



ST. CHARLES BORROMEO
CATHOLIC CHURCH

THE CHIMES

St. Charles Parish

September/October 2026

Volume 26 Issue No. 1



**FR. KENT
KAUFMAN**
Pastor

Staff Updates

Dear Friends in Christ,

Since the last millennium, St. Charles Parish has provided an outreach to the hungry on the south side of Lima. At first, it was known as “Our Daily Bread Too,” since it was an “offshoot” from the original Our Daily Bread which continues to reach out to the hungry in downtown Lima.

In time, the name of our outreach was changed to Christian Corner Community Center. I am told it was to avoid any confusion between the two operations. When St. Charles opened our soup kitchen, it assumed all responsibility for the center. Other than a partner friendship, Christian Corner had no operational connections to the original Our Daily Bread, which has its own board to oversee its operations.

In the past decade that I have been familiar with our “4C’s,” I have been inspired by the generous outpouring of charity. It goes beyond the material, although that is important. It also includes the spiritual friendships that help lift the spirits and build bonds of community in a world that often overlooks or disregards such matters.

In these last ten years, I have also welcomed a number of directors for the center. In fact, it was in my first few months that the director, Phil Harpest, died

suddenly. I remember well the day I received a phone call early on a Monday morning, January 4, 2017. He did not come into work that morning. We later learned that he had died at home. He was 65 years old.

Since 2017, we have had a number of directors bring their passion and love for all God’s people to our Christian Corner Community Center. Most recently, Maureen Kaskel has been helping our volunteers at the center be the “face of Christ” — who are truly the presence of Christ in our midst — to the guests we welcome each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.



I am happy to announce that we have a new director ready to carry the mission of the center. Maureen has assured us that she will not disappear from the center. It means too much to her! However, she will have the opportunity to step back and enjoy a more peaceful pace of life without the responsibilities of attending to the needs of the center.

Our new director is Alex von der Embse. He began August 10th and has already integrated himself into our community. You may have seen him at daily Mass or at the August meeting of Off the Streets, which soon will be a special help to those moving to their own home and place to live here in Lima.

Alex will be speaking at all of our weekend Masses here at St. Charles on September 12th-13th. He will help us learn more about the outreach ministry we

provide and perhaps what we can look forward to in the future. I hope that you will help me to welcome Alex to St. Charles and I encourage you to reach out to him and see where you, too, can help in our mission to the hungry at Christian Corner Community Center in south Lima!

Before concluding, I also want to take the opportunity to offer thanks to Jeremy Hollis for his ministry with our youth these past five years. What will especially be remembered is the way that Jeremy helped our parish embrace the Live Jesus Ministries — a new approach to youth ministry that focuses on small discipleship groups with adult spiritual mentors.



While Jeremy has accepted a new position as theology teacher at Lima Central Catholic, his work with our youth here at St. Charles will continue in the mentors that have been prepared and are currently working with youth this year. We send our gratitude and prayerful best wishes for Jeremy’s new undertaking at LCC.

I have assembled a search team that is seeking to renew and replenish our Discipleship and Evangelization position for our Pastoral Ministry Team. Please keep our search in your prayers. We are excited to discover what God has in store for our parish as we work to embrace the Live Jesus Ministries approach parish wide!

Fr. Kent

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2200 West Elm Street
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Family Formation Registration

Family Formation is designed to help parents respond to the Church’s call for them to be the first and foremost educators of their children. The Church’s role is to help families grow in the transforming love of God by understanding and living the Catholic Faith.

Through home lessons, games, quizzes, stories, and music, solid Catholic teaching is transmitted, and the Faith is brought to life within the family.

To register, use the QR code or link: <https://www.osvhub.com/st-charles-lima/forms/family-formation-2026-2027>.

For questions or more information, contact Fr. Kent Kaufman at kaufmank@stcharleslima.org.



Blessing of the Pets

Sunday, October 4, 2026
1:30 p.m.

Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi

In this Year of St. Francis, we especially want to invoke God’s blessing on our cherished companions!

Bring your family pets who are behaved and friendly.

(To avoid problems, please keep all dogs on-leash and cats in their crates, etc.)



**LAURIEANN
CAMPBELL**

Director of Operations

There is a lot happening around the St. Charles campus, and we are excited to share some of the progress! As you look through the photos in this issue, you will see the continued progress on our long-awaited elevator project. What began as years of planning and preparation is now becoming a reality. We are grateful to see this important project taking shape and look forward to the day when our elevator is completed and available to serve our parish community.

We are also continuing the work of improving our sidewalks. The latest phase has focused on the northwest corner of the church, providing safer and more accessible walkways for parishioners and visitors. The remaining sidewalk work may need to take place after the elevator project is completed, as we coordinate the various construction activities taking place around the church. We appreciate everyone's patience as we continue making improvements that will benefit our campus for years to come.



Rather than simply replacing the roof with asphalt shingles, we have chosen to upgrade to a standing-seam metal roof. The additional cost of the upgrade is approximately **\$426,844**, bringing the total project cost to approximately **\$1.41 million**. The insurance settlement will cover the amount associated with replacing the roof with asphalt shingles, while St. Charles will be responsible for the additional cost of the metal roofing upgrade.

Why make this investment? A standing-seam metal roof carries a

25-year warranty and is expected to provide decades of additional service beyond that period. It also offers greater

resistance to wind damage, reduced maintenance needs, and increased protection against water intrusion. While the initial investment is greater, we believe the long-term value makes this the responsible choice for our parish and school.

We see this as an opportunity to use our resources wisely and make a one-time investment that will extend

the life of the roof, reduce future maintenance and replacement costs, and better protect our school and parish property for generations to come.

November Visitation: Helping Us Complete This Project

Our November Visitation collection will have a special focus this year: Helping St. Charles meet the additional cost of upgrading our school roof from the insurance-covered asphalt shingles to the more durable standing-seam metal system.

We are grateful that the parish has the resources necessary to move forward with this project. However,



replenishing our Visitation Fund remains important as we continue to address the many capital needs of our parish and school. Our May and November Visitation collections help provide the resources necessary to care for our buildings, grounds, and future projects.

We are especially grateful for the generosity and stewardship of our parishioners. Your support allows us not only to respond when unexpected needs arise, but also to make thoughtful investments that strengthen St. Charles for the future.

Thank you for your continued patience, generosity, and commitment to our parish and school. Whether you have supported the elevator project, Visitation, or our other capital improvements, your contributions are helping us preserve and improve our beautiful parish campus and ensure that it remains accessible, safe, and welcoming for generations to come.

Together, we are investing in the future of St. Charles.

Investing in the Future of Our School

As many of you know, our school roof sustained significant damage during the March 13th windstorm. Since then, we have been working through the insurance and diocesan processes, gathering estimates and determining the best way to address the damage.

The insurance claim provides for the replacement of the damaged roof with asphalt shingles at a covered cost of approximately **\$1.07 million**. After careful consideration, however, the Pastor, Business Manager, Finance Council, and parish leadership determined that this was an important opportunity to make a long-term investment in our parish and school.

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

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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**

Parochial Vicar
Coordinator of the Haitian
Catholic Community

A New Season, the Same Mission

As summer gradually comes to an end, my heart is filled with gratitude and renewed joy. Every season in pastoral ministry brings new encounters, new lessons, and fresh opportunities to witness God's presence among His people.

Looking back on these past weeks, I am reminded that the Church is most alive when it walks alongside people, listens to their stories, welcomes strangers, and creates spaces where hope can flourish. This is the mission that continues to inspire me every day as I serve the faithful of St. Charles Borromeo Parish and our growing Haitian Catholic Pastoral Community.

Vocation: Learning to Listen to God's Voice

One of the greatest blessings of this summer has been welcoming three young men who have completed their Propedeutic Year, a year of prayer, discernment, study, and spiritual formation before entering the seminary.

The Propedeutic Year is a precious time in which young men step away from the noise of everyday life to listen more attentively to the voice of God. Rather than rushing toward the priesthood, they are invited to discern patiently whether Christ is truly calling them to this beautiful vocation.

Their generous "yes" reminds all of us that every Christian has a vocation — not only priests or religious — but every person is called to become a witness of God's love in the world. Vocations are born wherever hearts remain open to grace.

Watching these young men continue their discernment gives our parish hope for the future of the Church.

Friendship That Builds Bridges

On Tuesday, July 28th, our parish had the joy of welcoming these young men once again, together with Pastor Franck Estalus, leader of the Haitian Protestant Church of the Nazarene in Lima.

Pastor Estalus graciously accepted our invitation and generously shared his experience of faith, ministry, and pastoral accompaniment within the Haitian Protestant community.

Although we belong to different Christian traditions, we discovered once again that respect, dialogue, and sincere friendship can accomplish far more than division. When believers meet with humility, they become witnesses of Christ's prayer "that they may all be one."

After our conversations, we continued our fellowship at Roza Caribbean Restaurant, where we enjoyed authentic Haitian cuisine and introduced our guests to several traditional Caribbean dishes. Around the table, conversations became friendships and strangers became neighbors.

Sometimes the simplest moments — a shared meal, a smile, a welcoming conversation — become powerful signs of God's presence.

A Community That Refuses to Lose Hope

Our Haitian Catholic Pastoral Community

Hope Knows No Borders: A Pastor's Joyful Journey of Faith, Welcome, and Human Dignity

continues its mission despite the many challenges facing Haitian families today.

Many members of our community carry heavy burdens. Some experience uncertainty about their future. Others live with the anxiety that often accompanies immigration, family separation, or economic hardship. Many quietly endure misunderstanding or unfair treatment while continuing to work honestly, care for their families, and contribute faithfully to the communities they now call home.

Yet, despite these difficulties, our faith remains strong.

Every Sunday at 3:00 p.m., our community gathers to celebrate the Holy Eucharist in Haitian Creole. These celebrations are much more than weekly liturgies. They are moments of healing, encouragement, and renewed hope where people remember that they are never forgotten by God.

Pentecost of the Peoples: One Church, Many Languages

One of the most joyful moments awaiting our parish will take place on Sunday, **September 27, 2026, at 10:30 a.m.**, when St. Charles Borromeo Parish celebrates our many cultures at Mass, a celebration we lovingly call "Pentecost of the Peoples."

This day beautifully reflects the universal nature of the Catholic Church.

People from many nations, cultures, and languages are invited to proclaim the Scriptures, offer prayers, and sing in their native languages. Around one altar and one Eucharist, many languages become one voice of praise.

Families are encouraged to wear traditional clothing and bring a favorite dish representing their homeland for the meal and celebration that will follow the Mass.

Music, dance, hospitality, and cultural traditions remind us that diversity is never an obstacle to unity. Instead, it reveals the extraordinary creativity of God.

Preparing for the Feast of St. Charles Borromeo

As our parish family continues to grow, we also prepare with great anticipation for the Feast of St. Charles Borromeo, our patron.

This year's celebration will include a beautiful triduum designed to unite our parish in prayer and spiritual renewal.

On **Sunday, November 1, at 3:00 p.m.**, we will celebrate Holy Mass in Haitian Creole.

On **Monday, November 2, at 5:30 p.m.**, we will gather for All Souls Day and our annual Memorial Vespers in English. This is our special time commemorate and remember our deceased relatives and friends, especially those who have died in this past year as we entrust them to God's infinite mercy.

On **Tuesday, November 3, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.**, the parish will host an evening of meditation, praise, and Eucharistic Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, inviting everyone into a deeper encounter with Christ.

The celebration reaches its joyful climax on **Wednesday, November 4, at 6:00 p.m.**, with our Patronal Feast Mass.

Welcoming Bishop Pierre André Dumas

It is a tremendous honor that Bishop Pierre André Dumas, Bishop of Anse-à-Veau and Miragoâne,

Haiti, has graciously accepted our invitation to serve as Principal Celebrant for this year's feast.

Bishop Dumas is widely respected for his pastoral leadership, his unwavering faith, and his deep commitment to serving the people of Haiti, especially during times of immense hardship.

His witness became even more powerful after he suffered serious injuries during a tragic explosion that profoundly affected his life. Rather than allowing suffering to define him, he transformed that painful experience into an even stronger testimony of faith, forgiveness, perseverance, and hope.

His presence among us will not simply honor our celebration, it will encourage all who seek the strength to persevere through life's trials while remaining faithful to Christ.

Friends Coming Together in Faith

Our celebration will also be enriched by the presence of numerous groups and friends traveling from different cities and states.

Among those expected are:

- Les Cœurs Fidèles from Roslindale, Massachusetts.
- Les Amis de Saint-Marc from Florida.
- Members of the choir and parish community

of Notre Dame du Mont Carmel in Mattapan, Boston, Massachusetts.

Their presence reminds us that the Church is truly one family whose bonds extend far beyond parish or state lines.

Seeing the Face of Christ in Every Immigrant

Throughout Sacred Scripture, God repeatedly invites His people to welcome the stranger, protect the vulnerable, and remember that every human person possesses an inviolable dignity.

Today, many immigrants continue to experience fear, misunderstanding, humiliation, and uncertainty. These realities deserve our attention not because of politics, but because they concern human persons created in the image and likeness of God.

As Christians, we can uphold respect for the law while also promoting compassion, fairness, and the dignity of every individual. These principles are not contradictory. They strengthen one another.

Immigrants are not defined by their legal status or the circumstances that brought them here. They are fathers and mothers, students and workers, entrepreneurs and caregivers, neighbors and parishioners. They contribute their talents, labor, culture, resilience, and faith to the communities they serve.

The Gospel continually reminds us that authentic greatness is measured by how we treat those who are most vulnerable.

Our response should never begin with suspicion but with encounter, not with indifference but with understanding, not with fear but with hope.

Mercy never weakens justice; it gives justice its human face.

Walking Together with the Heart of a Shepherd

As your pastor, my greatest desire is simple: To remain close to God's people.

Pope Francis often reminded priests that a



CHRIS JONES
Coordinator of Outreach
and Hospitality

Opening Our Church and Sharing Our Faith History With Our Senior Neighbors

Did you know . . . St. Charles Parish ministers to 11 care facilities in the Lima community. Our outreach ministry distributes Holy Communion to the Catholic residents on the first Friday of each month and on Sundays. Our ministry team additionally celebrates Mass at one of the local facilities each week, and our priests visit residents for anointing and visitation.

In July, we invited senior residents at facilities to come and visit as we expanded our outreach to our nursing home care facilities. We discussed our beautiful stained glass, which was fashioned by a local artist and depicts creation and our church history.



Several of our local nursing homes and extended care facilities brought by shuttle any resident who was interested in visiting with us. Upon arrival, they were treated to a guided tour, history of our church, and sharing of our faith. We also treated them to homemade baked goods prepared by some of our talented baker parishioners.

Honoring the Wisdom of Years: Ministering to Our Seniors

As the heart of our community, the church is called to be a sanctuary for all generations. In a fast-paced world that often prioritizes youth and productivity, ministering to our seniors is not just a service project — it is a vital spiritual discipline and a reflection of God's love. Opening our doors and our hearts to the senior members of our community enriches the entire faith community, weaving their lifetime of wisdom into the fabric of our daily worship.

EMHC Nursing Home

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. We have training available for anyone interested in this ministry.

For more information and to learn what openings we have, please contact the parish office at 419-228-7635 or email Chris Jones at jonesc@stcharleslima.org.

Creating an Inclusive and Welcoming Church

Opening our church to the seniors goes beyond installing ramps and accessible seating. It requires a culture of intentional hospitality.

- **Active Engagement:** True ministry means moving from passive inclusion to active engagement.
- **Targeted Outreach:** For those who can no longer attend in person due to health or mobility constraints, bringing the church to them — through homebound Eucharistic ministry, phone calls, and video streaming — ensures they remain connected to the body of Christ.

“Stand up in the presence of the aged, show respect for the elderly and revere your God. I am the Lord.” – Leviticus 19:32

This commandment places the reverence of our seniors directly alongside the reverence of God Himself, highlighting it as a core expression of holiness.

“Gray hair is a crown of splendor; it is attained in the way of righteousness.” – Proverbs 16:31

Scripture reframes aging as a beautiful achievement; a visual symbol of a life lived in pursuit of wisdom and righteousness.

“Even to your old age and gray hairs I am he, I am he who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you.” – Isaiah 46:4

This powerful reminder assures us that God's commitment to His people never expires. As a church, we

are called to be the hands and feet that help carry, sustain, and honor them just as God promises.

A Call to Action

Let us look at the seniors in our congregations not as a generation of the past, but as a vital treasure of the present. By intentionally opening our church doors, adapting our ministries, and taking the time to listen, we honor God's command to revere the aged. In doing so, we ensure that our spiritual home remains a place where every season of life is celebrated, respected, and loved.

To serve the seniors is to reverence the wisdom and sacrifice of those who paved the way before us. When we weave this reverence into our broader community outreach, we proclaim the living truth of our Catholic faith: Every generation matters, every person is valued, and God's love is best revealed through our loving service to one another.



If you are interested in participating in this wonderful ministry to our community, please contact the parish office at 419-228-7635 or email me at jonesc@stcharleslima.org

NEW PARISHIONERS

Brittney Ramirez
Justin Hawk
Brent & Nicole Keller
Theodore & Cassie Jorgenson

NEWLY BAPTIZED

Elijah Michael Bennett
Belle Marie Kottenbrock
Carl Lenny Liam Thevenin

IN MEMORIAM

Rosalie David
Linda “Suzie” Schirmer
Eleuthorio “Porro” Olivo
Elizabeth Meyer
Judith Leffler
James Ronald “Ron” Huber

Registration Open for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Registration for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is now open! Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) is designed for those youngest members of our parish not yet enrolled in kindergarten, around the three- to five-year age bracket. It is open to children who have turned three by August 1, 2026. CGS will meet weekly from September 11, 2026 to May 21, 2027. There are two different meeting times to choose from: Friday mornings 9:00-10:30 a.m. or Friday afternoons from 12:00-1:30 p.m.

For more information and to register, go to stcharleslima.org/youth/catechesis-of-the-good-shepherd/ or scan the QR code.

Our catechist, Cristine Shaw, is happy to answer any questions you may have! You can reach out to her at shawc@stcharleslima.org.



A New Chapter

By Jeremy Hollis

One of the greatest blessings of the Christian life is discovering that God is always calling us closer to Himself. Sometimes that call leads us to new places, new responsibilities, or new seasons of life. Looking back, I can see that God has been gently leading my family for many years, often one step at a time.

Our journey to the Catholic Church began with a decision that had nothing to do with Stephanie and me — it was all about Miya. When it was time for Miya to enter kindergarten, we were trying to decide which school we would send her to. We ultimately chose St. Charles. At the time, we saw it as an important educational decision. Looking back, I realize it was much more than that. It was the first step in God's plan for our family.

Stephanie and I realized that Miya was going to be getting a Catholic education, so we decided we should probably learn more about the Catholic faith. We decided to meet with Father Kent about the process to join the Catholic Church.

That conversation marked the beginning of a journey that changed our lives.

Over the next couple of years, Stephanie and I fell in love with the Catholic faith. Father Kent was there throughout the entire process with encouragement and answers. In March of 2018, Stephanie and I entered the Church at Easter Vigil, which has become one of the greatest blessings of our lives.

At the time, I thought this was going to be as far as God was going to take us. Looking back, I realize these were just the first steps. God continued to call us deeper into the life of the Church. He called me to begin my Master's in Theology, then into Youth Ministry, surrounded us with a parish family that has become our home, and opened countless opportunities to witness His grace at work through the lives of our youth, mentors, and volunteers.

Recently, the Lord placed another opportunity before me. Just before my family and I left for vacation in June, I learned that a Theology teaching position had opened at LCC. At first, I wasn't even sure I should apply. Throughout our vacation, I spent a great deal of time in prayer, asking the Lord for wisdom and clarity.

Shortly after getting home, I felt called to at least submit my application, but I wasn't certain what I would do if the position was offered. So I continued to pray, asking God to close the door if it wasn't His will, and to give me the courage to walk through it if it was.

When the position was offered, I entered another period of discernment. Through prayer and conversations with my family, I came to understand that God was asking me to serve His Church in a new way.

As I reflect on this new chapter, my heart is filled with gratitude. I owe a special debt of thanks to Father Kent. He has been far more than my pastor or my supervisor. He has walked with my family from the very beginning of our Catholic journey, believed in me before I believed I was capable of ministry, and supported me as I pursued my master's degree in theology — which I may not have completed without his encouragement. I will always be grateful for his guidance, friendship, and the confidence he placed in me.

I am equally grateful to our incredible mentors, volunteers, parents, and parishioners. Ministry has never been something I have done alone. Every Damascus retreat, every small group, every Confirmation, every conversation, and every seed planted has been possible because so many faithful people have generously shared their time, talents, and prayers.

Although my role is changing, my mission remains the same: To help others know, love, and follow Jesus Christ. Teaching theology at LCC is simply another way of living out that mission.

Stephanie, Miya, and I are not leaving the St. Charles parish family. St. Charles is our home. While my office is moving down the street, we will still be sitting in the front pew of the Seton section each Sunday and continuing to volunteer our time.

Please keep our family in your prayers as we begin this new chapter. Know that you will remain in ours. It is amazing to see how one decision about where to send our daughter to kindergarten became the beginning of a journey that transformed our lives.

A Note of Thanks

By Alex Wahl

Dear St. Charles family,

I was honored and very blessed to be able to spend the summer with all of you. I would like to thank Fr. Kent, Fr. Bertholy, and all of you for such a kind and warm welcome to Lima! I am very impressed with all of you. You are all so friendly, kind, and nice to be around. I really had a great time meeting and spending time with everyone.

As I continue in formation, I would like to thank you for your ongoing prayers.

I would like to provide my contact information:
Email: awahl@seminary.athenaeum.edu.

Address: 6616 Beechmont Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45230

Please know of my prayers for you. May God Bless you!

(P.S. Please go to the parish office and fill out a pink sheet!)



Thank You, Kenny Koester

"Well done, good and faithful servant." — Matthew 25:21

Ken Koester's final weekend as a sacristan for St. Charles was July 26th. Kenny's dedicated service to our parish began in the early 1970's, before he even graduated from high school!

Like the parable of the talents, Kenny has offered the treasures of his stewardship to our parish, school, and the wider Church in a myriad of ways these last five decades. In December 2020, he retired from his longtime position as Director of Facilities at our parish and school, but continued serving as a sacristan these past several years.

I know that I speak for our parishioners from these past several decades in offering our thanks for Kenny's generous service, ingenious expertise, and genuine loyalty to the needs of our parish and school over all these years.

Please join me in expressing our thanks to Kenny as he enjoys full retirement! As a bishop recently explained to a brother bishop at his retirement: Now you can be occupied in ways you like *whenever* you please, and you no longer need to be preoccupied with any matters *whatsoever*!



New CCCC Director



**ALEX
VON DER EMBSE**
Director, Christian Corner
Community Center

Greetings!

My name is Alex von der Embse and I am the new Director of the Christian Corner Community Center. I am excited to begin my new role through St. Charles Borromeo Parish, and am looking forward to serving the south Lima community by providing hot meals, food boxes, and household items to the less fortunate. I hope to increase the operations and reach of the center, so please reach out to me for donation or volunteer opportunities! You can call the CCCC at 419-222-4425 or reach out to my email at vonderembsea@stcharleslima.org.

I was born and raised in Kalida, Ohio, and am returning to northwest Ohio after having lived in Columbus for the past ten years. I originally moved to Columbus to attend The Ohio State University, and ended

up staying to work and continue my education. I most recently worked for the Rapid Rehousing program at the YMCA of Central Ohio, where I provided case management services and rental assistance to homeless clients in order for them to obtain stable housing. I am now happy to be back home and working for St. Charles!



Mercy Health Volunteers Needed

Mercy Health St. Rita's Medical Center is seeking volunteers from local parishes to help serve Catholic patients through our Spiritual Health Ministry. We are especially in need of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to hospitalized Catholic patients, particularly on Saturdays and Sundays. Training is provided.

We are also recruiting volunteers for our Spiritual Care Visitors program for those called to provide a ministry of presence through listening, compassion, conversation, and support for patients who may be lonely or in need of pastoral care. Training is provided for this ministry also.

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Matt Etzkorn by email at meetzkorn@mercy.com or call 419-226-9310.

“A Cup of Christmas Tea” in Memory of Grace Stechshulte!

Ladies, mark your calendar! St. Charles will be having their Christmas Tea on Thursday evening, December 10, 2026. We are looking for interested persons who would like to be a hostess or help with this event by decorating or preparing the food. For more information or to help with this event, please contact Mary Shak at mshak@woh.rr.com or call the parish office at 419-228-7635.



Join Our Greeter Ministry!

Do you have a warm smile and a heart for making people feel welcome? Our Greeter Ministry is looking for more volunteers to help greet churchgoers at the entrances before each service. Greeters play a simple but powerful role: Offering a friendly hello, opening a door, and helping create the sense of belonging that makes our church feel like home. If you can arrive a few minutes early and enjoy connecting with others, we would love to have you join! This is a great opportunity for individuals, couples, and families to serve together. Interested in joining or learning more? Please contact Angie Reif at reifa4@yahoo.com or 567-712-8314 or stop by the church office.

FR. BERTHOLY – from page 3

shepherd should carry “the smell of the sheep.” Those words continue to inspire my ministry every day. They call me to walk with families in their joys and sorrows, to accompany young people as they discern their future, to comfort those who mourn, to welcome newcomers, and to encourage all who seek Christ.

Every handshake, every home visit, every shared meal, every conversation after Mass becomes an opportunity to reveal God’s tenderness.

Ministry is not simply about leading people. It is about loving them enough to walk beside them.

Gratitude, Joy, and Hope

As another summer comes to a close, I offer my heartfelt gratitude to every parishioner, volunteer, family, benefactor, and friend who continues to support our mission.

Thank you to those who pray quietly, serve generously, encourage faithfully, and welcome others with open hearts. Your kindness makes our parish a living reflection of the Gospel.

Together, let us continue building a community where every child is cherished, every family is valued, every culture is celebrated, every immigrant is treated with dignity, and every person knows they have a place in God’s family.

May the Lord bless each of you abundantly. May He strengthen our faith, deepen our compassion, and help us become joyful witnesses of His love.

Together, let us continue walking forward — with hope in our hearts, charity in our hands, and Christ at the center of all we do.

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.

Come as you are.

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

“This letter gives us front row access to what they believed about the Lord who they saw rise from the dead.”

Mallory Smyth
Content Creator, Walking with Purpose

Walking with Purpose invites all women to participate in *Rooted and Radiant*, a Bible study where we’ll learn the book of Colossians verse by verse. This study will help “close the gap between what we know about God and how we see the world.”

Join us for coffee, a short video, and meaningful conversation as we become the women that our world so desperately needs.

Saturday, September 5, 9:00 a.m.
St. Charles Church Basement

For more information, contact:
Jeanna Stallkamp 419-234-0963

Our mission is to help every Catholic woman and girl in America encounter Jesus Christ through our Bible studies.

 walking with purpose

www.walkingwithpurpose.com



CONNECTING GIRLS TO CHRIST

BLAZE is a faith-based program for tween and teen girls countering society’s lies with the truth of Scripture. Through 20 engaging weekly lessons, girls discover their identity in Christ as God’s beloved daughters. Each session includes a fun activity, a Bible-based truth, and a meaningful takeaway gift — helping girls grow in confidence, faith, and self-worth.



Starting Tuesday, September 22nd, the program will be in the church basement in the Life Teen Room from 2:50-4:15pm.

Registrations are due by September 8th in order to get the supplies on time. Please register through the QR code.



Off the Streets Volunteers Needed

Looking for a meaningful way to serve? Join Off the Streets Lima as we help our neighbors transition into stable housing through practical assistance and Christian compassion.

We are seeking volunteers for a variety of roles, including:

Neighbor Intake and Guardian Ministry: These volunteers meet with neighbors, conduct home visits, assess needs, and accompany individuals and families as they transition into stable housing. Positions – Referral Approval Lead and Guardians.

Furniture and Household Coordination: Help organize furniture, household items, scheduling, logistics, and prep for delivery day. Positions – Volunteer Coordinator, Furniture Manager, and Household Goods Manager.

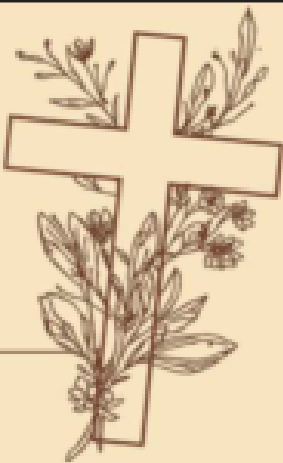
Delivery Day Ministry: Assist with furniture pickup, transportation, setup, and transforming an empty residence into a welcoming home. Positions – Delivery Captain, Spiritual Director, and Transport/Setup Volunteer.

Leadership, Outreach, and Resource Development: Serve in fundraising, communications, social media, board leadership, and other behind-the-scenes ministries. Positions – Officers and Board Members, Recorder, Financial Director, and Social Media Director.

Contact information: otslimaoh@gmail.com.

Restore & Reprieve
Women's Mini Retreat

How to Center Yourself
and Find Inner Peace



Friday, Sept. 25th, 2026:
5:45pm - 8:30pm

Saturday, Sept. 26th:
9:00am - 7:30pm



For more info, visit: www.stcharleslima.org/explore

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