

Saint Michael Catholic Church, Kalida, Ohio - Sunday, December 16, 2018

From the Desk of Fr. Mark

Hi, everyone, and Happy Advent. It is time for that pink (rose) vestment again. St. John's has a pink vestment, but St. Michael's doesn't. Perhaps by this weekend that one vestment may get lost. I am not a big fan of pink. But I am a big fan of joy. That is what the pink is to signify. With the coming of the Lord, there will be joy beyond our imagining. If there is anything that this season of waiting is about, it is about preparing for the joy of having the Lord in our lives.

These past couple of days have been joyful in a strange kind of way. For the past month, there has been a rat in the house and I'm not talking about Fr. Elmer. Somehow a rat got into our house and we have not been able to rid ourselves of the rodent. Even with the help of an exterminator, the rat seemed to be outsmarting me (not too difficult). Finally, last Sunday, the rat got caught by the tail in a snap trap. You should have seen me looking under beds, couches and all kinds of dark places. With every dark destination, I would expect the rat would jump out at me. I'm sure it was quite the sight. Finally, I found him in Klara's old sewing room with a trap attached to its tail. After getting the rat into a box, I made a trip outside. You will have to imagine the rest as PETA may be reading this bulletin. Anyway, I am rat free. Talk about having joy in Advent.

I spoke with Fr. Elmer, who is now at The Meadows, how I got rid of two rats in one week. He laughed and had a quick comeback (I think more than PETA would be offended by his comeback). I actually told Fr. Elmer that the house is now Wurthless. Fr. Elmer seems to be getting stronger at the Meadows and it will be a great joy to have him back in the house.

Back to the rat story. I thought of how the rat was like a big sin in the life of a person. I tried to deny that we had vermin in the house. I didn't discover the rat until I went upstairs to check on the heat. Rats like a warm setting and he wasn't leaving on his own. The rat made a mess of carpet and insulation and my house. I didn't want anyone to know. If it was mice; that wouldn't be so bad. Everyone has mice every now and then. There is a little evidence, but that is understandable. People would understand. It is like small sins. Everyone gossips or fibs or commits lots of small sins. But big sins, they are hard to hide, but we try. I didn't want anyone to stay at my house until I got rid of the rat. So I didn't, and soon I had more thoughts of a rat than entertaining people. The rat had taken over my house and my life. Sin can do that, big sins and small. Sin makes relationships difficult. I had to call in a professional for the rat and now I have my home back. For sin, we call in the professional, also. It was like going to the Sacrament of Reconciliation. I had people stay overnight last night. Of course I didn't tell them that there was a rat in their room a couple of days before. I was so happy to have the rat out of my house.

That happiness is only a fraction of the happiness of having Jesus in my house. If I truly think about it, I wouldn't want evidence of rats or mice in my house as I welcome the Lord of Life. I would like my home the best I could make it to welcome the King. God gave His finest. I should do the same. I have been smiling ever since my house became rat free. My heart will really smile at Christmas as I invite the Lord into my home. This is the Pink Sunday. Bring on the joy. Get rid of the rat.

Fr. Mark

A Season of Giving

This past Wednesday, students of St. John's helped out Heartbeat. And this week, gifts from parishioners of St. Michael's will be making their way to needy families in the Toledo diocese. Thanks to H & K for the use of a van to transport gifts. Thanks to the eighth grade at St. Michael's who went to The Meadows to bring Christmas joy to the residents (picture on right). May God bless you all.

Mass Intentions for the Week

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17

8:00 AM COMMUNION SERVICE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18

8:00 AM Arnold Siebeneck (HN)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19

8:00 AM Nolan Krouse (HN)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20

7:30 PM Cleora & Bob Winkle

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21

8:00 AM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22

4:30 PM

Henrietta Wannemacher, Vince Erhart
Greg Erhart, L/D Erhart & Iliff Families
Norman von der Embse, Jim Kahle
Dan Siefker, Hubert & Irma Pohlman
Dick Langhals, Charlie Berheide,
Don Schnipke, Rich Wurth
Rick Wurth, Alice Croy

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23 *Fourth Sunday of Advent*

8:00 AM

Jim, Esther & Randy Siefker
George & Monica Schmursal
L/D Vic Merschman Family, Paul Wank
Don Holtkamp, Eugene Hoersten
L/D Joseph & Henrietta Wannemacher Fam.
Connie Miller, Amy Gerdeman Bardall

11:00 AM

Collection - December 1 & 2: \$ 12,087.00

Collection - December 8 & 9: \$ 11,126.50

Choir Assignments - December 22 & 23

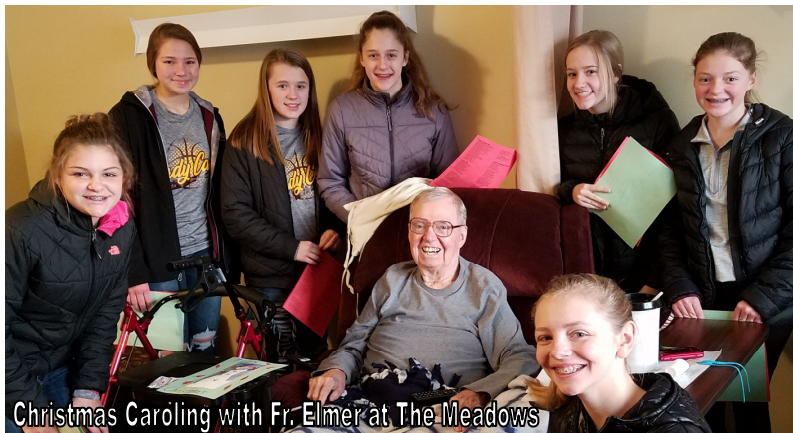
4:30: Renee **8:00:** Laura **11:00:** Youth (practice at 10 a.m.)

Singers Needed Christmas Eve at 8 p.m. Mass

Renee Vorst is playing the 8:00 p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve and needs volunteers to sing. Simply show up to the choir loft if you can help out. Thanks!

Our Condolences

The Funeral Mass for **Arnold Siebeneck** was held on Monday, Dec. 10, and the Funeral Mass for **Nolan Krouse** was held on Wednesday, Dec. 12. Please include Arnold, Nolan and their families in your prayers.



Christmas Caroling with Fr. Elmer at The Meadows

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17

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

HOLY NAME MEETING: 8:00 p.m.

HOLY NAME CHOIR PRACTICE: 8:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18

RCIA: 7:00 p.m., in the church basement

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19

YAHS CHOIR PRACTICE: 8:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20

ROSARY FOR OUR COUNTRY: 7:00 p.m. in church

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21

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

Choirs at The Meadows Gala

This Sunday, December 16, from 3:00-4:00 p.m. RAS/HN/PW/
Youth - meet at the piano. Music provided.

Youth Choir Extra Rehearsal

December 20, from 3:00-4:00 p.m., after school. Meet in loft.

Students Planning Mass This Week...

are Ellen Millott's 5A class on Wednesday, Dec. 19. There will be no students at Mass on Friday, Dec. 21. Elementary & High School CCD classes will start up on January 2, 2019.

No High School CCD on December 19**Christ Bearers at Christmas Masses**

If you would like your child (age 5 or older) to bring up the statue of Baby Jesus at any of the Christmas Masses, please email stmich@bright.net or call Leslie at 419-532-3474, and indicate which Mass you would like. The Mass times for Christmas are 4:00, 8:00 & 11:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve and 10:30 a.m. on Christmas morning. The names will be randomly drawn and we will contact those chosen. **Deadline is Tuesday, December 17.** If you have several children, they can walk up together, then one can place Baby Jesus in the manger or you can walk up as a family.

Christmas Flower Intentions Deadline...

is this Sunday, December 16. Thanks!

Christmas Mass Schedule at St. Michael's

December 24: 4:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m. & 11:00 p.m.

December 25: 10:30 a.m.

Parish Office Closure for Christmas Break

After Thursday, Dec. 20, the offices will be closed until January 2. So, if you have something to put in the bulletin for this time period, please submit it by this Tuesday, December 18. Thanks!

Kalida Athletic Boosters Membership Drive

Moving to a calendar year, effective January 1, 2019. Rates for 2019 are \$50/single, \$75/double. There will be a \$200, \$100 & \$50 prize drawing at each meeting. (10 meetings in total). A double membership gives you two entries into the drawings. Please contact a Boosters officer for more information.

Tree Gala at The Meadows of Kalida

Sunday, December 16, from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Join us for our silent auction and raffle, including a visit from Santa! Live entertainment, hors d'oeuvres and activities for kids. 100% of proceeds benefit the PHAALS Foundation. Please make donations by calling Grace (419-532-2961).

OFFERTORY - December 22 & 23

Barry & Beth von der Embse Family

Mike & Norma Unverferth Family

Dale & Julie Siebeneck Family

USHERS - December 22 & 23

Christian Nartker, Paul von der Embse

Clay Meyer, Mason Kerner

Connor Krouse, Colin Erhart

Bradley Siefker, Ethan Schmenk,

Trevor Vorst, Connor Erhart

Cole Nienberg, Grant Knapke

Team 12

LECTORS - December 22 & 23

Alexis Meyer, Erin Kerner

Mary Plescher, Donna Schnipke

Stacy Knueve, Brayden Recker

4:30 PM**8:00 AM****11:00 AM****4:30 PM****8:00 AM****11:00 AM****4:30 PM:****8:00 AM:****11:00 AM****EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - December 22 & 23**

4:30: Dave Buss, Michelle Buss, Clara Elkins, Lori Erhart, Keith & Ann Rea Fortman, Bob Gerdeman, Sue Gerdeman, Mel Hanneman, Grace Haselman

8:00: Tom & Judy Bonifas, Bob Buss, Ruth Foppe, Mary Grote, Darlene Hanneman, Dave & Jane Kahle, Mark Kahle, Jane Kleman

Ministers to Homebound: Tom & Judy Bonifas

11:00: Regina Fischnich, Kyla Fortman, Lynda Fortman, Nicole Fortman, Phil & Sue Fuerst, Eileen Decker, Kelly Buss, Tara Gerding, Janet Burgei

SERVERS

Tues, 12/18	8:00 AM	Sara Siebeneck Whitney Unverferth
Wed, 12/19	8:00 AM	Alexander Verhoff Dyllan Bendele
Thurs, 12/20	7:30 PM	Dominic & Kendal Bockrath
Fri, 12/21	8:00 AM	Drew Buss & Brooke Erhart
Sat, 12/22	4:30 PM	Alexis, Clay & Luke Meyer
Sun, 12/23	8:00 AM	Brandon Miller Morgan Mock Cole Nienberg
	11:00 AM	Grace & Owen Niemeyer David Peck

Giving Tree Gifts Deadline...

is **Sunday, December 16.** The gifts will be brought to Toledo early Monday morning, December 17.

Recycling Change in Kalida

Unfortunately, we are no longer able to accept paper of any kind for recycling, due to market conditions. Please continue to recycle Cardboard, Aluminum and Scrap Steel to support our local parks.

Christ Our Light at Shrine in Bellevue

Make plans to visit the Sorrowful Mother Shrine, Bellevue, Ohio, December 20-28. Every evening, from 6:00-8:00 p.m., there will be music, lights, and a display. Hot chocolate and an opportunity to place a candle for the Christ Child will be available each night, except Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Penance Service at Ottawa Sts. Peter & Paul

Monday, December 17, at 4:00 & 7:00 p.m.

People Needed to Shovel Snow

If you can help, please contact Kevin Fischer.