

Thursday, June 11, 2026

NORTHEAST OHIO
Catholic
— e-newsletter —

*A weekly publication of the
Catholic Diocese of Cleveland*

[United States bishops will consecrate country to Sacred Heart of Jesus](#)

Today at 4 p.m., as part of the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, bishops from across the United States will consecrate the country to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Many of the bishops, including Bishop Edward Malesic and Auxiliary Bishop Michael Woost, are in Orlando, Florida for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' annual Spring Plenary meetings.

Parishes and individuals across the country are encouraged to join the bishops in celebrating this consecration, which will be livestreamed [here](#).

Leading up to the consecration, the bishops and faithful have been praying a Novena to the Sacred Heart June 3-11.

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As one of Northeast Ohio's largest health and human service nonprofit organizations, Catholic Charities provides help and creates hope for people of every race and religion across eight counties: Ashland, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Summit and Wayne.

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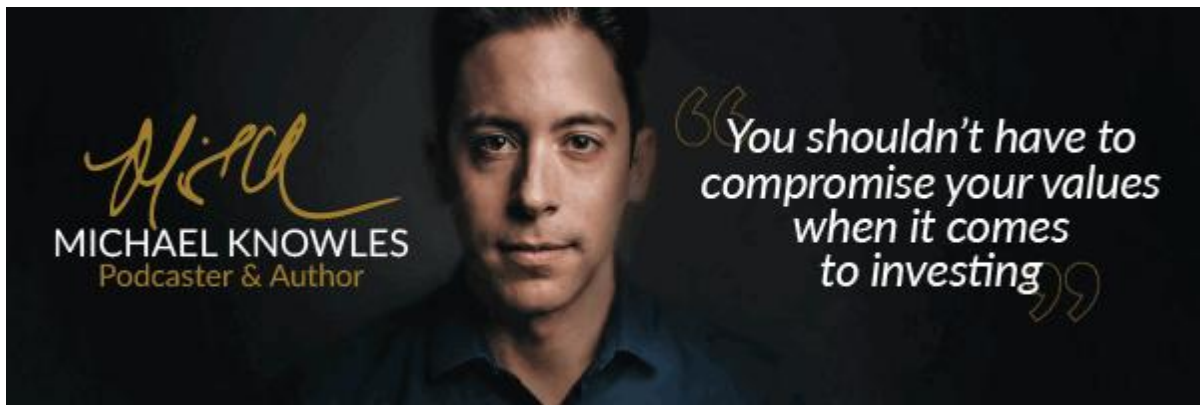
[St. Christina's relics travel from cathedral to temporary 'home' at St. Sebastian](#)

After being housed in the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist for a century, the relics of St. Christina, an early Christian martyr, were moved recently to St. Sebastian Parish in Akron. Extensive interior renovations to the cathedral are underway and necessitated the relocation.

“We gather here this morning as a community of faith to celebrate the solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity and to mark the transfer of the relics of St. Christina from the cathedral to the parish of St. Sebastian,” said Auxiliary Bishop Michael Woost, who celebrated the May 31 Mass (the Sunday after Pentecost) marking the relics’ move.

[Read more>](#)





[Catching Fire 'Knights with Christ' event draws crowd to St. Columbkille Parish](#)

Father Anthony Suso, pastor of St. Columbkille Parish in Parma offered a prayer and welcomed more than 100 people to the parish's "Knights with Christ" program hosted by the Catching Fire young adult ministry.

Auxiliary Bishop Michael Woost spoke about "Sacramentality, Eucharist and Divinization: Foundation for the Mystical Life" at the May 31 event.

Joe Vicario, Catching Fire president, said the ministry, which focuses on young adults ages 18-39, is celebrating its eighth anniversary. "Our mission is to create saints and our goal is to get to heaven," he said before introducing the bishop. [Read more>](#)





[Cleveland's Pope Leo XIV Village shapes up as volunteers build walls for new homes](#)

“Lord, may we be your hands, your feet and your voice today,” said Deacon Matt Lawler as he offered the opening prayer at Habitat for Humanity’s wall-building event for Cleveland’s Pope Leo XIV Village.

More than 100 volunteers representing about a dozen parishes in the Diocese of Cleveland and three Catholic high schools, plus people from other churches and schools, gathered on June 6 in the Benedictine High School parking lot. Volunteers received light blue T-shirts and nametags as they signed in. After opening prayer, announcements and posing for a group photo, they got down to work. [Read more>](#)





[School leaders learn best practices at annual Safety Day program](#)

School's out for the summer, but that doesn't mean there isn't work to be done.

The diocesan Office of Catholic Education presented its second daylong Safety Day June 8 at Holy Name High School in Parma Heights. Attendees heard presentations from trained safety professionals to help ensure that schools throughout the Diocese of Cleveland can build a safe environment. The program also met requirements for a professional development day.

Frank O'Linn, diocesan superintendent of schools, credited Joanie Klemens, OCE director of government programs, and Dolores Bruno, OCE operations coordinator, with organizing Safety Day.

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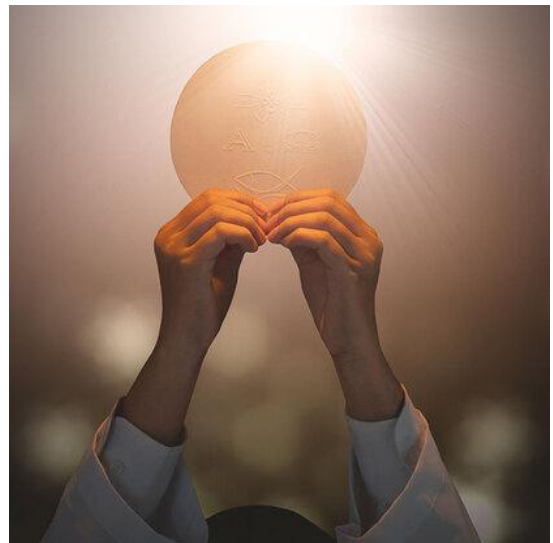
Put faith into action by
supporting dignity and
inclusion.



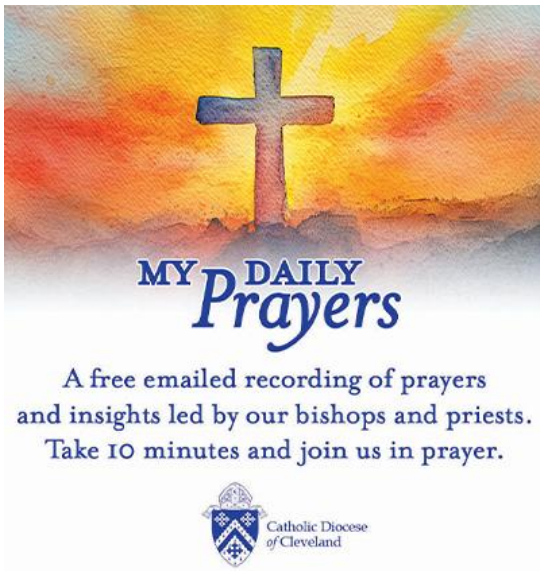
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[Scripture reflection: The solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ](#)

In his weekly Scripture reflection, Bishop Edward Malesic writes that fresh bread has a way of drawing us in with its warm, yeasty aroma, the crust just out of the oven. It awakens our hunger. But Jesus offers something even greater: himself. He calls himself the “living bread come down from heaven.” In the Gospel, Jesus contrasts himself with the manna that fed the Israelites during their 40 years in the desert. Although that bread sustained them for a time, they eventually died. But the bread Jesus gives is different. It’s not just bread for this life.



Read the entire reflection [here](#).



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Also, click [here](#) to visit the diocesan website for additional news and information from the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland.

And finally...

Did you know that June 13 is the feast of St. Anthony of Padua? Two parishes in the Diocese of Cleveland named after the saint will have a special celebration for their patronal feast day.

Father Andrew Hoover, pastor of [St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Parma](#), said the parish will have Mass at noon on June 14, followed by a procession from the church to the south lot for a celebration 1-5 p.m. The event will include beverages, including Father Andrew's Brew, food, raffles, baskets, a kids' land, a magical train and more. The first of two special Franciscan ice creams, Pax et Bonum, a burgundy cherry ice cream with Bordeaux dark cherries and pistachios, created by Country Parlour Ice Cream in conjunction with Father Damian Ference, diocesan vicar for evangelization, will be served, along with two other flavors.

Father Dismas Byarugaba, pastor of [St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Akron](#), said Father Phil Racco will celebrate the vigil Mass at 4 p.m. June 13 in observance of the parish feast day. A dessert reception will follow Mass.

The diocesan offices of [Black Catholic Ministries](#) and [Hispanic Ministry](#) are collaborating with [St. Dominic Parish](#) and [Catholic Charities, Diocese of Cleveland](#), for the fourth annual [Juneteenth celebration](#). The event will begin with Mass at 10 a.m. June 19 in St. Dominic Church. It honors the resilience, perseverance and endurance demonstrated throughout the history of slavery. After Mass, there will be an outdoor/indoor family picnic with food and activities for all. Click [here](#) to watch a welcome video about the event.

[St. Vincent-St. Mary High School](#) and the American Red Cross are teaming up for a special Space Jam Blood Drive 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. June 12 in the Bishop William Cosgrove Center (the new gym) at SVSM, 23 N. Walnut St., Akron. The event marks the 30th anniversary of the iconic film "Space Jam." Cleveland was selected as one of 14 featured markets nationwide due to its strong connection to basketball culture and the film's anniversary celebration. Those who donate blood during the event will receive an exclusive American Red Cross/Looney Tunes T-shirt, while supplies last. Todd Rickel, a SVSM science and technology teacher and the school's Red Cross liaison, said the partnership provides a unique opportunity for the school community and Akron to "come together make a meaningful impact and save lives." Appointments are encouraged for blood donations. Click [here](#) for more information.

The [Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist](#) will have a Mass for the deaf community at 2 p.m. June 26. The celebrant will be Father Mike Depcik, one of the few deaf priests in the country. Mass will be celebrated in American Sign Language.

After Mass, Diane Fusco, a cathedral parishioner and docent, will lead a tour of the cathedral with several ASL interpreters at her side. Maria Ruddock, community engagement and advocacy consultant for the Community Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, said this will be the first time the deaf community has had this opportunity.

The [Enthronement of the Sacred Heart Diocesan Center](#)'s annual Mass of Reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus will be celebrated by Father Eric Orzech at 7 p.m. June 12 in [St. Therese Church](#) in Garfield Heights. The rosary will be prayed at 6:30 p.m., followed by Mass.

[Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine](#) in Euclid, which is celebrating its centennial this year, will have a pasta dinner 4:30-6:45 p.m. June 19. Cost is \$16 for pasta, meatballs, salad or applesauce, bread and butter, coffee or tea. Call 216-481-0900 or 216-481-8232 for more information.

[Immaculate Conception Parish](#), 37940 Euclid Ave., Willoughby, will have a car wash 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. June 20 in the parking lot near the garages. The event is a benefit for restoration of the Stations of the Cross at [Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine](#) in Euclid. All volunteers are invited to celebrate after the car wash 2-3 p.m. with pizza, refreshments, fun and games. Call Tom Silvrola, 440-897-5734, or Sister Josephine, OSST, 216-942-4500. The parish confirmation students, parents, sponsors and family will help with the car wash.

Save the date: [The Friar's Table](#), 1305 Euclid Ave., in Cleveland's Playhouse Square will have a special Father's Day Brunch 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Father's Day, June 21. Click [here](#) for more information or to make a reservation.

Reminder: Weekday Masses, confessions, private prayer and Wednesday adoration have relocated from the [Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist](#) to a temporary worship space across the street on the first floor of Cathedral Square Plaza, the diocesan offices, at 1404 E. Ninth St. during renovations to the cathedral. Work in the cathedral is expected to last for several months.

Times for weekday Masses remain unchanged at 7:15 a.m. and noon. The noon Mass will be livestreamed, as usual. Confessions will follow the 7:15 a.m. Mass and will continue until 8:15 a.m. Midday confessions will remain at 11:30 a.m. Monday through Friday. Only one confessor will be available midday and confessions will continue until all are heard.

Access to the temporary worship space is available beginning at 7 a.m. Monday through Friday. Enter the building through the main door under the black awning.

Weekend Masses, funerals and weddings will remain in the cathedral. The 11 a.m. Sunday Mass will be livestreamed as usual until scaffolding prevents it, at which point the TV Mass will be offered online in that time slot.

Also: be sure to check the [event listings](#) on the [diocesan website](#) for more information on upcoming events.

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