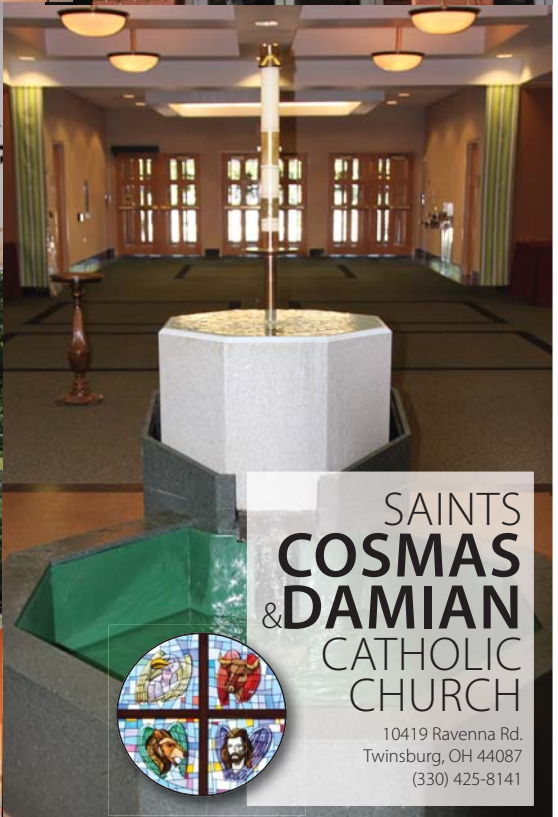




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## **Ss. Cosmas & Damian Parish**

10439 Ravenna Road • Twinsburg, Ohio 44087

(330) 425-8141

[www.sscosmas-damian.org](http://www.sscosmas-damian.org)

Parish Established: June 7, 1963

New Church Built: February 8, 2002

*Dedication Ceremony: April 21, 2002*

## **Parish Directory & Ministry Catalog**

Fr. Michael Stalla, Pastor

Deacon Ed Chernick, Jr., Pastoral Associate

Mrs. Darlene Bednarz, Pastoral Minister

Mrs. Joni Smith, Pastoral Minister

The Church family of Ss. Cosmas & Damian welcomes you!

***We are a family of believers, rooted in the Eucharist and called by God to a life of discipleship.*** Canonically formed on June 7, 1963, Bishop Edward Hoban called the communities of Twinsburg and Twinsburg Township to come together under the patronage of Ss. Cosmas & Damian, early century doctors and martyrs. To be formed as servants by prayer, worship and service to God and one another. Today we number about 1500 households and reach further out into the communities of Aurora, Hudson, Solon, Macedonia, and Northfield.

Our ***mission*** as baptized members of God's family calls us to be formed in and to celebrate our faith, to care for one another and to reach out in witness of our faith, hope and love. Our ***ministry*** is in caring for others, proclaiming the Good News and by being joined in common bonds to share the task of discipleship. And our ***responsibility*** is to share ourselves by using our time, talents and treasure wisely and wonderfully for the benefit of all God's people. ***Stewardship*** is God's gift and we are the recipients of God's many blessings daily, so in turn we must return these as faithful followers.

This **Directory and Ministry Catalog** has been prepared to guide you into ways of service in the church. We want you to know God, love God and serve God better by being faithful disciples. But before you jump right in, there is a ***Gifts Assessment Survey*** to guide you to find your spiritual gifts. Once discovered they will lead you into service and ministry. In other words, to help you make a good decision about how best to become involved in our church. The ***Survey*** should take about twenty minutes and it is a great value. So I encourage you to make the time, see the talents you possess and let them become a treasure trove of service to God and one another.

Thank you and a very warm welcome to each of you!

# Parish Office Phone Directory

**Parish Center and Business Office 330-425-8141**

**Parish Fax Line 330-405-2947**

Pastor .....	420 .....	Fr. Michael Stalla FrMichael@sscosmas-damian.org
Pastoral Associate .....	429 .....	Deacon Ed Chernick ed@sscosmas-damian.org
Pastoral Minister .....	425 .....	Mrs. Darlene Bednarz darlene @sscosmas-damian.org
Pastoral Minister .....	348 .....	Mrs. Joni Smith joni@sscosmas-damian.org
Calendar Secretary .....	415 .....	Mrs. Adrienne Radtke adrienne@sscosmas-damian.org
Contribution Secretary .....	428 .....	Mrs. Eileen Nunney eileen@sscosmas-damian.org
Faith Formation Secretary .....	615 .....	Mrs. Camille Horvath camille@sscosmas-damian.org
Music Director .....	430 .....	Mr. Wally Bednarz wallybednarz@gmail.com
Maintenance .....	520 .....	Mrs. Cindy Drake cindy@sscosmas-damian.org

## What are my gifts?

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Are you not sure how your everyday talents would work best in the church?

Here are 60 questions that you can answer that would help YOU find your Spiritual gifts.

### **Discernment of Gifts Instructions**

For each of the questions, circle the number that corresponds with the response that most closely matches how you perceive yourself.

- 4, consistently true
- 3, frequently true
- 2, occasionally true
- 1, infrequently true
- 0, rarely true

You might also ask a person who is close to you to score the inventory with, and for you. Their perception of your strengths may be useful in identifying the Gifts with which you have been truly blessed. After responding to each questions, turn to the scoring grid on page 12 to analyze your results.

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1. When presented a goal, I immediately think of steps that need to be taken in order to achieve the desired results. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
2. I express myself through artistic means. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
3. My faith requires me to seek out God's will and purpose in all circumstances that arise in my life. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
4. I am able to convey the Gospel message to non-believers in ways that they are able to easily understand. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
5. I am moved by those who through conflict or sorrow are wavering in faith. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
6. I am certain of the spirit's presence in my life and the lives of others. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
7. I am blessed by god each day and gladly respond to these blessings by giving liberally of my time and money. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
8. I enjoy meeting new people and becoming acquainted with them. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
9. I know that God hears and responds to my daily prayers. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
10. I feel compelled to learn as much as I can about the Bible and faith. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
11. I am a take charge person. When others follow my direction, the goal or task will be completed. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
12. When I see a person in need, I am moved to assist them. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
13. I love to sing and enjoy inspiring others through song. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
14. I find joy and express myself by playing a musical instrumen 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
15. I am motivated to provide spiritual leadership to those who are on a faith journey. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
16. I like working behind the scenes to ensure projects are successful. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
17. I enjoy working with my hands in a trade or skill that requires considerable experience to perfect. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
18. My great joy is to communicate biblical truth in such a way that it becomes real and understood by others. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
19. When a challenge is presented, I am usually able to identify an appropriate solution. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
20. I am able to take a thought or idea and put it into a clear and inspiring written form. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
21. I enjoy organizing thoughts, ideas, hopes and dreams into a specific plan of action. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0



22. I can translate into artistic form what I first see in my imagination.  
4, 3, 2, 1, 0
23. I have assisted others as they sought to discern whether or not their personal decisions were helpful and in accord with God's will for their lives.  
4, 3, 2, 1, 0
24. I enjoy being with non-believers and like having the opportunity to encourage them to faith and commitment  
4, 3, 2, 1, 0
25. When I know someone is facing a crisis, I feel compelled to provide support and care.  
4, 3, 2, 1, 0
26. My trust in the Spirit's presence, when I encounter times of personal crisis, is a source of strength for others.  
4, 3, 2, 1, 0
27. I manage my time and money so that I am able to give much of it to the work of the church or other organizations.  
4, 3, 2, 1, 0
28. I am often asked to open my home for small group gatherings or social occasions.  
4, 3, 2, 1, 0
29. I often become so absorbed in my prayer life that the door bell or phone can ring and I will not hear it.  
4, 3, 2, 1, 0
30. Not one day would be complete without biblical study and thought.  
4, 3, 2, 1, 0
31. When I am in a group, others will often look to me for direction.  
4, 3, 2, 1, 0
32. I feel an urgency to provide housing for the homeless, food for the starving, comfort for those in distress.  
4, 3, 2, 1, 0
33. I have sung before groups and felt a real sense of God's presence.  
4, 3, 2, 1, 0
34. By my playing a musical instrument, inspiration has been provided for both myself and others.  
4, 3, 2, 1, 0
35. I have responsibility for providing spiritual guidance to an individual believer or group of believers.  
4, 3, 2, 1, 0
36. People tell me that without my willingness to do the unnoticed jobs; their work would be more difficult.  
4, 3, 2, 1, 0
37. I am good at building, repairing, or restoring things and find satisfaction in doing so.  
4, 3, 2, 1, 0
38. I want to express my faith by assisting others to discover the truths contained in the Bible.  
4, 3, 2, 1, 0
39. People come to me for help in applying Christian faith and values to personal situations.  
4, 3, 2, 1, 0
40. I often feel moved to write about my thoughts and feelings so others may benefit from them.  
4, 3, 2, 1, 0
-

41. I have been successful in organizing, directing, and motivating people to achieve a goal. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
42. My artistic work has given spiritual strength to both believer and non-believer 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
43. In the parish, I am often asked if a direction being discussed is in accord with God's will and purpose 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
44. I do not find it difficult to share what Jesus means to me with non-believers. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
45. Those who are struggling with life questions have come to me for guidance and help. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
46. I can see great things happening in my parish and am not derailed by the pessimism of others. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
47. When I receive money unexpectedly, one of my first thoughts is to share this Gift through the church. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
48. I enjoy welcoming guests and helping them feel at ease. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
49. Believers have asked me to pray for healing in their lives, and have evidenced God's healing power. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
50. My study of the Bible has proven helpful to others in their faith journey. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
51. People have said they like to work with me because the task will be successfully completed. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
52. People have been surprised by how at ease I am while working with those who are suffering in mind, body or spirit 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
53. I am grateful and humbled that my singing has provided inspiration and hope for others on their faith journey. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
54. Others have told me they were moved by my playing a musical instrument. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
55. People have come to me for spiritual help and it has developed into a long-term relationship. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
56. When I turn out the lights, take tables down, work in the kitchen or put chairs away, I feel that I have served the Lord. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
57. My knowledge of building, maintenance or repair has been a special value to the church and others. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
58. Students have told me that I can take the most difficult idea or concept and make it understandable. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
59. When direction is needed at work or in the parish, I am generally asked for my opinion. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
60. My written work has been helpful to others in understanding life's truths. 4, 3, 2, 1, 0
-





**Kim & John Kapustik**  
*Parishioner*

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**You FINISHED, now How to Score it!**

For each set of three questions, fill in the number on the lines below, either 1, 2, 3, 4, or 0 that you answered for each question. Then add them together and fill that number in on the last line.

Your strongest Gift(s) will generally have a total score of “7” or more. If you have more than one Gift with a total of 7 or more, then all those Gifts can be referred to as your “Gift cluster”. Notice how each Gift within a Cluster has the potential to complement and support another.

*Example: if you circled 2 for question 1, circled 4 for question 21, and circled 3 for 41. You would have a total of 9 for Administration. This would be one of your Strongest Gifts.*

This is NOT a scientific study, but an inventory designed to assist you to begin YOUR journey toward Spiritual Gift discovery. Your perceptions will be validated by others and confirmed through prayer and by their use over time.

Some of Ss. Cosmas & Damian’s ministries are listed to give you an idea of the types of talents that are used in some of the ministries. These gifts can also be applied at home with family, at work with colleagues, and in the community with friends.

**Administrative:** the Gift that enables a believer to formulate, direct and carry out plans necessary to fulfill a purpose.

\_\_\_ **Questions 1, 21, 41** \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ =

**Parish Council, Finance Council, Catechetical Leader, Vacation Bible School Coordinator**

**Artistry:** the Gift that gives the believer the skill of creating artistic expressions that produce a spiritual response of strength and inspiration.

\_\_\_ **Questions 2, 22, 42** \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ =

**Arts and Environment, Vacation Bible School Volunteer**

**Discernment:** the Gift that motivates a believer to seek God’s will and purpose and apply that understanding to individual and congregational situations.

\_\_\_ **Questions 3, 23, 43** \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ =

**Parish Council, Social Justice Ministries**

**Evangelism:** the Gift that moves believers to reach nonbelievers in such a way that they are baptized and become active members of the Christian community.

\_\_\_ **Questions 4, 24, 44** \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ =

**New Parishioner Welcome & Orientations, Stewardship, RCIA**

**Exhortation:** the Gift that moves the believer to reach out with Christian love and presence to people in personal conflict facing a spiritual void.

\_\_\_ **Questions 5, 25, 45** \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ =

### **Home Bound Ministers, Social Justice Ministries**

**Faith:** the Gift that gives a believer the eyes to see the Spirit at work and the ability to trust the Spirit's leading without indication of where it all might lead.

\_\_\_ **Questions 6, 26, 46** \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ =

### **Parish Council, Stewardship, Teacher, Bible Study**

**Giving:** the Gift that enables a believer to recognize God's blessings and to respond to those blessings by generously and sacrificially giving of one's resources.

\_\_\_ **Questions 7, 27, 47** \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ =

### **Stewardship, Nite at the Races, Night under the Stars**

**Hospitality:** the Gift that causes a believer to joyfully welcome and receive guests and those in need of food and lodging.

\_\_\_ **Questions 8, 28, 48** \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ =

### **Greeter, Usher, New Parishioner Welcome & Orientation**

**Intercession:** the Gift that enables a believer to pray with the certainty that prayer is heard and when requests are made, answers will come.

\_\_\_ **Questions 9, 29, 49** \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ =

### **Centering Prayer, Charismatic Prayer Group, Marian Prayer Cenacle, Perpetual Adoration, Men's Fellowship**

**Knowledge:** the Gift that drives a person to learn, analyze and uncover new insights with regard to the Bible and faith.

\_\_\_ **Questions 10, 30, 50** \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ =

### **Parish Council, Adult Education, Faith Formation**

**Leadership:** the Gift that gives a believer the confidence to step forward, give direction and provide motivation to fulfill a dream to complete a task.

\_\_\_ **Questions 11, 31, 51** \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ =

### **Chairperson (any ministry), Vacation Bible School Coordinator, Parish Council, Catechetical Leader**

**Mercy:** the Gift that motivates a believer to feel deeply for those in physical, spiritual or emotional need and then act to meet that need.

\_\_\_ **Questions 12, 32, 52** \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ =

### **Homebound Ministers, Social Justice Ministries**

**Music-Vocal:** the Gift that gives a believer the capability and opportunity to present personal witness and inspiration to others through singing.

\_\_\_ **Questions 13, 33, 53** \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ =

**Parish Choir, Lazarus Choir, Children's Choir, Instrumentalist, Cantors**

**Music-Instrumental:** the Gift that inspires a believer to express personal faith and provide inspiration and comfort through the playing of a musical instrument.

\_\_\_ **Questions 14, 34, 54** \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ =

**Instrumentalists**

**Pastoring** (Shepherding): the Gift that gives a believer the confidence, capability and compassion to provide spiritual leadership and direction for individuals or groups of believers.

\_\_\_ **Questions 15, 35, 55** \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ =

**Sacramental Sponsors, New Parishioner, Vacation Bible School**

**Service:** the Gift that enables a believer to work gladly behind the scenes in order to see God's work is fulfilled.

\_\_\_ **Questions 16, 36, 56** \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ =

**GOE, Enhancement People, Participating People, Altar Servers, Sacristan, Martha's**

**Skilled Craft:** the Gift that enables a believer to create, build maintain or repair items used within the church.

\_\_\_ **Questions 17, 37, 57** \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ =

**Art & Environment, Martha's**

**Teaching:** the Gift that enables a believer to communicate a personal understanding of the Bible and faith in such a way that it becomes clear and understood by others.

\_\_\_ **Questions 18, 38, 58** \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ =

**Children's Liturgy of the Word, Faith Formation, GOE, Adult Education, Sunday Morning Preschool, Vacation Bible School, Youth Ministry**

**Wisdom:** the Gift that allows the believer to sort through opinions, facts and thoughts in order to determine what solution would be best for the individual believer or the community of believers.

\_\_\_ **Questions 19, 39, 59** \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ =

**Parish Council**

**Writing:** the Gift that gives a believer the ability to express truth in a written form; a form that can edify, instruct and strengthen the community of believers.

\_\_\_ **Questions 20, 40, 60** \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ + \_\_\_ =

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Based on the inventory written by Neal Boese and Patricia Haller,  
Produced by the Division for Congregational Ministries, ELCA.

# **An Administrative People –**

Activities designed to make DECISIONS

## **Finance Council**

**Contact: Father Michael Stalla (330) 425-8141 ext. 420**

Every Parish of the Diocese of Cleveland is to have a Parish Finance Council. The Council is a consultative body which makes recommendations to the Pastor and is to aid the Pastor in the administration of parish goods. Council members are appointed by the pastor to a limited term; represent various backgrounds and work together to develop cooperative relationships with the Parish Pastoral Council and other groups in the parish.

## **Parish Pastoral Council**

**Contact: Father Michael Stalla (330) 425-8141 ext. 420**

Every parish of the Diocese of Cleveland is to have a Parish Pastoral council. The Council is a consultative body which makes recommendations to the Pastor. The purpose of the Parish Pastoral Council is to promote spiritual growth of the parish community and to plan ways for the parish to carry out the mission of the Church. Members represent the interests and pastoral needs of the parish community and work with existing parish groups and forms new groups as needed to promote the spiritual growth of the parish and foster the mission of the church.

## A Caring People –

Activities designed to provide HELP

### A Parish Outreach

#### Advent Giving Tree



#### Contact: Parish Office

Through the annual Advent Giving Tree Project, our parish community extends the lavish love of God, to the hearts and lives of many who are in need. The project provides parishioners with the opportunity to assist with gifts, toys, clothing and many other necessary personal items for people served by a variety of ministries and agencies in our area. Meetings are seasonal, and day of volunteers are always needed.

#### Bereavement

##### Contact: Darlene Bednarz (330) 425-8141 ext. 425

The Bereavement group's mission is to serve all people who have experienced the death of a loved one. The goal is to offer spiritual support and the healing comfort of God to all who mourn a loss through death. The vision is to offer this support by a staff member meeting with families to plan the funeral liturgy, through support the wake service by the attendance of members from the parish, through the church rituals of the wake service and funeral mass or service assisted by a funeral choir. Ongoing support includes follow ups with family members through mailings or telephone calls, a six-week support group, and a Mass of Remembrance to be held in November.

#### Emergency Assistance

##### Contact: (330) 425-8141 ext. 710

The Parish Emergency Assistance helps the poor and needy of our community. This includes Twinsburg, Twinsburg Township, and part of Reminderville. We help with emergency food from our well stocked pantry, meat and juice from our freezer, plus gift cards as needed. Financial assistance is available for utility payments, rent, etc. Information about government programs and agency services is given to clients for outside help. Emergency Assistance is made possible through the charitable contributions of others. This includes four envelope collections annually, food baskets in the church and the post office food drive each year in May. Members are required to attend the two planning meetings each month, and to work directly with the Emergency Assistance line, for one week every other month.

## A Community Outreach

#### Rosary Ministry

##### Contact: Camille Horvath (330) 425-8141 ext. 615

##### Elizabeth Innocenzi (330) 467-2896

Ministry of service where the rosary is prayed with residents of Heartland and Grande Village Wednesday afternoons at 1:00 pm. The purpose of this devotion is to unite prayer support and Christian friendship for those who are missing the opportunity with their parish community.



### **Pro-life**

**Contact: Joe & Pam Pollack (330) 425-4081**

Members encourage the sanctity of life at every stage of human development, through fundraisers for local pro-life groups and crisis pregnancy services. Responsibilities include encouragement of parish-wide prayers for life and helping to raise awareness of the needs of the unborn, elderly and disabled. An Annual Right to Life Prayer Vigil is celebrated on the first Tuesday of October on the front lawn of the Church, weather permitting.

### **Thea Bowman Center**

**Contact: Carol Twigger (330) 425-7688**

The Thea Bowman Center is a community outreach center serving the people of the Mount Pleasant area of Cleveland. It is supported through a partner relationship with local suburban churches. Volunteers from Ss. Cosmas and Damian provide and serve one meal a month for six months at the Center.

## **A Celebrating People –**

Activities designed to contribute to the LITURGY

### **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

**Contact: Darlene Bednarz (330) 425-8141 ext. 425**

Ministers administer Christ's body and blood to the assembly. A Diocesan class must be attended, and certification must be obtained before being added to the rotation. Mass preferences are taken into consideration during scheduling.

### **Homebound Ministers**

**Contact: Carol Twigger (330) 425-7688**

Teams of Certified Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion take the Eucharist to homebound parishioners, the Senior's Apartments, Grande Village and Legacy Place. This Ministry enables home-bound and infirmed Catholics in Twinsburg to be joined in the celebration of Mass.

### **Altar Servers**


**Contact: Darlene Bednarz**

All youth of the parish who are in the fourth grade and above are invited to join the Ministry of Acolyte. This is a community service activity which requires one to assist the celebrant during Mass. Training sessions are held periodically throughout the year.

### **Lectors/Commentators**


**Contact: Darlene Bednarz (330) 425-8141 ext. 425**

Lectors assist in the celebrations of the Liturgy by the proclamation of the Readings. Commentators welcome and greet the assembly as well as make the weekly announcements. Clear reading voice and good proclamation skills are important to help the assembly hear and apply the Word of God in their own lives, and deepen their relationship with God.



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## **Sacristan**

**Contact: Deacon Ed Chernick (330) 425-8141 ext. 429**

This ministry consists of 3-12 individuals who would be responsible for setting and cleaning up of the worship space before weekend Masses. The individual would need to arrive an hour before the beginning of Mass and set-up the Eucharist vessels, gifts, credence table and lighting of the alter candles. People would be scheduled according to their Mass preference time and it would either be a weekly or monthly commitment based on the number of participants in the ministry.

## **Ushers**

**Contact: John Pfeifer (330) 487-0231**

The mission of the Usher in the Eucharistic Celebrations is to assist and serve the worshipping community with joy, dependability, kindness and reverence. Mass preference will be taken into consideration during scheduling.

## **Greeters**

**Contact: John Pfeifer (330) 487-0231**

Greeters are responsible for establishing that “first impression” for those entering God’s house. Their ministering abilities in welcoming parishioners and visitors into church creates a warm sense of personal worth in those they greet and for all prayerful activity to follow.

## **Children’s Liturgy of the Word**

**Contact: Karen Labbe (330) 425-4234**

**[kmavnlabbe@roadrunner.com](mailto:kmavnlabbe@roadrunner.com)**

Children’s Liturgy is celebrated on Sunday mornings, during the 11:00 Mass. It delivers the same readings but in easier to understand words. We do not give a sermon, however the children are asked to share what they heard. This is designed for children age 6-10; younger children are welcome when accompanied by an older sibling.

## **Art & Environment**

**Contact: Camille Horvath (330) 425-8141 ext. 615**

People of service are needed to help in the preparing and decorating of the Church, Gathering Area and Chapel for the liturgical times of the year: Advent and Christmas, Lent, Holy Week and Easter, Summer, Fall and Winter Ordinary Time, and other special feasts of the Church. Individuals gifted in the areas of sewing and design as well as those who can water plants, iron, climb ladders, clean, maintain storage rooms and inventory seasonal items are desired. This seasonal effort is opportune for those unable to commit to a stringent schedule, but are still willing to give of their time and talent.

## **Liturgy Planning Committee**

**Contact: Darlene Bednarz (330) 425-8141 ext. 425**

Write intercessions and the Greeting for each Mass. Look at the upcoming season, and decide on a goal and theme. Theme needs to be handed to the Arts & Environment and Music Ministries so that all aspects of the Mass are tied together. There are also meetings at the conclusion of the season to evaluate on effectiveness and to document changes needed for the next season.

## A Musical People

### **Cantors**

**Contact: Wally Bednarz (330) 425-8141 ext. 430**

Cantors are our leaders of song in celebration at weekend Masses and at special seasonal and holiday celebrations. Cantors are also members of parish choirs. Extra practice schedules will be arranged at convenient times.

### **Instrumentalists & Musicians**

**Contact: Wally Bednarz (330) 425-8141 ext. 430**

Our Instrumentalists & Musicians minister to the congregation through the gift of music. This ministry includes all classical instruments as well as modern guitars, drums, etc. This ministry is a great way to become more involved in the liturgy and to assist our parish community in liturgical worship. If you are competent on any instrument and are interested in playing during our liturgical celebrations and during special occasions, please join us.

### **Lazarus Choir**

**Contact: Darlene Bednarz (330) 425-8141 ext. 425**

This is a rewarding choir that ministers to families in their time of need. If you are available to attend morning funeral liturgies, you are invited to join this choir. Our members have big hearts and are dedicated to ministering to our grieving brothers and sisters during funeral liturgies.

### **Parish Choir**

**Contact: Wally Bednarz (330) 425-8141 ext. 430**

Anyone who is in the 7th grade or older is welcome to join the Parish Choir. Practice is Thursday, 7:00-8:30 pm, September-May, in the church. The Parish Choir takes part in the liturgy as well as special Masses during Holy Week, Easter, and Christmas and throughout the rest of the year. Reading music is not a prerequisite to join this enthusiastic choir.

## An Enhancement People –

Activities designed to IMPROVE

### **Night under the Stars**

**Contact: Parish Office**

Night under the Stars is the one major fundraiser of our parish. It consists of selling cash lottery tickets, planning a parish-wide pasta dinner, and other fundraising efforts. This dinner is in celebration of our parish feast day – September 26. Committee members are asked to make decisions about all aspects of the event, sell tickets for six weeks before the event at Masses, and get businesses to donate prizes in order to help offset the cost of the event. Members are also asked to lead a group of volunteers in a specific area during the event. Meetings are once a month, June-September.

## **Nite At The Races**

### **Contact: Parish Office**

Nite at the Races is an evening filled with dinner, dancing and horse betting on past taped races. We raise money to contribute to capital improvement projects. This event this year takes place on March 5th. The planning committee makes all the decisions about the event, including menu, disc jockey, beverages, as well as other means of raising funds. Committee members also gather prizes from businesses to help decrease the cost of the event. Members also are asked to sell tickets at Masses before the event. Meetings are once on Tuesdays in November thru March.

## **An Evangelizing People –**

Activities designed to share the GOOD NEWS

### **New Parishioner Welcome & Orientations**

#### **Contact: Deacon Ed Chernick (330) 425-8141 ext. 429**

A presentation and registration for all new parishioners is intended to provide new members an opportunity to meet some of the parish staff, organization officers, and ministry leaders. It also gives us the opportunity to meet and welcome you! We hope to present our parish community in a manner that will give new parishioners an eagerness to become active members of the parish community. This will also complete the registration of the new members. Meetings are the first Sunday of the month from noon until 1:00 pm in the Parish Center.

### **Stewardship**

#### **Contact: Parish Office**

### **EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer)**

Program designed to help parishioners meet their obligation to return graciously to God what God has generously given to us. For more information, contact Deacon Ed Chernick (330) 425-8141 ext. 429.



## **A Participating People –**

Activities designed to JOIN

### **Club 55+**

#### **Contact: Jim Smith (330) 425-2896**

Senior members (over the age 55) of our parish are encouraged to join the interesting and exciting group. Club 55+ fosters good relations and fellowship of its members and provides diverse activities (travel, programs and entertainment) in a Christian environment. Meetings are the second Wednesday of every month.

## Parish Benefactors

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### **Cub Scouts – Pack 677**

**Contact: Charter Rep., Renee Harsa (440) 655-1160**

**Cub Master, Craig Mizer (330) 963-1097**

Scouting concentrates on character development, physical fitness and citizenship awareness. Scouting offers boys from first grade to fifth grade the opportunity to enjoy fun activities, camps, field trips, and experience quality time with a parent. Scouting gives young boys the hands-on experience in making good decisions, leadership and community interaction. Scouts will work and play in groups of 5-6 boys (known as a den) that will build teamwork and social skills. All dens join together to form the Pack. Pack events are scheduled once a month on a weekend, den meetings are held mid-week, and scheduled by the den leader.

### **Holy Name Society**

**Contact: Rich Mach (330) 425-9323**

An organization for the men of the Parish who are 18 years of age and older, it consists of social and spiritual, as well as service activities. All men of the Parish are invited and encouraged to attend. Meetings are monthly on the fourth Wednesday from 6:30 pm-8:30 pm.

### **Knights of Columbus**

**Contact: Rich Kurowski (330) 487-0833**

The Knights of Columbus is a lay Catholic family fraternal service organization. Membership in the Knights of Columbus is open to all practical Catholic men in communion with Holy See, age eighteen and above. The term practical Catholic implies that a person accepts and abides by the Commandments of God and the precepts and tenets of the Catholic Church.

It was founded in 1882, by Father Michael J. McGiveny, in New Haven, Connecticut. He brought together a group of laymen with whom he discussed his dream for a Catholic fraternal benefit society. It not only would assist widow and orphans of deceased members through its life insurance program, but also would boost members' sense of pride in their Catholic religion.

Our Council #11831 consists of parishioners from SS. Cosmas and Damian and Our Lady of Guadalupe parishes. We meet on the second Wednesday evening at Our Lady of Guadalupe.

### **Marthas**

**Contact: Linda Chernick (216) 906-0707 – Monday evening  
Louise Flower (330) 425-7885 - Thursday morning**

Volunteers help to keep the church looking its best, by cleaning, straightening and watering the live plants throughout the church. Volunteers meet Monday evenings from 6:00-7:00 pm, also on Thursday mornings 9:00-10:00 am.



### **Men's Fellowship**

#### **Contact: Parish Office**

Meetings are on Tuesday evenings from 8:00-9:00 pm for prayer, sharing of Scripture, and fellowship in the Chapel. The rosary is prayed at 7:00 pm.

### **Women's Group**

#### **Contact: Denise Turle (330) 425-9658**

The purpose of the Women's Group is to promote social and spiritual welfare for women of the parish through fellowship and service. All women are welcomed to join us monthly on the 3rd Wednesday at 6:30 pm in Twinhaven.



## **A Prayerful People –**

Activities designed to bring us closer to GOD

### **Centering Prayer Group**

#### **Contact: Christine and Steve Gotch (330) 405-9381**

You're invited: Learn more about the practice of Christian meditation called centering prayer, and make it part of your life. When you meditate in silence you become more and more open to the presence and action of God, with the power to transform each person and the whole world.

The Centering Prayer Group meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm in the Parish Center. The more you learn to set aside your everyday concerns and "center", the more it changes your life, because it changes you. Over time the impact of centering prayer is profound, but the guidelines are simple and it is open to all. Join us as the ancient Christian practice of centering prayer is renewed around the world.

### **Charismatic Prayer Group**

#### **Contact: Gerald Wrobel (330) 425-2678**

As reflected in the donation of the stained glass window above our altar, for over 30 years we have gathered to deepen our relationship with Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit. We welcome members not only from our parish but from surrounding parishes to join together to hear the Word of God through teaching, prophecy, vibrant music and praise. Our mission is to teach more about the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and support a Charismatic experience that will deepen your relationship with God. Please join us Sunday evenings at 7:00 pm in the church.

### **Marian Prayer Cenacle**

#### **Contact: Terri Kinsella (330) 405-2773**

Prayer format included recitation of the rosary, prayers from the Cenacle Prayer Book, reflections from Mary to us, her children. Meetings are the 2nd and 4th Mondays from 7:00-8:00 pm.

### **Perpetual Adoration**

**Contact: Carol Twigger (330) 425-7688**

**Pam Pollack (330) 425-4081**

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration is a constant vigil of prayer in the presence of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. It is necessary for one to commit to a specific hour of weekly prayer to maintain presence in the Adoration Chapel at all times.

### **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

**Contact: Camille Horvath (330) 425-8141 ext. 615**

Give the comfort of a shawl created with prayer and devotion to someone in need of a tangible reminder of God's loving embrace. Become part of a ministry united in prayer, reaching out to others to bring solace and comfort at a time when its is needed most. Those who can crochet and knit are invited to join in; if you cannot crochet or knit, lessons will be provided. Opportunities exist elsewhere as well...purchasing, packaging, and delivery. Gatherings occur twice monthly on Monday mornings and Tuesday evenings. Come, be the hands of Christ to one another.

## **A Sacramental People –**

Activities designed to prepare for CELEBRATION

### **Baptism**

**Contact: Deacon Ed Chernick (330) 425-8141 ext. 429**

The first Sacrament of Initiation. Baptisms are celebrated on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month at 12:30 pm. Per diocesan requirements, a preparation class must be attended by the couple before the baptism of their first child. The preparation class is held on the 3rd Tuesday every other month 7:00-8:00 pm in the Parish Center.

### **First Eucharist/First Reconciliation**

**Contact: Joni Smith (330)425-8141 ext. 348**

Preparation for this Sacrament of Healing and Eucharist engages parents and children who are 7 years old and in the second year of faith formation, to celebrate and receive the sacraments not just once but as a lifelong faith practice. Preparation takes place outside of school and other faith formation events, happening in a parish and family-based setting. First Reconciliations is typically celebrated in the winter season. First Eucharist is celebrated on a Sunday after Easter.

### **Confirmation**

**Contact: Joni Smith (330)425-8141 ext. 348**

The Confirmation Sacramental Preparations program is intended for students in the 9th grade to help them grow in faith and readiness for the reception of this final Sacrament of Initiation in the Church. This Confirmation class fulfills the requirement of the Diocese of Cleveland. Older teens that have not yet been confirmed are encouraged to participate in the formation process, so as to be confirmed as soon as possible.

### **Pre-Cana**

**Contact: Deacon Ed and Linda Chernick (330) 425-8141 ext. 429**

A once a year event that takes place the Sunday before Palm Sunday that fulfills the diocesan requirement for marriage for engaged couples of the parish, as well as surrounding parishes. Team members meet for 10 weeks at 7:30 pm on Fridays for 90 minutes, to prepare and plan for the event.

### **Marriage Ministry**

**Contact: Deacon Ed and Linda Chernick (330) 425-8141 ext. 429**

The marriage ministry focuses on marriage as a sacrament, helping couples strengthen their relationship by placing God at the center of their marriage. The ministry allows married couples opportunities to grow and share as couples within the ministry and the community. The team encourages additional couples to join in preparation and presentation of marriage enrichment programs.

### **RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)**

**Contact: Darlene Bednarz (330)425-8141 ext. 425**

The process by which an individual becomes Catholic is known as the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). Open to those with a desire to become Catholic or catechized in the faith. Sponsors are also needed to stand and study with those inquiring about the faith. RCIA is an ongoing process. Children who are of the age of 7 and not baptized should be accompanied by a parent as they are welcomed into the faith.

## **A Teaching People –**

Activities designed to form our FAITH

All parishes in the Diocese of Cleveland are expected to offer a comprehensive and systematic catechetical program for elementary age children (grades 1 through 8) as well as lifelong catechesis for adults. This is crucial because of the fundamental importance of catechesis in the life of the parish, as leadership and all adult members strive to pass on a knowledge of and appreciation for the Catholic faith. This is what Ss. Cosmas & Damian offers:

### **Pre-K/Kindergarten**

#### **Faith Formation**

**Contact: Joni Smith (330) 425-8141 ext. 348**

Children ages 4 through Kindergarten discover and experience the wonders of God and God's love through stories, lessons, activities, songs, crafts and prayers. Through the weekly faith themes the children discover God's love and what it means to live a life of faith. Classes are held Sunday Mornings, September through May, 9:30-10:45. Pre-registration is required as class size is limited.

### **Structured Classroom Faith Formation**

**Contact: Joni Smith (330) 425-8141 ext. 348**

The primary right and responsibility for the religious education and spiritual formation of children is that of the parents (*Council of Vatican II*). In addition to intergenerational events and parental instruction of their children in the faith, all youth from grades 1-12, should be either participating in the parish Faith Formation program or attending a Catholic school. Faith Formation classes (*formally known as PSR*), meet weekly on either Saturday or Sunday mornings, from September through May.

### **Home School Faith Formation**

**Contact: Joni Smith (330) 425-8141 ext. 348**

As the primary teachers of the faith for their children (National Directory of Catechesis, p. 234) parents provide catechesis for their children in their home. The Diocese of Cleveland instructs that the parents meet regularly with their children for a systematic and comprehensive study of Catholic beliefs and traditions. A grade level text series chosen by the parish from the United States Catholic Conference of Bishop's approved listing of parish student texts is used to determine the curriculum and incorporation of instruction on Scripture and Tradition, liturgy and the liturgical year, creed, sacraments, commandments, moral life and prayer. Catechetical leaders support this model by providing orientation and training for parents. At prescribed intervals, parents meet with the Pastor and/or Catechetical leader to monitor the progress the family is making in catechizing their child/children. As parents continue to seek formation and growth in their personal faith and in their knowledge of Church doctrine and Scripture, the Office of Catechetical Services and this parish will offer programs and workshops in order to assist them. Families are strongly encouraged to attend the parish Generations of Faith sessions.

### **Youth Ministry (F.I.A.T.)**

**Contact: Joni Smith (330) 425-8141 ext. 348**

Youth Ministry, **F**aith **I**n **A**ction **T**eens, engages teens in their faith by helping them grow in their understanding of God, of themselves and their world, using catechesis, social and community-building events, retreats, field trips, service opportunities, prayer experiences and more. By learning and practicing discipleship, our young people become leaders themselves, helping to nourish the life of the parish and community through their faith and actions. This is open to students in grade 6-12.

### **Adult Faith Formation**

**Contact: Darlene Bednarz (330) 425-8141 ext. 425**

Adult Education opportunities are included in the Generations of Faith (GOF) events, as well as Bible Study and other faith formation events that are scheduled throughout the year. In age appropriate lessons, adults are challenged to grow in their faith and understanding of church doctrine, faith and morals, worship and sacraments, among many other topics. Presentations are made to connect biblical, scriptural and traditional elements of our faith with timely subjects and concerns. ALL are invited and encouraged to come and increase their knowledge and level of faith and understanding.

### **Intergenerational Events**

**Contact: Joni Smith (330) 425-8141 ext. 348**

Are for EVERYONE – single, married, children, youth, young adults, adults, seniors, living in families or alone, participating in parochial schools, public schools, home-school, or any and every demographic group. With deep roots in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the General Directory of Catechesis and the National Directory for Catechesis, the Intergenerational approach to *WHOLE COMMUNITY CATECHESIS* provides five opportunities each year for households of our parish to gather and grow in faith.

### **Vacation Bible School**

**Contact: Joni Smith (330) 425-8141 ext. 348**

Held annually early in June, Monday through Friday, 9:00 am–12:00 noon. Open to children age 4 to incoming 5th graders. Youth and adult volunteers coordinate and run the program. The children participate in a lesson, craft, snack, game and music each day as related to the Biblical theme of the annual program. Registration takes place in May; enrollment is limited.

## **An Imaginative People –**

Activities you need to CREATE

Is there a need that is not presently being met?

If you are interested in being the contact person for a ministry that you would like to create.

Contact Father Michael Stalla  
(330) 425-8141 ext. 420

Ss. Cosmas & Damian Business Office