St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church, Kalida, OH: Divine Mercy Sunday, May 10, 2020

Pastor: Fr. Mark Hoying, C.PP.S. In Residence: Fr. Elmer Wurth, M.M.

Thoughts from Fr. Mark

Hi, everyone. I hope you are all doing well. It seems like forever since I have seen you. I catch glimpses as Fr. Elmer and I take drives through the neighborhoods and do some road farming out in the country. Church is not the same without you. I know that the Lord is always there, but I miss praying together. All we can do for now is to continue to pray and trust that we will be together soon. I do believe there are many lessons that can be learned through our time apart.

One lesson that I have learned is that there are many of you who truly miss the Lord in the Eucharist. I recently tried to call all the First Communion families from St. John's and St. Michael's. I have found out that the young people are still as excited and are trying to be patient. Even with the last weeks of school to distract them, our young people continue to ask about their taking in the Body of Christ. I have found families waiting together to help with a second grader's lack of patience. Some of the stories that I have heard really inspire me.

I also have heard from many adults who can't wait to say Amen to the Body of Christ. The presence of Christ is all around us but to take in the Eucharist is so powerful. With this in mind, we are going to do a special Mass for our two RCIA candidates. This coming Tuesday, they will participate and celebrate the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion. It is time to welcome Aleasha Kahle and Megan Ashbacher into the Catholic faith and our faith communities. Please keep them in your prayers.

People always ask about Fr. Elmer and how he is doing. He is doing well…even though some of his jokes could use a little help. Seriously, he is as ornery as ever and has a good spirit. I make sure he prays for me as he always assures me he prays for people in both parishes. He has increased his meditations, which I think is a good thing. He would like to get out more, but I keep him pretty much hunkered down. I don't let him wear shoes in the car, as He threatens to jump out of the car and start up a random card game. He misses people, also. He feeds off of the goodness of people, which I thank all of you for. I hope this hunkering down ends soon so that Fr. Elmer can go back to being the social butterfly that gives him life.

One last thought: it does my heart good to hear of so many people who really miss church. It speaks of our community of faith and that we have wonderful parishes. Pray for each other, Fr. Elmer and say one for me. May God bless all of you and may we come together as a family soon.

Miss you and I pray for you all the time. ***Fr. Mark***

Happy Mother's Day

Today, I spoke with a family who has small children. They were doing homework. They were making Mother's Day cards. Nice homework for nice people. May God bless all of you who give so much life to your children. If the governor would let me, I would take you all out for a meal. (I hope he doesn't change the restaurant order before this gets printed). Happy Mother's Day to my mom, who is feasting in heaven. Mom could make a mean angel food cake. I hope the angels bake her a good one. Remember the confetti sprinkles to make it special.

Mass Intentions/Schedule for TV and Facebook

MONDAY, MAY 11
NOON Funeral Mass—Ruth Hermiller

TUESDAY, MAY 12
8:00 AM Nori Schipke (CLC)
7:30 PM RCIA Candidates: Aleasha & Megan

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13 *Our Lady of Fatima*
8:00 AM Carolyn Unverferth, Gene Stechschulte
100th Birthday of Mildred Buss

THURSDAY, MAY 14 *St. Matthias, apostle*
7:30 PM Norbert & Lorene Fuerst, Al Knueven
Moxie & Cindy Wehri, Jim Warnecke
Irene & Leo Schnipke

FRIDAY, MAY 15 *St. Isidore the Farmer*
8:00 AM Mike Kahle

SATURDAY, MAY 16 *Live on Channel 70 & Facebook*
4:30 PM Ray, Ron & Dorothea Averesch
John Phillips, Harold Barnhart, Vic Grote
60th W.A. Charles & Judy Nussbaum
Arnold & Jeff Siebeneck, Alan Heuss
L/D Gilbert Smith Family
Kenny Smith, Diane Smith, Jim Kahle

SUNDAY, MAY 17 *Sixth Sunday of Easter*
8:00 AM Replay of Mass on Channel 70
11:00 AM Replay of Mass on Channel 70

Mass will be at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays at Continental St. John's on Facebook.com/kalidastmichaels

Our Condolences

The Funeral Mass for
Ruth Hermiller
will be held on
Monday, May 11,
at Noon.
Please include
Ruth and her
family in
your prayers.

VBS Cancelled

With sadness, our VBS which was scheduled for July, has been cancelled. Due to the restrictions in place, we felt the safety of our families was most important. We will continue with our planning to make our 2021 VBS one for the record book.

Masks are Needed…

by Blanchard Valley Hospital and Bluffton Hospital. If you are sewing masks and have extras, please drop them off at the elevator entrance at St. Michael's. Our smaller hospitals are at the end of the PPE supply chain. Thanks for helping out.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!