



ST. CHARLES BORROMEO
CATHOLIC CHURCH

THE CHIMES

St. Charles Parish

January/February 2024

Volume 23 Issue No. 3



**FR. KENT
KAUFMAN**
Pastor

What Is the Scholarship Granting Organization

Dear Friends in Christ,

We live in a world of acronyms. With all the news recently, everyone now knows that **AI** stands for Artificial Intelligence. But who is old enough to remember when the **USSR** still existed and what it represented? It dissolved in 1991 and was the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics that began in 1922 in the aftermath of the Russian Revolution. It was also in 1991 when Kentucky Fried Chicken rebranded itself as **KFC**—a time when people were awakening to the effect of eating too much fried food!

Within the Church, **RCIA** stands for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. RCIA is for anyone over the age of seven who wishes to be baptized or become Catholic—if they were baptized in a different Christian denomination. **MSP** is really Ministry Scheduler Pro, a software that we began using at St. Charles to help us manage the scheduling of our liturgical ministries. **SCCS** is St. Charles Catholic School.

Perhaps recently you learned about a new acronym - **SGO**. That stands for **Scholarship Granting Organization**. These are brand new in the State of Ohio and are a way that those paying state

taxes can elect to have their taxes go toward an SGO.

The concept of an SGO was brand new to me and something that took awhile to fully understand. Most importantly, I had to keep in mind that it is not a new contribution from my pocket. Rather, it is a decision as to where my state tax dollars would be directed for a particular tax year. Most importantly, these are state taxes that I would be paying regardless.

Here in Lima, our four Catholic schools have worked together to get the proper legal requirements organized and in place for this new opportunity. Rather than create four separate SGO's for our four Catholic schools in Lima we are working together. In this Tax Year 2023, Lima Central Catholic will be leading off, but our elementaries will follow including St. Charles in future years.

You may have already received a postcard about this in the mail. I did! To get involved you can visit the website: www.tbirdsgo.org or email John Schnieders at jschnieders@apps.lchcs.edu with any questions. Please note that a postcard sent early in December had an incorrect website address and QR code. The website given here is where you will find loads of information about this important way to support Catholic School education right here in Lima.

Through the Thunderbird Scholarship Granting Organization (Tbird SGO), Ohio taxpayers can now receive a **tax credit** of up to \$750 per individual or \$1,500 per couple, when filing jointly, on their Ohio income tax returns for monetary contributions made to an eligible Scholarship Granting Organization.

For your donation to qualify for the state tax credit, your contribution must be made out to the Thunderbird Scholarship Granting Organization

(Tbirds SGO) or made on our website, www.tbirdsgo.org. Donations can be made up until the filing deadline to qualify toward your 2023 taxes. As always, we encourage you to consult

your tax professional to discover the incredible impact you can make by supporting this new SGO. Remember, this is a “no-cost” contribution.

Later this month we will celebrate Catholic Schools Week not only in Lima but throughout the United States. I want to take this opportunity to thank the leadership of our Catholic Schools, especially principal Megan Scheid here at SCCS and Stephanie Williams at LCC. They give tremendously of their time, expertise, tenacity, and creativity in providing a wonderful way for us to share our faith and prepare young men and women ready to help the Kingdom of God be fulfilled.

I want to also express appreciation for the teachers and staff at our Catholic Schools who also give so generously of those themselves so that we can continue to share our faith tradition with today's youth. Certainly our benefactors are also to be thanked as well for helping make the opportunity possible in a world where we can never take such an education for granted.

Finally, I want to express gratitude to the parents, guardians, or others who make the decision to send children in their care to a Catholic School. With the recent passage of universal EdChoice Scholarships in Ohio in 2023, financial issues are never a reason to keep a child from attending a Catholic School. No matter where you live or what your income might be, help is available.

Our principals and staff are always ready to give you a tour of our school and answer any questions about enrollment for the 2024-25 school year. Don't hesitate to give a call today!

Fr. Kent



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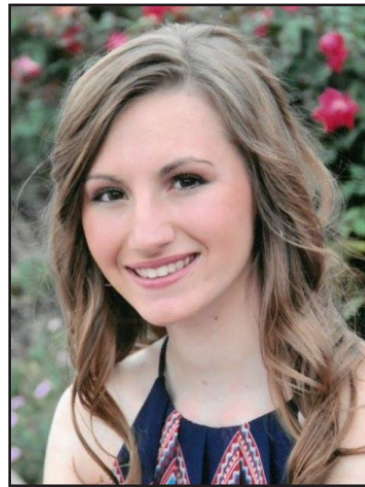


**LAURIEANN
CAMPBELL**
Director of Operations

Introducing Brynna Schroeder

Hello St. Charles,

My name is Brynna Schroeder. I have recently accepted the Parish Multimedia Specialist position at St. Charles. I have three brothers and reside in Leipsic, Ohio. I graduated from Bowling Green State University, and I majored in Visual Communication Technology, or VCT.



In my free time, I like going to Putnam County Young Adult nights and participating in the local Intentional Disciple group. I also volunteer at Life Teen in Miller City. For hobbies, I enjoy watching movies, drawing, bike riding, and writing for the Holy Ruckus blog.

I look forward to working with the staff and everyone who comes to St. Charles. I'm excited to help build God's kingdom!

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Needed

Our parish relies on the help of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion both at Mass and also in bringing Holy Communion to those confined to their homes or living in area care facilities. Is God calling you to offer yourself for this ministry?

Deacon Fred will be offering a formation session for those interested in ministry as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion on Sunday, January 14, at 11:45 am in church. He will cover Eucharistic theology and the procedures for ministering the sacrament. Commissioning will take place at the 10:30 Mass on Sunday, January 21.

To register for this ministry, just contact our Parish Office!



**Living
Christ**

Diocese of Toledo

St. Charles Borromeo

Our Parish goal: \$1,260,000.00
Our Parish Pledge Total: \$1,551,810.00
Cash Collected to Date: \$440,390.64
Percent of Cash Collected to Date: 34.95%
Parish Share to Date: \$154,136.72

Parish Project to Fund: New Elevator

As of 10/31/23

Ash Wednesday February 14, 2024



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



2024 Mens Retreat

ZACH EVERETT
Director of Discipleship
& Evangelization

weekend out of your busy schedule to encounter Christ anew in your life. I know it's a big thing to

ask, but what I can tell you is that whatever I have offered God, He has returned to me ten-fold. I think that if you are willing to say yes to just a weekend, he will reward you more than you can fathom.

The retreat begins March 8, 2024 through March 10, 2024. We will begin at St. Charles and then head to the Spiritual Center at Maria Stein. Food and private lodging are included in the price of \$125 per person. If you are in need of financial assistance in order to attend, please contact us. You can register online at www.stcharles-lima.org/explore

As a Husband, Father, Parishioner, Business Owner, and an Employee, I know that life can often become incredibly busy. It can be difficult to even take a breath much less make dedicated time for God in my life. The men of our parish have been preparing for quite some time to host our second Men's Encounter Retreat. The goal has been for men from St. Charles to have a weekend away to unplug and recharge both their lives and their faith. There will be men who share about how they have grown in their faith and are willing to have honest discussions about God and life. I hope that you will consider taking one



Upon Entering the Season of Lent

JEREMY HOLLIS
Director of Youth Discipleship
and Evangelization

In 1974, 50 years ago, during one of his television broadcasts, Archbishop Fulton Sheen said: "We are at the end of Christendom. Not of Christianity, not of the Church, but of Christendom." So, what exactly did he mean by "Christendom"? He was talking about the world we live in and how we live in it. He goes on to say: "Christendom is economic, political, social life as inspired by Christian principals. That is ending, we've seen it die." I'm not sure if it was dead then, it may have been in the process, but after what happened with the election in November, I'm pretty sure it's safe to say, "we've seen it die."

That first week after the election, hit me hard personally and has taken a lot of processing in the last couple of months, but what really surprised me were the questions I was getting from the students and the pain they were/are feeling. If I thought I was lost and confused, I think the kids were even more lost and confused. It seemed like maybe, just maybe, our society was going to make a turn back towards Christendom, with the fall of Roe v. Wade and all the states making laws against abortion. Then, like a ton of bricks, it came smashing down with the majority of the people of Ohio saying... nope human life, especially that of a baby, doesn't carry all that much weight for us. I have spent a lot of time in prayer over this issue, both for people to come to their senses to see the truth, that all life is a gift from God and not a burden, and also for understanding as to why our society is making this turn away from God and Christian principles. Eventually, I landed on John 17.

John 17 is Jesus' priestly prayer not only for the disciples but also for the church, and this prayer is for all time. Jesus knows that his disciples had difficulties even when he was here and that these difficulties and sacrifices were going to continue even when he was no longer in the world.

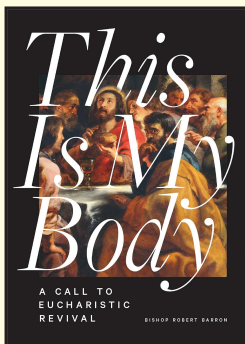
"And now, I am no more in the world, and am coming home to you.... I have given them your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I do not pray that you should take them out of the world, but that you should keep them from the Evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I do not pray for these only, but also for those who believe in me through their word, that they may all be one; even as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they may also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me." (John 17: 11, 14-16, 20-21)



I truly believe that we have to live our lives not of this world because we are not of this world, we are made for the next. The things that we have here and now, do not go with us into the next, so living our lives toward the eternal life should be our goal. This does not mean we should ignore what is happening around us. We should fight to restore this world to have economic and political policies, and to have lives that reflect Christian principals in order to leave a world that our children can focus themselves towards the heart of Christ. So, as we enter into the season of Lent, let us pray about how we can better live not of this world, but towards the world after.

I leave you with these words from Archbishop Sheen from the same 1974 broadcast: "These are great and wonderful days in which to be alive... It is not a gloomy picture; it is a picture of the Church in the midst of increasing opposition from the world. And therefore, live your lives in the full consciousness of this hour of testing, and rally close to the heart of Christ."

In Christ,
Jeremy Hollis



If you are looking to learn more about Bishop Barron's book *This Is My Body*, Fr. Kent will present two sessions about it in January.

Tuesday, January 9 - Highlights - Recap and Review
Tuesday, January 23 - Going Deeper - Questions and Connections

Come to both or either session - 6:30-7:30 p.m. - in the Parish Hall (lower level of church)
Bring a friend and discover what Jesus offers to us when he says, "This is my body!"



MELODY KEARNS
Family Formation Coordinator

The Mass Videos End and The Mass Challenge Begins

In October and November, Family Formation parents watched the Teaching Mass Series with Father Leo Patalinghug. In this series, Fr. Leo breaks down the Mass into four segments. This video series is educational, inspiring, and incredibly practical. People from all walks of faith come to a deeper appreciation and understanding for the gift of our sacred liturgy, the Holy Mass! The parents enjoyed the series and what a beautiful way to begin our own Mass Challenge

Each family received cards with the parishioner responses for the Mass. One set for the Liturgy of the Word and one set for the Liturgy of the Eucharist. The parent goal is to assist their children in learning the responses so each child can participate in and feel more a part of the Mass. Every time a child memorizes a response they get to sign the corresponding section on our Mass Challenge Scroll. Our goal is to present the completed Mass Challenge Scroll to Father on our last day, May 19, 2024. Below are pictures of children preparing to sign the Mass Challenge Scroll.



Left to right - Nolan Mayse-2nd grade, Tyler Mayse-3rd grade, Samuel Mayse-5th grade, St. Katharine Drexel or Madelyn Jones-4th grade signing the Mass Challenge Scroll.



Left to right - Norah Jones-1st grade, Eliza Brunelle-2nd grade, Aubrey Doseck-2nd grade, Dylan Doseck-4th grade, Theo Wilson-5th grade are eagerly waiting to sign the Mass Challenge

The children then went to their classrooms and the focus of study was the Apostles' Creed and the Nicene Creed. The children would be able to see the Creeds as a summary of our faith, our profession of

faith telling what we believe in as Christians. The Apostles' Creed is a super condensed version and easy to remember. The Nicene Creed reminds us of our salvation history in three main steps:

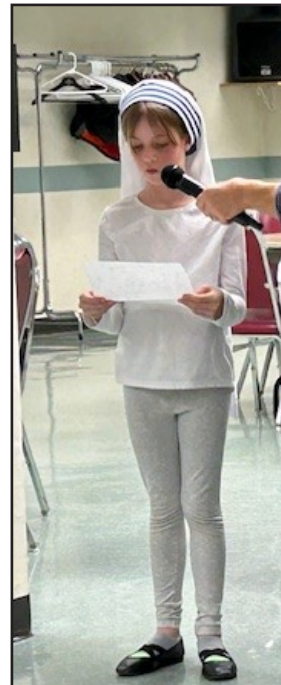
1. How God created us
2. How God's only son was born, suffered, died, and rose again for the forgiveness of our sins
3. How the Holy Spirit continues to carry out God's plan for our salvation through the Church.

Younger students made "I Believe" bracelets and older students played a Jeopardy like game called the Credence Game.

During our second November session we began with a Family Formation Prayer Litany. We prayed for all 175 parishes doing the program and our program here at St. Charles Borromeo. The older children read saint reports and some were even in costume.



Audrey Brunelle as
St. Kateri Tekakwitha



Madeline Froehlich as St.
Mother Teresa of Calcutta

The reports were very well done! We then had the children read Matthew 25:34-46 and identify why they must care for people in need and how to do that. We also used the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy to assist them in knowing how to care for people in need. The children were able to tell us they wanted to be saints so they could live forever in heaven.

Each child was given a Saint of themselves and they listed exactly what they were going to do to become a saint. Each saint had a child's name on it. The children colored and cut them out so they could hang them in their rooms or place them at their prayer centers. They were able to list so many ways.

We also made candles for anyone the children knew who had passed away. The children could share something they will always remember about those who passed on the back side of the candle.

I will close with our W.O.G. Log winners for October and November. These are drawn from

the students who have read or listened to scripture with a goal of becoming life long readers of scripture: October winners were 3rd Grade, Caleb Myers and 4th grade, Patrick Kreider; November winners were 3rd grade Dylan Doseck and Kindergarten, Kate Stechschulte.



Please Let the Parish Know

If you have a family member or loved one in an 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.

Wednesday, July 17 -
Sunday, July 21, 2024
Indianapolis, Indiana



"I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world." - John 6:51

As part of the National Eucharistic Revival, Bishop Daniel E. Thomas invites you to join him to witness what God has in store for his Church in the U.S. through the National Eucharistic Congress in July 2024! The Diocese of Toledo is forming a delegation to represent our local Church in this historic event at the Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis, IN, where 80,000 Catholics are expected to gather to deepen our understanding of, love for, and living out the great mystery of the Eucharist.

The Diocese of Toledo has reserved a limited number of tickets for this pilgrimage to the National Eucharistic Congress. Tickets are on a first-come, first-serve basis.

For more information visit: <https://toledodiocese.org/congress>

**EMILY NIESE**

Director of Liturgical Music Ministries

It is hard to believe that as of January 2, 2024, I will have been with St. Charles for an entire year! I have spent much time reflecting on the events of the last year and would like to take this opportunity to share some reflection and thanks.

Beginning this job was something familiar and unfamiliar at the same time. I had planned and led music for hundreds of Masses and three different parishes before accepting this position, making that concept very familiar, but each parish has its own unique culture and needs, making each experience unique. St. Charles, being attached to the school, presented the task of leading the children's Mass music which was quite new to me. It has been a joy and challenge to direct the 4th-8th Grade students in growing as musicians and disciples of Christ capable of leading music for the Mass, even with our limited rehearsal time. Getting to know them is such a gift. It is always a deeper revelation into who God himself is - making us in his image and likeness - revealing more of his vast and limitless creativity through each unique human personality. The kids have made some of my most challenging and rewarding days. They keep me up to date with the modern "lingo" and are quick to share what's on their minds. I remember one day the kids telling me "Miss Emily, you look like a Kindergarten teacher," to which I responded by

asking what that meant - is that a compliment? To which they responded, "Of course! Kindergarten teachers are awesome!" Another day, I was wearing my voting sticker since I voted that morning. One kid said, "Miss Emily, you voted today?" I thought he was surprised I had the time to, so I responded, "Yes, I made sure to go and vote before coming to work today." But he responded, "But if you voted, that means you're 18!?" To which I had to laugh, as I am 24.

One of the greatest gifts of this year was introducing the year of the Parish Eucharistic Revival. From planning and leading our parish's first Eucharistic Procession to the four Nights of Eucharistic Exposition and Worship, it has been a tremendous joy to help foster deeper relationships with our Eucharistic Lord. His presence is the sustenance to our peace, healing, perseverance, and preparation from this life into the next, and to worship Him, present in the Eucharist, is our foretaste of heaven.

By far the most rewarding part of this last year has been the people I have met. Getting to know so many new people, and being welcomed with such warmth and generosity into St. Charles is something I will never forget. Adult choir members, Adult bell choir members, cantors, Children's Choir, and all the school 4th-8th Grade cantors and handbells members - all have been such a joy to get to know and work with - thank you.

I will finish with two quotes that come to mind in reflection of the last year. First is one from

the song "One Last Time" from the musical *Hamilton*. In this song, George Washington is reflecting on his presidency to which he says, "Though, in reviewing the incidents of my administration, I am unconscious of intentional error, I am nevertheless too sensible of my defects not to think it probable that I may have committed many errors. I shall also carry with me the hope that my country will view them with indulgence." This is my sentiment towards the last year, in which I know I am far from perfect, and always striving to avoid error, but know too well that I likely have committed errors. Emphasizing the importance of constructive and charitable feedback. To those who have offered such - thank you. Finally, there have been countless days when I was well-aware that I wouldn't be able to accomplish all that was on my plate by my human strength alone. Overwhelmed and losing peace, I would offer a simple prayer, "Jesus, help me," to which the Lord is always faithful and has provided everything I need. It is reminder to lean into the reality of faith stated in Matthew 19:26, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."



2024 "KITCHEN KREW, BAKERS & DESSERT-MAKERS"



St Charles' Pastoral Council is wanting to start again a list to help with Funeral Luncheons and such in our church basement. This time, we're hoping it'll be much easier, as families are preferring to have meals catered in, but still need a place to host their family and friends for events, such as Funeral Luncheons.

There will be no cooking-knowledge required! There will only be a set-up and clean-up crew. Depending on the family's requests, we may need some homemade baked goods and will have a sign-up list for that. For those that love to bake but do not have the means to drop it off, drivers will be needed, as well.

If you have been looking for an easy, no "long-term commitment" sort of way to give back - **because God has been good to you** - this could be it! All you have to do is let us add your name to a list. We will reach out to those previously on the old list; however, please feel free to contact us first, as well. The list will have preferences and descriptions of what is needed. We will go down the list and call when we are notified of a need. If you are unable to help that particular time, we will move on, but keep you on the list for the next time, so you won't miss an opportunity to help out. I cannot guarantee if you'll be even called during the year, but would so appreciate having your Contact name and number, if

the need does arise. Then, every year, we will call you again to confirm keeping your name on our "Kitchen Krew" list. We know family situations can change over time. We're hoping to add other new parishioners and new RCIA members every year, as well.

You will be asked if you're signing up as part of the "2024 Kitchen Krew" or "2024 Baker & Dessert-Makers"? You can even sign up for both, for different times, as your schedule allows throughout the year. You can also include your spouse and children when signing up and make this a family effort of giving back.

Are mornings or afternoons preferred? Mornings would be preparing serving tables once the caterer arrives; setting tables with tablecloths & centerpieces; preparing water pitchers; and just being present to help the families in any way needed, especially for Funeral Luncheons. Afternoons will be the team who cleans-up afterward, which entails washing any kitchen equipment or dishes used (we have a great & fast! dishwasher), putting away the items in their labeled location in the kitchen, and collecting the linen used to wash and return. Everything is easy to care for and wash; no ironing needed! You will be a part of a team, so none of this will be done alone. The more individuals who sign up for a team, the faster things will be done ... and

that's so nice when volunteering, wouldn't you agree?

If you do not have a block of time to help as part of the "2024 Kitchen Krew," you can be part of our "2024 Bakers & Dessert Makers" list! Any baked good can be dropped off up to 24-hours before it's needed, and you are *still* helping out and sharing your time and talent. One-time drivers may be needed to pick up desserts from Parishioners who would love to help but cannot drive themselves or possibly take the time away from their own responsibilities at home. Please add your name to this list if you can be a driver. Both of these are beautiful ways to feel a part of your church community and yet help someone else.

Many of us have been in a position where one thing can lighten the load in a time of need. Let us put our faith into action by adding your name to a list of volunteers to help when called as others are needing that one-time help.

Do not deceive yourselves by just listening to His Word, instead, put it into practice.

James 1:22

Please contact the office at: 419-228-7635 or info@stcharleslima.org to add your name!

Thank you and blessings to you and your family!

Bert Vernon, Pastoral Council Member

Women's Fall Retreat

By Mary Anne Froelich

During the first weekend of November, 35 women from our parish participated in our second annual women's retreat "Retreat Yourself: Listening



to Christ Despite the Noise." Together we took time to be with God and evaluate the role we give

Him in our daily lives. We reviewed some of the tools God has given us to worship Him and to help us keep Him the center of all we do including prayer, scripture, the sacraments, community, and the Holy Spirit. God truly surrounded us during our time away, blessing us with beautiful weather to enjoy the grounds of the Transfiguration Center for Spiritual Renewal, and filling our hearts with His love during Adoration, Reconciliation, and Mass.

Through speaker testimonies, group discussions, and various activities, we were able to revitalize our faith, grow closer to those around us, and feel better prepared to return to our busy lives with our eyes and heart focused on the Lord.

Here are some comments from our retreatants:

"The weekend was very enjoyable. Everyone did a great job speaking. The activities were beneficial and I will be utilizing them in my day-to-day life."

"This retreat is really amazing. It was a joy to be here! I feel revitalized and I'm excited to come next year!"

"My thanks to the entire team and especially those who shared their lives with us. May the Lord bless you and give you his peace."

"I want to thank the retreat team for such an awesome experience! You all made this weekend so very meaningful to me. It truly changed my heart."

Save the weekend of October 4-6 for our 2024 Retreat and contact me (Mary Anne Froelich) with any questions or interest in joining our retreat leadership team. Thank you to everyone who made this weekend possible. God Bless!



Walking with Purpose, Blaze, and Blessing Bags

By Jeanna Stallkamp

Walking with Purpose

The Walking with Purpose small group bible studies are continuing to grow at St. Charles. The meeting days are Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m., and Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. in various locations, both at church and in homes. Our Connect Coffees are on Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m., once a month. **Please know you are always welcome!** Call Jeanna Stallkamp at 419-234-0962 for more information. We have continued to bring the women of our parish together, and we would love for you to join us! We will be off for Christmas break, but we will start back up in January.

A group of the ladies traveled to Columbus to hear the founder of Walking with Purpose share "Hope for Now". It was amazing to gather with 600

other Catholic Women who are also experiencing the benefits of her Bible studies, as well as hearing from Lisa Brenninkmeyer personally. It is incredible to hear about her faith journey, and to witness how the Holy Spirit has guided her.

We are working on a program to bring Karen from the Do Good Restaurant to speak to our parish. Please keep your eye out for more information in the bulletin.

Blaze

The Blaze Masterpiece program continues to encourage the middle school girls to reach out to



God and to His word for guidance, instead of to the lies they hear through others and on social media. Before their Christmas break, the girls needed to

"Break out" of a Nativity Escape Room! They successfully found the necessary keys to Heaven after finding clues and decoding mysteries. They also beat our mighty volunteers!

Blessing Bag Mission

The Blessing Bag Mission to share God's messages to the little ones of our church is still in need of volunteers to replenish the bags that you see at the entrances after one mass each week. Please reach out to Jeanna if you can periodically help. Thank you to Marilyn Schmerge and her husband, Pam Everett, and Diane Garlock for helping with this program. We would love to get pairs of volunteers to spread out the mission. Thank you!





The Redwing Reader St. Charles Catholic School



MEGAN SCHEID

Principal

Happy New Year! Now let's begin working on our resolutions...no time to waste! Did you know that while only 41% of Americans make New Year's resolutions, only 9% are actually successful at achieving them? This tells me that we are either not really interested in making changes, or we are setting unrealistic, unattainable goals. Let's keep it simple and really focus on self-improvements, self-awareness, community service, and spending more quality time with family and friends!

We have been and continue to be very busy around the school. In December our Parent Task Force hosted our 1st ever Santa Social. The event was open to the community and we had a wonderful turn out. Participants had the opportunity to enjoy pop up shops from different vendors, enter into a Christmas tree raffle, watch some live entertainment, and visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus. The proceeds

from this event helps fund future activities and events sponsored by the PTF and a donation was made to the Allen County Council on Aging to support the school's Advent service project.



Kids experience shopping at the Santa Social

At the end of January, we will be celebrating Catholic Schools Week. The theme for National Catholic Schools Week 2024 is "Catholic Schools: United in Faith and Community." St. Charles will be celebrating the week with a variety of events and

activities for the students, families, parishioners, and community members. Through these events, we will focus on the value Catholic education provides to our students.

Re-enrollment for the 2024-2025

school year will begin in February and open enrollment will begin in March. Did you know that Ohio's Educational Choice Scholarship Program is now accessible to ALL Ohioans regardless of what school district you live in? Every student now has the opportunity to attend Catholic School for little cost. Families at 450% or below of the Federal Poverty Guideline will receive the maximum scholarship allowed by law. Those at 451% or more will receive a portion of the full scholarship amount, dependent on their household income and family size. If you would like to learn more about our school, please reach out to the school office for more information and to schedule a tour.



Advent Service Project

By Lisa Mahler

The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for Me.' Matthew 25:40

All human beings have the same inherent worth or value because they all have the same nature, namely, a human nature. In other words, all humans are made in "the image of God" (cf. Genesis 1:26-27). **In that sense, all humans are equal.**

What, then, does the phrase "least of these" mean? The least of the brothers and sisters of Jesus are those persons who are vulnerable. They are the socially, psychologically, or economically disadvantaged, such as the sick, the poor, the elderly, and the mentally and physically disabled.

of lotion or hand sanitizer, Fourth: quart or gallon-sized baggies, Fifth: individually wrapped, snacks and candy, Middle School: personal care items, small knick-knacks, nail polish, costume jewelry, and small prizes for bingo. These items were presented to Lorain Lovett, a representative from the Council on Aging at our assembly on Friday, December 15, 2023.



followers should be concerned about the needs of the poor, vulnerable, and underprivileged.

St. Charles School students and staff embrace this philosophy with our CORE Values: Respect, Integrity, Service, and Excel. Service is at the heart of our faith - Love and Caring for Others.

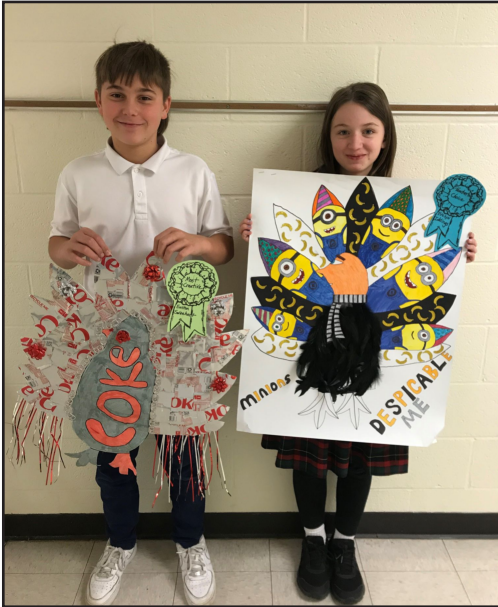
Our Advent Service included collecting much-needed items for the elderly in our community. Each grade level collected the following items: Kindergarten: Tissues, First: paper towels, Second: napkins, Third: small bottles



From the Art Room

By Becky MacDonald

The Great Sixth Grade Turkey Winners of 2023



Most Creative Award: Easton Swinehart
Teachers Choice Award: Evelyn Iddings



Cooper Wende 1st place, Charlie Rexford 2nd place, Anthony Hinegardner 3rd Place



Lenna Bear 1st place, Jackson Carroll 2nd place, Emma Barrett 3rd place.



Most Creative Award: Jackson Pisel and Teachers Choice Award: Emily Barry

First Quarter Honor Roll

MARK OF EXCELLENCE

Grade 5: Kendyl Liening, Kaya St. Clair

Grade 6: Elaine Brickner, Nicklaus Gronas, Audie Sielschott, Elliana Thompson, Cooper Wende

Grade 7: Addilynn Baldauf, Braylie Bensinger, Josie Declercq, Alana Heffner, Gracy Malcom, Corie Schnieders, Gwen Wolfcale

HIGH HONORS

Grade 5: Allie Ambroza, Gretchen Barhorst, Reed Bell, Leon Blake, Gaby Bryan-Lanche, Aidan Carter, Sam Curtis, Henry Dickman, Harper Fields, Samantha Harter, Calvin Huber, Jay Krieg, Sophia Mack, Ava Miroglio, Alec Thines, Emma Venturella, Gracie Warrington, Grant Williams

Grade 6: Tristan Badea, Olivia Barhorst, Anthony Hinegardner, Miya Hollis, Evelyn Iddings, Isabella Martello, Charlee Rexford, Antonino Rodriguez, Hezekiah Thomas, Katana Walter, Jack Whittaker

Grade 7: Eli Burris, Carter Feison, Zoe Huber, Austin McCain, Reese Merschman, Mataya Miller, Piper Schumm, Sam Venturella, Luke Weitz, Sam Williams

Grade 8: Jessica Blubaugh, Evan Brinkman, Chris Coulibaly, Ella Gronas, Milicent Ibeneme, Brady Jacobs, Aiden McCain, Carter Pester, Joshua Reed

HONORS

Grade 5: Ryen Cunningham, Jacob Duncan, Jeremiah Eghan, Cedric Flower, Raylan Tierney, Jaxen Wilson

Grade 6: William Badgett, Jackson Gafford, Estell Ikegwuonu, Weston Kennedy, Jackson Pisel, Niko Stombaugh, Brady Wilson

Grade 7: Addalynn Cox, Cole Mack, Hayden Nolte, Jo Rogers, Miahlynn Sinthalaphone, Landon Wilson

Grade 8: Rocco Cecala-Wells, Robert Compton, Alyssa Donley, Chayce Farrington, Collin Frick, Zaida Oliphant, Ella Warrington

Dr. Don Thomas Landed at St. Charles!

By Jen Thompson



We have reached the moon! Our students have officially read MORE pages than the miles it takes to get to the moon! At the end of November, we have read 367,646 pages! For our school celebration in achieving this goal, we invited Astronaut, Author, and fellow Ohioan, Dr. Don Thomas to give his presentation "Reaching for the Stars". Dr. Thomas shared his experience in space over his 4 space shuttle missions, what it took for him to accomplish his dream, and really cool future plans for NASA. We were so blessed to be able to experience Dr. Thomas' speech with the help of a generous donor.



Christmas Program 2023



Grades K-1 performing "Guess Who's Coming to Bethlehem"



Grades 2-3 performing "Once Upon A Starry Night"

Christian Corner Community Center

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



CHILDREN'S CHOIR Tuesdays 6-7 St. Charles Church

Raise Your
Voices!



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.

If >>>>>>>>>>>>
not now,
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Attention Knitters and Crocheters

Parishioners of St. Charles who knit or crochet have a wonderful way to share their talents.

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





Lima Central Catholic High School Academic News

Submitted by Carla Simmons

Junior Retreat

The Junior Retreat took place at LCC in collaboration with NET ministries. Students connected well with the NET team, aligning with their mission of challenging young adults through relational ministry to follow Christ and embrace community life in the Church

Congratulations to the 2023 King and Queen, Jake Nieman & Emma Donley and the rest of the Homecoming court-Carsyn Dafler, Billy Bourk, Karsyn Cunningham, Jacob Venturella, Emily Morrissey and Sam Mayers!

Our awesome international students introduced themselves to the entire school at mass. We have Emmanuel and Raphaëlla from Haiti, Yago from Spain, Ink from Thailand, Iolanda from Italy, Camilo from Colombia, and Maxence from France. We are looking forward to a great year!



Congratulations to our first math students of the month: Deanna Callahan (a two-time winner!!!), Garrett Nartker, and JJ Schnieders!! Way to go Thunderbirds!!!

Congratulations to our 5 top scorers for the First Ohio Math League contest of the year! Way to go Alexa, Emily, Mya, Alex and Carson!!!



During 8th grade visit day over 80 students became T-Birds for a day! They toured the school, met the faculty, enjoyed lunch with fellow students, explored high school curriculum and got to know what the LCC spirit is all about!

Congrats to the Leadership by Example 2023-2024, 1st Quarter!

12- Jaide Schimpf & Jacob Venturella, 11- Emma Skinner, 10- Belle Barrett & Connor Truex, 9- McKenna Diggs-Irons & Olivia Venturella

Thank you to our students for bringing in personal hygiene items for Family Promise and Guiding Light Ministries. Our student service group, Help 2 Others, organized the event and Teen Leadership is assisting in delivering the items.



The Teen Leadership class traveled to Norwalk High School to participate in the Annual Teen Leadership Corps Conference. They met student leaders from nearly thirty other schools in Ohio who are also engaged in all sorts of service to their communities and schools. Our LCC Teen Leadership students were proud to share all the hard work they've put into providing service opportunities for the rest of the LCC student body. They were also able to talk about their own experiences of helping grade-schoolers and senior citizens in the Lima community, as well as learn about what students in other schools are doing. They are now excited to discuss all the new ideas they learned about and tackle their next big project.

Students in Spanish put together the Altar del día de los muertos. This year it was dedicated to Vicki Moening. Some of the things included were Vicki's LCC pullover, her devotion book and rosary, banana bread (Vicki's recipe) and an LCC blanket.

Congratulations to these bright mathematicians! In the first Catholic Math League contest of the year, Mya Raczynski placed first, Alexa Heffner came in a close second, and right behind her was Caitlyn Purvenas! Way to go Lady Thunderbirds!!!



Congratulations to our math students of the month: Belle Barrett, Nate Niemeyer and Marlee Cornett! Way to fly high Thunderbirds!!!

Kairos is our senior retreat at the Spiritual Center of Maria Stein where students spend four days deepening their faith and fostering strong connections with one another. This was the 13th year and left a powerful and lasting impact on the students, influencing personal and spiritual growth.

It was a great day as we welcomed Bishop Thomas to Lima Central Catholic for a visit! During his visit he celebrated an all-school Mass, held a thoughtful Q&A and enjoyed lunch with a group of students and faculty.

Congratulations to Alexa Heffner, Alex Arellano, Carson Caprella and Claire Janowski for being the 4 top scores at LCC for the 2nd Ohio Math League contest!



Thank you for our greatest One Day of Giving to date! We raised \$231,040 and had 100% participation from LCC graduating classes! Thank you to the 500 donors across 25 states and our matching donors who made this momentous day possible!

Save the Date

- January 4th-Alumni Mass
- January 12th – Sophomore Retreat
- January 15th- Martin Luther King Day (No School)
- January 18th-Parent Teacher Conferences
- January 22 – College Round Table
- January 29 to February 2 – Catholic Schools Week
- February 3 – Night at the Races
- February 7 – National Honor Society Induction / Academic Letter Ceremony
- February 16 – Professional Development Day (No School)
- February 19 – President's Day (No School)
- February 27 – State Funded ACT for Juniors

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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LCC - from page 10

First Quarter Honor Roll

60% of our students are on the Honor Roll First Quarter! Great job T-Birds!

Mark of Excellence 4.0

Alexander Arellano, William Bourk, Carson Caprella, Karsyn Cunningham, Carsyn Dafler, Emma Donley, Kennet Godoy Lanche, Samuel Mayers, Emily Morrisey, Jacob Nieman, Carson Parker, Caitlyn Purvenas, Mya Raczynski, Jaide Schimpf, Kaitlin Seffernick, Elizabeth Simmons, Malachi Talbert, Jacob Venturella, Melana Badea, Alexa Caballero, Hayley Chambers, Angelo Collins II, Claire Janowski, Nathan Niemeyer, Maria Pignataro, Emma Skinner, Elaila White, Emily Blankemeyer, Alexa Heffner, Jacob Raczynski, Courtney VanMeter, Lucy Bensinger, Michael Quatman, Olivia Venturella

Superior Honors 3.5

Dulce Arellano Reyes, Michael Frueh Jr, Mack Hutchins Jr, Ingkawat Jaroensri, Parker Judy, Caterina Lucente, Braedon Lybarger-Singhaus, Saiyin Martinez, Sebastian Pierce, Anna Shultz, Enki White, Austin Craig, Brady Feison, Ava Gafford, Ava Hefner, Teagan Helmig, Isaac Leppert, Michael Miller, Cole Rinehart, Alon’Nah Bagley,

Andrew Baldauf, Mirabelle Barrett, Deanna Callahan, Addison Fay, Chloe Fisher, Chayse Helmig, Aidan Keating, Carolina Kill, Laney Scheckelhoff, Jacob Schnieders, Michael Sherrick, Jenna Terrill, Connor Truex, Dante Turney, Claire Wolfcale, Joshua Young, Kaitlyn Carroll, Anna Davisson, Joshua Declercq, McKenna Diggs-Irons, Estella Ellis, Evelyn Ellis, Lauryn Falke, Olivia Hinegardner, Bractyn Jones, Olivia Joseph, Sophia Joseph, Cadence Kelly-Frueh, Katie Kriegel, Jacob Miller, Jaylon Patton, Billy Salyers III, Brevan Stolly, Lincoln Woods

Honor Roll 3.0

DeMarr Foster, Brayden Hubbard, Mylon Cowens, Christopher Crnkovich, Raphaella Fortune, Aubrey Frankhouser, Kenyon Kill, Maxence Lebeau, Gianni McKee, Amaleigh Monaghan, Jade Oglesbee, Victor Pierce, Matthew Quatman, Noah Wilson, Alcien Beck, Brayden Dahill, Jordan Duncan, Chibuike Ibeneme, Mark Malcom, Tatum Miller, Jennifer Nguyen, Madeline Nott, Mia O’Connell, Drew Pester, Alice Reif, Cali Risner, Aityana Sorrels, Alexis Brinkman, G’Vonte Davis, Ava Gephart, Miralyn Jacomet, Addyson Lauck, Tatum Marks, Garret Nartker, Brady Parker, Noelle Rumschlag, Madeline Yahl



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