

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
MONDAY, DECEMBER 23
ROSARY FOR PEACE: 1:30 p.m.
YOUTH CHOIR PRACTICE: 3:00 p.m. in the choir loft
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26
ROSARY FOR OUR COUNTRY: 7:00 p.m. in church
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27
CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY: 3:00 p.m. in church

Christmas Eve at 4:00 p.m.
Euch. Min: Annette Meyer, Karen Schroeder, Brenna Smith, Kamryn Wurth, Matt Bockrath, McKenna Bockrath, Greg Bockrath, Dave Buss, Michelle Buss
LECTORS: *Deb Kahle, Erin Kerner*
USHERS: *Team 9*
Christmas Eve at 8:00 p.m.
Euch. Min: Jim & Marilyn Becker, Brian & Bev Berheide, Dick & Jane Schulte, Tony & Sandy Vorst, Janet Burgei, Kelly Buss
LECTORS: *Clara Elkins, Jennifer Erhart*
USHERS: *Team 8*
Christmas Eve at 11:00 p.m.
Euch. Min: Scott Unverferth, Lisa Trentman, Erica Unverferth, Kay Unverferth, Lisa Unverferth, Greg, Jill, Jade & Will Zeller, Alice Adams
LECTORS: *Chris Fortman, Kyla Fortman*
USHERS: *Team 7*
Ministers to Homebound: Dennis & Blyth Turnwald
Christmas Day at 9:00 a.m.
Euch. Min: Julie Siebeneck, Kathryn Siebeneck, Brooke Siefker, Mary Siefker, Duane & Barb Steffan, Norma Unverferth, Norma Vorst, Don Wehri, Amy Brinkman
LECTORS: *Deb Schroeder, Lynda Fortman*
USHERS: *Team 2*

Women’s Renewal Weekend – January 18-19
Join women of St. Michael’s for a spiritual retreat weekend to step out of the fast lane and discover a deeper relationship with God. It is a weekend to listen with your heart to what God is placing there. All are welcome. For more information or to register, contact Jessica (Knueve) Unverferth at 419-235-3676 (call or text) or jesslynnk1@gmail.com (email).



Meeting the Pope!
Above: Seminarian Curtis Weisenburger got the opportunity to meet and shake the hand of Pope Francis a couple of weeks ago, in Rome. *Curtis is the grandson of St. Michael parishioner Martha Berheide* and the son of Steve & Mary Beth (Berheide) Weisenburger, of Continental.

OFFERTORY - December 28 & 29
4:30 PM Barry & Beth von der Embse Family
8:00 AM Ken & Carol Vennekotter Family
11:00 AM Mary Ann Hoersten Family

USHERS – December 28 & 29
4:30 PM Team 1
8:00 AM Team 2
11:00 AM Team 3

LECTORS - December 28 & 29
4:30 PM Stacy Knueve, Jill Laudick
8:00 AM Dale Liebrecht, Mary Plescher
11:00 AM Nancy Rampe, Brayden Recker

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - December 28 & 29
4:30: Megan Schulte, Stacy Schulte, Jim & Marilyn Beck-er, Eileen Decker, Courtney Ehrnsberger, Regina Fischnich, Bob Gerdeman, Sue Gerdeman, Grace Haselman
8:00: Tom & Judy Bonifas, Gus & Judy Brinkman, Joyce Bonifas, Janice Foppe, Ruth Foppe, Mary Grote, Dave & Jane Kahle
Ministers to Homebound: Diane Schroeder
11:00: Sandy Westrick, Kyla Fortman, Lynda Fortman, Phil & Sue Fuerst, Keith & Ann Rea Fortman, Cara Elkins, Shane Hill, Mark Kahle

SERVERS		
Tues, 12/24	4:00 PM	McKayla Maag Luke Meyer Malie Miller
	8:00 PM	Brandon Miller EJ Miller Grace Niemeyer
	11:00 PM	Cole Nienberg Andrew Peck David Peck
Wed, 12/25	9:00 AM	Hanna Rampe Carlie Rampe Livia Recker
	7:30 PM	Maria Gerding Meredyth Horstman
	8:00 AM	Audra Hovest Erica Kahle
Sat, 12/28	4:30 PM	Evan Roebke Gabe Roof Dayna Schimmoeller
	8:00 AM	Nathan Schroeder Adam Siefker Trevor Siefker
	11:00 PM	Justin Siebeneck Kathryn Siebeneck Tyson Siefker



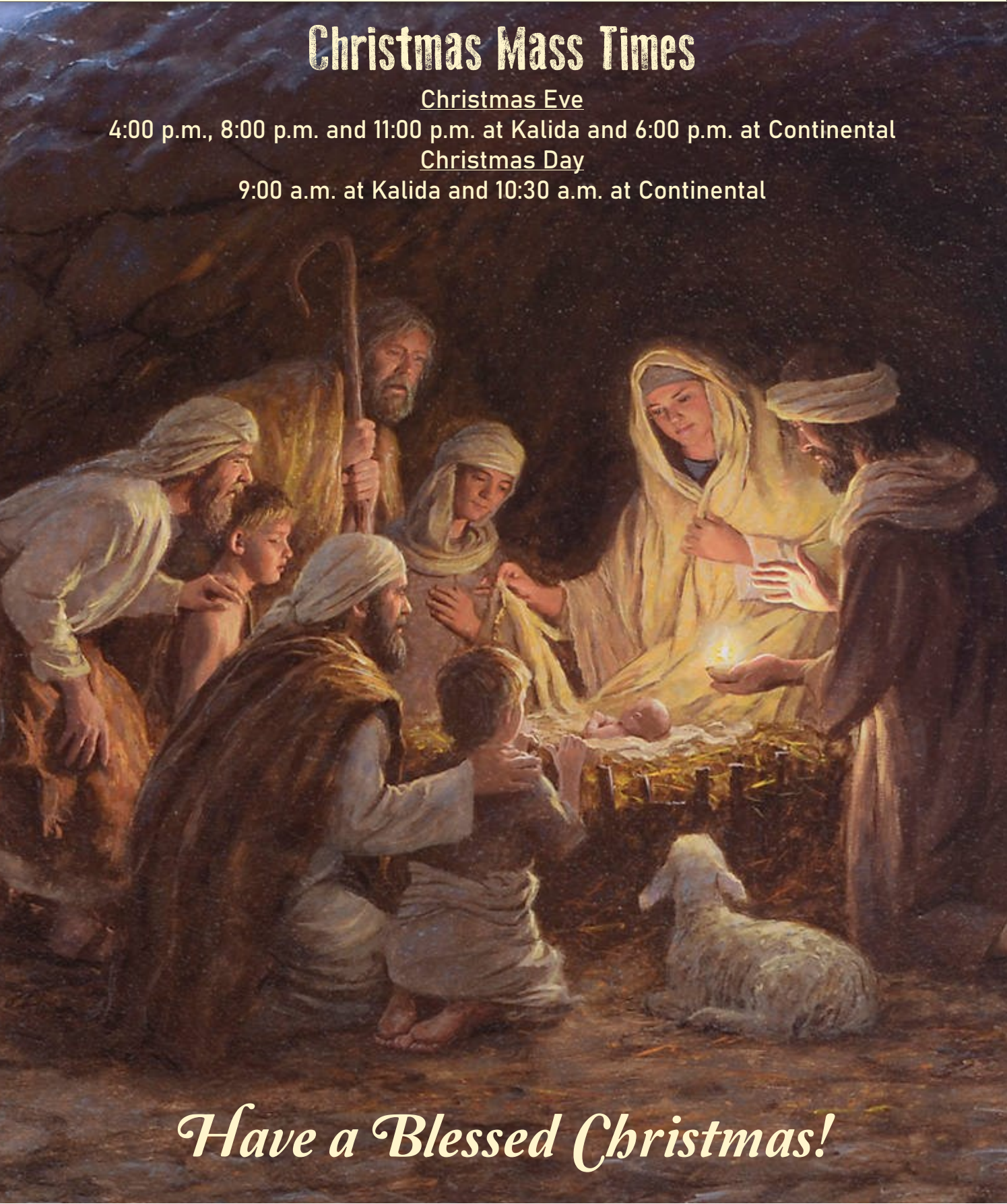
Ohio State Quilt Raffle
You can win this 70x89 inch quilt. It’s \$5 per ticket and all money raised will benefit the John T. Massawe Charity for building churches in Tanzania. Contact Ellen Millott via Facebook Messenger for more information. See the quilt raf-
fle link at stmichaelskalida.org for a form. You can drop the form and your \$5 in the collection. Drawing is 1/1/20 and you need not be present to win.

St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church, Kalida, Ohio - December 22, 2019
Pastor: Fr. Mark Hoying, C.PP.S. In Residence: Fr. Elmer Wurth, M.M. Parochial Vicar: Fr. Rick Friebe, C.PP.S.
Deacon: Bob Klausing DRE: Connie Cleemput Youth Minister: Jill Zeller Maintenance: Kevin Fischer
Address: 312 N. Broad St.; PO Box 387, Kalida, OH 45853 Phone: 419-532-3474 Website: stmichaelskalida.org

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve
4:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. at Kalida and 6:00 p.m. at Continental

Christmas Day
9:00 a.m. at Kalida and 10:30 a.m. at Continental



Have a Blessed Christmas!

From the Desk of Fr. Mark

Hi, everyone,

It is Christmas week and I’m not quite ready. Each year I try to do several things which put me in the right spirit to celebrate this once in an eternity occasion. There is nothing like it in history, present or to come. For God to share His love with us in this particular way is amazing. For the God of all power and might to share His love with all humanity through the humanity of a child is brilliant. To share love is all the gift He is asking of all of us to give. At Christmas, it seems easier to love God, family, neighbor and even our enemies. The statement that the gift of Christ is the gift of love is so true.

To get ready for Christmas I try to take extra time to love. The first stop in my preparation for Christmas always takes me to a local barn. In the past, I have felt so at peace that I have fallen asleep as I think of Jesus, Mary and Joseph surrounded by the simplicity of creation. It may be below freezing on the outside, but there is a warmth in reflecting on the birth of our Lord. I like the smell of hay and the sound of sparrows and pigeons. We are so much more than a sparrow or grass in the field. Jesus was born for all of us and for everyone, even me. I think of cattle “lowing” or being still. Can I be still and leave the cares of the world to be swallowed up by the gentleness of a child and the closeness of God? As the breeze flows through the cracks in the barn siding, do I allow the Holy Spirit to move me to say yes to God’s plans like Mary did so many years ago? I think of a barn and not a castle. Jesus makes even the smallest great and part of a whole different kind of kingdom.

My second stop in preparation is a pile of Christmas cards and a list of people from my past. I usually send my cards out after Christmas. I take time before Christmas to make sure I pray and have thoughts of love for people on my list. So many people have been such a blessing to me over the years. I feel connected to people from assignments in Orlando to Virginia. From Ohio to New Zealand, God has blessed me with faith and love-filled people. I have spent more time with my church families than my blood family. So, I have lots of family members. By the time I go through all my lists, I am ready to celebrate the love of Christmas.

Lastly, I recall our farm tradition around Christmas was to take special care of the animals on Christmas eve. On the night when we were so excited to get back to the house for opening of presents, we took extra time to make the animals on the farm extra comfortable. The softest straw was used for bedding. The greenest hay was fed that night. I even took time to talk to the cows as they were milked. So many people have made my life more comfortable. The staff, committee members and people in the pews have done so much work to make our churches come alive with the love of God. When I see our churches growing and happy, I feel the joy of the Lord. When I personally have had difficult times, like my siblings’ illness and death, it is nice to have so many people bring comfort. And it is nice to have people let me be crazy me. Thanks and Merry Christmas. A special shout out to Fr. Elmer. He has to put up with a lot. He brings lots of joy to the house.

By Wednesday, I will be ready. I hope you will be ready, also. My wish for everyone is to know the love of the Lord deep in your hearts. And as we would like to hold the baby, Jesus, let Him hold us because He first loved us.

Merry Christmas. *Fr. Mark*

Mass Intentions for the Week	
MONDAY, DECEMBER 23	
8:00 AM	COMMUNION SERVICE
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24	
4:00 PM	Bob & Sue Schmenk, Esther Goebel Jim, Esther & Randy Siefker Gary Stechschulte, Jim & Helen Knueven Leanne Goedde Pardo Jiggs, Helen & Bob Unverferth L/D Unverferth & Berheide Family Mel Unverferth, Steve Strauer Virgil & Carol Ellerbrock
8:00 PM	Don & Joyce Jerwers, Joyce Klausing Deacon Frank Knueve, Marsha Lambert
11:00 PM	Richard, Gladys, Mark, James & Keith Unverferth, Angeline & James Erhart Larry Haselman, Carl Webken, Mike Kahle Carolyn Unverferth, Ted Sealts Norm Kahle, Gina Ellerbrock Alfred & Marcella Ellerbrock Jerome & Ethel Bendele, Don Bendele Bob Schimmoeller, Gene Stechschulte Florence & Wilbur Otto
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25 <i>Nativity of Our Lord</i>	
9:00 AM	Bill Cleemput, Mary Lou Felkey Jim Hamilton, Earl Kleman Family Ralph, Bruce, Mark & Judy Honigfort Jazzlyn Gray, Tom Warnecke Bob & Cleora Winkle L/D Alfred Ricker Family Ladona Ostendorf L/D Alphonse & Frances Schulte Family L/D Tony & Bernadine Hoersten Family Norbert & Belva Berelsman Hilary, Marie & Reese Burgei Harold, Imelda, Mark, Luke & Gerri Stechschulte
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26 <i>St. Stephen</i>	
7:30 PM	Special Intention
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27	
8:00 AM	Ed Schroeder, Special Intention
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28 <i>Holy Innocents</i>	
4:30 PM	Sylvester Hanneman Edna & Richard Kruse, Don Schnipke L/D Joe & Mildred Buss Family Walter & Mary Vennekotter Steve & Laura Schulte L/D William Gasser Family
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29 <i>Holy Family</i>	
8:00 AM	Parishioners of St. Michael
11:00 AM	Cy, Cecelia & Nick Vorst, Jim Unverferth Vince Erhart (A), Eugene Hoersten Bob Unverferth, Merschman & Saum Fam.

Last Week’s Collection: \$ 18,023.00

Choir Assignments - Christmas

4:00: Laura & Youth **8:00:** Laura **11:00:** YAHS
9:00: HN

Choir Assignments - December 28 & 29

4:30: YAHS **8:00:** Ashleigh **11:00:** Laura

Carols Before Christmas Masses

Christmas Carols begin at 7:30 p.m. before the 8:00 p.m. Mass and 10:30 p.m. before the 11:00 p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve and about 8:40 a.m. before the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Christmas.

Recent Baptism
VIRGINIA DOLORES SCHNIPKE

Daughter of Matt & Angela (Unverferth) Schnipke

Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, January 12, 2020, in St. Michael’s Church Basement from 8:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. Pancakes, Sausage, Scrambled Eggs, OJ, Coffee and Milk. Suggested Donation is \$7 for adults (12+) and \$4 for children (5-12). Proceeds benefit youth attending the March for Life!

December Holy Name Raffle Winners

\$250	Joni Miller	\$100	Michael Ellerbrock
\$100	Emma Hellmann	\$100	Ron Rampe
\$100	Joan Peck	\$ 50	Mark Warnecke
\$ 50	Jerry Ellerbrock	\$ 50	Aubrey Simon
\$ 50	Denise Recker	\$ 50	Kathy Hanneman
\$ 50	Ruth Smith	\$ 50	Ellen Niemeyer

Holy Name Christmas/New Year’s Party...

Friday, January 24, 2020.

Don’t Forget Your Recipes!

You’ll be making some scrumptious food over the holidays, which we’re sure you’d like to share in the Parish Cookbook. Don’t forget to take a picture of your goodies!

2019 Christmas Flower Intentions....Continued

In loving memory of Gina Ellerbrock from her Family
In loving memory of Alfred & Marcella Ellerbrock from their Family
In loving memory of Deb Grote, Tarder & Mike Verhoff from their Friends
In loving memory of Cy, Cecelia & Nick Vorst from Kenny & Connie Kruse & Family
In loving memory of our daughter Lilly Ann Kruse from Kenny & Connie & Family
L/D members of the Len Kruse & Cy Vorst Families from the Tony & Sandy Vorst Family
In loving memory of Tarder from Mary
In loving memory of Jan Knott from Mary
In loving memory of Theresa Foppe from Mary
In loving memory of Ann Ketcham from Mary
In loving memory of Richard, Leona & Bill Grote from Mary, Joe, Nancy, Matt, Crystal, Owen, Collin, Chad, Sara & Makena
In loving memory of Marsha Courtright from Mary, Joe, Nancy, Matt, Crystal, Owen, Collin, Chad, Sara & Makena
In loving memory of Richard, Gladys, Mark & Jim Unverferth, Jim & Martha Wurth, Gary Stechschulte & Alice Tarr from Steve & Linda Unverferth & Family
In loving memory of Leanne Goedde Pardo from Mom, Joe, Taylor, Amanda, Jaime, Rob & Family
In loving memory of Albert, Alma, Albert Jr., Mark, Leroy, Thomas, Thom Jr. and Peggy Warnement from Shirley & Joe
In loving memory of Nolan & Irma Krouse and Tom & Mary Ann Schnipke from neighbors Carol & Ron Buss
In loving memory of Gene Stechschulte from Mary Jane & Family
In loving memory of Dan Siefker from Steve & Diane Siefker & Family
In loving memory of Alaina & Mia Landwehr and George & Betty Maag from Ken & Cindy & Family
In loving memory of Dick Langhals from Lou Ann
In loving memory of Tom & Mary Schnipke & Family from Tim & Deb Schnipke Family
L/D Fortman & McCollum Families
L/D Miller & Liebrecht Families from Paul & Mary Jane Miller
Merry Christmas! In loving memory of Virgil & Carol Ellerbrock, Mary Lou Niese, Donald Niese, Karen Otto & Charlie Berheide from Lisa, Brian, Emily, Chris, Mason, Jayce, Leah, Andrew & Hannah
In loving memory of Leon and Lou Ann Kahle, Reese Kahle, Chris Britsch, Heidi Kohles & Aaron Schnipke

JOURNEY THROUGH ADVENT TO CHRISTMAS

December 21 & 22 (Benefiting Heartbeat of Ottawa and Lima)

Please donate the following: Onesies & Sleepers (newborn to 9 months), receiving blankets, diapers (size 4, 5 & 6), baby wash/shampoo, wipes, small toys for ages 2 & 3 and parenting books.

Offertory Envelopes

The 2020 offertory envelopes are in the back of church this weekend. If you don’t see yours, email stmich@bright.net or call 419-532-3474. Thanks.

Church Offices Closed for Christmas Break

The offices are closed now for Christmas break. We will be back in the office on Thursday, January 2.

Christmas Youth Choir - Not Too Late to Join

There will be a practice this Monday, December 23, at 3:00 p.m. in the choir loft, for those in grades 3-8 who would like to be in the youth choir, which sings at the 4:00 p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve. We’ll meet at 3:00 p.m. in the church basement on December 24, to warm up.

PCYMCA Aerobics (Cardio/Toning)...

at the Kalida Grade School Cafeteria on Monday/Wednesday, beginning on January 6, from 6:15 -7:00 p.m. Cost is \$20 (monthly) or \$5/per night. Call 419-532-2339 to register or with questions. Start the year off right!

Holiday Blood Drive – Monday, December 30

at the Kalida K of C, from Noon – 6:00 p.m. In the spirit of giving this Christmas season, please consider donating blood to help others in need. Walk-ins are welcome! If you would like to schedule an appointment, go to redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-REDCROSS.