

Saint Michael the Archangel Catholic Church, Kalida, Ohio - Sunday, July 12, 2020

Thoughts from Fr. Mark

Hi, everyone. I hope everyone is staying healthy and holy. For some reason I am feeling a little unholy. Don't take that in a bad way. I did spend time with my brothers this week, but that is not the source of my "unholiness."

For the past years, July was always a time to put my faith into action. There has always been a mission trip to Appalachia or Africa to keep my mind and body focused on reaching out to those in need. The mission trips have helped me see the Lord as servant. The people who do the mission trips become like family. And over the years, some of my blood family have joined in on the fun. The work that we did barely seemed like work, as I look back on it. There were ditches dug, manure hauled, houses repaired, snakes avoided and those were the nice jobs. In the end, to see the smiles on faces of people who became neighbors was all worth it. The neighbors were from Africa to Kalida and Continental. Neighbors don't have to be those who live far away. Sometimes neighbors are truly across the street or church pew.

I am also missing Vacation Bible School. By this time of year, Continental has usually completed the Vacation Bible School routine and Kalida would be getting ready to sing and dance to Bible songs. I miss the energy and smiles. I miss goofy songs that get stuck in my head for weeks. I miss music coming out of peoples' garages. I miss so much about the whole experience. I miss hundreds of children and adults saying in words and actions that they love the Lord. Faith is contagious and attractive. With the coronavirus, faith is sometimes calculated and reserved. I miss the freedom of children to share something so beautiful as singing and dancing together and hugging each other after being hit by a water balloon. Vacation Bible School brings out the life of the Church. God is alive and good and for one week we all know it and show it.

As I thought about my "unholiness," I wondered if I could recapture some of the mission spirit and the VBS energy. Maybe I could do a random act of kindness for a neighbor. Maybe I could give a call to my old Advent Angel. Maybe I could take out old VBS music and sing the old songs. Join me. Put the volume up in your garage as the kids of the neighborhood sing old songs. I know the kids still know the songs. As I ride my bicycle this week, I want to get holy. Help me. It might help you. In the uncertainty of the coronavirus, put on the surety of faith in God who is always good. Have a great week, everyone.

Fr. Mark

Coronavirus and Golfing with My Brothers

I had a very enjoyable time golfing with my brothers this past Monday. My brothers hail from three different areas of the Midwest. It was interesting to hear stories of how the coronavirus has affected their churches. In Cincinnati, many people have not returned to full church attendance. My brother, who is in his 70's, has stayed safe with his wife by attending mostly through media. He plans on keeping this routine as long as the virus is still a real factor for safety. Another brother attends in Indianapolis. He attends his local church, but many do not. There is no need for social distancing as there are very few people who attend. Another brother is from Mercer County and a ticket is required to attend church. It is a system that works for that community to keep people safe and spiritually fed. I wanted to show that there are different ways to respond to church attendance during this pandemic. This should be a time that we are united. I truly believe that we can be united in spirit, but not necessarily through the same action. We need to trust others' responses and respect that they are following God's call. Let's stay strong in our love of God and each other. Have a safe and holy week.

Mass Intentions & Schedule for the Week

MONDAY, JULY 13

NOON End to COVID-19

TUESDAY, JULY 14 *St. Kateri Tekakwitha*

8:00 AM Wilfred Hermiller

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15 *St. Bonaventure*

8:00 AM Jim Warnecke, Richard Fuerst

THURSDAY, JULY 16

7:30 PM Herk Selhorst, Tom Wannemacher

Therese Wantuch

Frances & Urban Meyer Family

FRIDAY, JULY 17

8:00 AM Bill Cleemput

SATURDAY, JULY 18

4:30 PM 50th W.A. Karl & Darlene Miller

L/D Norman & Evelyn Utrup Family

Liz & Ben Miller, Mike Kahle

L/D William Ellerbrock Family

Ron, Ray & Dorothea Aversch

Louis Verhoff, Gary Bockrath

Emma Jane McVey, Helen Korte

L/D Brickner/Korte Families

Jim & Helen Kneeven

Vic & Andy Merschman

SUNDAY, JULY 19

8:00 AM Triena Kahle, Dorothy Miller

11:00 AM Don Holtkamp Family, Vernonia Hicks

Get Your Holy Name Raffle Tickets Back to...

Nick Schulte or Mark Warnecke as soon as possible. The first drawing for the new year is in about a week! Thanks!

Recent Baptism

MILA KAY STECHSCHULTE

Daughter of Drew & Nicole (Kaufman) Stechschulte

First Communion Pictures are Available

If you ordered a First Communion picture, they are available in the church basement.

KHS Blood Drive - Wednesday, July 15...

at Kalida High School, from 12:00-6:00 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments are recommended. To schedule an appointment, go to redcrossblood.org, call 1-800-REDCROSS, or call Beth Grime at 419-532-2750.

Lion's Chicken BBQ - Sunday July 19

Drive-thru carryout at Kalida High School from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Thank you for supporting our community projects.

Kalida 7th grade Volleyball Coach Needed...

for the 2020-21 Season. If interested, contact Adam Huber, (adam.huber@kalidaschools.org or 419-532-3534).

Lunch in the Park - July 16 (Ottawa)

11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., at the Ottawa Senior Citizens Center. Lunch Choices: Grilled Hamburger Platter, Grilled Bologna Platter, Brats Platter, Pies and Drinks. Dine outside in the park or carry out (available by calling 419-523-5593).

Cloverdale St. Barbara's BBQ Chicken Dinner
Sunday, July 12, from 11 a.m. until gone. Meals include 1/2 chicken, green beans, noodles, applesauce and roll. Meals can be picked up on the south side of the Parish Center. This replaces the parish festival, due to COVID-19.