



SACRED HEART of JESUS CATHOLIC CHURCH

~ Bethlehem • Founded 1833 ~

April 21, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Easter

5742 State Route 61 S.
Shelby, Ohio 44875
(419) 342-2256

A Sister Parish with St. Joseph, Crestline

Intentions

**Fr. Jeff on Retreat
No Weekday Masses**



Saturday

3:30 pm - Confession at SHJ
4:30 pm - Mass at Sacred Heart
*Mass Intention: For the People of
Sacred Heart and St. Joseph Parishes*

Sunday

7:00 am - Mass at St. Joseph
*Mass Intentions: John DiPietro, Anna
Moyer*

8:30 am - Mass at Sacred Heart
*Mass Intention: Marie & Joe Biglin;
Roger Payne*

10:30 am - Mass at St. Joseph
*Mass Intention: Mary Ellen Tesso,
Joseph Perito*

Greetings and Happy Good Shepherd Sunday!

I would like us to reflect on this part of Pope Benedict's XVI's past Good Shepherd homily below:

"The Risen Jesus says: "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God" (Jn 20:17). It is a relationship that is already totally real but not yet totally revealed: it will be in the end when — if God pleases — we shall see his face without a veil (cf. v. 7). Dear Ordinands, this is where the Good Shepherd wishes to lead us! It is here that the priest is called to lead the faithful entrusted to his care: to true life, to life in abundance (cf. Jn 10:10). Let us therefore return to the Gospel and to the Parable of the Good Shepherd. "The Good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep" (Jn 10:11). Jesus insists on this essential trait of the Good Shepherd who is he himself: that of "laying down his life".

This is clearly the qualifying feature of the shepherd, just as Jesus interprets it in the first person, in accordance with the will of the Father who sent him. The biblical figure of shepherd-king mainly involves the task of governing, keeping united and guiding the People of God. The whole of this regal role is totally fulfilled in Jesus Christ in the sacrificial dimension, in the offering of life. In a word, it is brought about in the mystery of the Cross, that is, in the supreme act of humility and love.

The formulas of the Rite for the Ordination of Priests that we are celebrating give us this orientation. For example, among the questions that concern the "commitments of the chosen ones", the later, with a culminating and in a certain way concise character, says : "Are you resolved to consecrate your life to God for the salvation of his people, and to unite yourself more closely every day to Christ the High Priest, who offered himself for us to the Father as a perfect sacrifice?". The priest is in fact the one who is uniquely inserted into the mystery of Christ's Sacrifice through a personal union with him, in order to extend his saving mission. This union, which happens in the Sacrament of Orders, seeks to become closer every day through the generous response of the priest himself... WITH THE HELP OF GOD.'

And when the burden of the cross becomes heavier, know that this is the most precious time, for you and for the people entrusted to you: by renewing your "I am, with the help of God", you will be cooperating with Christ, the High Priest and Good Shepherd, in tending his sheep — even only one stray sheep, but for which there are great festivities in heaven!

Please pray for all Good Shepherds past and present who have served at St. Joe's and Sacred Heart and for those who are sons of each parish. And may we continue to pray for vocations! **In Christ, Fr. Jeff**

COLLECTION:

April 14, 2024

\$ 6,911.00

Reg. Offertory

\$ 6,376.00

Easter

\$ 415.00

Holy Land

\$ 50.00

Altar & Rosary

\$ 50.00

Gen. Maintenance

\$ 20.00



Online

\$ 501.00

Heart of Bethlehem

\$ 50.00

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Wednesday, April 24: No Mass

Saturday, April 27th

Sunday, April 28th

MUSIC MINISTER

Sean Beeson

SERVERS

Sarah Plazek

Hannah Timmons

OFFERTORY

Olivia Hoffman Family

EXTRAORDINARY

MINISTERS

Laurie Metzger, Greg Keller

JoAnn Claytor

USHERS

Shannon Finnegan & Jacob Gosser

LECTOR

Karen Keiser

(Please check Ministry Scheduler Pro for the most up to date assignments)

MUSIC MINISTER

Kevin & Becky

SERVERS

Eva & Felix

Beeson

OFFERTORY

Chuck & Cindy Keller

EXTRAORDINARY

MINISTERS

Deacon Steve Vogt, Stan Cain

John Bonen

USHERS

Jeff Vogt & Diane Metzger

LECTOR

Tom Metzger

COUNTERS

Victoria Cain, Teresa Jessee

Steve Metzger

Bible Readings for the Week of April 21, 2024



Monday

Acts 11:1-18, Ps 42:2-3, 43:3-4, Jn 10:1-10

Tuesday

Acts 11:19-26, Ps 87:1-7, Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday

Acts 12:24-13:5a, Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8, Jn 12:44-50

Thursday

1Pt 5:5b-14, Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17, Mk 16:15-20

Friday

Acts 13:26-33, Ps 2:6-11, Jn 14:1-6

Saturday

Acts 13:44-52, Ps 98:1-4, Jn 14:7-14

Sunday

Acts 9:26-31, Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32, 1Jn 3:18-24, Jn 15:1-8

BULLETIN SPONSORS OF THE WEEK:

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Mother's Day & Father's Day 2024

On May 11 & 12 and June 15 & 16 the Mass intentions will be in honor/memory of all mothers and all fathers. Should you want to list your parent's name specifically on a separate weekend flyer please contact the parish office a.s.a.p. The stipend will be handled like a Mass intention and not tax deductible. Thank you!



Our 5th. & 6th. Grade students will be attending Faith and Science Camp at Damascus April 24th-26th. Please keep them in your prayers!

Green Grass Gala

Please join us on **May 13th**. At 6:30pm for a concert on the lawn, showcasing our school's music program and our talented school children! Please bring your own seating.
* Rain date is May 20th.

Savior of the World

Concert of Sacred Choral Music

Sunday, April 28th. The Basilica and National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation has the great honor of hosting ECCE for a concert at 3:00pm. ECCE, Latin for "behold", is an acappella choir comprised of Catholic young adults between the ages of 18 and 30 who come together each year to evangelize through the beauty of sacred music. The concert is free and open to the public

Attn. Home School Families

Come together with Bishop Daniel Thomas for the 2024 Homeschool Mass scheduled for Tuesday, June 4th, at 7:00 pm at Rosary Cathedral. This special event is open to all 8th-grade and graduating high school senior homeschoolers. If you wish to take part in this Mass, kindly reach out to us at homeschoolmasstoledo@gmail.com.

Keep an eye on the bulletin board for family friendly events at the Marvin Memorial Library!



World Day of Prayer For Vocations

Lord, You told us that "The harvest indeed is great but the laborers are few. Pray, therefore, the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into His harvest." We ask You to strengthen us as we follow the vocation to which You have called us. We pray particularly for those called to serve as priests, sisters, brothers and deacons: Those whom You have called, Those You are calling now, Those You will call in the future. May they be open and responsive to the call of serving Your people. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen

Reminder: We are looking for volunteers to take the Vocations Cross and Prayer Booklet for a Month in 2024. (NEED July and beyond.) You may sign up by calling the parish office. Thank you!

St. Peter Music Series Presents

A concert performance by noted Composer,
Church Musician and Performer

Sara Hart

Sunday, April 21

3:00 p.m.

St. Peter Church

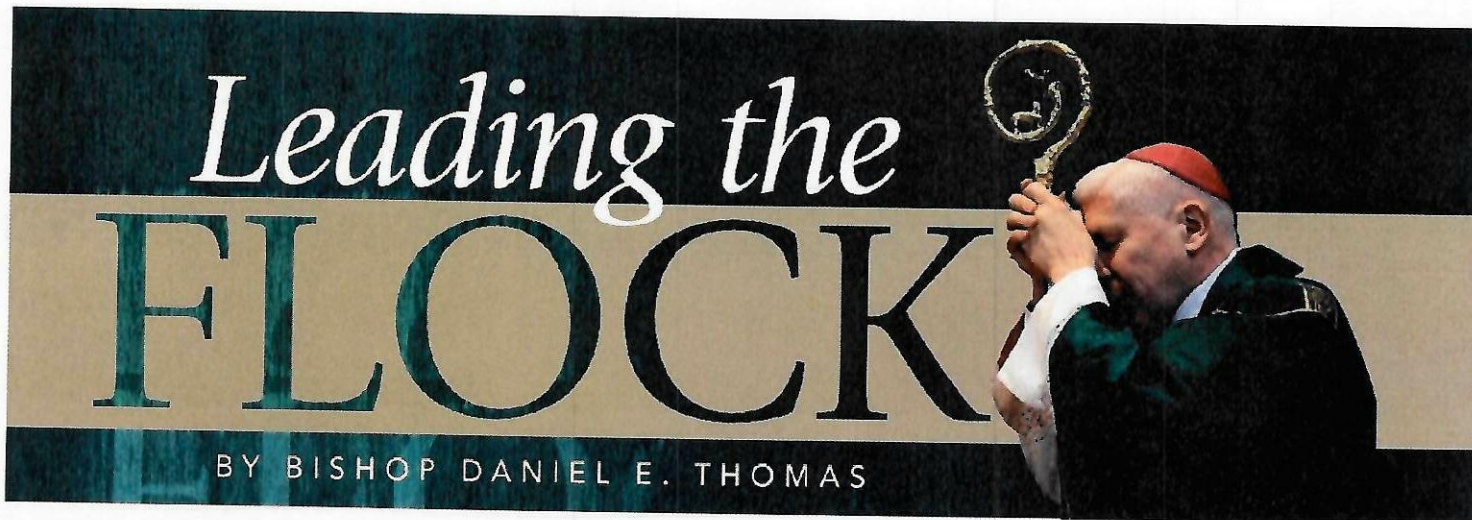
60 South Mulberry St., Mansfield

Admission is free and open to the public.

Catholic Women's Club

The May meeting of The Catholic Women's Club of the Saint Juan Diego Deanery will begin with Mass at St. Joseph Church, 331 N. Thoman Street, Crestline at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 8th. Luncheon will follow in the St. Joseph Convocation Center at 12:30 p.m. If you are a new member or are interested in carpooling, please call Valerie Mapes, President at 419-564-3034 or Brenda Starr-Jude, May Chairperson at 419-610-8251 before noon on Thursday, May 2, 2024 to make your reservation. This will be the last meeting for the 2023-2024 year. We look forward to seeing you.

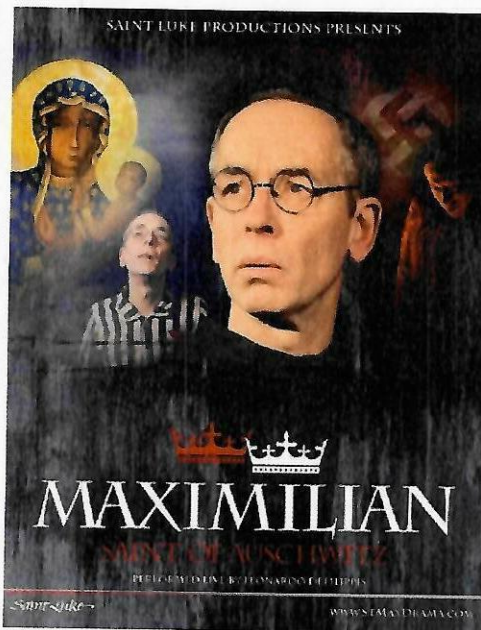
ACA Update: We are at 38.77% of goal \$10,804.00 left to go! Thank you to those who have already pledged! acatoledo.org



A witness of self-sacrificing love

It was only when I made a pilgrimage to Poland while living and working in Rome that his life and death so deeply struck me! That was the occasion when I had the graced opportunity to visit and pray before the cell in which Polish Franciscan priest and martyr, Saint Maximilian Kolbe, died after starvation and lethal injection, having offered himself in exchange for a husband and father who had been condemned to death by the Nazis at Auschwitz. His was the ultimate witness of self-sacrificing love, fulfilling the words of Jesus: "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends" (Jn 15:13).

How vividly I recall kneeling in the darkness of that cell at the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and State Museum in Oswiecim in Poland, weighed down by the gravity of the atrocities against humanity that transpired there. Auschwitz, "a name that carries the burden of suffering, genocide and unimaginable cruelty, stands as a stark reminder of the darkest moments in human history" (Briscoe). The heroic self-sacrifice of that Franciscan Friar, Maximilian Kolbe, stands in stark contrast to the evil perpetrated by the Nazis and serves as a reminder that, in Christ Jesus, light triumphs over darkness,



that good triumphs over evil.

What struck me most kneeling at that cell was the massive Paschal candle placed there in 1979 by a fellow Pole, Pope St. John Paul II. How poignant that the very candle which symbolizes Easter, the Light of Christ risen from the dead, remains as a powerful symbol even in such a horrifically dark place!

In this Easter Season, with the reality of the horrors of war and violence transpiring before our

very eyes throughout our world in these days, and mindful of the recent publication of the Declaration of the Dicastery of the Doctrine of the Faith entitled "*Dignitas Infinita*" on Human Dignity, it is more than poignant that I am able to invite you to attend "*Maximilian: Saint of Auschwitz*," a powerful multimedia one-man live drama on the life of Saint Maximilian Kolbe, the Martyr of Charity (1894-1941). Saint Luke Productions will be presenting the live drama here in our diocese from Wednesday April 17th thru Monday April 22nd. You can find more information about the performances, dates, times and locations at our Diocese of Toledo website here: [toledodiocese.org/maximilian](https://www.toledodiocese.org/maximilian). My hope is that Maximilian's witness may inspire, educate and

be a source of deep reflection for all who participate, just as Venerable Father Augustus Tolton's witness was when in 2021 Saint Luke Productions presented "Tolton: From Slave to Priest" throughout our diocese.

In *Maximilian*, audiences encounter firsthand the courageous life and self-sacrificing love of Father Maximilian Kolbe. Born and raised in Poland, the son of poor, devout Catholics, he experienced many interior trials as a young man, but the Blessed Virgin Mary sustained him by appearing to him in a vision. She offered him a crown of purity or a crown of martyrdom. He chose both! This experience instilled in him a deep and abiding love for Our Lady. Having entered the Franciscan Order in 1907, he was especially drawn to explore the Blessed Mother's role in the history of salvation. He saw her as God's agent in confounding the darkness, which was gathering in opposition to the Church. He promoted consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, establishing centers dedicated to her in Poland and in Japan. Arrested by the Gestapo for his tireless work against the Nazi forces, he was sent to the infamous death camp of Auschwitz, where he stepped forward and offered his life for another prisoner, a married man who was condemned to death by starvation. Maximilian died at 47 years of age and his body was cremated along with the eight other prisoners whose lives were taken by the Nazis in retaliation for the escape of another prisoner. The man for whom Maximilian gave his life, Franciszek Gajowniczek, was present in Saint Peter's Square when the Franciscan Friar was canonized a Saint!

How providential it is that at this moment, right here in the Diocese of Toledo, we have someone with a family connection to Saint Maximilian Kolbe! Sylvania Franciscan Sister Ireneaus Samsel, OSF, shared in a recent interview that her father, Francis Samsel personally knew St. Maximilian Kolbe, who had been his superior when Samsel was a seminarian at the Conventual Monastery in Niepokalanow, Poland. Because Samsel was American, Kolbe had advised he depart Poland prior

to the German invasion. Sister Ireneaus learned firsthand from her father the profound impact Kolbe had on his community.

Actor Leonardo Defilippis, who plays Kolbe, in reflecting on the play, recently commented: "This is about what's happening today, even though it was World War II. You'll see the build up of what Hitler was trying to do and you'll see the same parallels in our situation in the world. And you'll see the different things that are going to battle and take away the freedoms of people" (Blade art). As we host *Maximilian: Saint of Auschwitz*", who cannot pause to reflect on the unjust aggression we have seen of the attacks of Russia against Ukraine, of Hamas against Israel, who cannot question the grave effects of the response of Israel against the Palestinians, and who cannot worry and wonder as we have witnessed the attack of Iran against Israel? As we unite our prayers for peace and raise our voices for the respect of every human person in the face of the atrocities of violence and war at this moment in human history, the words of Maximilian Kolbe haunt us even now: "Hatred is not a creative force; only love is a creative power."

This April, we are blessed to learn more about and be inspired by the example and witness of this Franciscan friar and modern-day martyr. His life and death should resonate deeply with all of us in these days, when the evils of hatred, violence and the effects of war in our world are ever before our eyes. It is my sincere hope and prayer that attendance at this performance will serve as a catalyst to advance our efforts to promote the dignity of every person, to encourage understanding and working for peace, to root out hatred and violence, and to promote harmony born of self-sacrificial love. Through the intercession of Saint Maximilian Kolbe, may our Catholic faith be strengthened and may we all grow in human and Christian virtue.



Most Rev. Daniel E. Thomas
Bishop of Toledo
April 15, 2024

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F.I.S.H. Wish List:

Most needed items: Egg noodles, pasta side dishes, jiffy mix, cereal, pancake mix & syrup.
Thank you!



Congratulations Sacred Heart First Communicants!

Row 1: Charlie, Saylor, Carter, Zelie & Matthew

Row 2: Mrs. Holt, Deacon Steve, Fr. Jeff & Mrs. Myers

May they continue to grow in their faith!

Photo by Anatra Graphic Art



Graduation Mass
Sunday, May 19th @ our 8:30am Mass



All high school and college graduates are invited to our Graduation Mass on Sunday, May 21st @ our 8:30am Mass. Graduates will have reserved pew(s) with our 8th grade graduates.

Kindergarten Screening

We will conduct Kindergarten Screening on Monday, **April 22nd**. Current preschool students attending Sacred Heart School in 24/25 will have their screening take place during this school day. Results will be shared with parents.

Any incoming Kindergarteners currently not attending Sacred Heart School please call 419-342-2797 or 419-683-1697 to schedule a time.

Accepting enrollment for the 2024/2025 school year Sacred Heart School



We are currently accepting enrollment for 24/25 school year from 3 yr. old preschool through eighth grade. Sacred Heart School is a fully accredited school with the State of Ohio. We offer a nurturing classroom environment where students are able to grow into the person God is calling them to be. We offer multiple scholarships. Mrs. Myers would welcome the opportunity to discuss with you all of the benefits of attending Sacred Heart School. She can be reached at: 419-342-2797 or 419-683-1697 or Lmyers@shelbysacredheart.org.