



ST. CHARLES BORROMEO
CATHOLIC CHURCH

THE CHIMES

St. Charles Parish

March/April

Volume 24 Issue No. 4



FR. KENT
KAUFMAN

Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

When were you last invited up on stage? When it comes to musicals, for me the invitation goes back 41 years. It was 1984 and I was a senior at Ottoville High School. Yes, after having spent four years in the orchestra pit and only “being heard,” I wanted the opportunity to “be seen” on stage!

The move “upstairs” or should I say “upstage” came with a price. The musical that year was “Once Upon a Mattress,” the 1959 Broadway show that made Carol Burnett famous. Based upon the fairy tale, “The Princess and the Pea,” the show was set in medieval times.

Our high school sets were homemade but the costumes were ordered from a costume shop. Our measurements were taken and sent away. Then a few days before the show our costumes arrived.

At first it seemed as if there were important parts of the costume order missing—namely, pants for the gents! Then it was explained. Back in medieval times, men wore tights. Yikes! Now you know why I retreated back to the pit for another four decades after that one moment on stage! Yes, I am now more choosy about which roles I take!

Finally, this year, the perfect invitation accompanied by the perfect production appeared - *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. I invite you to gather up your friends and join us at the civic center later this month. You

On Stage - The Hunchback of Notre Dame

will travel to Paris in order to enjoy the Lima Central Catholic’s musical production.

This year, the parish choirs and priests from our four Catholic parishes were invited to join the high school students on stage. Set in a cathedral, rather than a castle I think the costuming should be safe. Rather than tights, I suspect we will be decked out in appropriate choir dress. I have yet to see the costumes, but I have a “hunch” it will be either choir robes or cassock and surplice.

If you are not familiar, Victor Hugo wrote the novel, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, in the early 1800’s on the heels of the French Revolution. This revolution not only brought down the monarchy in France but also suppressed the Church and mired the practice of the faith. In addition, it chipped away at much of the beautiful gothic architecture that had always inspired the faithful to look up to God and the heavens.

Hugo was fascinated by the Paris cathedral and was concerned about preserving it. His novel is set in 1482 – at a time when Europe has not yet even discovered that America exists.

In the shadow of the Cathedral of Notre Dame, amidst the slums of Paris, the Romani outcast (think gypsies!) recount the tragic love story that envelopes the crippled Quasimodo, the enchanting Esmeralda, the soldierly Phoebus and the conflicted Frolo.

Eternal questions are asked, “What makes a monster?” “What makes a man?” Answers are ringing from the bells of Notre Dame.

Even better, this past year we had the joy of seeing the resurrected Paris cathedral revealed to the world after the devastating fire five years ago. What was nearly lost for all time, has now been restored, polished, and represented to inspire our faith once again.

Over the years, several adaptations of the novel’s timeless story emerged for both stage and screen. In the early 1900’s several silent films were created. Plays, ballets, and musicals also took root. Eventually major film productions including even the 1996 animated feature were produced.

Our Catholic community here in Lima is so fortunate to have many gifted, creative forces join together with Lima Central Catholic High School to present this musical adaptation for the stage. I hope that you will support and enjoy the hard work that goes into presenting this timeless story for a new generation!

Fr. Kent



Lima Central Catholic’s
production of

The Hunchback of Notre Dame
Veterans Memorial Civic & Convention Center
7 Town Square
Lima, Ohio 45801

Friday – March 14 – 7:30 p.m.
Saturday – March 15 – 7:30 p.m.
Sunday – March 16 – 2:00 p.m.

All tickets are \$16
Tickets can be purchased by credit card at the
LCC school office in advance
or at the door before the performance.

All seats are general admission open seating.

Tickets are also available through
Hometown Ticketing
Use the QR code below to purchase tickets



Event Policy: All sales final. No refunds or Exchanges –
This event has a no refund policy

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.

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Lima, Ohio 45805



**LAURIEANN
CAMPBELL**
Director of Operations

Giving to Your Parish: Sharing Time, Talent, and Treasure

As we enter the sacred season of Lent, we are reminded of Christ's call to prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. It is a time of reflection and generosity—an opportunity to deepen our faith and serve our parish community.

At St. Charles Parish, we rely on the gifts of our parishioners not only to sustain our ministries but also to grow in faith *together for good*. This year, we invite those with business, financial or legal expertise to prayerfully consider sharing their talents by joining the **Finance Council** or **Development Committee**. These groups play a vital role in ensuring the long-term stability of our parish and school. Your professional insight can help guide important decisions that shape our future. You may reach out by contacting our parish office or email me directly at campbelll@stcharleslima.org.



Additionally, we are excited to launch the **Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA) Campaign** through the Diocese of Toledo, themed *Together for Good*. This initiative supports essential ministries that serve our seminarians as well as those in need throughout our diocese. You may give by going to acatoledo.org.

If you feel called to share your time and talents this Lent, or if you would like more information about the ACA campaign, please contact the parish office at 419-228-7635. Thank you for being a vital part of our parish family as we work *together for good*!

NEW PARISHIONERS

Joe & Kathy Kahle
Renee Fisher
Jean-Yves Saint-Claire
Sydni Pania
Rich & Kathleen Thompson

NEWLY BAPTIZED

Ryker Lee Slayton
Nevyn Elizabeth Slayton
Hayden Rose Stolly
Eddee Jane Stahler
Vera Shyaam Patel

IN MEMORIAM

Kevin Darwin Armstrong
Donald Nicholas Starr
Julia Desenberg
Mary Biedenharn
Anne Platt
James Scherger

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 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

PARISH INFORMATION

The various activities and ministries of the parish will be posted to our parish website at stcharleslima.org and to social media. Our FaceBook page is St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church-Lima

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



**BRYNNA
SCHROEDER**
Parish Multimedia Specialist

I've been off to a busy and fun start for the first couple months of 2025! I started the year off on the right foot with SEEK25. I flew with our St. Charles group to Salt Lake City for the annual Catholic conference, an event I've wanted to experience since college, but hadn't gotten the chance to until now. It was a wonderful experience! It's hard to pick a favorite part of the conference, but one of the best parts for me was getting to see thousands of Catholics in one place, all on fire for their faith! It was great to see so many priests and bishops processing together at the beginning of Mass every morning of the conference, see so much reverence during communion, and hear and see everyone united together in prayer. It was inspiring to say the least.

Another highlight of the conference was getting to hear some amazing Catholic speakers! From Fr. Mike Schmitz to Trent Horn, Tammy Peterson to Scott Hahn, and so many more; it was definitely a stacked team. These speakers were great motivators, and I'm hoping to use what I learned to help me grow in my faith.

The other big highlight of SEEK was getting to share the faith with those around us in Salt Lake City. It was in little ways to be sure, but no doubt the impact was felt. From an early morning walker curious about the conference as our group trekked through the streets while saying the Rosary, to a couple in the street commenting on the respectfulness of the conference attendees, to the friendly conversations about faith with the Mormon missionaries. I think it was safe to say God wanted to

SEEK25 & Text to Give

share Himself with others through these little moments. Now that we're back, I hope to keep sharing Him back at home.

Back here at St. Charles, we have a new feature we're now using with Online Giving. It is the Text to Give feature. We have implemented this tool with 1 or 2 other funds in the past, but we are planning to utilize it more with some of our special donations in the future. For now, we are just using Text to Give for the LA Wildfire Fund, found as one of the funds in St. Charles' Online Giving. If you already have an Online Giving account set up with us (with your phone number on the account), using Text to Give is easy!

Just text the number amount you'd like to give to the phone number: 419-909-3080. For example, if you'd like to give \$50, just text 50 to the phone number above and follow the text prompts for confirmation. That's it!



**Text to Give
Phone Setup**



**Text to Give
Create Online Account**

For those who do not have an Online Account, or do but don't have their phone number added, the process is easy as well. Just use one of the QR codes for the steps to get set up, and you're all ready to use Text to Give!



CHRIS JONES
Coordinator of Outreach
and Hospitality

Outreach: OCIA and Hospitality

The interest in joining our Catholic faith family continues to grow. We have several candidates working toward their goal of joining the church at the Easter Vigil this year and more who are beginning conversations for the next session. Each OCIA Catechetical session is researched and presented by one of our catechists, and I think it's fair to say we are all learning and growing with each session. It is exciting to see those who are enthusiastic to learn more about our faith.

We have monthly dinners with all our candidates and those who are inquiring about the faith. These dinners are very well attended. It is encouraging not only to see the sense of community among these folks, but also to hear the conversations about their faith at each of the tables is heartening. I am so proud to be a part of this ministry.

Our Outreach ministry visits those in care facilities, homebound, and Hospice. We strive to spread our faith to them during difficult times in their lives. We continue to encourage and engage volunteers to help with this ministry.

Christian Corner Community Center

christiancornercc@wcoil.com
(419) 222-4425
1601 McClain Rd.
Lima, OH 458



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!

Monday, March 31, 2025
6:30-8:00 pm - St. Charles Church
(Lower Level)

Discover Thailand and its Christian Roots

Appetizers and Drinks Included

Fr. Kent will recount his January 2025
trip to Bangkok and environs
Learn about the ministry of the Papal
Nuncio and Papal Embassy
Discover how the Catholic Church
arrived and settled in "Siam"



ROSALYN LISTON
Coordinator of Catechesis
and Spirituality

Outreach: GriefShare

January and February were busy months as we welcomed new inquirers to OCIA. It is heartwarming to witness our faith growing strong in everyone.

We have eight participants in GriefShare. We meet every Wednesday from 12:30 - 2:00 p.m. Loss of a loved one is a devastating experience, but talking about the loss and listening to one another has a healing effect for the survivor. One participant said, quite happily, "we are becoming family!"

That is what church and GriefShare is all about! Anyone experiencing loss is welcome to our sessions.





JEREMY HOLLIS
Director of Youth Discipleship
and Evangelization

Lent: A Journey of Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving

Lent is more than just a season on the liturgical calendar; it’s an invitation. A sacred call to step away from the noise of everyday life and enter into a deeper, more intentional relationship with God. It is a time for reflection, renewal, and realignment of the heart, a spiritual journey marked by three essential practices: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

These aren’t just traditions or obligations; they are pathways, a God-given means of drawing closer to Him. Each one serves a unique role in helping us strip away distractions and refocus on what truly matters. But how can we engage in these practices in a way that leads to real transformation?

If Lent is a journey, then prayer is the map. It is the lifeline that keeps us connected to God, the direct channel through which we hear His voice and make our hearts known to Him. Yet, too often, prayer becomes routine, something we check off a list rather than a living, breathing conversation with our Creator.

During Lent, we are invited to pray more deeply, more intentionally, and more persistently. This means moving beyond the hurried Our Fathers, Hail Marys, and mealtime blessings to embrace true dialogue with God. As Pope Francis reminds us, *“Prayer is the strength of the Christian and of every person who believes.”* It is through prayer that we find the grace to face life’s struggles, the wisdom to discern God’s will, and the peace that surpasses understanding.

There isn’t just one “right” way to pray, but Lent is the perfect time to expand your approach and deepen your relationship with God. Start with personal reflection: set aside quiet time to meditate on Scripture and let God’s Word speak to your heart. Prayer isn’t just about speaking; it’s also about listening. Then, step into communal worship. Attend Mass more frequently, walk the path of Christ through the Stations of the Cross, or join a Lenten prayer group. Faith is meant to be lived in

community, and these practices help anchor you in the body of Christ. Finally, don’t forget intercessory prayer. Lift up those in need, both near and far, trusting in God’s mercy to work in their lives. When we pray for others, we not only bring their needs before the Lord but also soften our own hearts to His will. This Lent, challenge yourself to pray in new ways, because when you seek God earnestly, He always draws you closer.

As we commit to deeper prayer, we begin to see its ripple effect; transforming not just our relationship with God, but also our relationships with others.

If prayer draws us closer to God, fasting removes what stands in the way. In our modern world, fasting is often reduced to a personal challenge, an exercise in willpower. But true fasting goes far deeper. It is a spiritual discipline, a way of emptying ourselves so God can fill us. Pope Benedict XVI once said, “Fasting expresses sorrow for a serious misfortune, but also the intention of taking a certain responsibility by confessing our sins and being resolved to turn our hearts and actions to greater justice toward God and neighbor.” Think about that for a moment. Fasting isn’t just about giving up chocolate or skipping a meal; it’s about detoxifying the soul, removing distractions so we can hunger for God rather than the temporary comforts of the world.

This Lent, consider fasting in a way that truly challenges you, not just by giving up the usual comforts, but by transforming the way you think, speak, and live. Start by fasting from negativity. Let go of gossip, criticism, and complaining, and replace them with gratitude. Instead of tearing down, build up. Instead of dwelling on what’s wrong, focus on what’s good. Next, fast from digital noise. Cut down on screen time and create space for silence and contemplation. How often do we scroll mindlessly, filling every quiet moment with distractions? Use that time instead to pray, reflect, or simply be still in God’s presence. Finally, fast from excess. Whether it’s food, shopping, or entertainment, challenge yourself to embrace self-discipline. Let your sacrifice remind you that true fulfillment doesn’t come from material things but from a heart aligned with God. And as you let go of the unnecessary, use that space to practice generosity, giving more of your time, attention,

and resources to those in need. Fasting isn’t just about what you give up; it’s about what you gain, a heart that is more free, more focused, and more open to God’s grace. The goal of fasting is not deprivation but freedom, freedom to desire God above all else.

Finally, almsgiving. If prayer connects us to God and fasting clears the way, almsgiving is what puts faith into action. It is love made visible, a tangible expression of Christ’s call to serve the least among us.

Pope John Paul II emphasized that the Lenten practices of fasting and almsgiving... have an important social and community function. Lent is not just about personal transformation; it is about transforming the world around us.

Almsgiving doesn’t have to be grand to be meaningful. Sometimes, the smallest acts of generosity, done with great love, make the biggest difference. Start by giving financially, not just out of obligation, but as a way to bless others. Support a charity, contribute to a local parish project, or quietly help someone in your community who is struggling. If money is tight, give something just as or more valuable, your time. Volunteer at a shelter, visit the sick or elderly, or simply be present for someone who needs a listening ear. In a world that moves fast, offering your time can be one of the most powerful gifts. But true almsgiving isn’t just about what you give externally; it’s about what you give from the heart. Forgive someone who has wronged you. Offer encouragement to someone who is struggling. Choose kindness, even when it’s difficult. When we give with love, whether through our resources, our presence, or our compassion, we reflect the very heart of Jesus. Isn’t that what Lent is all about?

Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are not isolated practices; they work together, each strengthening the other. Prayer fuels fasting, fasting heightens our awareness of others’ needs, and almsgiving is the natural outpouring of a heart transformed by both.

So how do we put all of this into practice? It starts with small, intentional steps. First, set a prayer schedule. Whether it’s praying a daily Rosary, spending time in Eucharistic Adoration, or simply carving out a few moments of silence, commit to making prayer a consistent part of your day. Prayer isn’t about fitting God into your schedule, it’s about building your schedule around Him. Next, choose a meaningful fast. Don’t just give up something easy; challenge yourself. Let your sacrifice be a daily reminder to redirect your heart toward God. Finally, make almsgiving personal. Instead of just checking a box, look for a way to give that truly impacts someone’s life. Maybe it’s helping a struggling neighbor, writing a note of encouragement, or offering your time to someone who feels alone. Lent isn’t just about discipline, it’s about transformation. And when you approach it with purpose, you’ll find that the sacrifices you make don’t just change your habits; they change your heart.

Lent is not just a time to *give up*, it is a time to *take up* the challenge of growing in holiness. By embracing these three pillars with intention and purpose, we prepare our hearts not only for Easter but for a deeper, more fulfilling walk with Christ. The journey begins now. How will you take your first step?



My Lenten Offering 2025

Each year on Ash Wednesday Jesus speaks to his disciples about the importance of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving (Matthew 6:1-6,16-18).

Use this simple card to determine how you will be a disciple of the Lord this Lent. Consider and then note the specific ways you intend to offer your gift of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving to the Lord this Lent.

PRAYER —

FASTING —

ALMSGIVING —

Lenten Calendar and Holy Week - 2025



Ash Wednesday - March 5

Masses at 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
Service of the Word with Ashes - 12:15 p.m.

Way of the Cross (Stations)

Tuesdays, March 11 - April 15 - 1:30 p.m.
Fridays, March 7 - April 11 - 7:00 p.m.

Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration - with Confessions

Thursday, March 20 - 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Men's Retreat - at Maria Stein (advance registration)

Friday, March 28 - Sunday, March 30

Citywide Reconciliation Service - at St. John Church, Lima

Sunday, April 13 - 3:00 p.m.

Palm (Passion) Sunday

Saturday, April 12 - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 13 - 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

Holy Thursday, April 17

Mass of the Lord's Supper - 7:30 p.m.
Procession and Eucharistic Adoration in Gathering Space - 8:30-11:00 p.m.

Good Friday, April 18

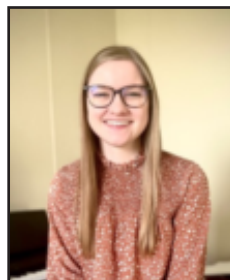
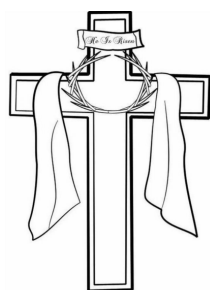
Celebration of the Lord's Passion - 12:30 p.m.

Holy Saturday April 19

Easter Vigil - 8:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 20

Easter Masses with Renewal of Baptismal Promises - 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.



EMILY NIESE
Director of Liturgical Music Ministries

Every year, FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students) hosts its annual national conference from January 1st to January 5th. For the last two years St. Charles has been blessed to send a group of young adults to attend this conference. In our parish, we are fortunate to welcome college students from multiple universities - including University of Northwestern Ohio, The Ohio State University (Lima branch), Rhodes State College, and Ohio Northern University. Even better, these students stem from all over the country, from the state of Washington, to New Hampshire, to the local surrounding counties, it is a true representation of our country!

This year, 9 of those young adults plus Father Kent were blessed to attend the SEEK 2025 conference.

We owe our tremendous thanks to the generosity of St. Charles parish and the Serra Club who funded our board and airfare - a cost that would have kept many young adults from attending. In thanks to our donors, we shared a reflection of three questions in regard to our experience of the SEEK conference. These questions were: How was SEEK a gift to you? What was the most outstanding part of SEEK to you? How do you feel more equipped to live your faith after attending SEEK? To give you an idea of the impact of this conference, I will share the group's answers to the third question here.

How do you feel more equipped to live your faith after attending SEEK?

"I feel absolutely more equipped to live out my faith after SEEK. Going to adoration and confession meant a lot to me. Saying the rosary daily is something I have kept up with doing, being solid in the grounds of why I am Catholic, and just being able to have gratitude for everything God has given me. SEEK was honestly the best week of my life. It was the best way to start the year surrounded by my good friends and all sharing the faith and fun moments - something I hope to do more often."

"I feel more equipped to live my faith after SEEK by hearing the testimonies of others who have shared the Gospel and how the Good News of Jesus Christ speaks for itself - you just have to be willing to step out in faith and share Jesus with others."

"I am more confident to speak of the faith, specifically to those around me who are not practicing or are lukewarm in faith."

"After having Mass every day and listening to some of the most amazing Catholic speakers around, I think it's safe to say God gave me exactly what I needed to inspire and motivate me. As a result, I feel more equipped to live my faith and work on sharing it with others back home."

"I feel more equipped to live my faith by joy in sharing testimony with complete strangers and the hope that comes from continuing the flame of restoring one unified body of all who love Christ. This was particularly true when we toured Temple Square (after having completed

SEEK 2025

the conference) where one of the Mormon missionaries asked us to share testimony - she was so taken aback by Catholics who knew and loved their faith - something she had never seen before."

"I feel reassured in the all-encompassing love our Father gives us. Through several of the speakers at SEEK, I felt comforted knowing that God does not forget about you, does not abandon you, and you have access to Him at all times. After attending SEEK, I find myself running to Him when problems come up or something is worrying me. He is the ultimate protector and comforter in our lives."

"With questions answered, and connecting back with God and having a group of friends who are believers, all help me be more equipped to live my faith. I have seen a change already in myself, with SEEK and a group of faithful friends having been a big part of why."

"SEEK reinforced many things for me. The breakout session titled, 'Mary at the Crossroads in History,' reinforced the power of the rosary and Mary being all of our Mother."

"After being at SEEK this year, I believe that I now have a greater appreciation for how important living your faith to fullest every day is, and how to make time for little moments with God. We never know how much time we have and He will always be there for us when we need Him most."



It is incredible how unifying and strengthening it is for a group to attend such a conference as a community. Our faith is made to be lived out in the support of a loving community, and our group certainly received this experience as well in our week together.

If you haven't attended a conference or retreat in while, let this be your invitation to "seek" one out! If possible, I encourage you to even attend one with our community here - whether it be the parish men's retreat in March this year, or the women's retreat later in fall, or maybe a Damascus men's or women's retreat - pursue opportunities that equip you to live out your faith!

St. Charles plans to send another group to next year's SEEK conference which always occurs January 1-5. If you are interested in supporting this group financially, please reach out to the parish office! If you are interested in supporting FOCUS as an organization, I encourage you to do so by directly supporting one of their missionaries (all of whom must fundraise their full-time salaries), my twin sister, Elena Niese being one of them! You can learn more about the work that my sister and each individual FOCUS missionary does at the following link: <https://focus.org/find-a-missionary/> This may be one way you decide to practice the "almsgiving" portion of our Lenten practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

As with all things, the most powerful support is prayer. Please keep our young adults who attended this conference in prayer. Especially that they may have the courage and grace to respond with an open heart to the path the Lord is setting before them, that they may have the resources needed to respond, and the loving support to help them follow-through. God bless you as we walk the Lenten journey and prepare to celebrate Easter!



MELODY KEARNS
Family Formation Coordinator

The Sacrament of Marriage was covered in the classroom and with the parents. The older children read Mark 2:19 and Ephesians 5:24 and discussed how a man and a woman freely say yes to loving and caring for each other for their entire lives. The scripture teaches us that Jesus is the bridegroom and the Church is His bride. He has joined Himself to His bride, the Church, forever and never stops caring for her. They compared Christ's love to married love. All of the children covered The Fourth Commandment: Honor your Mother and Father. They took a deeper look into how each of them can honor their parents. The younger students also took a look at how God's love is everywhere including the love man and woman share with each other in a marriage.

All parents left with a copy of the Marriage Requirements in the Catholic Church. Barry McCollough spoke to the parents on marriage: how the parents and the family depend on God's love to help them to continue to grow closer as a family and to God. Barry began with a bit of mind reading which everyone really enjoyed.



Marriage and Home Blessings

The children learned about the Epiphany Home Blessing. Classes wrote out the writing that goes above the main door of their homes which is: 20+C+M+B+25. This writing is done in chalk, and written by parents or a priest. The letters C, M, and B can stand for the traditional names of the Wise Men (Magi), Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. These letters are also the first letters of the Latin blessing: "*Chistus mansionem benedicat*", which means "**May Christ Bless this House**". Every family was sent home with their own Epiphany Home Blessing Kit, which included: a bottle of Holy Water, St. Benedict Medal, map of the possible route the Wise Men (Magi) followed to reach the baby Jesus. Father Kent made sure the chalk and St. Benedict medals were blessed.

In our January Family Session, the children and parents were allowed to touch the Gold, Frankincense, and Myrrh. We talked about why each was a perfect gift for Jesus.

Gold: A medal that has always been valued, and most members of royalty had Gold. Melchior, the King of Arabia, new Baby Jesus was a King.

Frankincense: A light colored plant resin that creates an aroma when burned. The smoke reminded them of the mystery of God and its smoke forms a spiritual link between heaven and earth.

Myrrh: A dark colored plant resin, most commonly used as a burial ointment for embalming. This foretells Christ's death. A reminder he was born to be our King and our salvation.

Everyone learned the power of the St. Benedict Medal known as the Devil Chasing Medal. For example: this medal affords protection against storms and lightning, protects against contagious disease, and keeps wicked and evil-minded persons away. These are a few of the powers discussed.

We also listened to a short video of Jesse Romero. He shared how a family in California had completed the Epiphany Home Blessing before the fire broke out this year. When the family returned to their home, the home was untouched by the fire. What a miracle it was!

After learning more about the gifts from the Wisemen/Magi, the children then thought of a gift they good

give or something they could do for Jesus, their Family, and themselves.



December W.O.G. Log Winners
Madelyn Jones, 5th Grade and Kate Stechschulte, 1st Grade.



January W.O.G. Log Winners
Audrey Brunelle, 6th Grade and Kelly Fry, 2nd Grade

What are you doing for Lent? We will share Family Formations activities next time.



Priest Ordinations 2025

Our diocese is looking forward to Saturday, May 24, when we anticipate ordination to the priesthood of three transitional deacons, including our own Deacon Kevin McGraw.

The ordination takes place at 10:00 a.m. Rosary Cathedral in Toledo on that Memorial Day weekend. We are currently seeking drivers who are happy to take along additional riders to the ordination Mass that Saturday, May 24. We will leave the St. Charles parking lot around 7:30 am. A reception with light food will follow at the cathedral and we anticipate arriving back to St. Charles no later than 2:30 p.m.

If you are able to offer your help with being a driver and have extra seats in your vehicle, please let the office know and we will add you to the list. If you would like to go as a passenger, mark your calendar now. We will start the "onboarding" process in early May!

Finally, we have begun planning a special Mass of Thanksgiving here at St. Charles on Sunday, May 25. Since all three ordinands live close in the area we have scheduled Mass times on that day to accommodate anyone seeking to be at all of them. **For that reason our 10:30 a.m. Mass time has been moved up to 10:00 a.m. for just that one day, Sunday, May 25, 2025.** We will host a reception following that Mass here at St. Charles.



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.



The Redwing Reader St. Charles Catholic School



MEGAN SCHEID
Principal

As we prepare for the journey through the sacred seasons of Lent and Easter, we reflect on the themes of sacrifice, renewal, and resurrection. March and April bring opportunities for prayer, learning, and growth in our faith. May this season strengthen our community and inspire us to live out Christ's love daily.

Speaking of growth, our re-enrollment process for the 2025-2026 school year is now underway! We are thrilled to continue our journey as a school community, rooted in our core values of **Respect, Integrity, Service, and Excellence**. These values shape our mission and the learning environment we cultivate at St. Charles. To ensure your child's place for the upcoming academic year, please return your re-enrollment information as soon as possible. If you are considering enrolling your child at St. Charles for the first time, we invite you to schedule a tour by contacting the school office.

Kindergarten Readiness Screening

If your child will be starting kindergarten at St. Charles for the 2025-2026 school year, we encourage you to schedule an appointment for our **Kindergarten Readiness Screening**. Our kindergarten program is designed to foster both academic growth and faith formation, providing a well-rounded foundation for your child's educational journey.

Program Highlights:

Course of Study: Religion, Reading/Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Health, PE, Music, Art

Technological Learning Experiences: Clevertouch Boards, Computers, Chromebooks, iPads, Updated Software and Apps

Social & Personal Development: Community Building, Life Skills, Guidance, Social-Emotional Skills

Enrichment Opportunities: Field Trips, Workshops, Guest Speakers

Excellent Student/Teacher Ratio
Over 40 years of combined teaching experience

Kindergarten Screening Date:

Monday, March 31, 2025

(Screening will last approximately one hour)

To schedule an appointment, please contact the school office at **(419) 222-2536**.

For more information about our Kindergarten Program or any of our offerings at St. Charles, please reach out to the school office. Through the EdChoice Expansion Program, all families qualify for scholarships that help make tuition affordable for all. Come see what makes St. Charles a great place for your family! Contact us today to schedule a visit or learn more.

St. Charles School Second Quarter Honor Roll

MARK OF EXCELLENCE

Grade 6: Gaby Bryan-Lanche, Kendyl Liening, Ava Miroglio, Kaya St. Clair

Grade 7: Elaine Brickner, Luke Bryan, Nicklaus Gro-nas, Cooper Wende

Grade 8: Addilynn Baldauf, Braylie Bensinger, Josie Declercq, Alana Heffner, Gracy Malcom, Austin McCain, Corie Schnieders

HIGH HONORS

Grade 5: Hunter Bensinger, Lilly Bohn, Rylee Chess, Sawyer Eblin, Chase Feison, Maren Flower, Nadia Fuduric, Addison Gandy, Carson Gross, Scarlet Gross, Colin Hile, Lilly Hobbs, James Hodges, Kian Kroupa, Luke Miller, Londyn Powell, Thienne Salyers, Ryan Schnieders, Evan Schoonover, Khloe Skinner, Ryker Starr, Kate Tobias, Orion Turner, Rylee Williams, Dean Woldcale

Grade 6: Gretchen Barhorst, Reed Bell, Kyra Brunk, Aidan Carter, Henry Dickman, Sophia Mack, Corbin Sherrick, Savannah Stolly, Alec Thines, Emma Ventur-ella, Grant Williams, Jaxen Wilson, Charlotte Wolford

Grade 7: Olivia Barhorst, Jack Gafford, Anthony Hine-gardner, Miya Hollis, Isabella Martello, Charlee Rex-ford, Audie Sielschott, Ellianna Thompson, Katana Walter

Grade 8: Eli Burris, Carter Feison, Nolan Howell, Reese Merschman, Mataya Miller, Rae Newman, Hayden Nolte, Carter Pester, Jo Rogers, Piper Schumm, Miahlynn Sinthalaphone, Sam Venturella, Luke Weitz, Sam Williams, Landon Wilson, Gwen Wolfcale

Library News!

By Mrs. Thompson

Our 5th graders collaborated, presented, created, and used their critical thinking skills during their **2025 Mock Caldecott Election** this January. The Caldecott Medal is awarded annually by our 5th graders to the most distinguished picture book for children up to age 14 and published during the preceding year. This year, the 4th graders got to choose the winning medals that were designed by our 5th graders.

The winning book titles were:

Winner: **The Teeny-Weeny Unicorn** by Shawn Harris

Honor: **Look** by Samantha Cotterill

Honor: **Pete the Cat : Screams for Ice Cream!**

Medals for the winning books were designed by:

Winning medal: Dean Wolfcale

Honor Medal: Sawyer Eblin

Honor Medal: Lilly Hobbs



HONORS

Grade 5: Celia Cecala-Wells, Jayla Dukes, Clara Ellis, Jayla Godsey, Carson Griffin, Curtis Griffin, Miles Marsh, Averi Mc Kinney-White, Rylee Merschman, Olivia Newland, Connor Sroufe

Grade 6: Leon Blake, Rylen Cunningham, Sam Curtis, Harper Fields, Cedric Flower, Jay Krieg, Ayden Meeker, Serenity Smith, Raylan Tierney

Grade 7: Alexis Allen, Tristan Badea, Lenna Bear, Natalie Buffington, Gabriel Hodges, Peighton Oliphant, Jackson Pisel, Nino Rodriguez, Niko Stom-baugh

Grade 8: Nana Eghan, Leo Garlock, Zoe Huber, Cole Mack, Brynn Melton, Lyla Wenger



Staying Busy in 5-1

By Mrs. Henderson

What a third quarter so far! We have been so busy in our fifth-grade classroom. We are learning about the parts of the mass, working with fractions, and learning our 50 states and capitals. We are also becoming better writers. Every week we write letters to our "Rockstar of the Week" in our classroom. We also wrote letters to people we know or to mayors in different cities of all 50 states hoping we would get responses back. Well, our responses are finally coming in, and it is so much fun learning about our country! D.A.R.E. class has been so much fun with our Lima Police Officer, and we love making our Hospice cards each month for our class service project. Wow! That is just a small portion of what we are doing. We are anxiously awaiting the results of the poetry contest we entered earlier in the year as well. Who knows - we may have several poets sitting right in our classroom! Our most recent project we just completed was the Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle Valentine boxes. It was amazing what wonderful creations were made from recycled materials. So fun! We have had so much going on, but we are having a lot of fun learning and doing it all! We are looking forward to a wonderful spring and being able to consistently go outside for recess again!!!!

Winners for our Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Contest in the 5th grade

1st - Ryker Starr with the airplane

2nd - Jayceon Roberts with the alligator



3rd place tie - Dean Wolfcale with the whale and Nadia Fuduric with Mary

Best use of color - Scarlet Gross with the Paper Crane

Student Choice winner - Chase Feison with the Gorilla

Spelling Champions Shine Bright!

By Theresa Lauck

The results are in! The **22nd Annual St. Charles Spelling Bee**, held on January 10, 2025, showcased incredible talent, focus, and determination among our participants. We are thrilled to announce the top three spellers.

Winner: Rylee Williams **Runner-Up:** Jay Krieg **Third Place:** Corie Schnieders

A huge congratulations to our champion, **Rylee Williams**, who will proudly represent **St. Charles** at the **Lima News Regional Spelling Bee on March 11, 2025**.

Thank you to all participants for making this event such a success and to our audience for their enthusiastic support. Let's cheer on Rylee as they



Left to right:- 2nd Place Jay Krieg, 1st Place Rylee Williams, 3rd Place Corie Schnieders



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-6th

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



Spelling Bee Participants





Fourth grade students Cash and Vera work on their Grinch coding project.

A Busy December in the Computer Lab

By Kathy Daley

The Computer Lab was busy with many Christmas themed lessons and activities. The 8th grade students used their technology skills to create animated stories for our younger students. The younger students loved spending time with the 8th grade students as they shared their stories.

The 4th grade students created gingerbread houses by editing and manipulating objects. They also worked on a coding project to deliver the presents the Grinch took back to Whoville.

From the Art Room

By Becky MacDonald



Novalin and Vincent from Second grade agree, that adding silver glitter to their project was the best!



Gracy shares her story with second grader Aryana.



Eli shares his story with a group of 1st grade students.



Eighth grade students, Corinne and Gracy, pose while adding glaze to their Pop Art doughnut, ceramic project.

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.

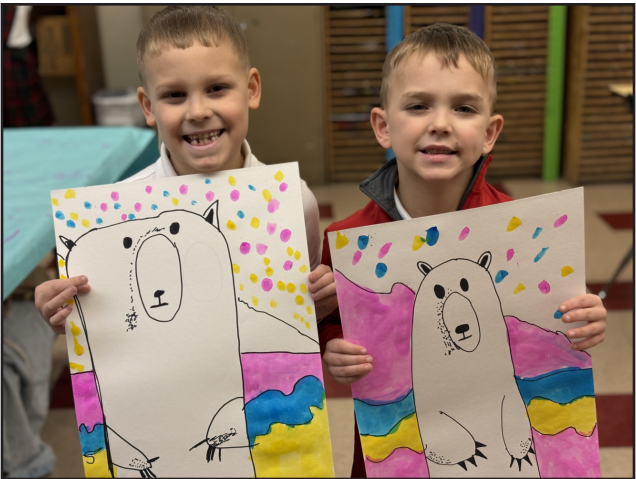
Belief Statements

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.



Xavier and Gage drew and painted polar bears. The first graders learned about the polar bear habitat,



Lima Central Catholic News

Submitted by Carla Simmons



Catholic Schools Week at LCC!

We kicked off the week by celebrating our community! On Monday, students delivered cookies to the Lima Fire and police Departments to thank them for their service. Service is at the heart of Catholic education – teaching us to give back and make a difference. Thank you, Lima Fire and Police Departments for all you do!

We had an amazing time wrapping up Catholic Schools Week when all four Catholic Schools were able to come together as one community to celebrate Mass at St. Gerard.



There's truly no place quite like the Lima Catholic Schools – where faith, morals, family, and education come together to create something truly special. The Lima Catholic School Community is Thriving!

Congratulations are in order for the following students:

To Emily Blankemeyer, a junior for being chosen by Lima Sister Cities as a student ambassador for a summer trip to Japan.

To Alexa Caballero, Carter Lester, Kenyon for being in The Student Spotlight.

To senior Claire Janowski, junior Alon'Nah Bagley, sophomore LaKayla Scott, and freshman Jessica Blubaugh for being 2nd quarter Leaders By Example.

To Claire Janowski for being chosen as a Student Athlete of the Week.

To Billy Salyers and Alexa Caballero for playing in the OMEA D3 Honor Bands. These



groups are comprised of the best high school musicians across Allen, Auglaize, Hancock, Hardin, Mercer Paulding, Putnam, and Van Wert Counties. Alexa Caballero will be playing Bari Sax in the D3 Honors Jazz Band and Billy Salyers will be playing Tuba in the D3 Honors Concert Band.

To Dante Turned, Jacob Raczynski, and Lucy Bensinger for being top scorers in the 2nd Catholic Math League Contest of the year.

To Nate Niemeyer for scoring a 4 on the 3rd Ohio Math League contest of the year.

To Alexa Heffner for receiving the top score on the 4th Ohio Math League Contest of the year.

To Alexa Caballero, Ava Armstead, Michael Miller, and Carolina Kill for being December Math Students of the Month

To Andrew Baldof (LCC) and Gabe Adcock (Elida) for receiving the Little Diamond Award for their hard work, dedication, and the willingness to get the job done.

To Senior Avi Sorrels for being a Student Employee of the Month presented by the Allen County Ohio Means Jobs.

And congratulations to the 60% of our students who are on the Honor Roll this quarter!

Lima Catholic Community Thunderbird Fish Fry

March 28 & April 4
5:00 PM- 8:00 PM

Dine- in or Carry- out

Price: \$15

Fish, Fries, Green Beans & Roll
(Salad bar included for dine-in only)

Kids price: \$8

Choice of Fish or Mac & Cheese

Drinks and
Desserts available
for purchase

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 1 Sadie Hawkins Dance
March 3 Thunderbird Parent Club Meeting
March 5 Ash Wednesday Mass
March 6 LCC Band Concert
March 14 -16 All School Musical
March 17 No School- Professional Development
March 28 LCC Fish Fry
April 4 LCC Fish Fry
April 5 National ACT
April 9 Red Cross Bloodmobile
April 10 Performing & Visual Arts Expo
April 11 LCC Fish Fry
April 18-21 Easter Break
April 22 EOC Testing & 2 Hour delay for students not taking EOC tests
April 26 Win 4 Kids Raffle, Prom & Post Prom
April 28 & 29 EOC Testing & 2 Hour delay for students not taking EOC tests

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.*

If you have sent a contribution and it did not reach us in time for publication,
please be assured that your name will appear in the next issue. Thank you.

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IN GRATITUDE TO ALL AT ST. CHARLES FOR MAKING MY MOVE POSSIBLE: DRIVERS, FR. KENT, SERRANS, A FAMILY OF LOVE, CARE, COMPASSION AND KINDNESS, AND MOST OF ALL PRAYERS – Jan Lenhart
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THE ST. CHARLES ADULT CHOIR AND THEIR BEAUTIFUL MUSIC – John & Maureen Wiesenhan



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who? Anyone who files an Ohio Tax Return.

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

where? Online at tbirdsgo.org or by check to: Thunderbird SGO, 720 S. Cable Road, Lima, OH 45805.

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

Consult a tax professional for guidance on your individual tax situation.





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April 26, 2025**

→ • **Prize 1:** NEW 2024 Ford Escape

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