

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
MONDAY, MARCH 2
 ROSARY FOR PEACE: 1:30 pm
 HOLY NAME CHOIR PRACTICE: 7:00 pm
TUESDAY, MARCH 3
 SOUP NIGHT: 5:00 - 6:00 pm
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4
 FR. PHIL TALK: 9:00 - 10:00 am in basement
 PENANCE SERVICE: 4:00 & 7:00 pm
 FIRST RECONCILIATION: 6:30 pm
 HIGH SCHOOL CCD: attend Penance Service
THURSDAY, MARCH 5
 EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: 8:00 am - 7:15 pm
 FR. PHIL TALK: 5:30 - 6:30 pm in basement
 ROSARY: 6:55 pm in church
FRIDAY, MARCH 6
 CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY: 3:00 pm in church

Small Bubble-Wrap Packing Needed...
 for Mission trip. Any size pieces will be used. Please place in a bag marked "Mission Trip" at any of the church entrances or on the basement bar. Thank you!

Kalida Garage Sales—April 23, 24 & 25
 Sign up at Kalida Telephone or Union Bank by April 10.

Little Slugger Baseball Sign-Up now open
 The Little Slugger League is open to all boys and girls from Kalida who are currently Pre-K (4-5yr olds) and Kindergarten. Games are T-Pitch rules with coaches pitching to each player. All players will be able to bat and play defense every inning. All games are played in Kalida at Froggy Park on Saturday mornings of May through June. Registration forms have been distributed at the elementary and are available at in the lobby of the post office. Or you can contact Randy Buss (419-532-2208 or bussrandy@yahoo.com) for more information. Deadline for registration is March 23.

Athletic Boosters Chicken BBQ
 The Kalida Athletic Boosters are selling barbecue chicken dinners for pickup on Sunday, March 8, for \$12 a meal. Pick up times are between 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. This is carryout only. The dinners will need to be picked up at the old Vo ag shop by the soccer field. The funds help support the Kalida student athletes. Please contact Devin Kortokrax (419-296-9401), Brent Hovest (419-890-6164), Amber Erhart (419-615-9738) or Kristin Stechschulte (419-303-7526) for tickets.

Students for Life Dinner...All are Welcome
 Saturday, March 14. Doors open at 5:00 p.m., with dinner served at 6:00 p.m., at the Ottawa American Legion Post 63. Featuring Pastor Lorenzo Sewell, pastor at 180 Church in Detroit, Michigan, who also delivered the closing prayer at President Trump's inauguration. Ticket prices: Adult (individual): \$30, Couple: \$50, Student: \$15. Please dress formally. Tickets can be purchased at Ottawa Ordnance and Well Grounded Café. For questions, please contact Chase Maag at 567-376-5382.

Right to Life Garage and Bake Sale...
 Sale days are Tuesday, March 24, from 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. & Wednesday, March 25, from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Donations of gently used items and baked goods will be accepted on the following days: Sunday, March 22, from 2:00 - 6:00 p.m. & Monday, March 23, from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors - March 7 & 8
4:30: PB: Brian & Bev Berheide
 Greg Bockrath, Michelle Buss, Dave Buss, Ryan Buss
LECTOR: Wendy Schimmoeller
8:00: PB: Duane Steffan, Norma Unverferth
 Barb Steffan, Tony & Sandy Vorst, Don Wehri
LECTOR: Tony Unverferth
Ministers to Homebound: Ryan & Erin Kerner
11:00: PB: Rosten Smith, Evelyn Burgei
 Lisa Trentman, Lindsey Slusser, Sandy & Mike Westrick
LECTOR: Girl Scouts

USHERS - March 7 & 8
4:30: Team 4 **8:00:** Team 5 **11:00:** Team 6

SERVER SCHEDULE

Tues, 3/3	8:00 AM	Carson Knott Evan Leis
Wed, 3/4	8:00 AM	Owen Langhals Zach Lucke
Thurs, 3/5	7:30 PM	Anna McVey Madden Miller
Fri, 3/6	8:00 AM	Ava Niemeyer Ivy Patrick
Sat, 3/7	4:30 PM	Emma Jerwers Alyssa Kahle Nathan Kahle
Sun, 3/8	8:00 AM	Logan Kerner Mallory Kerner Griffin Klausing
	11:00 AM	Hunter Klausing Katelin Knueve Grady Kuhlman

Offertory Bearers - March 7 & 8
4:30: Roger & Lisa Unverferth Family
8:00: Ron & Dorothy Kerner
11:00: Girl Scouts

KHS Blood Drive - Thursday, March 12
 at the Kalida High School gymnasium from 10am-3pm. Appointments are highly recommended. Every unit we collect helps us earn scholarship money for our graduating seniors. Also, during the month of March, all successful blood donations will receive free A1C testing, which is commonly used to screen for prediabetes and diabetes. A1C testing measures your average blood sugar over the past 3 months and no fasting is needed. Plus, you'll get a \$15 Amazon.com Gift Card by email for donating. To schedule an appointment, go to redcrossblood.org, call 1-800-REDCROSS, or call Beth Grime at 419-532-3529.

Springs in the Desert...
 a Catholic infertility ministry, is hosting monthly meetings to accompany women struggling with infertility and loss. Our next meeting will be held **Thursday, March 5, at 7:30 p.m.** in the St. Joseph, Fort Jennings church basement. All women of the parish & surrounding parishes are invited to join us. *You do not need to have attended any previous meetings-new faces are welcome at any time!* For more information, contact Laura Tenwalde (419-303-5752) or Wendy Schimmoeller (419-236-0522). It is our honor to walk with you!

Putnam County Right to Life Meeting
 Tuesday, March 3, at 7:30 p.m. in Kalida St. Michael's Church basement. All are welcome.



St. Michael Catholic Church - Kalida, Ohio - March 1, 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 Time for St. John the Baptist, Continental: Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

How are you filling the sacred space of Lent?

Dear Parishioners,

We continue our Lenten bulletin reflections on the “Last Things.” As discussed last week, Jesus helps us confront our anxieties and fears about death as we face a) our own death, and b) the deaths of loved ones. Jesus takes us by the hand to bring us hope in both situations. When the Son of God ended his earthly life, he could have easily just ascended up into heaven without dying. Yet, Jesus chose to die so we would not be alone in death, as he filled the human experience of death with his loving presence!

Jesus’ death was tragic. Brutal. Unfair. Excruciatingly painful. Also terribly painful to watch. There was nothing pleasant about his crucifixion. Jesus wanted to make clear to us that no matter how horrible our experiences of death might be, God’s loving presence could still be found there.

Perhaps Jesus’ most crucial teaching about death is found in his final recorded words on Calvary. “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit,” Jesus cried out as he was dying (Luke 23:46; Psalm 31:6). With his last breaths, Jesus shows us how death is ultimately a place to put our trust in God. To entrust our future and that of our loved ones to God’s providence.

In the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, we see God the Father’s answer to Jesus’ prayer of trust. Jesus’ resurrection reveals how God the Father can also bring us new life after our body and soul separate in death.

Our entire life is ultimately “practice” for death. Each day, we have many opportunities to allow Jesus to be part of our life and to entrust our future to God. Finding God in especially painful, frustrating, or unfair circumstances is not always our default reaction to tragedy and suffering. Yet, that is what we are called to do. Today. And also, at the hour of our death. To let go of our plans for the future and accept with trust God’s care for us. To give our worries about the future to God. To ask God the Father to bring good out of our suffering.

For those using the Hallow app, “Night Prayer” is a good way to practice entrusting our future to God. Night Prayer is one of the 5 daily prayer sessions priests pray as part of the “Liturgy of the Hours,” but anyone can use this prayer that takes less than 10 minutes at the end of the day. Night Prayer uses Jesus’ words from the Cross to bring closure to the day and to put God in control of our future as we go to sleep: “Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.”

Not being able to be in control of our future can be quite scary until we begin to accept that God the Father cherishes us, values us, and wants to share eternal joy with us in heaven more than we want it ourselves. Each day is an opportunity to practice trusting God more, searching for his loving presence in the ups and downs of life, and allowing Jesus to lead us through all our trials, including the final trial of death. Have a good week!

Fr. Phil

Soup Nights During Lent

Ham & Bean Soup and Chili Soup will be available this Tuesday, from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. This is open to EVERYONE in the parish! Enjoy the soup as a walk-in, drive through (on the elevator side of church) or eat in the church basement. If you want to be added to our delivery list or if your family or organization would like to donate a roaster or pot of soup, please call Darlene Miller at 419-615-8819.

Upcoming Mass Schedule

MONDAY, MARCH 2	
7:15 AM	Successful Surgery
TUESDAY, MARCH 3	
8:00 AM	Tom, Alice & Stella Brinkman
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4	
8:00 AM	Courtney Ehrnsberger, Pats & Rita Broecker Joe Warnecke
THURSDAY, MARCH 5	
7:30 PM	Dorothy Miller & Family
FRIDAY, MARCH 6 <i>First Friday</i>	
8:00 AM	Steve Stechschulte (HN)
SATURDAY, MARCH 7	
4:30 PM	Jim & Keith Unverferth, Jim & Angie Erhart Dick & Gladys Unverferth & Family Larry Haselman & Family, Irma & Ron Kahle, Jr. Walter Warnecke Family, Eleanor Siebeneck George, Nora & Dan Basinger Frances & Alphonse Schulte
SUNDAY, MARCH 8 <i>Third Sunday of Lent</i>	
8:00 AM	Ruth Gerdeman
11:00 AM	Girl Scouts, Rita Bellmann, Edward Giesige



Our Condolences

The Funeral Mass for Steve Stechschulte was held on Thursday, February 26, 2026. Please include Steve and his family in your prayers.

Last Week’s Collection: \$ 9,341.00

Last Week’s Building Fund: \$ 2,707.00

Improvement Fund:

\$ 410,080.54 out of \$309,699.61 goal

Choir Assignments - March 7 & 8

4:30: Ashleigh **8:00:** HN **11:00:** Children’s

Students Planning Mass This Week...

are Pat Broecker's class on Wednesday, March 4 and Michele Doepker's grade 6 class on March 6.

High School Religious Ed Notes—March 4

Students are asked to attend the Penance Service at 7 p.m. If unable to make that time, come to the 4 p.m. Service

Students in Grade 7

- will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation on March 5 during their religion class time.
- will be re-enacting the STATIONS OF THE CROSS on Sunday, March 22, at 1:00 p.m. in church.

Attention Parents of Current 7th Graders

The Confirmation Retreat held at Damascus will be November 20-22, 2026. This is for our next year's grade 8 students. Please make this a priority for your family and put it on your calendar now.

Thursday Eucharistic Adoration

8:00 a.m. - 7:15 p.m. Sign up sheets are in the back of church.

Stations of the Cross

Every Sunday of Lent at 1:00 p.m. in church.

Use Hallow for Lent to Grow in Your Faith

We are excited to announce our continued partnership with Hallow. Join us this Lent for our next prayer challenges, Pray40 and/or Kids Lent: Miracle Hunters. These challenges can be accessed in our church community on the app. You can participate in the challenge through the paid or free version of the app. Scan the QR code and it will connect you directly to our parish church community on the app! We look forward to praying with you this Lent! Check the entrances of church for a flyer with directions to connect on Hallow if needed.



Catholic Jewelry and Rosary Fundraiser Sale...

for our Youth attending the Steubenville Youth Conference this Summer. Gift Ideas for: Easter, Confirmation, First Communion & Mother’s Day. Jewelry and Rosaries will be available for purchase after all Masses in the Elevator Entrance on March 7/8, March 14/15 and March 21/22. Most items are priced between \$10-\$25 each.



Happy Birthday, Fr. Joseph!

Fr. Joseph celebrates his birthday this Friday, March 6.

We appreciate the joy he brings to us each and every day and the sacrifices he has made to be here with us. We’re lucky to have him! Wishing him all the best!



Jr. High Gathering Attendees

Back row: Jacob, Will, Carson, Henry, Owen, and Zach

Front row: Anna, Riley, Anna, Maria and Ella

Missing from photo: Kourtney

These Kalida 6-7-8 graders joined with many others from the Deanery last Sunday, February 22, for the Junior High Gathering, hosted by Miller City St. Nicholas / New Cleveland Holy Family parishes. The students attended Mass, joined together for lunch and then spent the afternoon traveling to different stations learning about being Faithful in the Little. The day ended with Adoration and Benediction.

Father Phil’s Lenten Talks

All are welcome to Father Phil Smith’s Lenten talk: March 4, at 9:00 a.m. and March 5, at 5:30 p.m.: *Catholic Teaching on Gender: An Exploration of the recent Pastoral Letter of Bishop Daniel E. Thomas on Gender Ideology*

in the Kalida, St. Michael church basement. This talk will explain Bishop Thomas’ document on the Catholic Church’s teaching transgenderism and other related issues. The final Lenten talk will be: March 11, at 9:00 a.m. and March 12, at 5:30 p.m.:

Can’t I Pray to God Anywhere?
Why Catholic Church Architecture Matters

Penance Services

Wednesday, March 4

4:00 & 7:00 p.m. at Kalida

Wednesday, March 11 7:00 p.m. at Fort Jennings

Wednesday, March 11 7:00 p.m. at Miller City

Wednesday, March 25 4 & 7 p.m. at Glandorf

Monday, March 30 4:00 & 7:00 p.m. at Ottawa

Regular Confession times at Kalida, St. Michael:

Saturdays, March 7, 14, 21, 28

from 8:30-9:00 a.m.

Thursdays, March 5, 12, 19, 26 from 6:45-7:15 p.m.

Confessions at Continental, St. John the Baptist:

Wednesdays, March 11, 18, 25

and April 1 from 5:30-6:00 p.m.

SHE Second Session

Women are invited to join us for SHE: She Shall Be Called Woman. Please know you do NOT need to attend every session, come when you can as you are! The theme is Ten Virtues of Mary. The next session is March 7 “Surpassing Purity.” Sessions are held in St. Michael's Church basement from 7:15-7:30 a.m. for optional coffee and conversation with the program running from 7:30-8:30 a.m. We look forward to seeing YOU!

2026-27 Holy Name Raffle Tickets Available

Contact Mark Warnecke (419-796-8429) or Nick Schulte (419-969-0496) for tickets.

Looking Ahead...

Schedule for Holy Week/Easter

Holy Thursday Mass (April 2):

6:00 p.m. at Continental

7:30 p.m. at Kalida

Good Friday (April 3):

3:00 p.m. at Continental

1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. at Kalida

Easter Vigil Mass (April 4):

8:30 p.m. at Kalida

Easter Sunday Mass (April 5):

9:30 a.m. at Continental;

8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 11:00 a.m. at Kalida

(Note the additional 9:30 a.m. Mass at Kalida)

First Reconciliation...

for our second graders and their parents will be This Wednesday, March 4, at 6:30 p.m.