

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE:

In today's gospel, Jesus teaches, "Blessed are those who have not seen and believe." Accepting someone as they are, without demanding they prove themselves or meet our expectations, creates a rich relationship. Without acceptance, a home is only a house and a family is just a group of house mates.

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK:

Monday, April 9

8:30 a.m. John Grumblis +

Tuesday, April 10

8:30 a.m.

Wednesday, April 11

8:30 a.m. Poor Souls

6:30 p.m. Jack Frueh +

Thursday, April 12

8:30 a.m.

Friday, April 13

8:30 a.m. Living & Deceased of
the Steve Dotson
Family

Saturday, April 14

8:30 a.m.

5:00 p.m. Omer Schroeder +
Living & Deceased of
the Kaple & Becker
Families
Steve Dotson +

Sunday, April 15

8:30 a.m. Deceased of the
Pohlabel, Uphaus &
Buddlemeyer Families+
Ed Nixon +

11:00 a.m. Confirmation
Candidates

1:30 p.m. Spanish Mass

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH:

Sunday, April 8

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

1:30 p.m. - Spanish Mass

3:00 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet with Mass and Confession
to follow (This Mass fulfills your Sunday obligation).

Monday, April 9

Mass at 8:30 a.m.

Tuesday, April 10 - Mass at 8:30 a.m.

Wednesday, April 11 - 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 12 - 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 13

Mass at 8:30 a.m.

Saturday, April 14

Mass at 8:30 a.m.

Mass at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 15 - CONFIRMATION AT 11:00 A.M. MASS

9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Holy Name Breakfast in the Parish Hall

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

1:30 p.m. - Spanish Mass

6:00-7:30 p.m. - Youth Group Meeting in the Parish Hall

MARRIAGE BANNES:

Lindsey Baker and Chase Hughes, I



FINANCIAL REPORT

<u>DATE</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
April, 1st week On-line: \$ 1,745.00	\$ 14,193.52	\$ 8,961.00
# of Envelopes	288	199
YTD Totals:	\$ 435,560.36	\$437,067.82

Easter Collection: \$10,998.15

My Dear Parishioners,

The Easter celebrations are over and on behalf of Fr. Mike Houston, Fr. Mike Sergi and myself, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your participation in all of the liturgies of Holy Week with the culmination at the Easter Vigil and Masses on Easter Sunday.

Thank you to our Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Sacristans, Choirs, Altar Servers, Liturgy Committee, Decorating Committee, Garden Club, Cleaning Crew and those who helped and volunteered their time making sure everything looked beautiful and went smoothly for our Easter celebrations. I am always amazed how generous our parishioners are in sharing their time, talent and treasure with St. Gerard Parish.

Thanks also to all of you who remembered us at Easter with your prayers, cards, gifts and food goodies. It was very thoughtful of you.

Alleluia, Christ has risen from the dead! Let us rejoice and be glad!

Fr. Jim Szobonya



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

April 8 at 3PM

Divine Mercy Chaplet begins at 3PM Mass
& Confession to follow.

(This mass fulfills your Sunday obligation)

Jesus said to St. Faustina, ***“At three o’clock, implore My mercy, especially for sinners; and, if only for a brief moment, immerse yourself in My Passion, particularly in My abandonment at the moment of agony. This is the hour of great mercy. In this hour, I will refuse nothing to the soul that makes a request of Me in virtue of My Passion”***

(Diary, 1320).



ROSARY/ALTAR SOCIETY NEWS:

All ladies that are available are encouraged to come and pray the rosary on Tuesday, April 17th at noon in church. Following the rosary, we will go to lunch at the Casa Lu Al. Hope to see many of you there.

HOLY NAME BREAKFAST:

The Holy Name Men will be offering their monthly breakfast next Sunday, April 15th following the Masses in the Parish Hall. Come and enjoy pancakes, eggs, sausage and a beverage. It's a great meal and a chance to have fellowship with members of our parish. Don't miss it!

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.

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. We have compiled the list of those from St. Gerard Parish who may be graduating. Please review the list and if we missed your child's name, please call Cheryl at the rectory office at 419-224-3080 or email her at cheryl@sgslima.org. If we have listed your child's name and they should be removed, please let us know that as well. In the near future, your daughter/son will be receiving a letter outlining the details. Please watch for it and respond as soon as possible. Thank you.

***Letzly Arellano, Alenna Bible, Sarah Blevins,
Quinnlyn Conley, Andrew Cook, Skyler Corso,
Nelson Denson, Bryce Goedde, Trevor Hooker,
Lauren Huysman, Yasmine Jones,
Christian Kleman, Connor Knippen,
Stephanie LaRotonda, Daniel Lowe,
Merri Merkel, Madelyn O'Connell,
Samuel Santaguida, Kolleen Shafer,
Logan Shultz, Alissa Stahler, Brendan Stolly***

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!



SPIRITUAL FORMATION:



The Spiritual Formation Committee will be holding a book reading/bible study starting April 15th. We will be reading **Divine Mercy** by **Stephen J. Binz** of the Threshold Bible Study series. The book can be found via the internet at Amazon and many other stores. We will hold the

book reading after the 11 am Mass on Sundays and we will discuss the book for approximately 1.5 to 2 hours. Anyone interested and has questions, please call Melinda Blanchard at 567-252-8748. We welcome all who would like to join us for fellowship and lots of discussion!

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

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.

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.



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.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER'S SCHEDULE:

Saturday, April 14:

5:00 p.m. *B. Muskus, D. Hollingsworth, J. Hollingsworth,
L. Makley, B. VonLehmden, K. Canavan,
D. Griffio, S. Parker, B. Peebles, J. Stewart*

Sunday, April 15:

8:30 a.m. *C. Wright, E. Orwick, R. Orwick, P. Huffman,
M. Hickey, T. Sroufe, J. Sroufe, L. Hahn,
C. Altenbach, S. Ellinger*

11:00 a.m. *D. Vondrell, R. Karbowiak, K. Ladden,
J. Neville, F. Thompson, R. Vagedes,
J. Landwehr, C. Coleman, C. Wreede,
G. Vondrell*

LECTOR'S SCHEDULE:

April 14: 5:00 p.m. - *M. Hinegardner*

April 15: 8:30 a.m. - *V. Koza*
11:00 a.m. - *K. Wreede*

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE:

April 14: 5:00 p.m. - *G. Langhals, G. Gandy, J. Yahl*

April 15: 8:30 a.m. - *K. Rigg, E. Gamble, M. Chambers*
11:00 a.m. - *D. Dawson, L. Wreede, A. Carter*

SACRISTY WORKERS FOR APRIL:

Jean Sroufe, Annette Moorman

LCC PURSE BINGO:

Saturday, April 21st at LCC. Tickets are \$30 per person. Doors open at 6pm. Bingo starts at 7pm. Must be 21 to enter. Includes dinner & 20 games of bingo. Contact Stephanie Watkins at LCC for tickets (419-230-2659 or swatkins@apps.lcchs.edu).

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.

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.

SUNDAY ENVELOPES:

Our "yearly" Sunday envelopes have been moved over to the rectory. If you have not picked yours up, please do so as soon as possible. If you are giving online and no longer wish to receive the box of envelopes, please call the rectory office at 419-224-3080. ***As an active member of St. Gerard Church, we encourage all parishioners to use their envelopes regularly. Thank you.***

SERRA CLUB:

Serra Club of Lima welcomes you to join us for Mass, dinner and a talk on April 12th. Fr. Phil Smith, Vocation Director of Toledo Diocese will speak on "State of Vocations in the Diocese of Toledo". We will begin with Mass at 5:45 p.m. at LCC High School Chapel. The dinner and talk will follow. If you would like to come, please call Marilyn Schmerge at 567-204-4745.

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.

HEARTBEAT SILENT AUCTION AND DINNER:

Heartbeat of Lima's 6th Annual Fundraising Silent Auction and Chicken Dinner is coming up on April 22nd at the K of C building located behind Happy Daz on S. Cable Road, Lima. This year it will be bigger and better than ever! We have over 50 wonderful baskets for you to bid on! Contact our office now for your chicken dinner tickets and plan to stop in with your family and friends and spend the afternoon at our Silent Auction and take home a great item... or two or three. Dinner tickets are \$8 and include 1/2 BBQ chicken, southwestern corn, fresh fruit cup, dinner roll and cookie. Dine-in or carry-out. **ALL DINNER TICKETS ARE PRESALE ONLY!** Orders for dinner tickets must be placed by **April 16th**. Questions, call Heartbeat at 419-222-7945.