

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25  
NO ROSARY FOR PEACE  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28  
ROSARY: 7:15 p.m.  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29  
CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY: 3:00 p.m. in church  
MONDAY, JANUARY 1  
NO ROSARY FOR PEACE  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 2  
RCIA: 7:00 p.m.  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3  
HIGH SCHOOL CCD: 7:00 p.m.  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 4  
ROSARY: 7:15 p.m.  
FRIDAY, JANUARY 5  
CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY: 3:00 p.m. in church

**Assignments—January 1, at 11:00 a.m.**

**Euch. Min.:** PB: Sandy & Mike Westrick  
Alice Adams, Bob Buss, Michelle Buss, Jerry Ellerbrock  
**LECTOR:** Wendy Schimmoeller  
**USHERS:** Team 7

**Offertory Bearers - January 6 & 7**

**4:30:** Scott & Angie Meyer Family  
**8:00:** Mike & Norma Unverferth Family  
**11:00:** Tony & Erica Unverferth Family

**USHERS - January 6 & 7**

**4:30:** Team 9    **8:00:** Team 8    **11:00:** Team 7

**Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors - January 6 & 7**

**4:30:** PB: Ryan & Erin Kerner  
Lisa Niese, Carrie Patrick, Nancy Rampe, Teresa Rampe  
**LECTOR:** Dennis Turnwald

**8:00:** PB: Mary Siefker, Duane Steffan  
Bob Klausing, Beth Nienberg, Joan Niese, Rose Recker  
**LECTOR:** Tony Unverferth

**Ministers to Homebound:** Tony & Sandy Vorst

**11:00:** PB: Phil & Sue Fuerst  
Jim Hanneman, Michele Niese, Mark Remlinger, Wendy Schimmoeller  
**LECTOR:** Wendy Schimmoeller

**Thank You Note from St. Vincent de Paul**

Many, many thanks to those who contributed to the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry through the Giving Tree. Your generous donations will help us provide food to those in need. This past month we helped 273 households with food and personal care items. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas.

**Professional Catholic Counseling Available**

If you or someone you love might benefit from counseling, confidential professional Catholic counseling, rooted in our Catholic faith, is now available at Findlay St. Michael Parish. To inquire, please contact the main parish office @ 419-422-2646 and ask to be transferred to the Catholic Counseling services. Informational flyers are available at our church exits.

**New Year's Eve Polka Dance**

Sunday, December 31 with the Al Best Band. Open to the public. Doors open at 1:00 p.m. Dance from 2:00 - 6:00 p.m. Food & beverages available. Contact 419-966-3826 with questions.

**Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors - December 30 & 31**

**4:30:** PB: Brian & Bev Berheide  
Maria Gerding, Jane Kleman, Becky Lucke, Peter Morrissey  
**LECTOR:** Erin Kerner  
**8:00:** PB: Janice Foppe, Ruth Foppe  
Lynda Fortman, Mary Grote, Darlene Hanneman, Dave Kahle  
**LECTOR:** Jill Laudick  
**Ministers to Homebound:** Carrie Patrick  
**11:00:** PB: Mark Kahle, Erica Kahle  
Lori Erhart, Brandon Erhart, Regina Fischnich, Ryan Fischnich  
**LECTOR:** Joyce Schnipke

**SERVER SCHEDULE**

<b>Tues, 12/26</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
Wed, 12/27	8:00 AM	Riley Unverferth Quinn Unverferth Mallory Unverferth Brant Bockrath
Thurs, 12/28	7:30 PM	Corinne Brinkman Addelyn Brinkman
Fri, 12/29	8:00 AM	Whitney Unverferth Zachary Unverferth Avrie Unverferth
Sat, 12/30	4:30 PM	Katie Bendele Hannah Bendele Victoria Bendele Madison Unverferth
Sun, 12/31	8:00 AM	Adam Bockrath Meredith Bockrath Morgan Bockrath Gabi Brinkman Andrea Burgei
	11:00 AM	Madelyn Cattell Gavin Leis Taylor Nienberg
Mon, 1/1	11:00 AM	Chase Rampe Logan Rampe Lillian Schnipke Lucas Schroeder Emma Shininger
<b>Tues, 1/2</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
Wed, 1/3	8:00 AM	Carson Buss Evy Cattell Faith Feldman Katelyn Foppe Alex Gardner Maria Gerding Evan Fischnich Kyle Grime Jax Horstman
Thurs, 1/4	7:30 PM	
Fri, 1/5	8:00 AM	
Sat, 1/6	4:30 PM	
Sun, 1/7	8:00 AM	
	11:00 AM	

**Offertory Bearers - December 30 & 31**

**4:30:** Ryan & Erin Kerner Family  
**8:00:** Kyle & Jess Recker Family  
**11:00:** Sean & Adriene Swyers Family

**USHERS - December 30 & 31**

**4:30:** Team 4    **8:00:** Team 5    **11:00:** Team 6

**Kalida Baseball Holiday Camp**

December 27, 28 & 29 at St. Michael's Gym. Grades 1-3 will be from 9:00 - 10:45 a.m. Grades 4-6 will be from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Cost is \$50. Contact Head Coach Chad Ehrnsberger (ehrsbergerchad@gmail.com or 614-537-6313) for more information.



**St. Michael Catholic Church - Kalida, Ohio - Sunday, December 24, 2023**

**Pastor:** Fr. Nathan Bockrath (nbockrath@toledodiocese.org)

**Deacon:** Bob Klausing    **DRE:** Connie Cleemput    **Youth Minister:** Jill Zeller    **Maintenance:** Kevin Fischer

**Website:** stmichaelskalida.org    **Address:** 312 N. Broad St.; Box 387; Kalida, OH 45853

**Phone:** 419-532-3474    **Email:** stmichaelskalida@gmail.com    **Office Hours:** Mon-Thus, 7:30 a.m. - 5:00

Candle, candle burning bright,  
fill our hearts with Christmas light







From an early age we are told to say “thank you.” For sure this is a kind gesture and a polite thing to do; however, it is not just a random and arbitrary manner. Underneath this expected etiquette there is an importance being protected. By sincerely expressing “thanks,” we are forced to recognize the value of the other person. We recognize that we did not achieve this on our own, that we are different and better because of someone. In doing so, we are less inclined to take that person for granted; rather, the “thank you” reaffirms the role and importance of that person in our lives. By doing so, it helps maintain a healthy relationship with that person. By not saying “thank you,” it frustrates that relationship. We lose sight of the importance of that person, and there is a good chance that we offended that person as well...how do you feel when someone fails to say “thanks” after a kind deed?

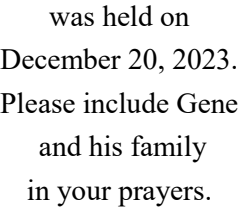
Back in article 3, we explored how Adam and Eve lost sight of God and took Him for granted. Even though everything around them was because of God, and even their very lives were because of Him (He blew the breath of life into Adam [2:7], He took Adam's rib to form Eve [2:21]), we never see them once give thanks ... hmm, wonder why things broke down for them? Fast-forward to Jesus, each time His words of consecration of the bread and wine are recorded at the Last Supper, what does He do: He gives thanks (MT 26:27, MK 14: 23, LK 22:17, 1 Cor 11:24). Part of the reason why Jesus was the perfect priest and sacrifice was because of His attitude of thankfulness to the Father (even on Good Friday). He recognizes the value of the Father, His emptiness without Him, His need for Him, and so He gives thanks.

Historically, this mystery of the Last Supper and Cross that is continued through the Mass was given the Greek title “Eucharist,” which simply means “thanksgiving.” It’s given this title because not only is it the attitude in which Jesus instituted the mystery; but also, it’s the attitude we need to have if we want to experience the fullness of its power. We can approach Mass with all sorts of moods; however, the best is one of thanksgiving where we appropriately see the Father’s role in our lives and our role vice-versa. Furthermore, the title “Eucharist” captures the fact that Jesus’ sacrifice of Himself to Father is the ultimate a sign of “thanks” ... I recognize my nothingness without you and so I offer my total self to you ... which is another important focus for us to adopt. These ideas were captured by the early Church, which can be seen in the ancient writings of the *Teaching of the Twelve Apostles* (end of the 1<sup>st</sup> cent.), letters of St. Ignatius of Antioch (early 2<sup>nd</sup> cent.), and in the Apologies of St. Justin (155-157 AD).

Often we hear sayings like “we are an Eucharistic people” ... well, lets hope so for our own sake!  
**Fr. Nathan** (nbockrath@toledodiocese.org)

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26** *St. Stephen*  
**8:00 AM NO MASS**  
**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27** *St. John, apostle*  
**8:00 AM** Special Intention for Good Health  
**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28** *The Holy Innocents*  
**7:30 PM** Gene Deters (HN)  
**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29**  
**8:00 AM**  
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30**  
**4:30 PM** Harry Horstman, Sylvester Hanneman, Edna & Dick Kruse, L/D Robert & JoAnn Brinkman Fam. L/D Joe & Mildred Buss Family Luke & Janice Stechschulte, Ron Kahle, Jr.  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31** *Holy Family*  
**8:00 AM** Elmer & Helen Korte, L/D Korte & Brickner Family, L/D Carl & Mae Webken Family L/D Amos & Wilma Miller Family  
**11:00 AM** Jim, Keith & Mark Unverferth, Jim & Angie Erhart, Richard & Gladys Unverferth Brian Knott  
**MONDAY, JANUARY 1** *Mary, Mother of God*  
**11:00 AM** Leanne Goedde Pardo, Andy Merschman Tom, Alice & Stella Brinkman  
**TUESDAY, JANUARY 2** *St. Basil the Great, Gregory Nazianzen*  
**8:00 AM NO MASS**  
**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3**  
**8:00 AM** Prayer Pals  
**THURSDAY, JANUARY 4** *St. Elizabeth Ann Seton*  
**7:30 PM** Ron Kahle, Jr.  
**FRIDAY, JANUARY 5** *St. John Neumann*  
**8:00 AM**  
**SATURDAY, JANUARY 6**  
**4:30 PM** Ron Vonder Embse & Family, John Smith George, Nora & Dan Basinger Jerry & Dorothy Unverferth  
**SUNDAY, JANUARY 7** *Epiphany of the Lord*  
**8:00 AM** Alvin & Mary Hoffman  
**11:00 AM** Connie Miller, Brian Knott L/D Stoepfel & Winkle Family

Tis the Christmas season to share highlights of the holidays with fellow parishioners over games of euchre. The next euchre tournament is Sunday, January 7, 2024 from 2:00– 4:00 p.m., in the church basement. \$1 entry fee (for prizes). Bring a snack to share if you want. See you there!



As we continue this year of Eucharistic Revival, we would like to invite you to grow closer to Jesus alongside fellow parishioners through the Jesus and the Eucharist study. This study was specifically designed for this Year of Parish Revival, and we will be joining many other parishes throughout the United States in participating in this small group study as we journey together through this three-year National Eucharistic Revival. Each of these 7 sessions is full of rich theological content, powerful testimonies, and unique and timely messages from individual bishops across the country. This is a great opportunity to dive more deeply into the richness of our Eucharistic faith.

This study will be a special time to grow in community within our parish as we walk this sacred year together, and we really desire you to join us. There is no pre-work or homework. Study handouts will be provided to you at each session. Please join us Tuesdays 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. January 30, 2024; February 13, 20, and 27, 2024; March 5, 12, and 26, 2024 in the church basement on the kitchen side (note: no sessions will be held February 6 or March 19). There is no cost to attend. Hospitality will be provided. We hope to see you there!

***Fr. Nathan***

will be Friday, January 19, beginning with 5:30 p.m. Mass.

\$250	Judy Burgei	\$100	Liam Metzger
\$100	Kamdon Warnecke	\$100	Sean Ellerbrock
\$100	Colin Erhart	\$ 50	Ben Wilhelm
\$ 50	Ruhan Tharwani	\$ 50	Alexis Vorst
\$ 50	Shellie Moran	\$ 50	Jake Hermiller
\$ 50	Nicole Stechschulte	\$ 50	Landyn Schulte

We have a new look in the choir loft...two beautiful oak shelving units, made by Ron & Carol Buss, to hold music books and folders. Thanks to Louie & Betty Ellerbrock & Ron & Carol for funding the completion of this project.

**Last Week's Collection:** \$ 25,123.00

There will be no students at Mass this week due to Christmas break. Their first day back will be January 3, 2024. Students planning Mass on Wednesday, January 3 are Stephanie Price's grade 1 and her grade 6 on Friday, Jan. 5.

Our next class will be January 3, at 7:00 p.m.

Our Christmas gift to you: The book, ***Beautiful Eucharist***, published by Dynamic Catholic, will be handed out at the Christmas Masses. Consider forming a small group to discuss the book.

**Our parish has purchased access to the #1 Catholic Meditation app in the world through Easter!**

1. Visit: [hallow.com/holyday](https://hallow.com/holyday) (you need to sign up on the website before you download the app to access the free parish subscription)
2. Search for our parish by typing “Kalida” then click on our parish name
3. Complete your profile with name, email address and password
4. Download the Hallow app
5. Explore the app!

Considering the world we live in, this statement of Pontius Pilot during the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ really resonates with me. I find truth today in the same place we all have for thousands of years - the Catholic Bible. The Bible is God's love letter to us. It is the story of salvation history - how for centuries God has been drawing us into a giving and receiving loving relationship with Him. The Bible in a Year podcast with Fr. Mike Schmitz helps me understand God's love for us and helps me to put on a Biblical worldview. What's the truth about the Catholic faith? There's a book and podcast for that, too. In The Catechism in a Year podcast with Fr. Mike Schmitz, Fr. Mike reads the Catechism, explains the context, and tells how to live out the teachings of the Catholic Faith in daily life. Fr. Mike reads from the Ascension Edition of the Catechism, which I received last year as a Christmas gift from my husband Shawn, but as Fr. Mike explains, you can follow along with any recent version of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. I also enjoy the convenience of simply listening to the podcast while I'm driving. And, I really appreciate Fr. Mike's light-hearted and loving presentation in both these podcasts. Both the Bible in a Year and Catechism in a Year podcasts are found in the Hallow app. Although these podcasts may be started any day, the new year presents an opportunity to start session 1 of these podcasts on day 1 of the calendar year. Although the Parish provided Hallow subscription ends at Easter, both podcasts are included in the Hallow app without paying for a subscription.

*Wendy Schimmoeller*