

MONDAY, APRIL 27
ROSARY FOR PEACE: 1:30 pm
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29
FIRST COMMUNION PRACTICE: 7:00 pm
THURSDAY, APRIL 30
ROSARY: 7:00 pm in church
FRIDAY, MAY 1
CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY: 3:00 pm in church

“Living Faith” Series for Young Adults

Living Faith is designed for young adults who want to go deeper in knowing, loving and serving God. There will be five sessions. Each session involves watching some video content, engaging in discussion and setting goals to grow in the spiritual life. All sessions are on Wednesdays in St. Michael Kalida church basement. Each session begins at 7:30 p.m. Optional socialization opportunities will be 1/2 hour before and after each session.

- May 6: Interior Life
- May 13: Mass & Confession
- May 20: Ongoing Formation
- May 27: Catholic Community
- June 3: No session...enjoy the Taste of Kalida
- June 10: Personal Apostolate



Trailer video for the series:
<https://tinyurl.com/stmichael-livingfaith>

Praying the Rosary Before Weekend Masses...

in May and October has been a tradition at St. Michael’s. Please consider volunteering to lead the rosary to honor Mary and ask her intercession. A sign up sheet is in the front entrance of church on the bulletin board. Thanks!

Holy Name Raffle Tickets

Please return any sold or unsold Holy Name raffle tickets to a Holy Name officer (Ryan Buss, Jamie Grime, Keith Brinkman or Jake Landin) or place in the collection by May 17. Thank you for your support!

Job Sites Needed for YES Weekend

The 2026 Y.E.S. project involves junior high, high school youth, and adults helping with painting, cleaning, landscaping, or many other tasks that might be too difficult to do. Most of our work consists of helping private homeowners without family members nearby or unable to maintain or improve their homes. On June 5-6, teens & adults from the St. George Deanery would love to help you! If you would like a team of youth and adults to help with a job, or two, inside or outside of your home, please submit a request by May 24. **Contact Jill Zeller at 567-376-9115.**

Requested Items for VBS

The VBS crew is requesting donations of Capri Sun (and only this drink due to it being dye-free). They also need colorful pipe cleaners and empty paper towel and toilet paper tubes. Please put donations at church entrances. Thanks.

Baccalaureate Mass

Sunday, May 17, 2026 at the 11:00 a.m. Mass

Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors - May 2 & 3

4:30: PB: **Brian & Bev Berheide**
Michelle Buss, Dave Buss, Jerry Ellerbrock, Bob Gerde-man
LECTOR: Brenda Averagesch
8:00: PB: **Deacon Greg, Tony Vorst**
Sandy Vorst, Don Wehri, Dennis Bockrath, Janice Foppe
LECTOR: Shelly Burkhart
Ministers to Homebound: Diane Schroeder
11:00: PB: **Jeff Bockrath, Matt Bockrath**
Logan Bockrath, Evelyn Burgei, Lynda Fortman, Lisa Trentman
LECTOR: Sandy Westrick
1:00: PB: **Deacon Greg, Jill Zeller**
Lori Erhart, Deb McIntyre, Dave Kahle, Karen Schroeder
LECTOR: First Communicants

USHERS - May 2 & 3

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

SERVER SCHEDULE

Tues, 4/28	8:00 AM	Kaylan Bendele Brody Bruskotter Jake Bockrath
Wed, 4/29	8:00 AM	Briggs Fortman Hunter Horstman Owen Brinkman
Thurs, 4/30	7:30 PM	Garrett Jerwers Adam Meyer Lawson Brinkman
Fri, 5/1	8:00 AM	Harrison Miller Jon Parisi Kaley Dickman
Sat, 5/2	4:30 PM	Avery Bockrath Hayden Bockrath Morgan Bockrath
Sun, 5/3	8:00 AM	Claire Bockrath Rebekah Bendele Matt Foppe
	11:00 PM	Avery Bruskotter Loralei Goedde Toby Goubeaux
	1:00 PM	Eli Selhorst Nathan Wannemacher Ethan Dickman

Offertory Bearers - May 2 & 3

4:30: Scott & Angie Meyer Family
8:00: Dale & Jill Liebrecht Family
11:00: Andrew & Tessa Wehri Family
1:00: First Communicants

Lion's Chicken BBQ - Sunday, April 26

11 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the High School (drive thru). Thank you from Kalida Lions for supporting our community projects.

Lions Club Annual Meal for Older Adults

The Kalida Lions Club would like to extend an invitation to all Older Adults (aged 65 and over on or before June 1, 2026) for a free meal in honor of Older Americans Month on Monday, May 11, 2026 from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. at Dick’s Steak House. The meal will be your choice of chicken or roast beef with all the trimmings. This dinner is open to the general public at a cost of \$10. If you are not able to dine in the restaurant, please contact Bruskotter Financial Services’ office (419-532-2099) to arrange for your dinner to be delivered. Carryout dinners are also available. The Kalida Lions wish to thank all of our older adults for your generous support.



St. Michael Catholic Church - Kalida, Ohio - April 26, 2026

Pastor: Fr. Philip Smith (psmith@toledodiocese.org)
Parochial Vicar: Fr. Joseph Varghese (jvarghese@toledodiocese.org) **Deacon:** Greg Zeller
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-Thurs, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Mass Times for St. John the Baptist, Continental: Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. and Sunday at 9:30 a.m.



Dedication of Current Church Building: May 2, 1926

Bishop Samuel Stritch presided at the dedication

From the Desk of Fr. Phil

Dear Parishioners,

Nearing the 100th anniversary of the dedication of our current church building on May 2, 2026, we continue our reflections on church architecture.

An iconic feature of our parish church is the large belltower visible from miles away. Soaring 135 feet high, the brick construction, square design, and arched accents resemble the style of belltower found throughout Italy, especially in Venice.

Have you ever thought about why Christians spent so much money on building belltowers and spires to accompany their churches when that space is actually not used for worship?

In fact, during the design phase of our church, the bishop told the pastor of Kalida, St. Michael not to build a large belltower. The bishop thought the community could not afford the expense. The story is told that the bishop was quite surprised (and upset) when he noticed a large belltower on the horizon as he neared Kalida on the church's dedication day in 1926.

Spires or belltowers have accompanied Catholic churches from as early as the 400s. These tall structures not only indicated the location of a church where people could access the sacraments but also served as an orientation point. In a world without many maps (and obviously no GPS), a church steeple was a guidepost that helped travelers find their way. Similarly at a spiritual level, tall steeples symbolize our mission as the Church (the community, not just the building) to help people find their way in life. To lead people to God! Our Christian example should be an orientation point that helps people find direction and meaning, ultimately helping them find the way to heaven.

Church bells serve an important purpose. The ringing of church bells throughout the day is a practical reminder that God is present and near. Similar to how smartphones and smartwatches alert and remind us about meetings, breaking news, or health and exercise needs, ringing church bells remind us to keep God in mind as we go about our day. They alert us to the supernatural aspect of our lives. The Church has an elaborate ritual for blessing bells, which often includes naming them after saints. Just as the saints draw people to a deeper relationship with God, so too do the church bells call people's attention to God and invite them to worship as they ring before Masses.

Our belltower is home to three bells, two from the original parish church. Both Michael (weighing 1850 lbs.) and Joseph Herman (weighing 1050 lbs.) were consecrated on November 9, 1897. An unnamed bell (weighing 450 lbs.) was added on August 10, 1965.

Tolling church bells when someone dies is an ancient Christian custom, dating back to at least the 7th century. This practice calls the Christian community to pray that the deceased might be cleansed by God of their sins and receive the gift of eternal salvation in heaven.

A Cross is typically at the top of a spire, steeple, or belltower. The Cross standing high over our community proclaims Jesus' victory of sin and death, as well as Jesus' Lordship over our homes and community. Looking up at the Cross, our attention is directed to the high calling we received from Jesus at our Baptism when God's divine life was poured into our souls, promising eternal life in heaven.

Have a great week!
Fr. Phil Smith

Upcoming Mass Schedule

TUESDAY, APRIL 28

8:00 AM Oscar & Marie Kuhlman

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29 St. Catherine of Siena

8:00 AM Loretta, Aaron & Martha Miller, Joe Warnecke
Al & Anna Warnecke, Dick Warnimont

THURSDAY, APRIL 30

7:30 PM Richard, Gerry & Wilma Vorst, Joyce Klausing

FRIDAY, MAY 1

8:00 AM Bill & Ryan Cleemput, Sam & Eileen Decker

SATURDAY, MAY 2

4:30 PM Jager Burgei, Irma Kahle, Ron Kahle, Jr.
George, Nora & Dan Basinger, Frances Hopkins
L/D Don & Kathy Sager Family

SUNDAY, MAY 3

8:00 AM Dolores Hoffman, Frank Schroeder, Joyce
Klausing, L/D Alvin & Mary Hoffman Family

11:00 AM L/D Sam Decker Family, Ed Schroeder
L/D Amadeus & Marcele Schroeder Family

1:00 PM First Communicants

Last Weekend's Collection: \$ 8,269.25

Last Week's Building Fund: \$ 1,560.00

Improvement Fund:

\$ 423,889.54 out of \$309,699.61 goal

Choir Assignments - May 2 & 3

4:30: Ashleigh **8:00:** HN **11:00:** **1:00:** YAHS

Euchre Tournament This Sunday, April 26...

from 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. This is the last Euchre tournament until fall 2026.

Changes in Deacon Formation

The newly revised Permanent Deacon formation process requires five years of study. In light of the changes, Bishop Thomas has approved a new model that overlaps two groups of men in formation so that an ordination will occur every three years. Currently, there is a class in formation with a scheduled ordination date in September of 2030. The next class will begin their Inquiry Sessions and the application process in September of 2027 (fall of next year) and will begin their five years of formation in the Fall of 2028, with ordination planned for 2033. Any men who are currently between the ages of 27 and 57 and feel that the Holy Spirit may be calling them to the Permanent Diaconate are urged to speak with their pastors and to contact Deacon Daniel Brahier, Delegate for Permanent Deacons, through email at dbrahier@toledodiocese.org.

100th Anniversary Church History Talk



This Sunday, April 26, Kevin Fischer will share a **presentation on the history of our church building** at 9:15 a.m.

Coffee and donuts will be available in the church basement from 8:45-9:15a.m.

Choir Members Needed Next Saturday

As we celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the dedication of St. Michael's, we ask any high school and adult choir member or instrumentalist to join us in singing at the 4:30 pm Mass on May 2. Ashleigh will be playing and would love your help commemorating this milestone in our parish! Familiar Easter season songs will be sung.

Recent Baptisms

SIENNA ROSE MIKEK

Daughter of Trenton & Stacie (Heitmeyer) Mikek

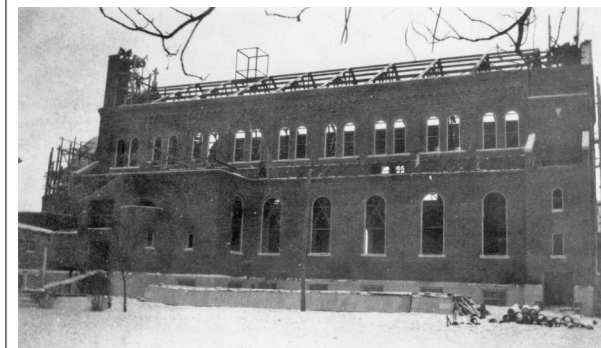
JAYCE PAUL RECKER

Son of Evan & Katelyn (Siebeneck) Recker

April Holy Name Raffle Winners

\$250	Mel Hanneman	\$100	Tessa Schmitz
\$100	Matt Bockrath	\$100	Annaleice Maag
\$100	Steve Rhodes	\$ 50	Bill Horvath
\$ 50	Roger Warnecke	\$ 50	Parker Unverferth
\$ 50	Danielle Rosenbauer	\$ 50	Erin Schmitz
\$ 50	Carl Schulte	\$ 50	Paxton Kleman

Here is the final recollection from former St. Michael's custodian Stephen Schulte:



When the basement was finished, the pillars were constructed in a unique way for that time. Large steel tubes were set up as forms for the concrete. A number of one-inch re-rods were put in the center of each pillar form, and also a round spring-like re-rod about twenty inches in diameter was placed around the outside of the straight ones. Concrete was poured in from the top of these tubes. To get to the top of the pillars, a wooden ramp was made in a zigzag structure to the top, and the gas-powered barrels would bring the concrete to the top of the pillars on a wooden catwalk and dumped in the tubes. This was very interesting for us to watch, and again, poor Sister Ulrica had to call us to attention many times during the day.

The lower side walls were poured concrete the same way as the pillars, off a zigzag incline. The floral trim at the top of the pillars were formed in quarter sections with a plaster of Paris-like cement and then fastened around the pillars. The rosettes on the dome circle were made the same way, as were also the square ceiling blocks. This work was all done on the sanctuary floor. Very interesting to watch. To hold the ceiling and dome blocks and rosettes, they fastened a heavy chicken netting-like wire to the steel upper structure.

The floor of the main floor was made of terrazzo. First a half-inch of washed sand was leveled on the floor and rolled down for evenness. Then crushed granite stones were mixed with a special cement and laid at one-half inch thickness with brass expansion joints at intervals. This was also rolled with a heavy roller to an even thickness. Then it was sanded to a bright finish, making it resistant to wear and kept its beautiful finish with very little maintenance.

The old church was demolished after the new church was occupied. Most of the brick was hauled away. Some was used to fill the old basement. A large winch was used to pull it down. I do not know what happened to the stained glass windows.

For the information of the young people, the old church had a choir loft and a row of benches on each side of the organ, and this is where the school children had to go for Sunday masses. The children could not see the altar, and this led to many pranks and talking during mass. But when it got serious, one of the choir members would take control in no uncertain ways. This was mostly during vacations when the sisters would leave. During school time, the sisters kept things under control, believe me.

Laura and I often visited other churches on weekends or while on vacation, but I can honestly say I have never seen more beautiful stained glass than in St. Michael's. I am very proud of the fact that I was custodian of this wonderful facility for 16 enjoyable years, and I still admire the beauty of the entire St. Michael's. Thanks be to God.

Summer Lector Training for Grades 6-8...

There will be summer lector training for students in grades 6, 7 & 8 on Wednesday, April 29, from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Students Planning Mass This Week...

are Diane Vorst's grade 2 class on Wednesday, April 29 and Connie Cleemput's grade 6 class on Friday, May 1. Our last day of elementary CCD classes will be Wednesday, May 20.

First Communion Practice...

will be Wednesday, April 29 at 7 p.m. We will line up in the church basement to practice processing in. Casey Kahle will be there to take the group picture and individual pictures for those who placed an order. The children are to come in their First Communion attire. If you have questions contact Connie Cleemput or any of the second graders catechists.

First Communion will be Sunday, May 3 at 1:00 p.m.

For Parents

Check out the website, startwithsunday.org. It's an innovative way to share the faith with children, their parents and the distinctive learning needs of all. Three major elements of the website are preparing children for worship, preparing a welcoming environment on Sunday and Pray, Every, Day. Subscribe today, it's free...to get readings, animated videos and fun activities delivered to your inbox weekly. Did I mention it's FREE?