

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE:

Today's gospel is a job description for Christian parents. For most people the most influential shepherds in their lives are their PARENTS. Every parent is called to be a "good shepherd" to "freely lay down their life" for their children, to "love" and "know" their children and to "lead" them so "they know your voice."

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK:

Monday, April 23

8:30 a.m. Living & deceased of the Metzger & Gremling families

Tuesday, April 24

8:30 a.m. Living & deceased of the Steve Dotson family

Wednesday, April 25

8:30 a.m. Bill McFall +
6:30 p.m. Louis Acerro +

Thursday, April 26

8:30 a.m. Scott Pearson +

Friday, April 27

8:30 a.m. Living & deceased of the Steve Dotson family +

Saturday, April 28

8:30 a.m.
5:00 p.m. Bob Wagner +
Steve Dotson +

Sunday, April 29

8:30 a.m. Living & deceased of the Recker & Mauceri families
11:00 a.m. First Communion
1:30 p.m. Spanish Mass

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH:

Sunday, April 22

Masses at 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
9:00 a.m. - RCIA classes in the RCIA Rm. in Cafeteria Bldg.
9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. - Parish School of Religion
12:30-2:00 p.m. - Book Reading/Bible Study in the Parish Hall
1:30 p.m. - Spanish Mass
6:00-7:30 p.m. - Youth Group Meeting in the Parish Hall

Monday, April 23

Mass at 8:30 a.m.

Tuesday, April 24

Mass at 8:30 a.m.

Wednesday, April 25

Mass at 8:30 a.m.
1:00 p.m. - OLPH Novena
6:00 p.m. - Rosary/Benediction/Mass at 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 26 - Mass at 8:30 a.m.

12:00 Noon - 5:00 p.m. - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00 p.m. - Charismatic Prayer Group Mtg. in the Rectory

Friday, April 27 - First Communion Readiness Day

Mass at 8:30 a.m.

Saturday, April 28 - Mass at 8:30 a.m.

Mass at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 29

Masses at 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
12:00-1:30 p.m. - Community Meal in the Parish Hall
9:00 a.m. - RCIA classes in the RCIA Rm. in Cafeteria Bldg.
9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. - Parish School of Religion
12:30-2:00 p.m. - Book Reading/Bible Study in the Parish Hall
1:30 p.m. - Spanish Mass

MARRIAGE BANNES:

Lindsey Baker and Chase Hughes, III



FINANCIAL REPORT

<u>DATE</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
April, 3rd week On-line: \$ 1,205.00	\$ 8,843.00	\$ 11,622.75
# of Envelopes	203	261
YTD Totals:	\$ 456,494.82	\$460,718.22

Easter Collection: \$11,949.15

COMMUNITY MEAL:

St. Gerard Church will be hosting the next community meal on Sunday, April 29th from 12:00 noon until 1:30 p.m. We are asking parishioners to donate cookies for this meal. Feel free to drop them off to the parish hall on Sunday following the masses. Thank you.



MOTHER'S DAY CARDS:

Mother's Day cards are available on the tables at the church exits. There is a beautiful card to give to your mother, as well as an envelope for your donation to the Novena of Masses that will be offered for all mothers ~ both living and deceased. Please return your donation in the regular collection or to the rectory office. Thank you.

ST. GERARD PARISH FESTIVAL

The 40th Annual St. Gerard Festival is right around the corner. Please mark your calendars for June 1-2-3rd.

Raffle tickets have been printed and have been distributed to sellers. If you would like to purchase a ticket for \$20.00 and be offered a chance to win \$10,000.00, please see one of our many ticket sellers or stop by the rectory office to purchase one. Please return all sold tickets to the rectory office.

We will soon be asking for your help to volunteer at one of our many booths. Watch for the sign-up sheet soon.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT RESTORE:

There is a great need for additional volunteers at the Lima Area Habitat ReStore (550 W. Elm St). Because of recent cuts in various social programs, we have lost a fair number of people who worked at our ReStore. Jobs for volunteers include: Customer service, produce preparation, cashier, donation pick-up, maintenance, cleaning and more. One time volunteers are very welcome, but regular volunteers are especially needed - even if it is for just a couple of hours one or two days a week/month. Please visit the Habitat website to sign-up at www.habitatlima.org/volunteer/ or call the Habitat office at 419-222-4937. Thank you for considering this generous donation of time.

HOME MISSION APPEAL:

Support the Catholic Home Missions Appeal today! Right now, over 40 percent of dioceses in the United States are considered home mission territory because they are unable to fund the essential pastoral work needed in their communities. Your support funds programs, such as religious education, seminary formation, and lay ministry training, to build vibrant faith communities right here in the United States. Please be generous. More information can be found at www.usccb.org/home-missions.



CHANGES IN YOUR FAMILY:

So many times, changes happen within our parish families and the parish office is usually not aware of them. If you have moved, changed phone numbers, or dropped your land line, we need to update our records, Please give us a call or drop us a note and help keep our records as up-to-date as possible. Thank you.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:

Gear up for five days of super-hero training where kids discover their strength in God! St. John's, Lima, will be having VBS June 11th through June 15th in St. John's Hall, 8 am until noon each day. Registration forms are available in the rectory office. Mark your calendars now.

PRAYER CLOTH:

In the rectory office, we have "PRAYER CLOTHS"



available to anyone wishing to have one. Each cloth is about 4-6 inches square and have been blessed with the relic of St. Blessed Francis Seelos and also comes with a prayer card. Whether you need healing in mind or body, this prayer cloth is a reminder of God's love for each one of us. It is also a reminder that St. Gerard Parish is praying for you too.

SENIOR GRADUATION

MASS:

Our Senior Graduation Mass will be here before you know it. Please mark your calendars for Sunday, May 6, 2018. We will recognize all of our graduating seniors



from St. Gerard Church at the 11:00 a.m. Mass, with a brunch to follow in the Parish Hall. Your son/daughter should have received a letter outlining the details. We ask that you respond promptly. Thank you.

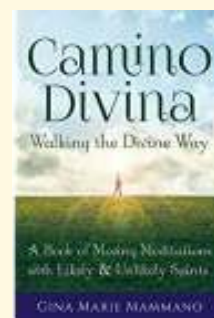
SCRIP:

Please remember that by utilizing SCRIP, you are helping to support our school! Purchase SCRIP for all of your shopping needs. Available in the school office or after the weekend Masses. Thank you!

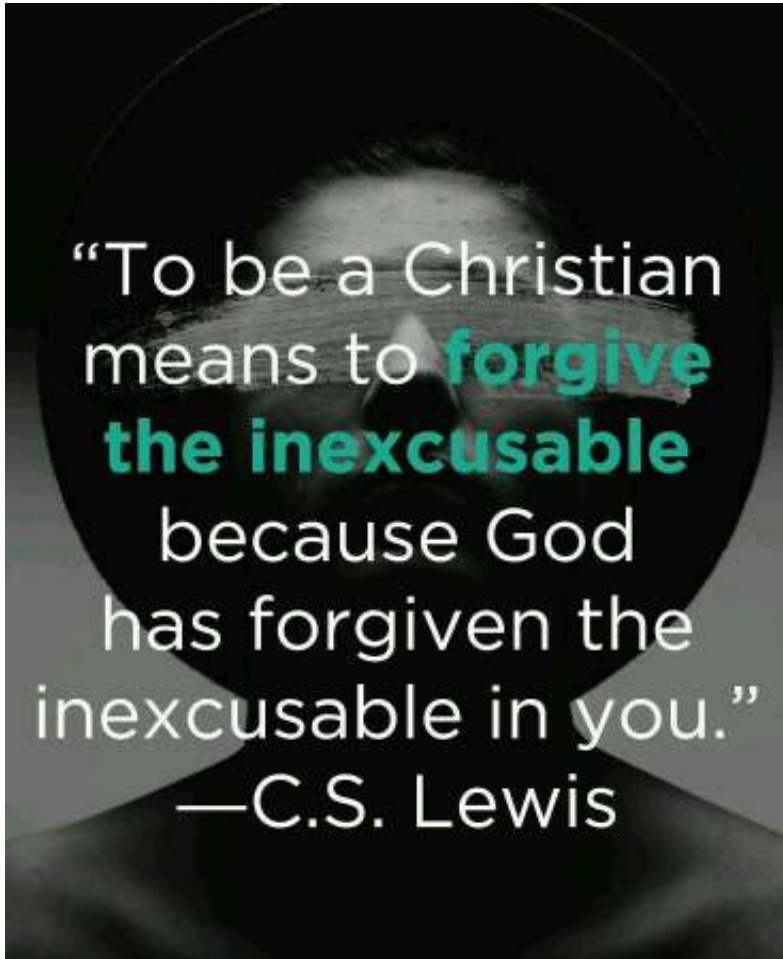
LANDSCAPES & SOULSCAPES

RETREAT:

Landscapes & Soulscapes, an Adventure into the Divine: A Guided Retreat by Gina Marie Mammano.



Through the practice of "camino divina" - walking the divine way, inner & outer landscapes will be explored through intuitive observation & imagination, journaling, conversation, finger labyrinths & walking meditation, accompanied by the words of poets & sages to walk alongside you. Retreat beings on Thursday, May 17th at 6:00p.m. with book signing and presentation, and ends after lunch at noon on Sunday, May 20th. It will be held at Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center, Fremont, Ohio. To register, go to: www.pinesretreat.org/programs.



NEW TIMES FOR EUCHARISTIC ADORATION:

Adoration hours at St. Gerard are now 12-5pm every Thursday. Please take time out of your busy day, to come and spend some quiet, personal time with the Lord.



APRIL: Month dedicated to devotion to the *Eucharist* and devotion to the *Holy Spirit*.




Holy Father's Prayer Intentions for April:
For those who have responsibility in economic matters:

That economists may have the courage to reject any economy of exclusion and know how to open new paths.



"GREAT LOVE CAN CHANGE SMALL THINGS INTO GREAT ONES, AND IT IS ONLY LOVE WHICH LENDS VALUE TO OUR ACTIONS"

 ST. FAUSTINA
TAYLORMARSHALL.COM



Adult Education

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER'S SCHEDULE:

Saturday, April 28:

5:00 p.m. *S. Parker, B. Peebles, S. Tschuor, J. Wolff,
L. Makley, M. Hinegardner, Mike Hinegardner,
B. Flynn, D. Griffo, K. Canavan*

Sunday, April 29:

8:30 a.m. *T. Sroufe, J. Sroufe, G. Merkel, M. Meyer,
S. Ellinger, M. Hickey, L. Hahn, E. Orwick,
R. Orwick, C. Altenbach*

11:00 a.m. *V. Carter, S. Morrissey, F. Thompson,
K. Spears, R. Karbowiak, C. Coleman,
R. Carder, K. Wreede, D. Vondrell,
G. Vondrell*

LECTOR'S SCHEDULE:

April 28: 5:00 p.m. - *J. Wolff*

April 29: 8:30 a.m. - *T. Parker*
11:00 a.m. - *M. Spears*

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE:

April 28: 5:00 p.m. - *B. Smith, S. Parker, A. Parker*

April 29: 8:30 a.m. - *A. Dackin, C. Raines, G. Langhals*
11:00 a.m. - *K. Helmig, B. Dahill, B. Bourk*

SACRISTY WORKERS FOR MAY:

Chris Diaz, Sadie Bourk, Pat Flick

ELDER ABUSE:

Concerned about elder abuse? One in ten elders has likely been victimized in the past year. The best method for avoiding elder abuse is to keep watch over and regularly check in with our vulnerable neighbors. **Are You OK?** Program volunteers make weekly calls to check on elders in the Lima/Allen County area. Phone in referrals to **Are You OK?** Coordinator Evelyn Davis Smith at 419-222-8666.

FAITH KNIGHT AT THE K OF C:

Renewing Catholic Tradition Through Song! Toledo Diocese Seminarian Michael Bialorucki will lead the presentation on Wednesday, May 9th at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend

NORTHWEST OHIO SCHOLARSHIP

FUND:

Need-based Scholarships are available for private schools for students who reside in *Allen and surrounding counties* for grades K-8 for the 2018-2019 school year. To apply online or for more information about the program, visit www.nosf.org or contact the Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund office at 419-720-7048. **The deadline to apply is Friday, April 27, 2018.**

PART-TIME MANAGER FOR SOUP

KITCHEN:

As many of you are aware, St. Charles Church has operated an outreach soup kitchen for some twenty years. The Christian Corner Community Center (CCCC) is located at 1601 S. McClain in south Lima. The center is open Monday-Wednesday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. This position oversees the activities of the center, which include providing a warm lunch to approximately 75 recipients on these days. The manager coordinates the food, donations, volunteers and employees. This is a paid position and requires a valid driver's license and adequate computer skills. If you wish to apply or would like more information, please contact St. Charles Parish Office at 419-228-7635. Resumes can be dropped off or mailed to the office at 2200 W. Elm St., Lima, OH 45805 or emailed to: kaufmank@stcharleslima.org

LCC CLASS OF 1973:

In celebration of their 45th Class Reunion, the LCC Class of 1973 is planning "The Gathering 2018", on Saturday, August 4th. The event will be held at LCC and details are being finalized. Please send contact info. For classmates to Patti Frueh Briggs: LCC1973@yahoo.com.

2018 CYO SUMMER

KICKBALL:

This program is for girls currently in grades 2-8 and boys currently in grades 2-6 who are enrolled at St. Gerard, St. Rose, St. Charles



and/or the PSR Program. All kickball teams play on Tuesday and Thursday mornings on the **ST. GERARD** softball diamond and the season runs from June 5 - July 11. The cost is \$10 and each participant receives a team shirt. Please have registration and money in no later than **FRIDAY, MAY 4TH**. Students should have received a registration form. Extra registration packets can be picked up in the school office. If you have any questions about the program, please contact Kelly at gronask@sccslima.org

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

St. Vincent DePaul Clothing Store is in need of volunteers to help sort and display clothing and household items in the store. An hour or two once a week or once a month would be a great help. Store hours are noon to 3:40 p.m. Monday through Friday.

THE HOLY LAND:

*The Holy Land with Fr. Kent Kaufman
October 18-28, 2018*

Have you every wanted to walk in the footsteps of our Lord Jesus? To pray the Stations of the Cross on the Via Dolorosa? To visit the room in which Jesus celebrated His Last Supper and instituted the Holy Eucharist? To "watch with our Lord" for one hour in the Garden of Olives? To stand in the spot where the Blessed Mother watched her Son give His life on the Cross for us? For more info. or to join this group of Lima pilgrims, contact Maggie at 419-290-8782 or Maggie@catholicfaithjourneys.com or visit CatholicFaithJourneys.com.

THE ARC ENCOUNTER:

The Fort Jennings Memorial Hall announces a one day bus trip to "The Ark Encounter" in Williamstown, KY on Wednesday, July 18, 2018. The trip includes motor coach transportation, buffet lunch, admission to the ark and all gratuities. \$150 per person: \$75 due at registration and the balance by May 31, 2018. Please call or text Judy Schroeder to reserve your seat at: 419-303-7366. All proceeds are being used to restore our 100+ year old building and to improve the grounds.

BOOK REVIEW (By Fr. Mike Sergi):

The book that I offer you today is entitled "**Pope Francis: The Pope From The End of The Earth**" by Thomas J. Craughwell. This book gives you a history of Pope Benedict and his papacy. The challenges that he faced and the reasons for his resignation. It then gives you a short history of Pope Francis and the days leading up to his election as pope. Cardinal Sean O'Malley, the Archbishop of Boston, says this about this book. "A beautiful encounter - in pictures and in words - with Pope Francis, from his early life to those anxious days when the Church awaited its new pope, to the joy of his election and the days that followed." I hope you will take this book from our library and enjoy reading about a very special time in the history of our Church.