

### **St. Albert the Great, North Royalton**

St. Albert the Great is a large suburban parish with a large congregation committed to growing disciples of Jesus Christ. We have almost 4000 registered families living a vibrant, vision-driven parish life consisting of many and varied ministries. We have the largest Catholic school in the diocese with over 900 students, Pre-K through eighth grade. It is our hope that summer interns might experience and lend their hands to the many and various aspects of life in Christ parish life involves, joining the parish staff as we strive to draw all we encounter to answer a "Call to More: more faith, more love, more hope, more joy, more Jesus in all we do!"

### **St. Barnabas, Northfield**

St. Barnabas Parish brings people closer to Christ through evangelization, liturgical beauty and service to others. St. Barnabas is located in Northfield and is a vibrant parish with over 3,000 families. In addition to the large parish, the campus offers a grade school for preschool through 8th grade students. Some of the most active ministries at the parish are Life Teen High School Youth Ministry, Edge Middle School Youth Ministry, children's programs including Children's Liturgy of the Word, PSR, and Vacation Bible School, and adult programs including ALPHA and Walking With Purpose. St. Barnabas is a Christ-centered, welcoming parish on mission to bring the Gospel to the people of the Nordonia Hills community.

### **St. Basil the Great, Brecksville**

St. Basil the Great Catholic Church, located in Brecksville, is a joyful, merciful, and faithful community of over 4,000 families. Our parish is blessed with dedicated leadership from Fr. Ryan Mann, Pastor; Fr. Jeffrey Liptak, Parochial Vicar; and Deacon Rob Blackburn, supported by a caring team of 10 pastoral staff members and 8 support staff members. With more than 60 active ministries, we joyfully serve parishioners of all ages—from newborns and young families to our cherished seniors.

### **St. Bernard Parish, Akron & St. Mary, Akron**

St. Bernard Parish has been a parish in the heart of downtown Akron since 1861. Founded by German immigrants, it continues to serve as a welcome to all those seeking to encounter the Lord, especially in extraordinary ways: Its three hunger programs serve over 50,000 meals a year, its Hispanic ministry is in its 43rd year, its location and beautiful interior and exterior design regularly welcomes medical

and legal professionals in town or on break and the third floor of its Administration building hosts the University of Akron Newman Center and the main office for the four FOCUS missionaries who evangelize the students of the University of Akron. As well, the 12:10 daily Mass and 24-hour Adoration Chapel are staples in ordinary Catholic living for the faithful of Summit County. St. Bernard Church hosts dozens of weddings annually and several musical concerts as well, especially featuring The Summit Choral Society and Hearts For Music Adaptive Needs Orchestra. Designed by prolific architect and parishioner William Guenther and on the National Register of Historic Places, St. Bernard Church also hosts several events annually to grow its parish community of faith, minister effectively to its diverse congregation and ensure it will continue to be a beacon of virtue in downtown Akron for generations to come. Over 20 adults will enter the Faith through St. Bernard this Easter Vigil and dozens of youth will receive Baptism, First Holy Communion, Confirmation or all three this spring.

St. Mary was founded as a Parish in 1916 but has existed as a mission school in downtown Akron since 1887. St. Mary is currently finding ways to evangelize the neighborhood. It is in a predominantly Black community. It has a school full of about 215 children, and boasts almost 100% on everything standard including the third grade reading test, all standardized tests, graduation, and its graduates going on to Catholic High School. This is made possible by many who contribute financial donations and by over 100 adults who tutor once per week in the Enrichment Program. There are currently 11 students signed up to become Catholic this year. Finally, as a replica of the Rome Cathedral of Ostia, St. Mary's is 1 of 3 host sites in the entire diocese for the Traditional Latin Mass. Its small but potent community of faith has just begun efforts to contribute to a larger diocesan campaign while also paying for much needed renovation to the interior of the church building.

### **St. Joan of Arc, Chargin Falls**

St. Joan of Arc Catholic Parish in Chargin Falls, OH is made up of 920 families with 4600 listed as active parishioners. The church staff is composed of 12 staff members including a permanent deacon. Ministries include: K-8 PSR and Sacrament preparation, Adult Faith Formation, OCIA, music ministry, women's guild, Elizabeth ministries, the ministry of outreach, spiritual care and homebound care, stewardship, and giving pantry, The parish also has a school: Grades K-8 with 160 students, a staff of 30, and will be expanding to add pre-K in 2026.

### **St. John Vianney, Mentor**

St. John Vianney Parish is a vibrant Catholic Community steeped in the mercy of God, a theme that is apparent from the moment you step into our community. From the welcoming greeting to the décor reflecting God's mercy, we want to extend God's mercy to all. We are a vibrant Catholic Community on a Christ-centered journey. Led by the Holy Spirit and nurtured by the Eucharist, we proclaim and live the gospel message of love of God and love of neighbor. As a large parish in Mentor, we have just under 4,500 families. We are located next to Lake Catholic High School and have a great relationship with them as well as our parish school located on the Seminary property. Some of our most active ministries at the parish are: The 50+ Club, That Man is You Men's Ministry, Women's Ministry, Young Adult Ministry, Life Teen Youth Ministry, Children's Liturgy of the Word, PSR, and Vacation Bible School. We have created a welcoming culture for those who are interested in becoming Catholic with our vibrant OCIA ministry welcoming 15+ each year. We also host a parish festival every July that is a wonderful family friendly time with activities for all ages. We have wonderful and welcoming staff that all assist in the running of our ministries and many volunteers.

### **St. Joseph, Avon Lake**

As One Family in Christ, Anchored in the Lord, we at St. Joseph strive to form God's people with the Heart and Habits of Missionary Discipleship and to grow in faith, justice, love and service to others. We have a Preschool through Grade 8 school with over 300 students and a PSR Sunday School program of over 350 students that is an integral part of the mission of the Parish, where we form and empower compassionate young people to become missionary disciples who are the hands, heart, and voice of Christ.

We are a relatively young parish with over 6000 individuals making up over 2100 families. We have recently taken a more focused 2-pronged approach to adult ministry through (1) forming and equipping lay people to live out their personal apostolate in the world through the Evangelical Catholic *Reach More* program and (2) sending lay adults to the Ignatian Spirituality Institute to become certified as lay spiritual directors. Our hospitality is noted by those who visit and starts with our Pastor, Fr. Ron Wearsch who was a chef and banquet facility director, and has flowed out through social events like our Fish Fry, monthly Breakfasts, and Saturday Dinners.

Those who minister here are immersed in a parish culture committed to intentional discipleship, evangelization, and joyful service, all Anchored in the Lord!

### **St. Mary Parish, Hudson**

Following the example of Mary the Mother of Jesus, Saint Mary Parish ministers to the community of Hudson, Ohio by inviting each individual to seek relationship with Christ, sanctify self, and serve others in humility. The parish was established in 1860 and has outgrown its location twice, rebuilt and renovated its current building twice, and has grown to +3,200 families. Since the 1990's, Saint Mary has been known for its commitment to youth through the Life Teen program and the fostering of religious and priestly vocations. Saint Mary fosters Catholic identity through age-appropriate catechesis with robust formation programs for people of all ages. The parish also values outreach to the local community (through an active St. Vincent DePaul Society), the greater Akron area (through the Peter Maurin Center, and the Saint Bernard-Saint Mary Parish partnership) and globally (through relationship with a parish-school in Karangazi, Rwanda).

### **St. Sebastian Parish, Akron**

With over 1,800 families in our parish, over 400 students (preschool to 8th grade), and a wide range of active ministries, we are a faith-filled, welcoming community dedicated to worship, service, and spiritual growth. In addition to our school, we offer other programs for children, including PSR, VBS and CYO Athletics. For adults, we offer regular faith formation series as well as Alpha. Our youth ministry for both middle and high school is in a rebuilding stage. We are currently looking to hire a full time youth minister and envision opportunities for interns to help as well. In addition to the parish ministries, we have the St. Sebastian Parish Foundation and the St. Sebastian Academy of Culture and Arts. Under the leadership of our current pastor, The Very Rev. Fr. John Valencheck, St. Sebastian Parish strives to be a beacon of truth, goodness, and beauty. Together with our dedicated parishioners, Fr. Valencheck continues to carry this legacy forward with pastoral care and vision.