

Our Lady Chapel



Our Lady Chapel is a Roman Catholic community founded in the love of the Father, centered in Christ, and rooted in the Holy Cross tenets of building family and embracing diversity. We are united in our journey of faith through prayer and sacrament, and we seek growth through the wisdom of the Holy Spirit in liturgy and outreach, while responding to the needs of humanity.

THE CHOSEN – SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8th:

We had a wonderful group of people join us for our last episode of *The Chosen* in January. The viewing was followed by a very inspiring sharing among those present. **Our NEXT gathering will take place on Sunday, February 8th, from 11:30 am – 1:00 pm. We will continue to gather once monthly, viewing a new episode each month, followed by discussion.**



The Chosen is an American Christian historical drama television series. Created, directed, and co-written by filmmaker Dallas Jenkins, it is the first multi-season series about the life and ministry of Jesus of Nazareth. Primarily set in Judaea and Galilee in the 1st century, the series depicts the life of Jesus through the eyes of the people who interacted with him, including the apostles and disciples of Jesus, Jewish religious leaders, Roman government and military officials, and ordinary people. In contrast with typical Bible-focused productions, Jenkins has given more depth to his scripts by adding backstories to various characters from the gospels without contradicting the material of the gospel. **Join us for this life-giving experience. If you have any questions, please contact Father John or the chapel office [440-473-3560].**

THE CHAPEL INDOOR PICNIC— SUNDAY, FEB. 15:

Put **Sunday, February 15th** on your calendars — the date our annual Indoor Chapel picnic. Our Indoor Picnic has been a long-standing tradition at Our Lady Chapel. What better way to spend a winter day — and the Sunday before Lent starts — than by having an indoor picnic in the middle of winter. So here it comes once again. It will be a great event for the entire family. The picnic will be held in the Commons from 11:00 AM – 1:15 PM. Family Mass takes place at 10:00 AM and the picnic begins right after Mass — what a wonderful way to continue our celebration of community. **A signup sheet has been posted on the easel in the narthex** of the chapel if you plan to attend. **Potluck is welcome, so bring your favorite side dish or desert if you can.**



FAITH EDUCATION:

Our next Faith Education Class will meet this Sunday, February 1st. Class dates for February will be February 8th and 22nd. Faith Education is an important part of every young person's religious formation. Please make sure that you have not forgotten this important responsibility for your children. **Our Sessions go from 8:45—9:45 AM, on Sunday mornings, with the hope that our children would then participate in our 10:00 AM Family Mass.** Thank you for taking care of this important responsibility. **Please contact Patty or Father John in the Chapel Office for more information.**

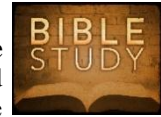


ALTAR SERVERS and LECTORS:

We continue to be in need of servers and lectors. **Any student who is in the 3rd [and up] grade is invited to become an altar server; any student who is in the 5th [and up] grade is invited to become a lector.** These are both wonderful ministries — a great way to serve God and the faith community. If you would like to take advantage of these opportunities, please give your name to Father John. You do not have to attend Gilmour to be an altar server, lector, or to be involved in any other ministry at Our Lady Chapel. **Adults are also welcome...especially in our Lector Ministry. Please call the chapel office [440-473-3560].**



NEXT BIBLE STUDY — THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19:



Our next Virtual Bible Study will be on Thursday, February 19th at 6:30 PM. Bible Study usually meets bi-weekly. The Bible Study is open to everyone — all middle and high school students, college students, young adults, and all adults. We will all come together to be enriched by God’s word. It’s a great time, and a good witness of our faith to others. If you can’t come at 6:30, come when you can. Gather your favorite snack and/or drink, but be prepared to be nourished on God’s word.

Our topic: God’s call to Repentance

Mark your calendars and be part of this wonderful activity that will deepen your spiritual journey. **We usually will meet every other week — topic to be decided at the end of the previous meeting.** Join us. You’ll have a blast, and celebrate your faith along the way.

MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday, February 1: 4 th Week in Ordinary Time	10:00 AM In-Person & Live Stream
Monday, February 2: The Presentation of the Lord	NO MASS
Tuesday, February 3: St. Blaise	NO MASS
Wednesday, February 4:	NO MASS
Thursday, February 5: St. Agatha	NO MASS
Friday, February 6: St. Paul Miki and Companions	NO MASS
Saturday, February 7: 5 th Week in Ordinary Time	5:00 PM In-Person only
Sunday, February 8: 5 th Week in Ordinary Time	10:00 AM In-Person & Live Stream

FIRST RECONCILIATION:



Over the course of the next couple weeks, many of our second grade children will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. This is a moment of great grace for them and for each of us. To meet Jesus in his loving embrace of mercy and forgiveness is an important part of our journey to God, our Father. Let us pray for **Nico Chiellino, Andrew Comar, Emily Dudley, Bryce Dennison, Matthew Giavara, Jackson Impullitti, Juliana Jeschelng,**

Cameron Joyce, Piper Kilkenney, Vencent Langenmayr, Maeve Lazuka, Avery Matejka, Cooper Pinkerton, Julian Rondinelli and Anthony VanAntwerp. And let us also pray that we will all grow into a deeper appreciation of the blessings of this special sacrament.

A REFLECTION ON THIS WEEK'S THEME:

Each of the four Gospels highlights different facets of the life and ministry of Jesus. Scripture scholars tell us that Mark's Gospel seems to have been written for a largely non-Jewish audience; Luke's original readers would have been a Greek-speaking community that included many who were poor and on the margins of society. The Gospel of John is more mystical and theological than the other three, and was written for a community of Christians that was more established and theologically refined. The Gospel of Matthew — from which we will read on most weekends throughout this liturgical year — was written for a group of Christians who had maintained a strong sense of their Jewish cultural and spiritual heritage. This is why we find Matthew quoting so often from the prophecies and laws of the Hebrew Scriptures — the Old Testament — as a way to help his audience understand that Jesus was the fulfillment of all the hopes and promises of ancient Israel.

On this fourth week in Ordinary Time, Matthew begins a five-part discourse of Jesus on the Sermon on the Mount [Matthew 5:1-12] — “When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying: ‘Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.’”

Matthew has already told us that Jesus' ministry in Galilee had drawn people from all over the region. And while the disciples have a prominent place during the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus is really addressing the crowds gathered around him. This means that the teachings of the Sermon on the Mount aren't intended only for the inner circle of Jesus' followers; rather, his words are intended for each person who would be his disciple, including us today.

The Sermon on the Mount begins with the Beatitudes — nine blessings that give us a glimpse of the kingdom of God. Jesus isn't necessarily promising rewards for his followers here and now. Instead, he's looking toward the fullness of life in God's kingdom. As Scripture scholar Daniel Harrington, SJ, observed: “The promise of God's kingdom frames the eight beatitudes [see Matthew 5:3, 10], and the intervening promises — comfort, inheriting the land, satisfaction, obtaining mercy, seeing God, being called ‘children of God’ — refer to the final judgment, the vindication of the just, and the establishment of God's perfect kingdom”.

While the blessings of the beatitudes transport us to the fullness of life in the kingdom of God, the qualities of discipleship outlined in the blessings are very much concerned with how we live our lives in this present moment.

In these post-inauguration days, and as we also mark the end of the Octave of Christian Unity [January 18–25] and look towards Catholic Schools Week [January 29–February 4], it's important for us to take time to reflect on how we are living out our commitments as followers of Jesus, and the beatitudes offer a beautiful opportunity for us to ask ourselves some challenging questions. But we can also reflect on how similar our current situation is to that of Jesus' first followers. Like them, we also live in days of uncertainty, haunted by threats of violence, but the beatitudes promise that what we experience today will lead to future joy. Like those women and men so many years ago, we also need to take Jesus' promises to heart and remember the blessings promised to the poor, to the meek, to mourners, and to those who suffer persecution for their faith in Christ. Reflecting on this, Sister Barbara Reid, OP, notes that the way of life outlined in the beatitudes “is able to heal the hurtful memories of the past and to transform the present toward a hope-filled future. Jesus addresses this teaching to all



his disciples and to a great crowd, inviting them to recognize their capacity for happiness in the present by espousing attitudes and actions that will influence the future”

Take time in the coming days to prayerfully reflect on the vision of the Christian life outlined in the beatitudes and consider which of these blessings is most needed in your life today. Offer a prayer of thanks for those blessed individuals whose lives are a witness of the transforming power of God’s grace and mercy — the only source of true happiness and peace.

—taken from the writings of Brother Silas Henderson, SDS, which appear on the internet

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

We list the Scripture readings for the week, with the hope that you will take some time in your busy day to reflect on God’s word in your homes. We hope you can make good use of it.

Monday: Malachi 3:1-4; Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40

Tuesday: Romans 5:1-5; Mark 16:15-20

Wednesday: 2 Samuel 24:2, 9-17; Mark 6:1-6

Thursday: 1 Corinthians 1:26-31; Luke 9:23-26

Friday: Galatians 2:19-20; Matthew 28:16-20

Saturday: 1 Kings 3:4-13; Mark 6:30-34

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Isaiah 58:7-10; 1 Corinthians 2:1-5; Matthew 5:13-16

HIDDEN WISDOM:

Consider the hidden wisdom of the Beatitudes — whatever difficulties, trials and suffering you are facing, lift up Jesus, and he will lift you up. Let me begin with a clarification — even though God gives us a hidden wisdom, we do not look down on ordinary wisdom. The Second Vatican Council teaches that we can benefit from the wisdom of Confucius, the Buddha, Islam — and even native religions. For example the Inca religion had these three basic precepts: “don’t steal, don’t lie, and don’t be lazy.” If we put those



three precepts into practice, it would bring blessings of prosperity and happiness. We treasure inherited wisdom — not only because it makes our lives better, but because ultimately it comes from God. We see this wisdom in Old Testament books like Proverbs, Sirach, and the Wisdom of Solomon.

You can find similar wisdom in Plato, Virgil, Shakespeare — and other great works of literature. Today unfortunately we find ourselves cut off from this great inheritance. About the best we seem to do are pithy sayings that find their way onto Facebook! Still, let’s not look down on wisdom wherever it come from. We need it more than ever. Along with ordinary wisdom, we have something more — hidden wisdom. Through Jesus, we receive hidden wisdom. St. Paul reminds us that few of us are intellectuals or high born or powerful [1 Corinthians 1:26-31].

God chooses weak common folk — the ones that the world looks down on. He joins us to his Son Jesus and from Christ we receive a hidden wisdom. We see that hidden wisdom in Matthew’s Gospel [5:1-12] — the Beatitudes. We’ve heard them so often that they tend to have a soothing quality, but in reality, they should jar us. Jesus describes things that people naturally avoid — poverty, bankruptcy, loss of loved ones, sexual abstinence, insults, getting put down with no way of getting back, becoming a laughing stock. When these things happen to you, says Jesus, count yourself blessed.

4th Week in Ordinary Time

In his writings, Matthew Kelly shows how God uses trials and sufferings — the things Jesus describes in the Beatitudes — God uses them to help us become the best versions of ourselves. Consider the hidden wisdom of the Beatitudes — whatever difficulties, trials and suffering you are facing, lift up Jesus and he will lift you up.

—taken from the writings of Father Phil Bloom, which appear on the internet.

SERVING THE LORD IN THE POOR — SAT. FEB. 21st:

Our Savior Lutheran Church — across the street from the Chapel — has a Food Pantry which distributes food to the community on **the third Saturday of each month**. They welcome volunteers. **On Saturday morning at 9 AM, they need help unloading the trailers and setting up items for distribution and preparing for the food pantry to open. It serves around 150 clients each time. The food pantry serves clients from 9:30 AM—1:30 PM on Saturday.**



Our Savior Lutheran's Food Pantry was formed to serve those in emergency situations and/or with on-going need in the cities of Mayfield Heights, Mayfield Village, Highland Heights and Gates Mills. The Food Pantry respects social and cultural diversity and upholds the worth and dignity of those it serves. All those in the area with need will be served equally, as supplies allow. The food pantry is a member of the Greater Cleveland Food Bank. **Please let us know in the Chapel office [440-473-3560] if you would like more information or if you would like to help.** This is a wonderful way to serve others. Please consider this opportunity.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Father John is available to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation with you. Please call him [440-473-3560] to arrange for this experience. Always remember the Lord's invitation: "I will give them a heart with which to understand that I am the Lord. They shall be my people and I will be their God, for they shall return to me with their whole heart" [Jeremiah 24:7].



ATTENDANCE:

If you attend Mass regularly here at Our Lady Chapel, it would be helpful if you filled out a Registration Form indicating this fact, if you have not already done so. Such information not only helps us to know who is attending Our Lady Chapel; it also is of great assistance to us in record keeping [for our friend, the IRS] of any contributions which you may make.

ENVELOPES:

- When you need a **new supply** of envelopes, please feel free to take a supply of them from the table in the vestibule, or call Father John at the Campus Ministry Office [473-3560].
- When you **use** your envelope, please make sure that **your number** is on it. If you need to know your number, please call the Campus Ministry Office. Thanks.

WEEKLY OFFERING:

A collection box is located just inside the center door when you enter the chapel. Please place your offering in the collection box. Baskets will not be passed during the offertory time. Your offering will help offset chapel daily operating expenses. When you choose to use the envelopes, you can request a printout of your offerings for the year to submit to the IRS. God bless you.

Total Offerings: Saturday [1/24/26] ----- \$ 205.00
Total Offerings: Sunday [1/25/26] ----- \$ 170.00

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Jesus calls us to pray for one another. Please keep all these people in your prayers.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

- For Andre Polsinelli, who is undergoing treatment for Parkinson's Disease.
- For Denise Linkov, cousin of Anna Akkus, who is a civilian war prisoner, and who is ill.
- For Veronica Pauer, sister of Brother Charles Smith, C.S.C., who is under the care of hospice.
- For Arthur Lafave, grandfather of Ursuline College Student, Annie McCarthy, who is seriously ill.
- For Jan Leavitt, who is recovering from knee replacement surgery.
- For Bill Kral ['87], brother of Jennifer ['86] and Michael ['90] Kral, who is recovering from brain surgery.
- For Jackie Rusnik, sister of Margaret Benish, and aunt of Jakob Benish ['30], who is recovering from a stroke.
- For Ray Murphy, former Chief Advancement Strategy Office at Gilmour, who is recovering from cancer surgery.
- For Sharon Healey Lisinski, former Gilmour Montessori teacher, who is undergoing treatment for Thyroid Cancer.
- For Sister Barbara Morsher, S.N.D. and Sister Cecelia Liberatore, S.N.D., both of whom are under the care of hospice.



PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED:

- For Shirley Baskin, mother of Hockey Coach, Andy Baskin, and grandmother of Brynn ['23] and Blake ['26] Baskin.
- For Bill Beaumont ['68], brother of Tim Beaumont ['72]
- For Father James Thornton, C.S.C.
- For Peter Zwick
- For Brother James Kozak, C.S.C.
- For Maryann Kennedy, wife of Larry Kennedy ['66]
- For Br. Robert Lavelle, Headmaster Emeritus of Gilmour Academy
- For Father Bill Persia, C.S.C.

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS:

- For a greater openness to the needs of others, especially during this time.
- For an end to the war between Russia and Ukraine, and the political issues in Palestine and Iran.
- For a greater respect for human life, from the moment of conception until natural death.
- For all caregivers.
- For an end to violence in our society in all its forms.
- For all service men and women, and for their families

AN IMPORTANT PIECE:

We don't have to succeed in this world — we just have to be. That means to consent to the slice of the human condition that God has given us. There are seven or eight billion people in the world right now in whom God is working to build an intimate personal relationship — one that has never been known before and can never be repeated."

—Thomas Keating

CLOSING PRAYER:

~ A for the Dignity of Life ~

**Heavenly Father, thank you
for the precious gift of life.
Help us to cherish and nurture this gift,
even in the midst of fear, pain, and suffering.**

**Give us love for all people,
especially the most vulnerable,
and help us bear witness to the
truth that every life is worth living.**

**Grant us the humility to accept
help when we are in need,
and teach us to be merciful to all.**

**All the answers we seek,
all the wisdom we wish we had,
all the comfort we long for
is found only in Him,
in His Word,
and in His Sacraments.**

**Through our words and actions,
may others encounter the
outstretched hands
of Your mercy.
Amen.**

CAMPUS MINISTRY OFFICE:

The Campus Ministry Office is located in **Our Lady Chapel**.
phone: [440] 473-3560 [office] or 216-570-9276 [cell].
e-mail: blazekj@gilmour.org