



**FR. KENT
KAUFMAN**
Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

The year 2028 will mark a significant milestone in the life of St. Charles Borromeo Parish. It will mark our Diamond Jubilee—a time to celebrate our 75th year as a parish.

Yes, it was the summer of 1953 when Bishop George Rehring assigned Fr. Walter Hanley to organize a fourth parish for the city of Lima. A Canonical Decree of October 20, 1953, drew the boundary lines forming a territory that used the

Pennsylvania Railroad as its north boundary, Cole Street for the East, Auglaize County for the South, and Kemp Road for the western boundary.

The original parish was comprised of 250 families drawn from the other three parishes in Lima—180 from St. Rose, 50 from St. John, and 20 from St. Gerard. By August 15, 1954, ground was broken from a combination school/church and it opened to 293 students for the 1955-56 school year—complete with four Sisters of



The “unique” architecture of St. Charles Church in 1964.

Charity leading the faculty. By August 23, 1964, the first (and current) church was dedicated. This highlighted an extraordinarily fast and amazing growth at the intersection of Cable Road and Elm Street!

parish to the south, St. Michael. I still recall fondly the celebrations we enjoyed that year.

Naturally, part of our planning for St. Charles will envision the special celebrations throughout the Jubilee Year. However, we also want to determine how to build and nurture our parish in preparation for the jubilee as well as beyond it. We will develop a new Priority Plan to help St. Charles write the next chapter in the life of our parish.

As we approach the end of the year, with the special holiday and Holy Days, I hope that you will keep this important work in your prayer and let me know if the Holy Spirit is prompting you to offer your help in planning for our future.

Fr. Kent



St. Charles School under construction in 1955.

Now is the time to begin our planning for Jubilee 2028. To that end I have sent out letters of invitation to parishioners who have served on our leadership councils and commissions these past several years. I also welcome others who perhaps are new to our parish or who now have the time to offer to be a part of this special planning opportunity. Just let me know if you would like to offer your help. We intend to begin our work in January, after the holidays.

When I was newly ordained in 1993, my first assignment was to St. John the Baptist Parish in Toledo. It was located in a neighborhood along the Michigan border known as “Point Place.” My first year coincided with the celebration of our Diamond Jubilee, having been founded in 1918 by a neighboring

HOLY DAY & HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

NOVEMBER

All Saints Day

(Not a Holy Day of Obligation this year)
Sat, Nov. 1- 9am

All Souls Day

Memorial Vespers
Sun, Nov. 2- 5:30pm

St. Charles Feast Day

Mon, Nov. 3- 6pm
Kreyol Mass
Tues, Nov. 4- 6pm
Bi-Lingual Mass

Thanksgiving Day

Thurs, Nov. 27- 9am

DECEMBER

Immaculate Conception

Sun, Dec. 7- 5:30pm
Mon, Dec. 8- 8am, 7pm
Kreyol Mass, 5:30pm
Eucharistic Exposition
after Kreyol Mass

Citywide Advent Reconciliation

At St. Gerard, Sun, Dec. 14- 3pm

Christmas Eve

Wed, Dec. 24- 4pm, 7pm

Christmas Day

Thurs, Dec. 25- 10:30am
Kreyol Mass, 3:00pm

Mary Mother of God

Wed, Dec. 31- 4pm
Thursday, Jan. 1- 10:30am
Kreyol Mass, 3pm

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2200 West Elm Street
Lima, Ohio 45805



**LAURIEANN
CAMPBELL**
Director of Operations

As we enter the holy season of Advent, our hearts are drawn to the spirit of giving, hope, and renewal that prepares us for the coming of Christ. This same spirit is alive at St. Charles as we continue our shared commitment to care for and enhance our beautiful church—ensuring it remains a place of welcome and worship for generations to come.

In that same spirit of stewardship, we are moving into the procurement and construction phase of the long-awaited elevator addition. We recently received approval from the Diocese and Diocesan Building Commission to proceed with our Living Christ elevator project. If all goes as projected, we anticipate breaking ground in 2026. That timeframe remains an estimate, because the elevator is built off-site and may take 9-12 months to complete. However, each step brings us closer to making our parish fully accessible to all who come to pray, celebrate, and gather here.

As we look to the future, we are seeking new and established parishioners to share their gifts through leadership and service. We welcome individuals of any age who bring professional expertise, energy, and commitment, but above all, we invite those called to demonstrate Christian stewardship, spiritual maturity, and integrity in their personal and professional lives. Faithful giving and a commitment

Building Toward the Future —Together

to the church's mission are important hallmarks of this role.

If you are interested in serving, we invite you to prayerfully consider one of the following opportunities:

Finance Council – Meets monthly, typically on the third Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Members provide insight and guidance on parish financial planning and stewardship. Professional experience in **finance, accounting, banking, law, or administration** is especially helpful.

Pastoral Council – Works directly with Fr. Kent to help shape the vision and direction of parish life. Members provide input on pastoral priorities and help ensure our ministries reflect the needs and spirit of our parish community.

Money Counters – Meets once a week at 8:30 a.m. Friendly team environment. We need people who are comfortable counting money – basic accounting skills are a plus. This essential ministry supports the day-to-day operations of our parish and fosters fellowship among volunteers.

Development Committee– Meets periodically to assist the Business Office. Focuses on developing and executing strategies to secure financial resources for the parish's long-term needs. Fundraising efforts are generally directed toward

funding capital projects, ministry expansions, or other long-term goals outlined by the parish's mission.

Endowment committee– Meets quarterly and is responsible for managing the parish's long-term financial fund. Their main purpose is to ensure the parish's financial stability and provide a permanent, reliable source of income for its mission and ministries, even during economic downturns.

We rely on the continued efforts of our parishioners to strengthen our church community and facilitate the mission of St. Charles. Each act of service, no matter how small, makes a difference in helping our parish stay healthy and thrive. Let us open our hearts and respond to God's call with the words: **"Send me, Lord."**

If you are looking for a meaningful way to share your time, skills, and faith, we would love to have you join one of these ministries. Your involvement strengthens the mission and vitality of St. Charles Borromeo, helping us remain a parish that is both faithful to its traditions and forward-looking in service.

To learn more or express interest, please contact the parish office, 419-228-7635, or email me directly at campbell@stcharleslima.org.

It's Safe
It's Easy
It's Convenient
And
It Helps St. Charles Save Money



Sign up today by visiting www.st-charles.org
and clicking on the Online Giving icon.



St. Charles Catholic Church Mission Statement

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

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



THE CHIMES

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



**FR. BERTHOLY
CHERUBIN, SPSJ**
Associate Pastor

Dear Readers,

It has now been about seven months since I arrived here in Lima and was appointed as Associate Pastor at St. Charles Parish. Every day since, I have made it a personal mission to connect with our Haitian brothers and sisters, while also learning from each parishioner and discovering the welcoming culture of the people of Ohio who have so graciously opened their hearts to us.

Through my ministry and daily presence, many faithful have been inspired to renew their Catholic faith, especially during the Sunday 3:00 p.m. Mass. Several parents have requested baptism for their children, and with great joy, a number of adults have also asked to be baptized—what the Church calls *catechumens*. Each of these stories of faith continues to inspire me deeply.

Prayer to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Patroness of Haiti

Mother Mary, Our Lady of Perpetual Help,
you whom God has chosen to watch over His
children,

we come before you with all our hearts,
for you are the Mother who always listens,
the Mother who always brings help.

You are the Patroness of our country, Haiti.
Look upon us in our misery and suffering,
in sickness, in natural disasters, in hunger,
in division and in the insecurity that devastates us.

You who always dwell in the heart of the people,
never abandon us.
Loving Mother, here are your children before you.
Turn our tears into songs of joy,
give our people courage and hope.

Ask for us the grace of God,
that we may rise again, live in love and unity,
and build a more beautiful Haiti,
where justice and peace may flourish.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help,
continue to guide us, protect us,
and lead us closer to Jesus,
your Son, our Savior. Amen.

Fr. Bertholy CHERUBIN, spsj, *Haitian Pastoral Community*, Sept 2025, St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, 2200 West Elm St., Lima, OH 45805

From Beginning to Beginning

Every weekend after Mass, I find great joy in meeting some of our youth at Collett Street Park, where we talk, share experiences, and play soccer together. From time to time, I also visit and thank our local partners—*Connecting Borders*, *St. Vincent de Paul*, *Christian Corner*, and the *Lima Public Library*, etc.—for the support and assistance they offer to all, especially to our Haitian community members who come seeking help.

In this same spirit of collaboration and fraternity, I often visit our brothers and sisters at the Church of the Nazarene, under the leadership of Pastor Franck. I remain available and open to everyone in the community, following the noble motto of our homeland, Haiti: “**L’union fait la force**” — **Unity is our strength**. It is with this same conviction that I also traveled to Findlay to meet members of the Haitian community there and offer my pastoral service.

A particularly moving and joyful moment for us took place on **September 28**, during the *Day of Prayer for Migrants and Refugees* organized by St. Charles Parish. On that day, we blessed and installed in the church a beautiful icon of **Our Lady of Perpetual Help**, patroness of Haiti, graciously offered by **Sister Magdala from the Sylvania Franciscans**. Sister Magdala carries with her wonderful memories from her years of mission in Haiti. That evening was truly vibrant—with many colors, delicious food from different countries, and joyful musical animation that brought warmth to everyone’s heart.



**Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Made by St. Magdala**

On this occasion, I, Fr. Bertholy CHERUBIN, Spsj, Associate pastor and founder-accompanist of the Haitian community, shared with all present a moving prayer I personally composed, dedicated to Our Lady of Perpetual Help. The prayer, which came from the depths of my heart as a pastor walking with the people

of migration, emphasized hope, the journey of migration, and the abiding presence of Mary who walks with her children—even far from home.

“Our Lady of Perpetual Help, you who always hear the cry of our hearts, never abandon your children who are searching for life. Walk with us still—through lonely streets, on roads of pain and transition— and be our light in the midst of darkness...” (Prayer composed by Fr. BC)

Looking Ahead

As we approach the **Feast of St. Charles Borromeo**, patron saint of our parish, our Haitian Catholic Community in Lima will celebrate our faith together with a **three-day Triduum of Prayer**, beginning on **Sunday, November 2 at 3:00 p.m.**, continuing **Monday, November 3 and Tuesday, November 4 at 6:00 p.m.** We are delighted to welcome a Haitian group traveling from Boston to join us in prayer. The theme of our Triduum is: “**St. Charles, Good Shepherd, in Your Charity Help Us Live in Faith and Hope.**” This theme invites us to let the Spirit of God renew our hearts, our thoughts, and our commitment as Christians and citizens. It reminds us that our courage and strength do not come from our own abilities, but from the grace of God who acts powerfully in those who open their hearts to Him.

Together with **St. Charles Borromeo**, let us recommit ourselves to live our faith with courage, to be light and salt in our world, and to continue building the Church and our communities on the foundations of **justice, love, and hope**.

In that same spirit of faith and unity, the Haitian Catholic Community warmly invites everyone to join us in this joyful celebration of our patron, **St. Charles Borromeo**—protector of the sick and of all who seek spiritual growth.

O St. Charles Borromeo, faithful shepherd and defender of the Church, friend of the poor and the sick, we place ourselves under your protection. Ask Jesus to grant us strength in our weakness, joy in our service, and sincerity in our love for God and for one another. Amen.

With gratitude to all who continue to support, pray for, and walk with our Haitian Catholic community—may God bless you abundantly. Let us continue to move, from beginning to beginning, guided by faith, love, and hope.

Thank you and blessings to all!

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.



JEREMY HOLLIS
Director of Youth Discipleship
and Evangelization

For many years, it seemed that younger generations were walking away from the Church, especially Millennials and Gen Z. Yet new research from the Barna Group, in partnership with Gloo's State of the Church initiative, tells a much more hopeful story. It seems that these very generations are now quietly leading a return to church life.

A Surprising Shift

According to Barna's findings, Millennials and Gen Z are attending church more often than before, and more frequently than older generations. On average, Gen Z churchgoers attend about 1.9 weekends per month, while Millennials attend around 1.8 times per month. These are nearly double what they were five years ago.

Signs of Spiritual Renewal

Researchers believe this change may point to a renewed openness to faith among younger generations. "The fact that young people are showing up more frequently than before is not typical," says Barna's Vice President of Research, Daniel Cope-land. "It's good news for church leaders."

David Kinnaman, Barna's CEO, adds, "The influx of new generations represents a massive opportunity for congregational leaders, but this re-

newed interest must be stewarded well." In other words, more people may be coming back to church, but attendance is just the beginning. The deeper call is to turn that renewed participation into lasting discipleship.

Kinnaman cautions, "Our research clearly shows that churchgoing alone does not in itself create devoted disciples. Even with the increasing participation of younger generations, there is still the challenge of shaping hearts and minds to live out their faith beyond church participation."

This insight echoes a challenge the Church has recognized for decades. As the Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy noted, "There is a further problem: it is the faith itself. The liturgy by its nature normally presupposes a minimum of biblical culture and a fairly solid commitment of living faith. Often enough these conditions are not present. The assembly or many of its members are still in need of evangelization. The liturgy, which is not meant to be a tool of evangelization, is forced into a missionary role."

In short, increased attendance is an encouraging sign, but the true work of renewal lies in forming disciples who understand, live and love the faith they profess.

What This Means for Parish Life

This growing engagement among younger adults presents both a gift and a challenge for par-

ishes. **The Gift:** Young adults are seeking community, purpose, and truth. They are responding to churches that offer authentic relationships, spiritual mentoring, and a sense of belonging. This presents an extraordinary opportunity to help them grow in faith and mission. **The Challenge:** Parishes must not only welcome this return but also cultivate depth of faith. Attending Mass is vital, but so too is forming the mind and heart to live the Gospel beyond Sunday. Faith formation, Scripture study, and spiritual mentorship can bridge the gap between participation and transformation.

Ultimately, the goal is not only to bring people back to the pews, but to help them encounter Christ in a personal and transformative way.

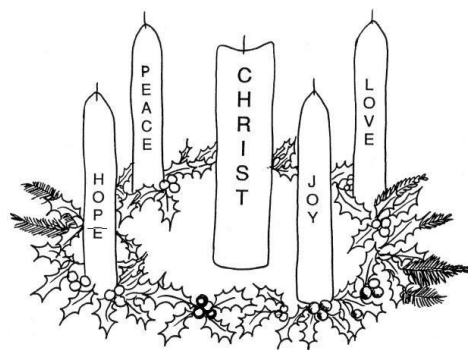
A Hopeful Future

If these trends continue, this renewed spiritual curiosity among Millennials and Gen Z could reshape the future of the Church. It reminds us that God is still at work in the hearts of the next generation.

Perhaps this is how renewal begins, not in sudden crowds or emotional revivals, but in quiet returnings. A generation once thought to be drifting is finding its way home, one weekend at a time.

May we, as a Church, welcome them with joy, nurture their faith with care, and walk with them as they rediscover the beauty of following Christ together.

The Advent Wreath



Traditionally, Advent wreaths are constructed of a circle of evergreen branches into which four candles are inserted, representing the four weeks of Advent. Ideally, three candles are purple, and one is rose, but white candles can also be used.

The purple candles symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and good works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, when the priest also wears rose vestments at Mass; Gaudete Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over, and they are close to Christmas.

The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord's first coming into the world and the anticipation of his second coming to judge the living and the dead.

Peek into the Past Give-a-Christmas - 1969



One of the early Give-a-Christmas Programs from 1969 in the Church basement. Dick Stolly, who started Give-a-Christmas and his family along with his brother Bob Stolly's family and Fr. Chuck Denny are among some of the originals pictured.



HANNAH STOLL
Family Formation Coordinator

Living the Good News of Jesus Christ

How can we live the Good News of Jesus Christ in our daily lives? This year in Family Formation, we are focusing on the ‘Foundations’ of our faith, which includes exploring this question. For the months of October and November, we’ve discussed topics such as “The Mission of Our Family” and “Jesus: My Friend and Savior.” Woven throughout these foundational lessons is the call to grow deeper in encounter with Jesus, and to ultimately share his story and love with others. The ‘Foundations’ program is specifically centered on the *Kerygma*, which is Greek for ‘proclamation’ and refers to the essential proclamation of the Good News of Jesus Christ. ‘Foundations’ offers seven pieces of Scripture telling the basic story of Christ’s saving work of salvation on our behalf:

- *God loves you and has a plan for your life. (*1 John 3:1*)
- *Sin separates us from God. (*Romans 3:23*)
- *Jesus Christ died to save you. (*John 3:16*)
- *Repent and believe in the Gospel. (*Acts 3:19*)
- *Be baptized and receive the Holy Spirit. (*Acts 2:38*)
- *Follow Jesus, and His body, the Church. (*John 15:4-5*)
- *Go, make disciples. (*Matthew 5:15-16*)

The Family Formation program references Pope Francis’s document *Evangelii Gaudium* as inspiration: “On the lips of the catechist the first proclamation must ring out over and over: **‘Jesus Christ loves you; he gave his life to save you; and now he is living at your side every day to enlighten, strengthen and free you.’** This first proclamation is called ‘first’ not because it exists at the beginning and can then be forgotten or replaced by other more important things... It is the principal proclamation, the one which we must hear again and again in different ways, the one which we must announce one way or another throughout the process of catechesis, at every level and moment” (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 164). This is what ‘Foundations’ strives to accomplish in its application; the continual proclamation of God’s love for us at every level, from kindergartners to parents.

This foundational message hasn’t just appeared in Family Formation; it’s a term I’ve seen again and again in several ministries. During the month of September, I had the great privilege of attending the Live Jesus Ministries training for the new Spiritual Mentorship and Small Group Discipleship initiative here at St. Charles. We learned great information, mostly about the current youth culture and how to meet Gen Z and Gen Alpha where they are spiritually and mentally, while also being a positive living witness to the transformative

power of Jesus Christ. We discussed sharing the *Kerygma*, as well as how to apply it to a small group setting. We practiced sharing our testimonies in two minutes or less, focusing on:

Before - What was happening in your life before your encounter with Jesus?

Encounter - Share the encounter you had with God, rooted in the *Kerygma*.

After - How has this encounter changed your life? How are you growing in faith through His Church?

Once again, I encountered the term *Kerygma* at the Diocesan Pastoral Conference breakout session titled “How to Use Your Story in Ministry.” The speaker, Pete Burak (Vice President of Renewal Ministries), built upon what I learned during the Live Jesus Ministries training on sharing testimonies. He suggested tips such as discovering different ways to share our stories according to what the situation calls for, practicing sharing it, and focusing on the heart of our story rather than every minute detail. However, the two tips that struck me were always asking the Holy Spirit to be completely present and involved in my interactions with others, as well as inviting the person I’m sharing with to respond by asking a simple question such as “What do you think about that?” While these tips may seem simple, they’re often forgotten in the moment and we can tend to over-complicate or over-explain our faith to others.

All things considered, let us strive to keep the simple, beautiful proclamation of the Gospel at the forefront of our minds as we share the experience of our rich Catholic faith and our encounters with the living God with others, and as we learn how deep his love for us truly is. This begins with fostering our relationship with him. Visit him in Adoration, visit him in prayer, visit him in your heart. One of my favorite paintings is *Jesus, the Light of the World* by William Holman Hunt. In it, Jesus “stands at the door and knocks,” holding a lantern amidst a dark evening. The door has no outside handle; it can only be opened from the inside. Before sharing our encounters with the world around us, let us allow Christ to shine his light into our hearts and encounter his love in a new, fresh way. Begin again with him. Trust him. God loves you and invites you to love him in return.



NEW PARISHIONERS

Dylan & Ashley Dronberger
Glenn & Catherine Mongaya
Matt & Laura Ring
Kevin & Katelyn Stotts
Darius & Josie Hairston

NEWLY BAPTIZED

Gianna Rae Pignataro
Divine Rose Massalang
Athena Marie Hardenbrook
Michael Thomas Daley
Claire Julia-Marie Daley

IN MEMORIAM

Nathan Fisher
Richard Scherger
Stanley Zwiebel
Justin Aab
Josephine Coffman
Helen Miller
Joan Jennings
Mary Ribley
Ellen Hanafée
Joseph Bornhorst

We’d love to have your family join us for Family Formation! Register by visiting stcharleslima.org, hover over ‘Kids & Students’ and click ‘(K-6th) Family.’ Scroll all the way down to find the registration button.

Below are the upcoming Family Formation ‘Foundations’ topics; if you or someone you know is interested in being a speaker for one of these, please reach out to me at stollh@stcharleslima.org.

- Family Life: Building Your Domestic Church
- The Bible: Our Family’s Story
- The Holy Spirit: Power and Strength for Your Family
- The Church and our Journey to Heaven
- Mary and the Saints: Family Friends for the Journey
- Family and Faith are Forever

Dates can be found at stcharleslima.org under ‘Kids & Students’ and ‘(K-6th) Family’.



CHRIS JONES

Coordinator of Outreach
and Hospitality

As I approach my one-year anniversary with the St. Charles Parish office, I am not only amazed at how much I have learned, but how far our outreach program has come in one year.

Nursing Home Ministry

In June of this year, we began a new outreach ministry to our local nursing homes. Every week we go to one of our nursing homes to celebrate the Mass with the Catholic residents. This has been so well received and appreciated by those residents who are unable to attend Mass in their parish church. As word spread, some residents have invited family members to celebrate the mass with them. Just recently, a resident's daughter came up after the mass to thank us and tell us how much it meant to her mother. This truly brings joy to all involved.

These Masses are, of course, in addition to the Sunday Holy Communion distribution from our devoted EMHC to each nursing facility, and to those homebound parishioners who are also unable to attend church. The team members and volunteers who take part in this ministry are truly devoted to spreading The Word of God and The Sacrament with those who are in need.

OCIA program

Our OCIA program is a true gift to so many. We feel the Holy Spirit working through us as more people come to us to begin their faith journey. We currently have such a diverse group, at various stages of their faith. We are thrilled to be able to welcome three Haitian candidates to this group as well. We grow in our faith together and form long-lasting friendships during our faith journey. We outgrew our past space and needed to move into one of our larger



rooms to accommodate this group. We continue to be thankful for the opportunity to be a small part of this group's faith journey.



On Sunday October 7, 2025 we welcomed a new group of Catechumens (those who have been baptized) and Candidates (those who are not yet baptized either Catholic or in another faith) during our Rite of Welcoming/Rite of Entrance Mass.

Blessing of the pets

We celebrated the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi on Saturday October 4th with our own Blessing of Pets. We had a nice turnout, and the weather was beautiful. Our pets and pet owners were happy to meet each other, and we are happy to report that the day went off without any incidents! We hope to continue this tradition each year.



If you have interest in participating in any of our Outreach/Hospitality ministries, and bringing the love of Christ to those who are in need please feel free to reach out to our parish office at 419-228-7635.

EMHC Nursing Home Volunteers Needed

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are in need of volunteers to distribute Holy Communion to local nursing homes. We have needs at many of the area care facilities, and you can distribute once a month, or as much as your schedule will allow. This is a great opportunity to share our faith and the Eucharist with those who are not able to come to Mass. The openings we have available at the time of this writing are listed below:

The first Sunday of the month, we have opportunities at Wyngate, Kessler Estates, Shawnee Manor, and Burton's Ridge

The third Sunday of the month we have openings at Primrose (This is a communion service), and at Wyngate

The Fourth Sunday of the month we have an opening at Kessler Estates

The fifth Sunday of the month (which happens 5 times per year)

Please contact the parish office at 419-228-7635 or email Chris Jones at jonesc@stcharles-lima.org for more information.



MAUREEN KASKEL

Director, Christian Corner
Community Center

Christian Corner continues serving free lunches every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at an average of 41/day.

Our Wednesday Food Pantry distribution, consisting of fresh fruits, vegetables, lunch meat and some ready-made items, continues to be well-attended. The West Ohio Food Bank delivery

arrives at 7:00 a.m. and a team of ten plus community volunteers helps unload the truck and place items on the tables.

We were blessed to have two volunteers from the Local UAW retiree group build and install a railing for the 3 steps up to the entry. Many of our clients are elderly and this provides much-needed stabilization. We also have a ramp available for those who prefer that method.

The Ohio Northern University Health Van is in our parking lot the first Wednesday of every month. Immunizations, flu shots and Covid boosters are always available. A Resident Physician is available for consultation and treatment on this mobile health van. Also, a Senior level Pharm. D. student is on board for medication review.

Christian Corner Community Center

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

Follow us on our new page on Facebook
[@ChristianCornerCommunityCenter-New](https://www.facebook.com/ChristianCornerCommunityCenter-New)



**EMILY NIESE**Director of Liturgical
Music Ministries

This year we begin our third year of celebrating a series of Holy Hours as a parish. The theme for this year's Holy Hours is "Out of darkness, into light." The theme originated in my own spiritual life back in 2023. Before receiving my current position with St. Charles, I was working in the medical field while working part-time in church music ministry. I was frequently questioned, criticized, and tempted to leave my faith behind while at work. Since then, the workplace atmosphere has not necessarily improved for many people as our daily lives become a mission field.

This is not a reason for us to be discouraged! Christ has said, "You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world." (Matthew 5:13-14). You. How is it possible to be salt and light in an age of great darkness? Isn't this an impossible task? Monsignor James Shea, president of the University of Mary, spoke at our annual Diocesan Pastoral Conference and described our modern experience. He explained how we have transitioned from an age of Christendom (when the society as a whole promotes and supports Christian values) to an apostolic age (when Christian values are not

Out of Darkness, Into Light

generally accepted by society). This change in societal dynamics majorly affects our daily lives as Christians.

I am thankful that in my personal experience, the Holy Spirit has provided the conviction and words necessary to defend, uphold, debate, and even converse through some of the most challenging, peace-threatening temptations to my faith. Although I knew God's presence, that didn't mean I wasn't frequently distressed, disheartened, and longing for prayerful support. There is a prayer I say each time I receive communion. It goes, "Lord, I believe I have received your body, your blood, your soul, and your divinity. I believe it because you have said it, and I am ready to give my life to maintain this truth. Fill me with the courage, grace, and strength necessary to do so in any and every way that you may call me to." This prayer has been pivotal to my own testimony, and I continue to refer to it in my hunger for grace each day.

Take heart knowing that you weren't made to rely on yourself. A God-given mission demands God-given grace! This year's series of Holy Hours is intended to be a fount of grace for all members of St. Charles striving to be salt and light and searching for the grace to make that possible. Each Holy Hour focuses on prayer for a particular field encountering darkness in our age. The September Holy Hour was joined with the celebration of the World Day of

Migrants and Refugees to pray for all migrants and refugees. The next Holy Hour will be on November 23rd - the Feast of the Christ the King of the Universe. We will offer special prayer for all those in legal and political fields. On January 25th we will offer a Holy Hour during Catholic Schools Week where we will pray especially for all those working in education. Finally, we will offer a final Holy Hour on April 12th, Divine Mercy Sunday, for all those working in health care.

We all have our God-given missions in a time and age such as this. I pray that you may not delay the radical good that God desires to work through you. I pray that you may trust in him, and your ability to cooperate with his grace. I pray that you may believe in the power of your mission, no matter how big or small it may seem. As a minister to this parish, I carry deeply my responsibility to help pave the way to the strength, courage, and grace that you need to live the life of abundance that Christ came to provide for you (John 10:10). Ultimately, it is my prayer that this year's series of Holy Hours will be a fount of grace for all members of St. Charles living your daily calling to be salt and light in our apostolic age. "For he says: 'In an acceptable time I heard you, and on the day of salvation I helped you.' Behold, now is a very acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation," (2 Corinthians 6:2).

**BRYNNA SCHROEDER**

Parish Multimedia Specialist

It has been a good and busy past couple months for me, and now that we're getting into the holiday season, it will be even more so! One of the many good things that happened in the past couple months was the 2025 Diocesan Pastoral Conference. Members of our Pastoral Ministry Team attended the conference on September 23rd. It was a great way to unite as a Parish Team and as a whole Diocese. The theme was: Set Apart - Pastoral Strategies to Form Holy Disciples in a Post-Christian World, and the main speaker was Monsignor James Shea.

This issue of the Chimes has other articles talking about the key takeaways of the conference, so I thought I'd just share some of the things from the conference that stood out to me personally. I thought some of these things were good to think about as both a parish and as individual parishioners.

The main takeaways for me came in our afternoon session, when Msgr. James Shea talked about some of the chief temptations of living in an apostolic age, or a society where Christianity is no longer the common way of thinking and we must evangelize the way the apostles did. There were three main temptations he pointed out.

The first was that we can tend to divide the world into good and bad people. The truth is only God can judge others. Instead of completely condemning the sinner, we should condemn the sin, and love the sinner.

The second temptation was that we think we can use the weapons of the world and the enemy to our advantage. However, we are called to be in the world but not of it. When we set ourselves apart from the world, people then have the opportunity to ask why we live differently.

The third temptation is that we can allow ourselves to be Utopians which is what the current secular mindset seems to be. Utopians believe that through human advancements alone, we can create a perfect society. This takes God out of the picture and fails to take into account the doctrine of original sin. Sadly, the Church can sometimes take on the wounds of our time. The good news is that it always battles these wounds and by doing so, ultimately develops the immunity.

In parish media news, we recently had a vital volunteer, Justin Aab, suddenly pass away a couple months back. He played a pivotal role in helping set up and maintain many of our different areas of tech, from giving advice about computers in the parish office, to checking and running the sound system, cameras, and audio/visual computer desk in the church. This included the livestream that is used to stream the Mass to our Facebook, Youtube, and website pages, a resource many of our parishioners rely on when homebound or in similar circumstances.

As a result, we are in need of more help with this ministry. The livestream is recorded at the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Volunteers use the AV desk computers, located in the church, and record the Mass with the help of computer programs that are connected to a couple video cameras.

The training for this is fairly simple to learn and there are helpful notes located at the desk for volunteers to reference. If you or anyone you know would be interested in volunteering in this ministry, please contact me at schroederb@stcharleslima.org. P.S. This is a great way for students to get their church volunteer hours in!



The Redwing Reader St. Charles Catholic School



MEGAN SCHEID

Principal

As we step into the heart of the school year, I find myself reflecting with joy and amazement on the growth we've witnessed in our students over the past eleven weeks. From the quiet confidence blooming in our youngest learners to the thoughtful discussions emerging in our older grades, it's clear: their learning is taking off. Classrooms are alive with curiosity, collaboration, and creativity—and it's a beautiful thing to see.

This progress is not just the result of what happens within our school walls. It's the fruit of a sacred partnership—between school and home, between educators and parents, between faith and formation. When we walk together in support of our children, we create a foundation that allows them to flourish not only academically, but spiritually and emotionally.

A Season of Growth and Gratitude

As Thanksgiving approaches, I invite all our families to pause and embrace the gift of presence. In the busyness of life, it's easy to let meaningful moments slip by. But carving out time to talk with your children, to read together, to laugh over a board game—these are the moments that shape hearts and minds. They foster a love of learning, a sense of belonging, and the kind of connection that lasts far beyond the holiday season.

Let this be the season we put down our screens and pick up conversations. The glow of a phone can never replace the glow in a child's eyes when they feel heard, loved, and engaged.

Here are a few simple ways to nurture that love of learning at home:

Read together each night—whether it's a picture book, a chapter from a novel, or a story from Scripture. Let your child hear your voice, ask questions, and share their thoughts.

Play together—board and card games are wonderful tools for building memory, strategy, patience, and joy.

With Christmas on the horizon, consider gifting games that bring families together. Here are a few favorites that make excellent presents—and even better memories:

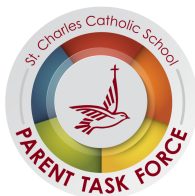
Game Title	Age Range	Why It's Great
Ticket to Ride	8+	Geography, strategy, and fun for all ages
Uno	6+	Quick, colorful, and perfect for family rounds
Sleeping Queens	7+	Math, memory, and whimsical storytelling
Spot It!	4+	Fast-paced visual matching for all ages
Apples to Apples	9+	Vocabulary, humor, and creative thinking
Blokus	7+	Spatial Reasoning and strategic play

Whatever you choose, make a commitment to play together. Not just once, but often. Let your children know that their joy, their questions, and their company matter deeply.

This season, may we be people of gratitude—thankful for the gift of our children, the strength of our community, and the grace of God that guides us all. From our school family to yours, we wish you a blessed Thanksgiving and a joyful Advent season.

Parent Task Force Events at a Glance

December 1 - Donuts with Dudettes
February 7 - K-5 Rave
March 3 - Donuts with Dudes
April TBD - Middle School Fun Night
May 15 - Field Day



*If you are interested in getting involved with our Parent Task Force contact us at stcharlesptf@gmail.com



Celebrating National Book Month

By Jennifer Thompson

To celebrate National Book Month (October), we had Crafternoon at the library! During academic assist, artful 8th graders got to come to the library and enjoy a craft by upcycling some well-loved books. The pages got a new life as book page flowers. It was fun experiencing something new in the library!



Kindergarteners Learn About Service

By Mrs. Mahler



As some of you may know, I had to have a reverse shoulder replacement in February of this year. I was referred to the JIS Center in New Albany, and Dr. AJ Julka successfully repaired my shoulder. After my Electric bike accident in July of this year, I returned to Dr. Julka for the healing of the same shoulder, now broken at the metal implant. While there, I learned that his 8-year-old daughter was diagnosed with Aplastic Anemia and was waiting for a life-saving blood donor to match for a transplant. She has a rare blood type . . . with only 2 matches in 50 million from the donor blood bank. Kiai Julka has been at the Children’s Hospital in Cincinnati since last April. She has had to have chemo to prepare for a donor transplant. As she underwent treatment, the family stayed at the Ronald McDonald House. This WONDERFUL PLACE makes the treatment and the hospital stay bearable for the families. As a way to ‘GIVE BACK’ and stay busy, she created a non-profit business called Magic Slime. She creates containers of ‘slime’ to raise money for the RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE!

Fortunately, Kaia did get the transplant, but she still needs hospital care. I was able to support her service by purchasing 40 containers of slime for our kindergarten students. The children learned about SERVICE from this sweet girl while enjoying “SLIME TIME!” at SCCS. The photos and a video of the kids loving her slime made her laugh! The kids were so happy to know that they made her smile! We continue to pray for Kaia and her family!



7th and 8th Grade Honor Society Induction 2025

By Charris Miracle and Jean Blubaugh

On Friday, September 19, 2025, a special ceremony was held to honor students inducted into the St. Charles Catholic School National Honor Society. This prestigious organization celebrates students who demonstrate excellence in scholarship, leadership, citizenship, service, and character. To earn membership, students must achieve a cumulative GPA of 3.50 during both their sixth and seventh grade years. During the ceremony, Mrs. Scheid, Mrs. Miracle, and Mrs. Blubaugh commended the inductees for their academic dedication and ability to balance schoolwork with a variety of extracurricular activities. They also encouraged students to make intentional choices today that will shape a successful future. Each student received a certificate in recognition of their achievement. Additionally, we celebrated the remarkable accomplishment of maintaining such a high level of academic excellence over two consecutive years for Gabriel Hodges, Katana Walter, Miya Hollis, Elliana Thompson, Audie Sielschott, An-

thony Hinegardner, Luke Bryan, Charlene Rexford, Olivia Barhorst, Elaine Brickner, Nicklaus Gronas, Cooper Wende, and Alaina Laux. We *congratulate* the following students on their outstanding academic accomplishments.

8th Grade: Gabriel Hodges, Katana Walter, Miya Hollis, Elliana Thompson, Audie Sielschott, Anthony Hinegardner, Luke Bryan, Charlene Rexford, Olivia Barhorst, Elaine Brickner, Nicklaus Gronas, Cooper Wende, Alaina Laux, Hezekiah Thomas

7th Grade: Savannah Stolly, Grant Williams, Emma Venturella, Gretchen Barhorst, Aidan Carter, Sophia Mack, Corbin Sherrick, Henry Dickman, Gabriela Bryan-Lanche, Kaya St. Clair, Kendyl Liening, Ava Miroglio



Eighth Grade



Seventh Grade

Third Graders “Dig In” to Learn About Soil!

By Laura Knarr

This week, our third graders got their hands (and spoons!) dirty as they explored the layers of soil—in a very tasty way! As part of our science unit on earth materials, students built edible soil cups using Oreos, chocolate pudding, and vanilla pudding to represent the layers of soil from top to bottom.

Each ingredient stood for a different part of the soil profile. A whole Oreo was used for bedrock. The crushed Oreos made up the parent material layer. The vanilla pudding was the subsoil layer and the chocolate pudding was the topsoil. Fall colored sprinkles were used to represent the organic layer.



Students had fun “excavating” each layer with their spoons while learning how real soil supports plant and animal life. “It was the yummiest science lesson ever!” said one excited third grader.

The activity helped students see that science can be both educational and delicious. After all, learning about the Earth is even better when you can eat it!



From the Art Room

By Becky MacDonald

Learning about Vincent van Gogh was interesting, but painting sunflowers are even better. Featured are Keaton and Lance from first grade.



Merritt from 3rd grade is watercolor painting “The Cozy Hibernating Bear” with plans to mix unique greens to complete the quilt. caption box



Second grade students, Rebecca and Zayden are adding fall colors to their “Autumn Cat” project.

St. Charles School Mission and Philosophy

Mission Statement

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

Belief Statements

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

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

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

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



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Their patronage will allow us to continue this important publication.*

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Lima Central Catholic News

Submitted by Emily Miller

Top T-Birds

The top T-Birds for September were Dona Williams, Gianna Cumella, and Kirsten Compton, and for October were Bonnie Brunelle, Emily Blankenmeyer, Olivia Venturella and Lakayla Scott.

MartycKimbrough

Lima Central Catholic is proud to partner with 2014 graduate, state champion, 1,000 point scorer, and current professional basketball player Martyce Kimbrough! Martyce is the founder of STTP (Stick to the Plan), a life coaching mindset focused on commitment and perseverance. For the past seven summers, he has returned to campus to run a successful basketball camp for young athletes. This year, we were especially fortunate to join with him to purchase a new basketball shooting machine for our boys and girls basketball programs.We are grateful

to Martyce and to all of our alumni who continue to give back and invest in the next generation of Thunderbirds.

Shoutout to LCC senior Jacob Yahl

For his Eagle Scout project, Jacob built a Purple Martin House for the Park District — creating a safe home for dozens of chicks each summer.

Congratulations to the 2025 Homecoming Court:

Freshman, Madelyn Jeffers; Sophomore, Layo Awe; Junior, Katie Kriegel; Senior, Alon’Nah Bagley, Lucy Burden, Carolina Kill, Jenna Terrill, Andrew Baldauf, Griffin Dawson (not pictured), Jordan Priddy, and Brady Malcom.

And a huge shoutout to this year’s newly crowned royalty—Queen Jenna Terrill and King Brady Malcom

.Jacob Raczynski has been named a Commended Student in the 2026 National Merit Scholarship Program! Out of thousands of students nationwide, only about 34,000 receive this recognition. We are so proud of Jacob’s hard work, dedication, and achievements!

Our Concert Choir and Concert Band did a wonderful job at this year’s Fall Showcase, featuring incredible trio, solo, and quartet performances! From beautiful harmonies to impressive instrumental pieces, our students truly shined.

Congratulations to our first math students of the month, all freshmen! Way to go, Nolan Howell, Karmyn Perrine and Corie Schnieders! Keep up the good work, class of 2029!

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