special announcements concerning the liturgy that day.

*If you would like to become involved in the music ministry at St. Clarence, please contact Natalie Mealey.*

*[nmealey@st-clarence.org](mailto:nmealey@st-clarence.org)*

## **Care Ministries**

*"Serve one another through love."*

**Galatians 5:13**

## **Card Ministry**

Our Card Ministry is made up of parishioners who send cards to our new parishioners and to those who recently lost a loved one. If you would like to assist us with this effort or know of someone who would like to receive a card, please let us know!

Contact: Pat Opremcak, [popremcak@st-clarence.org](mailto:popremcak@st-clarence.org)

## **Ministry of Care:**

The Ministry of Care at St. Clarence parish is comprised of trained, committed volunteers who reach out to the homebound, lonely and infirm in our parish. Ministers will bring the Eucharist to those who request it and they ensure that requests for the sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick are conveyed to the pastor. They provide friendly visits on a weekly, bi-weekly or monthly basis offering hope, compassion and caring. Ministers also help those whom they visit connect back with the community of St. Clarence so that they have opportunities to contribute to the life of the parish.

Contact: Cathy Soprano [cathysopr@gmail.com](mailto:cathysopr@gmail.com)

## **Prayer Shawl Ministry:**

Shawls and lap blankets are used for more than keeping warm. They are symbols of caring and compassion. These handmade shawls and blankets may help the person feel loved and remembered. Members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry prayerfully knit and crochet shawls which are given to people in the community who may be going through life changing events. These shawls/lap blankets may be given to persons suffering from a chronic illness or are struggling with a physical or emotional health issue. A new mom or a child who is ill or hospitalized may benefit from a shawl/lap blanket. The shawl/blankets from this ministry are distributed through the Parish Office during regular business hours.

Members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry meet on the third Wednesday of each month from 12:30 PM – 2:30 PM in a classroom at the parish. Members do not need to be present at meetings. Several of our members work at home to complete their work. Yarn and other supplies are available through the ministry. New members are always welcome.

Contact: Patty Danzey, [patsi0103@yahoo.com](mailto:patsi0103@yahoo.com) or (216) 513-7840.



# Faith Formation Ministries

*“The wise among the people shall give understanding to the many.” Daniel 11:33*

## Religious Readiness - Sunday Morning

### Ages 3 – Kindergarten

Our Religious Readiness program helps your child grow in faith and a relationship with God. Children, ages 3 to Kindergarten, are introduced to the Sunday Liturgy through scripture, prayer and activities. A variety of fun, age-appropriate learning methods are used to enhance young children’s faith experiences, including music, story-telling, drama and crafts. We love helping young children experience a warm community in church and allow parents time to be restored by their own experience of prayer.

Religious Readiness meets from September through May during the 10:00 am Mass and we accept registration through December. A calendar and registration can be found on the St. Clarence website.

Drop off and Pick up: Children begin Mass, seated with their families. They are then invited to leave the Mass prior to the First Reading and are brought to Religious Readiness by their leaders. All children are to be picked up immediately following the Mass by a parent or guardian. Classes are located in the lower mezzanine.

**First Timers:** If a child is apprehensive about attending for the first time, a parent or guardian is welcome to accompany the child.

Visiting St. Clarence: Children who are guests or visiting St. Clarence are welcome to Religious Readiness. Ask a Greeter or the Religious Readiness volunteer in the atrium for a guest form prior to Mass. Complete and return the form *before* the child joins a group.

## **Children's Liturgy of the Word - Grades 1 and 2**

Children in Grades 1 and 2 are invited to break open the Sunday Scripture in an age-appropriate way with a volunteer leader each week at the 10 am Mass. Families sit together at the beginning of Mass. After the Opening Prayer, the priest and the Children's Liturgy of the Word leader gather the children at the front of the church and kids are led to St. Kevin's Chapel. After the homily, children will return to the church and sit with their families for the remainder of the Mass.

Children's Liturgy of the Word is held from September to May following the same calendar as Religious Readiness. There is no registration.

## **Religious Education – PSR**

In addition to Mass, Faith Formation (PSR) for children in Grades 1 – 8 who do not attend a parochial school is on Monday during one of two sessions: afternoon or evening. PSR runs September through May. A calendar and registration can be found at [st-clarence.org](http://st-clarence.org).

## **Sacraments**

Children who are attending the PSR program or are enrolled in a parochial day school are invited to celebrate the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Communion during their 2nd grade year and Confirmation during their 8th grade year.

## **Children Ages 1-2 - Co-op Nursery**

Families with children ages 6 month to 3 years old are invited to take part in the Mass Time Co-op Nursery during the 10 am Mass. The Nursery will provide parents with care for their children so they can enjoy more full and active participation in Mass. Please complete an online registration for your child which can be found on the St. Clarence website or contact Grace Kincaid to learn more about this ministry.

All these opportunities are coordinated by Grace Kincaid Murphy, Director of Faith Formation. [gkincaid@st-clarence.org](mailto:gkincaid@st-clarence.org)

## **RCIA – Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion for Adults:**

Active members of the parish who are willing to respond to God's call to accompany another on a faith journey into Catholicism as a sponsor or as a team member of RCIA are encouraged to consider participation. This is a collaborative ministry under the direction of the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) coordinators.

Contact: Karen Bernat, [kbernat@st-clarence.org](mailto:kbernat@st-clarence.org)

## **Youth Ministry:**

St. Clarence Life Teen is for all high school teens. We stay active year-round to provide teens a place to come together, socialize, and grow in their own relationship with Christ. We offer opportunities to perform service, grow in leadership, build lasting friendships, and become a greater part of the parish community. We get together 7-9pm Sundays and Wednesdays at the Youth House (white house next to the VFW). To stay up-to-date, visit [st-clarence.org/youth](http://st-clarence.org/youth)

Contact: Adam Kruze: [akruze@st-clarence.org](mailto:akruze@st-clarence.org)

Cell: 440-360-0808

Instagram: @saintclarencelt

## **Small Christian Communities:**

A Small Christian Community is a group of parishioners, numbering between 8 and 12, which comes together on a regular basis to share their experiences of daily life and seeks to understand how God is present and active. This faith sharing is based on reading and discussing the scriptures, most often the Sunday readings, which are proclaimed at Mass each weekend.

Small Christian Communities (SCCs), offer people the opportunity to connect their stories to the story of Jesus, so that relationships develop and grow both among the participating members and with Jesus himself. SCCs help people who want their faith to be an integral part of living each day as a disciple of Christ.

Contact the parish office for more information: (440) 734-2414

## **Men's Groups**

### **St. Clarence Band of Brothers in Christ**

Come join our "Band of Brothers in Christ", men just like you, who have a desire to better understand the Sunday Scripture Readings. We do this by viewing short videos from Bishop Robert Baron's Homilies followed by small group discussions. All men are welcome regardless of your Biblical acumen. We are just regular guys who enjoy getting together and sharing our thoughts on the Good News of the Bible. We pray together and, along with the usual banter, we cultivate a unique camaraderie.

We meet on Thursday mornings from 7:00 am to 8:00 am in the Gathering room.

Contact Len Klucar, [lenklu@oh.rr.com](mailto:lenklu@oh.rr.com) or simply come join us.

## **Thank God It's First Friday – West**

Mission: Through the gifts from God, we provide food for the body, food for the mind and food for the soul. 11:15 a.m. Social; 12:05 p.m. Lunch, \$13.00 Talk will begin at 12:35 p.m. followed by mass.

Contact: George Perez for reservations,  
[gw.p.perz@roadrunner.com](mailto:gw.p.perz@roadrunner.com)

## **Women's groups**

### **Walking With Purpose**

St. Clarence would like to invite you to join our Women's Bible study program, *WALKING WITH PURPOSE*. Come and see why women are saying, "This is the best thing that has ever happened in the Catholic Church." Fill yourself with the knowledge that you are a beloved daughter of Christ, study scripture and come together once a week for lively fulfilling study.

Contact: Barbara Hurrell, [barbarahurrell63@gmail.com](mailto:barbarahurrell63@gmail.com)

## **Gentle Women**

The Gentlewoman Fellowship is a group of Catholic women who are endeavoring to grow in the fullness of the Spirit and to deepen our knowledge of our Christian faith. The group meets the nine First Fridays Oct through June to celebrate our Risen Lord in union with the first Gentle Woman.

8:30 AM Mass, Rosary, Gathering

Contact: Mary Hoover, [marymhoover@gmail.com](mailto:marymhoover@gmail.com)

# Service Ministries

*“You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”*

Matthew 22:39

## **Charity in Action (CIA):**

The Charity In Action committee is comprised of parishioners who share their gifts through charitable works at many area agencies and organizations, through fundraising and collections and through other types of outreach. CIA works to meet the needs of parishioners and our neighbors in need. This group of dedicated volunteers works to put into action the tenets of our faith.

Charity in Action is involved with the following ministries:

### **Collections:**

Clothing Collection (April & October)

Mother's Day Baby Shower

*benefits:* Birthright, Blessing House and Womankind

Father's Day

*benefits:* Malachi House

School Supply Collection

*benefits:* Blessing House, Metro Catholic, North Olmsted

Oxcart Pantry and North Ridgeville Community Care

Toothbrush Collection

*benefits:* Honduras Medical Mission

Food & Household Supplies Collection

*benefits:* North Ridgeville Community Care

Gifts of the Heart & Giving Tree

*benefits:* Blessing House, Boy's Hope Girl's Hope, Colman Court, Holy Family, Joseph's Home, Mary's Home, Metanoia Meal Project, Metro Catholic School, North Olmsted Oxcart Pantry, North

Ridgeville Community Care, Salvation Army, St. Augustine Health Campus, The Veterans at Wade Park and Westside Catholic Center.

**Projects:**

Prepare the meal for St. Patrick's once a month

Staff the St. Patrick Food Pantry twice a month

Prepare and serve the North Olmsted Community Meal twice a year.

Salvation Army Produce Distribution once a month

Salvation Army sort and distribute toys for Christmas

Emerald Village Wrap and Yap (September - May)

Emerald Village Rosary Making (May - October)

Coups for Troops - Send coupons to overseas military installation  
(monthly)

Sort and distribute cards to local senior living facilities

Sort the St. Clarence donations at the North Olmsted Oxcart Pantry.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing (first 3 Saturdays in December)

We are planning to increase our volunteer opportunities as they become available. We are always open to suggestions and anxious to have new members join to help put new opportunities on the table.

"Christ has no body on earth but yours, no hands but yours, no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which the compassion of Christ must look out on the world. Yours are the feet with which He is about doing good. Yours are the hands with which He is to bless His people."

-St. Teresa of Avila

Contact: Beth Mahon, [bethm72786@gmail.com](mailto:bethm72786@gmail.com)

## **Little Dresses for Africa:**

Little Dresses for Africa is an opportunity to make clothing for children in third world countries. There are plenty of kits ready to sew in the ushers' room for anyone who would like to help us and sew a dress or a pair of shorts. If you have some extra 100% Cotton fabric or decorative buttons you are willing to donate, we will happily use it in the future to make dresses.

To participate, simply pick up a kit in the ushers room, off of the church atrium and return it when complete. To receive information about meeting times use the email below.

Contact: Rita Backus, [rbackus6060@att.net](mailto:rbackus6060@att.net)

## **The Helping Hands Ministry**

Helping hands was established with the purpose of helping families and friends of St. Clarence with tasks, chores, and minor repairs/remodeling at their home, apartment, or condo – tasks those could otherwise not have the financial or physical ability to accomplish on their own. These tasks can be anything from cleaning windows, putting on storm doors, painting, yard work, and cleaning gutters to light plumbing and structural repairs. Helping Hands does not charge a fee for this labor. However, we ask for payment for materials and supplies. Monies received will be used for current funding or future projects.

**Helping Hands**– 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month

Contact: Joe Kraft, [kraft.joseph@yahoo.com](mailto:kraft.joseph@yahoo.com) for information on being a member of Helping Hands. Volunteers can participate as often or seldom as they want.



## **Social Ministries**

*“Live in harmony with one another”*

Romans 12:16

### **Galileans (50+ Club):**

The Galilean Club is a 50+ social club open to any and all fun-loving individuals, not just St. Clarence parishioners. Monthly gatherings are normally held on Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm in the Gathering Room. Actual date, time, and location are placed in the St. Clarence Church Bulletin and sent out by email at least 2 weeks in advance. Refreshments are served and there is entertainment or a speaker at each monthly event. Active Club Year is September through May. Cost is \$10 annually to join the Club. Cost of monthly events is normally \$5 or slightly more, dependent on Refreshment or Entertainment cost. Additional activities are planned throughout the year including seasonal celebrations, bus trips, plays and other events.

Contact: Dick Dennis, (440) 734-1208

### **Marriage and Family Ministry:**

Our mission is to create a space that meets families where they are at, welcomes them in, and supports them in marriage, parenting, and family life through community events, relationship building, and continued faith formation within our Church.

We started in 2022 after recognizing a need in our Church for more events geared towards families and young couples. Since then, our vision has expanded to include all stages of family life. We want to not only create a community for young families, but also to help connect and integrate couples and families to existing ministries within the parish. You can usually find us gathering at coffee and donuts after the 10:00am mass. Please check out our upcoming events on the parish website.

Contact the Parish Office: 440-734-2414

<http://www.st-clarence.org/marriage-and-family-ministry>

## **Welcome Ministry:**

One of the charisms of St. Clarence parish is hospitality. Welcoming those who come to worship, who come in service and who come to share in community is an integral part of who we are. We are a welcoming community.

The Welcome Ministry strives to receive those who are new to our parish and help them to feel at home and comfortable in our parish family. Through regularly scheduled gatherings, the Welcome team offers newly registered parishioners an opportunity to meet the pastor and staff, to connect with parishioners and to discover how they can participate in parish life.

Contact the Parish Office: 440-734-2414

## **Other Worship Opportunities**

### **Eucharistic Adoration:**

The Eucharist is available for Adoration every Friday during the liturgical year. The Blessed Sacrament is exposed after morning Mass from 9 am – 7 pm.

We also have the recitation of The Divine Mercy Chaplet and the Rosary every Friday at 3 p.m.

The Blessed Sacrament is exposed for Adoration in sequence with the Church's liturgical year at St. Clarence Parish. During the seasons of Advent and Lent, The Eucharist is exposed Monday – Friday, in the St. Kevin Chapel, from 9 a.m until 7 p.m. Sign-ups for a weekly Holy Hour during these seasons occur after all Masses the weekend prior to the beginning of Advent and Lent.

All are welcome to participate in Eucharistic Adoration and/or sign up for a weekly Holy Hour at any time during the year.

Contact: Diane Dzurec, [dkdzurec@gmail.com](mailto:dkdzurec@gmail.com)