

St. Michael Catholic Church, Kalida, Ohio - April 17, 2016

From the Desk of Fr. Mark

Hi, everyone.

Besides being Easter season, it is First Communion season. This weekend at St. John's, and on May 1 at St. Michael's, there will be young people dressed in their finest to say, "Amen" to the Lord. As a pastor, I smile because I see so many people smile because of their faith. Pope Francis talks about the joy of the Gospel. If there was a calendar day for that event, it would be First Communion Day.

I smile with the kids. For many of the children, they have spent the past years walking up with their parents to receive a blessing and not the bread of life. As they walk away, I hear the best comments that make me think and pray. "Why can't I have some?" "What does Jesus taste like?" Many a time I thought to myself that I don't want the child to have some. I want you to have it all. I want you to have the Lord. Take Him in, in the fullest of ways. Let Him fill you. May you hunger like you love Him, more and more. And what does He taste like? He is flavored with joy, peace, mercy and love.

I smile with the parents. Although it is hard to see that the children are growing up so fast, it is so good to see them grow up so well. There is a special joy to see the Baptismal promises made for their children come to life within them. Parents promise to hand on faith. Part of the child's "Amen" to the Body and Blood of Christ is the parents' "I do" at Baptism. There is a sense of pride and humility all at the same time. The innocence of their child receives the wonder of all humanity. God asks us to be part of Him. Their child is growing up and growing up holy. I love to watch the faces of parents.

I smile with everyone in church. Grandparents, godparents, neighbors, classmates and strangers all smile because of the day. First Communion Day is always a time when human and divine come together. There is always a human slip-up as children read, bring up offertory or walk funny, as heals are worn for the first time or ties become like nooses. The taste of wine always brings a smirk on a face of an eight year old. And yet the love of the Lord comes through, as the Body and Blood of the Lord is offered and received. Thoughts of one's own First Communion flood the memories. God is so good to us. He is so good to these children. All the time.

I smile because I think of my own First Communion. I was second in line, as I was the second shortest in my class. I remember receiving a statue of St. Joseph from my godfather. I remember a lamb cake. I remember Fr. Reidel. And now that I'm older, I remember much deeper. I do this in remembrance of Him, who is life itself. I smile. I'm in communion with children, parents and the Church. I am in communion with God. It is a day and a day of faith to smile about. Have a great day.

Fr. Mark

Habitat for Humanity Volunteers Needed

We're looking for volunteers for the Apostle Build. 21 churches in Putnam County are joining to help with this build. Forms are in the elevator entrance of church. Deadline is immediately after church, this Sunday, April 17. Thanks!

First Communion is Sunday, May 1

Practice is on Wednesday, April 27, at 7:00 p.m. We will meet in the church basement to line up. First Communion is Sunday, May 1, at the 11:00 a.m. Mass.

Mass Intentions for the Week

MONDAY, APRIL 18

8:00 AM Barbara June Warnement (A)

TUESDAY, APRIL 19

8:00 AM Betty Maag

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20

8:00 AM Ed Luersman

THURSDAY, APRIL 21

7:30 PM Leonard & Dolores Verhoff

FRIDAY, APRIL 22

8:00 AM Tom, Rose & Kim Erhart

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

NM Hermiller & Edwards

4:30 PM Tom L. Siebeneck, Carl Webken

Paul & Hilda Fortman

SUNDAY, APRIL 24

8:00 AM Gene & Mary Ann Recker

Jerry & Dorothy Unverferth

11:00 AM Don Holtkamp, Paul & Dorothy Vorst

Jeannie Buchholz, Don Selhorst

Gene Stechschulte, Wilbur Remlinger

Last Sunday's Collection: \$ 8,536.84

Choir Assignments - April 23 & 24

4:30: RA **8:00:** Laura **11:00:** Youth (practice at 10:00)

Recent Baptisms

DYLAN JAMES LAUBENTHAL

Son of Brian & Alison (Schnipke) Laubenthal

WESTIN JOSEPH POTHAST

Son of Taylor & Ashley (Heitmeyer) Pothast

Women of All Ages Banquet

The May Rosary Altar Meeting will be held May 2, after the 6:00 p.m. May Crowning. We will have a "pot luck" dinner in the church basement, with the main course provided, following the service. Our speakers that evening will be Chris and Brian Schroeder, giving us advice on how to keep love in our lives! There will be activities for the younger children during the presentation. We will also have installation of new officers. We are still in need of a President and President Elect (don't be shy, you will have continued support from your outgoing president). There are sign-up sheets at each church entrance so we have a head count to order enough meat for that evening. Please call Maggie Wehri (419-532-3791) with questions.

Students Planning Mass This Week

are Annette Schroeder's 2A class on Wednesday, April 20, and Judy Birkemeier's 7A class on Friday, April 22.

High School Friday Frenzy at the "Y"

On Friday, April 22, we will begin our Friday Frenzy at the YMCA, in Ottawa, from 7:00-9:00 p.m., and then come back to the Parish Center for a movie and snacks! Flyers were given to students at CCD. Cost will be \$5 per person. Parents interested in driving youth to the "Y" and chaperoning for the evening should contact Mary Siefker.

May Crowning is Monday, May 2, at 6:00 p.m.

The prayer service will involve all the First Communicants and the students in grade 8 who have decided to participate.

MONDAY, APRIL 18

ROSARY FOR PEACE: 1:30 p.m., in church

HOLY NAME MEETING: 8:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 19

CRHP 6: 7:00 p.m., in Parish Center

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20

YAHS CHOIR PRACTICE: 8:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, APRIL 21

ROSARY: 7:00 p.m., in church

FRIDAY, APRIL 22

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY: 3:00 p.m., in church

FRIDAY FRENZY AT THE YMCA: 7:00 p.m.

Treat Yourself to a Fun Night Out...

KHS Presents "Seussical" This Weekend

Seussical takes you into the world of Dr. Seuss and combines some of your favorite stories and characters into one whacky and whimsical world. With a cast of 50 students from grades 7-12, you're bound to recognize a familiar face or two. Purchase your tickets at the door. Show times are:

Saturday, April 16, at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 17, at 2:00 p.m.

Bus Trip to Shrine in Bellevue

The Ottawa Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a trip to the Sorrowful Mother Shrine, Bellevue, on June 1, 2016. Cost is \$15/person (for the bus) and \$11 for the meal at the Shrine (you will pay that there). The bus will leave the S.P.P. parking lot at 8:30 a.m. and return around 5:00 p.m. Checks for the bus (\$15) are due by April 30. Please make check payable to "Ronald Pohlman" and send to: Ron Pohlman; 308 Cherokee Drive, Ottawa, OH 45875. Please also include the names and phone numbers of all who will be going. Call Ron Pohlman (419-523-4897) with questions.

80th Birthday



Sister Marcille Liebrecht, formerly Sister Gaspar, will be celebrating her 80th birthday on April 25. She grew up in the Cuba area and has served in several capacities in the area in recent years, including The Meadows of OG and Sacred Heart, New Bavaria. If you'd like to send birthday wishes to Sister Marcille, her address is: 200 St. Francis Avenue, Tiffin, OH 44883.

Kalida Fire Dept. Chicken BBQ This Sunday

Sunday, April 17, starting at 11:00 a.m., behind the fire station. Cost is \$8 per dinner. Thanks for your support!

Kalida Area Garage Sales Will Be Held...

April 21, 22 & 23. Maps will be available at area businesses this week.

Holy Name Raffle Tickets

If you need a Holy Name raffle ticket for the 2016-17 raffle year, call Mike Schimmoeller (419-532-3521) or Nick Schulte (419-532-2131). Also, if you have any sold or unsold tickets, please get them into Nick or Mike...thanks!

Suitcases Needed for Mission Trip

If anyone has a suitcase with wheels you could donate for a mission trip, it would be much appreciated. Two or three are needed. 62 linear inches (or close to that) is the size that is needed. Call 419-796-0851 with questions. Thanks!!!

OFFERTORY - April 23 & 24

4:30 PM

Larry & Grace Haselman Family

8:00 AM

Karl & Darlene Miller Family

11:00 AM

Barry & Beth von der Embse Family

USHERS - April 23 & 24

4:30 PM

Drew Hovest, Austin Klausing, Collin Wurth, Jeff Knueve, Jacob Kahle, Connor Niese, Kevin Hamburg, Collin Nartker, Christian Nartker, Bradley Siefker, Ethan Schmenk

8:00 AM

Alex von der Embse, Adam von der Embse, Paul von der Embse, Brandon Erhart, Kaleb Selhorst, Trent Gerding, Trent Siebeneck, Griffin Recker, Derek Buss, Trevor Vorst, Clay Meyer

11:00 AM

Team 12

LECTORS - April 23 & 24

4:30 PM

Wendy Schimmoeller, Joyce Schnipke

8:00 AM

Donna Schnipke, Dennis Turnwald

11:00 AM

Carl Siefker, Beth Selhorst

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - April 23 & 24

4:30:

Allison Wurth, Casey Wehri, Alice Adams, Marilyn Becker, Brian, Bev & Anna Berheide, Matt Bockrath, Kelly Buss, Dave Buss

8:00:

Amy Brinkman, Gus & Judy Brinkman, Bob Buss, Ruth Foppe, Keith & Ann Rea Fortman, Eileen Decker, Dave & Cindy Erhart

Ministers to Homebound: Amy Brinkman, Herm & Rita

11:00: Katey Buss, Joyce Bonifas, Brandon Erhart, Lori Erhart, Eric Fischnich, Regina Fischnich, Janet Burgei, Lynda Fortman, Phil & Sue Fuerst

SERVERS

Mon, 4/18

8:00 AM

McKenna Bockrath

Alec Edelbrock

Tues, 4/19

8:00 AM

Clara Elkins

Kyla Fortman

Wed, 4/20

8:00 AM

Colin Erhart

Gabe Hovest

Thurs, 4/21

7:30 PM

Ella Kaufman

Matt Kehres

Fri, 4/22

8:00 AM

Mason Kerner

Tyler Klausing

Sat, 4/23

4:30 PM

Connor Krouse

Noah & Trevor Lambert

Sun, 4/24

8:00 AM

Abby Langhals

Samantha Langhals

Brady Laudick

Grant Laudick

Elizabeth Loveland

Danielle Maag

11:00 AM

Playing Hardball Against ALS Baseball Game

The KHS Baseball Team will be playing a benefit game for the "PHAALS" Foundation" on Friday, April 22, at 7:00 p.m., at Holy Name Ball Park vs. Columbus Grove.

Spaghetti Dinner—Tuesday, April 26

4:30 - 6:30 p.m., at the Ottawa Legion. Cost is \$8 (presale). Dine-in or carry-out. Proceeds benefit the "Children's Christmas Carnival," in December. Contact Denny & Darlene Hanneman for tickets or for more info. (419-532-3871).

Upcoming Wedding

Samantha Hermiller & David Edwards will be married on Saturday, April 23, 2016. Please include them in your prayers.