



ST. CHARLES BORROMEO
CATHOLIC CHURCH

THE CHIMES

St. Charles Parish

September/October 2023

Volume 23 Issue No. 1



FR. KENT KAUFMAN
Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

The other weekend at Mass you had a chance to hear Matthew Ayers speak about the exciting work of Focus missionaries. Focus stands for the Fellowship of Catholic University Students and they are celebrating their 25th anniversary. You can learn more about their work to keep our Catholic faith alive on our college campuses by checking out their website at www.focus.org.

Matthew will be on the campus of Coastal Carolina University, a campus of just over 10,000 students. He will also be just next door to the vacation destination of Myrtle Beach, SC. Just up the coast in Connecticut will be Elena Niese, sister of Emily, our Director of Liturgical Music Ministries. She is in her second year as a Focus missionary at the United States Coast Guard Academy in New London, CT. We now know two of the 800 missionaries on campuses this year throughout the United States!

When I was visiting with Matthew during the weekend he was here he introduced me to a new hymnal called *Source & Summit*. I love the title since it refers to our understanding of the Eucharist. Why?

Well the Eucharist is the heart of our sacramental life as a Catholic. It is what binds as one Church. It nourishes us for our weekly work back in the world. It's the foretaste of the heavenly banquet. It's our participation in the life, death, and resurrection of our Savior. And this list could continue ad infinitum!

You will find elsewhere in this issue articles about the Eucharistic Revival that is now in the parish-focused year. In particular I want to highlight the letter from Bishop Thomas. If it sounds familiar that's because it was in the bulletin the other week, but I thought it was worth re-reading and hopefully reaching everyone in our parish.

The focus of the letter from Bishop Thomas reflects on how the Eucharist and the priesthood are intertwined. They need each other. We as a Church can increase both our devotion to the Eucharist as the center (source and summit) of our lives as well as our support for an increase of vocations to the priesthood.

In a specific way, Bishop Thomas asks each of us to offer one Hail Mary in our daily prayer for an increase of priestly vocations. When I was still in my youth living under the roof of my parents, we offered more than one Hail Mary each day together in prayer! We had a Hail Mary added to our meal prayers at lunch (dinner in Putnam County) and dinner (supper in Putnam County).

Bishop Thomas also asks that fast or offer an act of penance on Friday. You can link to food or otherwise. It's your decision. Whatever you decide, make it be a sacrifice, just as Jesus sacrificed his life on Good Friday so that we might have eternal life.

In fact, the word "sacrifice" comes from two Latin words that literally mean "to make holy." Our chosen action of fasting or penance is offered to make our world more holy. I sacrifice in some way so that I can be more in tune with God's will rather than my own selfish will.

Bishop Thomas makes that request for each of us personally, but at a parish level asks that we increase our prayer for vocations and also devotion to the Eucharist. You will notice that each weekend,

we now have one of the intercessions in our Universal Prayer at Mass relate to vocations.

We also will expand at St. Charles our offering of Eucharistic Exposition. Currently we offer each Wednesday a time of Eucharistic Exposition from 1:45-2:00 p.m. Our Pastoral Ministry Team leads this prayer, but all are welcome to join us. As the school year unfolds we plan to occasionally expand that to be 1:00-2:00 p.m. and include different grades from St. Charles Catholic School to join us. Also, our EDGE and LifeTeen programs will incorporate times of Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration throughout the year.



In particular, though, we are launching some special evenings of Eucharistic Exposition and Worship on some Sundays throughout the year.

Sunday, October 1 - 5:30-6:30 pm
Sunday, November 5 - 5:30-6:30 pm
Sunday, February 26 - 5:30-6:30 pm
Sunday, April 7 - 3:00-4:00 pm

We are still working out the details of these special times of prayer and devotion, but we want to focus our prayer on those days especially for vocations. Also, we want to have a special name for these times of prayer. If you have a suggestion, please let Emily Niese know what you are thinking. We will have special music and other offerings to help make the hour together complete and deepen our love for God and for one another.

In closing, I want to ask that in your prayer for vocations you keep in mind two parishioners from St. Charles. Kevin McGraw has just returned for his penultimate year of study at Mt. St. Mary's Seminary in Cincinnati. Next on Kevin's radar is ordination to the diaconate, scheduled at Rosary Cathedral in Toledo for Saturday, May 18, 2024 at 10 a.m. Mark your calendars!

Secondly, Emma Delong (a 2021 graduate of LCC and 2017 graduate of SCCS) is now a postulant with the Passionist Nuns in Whitesville, KY. You can learn more about this cloistered religious community located in the Diocese of Owensboro on the western side of the state by visiting their website at www.passionistnuns.org.

In closing, I invite you to stop by church any day and make a visit before the Eucharist reserved in the tabernacle in our Blessed Sacrament chapel. I see many people do this throughout the day, even for just five or ten minutes. I am sure they will tell you it is the most peaceful moment of their day. There is nothing better than simply to be in the presence of our Lord and Savior.

Fr. Kent

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**LAURIEANN
CAMPBELL**
Director of Operations

Dear Parishioners of St. Charles Church,

I am thrilled to be taking on a new role as the Director of Operations at St. Charles Parish, and I cannot wait to serve you all in this capacity.

For those who may not be familiar with my background, I come from a diverse professional journey. My career started in the world of advertising, where I had the privilege of working at several firms in Toledo, including the esteemed Hart & Associates. After moving to Lima to be closer to my husband's family, I focused on staying at home to raise our children. Next, I transitioned to a supervisor role at Kohl's, where I spent ten years honing my leadership and organizational skills.

My journey with St. Charles Parish began about twenty years ago when my family joined the parish. Then in 2017 I became an employee when I accepted a role as a Ministry Coordinator. From there, I had the privilege of stepping into the front office, replacing

the wonderful Linda Hoehn after her retirement in 2019. Throughout this time, I have been blessed with the support and warmth of this community, making my journey all the more fulfilling.

On a personal note, my heart is deeply rooted in this community, as my three children have attended St. Charles School and Lima Central Catholic. With my youngest son preparing to embark on his new journey at the University of Dayton this fall, my husband and I are excited to embrace the next chapter of being newly empty nesters.

Now, as the Director of Operations, I am excited to apply my skills, experiences, and passion to further contribute to this vibrant parish. I am committed to supporting and enhancing the various programs and initiatives that make St. Charles a special place for all of us.

Together, let us continue to grow in faith, love, and service to one another. If you have any ideas, suggestions, or simply want to connect, please do not hesitate to reach out. I am truly grateful for the opportunity to serve you all in this capacity, and I look forward to the journey ahead.

Thank you, and may God bless each one of you.
Kindly,



By Katie Marsh

As summer winds down and the children return to school, I would like to take a moment and express gratitude to the members of the congregation who were able to take time out of their busy schedules by helping deliver a wonderful time and meals to several families in the family promise organization. Family Promise is a local organization that helps families through hard times to get back on their feet and start over by getting jobs, child-care, and finding them a new home. By donating a meal, we can ensure the families will have a warm meal and a good conversation if only for a short time. It is also a great time to spread the wonderful word of God. Family promise is always looking for individuals and families who are willing to donate a meal and a small amount of time to provide the meal and reflect on all the wonderful gifts God gives us each day. If you are interested in donating a meal, time or monetary gift please contact me @ 419-230-1722 and I will put you in touch with Family Promise. I am hoping to sign our parish up for another week either in November, December, or January. Please reach out so I know who is available to help before I commit to another week. Since school and sports are coming into full swing, schedules are once again tighter than ever for everyone. Thanks to all of you who helped the week in August.

Online Giving

It's safe,
It's Easy,
It's Convenient, and
It helps St. Charles Save Money



Sign up today by visiting
stcharleslima.org
and clicking on the
Online Giving icon.

St. Charles Catholic Church Mission Statement

To build a community of faith
united with Christ in the Eucharist,
living as disciples,
sharing God's love and grace.

Pastoral Council, June 2018

PARISH WEBSITE

Check out the parish website at
stcharleslima.org

The Chimes Staff

Cathy Huber
chimes@stcharleslima.org

MISSION STATEMENT



THE CHIMES

The mission of The Chimes is to foster parish unity, to promote Christian ideals, and to publish newsworthy events within the Parish community.

St. Charles Parish
2200 West Elm Street
Lima, Ohio 45805
chimes@stcharleslima.org



MELODY KEARNS
Family Formation Coordinator

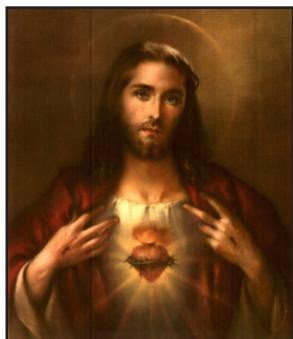
We are so excited to begin the 2023-2024 year of Family Formation. Mark your calendars for **Sunday, September 10, 2023 at 9:00 am.**



We always start off with some socializing over coffee, juice, and donuts. Parents and Children will complete a contract to include a day and time that Home Lessons will be completed and all participants will sign and date in agreement. I encourage these contracts to be put in a place where everyone can see it daily.

Children will be dismissed to their classrooms at 9:30 a.m. The children will participate in welcome back activities, discuss the items found in the class prayer center and identify items they could include in similar prayer centers in their home. The children will also receive their W.O.G. Logs, learn how to use the Logs to develop their lifelong habit of reading scripture. The children will learn about the guardian angels assigned to protect and intercede for each person. Students will color a prayer card which includes the Guardian Angel Prayer to take home and place them at their prayer center for easy access to all family members.

The first Home Lesson will be prepared and ready for each family to take home. This lesson will include references about the angels found in scripture and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. We are looking forward to seeing old friends and making new friends. Go to stcharles-lima.org and complete the online registration today! You will find us under the *Kids and Students* Tab and follow down to *(K-5th) Family* Tab. Call Melody Kearns, Family Formation Coordinator if you have any questions 419-228-7635.



**Sacred Heart Prayer –
Oh Most Holy Heart
of Jesus**

O most holy Heart of Jesus, fountain of every blessing, I adore You, I love You, and with a lively sorrow for my sins, I offer You this poor heart of mine. Make me humble, patient, pure, and wholly obedient to Your will. Grant, good Jesus, that I may live in You and for You. Protect me in the midst of danger; comfort me in my afflictions. Give me health of body, assistance in my temporal needs, Your blessing on all that I do, and the grace of a holy death. Amen.



“Let us open the door of His Sacred and Adorable Heart and be wrapped about for an instant, by the flames of His love, and we shall see, what a God who loves us can do.”

-St. John Vianney



Testimonies on the Power of the Enthronement: Tepid Souls shall become fervent.

Do I or any of my family members need special help? Do we need peace in our family and consolation in our sorrows?

The Enthronement of the Sacred Heart is an opportunity for a “crusade for the Social Reign of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.” Our Lord desires to pour out graces upon us and remind us that “All things are possible to him who believes” (Mk 9:22).

Jesus requested to St. Margaret Mary that His image be “exposed and honored” in a prominent place so that he could pour forth new graces and blessings.

“It seems to me that the greatest desire that our Lord has that His Sacred Heart should be honored by some particular worship is to renew in souls the effects of His Redemption.” -St. Margaret Mary II, 321.

This act of faith also serves as a powerful reminder that Jesus is with you.

The more we honor the Lord in our day-to-day life the more Jesus can strengthen us and help us. When we enthrone the Sacred Heart, it means that we place him on a throne and submit to His authority.

The Enthronement says, **“Jesus be the King of our heart and home.” Our Lord desires that we give him our heart so that he can touch our hard-heartedness and turn our hearts of stone into hearts of flesh.**”

The Enthronement of the Sacred Heart is an opportunity for a family to come alive with the spirit of faith and love and grow in reverence and, thereby fostering vocations; aiding the family to become in truth a “domestic sanctuary” of charity and unity, is the purpose and the history of the Enthronement movement.” – Fr. Francis Larkin.

Testimonies of the Power of the Enthronement:

Since having our Home enthroned, I started praying the Rosary daily. I have never said the rosary before, and it has drawn me in closer to our Blessed Mother and Jesus.

“Ever since I welcomed the Sacred Heart of Jesus into my home, I have been on fire, with Our Eucharistic Lord and The Devotion of The Sacred Heart of Jesus. I strongly encourage everyone to do the Home Enthronement. – Bryan

The preparation period before the enthronement provided graces in itself. My husband and I found that as we learned about the enthronement, we felt closer to each other and to the Lord. Inviting our relatively new parish priest over for the enthronement and for dinner allowed us to form a bond with him and for our kids to see him in a different setting other than church. – Lisa

My Spouse wasn’t practicing our faith, He didn’t participate in the enthronement, but since our home was enthroned, he is now going to RCIA and wants to receive the sacraments to become Catholic.

Our business was struggling. We weren’t sure if we were going to survive. We had our business enthroned and shortly after things turned around and our business became fruitful. We are still in business and doing better than ever. – Newark, OH

Our family has encountered the peace of Christ after our Enthronement.

To learn more, visit:

<https://welcomehisheart.com/home-enthronement>

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Do you have questions? Let us serve you...

The Enthronement Process
The Meaning of the Sacred Heart
The 12 Promises of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Welcome His Heart Lima Ministry Team contacts:
Norma Rower (419) 234-3952
Missy Brunner jonmissybrunner@woh.rr.com



EMILY NIESE
Liturgical
Music Coordinator

Welcoming the Parish Year of the Eucharistic Revival

You may be wondering where the new song in the pews came from and why we are singing it. This new song, “Lord, I Am Not Worthy,” is just one part of our entering into the Parish Year of the Eucharistic Revival. The Parish Year began the weekend of June 10-11 with the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) and will continue through July 17, 2024. During this time we have lots of opportunities to express and renew our love for the eucharist in new ways.

“Lord, I Am Not Worthy” was written by two priests - Fr. Joe Menkhaus (Diocese of Cleveland) and Fr. Connor Hetzel (Diocese of Youngstown), and Monica and Max Menkhaus who are siblings of Fr. Joe Menkhaus. Fr. Joe stated that his inspiration was rooted in prayer, scripture, and the document that the USCCB put forth for the Eucharistic Revival. Referring to the song he stated, “It’s real for me, because there are many times where I don’t feel worthy - to be a priest, to be a Christian, to even receive the eucharist. But the Lord’s promise to me is not that I have to make myself worthy, but that He makes me worthy.”

In addition to this new song, our Eucharistic Procession and Eucharistic Procession Choir were of course a part of the Parish Eucharistic Revival, and you can also look forward to some upcoming Holy

Hours. These Holy Hours will indulge us in the diversity of musical worship of our eucharistic Lord - including praise and worship music, traditional hymns, and chanted Evening Prayer. There is unfathomable grace and meaning when we worship Christ in the eucharist. This is described so well in *Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist Outside Mass*, “...Living with Christ the Lord, they achieve a close familiarity with him, and in his presence pour out their hearts for themselves and for those dear to them... Offering their entire lives with Christ to the Father in the Holy Spirit, they draw from this wondrous exchange an increase in faith, hope, and love... to lead their whole lives with the strength derived from the heavenly food.” It is so exciting to have these new encounters under way and to embrace our call to eucharistic worship.

I hope you have had a chance to review the updated Liturgical Ministry Guide handed out at the Eucharistic Procession and Picnic. There are lots of opportunities to be more involved if you feel called to serve Christ in the eucharist in a new way.

Finally, there is even an Official Store of the National Eucharistic Revival. Check it out if you’re interested in sporting some gear to represent this movement in the Church! The store can be found at the following link:
<https://store.eucharisticrevival.org/collections/merchandise>

Christian Corner Community Center



christiancornercc@wcoil.com
(419) 222-4425
1601 McClain Rd.
Lima, OH 45804

Please Let the Parish Know

If you have a family member or loved one in a nursing home or assisted living facility, please notify the church office, (419) 228-7635, in order that the parish may minister to him or her.

Father Kent or one of the Communion distributors will be happy to visit at any time.

Save The Date

Diocesan Celebration of Wedding Anniversaries

Our Lady, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral October 22, 2023, 3:00 p.m.

If you are celebrating a milestone wedding anniversary in 2023 – 25, 40, 50, 60, or 60+ years – plan to join Bishop Daniel E. Thomas for the Order of Blessing Married Couples within Holy Mass. Registered couples receive a commemorative certificate and are invited to a reception following mass. To register visit: www.toledoanniversarymass.org

Outreach Ministries

The Outreach Ministries offer parishioners the opportunity to share their faith and resources with those in need, both within the Parish and in the community.

Built on the Church’s strong tradition of reaching out to others, these ministries provide critical emotional and financial support.

Card Ministry

a. Barbara Schierloh bdschieerloh@gmail.com coordinates the making of cards. b. Joyce Day, jaday@wcoil.com sends Birthday cards to parishioners who are celebrating major birthdays.

Care and Concern Ministry reaches out to those families who have suffered the loss of a loved one. It provides beverages and snack food items for those families who are attending a visitation at a funeral home. We need volunteers who are willing to provide water, chips, or cookies for these visitations. Please contact Mary Niese at niesem@scsclima.org if you are able to help.

Christian Corner Community Center is located at 1601 McClain Rd in South Lima. A mid-day meal is served every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10:30 a. m. to 12:00 noon. Sandaly Henderson is the Director of Christian Corner Community Center. You can contact her at hendersons@stcharleslima.org

Family Promise is a faith-based agency providing a safe haven for families. Volunteers are always needed. **Give-A-Christmas** assists families in need during the holiday season. Volunteers always needed. mark.stolly@stolly.com

Habitat for Humanity puts God’s love into action in our community so families can become empowered, secure and self-reliant. Volunteers for construction, the ReStore and the Leadership Team are always needed. More information at www.habitatlima.org or to volunteer contact Caleb@habitatlima.org.

Heartbeat/ProLife provides services for pregnant women in need. heartbeatoflima@yahoo.com website: josh2415.net/heartbeat

Pastoral Care Ministry is a group of volunteers who minister to the Catholic residences at these Nursing Homes: Primrose Retirement, Lima Convalescent/The Greens, Lochhaven, Burton Ridge, Shawnee Manor, The Springs, Springview Manor, Wyngate, and Kessler Estates. We also visit parishioners at other Nursing Homes in the area and take Communion to the homebound. Contact the parish office, 419-228-7635, for more information.

Prayer Request Ministry is made up of people who are emailed when a prayer request is received. These people agree to pray daily for the request prayers. If you would like to be a part of this ministry or if you have a prayer request, please contact the parish office 419-228-7635.

St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry is located at 928 S. Main St, Lima Ohio. We are open every Wednesday from 10 a.m. until noon. Families may receive food once per month. We serve any Allen County resident who meet the income guidelines. To pick up food each resident must provide a picture ID and provide identification with birthdates for all family members. Volunteers are always welcome. Alice Giesken, 419-979-9638 or alice.giesken@gmail.com.

Family Barbeque 2023

By Sarah Mayse

Many families from our parish gathered in July for our family barbeque style cookout hosted by the Mayse family. We all became friends through the mom's group or the dad's group at St. Charles that helped us connect with families in our parish. Our kids and families have grown and keep growing! This year we counted about 23 adults and about 34 kids that played backyard games and shared some delicious food.

Church community is important to our families. We love to see our kids get excited when



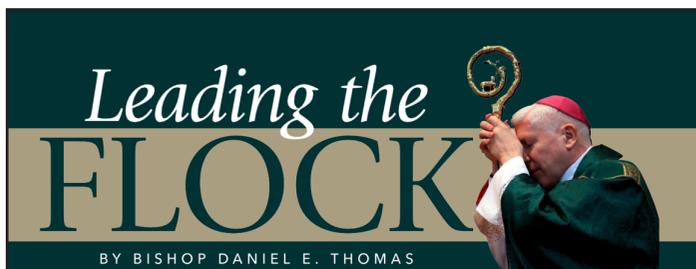
they see their friends at church, at school, or in family faith formation. We love that we have a community of people that love our family, support us, pray for us, help us, and laugh with us. We are grateful to know so many wonderful families in our parish. We would like to extend an open invitation to anyone with families in our parish to join our groups. You can find the St. Charles Mom's Group, Lima on Facebook or you can contact Sarah Mayse at sarah.mayse@gmail.com. The dad's group is on a Discord App and you can email alan.mayse@gmail.com to be added to that group.

NEWLY BAPTIZED

Beckham Edwin Stolly
Henry Otis Wright
Rosalie Sky Mckinley
Paige Levi Sarven
Lainey Rose Schnell
Dominic Ioan Qin
Neil Ifechukwa Anike
Alesha Clemen Concepcion Sarria
Loretta Jeanne Keith
Cameron Maxwell Brodbeck
Brooks Michael Hill
Charles McDowell Mathias
Archie Paul Huffman

IN MEMORIAM

William (Bill) Snow
Mary Pentenburg
Darlyn Bell
Nancy Jo Cain
Alice Missler
James (Jerry) Smith
Helen Duebler
Evelyn Snurr
Josephine Ann Rigali
Mark A. Loggi
Lucien Cosyn
Susan Corbin



Leading the Flock: The Eucharist and the Priesthood

“There can be no Eucharist without the priesthood, just as there can be no priesthood without the Eucharist.”^[1]

These words of Pope Saint John Paul II have echoed over and over again in my daily prayer during this season of Eucharistic Revival. It has been clear to me since becoming your bishop that here in the Diocese of Toledo, there is a deep and evident love for the Eucharist, and a deep and evident love for the priesthood! Yet many of our faithful may not be aware that the number of priests in our diocese has been declining for several years; that many priests are now serving multiple parishes, some to the point of exhaustion; and that, in the past few years, the number of diocesan seminarians has also declined.

In some ways, these trends should be no surprise. The past two decades have seen a sharp decline in Catholic parish participation throughout North America and Europe. In our diocese, Mass attendance declined 47% from 2005 to 2022. During that period, 37% fewer children were baptized and 45% fewer people received Confirmation. These numbers clearly indicate that there are not as many people practicing the faith in our diocese, which means there is a smaller pool of possible candidates for the priesthood and subsequently a lower number of seminarians.

The reality of our diocese mirrors national trends. From 2014 to 2021, the total number of seminarians in the USA decreased 22%.^[2] Vocation directors cite many contributing factors that go beyond the obvious rise in secularization and the priority shifts of a generation averse to lifelong commitment and riddled by “fear of missing out” (FOMO). The tense and confusing ecclesial climate seems to be discouraging young men from answering the priestly call. The scandal of priestly sexual abuse has also caused hesitation about entering seminary. Certainly, the COVID-19 pandemic had a negative impact: the inability of the vocations office to host typical in person events, and the rise in anxiety for young adults, were obstacles to healthy discernment.

So what should we do? With the tide rushing forcefully in the wrong direction, should we just give up? St. Paul's words come to mind: “where sin increased, grace abounded all the more” (Romans 5:20). Do we believe that He can and will curb the tide? Do we believe that He can make the difference? Do we believe and hope in Him to draw men to the priestly vocation? We believe!

Salvation history teaches us that whenever humanity moves away from God, an abundance of divine grace is available to the faithful who are open to it. The Lord uses the service of his prayerful people to lead humanity back to God. Here and now, we are the people the Lord is depending on to open the eyes of hearts and minds to see the reality of our situation and to address head on our need for priests. It takes the joyful, faithful witness of priests themselves coupled with the support and encouragement of all the lay faithful.

Jesus encouraged his disciples not to give into despair when faced with small numbers of ministers and a culture greatly in need of His message. “When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest” (Matthew 9:36-38). Jesus taught His disciples that sometimes, the only solution is prayer and fasting! Thus, I invite every Catholic in the Diocese of Toledo to do two things to



The Redwing Reader

St. Charles Catholic School



MEGAN SCHEID

Principal

**If not now,
WHEN?**

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! The four Lima Catholic Schools have been working together and we are excited to continue fostering a strong Lima Catholic commUNITY! We are all embracing the school theme, "If Not Now, When?" It encapsulates the essence of seizing the present moment to foster growth, both spiritually and academically. Rooted in Catholic values, we are committed to providing an environment that nurtures the mind, body, and spirit, preparing our students to make a positive impact in an ever-changing world.

Our Catholic traditions form the foundation of everything we do. As a community, we embrace faith by instilling the values of compassion, humility, and love for one another. Through daily prayer, religious studies, and service opportunities, we endeavour to guide our students towards a deepened relationship with God.

We are tremendously proud of our dedicated faculty and staff and their commitment to equipping students with the knowledge, critical thinking skills, and morals needed to navigate our world today. By fostering a growth mindset and encouraging curiosity, we hope to empower our students to become lifelong learners and leaders who can effect positive change in our communities.

"If Not Now, When?" serves as a reminder that the present is ripe with opportunity. We encourage our students to embrace challenges, step out of their comfort zones, and embark on a journey of self-discovery. At St. Charles, we firmly believe that the time to make a difference is now. By embracing faith, empowering futures, and seizing the moment, we equip our students to shine as beacons of light. Together, as a united Lima Catholic commUNITY, we can confidently proclaim, "If Not Now, When?"



Welcome, 5th Graders!

From Mrs. Henderson & Mrs. Bollinger

Mrs. Henderson and Mrs. Bollinger would like to welcome all the new fifth graders to the 2023-2024 school year. We are both looking forward to meeting each of you and your families. One important thing that we want everyone to know is that fifth grade is a transition year. We are preparing the students for middle school, which is a very different experience than elementary school. The students will receive the letter grades A, B, C, D, and F. (also + and -). This type of grading system may be new to some students. Homework policies will also be different from fourth grade, so please make sure you review them carefully. All procedures and policies are designed to help further the students' education and organizational skills. We are both so excited to meet everyone and begin a wonderful new school year.

If not now, when? You will be hearing this saying throughout the year. We all need to seize the opportunities that are presented to us and make the very best of every circumstance that comes our way. May God bless all of you.

St. Charles School Mission and Philosophy

Mission Statement

St. Charles Catholic School, in partnership with our parish, will provide a faith-filled environment which challenges students to become upstanding citizens, stewards and scholars through instruction and example.

Belief Statements

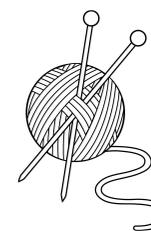
We believe... St. Charles Catholic School provides an atmosphere that is permeated by Christian values which recognizes self-discipline, personal responsibility and a call to serve others.

We believe... instruction should be student centered which recognizes the dignity and uniqueness of the person so the gifts of each are recognized, developed and celebrated.

We believe... our faith community – teachers, staff, students, parents and parishioners – share the responsibility for the support and obtainment of the school's mission.

We believe... service to others is important to the growth and development of each child as a whole person. Service to others should be purposeful and generated by both faculty and students as a means to develop a child's awareness for the social concerns of others.

Attention Knitters and Crocheters



Parishioners of St. Charles who knit or crochet have a wonderful way to share their talents. The Blanket Ministry is accepting hand-knit or hand-crocheted baby-sized blankets to be given to Heartbeat or others in need.

Completed baby blankets can be dropped off at Heartbeat of Lima, 421 S. Cable Rd., Lima, Ohio.

Sister Johnene Wellman Parish Library



Come and see the parish library located under the bells at the Elm Street entrance between the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Saint Joseph sections of the church.

Leading - from page 5

Implore the Lord of the harvest for more laborers to be ordained to shepherd the Church in our diocese: these are simple, practical, and doable!

First, I ask every Catholic to pray one Hail Mary per day for an increase of priestly vocations. I especially encourage families to add this Hail Mary to their prayer before meals, regular daily prayers or family rosary, as a way of encouraging their children to seek God's call for their life. Mother Mary will intercede for us with her Son for an increase of priests in the Person of her Son!



Second, I ask all who are able to offer some form of intentional fasting or penance each Friday for this same intention. The fasting or penance might be foregoing a meal, abstaining from meat, avoiding snacks between meals, or some other small sacrifice that can be united with Jesus' loving offering of his life for the salvation of the world on Good Friday, the very sacrifice we encounter in the Eucharist.

At a diocesan level, I kindly request that every parish offer some time of Eucharistic Adoration each week for the intention of an increase in priestly vocations. This might be a new addition to the parish calendar, or it might mean encouraging prayers for vocations during an already scheduled period of weekly Exposition and Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament. Many of our recent seminarians have come from parishes where Eucharistic Adoration for vocations is regularly offered. I also ask every parish in the diocese to pray specifically for an increase of priestly vocations each week at Mass during the Universal Prayer.

Without an increase of priestly vocations, we risk not having enough priests to celebrate the Eucharist. In challenging times like ours, faithful Catholics need the Eucharist more than ever to sustain them in their mission of sharing the faith with the large number of people in northwest Ohio who are distant from Christ and his Church. The Eucharist and the priesthood are inseparable.

While the challenges we face may seem daunting, I ask that you approach your prayer and fasting/penance for priestly vocations with **hope**. Just think, if every parish in our diocese sent just one man to the seminary every ten years, we would have 122 seminarians over a ten-year period. If just half of them were ordained priests, we would be ordaining an average of over 6 men per year! This would be a huge shift from our current 20-year average of less than 2 ordinations per year. Dare we hope?

The word "revival" comes from the Latin verb *re-vivere*, meaning "to live again" and "to restore to life." During this parish year of the Eucharistic Revival, please join me in praying that enthusiasm for priestly vocations might be born anew in the hearts, minds and souls of young men throughout our diocese, leading to a generous response to Christ. We pray that their future ministry, especially their celebration of the Eucharist, will empower many people in Northwest Ohio to live out their Catholic faith with renewed zeal. "There can be no Eucharist without the priesthood, just as there can be no priesthood without the Eucharist."

Many resources to promote priestly vocations are available at: <https://toledopriesthood.org>

Most Rev. Daniel E. Thomas
Bishop of Toledo
July 21, 2023

[1] Pope John Paul II, *Gift and Mystery. On the Fiftieth Anniversary of My Priestly Ordination*, Doubleday, New York, 1996, p.77-78. See also: "Letter of Pope John Paul II to Priests for Holy Thursday", 28 March 2004. Available online: https://www.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/letters/2004/documents/hf_jp-ii LET_20040406_priests-holy-thursday.html

[2] Vocation Ministry, *The State of Priestly Vocations in the United States*, 2023, p. 23. Available online at: <https://vocationministry.com/stateofpriestlyvocationsreport/>.



Lima Central Catholic High School Academic News

Submitted by Sue Janowski



Freshmen Orientation – August 14th

We welcomed the Class of 2027 onto campus on Monday, August 14th. They were so excited to get their schedules and play icebreaker games that got them to know each other better.



Back to School – Schedule-Pickup Day/Meet the Team (Fall Sports)

The rest of the classes were welcomed back for Schedule Pick-up Day and Meet the Team! It was good to have them back for the 2023-2024 school year.



Save the Dates:

- September 4th – No School - Labor Day
- September 29th – Fall Sports Senior Night
- October 6th – Junior Retreat
Homecoming Game
- October 7th – Homecoming Dance
- October 9th – No School – Professional Development Day
- October 13th – End of 1st Quarter
- October 19th – 8th Grade Visit Day
- October 25th – PSAT/NMSQT for Juniors
- November 1st – Parent/Teacher Conferences

Friends of the Chimes

*We are grateful to the following parishioners who have so generously made contributions to The Chimes.
Their patronage will allow us to continue this important publication.*

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