Saint Michael Catholic Church, Kalida, Ohio - Sunday, December 31, 2017

Merry Christmas, everyone. I am still in the festive spirit as I recall the blessings of a past year and our parishes' celebrations of the birth of our Savior. Ten Masses in two days was a lot, but also was invigorating, as so many people filled our churches with song and worship of the Lord. It is nice to be together for the holidays and to be together with people of faith brings me joy. We have a great faith family. Thanks to all who came to worship. Thanks to all who helped by bringing your singing voice. Thanks to those who went the extra mile to decorate and create an atmosphere of beauty and simplicity (I watched part of the Mass by the Pope in Rome). Next year, I want real sheep and camels and the straw and smells to go with them. Sometimes we go for the big production while we should strive to live out the love of the Lord. I saw many signs of that love in our parishes. Thank you to so many.

And may God's blessings be to all in the New Year. I like to be a person of hope. If anyone has any ways to become a more Christ-centered parish, don't be afraid to contact myself or someone on the parish council. A new year means new resolutions. Help us be parishes of faith, hope and love for the Lord.

Lastly, thanks. So many people have sent cards, cookies, candies and other goodies, plus gifts and clothes. All I can say is, "Thanks." I'd like to say a big thanks to all who pray for us, Fr. Elmer, Fr. Rick and myself. I appreciate all the gifts but I think, with ten Masses this year, that the prayers are what kept me going. Of course I have to go on a diet now.

May God bless each of you and all of you as we begin another year of the Lord. *Fr. Mark*

January 1 (Solemnity of Mary)...

is not a holy day of obligation, but there will be Mass at 10:30 a.m. There is no Vigil Mass on December 31.







Our Condolences The Memorial

Service for **Don Rampe** was held on Thurs, December 28.

The Funeral Mass for **Marcus Landin** was held on Saturday, December 30. The Funeral Mass for **Alvera Verhoff** will be held on Tuesday, January 2, at 10:30 a.m. Please include Don, Marcus, Alvera and their families in your prayers.

High School CCD - January 3

Everyone will meet at St. Michael's Gym for a Fun Night, from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Attendance will be taken.

Students Planning Mass This Week...

are Stephanie Price's 1C class on Wednesday, January 3, and Ellen Millott's 6A class on Friday, January 5.

Sophomore Retreat

Sunday-Monday, January 14-15, 2018, at Maria Stein Spiritual Center. Registrations were mailed.

January 1 at 10:30 a.m.

<u>Euch. Min</u>: Don Wehri, Eileen Decker, Dave & Cindy Erhart, Regina Fischnich, Ruth Foppe, Phil & Sue Fuerst, Lynda Fortman *LECTORS: Paul Bonifas, Don Wehri*

Mass Intentions for the Week

MONDAY, JANUARY 1 Solemnity of Mary 10:30 AM Norbert & Angie Recker

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2 St. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen

8:00 AM Marcus Landin (HN)

10:30 AM Funeral Mass—Alvera Verhoff

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3 8:00 AM Bill Cleemput

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4 St. Elizabeth Ann

7:30 PM L/D Lawrence & Loretta Unverferth Fam.

L/D Cy & Frances Kahle Family

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5 St. John Neumann 8:00 AM Alvera Verhoff (RA)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6

4:30 PM L/D Joseph Gerding Family

L/D Norman & Evelyn Utrup Family L/D Elizabeth & Ben Miller Family

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7 The Epiphany of the Lord

8:00 AM Don Rampe

11:00 AM Walter & Edna Warnecke

Tom Warnecke, Carla Landin

Junior High Gathering

Sunday, January 28, 2018, from 1:00 – 7:00 p.m., at Miller City St. Nicholas. Registrations were mailed & distributed at CCD.

Earn Money for Youth Account...

by helping sell concessions at the CYO games. If you would like to help out, let Jill know. Money in your account can be used toward retreats and other youth events.

Please contact Jill Zeller (567-376-9115) with questions.

CRHP Women's Retreat at Kalida

January 27-28, 2018. Contact Ann (419-615-3922), Wendy (419-957-4194), or Vicki (419-236-1198).

"We've Got Heart!" Awareness Game

Congenital Heart Disease (CHD) is the most common birth defect among children, affecting nearly 2-3 million individuals from the U.S., including several from Ft. Jennings & Kalida. The key to help is providing awareness, and "We've Got Heart!"-a local Congenital Heart Disease awareness and fundraising event-is being hosted by the Kalida Biomedical Innovation class. The event will be held at the Kalida versus Fort Jennings boys basketball game on January 12, 2018, with a 6:00 p.m. start time. Funds raised through raffle baskets and donations will be donated to Nationwide Children's Hospital for CHD research and to afflicted families. "We've Got Heart!" T-shirt order forms are available at each schools' offices and websites with a \$10 price, with orders due January 2, 2018, with checks written to "Kalida High School," earmarked to Cats who Care. Come to Kalida High School on January 12 to support "We've Got Heart!"

PCYMCA Aerobics (Low Impact Aerobics, Stepping & Toning)

Get the new year off to a great start. Come join us, beginning January 8 (runs monthly) on Mondays and Wednesdays, from 6:15-7:15 p.m. at the Kalida grade school cafeteria. Cost is \$20 monthly. Please register by calling Lisa (419-532-2339).

Putnam County Right to Life Meeting

Tuesday, January 2, 2018, at 7:30 p.m., in the home of Mary Jane Stechschulte. (next to the Kalida fire station).

