

Thursday, September 10, 2026



*A weekly publication of the
Catholic Diocese of Cleveland*

[25th anniversary of 9/11 attacks prompts
statements from bishop, USCCB, First Friday
Akron program](#)

Sept. 11, 2001 was a day that few will forget.

As the 25th anniversary of the terrorist attacks that killed nearly 3,000 people nears, Bishop Edward Malesic shared his thoughts in a message. Read it [here](#).



Archbishop Paul Coakley, president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and archbishop of Oklahoma City, released a statement on the anniversary offering prayers and encouraging a continuing commitment to peace.

Read his remarks [here](#).

Also, the First Friday Club of Greater Akron featured a program by Father Norm Douglas offering reflections on 9/11 25 years later. Read the story [here](#).



Mass of the Holy Spirit begins new year at Saint Ignatius High School

As it marks 140 years of Jesuit education in the Cleveland Diocese, Saint Ignatius High School began the new academic year with the traditional Mass of the Holy Spirit on Sept. 4.

Bishop Edward Malesic was the principal celebrant with Auxiliary Bishop Michael Woost and other Jesuits concelebrating the Mass. Assisting was Deacon Jeff Stutzman, also a Saint Ignatius alumnus.

Normally, members of the freshman class process from the school on West 30th Street in Cleveland to the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, where a bagpiper leads them into the cathedral for the liturgy.



[Read more>](#)



**Padre Pio Pilgrimages is headed to
St. Louis on September 23-24**

For a celebration of the life of and The Beatification of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen. Archbishop Sheen was responsible for saving millions of souls via the airwaves.

Book Now

or visit padrepiopilgrimages.com/stlouis/ for more details



**Legion of Mary takes the Eucharist onto the
streets of Cleveland during annual procession**

Members of the Legion of Mary, Northern Ohio, which includes the Diocese of Cleveland, gathered in the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist on Sept. 5 for the annual Mass and Eucharistic procession.

The Legion of Mary is the largest apostolic organization of lay people in the Catholic Church, with more than three million active members throughout the world.

Father Kyle Rosser, the legion's spiritual director in the diocese, celebrated Mass and led the procession through streets in downtown Cleveland near the cathedral.

The event traditionally takes place on the closest Saturday to the Blessed Mother's nativity, Sept. 8.

[Read more>](#)



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.

All services are rooted in the belief that every person is made in God's image.

Our programs help the individuals and families we serve — especially those living in poverty — reach their full potential.



To learn more, call 1 (800) 860-7373 or visit us online at ccdacle.org.



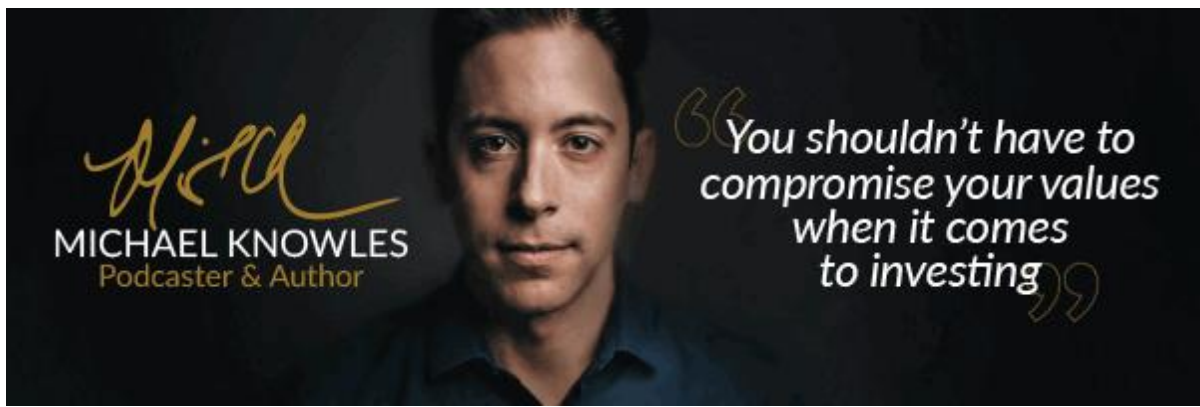
[Three deacons discuss their ministries, vocations at First Friday Cleveland roundtable](#)

The diaconate is a ministry of service, but each deacon serves in a different way.

Deacon Matt Lawler, spiritual advisor to the First Friday Club of Cleveland, moderated a roundtable discussion on Sept. 3 featuring three permanent deacons who are ministering in the Cleveland Diocese. The panelists were Deacon Bill Prebel, who was ordained in May and serves at SS. Cosmas and Damian Parish in Twinsburg; Deacon Chris DePrenti, who was ordained in 2019 and serves at St. Augustine Parish in Cleveland's Tremont neighborhood, and Deacon Mike Hayes, who was ordained in 2024 and serves at St. Christopher Parish in Rocky River.



[Read more>](#)



Four Saint Mary seminarians will be admitted to candidacy for ordination on Sept. 11

Bishop Edward Malesic will celebrate a Mass on Sept. 11 at the Center for Pastoral Leadership in Wickliffe during which four seminarians – three for the Diocese of Cleveland and one for the Diocese of Youngstown – will be admitted to candidacy for ordination as deacons and priests.

The men are in their first year of theological study at Saint Mary Seminary and Graduate School of Theology. They are Andrew Brendahan, William Myers and Stephen Vavro for the Cleveland Diocese and Steven Vasko for the Youngstown Diocese.

They will announce their desire to bind themselves to the service of God and his people.

[Read more>](#)





**St. Bernard Parish to host annual Fe Y Cultura
(Faith and Culture) event Sept. 19**

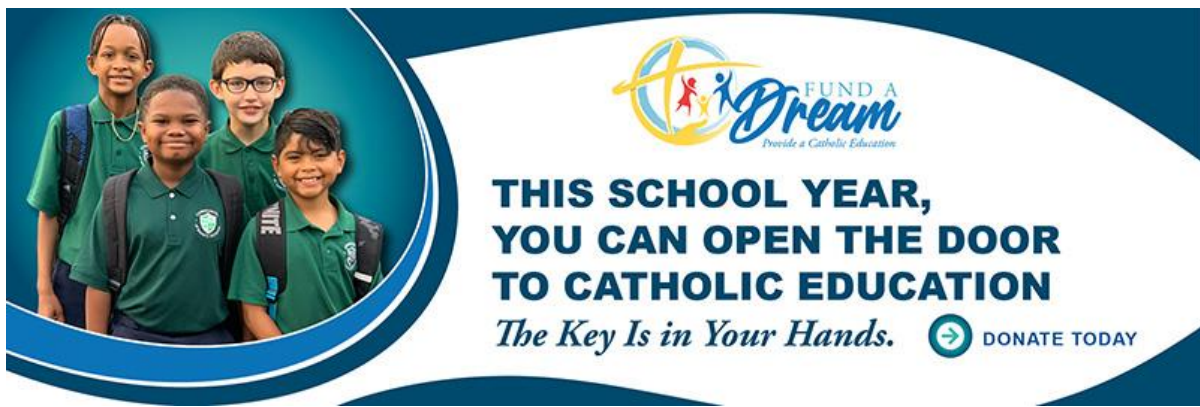
The diocesan Office of Hispanic Ministry and St. Bernard Parish in Akron invite all to attend the annual Fe Y Cultura (Faith and Culture) celebration on Sept. 19 at St. Bernard, 44 University Ave., Akron.

The celebration begins with registration at 9 a.m., followed by Mass at 10 a.m. Auxiliary Bishop Michael Woost will be the principal celebrant. Bishop Evilio Menjivar-Ayala, who recently was installed as the Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston, West Virginia, will be the homilist. He also will speak to the group after Mass.

The event will run until about 4 p.m.

[Read more>](#)





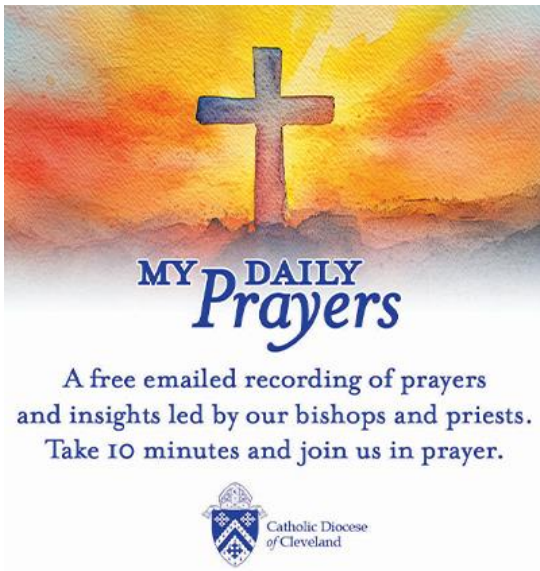
Scripture reflection: Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

In his weekly Scripture reflection, Bishop Edward Malesic writes that St. Paul reminds us in his Letter to the Romans that the only debt we should owe one another is the debt of love, which is willing the good of another. It is generous, sacrificial and self-giving, with its fullest expression on the Cross, where Jesus gave his life – not to save himself, but us. That is authentic love, the debt we owe one another.

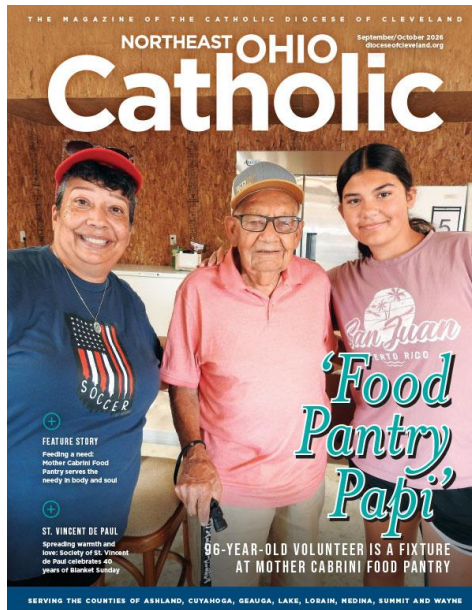


Love is more than a feeling. It is a decision to seek another person's good, even when it costs us something.

Read the entire reflection [here](#).



Click the image above to visit our My Daily Prayers Sign Up Page.



Click the cover above to read the latest edition of Northeast Ohio Catholic



Click the image to read about the latest Vatican News

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 Bishop Edward Malesic is often asked about his take on the issue of immigration? He issued a statement recently summarizing his thoughts, noting that as followers of Jesus Christ, we are called to recognize the God-given dignity of every human person. He said this truth must guide our response to immigration and to those who come to our communities seeking safety, opportunity and a better future for their families. Throughout our nation's history, immigrants have enriched the country, strengthened our communities and contributed to the common good in countless ways.

Click [here](#) to read the entire statement and to review other resources regarding the issue of immigration.

Blue Mass: Bishop Edward Malesic will celebrate the Diocese of Cleveland's annual Blue Mass at 6 p.m. Sept. 11 at [Mary Queen of Peace Church](#), 4423 Pearl Road, Cleveland. All first responders, active and retired from all Northeast Ohio departments are encouraged to attend and wear their "Class A" uniform.

For more information, contact Father Doug Brown, chaplain for the Cleveland Division of Police, Cleveland Division of Fire and the Cleveland Metroparks Police Department, 440-477-3877.

The liturgy is open to the public. A social will follow.

Church tour: [Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church](#), 418 W. 15th St., Lorain, will participate in Ohio Open Doors, a program, through which visitors can discover Ohio's heritage as churches, historic buildings and other places of interest open their doors for special tours and events.

Nativity invites the public to visit 2-5 p.m. Sept. 20 to see the oldest Catholic church building still in use in the city of Lorain. Built in 1915 through the efforts of Polish Americans, the neo-gothic landmark features soaring arches, opalescent stained-glass windows and carved wooden statues. Guides will be on hand to answer questions.

At 3 p.m., there will be a presentation. "People of Vision Create a Vision of Heaven," describing key individuals and details in the construction of the church. Additional historic artifacts will be displayed.

The event is free. Ample parking is available adjacent to the church in the lot off 14th Street. Handicap parking and a ramp to the church are available just west of the rectory off 15th Street.

For more information on Ohio Open Doors, visit ohiohistory.org/opendoors, email natbvm@outlook.com, or call 440-930-1161.

Field trip: [Theology on the Rocks West](#) will take a field trip to the Center for Pastoral Leadership, 28700 Euclid Ave., Wickliffe, for its next meeting on Sept. 14. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and a tour of the CPL begins at 7 p.m. Cost is \$15 per person, which includes light appetizers and non-alcoholic beverages.

Click [here](#) for more information or to reserve a spot.

Theology on Tap merger: The two Theology on Tap groups – East and West – for young adults, ages 18-39, decided to merge into one group, Theology on Tap Cleveland. Meetings will take place at Pizzaz on the Circle, 20680 John Carroll Blvd., University Heights. Doors open at 7 p.m. and programs take place at 7:30 p.m. Cover charge is \$5 for those who pre-register, \$7 at the door.

The next program will be Sept. 16 and will feature Father Dominic Gideon, parochial vicar at St. Albert the Great Parish in North Royalton, who will explore “Divine Comedy: Humor’s Place in the Spiritual Life.”

Click [here](#) for more information or to make a reservation.

Father Eric Garris, diocesan vocation director, will speak on “Come & See: The art of Invitation” on Oct. 21.

Save the date: Father Phil Berner, OFM Cap, said [The Friar’s Table](#) will host a special blessing of animals on St. Francis’ feast day, Oct. 4, 9-11 a.m. The event is free and open to everyone. It will take place outside the restaurant at 1305 Euclid Ave., Cleveland. This is the 800th anniversary of the death of St. Francis, patron saint of animals.

Attendees and their pets can receive a special blessing on a first-come, first-served basis. Complimentary cat and dog treats will be available, as well as refreshments for pet owners.

Click [here](#) for more information on the animal blessing event.

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 more 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.

Now that extensive scaffolding is in place, the weekend Masses can no longer be livestreamed from the cathedral. Instead, the pre-recorded TV Mass is broadcast at 11 a.m. on Sunday.

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



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