

St. Vincent Church Ministry Directory



“...for my yoke is easy and my burden light.”

Parish Mission

We are a welcoming Catholic community called together by Jesus Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit to live and share the love of God in our parish and in our daily lives.

Parish Vision

We will be a vibrant Catholic parish that fosters lifelong faith formation, evangelization, and community outreach, centered in a daily relationship with Jesus Christ.



Front cover courtesy David Shoenfelt

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Saint Vincent de Paul Parish is a welcoming Catholic

community called together by Jesus Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit to live and share the love of God in our parish and in our daily lives. This call is for everyone; it is our vocation! It is also an invitation to discipleship, which involves growing in our relationship with God through prayer, study, and formation. Once formed, we are sent forth to share the good news of Jesus. God has given each of us unique gifts and talents that we can use for ministry. What gifts/talents do you possess? Would you like to find a way to share them?

Stewardship is our response to God's gifts.

Look through the pages of this stewardship directory to discover ways for you to answer God's call, continue your formation in stewardship, and share your gifts/talents as an apostle of Jesus Christ. Let your life be transformed for Jesus Christ!

God Bless,

Father Norm Douglas,

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Parish Finance Council

The Parish Finance Council oversees the financial well-being of the Parish. We work with the school administration and Parish Business Manager to review and approve annual budgets School tuition, capital improvements and review on a monthly basis the YTD results, provide oversight and suggestions on changes to budgets and emergency spending. We also discuss building and equipment projects working with the Building and Grounds group. Our group consists of 10 voting members including Fr Norm and 3 non-voting members (The School Principal and Secretary and Business Manager) Currently we have one vacancy on our Board. We are hoping to add a parent from our school community.



Parish Pastoral Council

The Pastoral Council is to provide the primary and established means for the pastor and parishioner to respond to the pastoral mission of the Church and listen to the needs and hopes of the parish. The Council is consultative and collaborative and has established commissions made up of parishioners to help satisfy the Parish Mission. The Council meets monthly and shares its minutes with the parish community. Any parishioner may submit an agenda item through any one of the members.



Adair, Deacon Robin
*Bauman, Michael
*Bryan, John
*Cook, Dale, President
Davis, Andy
Destafano, Jennifer,
Parent's
Association

Dies, Ellen
Douglas, Fr. Norm
*Horrigan, Deanna
*Holmes, Selena
*Inman, Hank,
Secretary
Kassell, John
*Kelly, Jerry
Kingsbury, Rita

*Klee, Kris,
Vice-President
*Kulick, Greg
* Mancino, Tom
*Pizzino, Elisa
*Zwisler, Jim
* Denotes voting
member

**THE GOAL OF EACH COMMISSION AND ORGANIZATION OF THE PARISH
FOCUSES ON FAITH FORMATION AND EVANGELIZATION AND COMMUNITY
OUTREACH.**

Parish Commission Goals

Communication Commission

- *Enhance various means of parish communication.*
- *Further develop the parish website, newsletter/email newsletter, other forms of communication, including social media to communicate our worship experiences, faith formation opportunities, and parish activities.*

Evangelization Commission

- *Form active Catholics to better live and share their faith in daily life.*
- *Reach out to inactive Catholics – especially youth and young adults, parents of school and PSR students, former parishioners, unchurched, people in the surrounding neighborhood.*
- *Involvement in area ecumenical and interfaith endeavors.*

Faith Development Commission

- *Develop among parishioners a desire to deepen their understanding and commitment to our Catholic Christian faith as a set of beliefs and a way of life, fostering a recognition that lifelong spiritual growth is the foundation of our entire lives and parish community.*
- *Foster the development and oversight of parish renewals, missions, retreats, prayer experiences, devotions, spiritual direction opportunities.*
- *Create ways to integrate spiritual growth experiences into various parish organizations, meetings, and events.*
- *Within this component are the PSR program, RCIA, family religious formation, adult faith opportunities (including work life), and youth ministry.*
- *Encourage people to consider priesthood, the diaconate, religious life, and lay leadership.*

Family Life Commission

- *Bring together and enrich families, including youth and young adults, in ways that foster vital, faith-based, family life.*
- *Learn and respond to various needs of families and youth within the parish and the school.*
- *Increase their sense of belonging and involvement in the parish. Provide various programs, fun activities, workshops, and retreats that families would be interested in.*



Worship Commission

- *Educate/form parishioners in a deeper understanding and experience of various liturgies, especially celebration of the Eucharist.*
- *Focus upon liturgical preparation, art, and environment, ongoing formation of liturgical ministers: musicians, ushers, greeters, lectors, servers.*

Stewardship Commission

- *Assist parishioners to develop a sense of stewardship, sharing their time, talent, treasure as a way of life in the parish and in their overall life.*
- *Develop ways to involve people in various parish ministries, organizations, and short-term projects based upon their specific gifts.*
- *Provide opportunities for formation, support, and evaluation. Strengthen a sense of community among parishioners.*

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Parish and Community Care Commission

- *To strengthen among our parishioners the desire and ability to assist those who*

are suffering in their day-to-day lives.

- *To provide compassionate care to individuals who are mourning, marginalized, or in need.*

Social Justice Commission

- *Educate parishioners on social justice issues and ways they can advocate and act on specific peace and justice concerns within their daily relationships, work, and community involvement.*
- *Emphasize the Consistent Ethic of Life from conception to natural death.*
- *Include current concerns such as abortion, euthanasia, healthcare, immigrants, violence and war, care for the environment, growing income inequality, un/under-employment, death penalty, global solidarity, local housing, and neighborhood development.*



- *Develop a policy and implementation of projects that will enhance the safety and beauty of the parish buildings, cemetery, and grounds with respect to the daily operations of the parish.*
- *Reviews existing and proposed projects in conjunction with the Finance Council and the Pastoral Council.*
- *Consult with existing maintenance staff to help identify areas of concern.*
- *Assess, prioritize, and implement needed repairs and maintenance projects, new projects, guide volunteer groups, and develop guidelines for continued continuity of care and neighborhood development.*

Community Outreach Commission

- *Will recognize and respond to the needs of the diverse communities within and beyond our parish with recommendations designed to respect the dignity of every person and to build a compassionate society.*
- *Continue the development of our community outreach conversations related to, but not limited to, the following: Black & White conversation, Catholic & LBGTQ+ community talk and the West Hill Neighborhood Organization*

Liturgical Ministries

**8:30 a.m. Choir *Canticum Novum Choir (11:00 a.m.) *Contemporary Choir
*Youth Choir *Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist *Lectors * Mass
Servers *Parish Greeters *Offertory Counters *Ushers*

8:30 a.m. Choir

The adult choir enriches our sung prayer at 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass. Teens and adults with pleasant singing voices are welcome.

Time Commitment: weekly rehearsals

Contact: ndaley@stvincentchurch.com

Canticum Novum Choir (11:00 a.m.)

Canticum Novum enriches our sung prayer at the 11:00 a.m. Mass.

Time Commitment: weekly rehearsals

Contact: ndaley@stvincentchurch.com

Contemporary Choir (5:00 p.m.)

The Contemporary Choir enriches our celebration of the Eucharist at the 5 p.m. Mass on the first Saturday of the month. Anyone with the ability to play a musical instrument is welcome.

Time Commitment: two rehearsals per month

Contact: Fred Neugebauer faneug@gmail.com

Youth Choir

The adult choir enriches our celebration of the Eucharist at the 5p.m. Mass on the third Saturday of the month. Any grade school or high school age student is welcome.

Time Commitment: unknown

Contact: rita@stvincentchurch.com

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion assist in the distribution of the Holy Eucharist at parish Masses and to the sick or homebound. Interested parties must be fully initiated (Baptized, received First Communion and Confirmed) and serve at the recommendation of the pastor. New Eucharistic Ministers receive training from the Diocese of Cleveland.

Time Commitment: Ministers are scheduled by the ministry leader on a routine basis.

Contact: eucharisticministers@stvincentchurch.com

Lectors

Lectors proclaim the Word of God at Masses and special liturgies. Skills in public speaking are helpful, but not required.

Time Commitment: Lectors are scheduled by the ministry leader on a routine basis.

Contact: lectors@stvincentchurch.com

Altar Servers

This ministry is open to all parishioners from the 4th grade to adults. Mass Servers assist the priest in celebration of the Mass. Training is done at St. Vincent Parish. Adult Mass Servers assist on Holy Days and funerals.

Time Commitment: Servers are scheduled by the ministry leader on a routine basis, adult servers are contacted as needed.

Contact: AltarServers@stvincentchurch.com

Church Greeters

Parishioners with a sense of hospitality are involved in this ministry. Greeters welcome and greet parishioners and guests at the doors of the church. This ministry is appropriate for families, couples, and singles.

Time Commitment: Greeters are scheduled by the ministry leader on a routine basis. Greeters arrive twenty minutes prior to Mass.

Contact: Greeters@stvincentchurch.com

Offertory Counters

Volunteers in this ministry count the offertory contributions made by parishioners each week.

Volunteers must have experience with calculators. Interested parishioners should contact the rectory. *Time Commitment: Two hours per week on Sunday* Contact: accounting@stvincentchurch.com

Ushers

Ushers provide a variety of services including helping with seating and taking the offertory and special collections. A sense of hospitality is also necessary.

Time Commitment: Ushers usually serve at their preferred Mass on a routine basis

Contact: Ushers@stvincentchurch.com

Spiritual Formation

*Baptism Preparation *Couple to Couple Marriage Preparation Ministry

*Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults *Parish School of Religion

*Contemplative Prayer *Journeying Through Faith

Baptism Preparation Team

The Baptism Preparation Team plays an integral part in the formation of Parents' and Godparents' role in the Rite of Baptism and the religious obligations and implications for all involved in the Sacrament.

Time Commitment: as needed.

Contact: rita@stvincentchurch.com

Couple to Couple Marriage Preparation

Married couples are trained to meet with engaged couples and discuss various aspects of married life. The married couples work closely with the pastor to prepare the engaged couples for the Sacrament of Marriage.

Time Commitment: Volunteers are trained in the Diocesan Prepare/Enrich Program and are scheduled by the ministry leader on a routine basis

Contact: coupletocouple@stvincentchurch.com

Time Commitment: As needed.

Contact: Parish Office at (330) 535-3135 X 100

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RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

RCIA is a process through which people become full members of the Catholic Church community. Sponsors and team members are needed to support a

candidate's ongoing conversion.

Time Commitment: Ongoing sessions throughout the year.

Contact: Rita @stvincentchurch.com

Parish School of Religion (PSR)

The St. Vincent de Paul PSR brings the mission of Jesus and the sacramental life to children of our parish through instruction and prayer. Teachers and aides are needed to share their faith with students.

Time Commitment: Twice a month on Sunday mornings October through May.

Contact: Rita @stvincentchurch.com

Contemplative Prayer Group

"Prayer beyond words" is a silent way of becoming aware of the inner spirit and being open to the gift of experiencing the Spirit of God present in all creation. This kind of prayer nurtures living in the spirit of compassion and peace in a troubled world. We gather for meditative reflection, silent prayer, and fellowship.

Time Commitment: twice a month on Saturday mornings

Contact: Parish Office at (330) 535-3135 X100

Journeying Through Faith Prayer Group

The group offers participants an opportunity to share their spiritual lives with others who seek to grow in their relationships with God in a prayerful, reflective, confidential, and mutually supportive atmosphere; this group of 5-7 members fosters spiritual community and presence to and for each other through a deepening experience of the Presence of God.

Time Commitment: once a month on the third Monday

Contact: Parish Office at (330) 535-3135 X100

Social Outreach

**Giving Tree *Prayer Shawl Ministry *Cookie Brigade
*St Vincent de Paul Society *St Vincent de Paul Auxiliary*

Giving Tree

During the holiday season our parish assists people in need by providing clothing, toys, and gift cards. To participate in the program please take a tag off the Christmas tree in the sacristy, obtain the requested item, and return it as directed in the bulletin.

Time Commitment: As needed.

Contact: Parish Office at (330) 535-3135 X 100

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry is a group of parishioners who gather to knit or crochet shawls or blankets to give to those in need of hope or healing. Members meet for prayer and conversation while knitting. The finished items are blessed by a parish priest and distributed to those who have a need. One does not have to know how to crochet to join the group.

Time Commitment: As needed.

Contact: prayershawl@stvincentchurch.com

Cookie Brigade

The Cookie Ministry provides hospitality at parish events throughout the year.

Volunteers are put into an email group and called upon when the cookie freezer is near empty.

Time Commitment: As needed.

Contact: Ellen at the rectory (330-535-3135 X 100) to be added to the email group

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society are dedicated to helping the poor, taking their inspiration from the patron saint of charitable work. They provide

assistance to those who cannot pay their utility bills, and at Thanksgiving, Christmas, Christmas in July, and Easter they provide grocery gift certificates for those in need.

Time Commitment: As needed

Contact: stvincentdepaulsociety@stvincentchurch.com

St. Vincent de Paul Auxiliary

The members of the St. Vincent de Paul Auxiliary collect and pack donations of non-perishable food items and groceries for the food insecure in the St. Vincent neighborhood a weekly basis. The Auxiliary also packs food bags for distribution at Christmas in July, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter.

Time commitment: Monthly meetings and as needed.

Contact: stvincentdepaulauxiliary@stvincentchurch.com

Caring and Participating Ministries

**Catholic Youth Organization *Knights of Columbus *Parish *Finance Council
*Parish Pastoral Council *School Volunteer
*Altar Society *Prime Timers *Parents Association *Grief Support
Garden Club

CYO Booster Club

The boosters are parents and parishioners devoted to maintaining the CYO sports program for all children of the parish.

Time Commitment: Routine meetings and as needed.

Contact: cyoboosters@stvincentchurch.com

Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus is a worldwide Catholic men's fraternal organization. Social and intellectual fellowship is promoted through educational, charitable, religious, social welfare, and public relief works. All practicing Catholic men over the age of 18 are welcome to attend their monthly meetings.

Time Commitment: Monthly meetings on the last Tuesday of the month, 6:30-7:30 in the Family Center

Contact: kofc@stvincentchurch.com

Altar Society

The Altar Society provides many services to our church including cleaning, supplies for the altar, and beautifying the altar with flowers, especially at Christmas and Easter. The Society also organizes an annual Christmas Dinner and May breakfast. The Altar Society has a Caring Parishioner program to provide a meal for a family in a time of loss.

Time Commitment: Every third Monday

Contact: altarsociety@stvincentchurch.com

Prime Timers

A social group for those over 55 that offers special activities such as movies, road trips, tours, etc. The Prime Timer group promotes friendship and fellowship among parishioners and their friends.

Time Commitment: As needed.

Contact: Parish Office at (330)535-3135 X 100

St. Vincent de Paul Parents' Association

The St. Vincent Parents Association exists to support the needs of St. Vincent School. The goals are to promote communication between the home and the school, facilitate fund-raising activities, sponsor playground activities, and organize classroom support for teachers.

Time Commitment: Meetings are the first Tuesday of each month, 7:00-8:30 in the Family Center

Contact: svdpparents@stvincentelementary.com

Grief Support Ministry

The Grief Support Ministry meets monthly and is facilitated by people who have the background, empathy and spirituality to bring together those who are experiencing a sense of loss by either the death of a loved one, a job loss, or other uncontrollable loss.

This ministry incorporates the spiritual and healing dimension of our Catholic

Christian faith within a safe small group setting. It also holds a special Remembrance Mass on All Souls Day

Time Commitment: Meetings are the third Saturday of each month, 10:00 – 11:30 in the Family Center

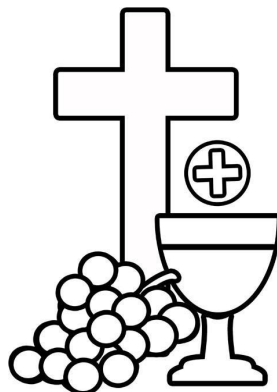
Contact: Rectory Office

St. Vincent de Paul Garden Club

For parishioners that love to plan, plant, and maintain the flowers and trees on the parish grounds. One does not need a green thumb to meet with other parishioners as needed to beautify our campus.

Time Commitment: As needed.

Contact: Rectory Office X100



Parish Information and Media Resources

Rectory Phone Number - (330) 535-3135

*Mailing Address - St. Vincent de Paul Church
164 West Market Street Akron, Ohio 44303*

Website - <https://stvincentchurch.com>

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/stvdpakron>

Flocknote - <https://stvincentparish.flocknote.com>

St. Vincent App: “WeConnect Parish App” found at the Apple or Android store

Elementary School Phone - (330) 762-5912

*Mailing Address - 17 South Maple Street
Akron, Ohio 44303*

School Website - <https://stvincentelementary.com>

Talent / Skills Service Program

One goal of the Stewardship Commission is to provide resources to help parishioners recognize and respond to the needs of people in their everyday lives and the wider Akron Community. This includes involving people who have experienced a specific life struggle and are willing to assist someone else through a similar difficulty.

Home Repair

Electrical, painting, plumbing, carpentry

Landscaping

Light mowing, planting or trimming shrubs, light snow removal

Computer Assistance

Set-up, moving equipment, diagnose equipment problems, printer issues

Cooking and Baking Assistance

Preparing meals

Personal and Tutoring Assistance

Tutoring, organizing personal information, budgets, legal assistance.

Domestic Help

Housecleaning, basement cleaning, garage cleaning, running errands, organizing closets, sewing

Transportation

Doctor and dental visits, grocery, prescription pick-up, Sacraments, Mass, meetings

Parishioners and friends are welcome to enroll in any of the above areas by emailing this address: stewardship@stvincentchurch.com Those who enroll will be put in a data bank by talent or skill and called when there is a person in need.



Mass Schedule

Weekdays - 6:28am

Saturday Vigil - 5:00pm

Sunday - 8:30am & 11:00am

Holy Days - 6:28, 9:00, 5:30

Confessions

Saturdays 3:30-4:30pm

Thursday before First Friday 3:30-4:30pm

Stewardship Prayer

My parish is composed of people like me. I help make it what it is. It will be friendly if I am. It will be holy if I am. Its pews will be filled if I help fill them. It will do great work, if I work. It will be prayerful if I pray. It will make generous gifts to many causes if I am a generous giver. It will bring others into worship if I invite and bring them. It will be a parish of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, of compassion, charity, and mercy, if I, who make it what it is, am filled with these same things. Therefore, with the help of God, I now dedicate myself to the task of being all things that I want my parish to be.

St. Vincent de Paul Parish

In the 1820s Akron had its first canal under construction. Because of this exceptional initiative, Akron quickly grew into a significant city on the new frontier. St. Vincent de Paul had been the first Catholic parish in Akron, formed as the result of the coming of Irish, Germans, some French and other nationalities to Akron with the building of the Ohio Canal in 1825.

St. Vincent was originally a mission church affiliated with St. Francis Xavier Church in Doylestown and before 1847, when the Cleveland Diocese was established, was in the Diocese of Cincinnati. The first church was built in 1844 on a location near to the present Green Street Stadium. The current church on the corner of Market and Maple had its cornerstone laid on March 17, 1864.

Construction was paused during the Civil War but resumed in 1865. The first Mass was celebrated on October 20, 1867. Out of St. Vincent had come St. Bernard, St. Mary, St. Paul and St. Martha parishes.

“The parish that does not in some way extend its work beyond its own boundaries fails to be Church in its most complete meaning. In our diocesan commitment to stewardship, we must seek to define stewardship in a way that encompasses the urban and suburban Church, with the unique gifts and individual problems.” - Bishop Anthony Pilla