

MONDAY, MARCH 11
ROSARY FOR PEACE: 1:30 p.m. in church
CLC MEETING: 6:30 p.m.
BEAUTIFUL EUCHARIST BOOK STUDY: 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 12
SOUP NIGHT: 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. in the basement
JESUS AND THE EUCHARIST: 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
RCIA: 7:00 p.m. in Parish Center

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13
HIGH SCHOOL CCD: 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 14
EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
ROSARY: 6:55 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 15
CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY: 3:00 p.m. in church
K OF C FISH FRY: 4:00 - 6:30 p.m.

A Time for Healing.... Ecclesiastes 3:1-11

Have you lost a loved one and are searching for a way of healing? Whether you are dealing with a recent loss, or it has been a while, if you are seeking a supportive peer group setting to share your loss, please join us at Sts. Peter & Paul, Ottawa. Our Bereavement group will meet Thursday, March 14, from 7:15 - 8:15 in the Parish Meeting Room (use the gym entrance).

Attention Eucharistic Ministers

St. Rita's Spiritual Health is seeking Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion. If you feel called to this very special ministry, please contact the Spiritual Health Dept. (419-226-9481) for more information. You can also contact St. Michael parishioner Jerry Ellerbrock for more information, as he currently does this ministry at St. Rita's. His number is 419-303-9425. Thanks.

Meet & Greet with Putnam County Commissioner Candidates

The four candidates seeking election for Putnam County Commissioner will be at the Ottoville Municipal Building on Wednesday, March 6, at 7:00 p.m. There will be written questions from the audience. The public is invited. For further information, call 419-890-5194. This event is hosted by the Ottoville Chamber of Commerce.

Kalida Garage Sales - April 25, 26 & 27

Sign up at Kalida Telephone or Union Bank by April 12.

KHS Blood Drive – Thursday, March 14

at Kalida High School's gym, from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Appointments are highly recommended. To schedule an appointment, go to redcrossblood.org, call 1-800-REDCROSS, or call Mrs. Beth Grime at 419-532-3529.

Recycling Supports Kalida Parks

Recycling is good for the environment AND supports Kalida Parks! The Kalida Recycling Center (18247 SR114) is open 24/7/365 and accepts: -Steel (Anything made of steel); Aluminum (Cans and all other aluminum); Cardboard; Clothing & Shoes. Thank you from the Kalida Lions!

Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors - March 16 & 17

4:30: PB: Brian & Bev Berheide
Bob Buss, Michelle Buss, Phil & Sue Fuerst
LECTOR: Deb Kahle
8:00: PB: Dennis Bockrath, Janice Foppe
Ruth Foppe, Lynda Fortman, Dave Kahle, Erica Kahle
LECTOR: Jill Laudick
Ministers to Homebound: Tom & Judy Bonifas
11:00: PB: Greg Bockrath, Dave Buss
Meredith Bockrath, Lori Erhart, Brandon Erhart, Alex Gardner
LECTOR: Jennifer Erhart

SERVER SCHEDULE

Tues, 3/12	8:00 AM	Owen Schnipke Ivan Schroeder
Wed, 3/13	8:00 AM	Lawson Strauer Kobyn Unverferth Jackson Vorst
Thurs, 3/14	7:30 PM	Melanie Wannemacher Lillian Wehri
Fri, 3/15	8:00 AM	Rebekah Bendele Avery Bockrath Ethan Dickman
Sat, 3/16	4:30 PM	Eli Patrick Brady Rampe Chase Rampe
Sun, 3/17	8:00 AM	Camryn Recker Cody Recker Logan Rampe
	11:00 AM	Carson Remlinger Blake Remlinger Bryce Remlinger

Offertory Bearers - March 16 & 17

4:30: Ryan & Erin Kerner Family
8:00: Herm & Rita Borgelt
11:00: Tony & Erica Unverferth Family

USHERS - March 16 & 17

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

PC Right to Life Garage & Bake Sale

We are adding hours on Sunday to drop off items because of the eclipse on Monday, April 8. You can now drop off gently used items and baked goods on Sunday, April 7, from 2:00 - 6:00 p.m. and Monday, April 8, from 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Sale days are Tuesday, April 9, from 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. and Wednesday, April 10, from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Please help us support all life!



St. Patrick's Day Celebration...

For ALL AGES will be hosted by the Putnam County Youth Groups on Sunday, March 17, at the Ottawa K of C Hall, from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. This is a family-friendly event for all ages. There will be music by “The Electric Raindrops,” snacks and fun! \$5/ person. \$20 max per family.



St. Michael Catholic Church - Kalida, Ohio - Sunday, March 10, 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 p.m.



St. George Deanery (Putnam County) Youth Gathering Held at St. Michael's Last Sunday

This group of 6-7-8 graders joined with almost 100 youth from around the St. George Deanery this past Sunday afternoon for their Junior High Gathering. The focus of the day was the Eucharist. They traveled between sessions learning about Eucharistic Miracles, Adoration and parts of the Mass. Thank you to all the Youth Ministers from Leipsic, Fort Jennings and Miller City/New Cleveland, the adults who helped with the meal and High School helpers (from Kalida and Miller City) who made the day a success.

Fr. Nathan’s Eucharistic Article 24 of 40

“A young man named Eutychus who was sitting on the window sill was sinking into a deep sleep as Paul talked on and on. Once overcome by sleep, he fell down from the third story and when he was picked up, he was dead.” (Acts 20:9)

As we can see from scripture, homilies can be deadly. We have all set through our fair share of dreadful homilies, and perhaps for some of us, it’s a deterrent for wanting to go to Mass. So, what’s the point? At its essence, a homily is supposed to show how the readings are relevant to our lives right now and also to prepare us to encounter our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. The word *homily* is Greek for “explanation.” It was an ancient Jewish custom in the synagogues, that after the Bible readings there was an explanation of the sacred text. In fact, Jesus took advantage of such instances (e.g. Mk 1:21 and Lk 4:16). As seen from Acts, Paul himself continued the practice, as well as the entire early Church. St. Timothy said “until I arrive attend to the reading, preaching and teaching. Do not neglect the gift you have, which was conferred on you through the prophetic word with the imposition of hands” (1 Tim 4:13-14). As you can see from Timothy, he links the homily with the ordained. This doesn’t mean the ordained are smarter or more gifted in public speaking; rather, it points to the fact that just as Jesus works through the cleric at the altar, so too does our Lord work through the cleric at the ambo. In other words, just as the cleric stands in the person of Christ at the altar, so too is that the case at the ambo.

But why are homilies so bad? I think it's important to realize that by its nature, a homily is no easy task. We say the homily is to show how the readings are “relevant to our lives,” but let's face it: we are all very different. Different ages, different experiences, different obligations, different headaches and stresses, different personal struggles, different family background, ect. Thus, on any given weekend, what is relevant to one person may not be to another. Another key difficulty, that unlike in some protestant “mega churches,” the homily is not the main point of the Mass. It is not even of secondary or tertiary importance (in my opinion), because for us Catholics, the main point is to have the Sacrifice of the Cross represented to us, so that we can have the graces (merited on the Cross) applied to our lives, and consequently then in a better position (emotionally-spiritually-mentally) to take on the upcoming week. That is the main point, the “cake” itself and the homily is simply “icing” on top. This reality has several implications. First, if we experience a “bad” homily, it is impossible for that to objectively ruin a Mass. Subjectively we may be disappointed, but objectively we still have the graces of the Cross represented to us in a sacramental way, and that’s what it is all about. Secondly, because this is our main focus at the Mass, it also affects our expectations/training of seminarians. Seminarians have some courses and training with homiletics; however, it's not the central concern of their formation. First and foremost is forming a man who loves our Lord, who can be prayerful and reverent at the altar, and who is authentic in sharing the faith. With saying this, it's not an outright excuse for bad homilies. All clerics

should always strive to improve in how they present the faith. Nonetheless, it's not always someone’s gift and talent.

So what can be done? First, I think it's always important to pray for our clerics that they don’t lose their zeal for preaching. Secondly, I think we can pray for ourselves that we can overlook another person’s human shortcomings. Thirdly, if we actively listen to the reading of the Scriptures and ask “how does this apply to me,” it will put us in a more open disposition to hear the homily. In turn, this will put us in a better position to receive an insight and be more aware of how we want the graces of the Cross to be applied to our life that week.

Fr. Nathan

Upcoming Mass Schedule	
TUESDAY, MARCH 12	
8:00 AM	Lawrence Peck, Al & Mary Siefker Family
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13	
8:00 AM	Eugene Kerner
THURSDAY, MARCH 14	
7:30 PM	Ron Kahle, Jr.
FRIDAY, MARCH 15	
8:00 AM	Jim Gerding, Leo & Irene Schnipke
SATURDAY, MARCH 16	
4:30 PM	John Phillips, Sandi Kidd, Jim Warnecke Walter & Marie Becker Dorothy von der Embse, John Smith Ron, Dorothea & Ray Aversch
SUNDAY, MARCH 17 <i>Fifth Sunday of Lent</i>	
8:00 AM	Jim Gerding, Dorothy Miller Louis & Molly Osterhage
11:00 AM	Brian Knott, Virgil, Virginia & Mary Kay Unverferth, Chris Potts
1:00 PM	Stations of the Cross

Last Week’s Collection: \$ 13,994.17

Choir Assignments—March 16 & 17

4:30: Ashleigh 8:00: HN 11:00: Renee

Funeral Choir Members Needed

All singers are welcome to sing in the choir for funerals. The songs are familiar and we can always use extra voices. Just show up to the choir loft when you see there is a funeral. Thanks!

Book Study: Beautiful Eucharist

There are Two Options (yes, you can do both!)

1. In Person: 6:30 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month starting March 11, 2024, in St. Michael Church Basement (classroom near men’s restroom).
2. Online Facebook Group: Search Beautiful Eucharist Book Study

Senior Retreat - Sunday, March 24

Invitations have been mailed for the Senior Retreat, which will be held at SkyZone, Lima.

Save the Date

YES (Youth Elect Service) weekend will be hosted in Ottawa this year on June 6-8. More details will be coming soon.

A Note from Fr. Nathan

As I sadly had to share with you all last week, the bishop asked me to take a new assignment. This was very unexpected nor sought after. The bishop himself admitted that they wished this could be avoided; but, all considering, it was the best option from their vantage point. So, as of July 1 my new assignment will be Rector (technically the bishop is always the pastor of the Cathedral) of Our Lady, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral Parish; Pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Pastor of Sts. Adalbert and Hedwig Parish. This will be in addition to my work in the diocesan tribunal. I know this was a shock, it was certainly for me. But kindly know that I enjoyed my time with you, and it certainly was a blessing.

The one piece in all of this I am glad about is who your new pastor will be: Fr. Phil Smith. Fr. Phil is originally from Tiffin and was in the seminary at Rome. He was ordained in 2011 and his first assignment was as chaplain at the University of Toledo, in the University Parish of Corpus Christi. He also served as associate pastor at Blessed Sacrament parish in Toledo. Then in 2017 till now, he served as Vocation Director (this position helps brings guys into the seminary and he also oversees our seminarians). Fr. Phil will do great, and I know he is looking forward to being with us in Putnam Co.

God Bless,
Fr. Nathan

8th Grade Will Lead Stations of the Cross...

On Sunday, March 10, at 1:00 p.m. in church.

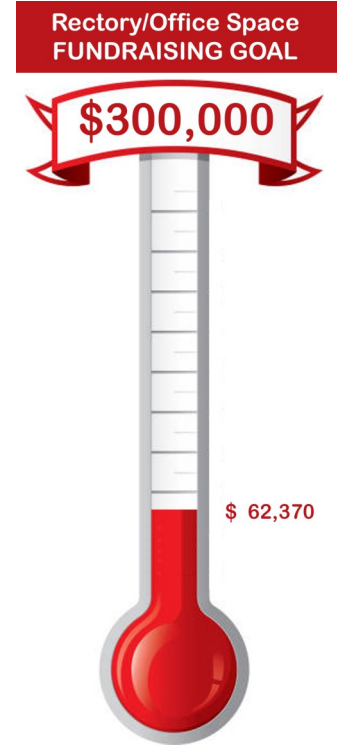
Parish Improvement
Fund Envelopes

THANK YOU to those who have generously donated to this fund already!

With Fr. Nathan leaving this summer, we would really like to reach our goal quickly to have the rectory finished before Fr. Phil Smith arrives.

If you would like to donate toward the improvements of the rectory/parish center and front steps, please use the special envelopes at the exits of church.

Thanks!



St. Michael Parish Improvement Fund
For updates to St. Michael's Church Buildings and Grounds

Offertory Envelope Number: _____ (this is required for processing)

Name: _____

Amount: _____ Date: _____

Small Group Series: Jesus & the Eucharist

Feel free to join us for one (or all) of the next sessions: Tuesdays, March 12 & 19 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., in the church basement. Each session is 2 hours or less. There is no pre-work or homework. Study handouts will be provided to you at each session. Hospitality provided. There is no cost. See you there!

Eucharistic Adoration—Thursdays of Lent

March 14, from 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

March 21, from 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Sign up sheets are in the back of church.

High School CCD Notes

On March 13, everyone has class at 7:00 p.m.

Planning Mass This Week...

Students planning Mass this week are Annette Schroeder's grade 2 class on Wednesday, March 13 and Annette Gerding and Marv Kromer's grade 7 class on Friday, March 15.

First Communion Practice...

will be Wednesday, May 1, at 7:00 p.m. New this year: all individual and group pictures will be taken after the practice instead of on Sunday, May 5. The children are to wear their First Communion clothes to practice.

Reconciliation for Grades 3-8

On March 14, students in grades 3 through 8 will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation during their regular class time.

Euchre Tournament This Sunday, March 10

2:00-4:00 p.m. in the church basement. \$1 entry to be distributed for prizes. Bring a snack to share if you want.

Recent Baptisms

BENNETT WILLIAM ERHART

Son of Kevin & Alexandria (Luttfring) Erhart

PARKER JOAN UNVERFERTH

ZOEY LOU UNVERFERTH

Daughters of Adam & Jessica (Knueve) Unverferth

Soup Nights: Tuesdays During Lent

Soup will be available every Tuesday in Lent from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. On March 12, we will serve beef & noodle and vegetable soup, among others.

Area Penance Services During Lent

Sunday, March 10, at 2:00 p.m. at Ottoville
Wednesday, March 13, at 6:30 p.m. at Continental
Wednesday, March 13, at 7:00 p.m. at Miller City
Wednesday, March 20, 4:00 & 7:00 p.m. at Glandorf
Monday, March 25, at 4:00 & 7:00 p.m. at Ottawa

CLC Meeting

is Monday, March 11, at 6:30 p.m. We will be celebrating January, February & March birthdays.

March 19 - Feast of St. Joseph

FYI: On Tuesday, March 19, Fr. Nathan will celebrate Mass from St. Joseph’s altar, as it is his feast day.