

MONDAY, JANUARY 29
ROSARY FOR PEACE: 1:30 p.m. in church
TUESDAY, JANUARY 30
RCIA: 7:00 p.m. in Parish Center
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31
HIGH SCHOOL CCD: 7:00 p.m.
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1
ROSARY: 7:00 p.m.
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2
CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY: 3:00 p.m. in church

The Book, *Beautiful Eucharist*...

was handed out at the Christmas Masses and we ran out. More are now available at the church exits.

Euchre Tournament is Sunday, February 4
from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m., in the church basement. In March and April, the euchre tournament will be held the second Sunday of the month (3/10/24 and 4/14/24) in the church basement. \$1 entry to be distributed for prizes. Bring a snack to share if you want. See you there!

January Holy Name Raffle Winners

\$250	Levi Karhoff	\$100	Rick Horstman
\$100	Corinne Brinkman	\$100	Marilyn Niese
\$100	Blanche Stechschulte	\$ 50	John Jones
\$ 50	Grace Haselman	\$ 50	Joe Burkhart
\$ 50	Becky Unverferth	\$ 50	Ruth Foppe
\$ 50	Brad Klima	\$ 50	Jack Kahle

Putnam County Rally for Life - January 28

2:00 p.m. in St. John's Parish Center in Glandorf.
Cookies & drinks will be provided. All are welcome.

Thursdays Out for Seniors - February 1...

at 10:00 a.m., at Pete and Kirstie Rafaniello's. Call Kirstie (419-957-7679) with questions.

**St. Michael's Special Edition
Forty Days T-shirt**

Share your faith this Lent with a one-of-a-kind forty days tee, complete with our church logo! Simply scan the QR code or visit <https://stmichaelslent2024.itemorder.com/> to order your shirt. The deadline is Sunday January 28. This is not a fundraiser. Shirts will be ready by February 12, with pick up after weekend Masses.



Hallow *"I just wanted to say thanks to everyone who worked on bringing us the Hallow app. My family has been enjoying it by doing the Bible in a Year. I'm looking forward to looking into it further and utilizing it even more!"*
Thanks for all the hard work! Kirstie Rafaniello

Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors - February 3 & 4
4:30: PB: Tom Roof, Lisa Unverferth
Lisa Niese, Carrie Patrick, Nancy Rampe, Wendy Schimmoeller **LECTOR: Kayla Narther**
8:00: PB: Bob Klausing, Mike Krouse
Beth Nienberg, Joan Niese, Mark Remlinger, Rose Recker **LECTOR: Jill Laudick**
Ministers to Homebound: Mary Siefker
11:00: PB: Jill Leis, Scott Unverferth
Deb McIntyre, Peter Morrissey, Michele Niese, Teresa Rampe **LECTOR: Grade 5**

SERVER SCHEDULE		
Tues, 1/30	8:00 AM	Taylor Nienberg Chase Rampe
Wed, 1/31	8:00 AM	Logan Rampe Lillian Schnipke Lucas Schroeder
Thurs, 2/1	7:30 PM	Emma Shininger Luke Siefker
Fri, 2/2	8:00 AM	Aubrey Simon Landon Warnecke Rebekah Bendele
Sat, 2/3	4:30 PM	Katelyn Roof Grace Schroeder Josh Schulte
Sun, 2/4	8:00 AM	Carson Remlinger Blake Remlinger Bryce Remlinger
	11:00 AM	Ella Schumacher Alex Shininger Sara Siebeneck

Offertory Bearers - February 3 & 4
4:30: Ryan & Erin Kerner Family
8:00: Ron & Dorothy Kerner Family
11:00: Grade 5

USHERS - February 3 & 4
4:30: Team 4 **8:00:** Team 5 **11:00:** Team 6

The CLC Meeting...

scheduled for Monday, February 12, has been canceled.

Marriage Encounter Couples...


are invited to support each other on Sunday, February 11, 2024. Mass is at 3:00 p.m. at St. John Church, Glandorf. Dinner at 4:00 p.m. Dance from 5:00–8:00 p.m. in the parish hall. BYOB. Tickets are \$40 per couple. Contact Herm & Rita Borgelt at 419-796-9168 or hborgelt@bright.net and Tony & Sandy Vorst at 532-3288.

Lion's KOMEDY Night Show

Saturday February 3. Steak Dinner, ALL beverages, two comedians, cash drawing all included with ticket. Pre-Sale ONLY. Call Greg Knueve (419-532-2277) or Jason Birkemeier (419-796-9975). Thank you!

Attention Those 60 & Older

The Putnam County Council on Aging is having a game day (for those age 60 and over). The Friendship Game (our version of the dating game) on February 23, 2024. It will be held at Dick's Steak House in Kalida beginning at 10:00. Lunch will be included. A RSVP is required by February 13 for you and your friend.



St. Michael Catholic Church - Kalida, Ohio - Sunday, January 28, 2024

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



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 19, 2024 in the church basement on the kitchen side (note: no sessions will be held February 6). There is no cost to attend. Hospitality will be provided.

Session 1: What's Our Story?

The Bible is the story of God's love for us. He created us out of love, redeemed us by his love, and transforms us in his love.

Session 2: Who Is Jesus?

Jesus is both God and man, therefore he reveals who God is in relation to us. Jesus asked Simon Peter, "Who do you say that I am?" (Matthew 16:15) He asks this same question of us: who do you say Jesus is?

Session 3: Am I Saved?

Salvation is a gift from God through Jesus Christ that requires our "yes."

Session 4: Why a Church?

Jesus didn't simply leave us a written message or instruction manual to follow. He gave us a living, dynamic Church where we encounter him personally and allow ourselves to be transformed into his likeness.

Session 5: God Is With Us

God's presence in the Old Testament foreshadows the gift of the Eucharist, one of the seven sacraments of the Church. Jesus established the Eucharist to give us strength and accompany us at every moment of our earthly journey.

Session 6: The Story of the Eucharist

The story of the Eucharist can be traced throughout Scripture. From Genesis to the present day, this session explores how the Cross is the new Tree of Life, and the Eucharist is its fruit.

Session 7: Bread for the Journey

The Eucharist sustains us on our spiritual journey. Our participation at Mass through the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist is an offering of thanksgiving to God. We are then sent forth to share what we have received.

Another Opportunity...Rediscover the Beauty of the Mass

Monday, February 12, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the church basement.

Do you want to get more out of Mass? Join Father Nathan as he dives into sharing the beauty of the Mass in an informal night of faith and fellowship. Father will give insight into the Mass and then end with a Q and A session. He will answer questions you may have about our Catholic faith. You can ask your questions out loud, or you can write them down anonymously. This is a night you won't want to miss. This will be a great way to begin the season of Lent. Delicious beverages provided by 1820 Brewwerks (as well as other options) and light snacks will be provided.

*“Awake, my soul! Awake, O harp and lyre!
I will awake the dawn! I will give thanks to you,
O Lord, among the peoples; I will sing praises
to you among the nations” (Ps 57:8)*

What is the deal with music at Mass? Interestingly, the verb “to sing” (with related words such as “song,” and so forth) is one of the most commonly used words in the Bible. It occurs 309 times in the Old Testament and 36 in the New. It corresponds to those times when man comes into contact with God and recognizes that mere speech is not enough. For instance, after the Israelites had escaped slavery and crossed the Red Sea, they sang (Ex 15). In fact, this is the first mention of singing in the Bible. They sang because they wanted to glorify God in a way that ordinary speech does not, and they sang to reinforce the reality of salvation that God achieved for them. All holy singing from this point forward will reflect this original intention. Ultimately in the New Testament, we will see that the true exodus that God wants us to have is found in the Resurrection (i.e. escape from this world to eternity in heaven). This deeper sense of exodus was captured by St. John in the last book of the Bible: Revelation. Here he speaks of the evil one, whose aim is to corrupt the world and in effect enslave us from reaching our full potential (cf. arts 1 and 3), finally being defeated. Those who were standing in victory “were holding God’s harps, and they sang the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb” (Rev. 15:2-3). Notice for John, it’s Jesus’ sacrifice as the Lamb (cf. art. 6) that fulfills the exodus of Moses, and it is this sacrifice that is represented to us at Mass. Thus, we sing at Mass to glorify our Lord for this sacrifice that leads to freedom, and to reinforce the reality of exodus in our souls. In other words, music is meant to draw us into the spiritual dynamic of God’s salvation for us.

With this vision, the ultimate question for any music at Mass is if it glorifies God and it lifts our souls to be transformed. It is meant to be humble, for its aim is not applause but edification. For this reason, classically the music was conducted opposite the sanctuary (e.g. choir loft) as a way to stress the music’s ultimate purpose of moving us towards our Lord. This of course would be in contrast to symphony or concert, which has a fundamentally different purpose.

So, am I expected to sing at Mass? Here a distinction is necessary: singing of heart and singing of the mouth. As shown above, the purpose of all church music is to arouse the heart so as to glorify God and to connect ourselves to Jesus’ sacrifice. This deeper purpose is the “singing of the heart,” and we all are called to lift up our hearts. However, the means by which our hearts are aroused (i.e. singing of the mouth), is not an absolute expectation for all of us. For those of us who are not musically inclined, being forced to sing may actually distract and prevent the goal of the singing of the heart...at which point, it loses any value. In fact, our hearts may be able to sing better by being inspired from the voices around us. Pope Benedict expressed this more precisely:

In more concrete terms, there are a good number of people who can sing better ‘with the heart’ than ‘with the mouth;’ but their hearts are really stimulated to sing through the singing of those who have the gift of singing ‘with their mouths.’ It is as if they themselves actually sing in the others; their thankful listening is united with the voices of the singers in the one worship of God. Are we to compel people to sing when they cannot, and, by doing so, silence not only their hearts but the hearts of others, too? This is not to impugn the singing of the whole faithful people, which has its inalienable place in the Church, but it is opposed to a one-sidedness which is founded neither on tradition nor on the nature of the case. (pg. 124 Feast of Faith) *Fr. Nathan*

Upcoming Mass Schedule	
TUESDAY, JANUARY 30	
8:00 AM	Melinda Utendorf
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31 <i>St. John Bosco</i>	
8:00 AM	Donald “Mike” Schroeder (A)
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1	
7:30 PM	Leo & Irene Schnipke, Ron Kahle, Jr. Ron Foppe, George Karg
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2 <i>The Presentation of the Lord</i>	
8:00 AM	Linus & Genevieve Schroeder Herb Oglesbee (A)
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3 <i>St. Blaise</i>	
4:30 PM	George, Nora & Dan Basinger Eleanor Siebeneck
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4	
8:00 AM	Lawrence Peck, Al & Mary Siefker Family Norman & Dorothy von der Embse Alvin & Mary Hoffman 50th W.A. Roger & Ruth Kahle
11:00 AM	Brian Knott

Last Week’s Collection : \$ 13,495.00

Choir Assignments—February 3 & 4
4:30: **8:00:** HN **11:00:** Grade 5

High School CCD - Jan. 31: Everyone has class.

Students Planning Mass This Week
are Becky Lucke and Kayla Nartker's grade 4 class on Wednesday, January 31, and Judy Birkemeier's grade 7 class on Friday, February 2.

Students in Grade 5 Will Do the Ministries...
at the 11:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday, February 4.

First Reconciliation...
for our second grade students will be Tuesday, February 6, at 7:00 p.m. in church. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue to prepare for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

Recent Baptisms
ELEANOR ANGELINE ERHART
Daughter of Tyler & Shelby (Schroeder) Erhart
STEVEN JAMES HONIGFORD
Son of Austin & Kennedy (Hoffman) Honigford

Honoring the Past, Celebrating the Present, Preparing for the Future!

One of the things I heard multiple times when I arrived in the Fall of 2022 is “we have a beautiful campus.” And I have to agree...it is indeed inspiring and what a blessing for our entire community! Those previous generations certainly had a vision. What has inspired me more though, are all of you. So many times I have had people ask about the maintenance of our campus and what we need to do to preserve this for decades to come. Because of your generosity, we have been able to address several projects of significant need (e.g. replacing leaky roofs in the church, tuck-pointing and resealing the bricks of the church, and addressing the upstairs of rectory ... by the way, because of the work done in the rectory, our gas bill of \$270 for Nov. 2022 dropped to \$41 for Nov. 2023).

I am writing you this article to simply inform you of our upcoming plans for the next projects. Many people have asked about the steps, bottom part of the rectory, parish center building, and other issues, as well. Thankfully with the many talented people of our parish, and with the guidance of the parish and finance councils, we have a plan of attack. With now knowing the proper scope and corresponding financial needs, we are able to determine the priority list and allocation of parish funds for these projects (essentially, the parish will finance 50% of each following projects). As additional funds are collected, we will proceed with each project in the following order:

1. Rectory / Office Space (additional funds needed: \$300,000)

As was shared last May, the plan is to move the offices back into the rectory building. It was difficult to justify the amount of space and finances for only residential space. By making this move, it allows then to have all our CCD classes in the Parish Center (as opposed to the church basement). The main reason for prioritizing this first is that our demo teams can begin this winter. In fact, you will see work being conducted even now (this work will be financed through the parish’s 50% support of the project).


2. Steps (additional funds needed: \$600,000)

This project has had a lot of robust conversations for over a year. Originally we were not anticipating for the scope and corresponding financial need to be as great; however, everyone wants to do this right. Thus, our plan includes to replace all the damaged stones, address the leakage into our basement restrooms located under the top landing, and preserve the look of the steps. Please know that every penny that is returned to us through the Living Christ campaign will remain with this project, as that was the indicated “case of support.” Finally, the reason why this was prioritized secondly is not because of merit, but because of timing. For example, if we received all the needed funds for this project tomorrow, then I would need to seek the bishop’s approval (takes about 2 months), then they will need a lead time of 22 weeks to prepare and cut the stones, and then the actual construction work can begin. In effect, the earliest time would be Fall of 2024 (mind you, this is not a winter project). Since work can be done on the rectory / office space now, that was given priority.

3. Parish Center (additional funds needed: \$100,000)

The goal with this phase of the project is to demo several walls and thus create the space for three new classrooms. This will allow all our CCD classrooms to be in the same building, which will be a great benefit for security because just as our school entrances’ are locked, we can provide similar security in the Parish Center. In addition, this will provide more stable and conducive spaces for learning, since our basement classrooms are constantly being disassembled and used for other purposes. The funds for this project will go towards the creation of these classrooms and other updates. Ultimately, we will update all the classrooms, but this will get us started.

We certainly understand this is a lot, but when sincerely considering alternative options, this seems to be the most feasible and respectful option for preserving our patrimony and preparing for the future. Kindly know, that if you have any questions, never hesitate to ask me. I could go on for another 10 pages, but I don’t want to get “lost in the weeds.” We, of course, still have our usual day-to-day expenses at the parish, which we are able to meet with your generous support through the Sunday collections; however, if you are also interested in supporting these projects directly as well, special envelopes will be located by the church entrances.



Work began this past week on the remodeling of the downstairs of the rectory

God Bless,
Fr. Nathan