



ST. CHARLES BORROMEO  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

# THE CHIMES

St. Charles Parish

January/February

Volume 24 Issue No. 3



**FR. KENT KAUFMAN**  
Pastor

## 2025 - Opening the Doors for a Jubilee Year

Dear Friends in Christ,

Happy New Year! In fact, 2025 marks not just a “new” year but also a “Jubilee Year!” Yes, once again the Holy Door at St. Peter’s in Rome and the other basilicas are now open for pilgrims to pass through in prayer.

The tradition of a Holy Year goes back to 1300 and Pope Boniface VIII. The practice of a Holy Door actually started at the pope’s cathedral, St. John Lateran, in 1423. The Holy Year practice soon expanded to include all four major basilicas in Rome—St. John Lateran, St. Peter, St. Mary Major, and St. Paul Outside-the-Walls.

Over the centuries, the timing of a Jubilee has varied from every 100 years to every 50 years (like the traditional Jewish Jubilee found in the Old Testament), to every 33 years (the age of Christ), and then every quarter century (the tradition today). The Jubilee Year 2025 will be the 28th time our Church has celebrated such a beautiful opportunity. The theme is recognizing that we are “Pilgrims of Hope.”

When I lived in Rome (1988-1993) there was already preparation taking place for the great Jubilee Year of 2000. It would mark in a special way the second millennium since the birth of Christ. Pope John Paul II had a great desire to work on reconciliation for this Holy

Year—especially with other Christians and people of other faith traditions.

In particular, I recall how Pope John Paul II built upon his predecessor, Paul VI, and became the second pope to travel to Jerusalem. In 1964, Pope Paul VI travelled to Jerusalem. That trip was historic not only for being the first pope to visit Jerusalem. It also marked the first time a reigning pontiff ever travelled on an airplane and was the first pope to leave Italy in 150 years!

When John Paul II went to Jerusalem in 2000 during the Holy Year he visited both Jews and Muslims alike.

He recognized that we are all monotheists and believe in the one, true God. In particular he asked forgiveness of the Jews for atrocities suffered during the Holocaust.

You might recall that Pope Francis has already celebrated a Jubilee Year. It was the extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy in 2013. He even opened a “Door of

Mercy” at a prison in Rome, signifying the purpose of the jubilee—to break down any barrier that keeps us from being with God and one another.



Pope Francis opens the Holy Doors at St. Peter’s Basilica to begin the Year of Mercy, Dec. 8, 2015. L’Osservatore Romano.

Biblically, in Leviticus 25 and 27, we see the Jewish Law declaring every fiftieth year to be a Jubilee Year. During this time slaves would be emancipated, debts would be forgiven, and even the land would be allowed to rest. Numerically, a jubilee builds upon a sabbath rest of seven years. The Jubilee year is “seven Sabbaths of years,” or seven times seven years.

As 2025 gets underway, I am pleased to announce a new offering at St. Charles—

a course in prayer. What better way to celebrate the Jubilee Year as a Pilgrim of Hope than to deepen your relationship with God and one another by strengthening your life of prayer. May your Jubilee Year be bright and a very Happy New Year (of Hope) to you!

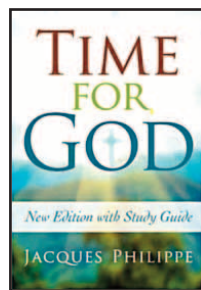
*Fr. Kent*

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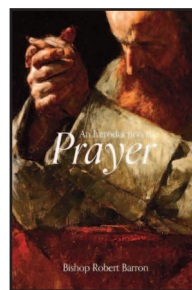
St. Charles Catholic Church  
2200 West Elm Street  
Lima, Ohio 45805

## Discovering Prayer

**Discovering Prayer** is a four-session offering for the Jubilee Year. This “course in prayer” will be offered on the four Thursdays in February. There is an



option of an afternoon time from 1:00-2:00 p.m. or an evening time from 7:00-8:00 p.m. We will be using two books for the course—



*Time for God: A New Edition with Study Guide* by Jacques Philippe (Scepter 2022) and *An Introduction to Prayer* by Bishop Robert Barron (Word on Fire 2024).

The course is free but you must register by January 31st if you wish for us to have both books ready for you when we begin on Thursday, February 6, 2025. To register just follow the QR code link or contact our office at 419.228.7635 or [information@stcharleslima.org](mailto:information@stcharleslima.org).



## 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.



**LAURIEANN CAMPBELL**  
Director of Operations

## Embracing Technology for Offertory Giving

As we continue to grow in faith and stewardship, we encourage all parishioners to explore the convenience of online giving for your offertory contributions. This easy-to-use technology allows you to set up a secure account where your desired tithe is automatically debited from your bank account. No more worries about forgetting your envelope at home or scrambling to write a check during Mass.

### How to Set Up Online Giving

1. Visit [stcharleslima.org](http://stcharleslima.org) on your preferred web browser (Google, Internet Explorer, Firefox, etc.).
2. Click on the Give tab located at the top of the homepage.
3. Select the Create Account button (if you already have an account, simply log in). Don't forget to save your password for future use.
4. Once your account is created, you will see options for different ministries and events to donate to. Select the Offertory tab.
5. On the Offertory page, complete the following fields:
6. Gift Amount: Enter the amount you wish to donate.
7. Gift Type: Choose between a one-time donation or recurring donations (weekly, monthly, etc.).
8. Click Continue.
9. On the next screen, click Add Payment Method and choose to input either your credit card or banking account information.

Once all required fields are completed, click Add Payment Method. That's it! Your account is now set up for online giving.

Your support through online giving ensures our parish can continue to fulfill its mission of faith, fellowship, and service with ease and reliability.

### Exciting Updates on the ACA and Annual Report

Did you know that St. Charles Parish reached our fundraising goal for last year's Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA) from the Diocese of Toledo? This marks the first time in recent years that we have achieved this incredible milestone. We extend our heartfelt thanks for your generosity, which enables us to remain a vibrant community and a beacon of faith for generations to come.

Looking ahead, we will launch our 2025 ACA campaign this February. With your continued support, we can build upon this success and further our diocesan programs that touch countless lives.

Additionally, our Parish Annual Report for 2023/2024 is also available. You can pick up a copy at the Parish Office or view it online at [stcharleslima.org](http://stcharleslima.org). This report highlights the many ways your gifts and support have made a difference in our parish and beyond.

Thank you for your unwavering generosity and dedication to our parish family. Together, we continue to grow in faith and service.

Kind Regards,

### NEW PARISHIONERS

Aaron & Lauren Link  
Sy & Gerry Cote  
Antonio Venegas  
Bailey Kennedy

### NEWLY BAPTIZED

John Christopher Gronas  
Emmy Saint-Claire  
Sofia Grace Swoveland  
Michael Anthony Bastinelli  
Brinley Lucia Fernandez  
Sophia Vene

### WEDDINGS

Wesely & Taylor Lambert

### IN MEMORIAM

John Allen  
David Schmiedebusch  
Gary Stopczynski  
Bart Thomas

### 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](http://stcharleslima.org)  
and clicking on the  
Online Giving icon or QR code below.



### 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

**The Chimes Staff**  
Cathy Huber  
[chimes@stcharleslima.org](mailto: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](mailto:chimes@stcharleslima.org)



## What to Know About Multimedia at St. Charles

**BRYNNA SCHROEDER**  
Parish Multimedia Specialist

I have been at St. Charles for a year now, and I've been able to learn and grow in the many different areas of media that our parish has to offer! Looking back on a year gives me the opportunity to share more about what I do in my job position. It also gives me a chance to give parishioners helpful tips relating to this position, such as where they can send bulletin announcements, our different media capabilities, ways we communicate with those inside and outside of the parish, and more!

As the Multimedia Specialist, my responsibilities include (but are not limited to!): gathering info for the bulletin and designing it, creating and publishing social media posts for our Facebook and Instagram pages, working with Diocesan, a print/web company, to modify our website content, creating printed materials such as flyers and cards, and updating the graphics on the outdoor digital sign. These responsibilities show the different ways we can communicate with the parish as well as the surrounding community and beyond. The parish utilizes print, social media, websites, and even video and photography in order to effectively reach out, keep people informed, and spread the Gospel.

In my first year here, I have been able to make note of some recurring questions. Hopefully, I can answer a few of those questions here. First and foremost, if you have an article, graphic or announcement you'd like in the bulletin, you can send it to the bulletin's email address, at [bulletin@stcharleslima.org](mailto:bulletin@stcharleslima.org). Typically, the bulletin is due to be sent to Diocesan (the print company) on Tuesdays by noon, so any bulletin items must be received by then. For example, the Sunday, January 12th bulletin is due by the Tuesday before, January 7th. Next, if you're looking to find the latest goings on at our parish through online sources, look no further than our social media pages, @St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church - Lima on Facebook and @limastcharles on Instagram, respectively. The bulletin and the Chimes also have digital versions, found on our website at [stcharleslima.org](http://stcharleslima.org). Our website is also a great place to find a variety of helpful resources, including times & locations, Mass live streams, calendar events, online giving, sacramental info, and much more! You can also find a link to our school's webpage, [sccslima.org](http://sccslima.org). We are working with Diocesan to update some of our website's features and pages in the coming year, so that's something to look forward to as well!

I look forward to what the next year has in store as the Multimedia Specialist at St. Charles. I hope to learn and grow in more areas to help make parish communication and creativity even more successful!



**CHRIS JONES**  
Coordinator of Outreach and Hospitality

## Outreach

Beginning November 1, 2024, our focus has been coordinating visits with area Assisted Living facilities, Nursing facilities, Hospice, Hospitalized, and Homebound parishioners. We are making great strides to ensure these parishioners are able to receive Holy Communion on a consistent basis. We continue to recruit new volunteers to assist us with this ministry.

In addition to this outreach, we are working with 7 potential adult candidates to join our faith during this Easter Season. We continue to adjust and update our OCIA Catechetical Sessions for 2025 to ensure our candidates are well advised and informed on the teachings and expectations of the Church.

### Christian Corner Community Center



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

Follow us on our new page on Facebook @Christian Corner Community Center-New

Be sure you follow the account that has "New" on the end!

### Men's Retreat: Save the Date

The Men's Retreat for 2025 will be March 28th-30th. Mark your calendars and be on the look-out for more info. We hope you will join us for a time of brotherhood, prayer, and strengthening our will to develop as soldiers for Christ!

### 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.



**ROSALYN LISTON**  
Coordinator of Catechesis and Spirituality

## Surviving the Holidays

December 1, 2024, the first Sunday of Advent, the Catechesis and Outreach Coordinators hosted *Surviving the Holidays* for 14 survivors experiencing the loss of a loved one. Room 9-10 in St. Charles Church, lower level, was beautifully decorated by Bert Vernon and Judy Horlander. Bud vases with white bows and silk flowers adorned tables covered with green table covers. The room was festive, yet comforting! Participants were served lemon poppy cake, pecan pie, apple cinnamon bread and coffee. The session opened with an Advent prayer around the Advent wreath,

*Surviving the Holidays* is a program from [GriefShare](#). Participants view a movie in which survivors of loss of a loved one share their experiences of coping during the holidays. Table discussion followed, facilitated by Marilyn Askins, Chris Jones and Bert Vernon. Snacks were enjoyed. Participants were invited to share in the [GriefShare Program](#) to be offered in 2025. The session closed with prayer to Mary, the first tabernacle of the Eucharist!



### JEREMY HOLLIS

Director of Youth Discipleship  
and Evangelization

As 2024 is ending and 2025 is about to start, I wanted to review what our middle school and high school youth did in the fall of 2024 and will do in the spring of 2025.

Both groups began the semester in September and ran through November. In this first semester, the middle school youth program was “Unfolded.” They were presented with the reality of God as the Creator, a Trinity of Divine Persons who exist in a communion of love, who created them as a pouring out of that love. They were shown that they are a part of God’s plan of great love for humanity, who sent Jesus Christ as the ultimate sign of love, redeeming them from their sins and opening the way to heaven. “Unfolded”, an origami-themed program, showed in its most basic sense, that paper folding transforms something ordinary into something beautiful and multi-dimensional. The art of folding is meditative and creative and provides a metaphor for the great love and care of the Creator when creating us. Through these

sessions, they were encouraged to view the teachings of the Church and examine them “fold by fold” until a concept was fully laid before them.

The Life Teen program was called Truth. This program started with an introduction to truth and then explored the topics of objective truth vs. moral relativism, creationism vs evolution, world religions and salvation, and ended with a look at the problem of evil.

In December, both groups took part in the USCCB training on Safe Environments and we ended the year on December 15th with a combined skating party at Edgewood Skate Arena.

The second semester began on January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The middle school program is called “Direct Message.” This program focuses on how the Ten Commandments are a great gift from God, but that we do not always see them that way. We are focusing on the beauty of the first three commandments as a response of love to God’s call to a relationship with Him. This series uses the theme of messages, as our “reply” to God’s invitation of love in loving out the commandments. Through worship, sacrifice, rest, and the celebration of the Mass, we reply to God’s initial message with an enthusiastic “YES!” The practices of our faith aid us in loving God with our whole heart, mind, soul, and strength, and through a strong relationship with

Him, we can love our neighbor as ourselves.

The high school teens are focusing on the topic of mental health by covering spiritual vs mental health, peace, resilience, and hope. The topic of mental health is extremely important for teens and addressing this topic helps them to integrate their faith with all the daily challenges they face such as academic stress, social media pressures, family, and questions about who they are and their future. It is important to remember that Jesus ministered to the whole person, bringing healing and hope to those suffering and many teens suffer in silence. Addressing the topics of mental and spiritual health will give the teens practical tools that can support them spiritually and mentally.

In addition to the two youth groups, our 7<sup>th</sup> grade at our St. Charles school attended the Leadership Retreat at Damascus in October. The 6<sup>th</sup> grade will be attending the Faith and Science retreat and the 8<sup>th</sup> grade will be attending the Confirmation retreat, both in March.

Please continue to pray for our youth, our core team, and other volunteers.

If you are interested in volunteering to assist our youth in their faith journey, please contact Jeremy Hollis at 419-228-7635 or via email at [hollisj@stcharleslima.org](mailto:hollisj@stcharleslima.org).



### MELODY KEARNS

Family Formation Coordinator

In November, both parents and children spent time on their arrival at the Finish Line, otherwise known as the Final Coming. All of the children created a visual aid so they could demonstrate Jesus’ Ascension and his second coming. Children were reminded no one knows the date and time Jesus will come again and this is why we need to prepare every day so we will be worthy of Heaven. Each older child had to draw a card with a question about Heaven, Hell, and Purgatory. All children were encouraged to share what they knew and the catechist added and/or corrected as needed. Every child left with more information on each and ways they could insure being able to share in eternal life.

I began the parent’s discussion with a new book, *Christmas in Heaven* by Anthony DeStefano available at Amazon and most Catholic book stores. The book is beautifully illustrated, written in charming rhyming verse, and includes the topic of purgatory which is often not included in any children’s book. The story is about a little boy who is sad because his grandmother has passed away. His grandfather tells the boy he believes a party is taking place in Heaven with the arrival of his grandmother and he should continue to pray for his grandmother. The book includes many pictures of the saints incorporated into the story complete with a Saint Glossary. The strengthens the faith of all, young and old. A most uplifting story of loss for us all and a great addition to any Catholic family’s library.

The parents then partially viewed a video on Formed web site, *The Last Things*. We then talked about the role of parents in helping guide their children on their journey to heaven. We discussed the importance of reconciliation, prayer, and looking at our lives to make sure we

are trying to reach holiness. I encourage the parents to think about the Final Coming and what we needed to do to prepare. No one benefits from putting death to the side as we will all experience it sometime and that is certain.

Our second November session the children, with the assistance of their parents wrote notes of gratitude to Father Kent for Thanksgiving. The children worked very hard on this project. Everyone went together and purchased an insulated mug for him. Third grader, Knox Griffo, presented Father with the gift and the kids were so excited to see him receive his gift. Thanksgiving was the perfect time to let Father Kent know how much we appreciate him. Now he will never have to drink cold coffee again.



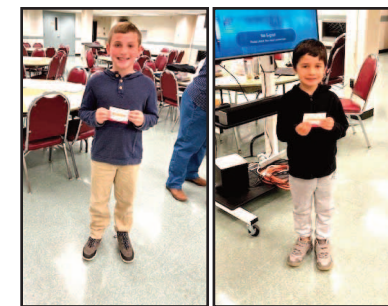
Our first session in December both parents and children focused on God’s Promises. The children went through the familiar covenants with Noah, Abraham, Moses, and David. Discussion included the promises He made to Joseph, Mary, The Church, and You. The children described a broken promise and emphasized God’s promises are never broken. The older children looked up the bible verses and read them together. Each covenant and promise were reviewed with pictures arranged in chronological order. All classes reviewed the Legend of the Candy Cane and some included the Candy Cane game.

Parent focus was on the twelve promises of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. We also covered some history of the Enthronement to the Sacred Heart. Parents were given information on St. Charles’ *Welcome His Heart, Sacred Heart Enthronement Ministry*. They were provided contact information and walked away knowing what the enthronement entails. This is such a special devotion. If you are interested in learning more about the enthronement

contact **Norma Rower**, 419-234-3952 or **Missy Brunner** at [jonmissybrunner@woh.rr.com](mailto:jonmissybrunner@woh.rr.com).

Next, I shared “*Mary on the Mantel*” book and Mary doll set. I purchased from the Catholic Co. but this can be purchased at most Catholic book stores. A perfect addition to anyone’s Advent. A good option to that ornery Elf on a Shelf. Mary’s doll has a pouch and a card with a task for the children to complete, which helps children prepare for the coming of Jesus. There are also ideas on where to place Mary and things she can do. I Love when we can incorporate our faith in a fun and useful way. We finished by practicing Lectio Divina using a children’s style to help them incorporate it as an option of prayer in their homes.

Sunday, December 15th we are having our own Bambinelli Sunday. The children will make their Baby Jesus’ out of clay. We have a home blessing to use that the head of the household in attendance will give. This could become a new tradition for families during Advent and allows the children to become active participants. We are also having cake and punch as a birthday welcome for the Baby Jesus. We will finish up with some competitive Advent Bingo.



October W.O.G. Log Winners  
Dylan Doseck, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade &  
Anthony Sarraco, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade



November  
W.O.G. Log  
Winners  
Rory Wilson,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grade &  
Maddie  
Froehlich 5<sup>th</sup>  
Grade



**EMILY NIESE**  
Director of Liturgical  
Music Ministries

As we enter 2025, we celebrate the 2,025th anniversary of the Incarnation of the Lord. Pope Francis has declared this year to be a Jubilee offering many prayerful and intentional ways to celebrate this great gift! The world and our society offer us so many things to celebrate - from the more “traditional” celebrations such as birthdays and anniversaries, to the more “modern” celebrations such as national cheese day, national Daughters’ Day, national [insert almost anything] day... It is so important to take a moment to give thanks to God for the gift of himself since the beginning of time through the prophets to the disciples to God himself made flesh at Christmas in the manger. None of our “traditional” or “modern” celebrations would have any purpose at all if not for Christ who redeemed us, and came that we “might have life, and have it abundantly.”

Therefore, I urge you to embrace this special year and truly CELEBRATE this unfathomably joyous gift that we have carried throughout all history, being our beacon of hope and guiding light for our future - the gift of God made flesh and present to us in humanity and in the eucharist.

One specific way to celebrate is through song! There is a song that was written specifically for this year of Jubilee, titled, “Pilgrims of Hope,” with text by Pierangelo Sequeri, English translation by Andrew

## Celebrating the Jubilee Year

Wadsworth, and music by Francesco Menello. The lyrics may inspire your prayer of thanksgiving and reflection in this year of Jubilee. The lyrics are as follows:

*Like a flame my hope is burning,  
may my song arise to you:  
Source of life that has no ending,  
on life’s path I trust in you.*

*Ev’ry nation, tongue, and people  
find a light within your Word.  
Scattered fragile sons and daughters  
find a home in your dear Son.*

*God, so tender and so patient,  
dawn of hope, you care for all.  
Heav’n and earth are recreated  
by the Spirit of Life set free.*

*Raise your eyes, the wind is blowing,  
for our God is born in time.  
Son made man for you and many  
who will find the way in him.*

You can hear a recording of this song at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7uXO8IUcEZI>. It is a song that our choir will be working on throughout this year, with hopes to premier it at our Eucharistic Procession and Mass in June 2025.

Finally, I will leave you with the prayer for the Year of Jubilee. I hope that it is one you reference often, making this celebration just as much a part of your life as all our other celebrations.

Father in heaven,  
may the faith you have gifted us in  
your son Jesus Christ, our brother,  
and the flame of charity  
kindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,  
reawaken in us, the blessed hope  
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us  
into diligent cultivators of the evangelical seeds  
that make humanity and the cosmos rise  
unto the confident expectation  
of the new heavens and the new earth,  
when with the powers of Evil overcome,  
your glory shall be manifested eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee  
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,  
the yearning for heavenly treasures  
and pour over all the earth  
the joy and peace  
of our Redeemer.  
To you God blessed in eternity,  
be praise and glory for ever and ever.

Amen.

## 2024 Christmas Tea

By Mary Shak



On Tuesday, December 10, St. Charles hosted our 10<sup>th</sup> Christmas Tea in memory of Grace Stechschulte. Over 100 women from the Parish and the Lima Community came together for an evening of friendship and togetherness. Emily Niese played the piano as our guests arrived. The music was enjoyed by all. Fr. Kent Kaufman opened the evening with prayer and welcome. The group enjoyed a four course (finger foods) meal that was prepared by ladies from our wonderful tea committee while listening to beautiful Christmas music. We enjoyed Fr. Kent leading us in “O Christmas Tea” (modified version of the classic “O Christmas Tree”) as everyone sang along. Entertainment was provided by the Dulcimer Divas. A skit called “What Christmas is all about” was performed for all emphasizing that “Christmas Is Christ.” We closed the evening with a sing along to “Silent Night” with Emily Niese playing the piano. The Christmas Tea was such a beautiful and inspiring event that prepared our hearts for the Christmas season.



**Above: Christmas Tea friends enjoying the day.  
Below: “What Christmas is all About” skit.**



A special thank you to the 2024 Christmas Tea Committee: Lois Carder, Mary Gronas, Linda Hoehn, Martha Kahle, Connie Klima, Peg Mosel, Ginny Raymond, Mary Shak, Jeanna Stallkamp, Allison Stucke, Rikki Unterbrink and Bert Vernon. Also, thank you to Jeremy Hollis and Angela Terrill who kept things running in the kitchen during the tea and to Jillian Terrill for her service assisting the hostesses throughout the evening. Thank you to anyone that helped in some way to make the Tea a success. This would not be possible without their hard work and dedication.



**Dulcimer Divas**

## Candlemas - The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple

By Jeremy Hollis

The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, often called Candlemas, holds a special place in the Catholic liturgical calendar. Celebrated on February 2nd, this feast recalls when Mary and Joseph presented the infant Jesus in the Temple.

The story begins with Jewish customs concerning the birth of a firstborn son. According to the Mosaic Law, every firstborn male was to be consecrated to the Lord as a recognition of God's sovereignty and faithfulness (Exodus 13:2). Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem forty days after His birth. In doing so, they fulfilled the law's requirements while revealing their humility and trust in God's plan. Yet, this moment of adherence to the law was far more than a simple act of obedience, it was a profound revelation of Jesus' divine identity and mission.

As they entered the Temple, Mary and Joseph encountered Simeon who had long awaited the Messiah. The Holy Spirit had assured Simeon that he would not die before seeing the Lord's anointed. When Simeon saw Jesus, he took the child in his arms and offered a prayer of praise now known as the Nunc Dimittis. "Lord, now you are letting your servant go in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel" (Luke 2:29-32). These words, inspired by the Spirit, articulate the dual mission of Christ as both the light for the Gentiles and the glory of Israel. In Simeon's declaration, we hear a message of hope extended to all of humanity.

Simeon's prophecy also carried a sobering note. He foretold that Jesus would be a sign of contradiction, destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel. Turning to Mary, he added that a sword would pierce her own soul (Luke 2:34-35). This poignant foreshadowing points to the suffering and sacrifice central to Christ's mission and

Mary's intimate participation in her Son's redemptive work. While the Presentation is a moment of hope and light, it also reminds us of the cost of salvation.

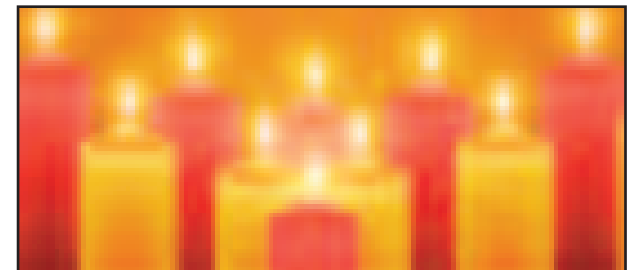


The name "Candlemas" reflects one of the feast's central symbols: light. During the liturgy, candles are blessed and carried in procession, symbolizing Christ as the light of the world. This ritual, rich in meaning, connects the faithful to the words of Jesus in the Gospel of John: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life" (John 8:12). The lighting of candles becomes a powerful expression of faith, as the flickering flames represent not only the light of Christ but also the hopes and prayers of His followers.

In lighting candles, the faithful are reminded of Christ's promise to be with His people, illuminating their path through the darkness of sin and despair. The gentle glow of each flame serves as a communal act of faith, symbolizing the shared commitment to walk in His light and to be light-bearers to others. The lighting of candles during Candlemas unites the Church in its mission to reflect Christ's presence in a world often shadowed by confusion and moral ambiguity.

Simeon's recognition of Jesus as the Messiah is a profound moment of fulfillment, not only for Israel but for all nations. This is a feast that encourages believers to place their trust in God's promises and to see Christ as a beacon guiding them toward reconciliation with God. The timing of the feast itself underscores this message. As the days grow longer, the natural world mirrors the spiritual renewal that Candlemas represents, a movement from darkness to light, from despair to hope.

Candlemas is a feast that captures the heart of the Gospel. It draws us into the story of Christ's mission and invites us to embrace the transformative power of His light. As the Church celebrates this feast, it proclaims the enduring truth that Christ's light shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it. Even in a world that often seems overshadowed by challenges, the message of Candlemas assures us that the light of Christ continues to burn brightly, offering direction and peace to all who trust in Him.



### February 3 - Feast of St. Blaise

Every year on Feb. 3, the Church celebrates the feast of St. Blaise. Since he is the patron saint of those who suffer from throat ailments (and the doctors who treat them), many parishes around the world offer the "blessing of throats" in his honor.

A bishop and eventual martyr, Blaise of Sebaste began his spiritual journey as a hermit. He was a physician and known to be a miracle worker. He practiced the medicine of his time and is included in the group of the "14 holy helpers" of the Catholic Church — called that because they are considered effective intercessors against certain ailments of the body and soul.

### 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.

### Peek into the Past Christmas Tea - 2014

Over one hundred women from the parish community gathered in the church basement on December 16 for the Christmas Tea. Each table was beautifully decorated with holiday china and linens.

Entertainment was provided by Ruth Fosnaugh at the piano, with songs by Gino DiMattia and April Simon with accompaniment by the hand bell choir. A thoughtful meditation was provided by Angie Soules who talked about loving and accepting ourselves as perfectly made children of God.



Sue Ricker, Marge Snow, Peg Welch,  
Bev Brunner, Erin Kelly, and Darlyn Bell



# The Redwing Reader

## St. Charles Catholic School



**MEGAN SCHEID**  
Principal

### Ringling in the New Year

I would like to extend a warm welcome back and Happy New Year to all families. May this year bring you and your loved ones great joy, peace and harmony, good health, and prosperity. On behalf of the faculty and staff of St. Charles School, we thank you for your caring support and partnership in working together with your children.

I love resolutions. Whether it's an attempt at small monthly goals or the blank slate of a new year, I have always been motivated by setting goals and making plans. I have found in my own life to always have a resolution to pray more. This resolution works both as a stand-alone and in conjunction with my other resolutions. It's a New Year's resolution that won't let you down and is renewable every year. The New Year is a wonderful time for families to discuss their own family values and how to make a difference in the lives of others.

Discussions surrounding your family resolutions will set the tone for effective communication throughout the year.

December was an incredibly busy month! Our Parent Task Force kicked things off by hosting the Santa

Social Community event on December 8th. We had lots of wonderful vendors, crafts, and activities for the community to enjoy! We were then thoroughly entertained by our K-3 grade students during their Christmas program and by our 4-8 grade students in their music concert. These performances showcased incredible talent and brought joy to all who attended. A heartfelt thank-you goes to our dedicated staff members and parent volunteers who contributed to the success of these productions.

As always, January will be a busy month at St. Charles! On January 10, our 5-8 grade students will compete in the school Spelling Bee, demonstrating their hard work and dedication to learning. Later in the month, we will celebrate Catholic Schools Week from January 26 to February 1. During this special week, students, school families, and faculty will participate in various activities that highlight our pride in Catholic education and the mission of St. Charles Catholic School. Be on the lookout in our Thursday Flyer for a detailed list of events as we approach this exciting time.

Let us embrace this New Year with enthusiasm and gratitude, united in our commitment to faith and education. Thank you for being an integral part of our St. Charles family. We look forward to another wonderful year together!

### St. Charles School First Quarter Honor Roll



#### Mark of Excellence

**Grade 6:** Kendyl Liening, Ava Miroglio, Corbin Sherrick, Kaya St. Clair

**Grade 7:** Olivia Barhotst, Elaine Brickner, Luke Bear, Nicklaus Gronas, Isabella Martello, Cooper Wende

**Grade 8:** Addilynn Baldauf, Braylie Bensinger, Josie Declercq, Alana Heffner, Gracy Malcom, Corie Schnieders, Piper Schumm, Gwen Wolfcale

#### High Honors

**Grade 5:** Hunter Bensinger, Lillian Bohn, Rylee Chess, Sawyer Eblin, Clara Ellis, Chase Feison, Maren Flower, Nadia Fuduric, Carson Gross, Scarlet Gross, Colin Hile, Lillian Hobbs, James Hodges, Mailes Marsh, Olivia Newland, Londyn Powell, Thienne Salyers, Ryan Schnieders, Evan Schoonover, Khloe Skinner, Kate Tobias, Orion Turner, Rylee Williams, Dean Wolfcale

**Grade 6:** Gretchen Barhorst, Reed Bell, Gaby Bryan-Lanche, Aidan Carter, Henry Dickman, Jacob Priddy, Harper Fields, Cedric Flower, Sophia Mack, Savannah Stolly, Alec Thines, Raylan Tierney, Emma Venturella, Grant Williams, Jaxen Wilson

**Grade 7:** Jack Gafford, Anthony Hinegardner, Miya Hollis, Charlee Rexford, Audie Sielschott, Elliana Thompson, Katana Walter

**Grade 8:** Eli Burris, Eli Fields, Zoe Huber, Sustin McCain, Reese Merschman, Mataya Miller, Hayden Nolte, Carter Pester, Jo Rogers, Miahlynn Sinthalphone, Sam Venturella, Luke Weitz, Sam Williams

## Accelerated Readers!

By Mrs. Thompson

After being asked by several excited students if I was going to do another Read to the Moon challenge, I HAD to think of another fun incentive to keep these kiddos motivated! I decided to keep track of those who met their own personal AR goals on our cafeteria wall. Students could come to the library and get a star stamp by their name to indicate they achieved their goal! At the end of the quarter, I had a drawing at our school's Monday morning meeting. The names of all of the students who accomplished their goal were added to the bucket. The winners got to have a picnic lunch (and a special treat!) with me in the library! We had a great time chatting and enjoying each other's company. I can't wait to do it again next quarter!



Left to right: Ryah Starr, Samantha Guerra, Lucas Cunningham, Addison Andrews, Adalynn Snyder, and Wilson Rector



Left to right: Jaxon Springer, Dean Wolfcale, Carson Griffin, Mrs. Thompson, CeCe Bell, Talon Brunk, Abel Smith

#### Honors

**Grade 5:** Celia Cecala-Wells, Lorenzo Crum, Jayla Dukes, Scott Gafford, Addison Gandy, Jayla Godsey, Carson Griffin, Curtis Griffin, Kian Kroupa, Averi McKinney-White, Rylee Merschman, Luke Miller, Connor Sroufe, Ryker Starr

**Grade 6:** Kyra Brunk, Sam Curtis, Samantha Harter, Jay Krieg, Carlyn Wende

**Grade 7:** Alexis Allen, Tristan Badea, Lenna Bear, Natalie Buffington, Gabriel Hodges, Evelyn Iddings, Estella Ikegwuonu, Peighton Oliphant, Nino Rodriguez, Niko Stombaugh, Easton Swinehart, Hezekiah Thomas, Jack Whittaker

**Grade 8:** Nevaia Beck, Carter Feison, Leo Garlock, Nolan Howell, Cole Mack, Brynn Melton, Lyla Wenger, Landon Wilson



## All About Science Club!

By Candace Keating

I wanted to share some exciting updates from our recent Science Club activities. We had a blast developing and creating structures to help endangered species thrive in a zoo habitat. The students designed bat habitats, built devices to prevent roving bears from entering certain areas, and created structures to aid animals in crossing towns divided by human developments and highways. We also explored ways to help clean up an oil spill to protect wildlife. It was a wonderful opportunity for the students to engage with and care for God's creations.

On our last club night, parents were invited to come in and check out their children's projects. The children were so excited to show off their hard work!

I plan to host another club session after January, with different activities! More info to follow in the Thursday flyer, or contact me at [keatingc@sccslima.org](mailto:keatingc@sccslima.org). Have a blessed holiday season!



Looking for a magical way to brighten a student's summer? Why not gift them a science camp experience? Camps are not just fun; they're a fantastic way for kids to learn new skills, make lifelong friends, and create unforgettable memories!

If you're inspired to help, click the QR code to donate today! Every little bit counts and can make a huge difference in a child's life! Let's spread the joy of camp together!



**Grades:** K-6<sup>th</sup>  
**Location:** St. Charles Catholic School  
 2175 West Elm Street, Lima, OH 45805  
**Date:** June 2-6, 2025  
**Time:** 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM | **Camp Director:** Candace Keating | [keatingc@sccslima.org](mailto:keatingc@sccslima.org)

## Cookie Sale

By Mary Niese

Seventh & Eighth grade students hosted their annual cookie walk to raise funds for charitable organizations. Students sold a mixed dozen of cookies for \$5 after each of the masses the weekend of December 14 & 15. Thanks to the generosity of our wonderful parishioners, we were able to raise \$500. Students chose to give \$200 to Heartbeat, \$200 to the Humane Society, and \$100 to St. Vincent de Paul Society.



## St. Charles School

### 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.





## Tuesday, December 17 was Character Dress-up Day



## From the Art Room

By Becky MacDonald



Kindergarten students, Callen and Layne are looking forward their art activity at the paint table.

## UFLI Update: Reading, Spelling, and Writing Sentences!

By Lisa Mahler

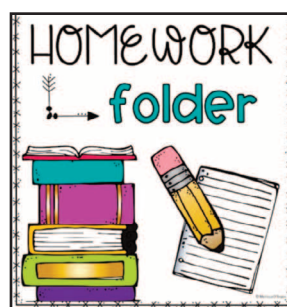


Since August, our kindergarten students have been completing two lessons from the UFLI Manual each week to learn the basic consonant letters and the short vowel sounds. These letters and sounds are used to build words using our Alphabet boards. The

students use word chains to take simple words and change them into new words by moving, adding, deleting, or changing the vowel. These engaging activities allow the learners to use letter sounds to create new words.

The students also learn HEART Words. A heart word is a word that needs to be learned by heart as it is difficult to decode. Students learn to read it AND spell a list of 21 words for kindergarten. The students use these heart words to write sentences!

The students use what they have learned from the lesson to READ the DECODABLE TEXT. Reading independently is the key to confidence. They illustrate the text which demonstrates their comprehension.



The UFLI Approach has changed how we teach reading. The kids can read and spell words confidently! After the first 34 lessons, the students learn about the diagraphs, blends, and the many vowel combinations. These first lessons pave the way for advanced reading skills for First and Second grades.



Experimenting with watercolors is always fun. Fifth grade girls Sawyer and Scarlet are enjoying their time in the art room.

Word Work Chains
1. mug → pug → dug → tug
2. fig → dig → pig → pug
Sample Word Work Chain Script
mug → pug → dug → tug
1. Make the word <b>mug</b> . [spelling]
2. Change the <b>m</b> to <b>p</b> . What word is this? [reading]
3. Change <b>pug</b> to <b>dug</b> . [spelling]
4. Change the <b>d</b> to <b>t</b> . What word is this? [reading]



Rosa & Jamison can spell challenging words!!



Learning how to paint tints in 4th grade with Corbin, Michael and Mason.



## Lima Central Catholic News

Submitted by Carla Simmons



The juniors had the opportunity to strengthen their faith and build closer connections with their classmates during their retreat. This experience is a significant step in both their spiritual and personal growth!



Congratulations to the 1st Quarter Leadership By Example Award Winners:  
9th-Eddie White, 10th-Olivia Joseph, Emmy Fortune,  
11-Griffin Dawson and 12-Issac Leppert



LCC held its first fall showcase! The Jazz Birds, concert choir & concert band performed. There were even a few solos. Our music program continues to soar to new heights under the direction of Austin Friess alongside the assistance of Shaun Olberding.



Congrats to the LCC T-Birds!  
Back to Back Tip-Off Classic Champions!



## 1st Quarter Honor Roll - LCC

*61% of our students are on the Honor Roll*

### Mark of Excellence 4.0

Melana Badea, Alexa Caballero, Hayley Chambers, Austin Craig, Ava Gafford, Ava Hefner, Teagan Helmig, Claire Janowski, Kenyon Kill, Isaac Leppert, Gianni McKee, Michael Miller, Nathan Niemeyer, Victor Pierce, Maria Pignataro, Cole Rinehart, Emma Skinner, Elaila White, Andrew Baldauf, Emily Blankemeyer, Alexa Heffner, Jacob Raczynski, Laney Scheckelhoff, Jenna Terrill, Dante Turney, Courtney VanMeter, Claire Wolfcale, Destin Morris, Olivia Venturella, Lincoln Woods

### Superior Honors 3.5

Raphaella Fortune, Aubrey Frankhouser, Emma Hunley, Dallas Martin, Amaleigh Monaghan, Matthew Quatman, Jillian Terrill, Brayden Dahill, Griffin Dawson, Addison Fay, Chayse Helmig, Chibuike Ibeneme,

Aidan Keating, Carolina Kill, Jennifer Nguyen, Drew Pester, Jacob Schnieders, Connor Truex, Joshua Young, Lucy Bensinger, Alexis Brinkman, Kaitlyn Carroll, Anna Davisson, Joshua Declercq, Estella Ellis, Evelyn Ellis, Lauryn Falke, Olivia Hinegardner, Olivia Joseph, Sophia Joseph, Addyson Lauck, Tatum Marks, Jacob Miller, Nicholas Nieman, Jaylon Patton, Michael Quatman, LaKayla Scott, Brevan Stolly, Vivian Ta, Oluwafunmilayo Awe, Jessica Blubaugh, Brielle Bourk, Evan Brinkman, Hannah Brunk, Claire Butler, Addyson DePalma, Jena Dershem-Stevenson, Lilyan Farmer, Collin Frick, Carter Helmig, Milicent Ibeneme, Ta'Kyra Ingram, Brady Jacobs, Carter Lester, Isabella Mangini-Miller, Joshua Reed

### Honor Roll 3.0

Tahir Akkoc, Alon'Nah Bagley, Kirsten Compton, Caden Falke, Chloe Fisher, Makiya Goodman, Sophia Hurley, Katelynn Lossing, Mark Malcom, Neena McGue, Sophie Miller, Tatum Miller, Alice Reif, Loghan Smith, Londen Smith, Aityana Sorrels, Jacob Yahl, Kevin Bowker, Stephanie Caballero, G'Vonte Davis, McKenna Diggs-Irons, Louis Fortune, Ava Gephart, Isaiah Hook, Bractyn Jones, Cadence Kelly-Frueh, Katie Kriegel, Emiley Martin, Garret Nartker, Isaiah Phillips, Khalil Simpson, Preston Spivey, Jaxon White, Jayden Williams, Madeline Yahl, Ava Armstead, Chris Coulibaly, Cade Dahill, Chayce Farrington, Ella Gronas, Isaiah Hodges, Kira Kelly, Aiden McCain, Alanna Newbury, Nathan Warner, Arabella Wilson, Heidi Zink

## Upcoming Events

- January 10 Sophomore Retreat
- January 17 Senior Night for Winter Sports
- January 18 High School Placement Test
- January 20 No School - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- January 25 High School Placement Test
- January 27 Catholic Schools Week
- February 1 Night at the Races
- February 5 Red Cross Bloodmobile
- February 6 National Honor Society Induction & Academic Award Ceremony
- February 10 College Round Table and College Credit Plus Meeting
- February 17 No School-President's Day
- February 18 No School-Professional Development Day
- February 25 State Funded ACT for Juniors





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Their patronage will allow us to continue this important publication.

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**The Win 4 Kids Raffle is BACK!**

Get ready for more chances to win amazing prizes while supporting a great cause! In-state residents can visit the LCC website to purchase tickets.  
Out-of-state participants? No problem! Call 419-223-2411 or email the school to get your tickets!

**WIN 4 KIDS**  
Your Chance to win over \$50,000 in prizes!

**Buy EARLY to WIN BIG**

**1st Drawing - December 20, 2024**

- Prize 1: Two tickets to the College Football Playoff National Championship in Atlanta and two nights hotel stay
- Prize 2: \$1,000 cash

**2nd Drawing - February 7, 2025**

- Prize 1: Win a \$250 gift card of your choice every month for a year
- Prize 2: \$1,000 cash

**Grand Prize Drawing - April 26, 2025**

- Prize 1: NEW 2024 Ford Escape
- Prize 2: \$5,000 cash

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**what?** A dollar for dollar TAX CREDIT on donations to the Thunderbird SGO make it zero cost to you, while supporting Catholic education in Lima through scholarships benefitting our schools and their families.

**when?** Anytime before you file, with a final deadline of April 15, 2025, for the 2024 tax year.

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**how much?** Any amount is appreciated and makes a difference. Maximum credit for individual filers is \$750, for joint filers is \$1,500.

Scan to learn more or visit [www.tbirdsgo.org](http://www.tbirdsgo.org)

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