

Hope



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Holy Trinity

419-678-4802
120 E. Main St.
P.O. Box 107
Coldwater, OH 45828

Mon - Thurs:
8:30 am - 12:30 pm & 1 pm - 5 pm
Fri: 8:30 am - 1 pm

Family Offices



Mary Help of Christians

419-375-4153
403 Sharpsburg Road
Fort Recovery, Ohio 45846

Mon: 9 am - 3 pm
Tues - Thurs: 8 am - 5 pm
Fri: 9 am - 1 pm



St. Anthony



St. Joseph



St. Mary



St. Paul



St. Peter



Website:
www.holycrossfop.org



Facebook:
www.facebook.com/holycrossfop

Sunday, December 1, 2024
First Sunday of Advent



Pastoral Staff

Rev. Alexander Witt, Pastor: fr.witt.aoc@gmail.com

Rev. Ethan Moore, Parochial Vicar: frethan.holycrossfop@gmail.com

Rev. Joseph Pasala, Parochial Vicar: pasalajoseph7@gmail.com

Rev. Barry Stechschulte, Parochial Vicar: fatherbarry10964@gmail.com

Deacon Daniel Kahlig: dkahlig.holycrossfop@gmail.com

Liturgy Schedule

Monday, December 2 - Advent Weekday

7:15 am @ Holy Trinity (FBS) – John Seibert † (L-S)

6:45 pm @ St. Peter (FAW) – Cy Brunswick †

Tuesday, December 3 - Saint Francis Xavier, Priest; Memorial

7:15 am @ St. Mary (FEM) – Gary Siefring †

6:45 pm @ St. Joseph (FJP) – Delilah Grace Wenning †

Wednesday, December 4 - Saint John Damascene, Priest, Doctor of the Church; opt. mem.

7:15 am @ MHC (FEM) – L/D Gerald & Joan Huber Family † (L-S)

12:00 pm @ Holy Trinity (FJP) – L/D Urban Winner Family † (L-S)

Thursday, December 5 - Advent Weekday

7:15 am @ St. Paul (FEM) – Doris Muhlenkamp †

6:45 pm @ St. Anthony (FJP) – Sarah Giere †

Friday, December 6 - Saint Nicholas, Bishop; opt. mem.

7:15 am @ Holy Trinity (FEM) – Barb Bettinger † (L-S)

12:00 pm @ MHC (FJP) – L/D Gene & Pat Siefring Family † (L-S)

Saturday, December 7 - Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; Memorial

9:00 am @ St. Joseph (FAW) – Travis Fullenkamp †

4:00 pm @ St. Anthony (FAW) – Clarence Langenkamp †

4:30 pm @ MHC (FJP) – L/D Ed & Mary Agnes Grube Family † (L-S)

4:30 pm @ Holy Trinity (FBS) – Michael Koester † (L-S)

Sunday, December 8 - 2nd Sunday of Advent

7:00 am @ St. Joseph (FJP) – L/D William & Virginia Pottkotter Family †

8:00 am @ Holy Trinity (FAW) – L/D William & Mary Wellman † (L-S)

9:00 am @ MHC (FEM) – Members of the Holy Cross Family (L-S)

10:00 am @ Holy Trinity (FBS) – Maddux Collins †

11:00 am @ St. Peter (FJP) – L/D Ed & Mary Siegrist Family †

11:00 am @ St. Paul (FEM) – L/D Homan & Schute Family †

12:00 pm @ St. Mary (FAW) – Roman & Clara Knapke †

6:00 pm @ Holy Trinity (FBS) – Kevin & Kathy Koch Wedding Anniv.

Tentatively Scheduled Celebrants listed above:

Fr. Alexander Witt (FAW); Fr. Ethan Moore (FEM);

Fr. Joseph Pasala (FJP); Fr. Barry Stechschulte (FBS)

MASSES ONLINE — Watch Masses at Holy Trinity & Mary Help of Christians online, indicated above by (L-S). Masses are also archived and viewable on a later day and can be accessed on the website.

Mass Cancellations

Currently, we have the means to use One Call Now, our Webpage, and Facebook for Mass Cancellations. If you are not signed up for One Call Now and would like to be, you must request to be added by either calling the Fort Recovery or Coldwater Office.

Saturday Mass Schedule

SA - 4:00 pm

HT - 4:30 pm

MHC - 4:30 pm

Saturday Confession Schedule

SA - 3:15 - 3:45 pm

HT - 3:15 - 3:45 pm

MHC - 3:45 - end

Sunday Mass Schedule

SJ - 7:00 am

HT - 8:00 am

MHC - 9:00 am

HT - 10:00 am

SPL - 11:00 am

SPT - 11:00 am

SM - Noon

HT - 6:00 pm

Sunday Confession Schedule

SJ - No Confessions

HT - 7:25am - end

MHC - 8:25am - end

HT - 9:25am - end

SPL - 10:25 - 10:45 am

SPT - 10:25 - 10:45 am

SM - 11:25 - 11:45 am

HT - 5:15 - 5:45 pm

Weekday Mass Schedule

HT - Mon., 7:15 am

SPT - Mon., 6:45 pm

SM - Tues., 7:15 am

SJ - Tues., 6:45 pm

MHC - Wed., 7:15 am

HT - Wed., Noon

SPL - Thurs., 7:15 am

SA - Thurs., 6:45 pm

HT - Fri., 7:15 am

MHC - Fri., Noon

SJ - Sat., 9:00 am

Weekday Confession Schedule

HT - After Mass

SPT - 5:45 - 6:30 pm

SM - After Mass

SJ - 5:45 - 6:30 pm

MHC - After Mass

HT - 11:30am - end

SPL - After Mass

SA - 5:45 - 6:30 pm

HT - After Mass

MHC - 11:30am - end

SJ - After Mass

Reference for Abbreviations

SA = St. Anthony HT = Holy Trinity

SJ = St. Joseph SM = St. Mary

SPL = St. Paul SPT = St. Peter

MHC = Mary Help of Christians

Adoration Schedules

St. Joseph - Tuesdays

8:30 am – 6:30 pm

St. Joseph - Thursdays

8:30 am – 8:00 pm

St. Joseph - First Fridays of the Month

8:30 pm Friday - 8:30 am Saturday

Contact Info.: Adoration.nw1@gmail.com

NOTICE: Bulletin submissions must be received 10 days prior to the Sunday publication date. Please submit info to bulletin.holycrossfop@gmail.com.

Ministry Schedule

– Mary Help of Christians –

Wednesday, December 4, 7:15 am

Servers: Xavier Bruns

Lector: Elly Boeckman

Friday, December 6, 12:00 pm

Servers: Joseph Bruns

Lector: Kathy Portz

Saturday, December 7, 4:30 pm

Servers: Rachel Fortkamp, Anthony Roessner, John Bihn

Lector: Missy Hart

Ushers: Floyd Bergman, Don Lennartz, Bobby Stump, LaVern Grube

EMHC: Mark Roessner, Missy Hart

Sacristan: Mark Roessner

Sunday, December 8, 9:00 am

Servers: Jenna Dues, Kevin Dues, Jackson Barga, Vance Tobe

Lector: Chris Bihn

Ushers: Joe Dues, Jr., Don Willman, Mike Laux, Kevin Fortkamp

EMHC: Deacon Dan Kahlig, Gail Dues

Sacristan: Sharon Metzger

– St. Joseph –

Tuesday, December 3, 6:45 pm

Servers: Coby & Braxton Schmitz

Lector: Lisa Roessner

Sacristan: Matt Hess

Saturday, December 7, 9:00 am

Servers: Theresa Hipple

Lector: Jane Hipple

Sunday, December 8, 7:00 am

Servers: Blaise Bergman, Leo Grigsby, Sam Grigsby, Tyler Dues

Lector: Paige Schulze

Ushers: Ed Dues, Ken Lamm

EMHC: Paige Schulze

Sacristan: Norma Pottkotter

– St. Paul –

Thursday, December 5, 7:15 am

Servers: Maddie Weigel

Sunday, December 8, 11:00 am

Servers: Brady Evers, Evan Evers, Hope Evers, Ty Evers

Lector: Jackie Evers

Ushers: John Meiring, Matthew Reinhard

EMHC: Carl Link, Jackie Evers

Rosary: Jerry & Bec Bihn

– St. Peter –

Monday, December 2, 6:45 pm

Servers: Theo Schmitz

Lector: Nathan Fortkamp

Sunday, December 8, 11:00 am

Servers: Isaac Roessner, Alex Roessner, Charlie Roessner, Wade Gaerke, Theo Schmitz, Kinley Schoenlein

Lector: Jack Gareke

Ushers: Jake Gaerke, Joe Will

EMHC: Jack Gaerke

Sacristan: Donna Brunswick

– Holy Trinity –

Monday, December 2, 7:15 am

Servers: Jack Bettinger, Blake Wenning

Wednesday, December 4, 12:00 pm

Servers: Greg Laux

Friday, December 6, 7:15 am

Servers: Abby Alig, Audrey Alig, A.J. Alig

Saturday, December 7, 4:30 pm

Servers: Claire Bertke, Lucas Broering, Elisabeth Ebbing, Emma Siefiring, David Dues

Lector: Gary Lefeld

EMHC: Dave Bertke, Denny Riethman, Michelle Wilker

Sunday, December 8, 8:00 am

Servers: Olivia Broering, Dillan Wenning, Josh Homan

Lector: Landon Bruggeman

EMHC: Chuck Alig, Chuck Wenning

Sunday, December 8, 10:00 am

Servers: Dana Knapke, Kelly May, Emmit May, Myra Knapke

Lector: Rene Klosterman

EMHC: Cindy Geise, Lynn Giere, Luke Klosterman

Sunday, December 8, 6:00 pm

Servers: Isabelle Schwieterman, Zachary Schwieterman

Lector: Dee Fullenkamp

EMHC: Dan Forsthoefel, Sarah Klosterman

– St. Anthony –

Thursday, December 5, 6:45 pm

Servers: Wesley Geier, Sam Grigsby, Leo Grigsby

Lector: Janet Brockman

Sacristan: Janet Brockman

Saturday, December 7, 4:00 pm

Servers: Mason Alig, Zach Homan, Lilly Alig, Jack Link

Lector: Cindy Muhlenkamp

Ushers: Corey Sudhoff

EMHC: Tracy Muhlenkamp

Sacristan: Cindy Muhlenkamp

Rosary: Teri Minnich

– St. Mary –

Tuesday, December 3, 7:15 am

Servers: Sam Grigsby, Leo Grigsby

Lector: Stephanie Wendel

Sunday, December 8, 12:00 pm

Servers: Grace Siefiring, Austin Uhlenhake, William Moorman, Carson Uhlenhake

Lector: Martin Schoenherr

Ushers: Ben Uhlenhake, Kevin Welling

EMHC: Amanda Schoenherr



Message from the Priests

Lead On, Lead On Kindly Light

As we launch 🚀 into a new liturgical year and thus begin this advent season, it is pregnant with potential. Literally, we can imagine Mother Mary at this point, 8 months with Jesus in her womb and now only 24 days away from seeing the very face of God. Also for us, it gives us a whole new fresh beginning for our own life with the Lord.

One theme among many that can be struck for the next 4 weeks is one of a movement from darkness to light 🕯️. We love our Advent wreaths and the lighting of the 4 candles from week to week 🟣 🟣 ❤️ 🟣.

“In the beginning was the Word, And the Word was with God, And the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through Him, And without Him nothing came to be. What came to be through Him was LIFE, And this life was the LIGHT of the human race; The LIGHT shines in the darkness, And the darkness has not overcome it” John 1:1-5

That Word 📖, that Light 💡, is JESUS 🙏.

Jesus has new growth for you and for me this Advent. May this poem/song open our hearts and minds to Jesus who is the light leading us to the home of his heart for us.

“Lead, kindly Light, amidst the grey and gloom,
The night is long and I am far from home.
Here in the dark I do not ask to see,
The path ahead—one step enough for me
Lead on, lead on, kindly light.

I was not ever willing to be led,
I could have stayed, but I ran instead.
In spite of fear, I followed my pride.
My eyes could see but my heart was blind.
Lead on, lead on, kindly light.

And in the night when I was afraid,
Your feet beside, my own on the way
Each stumbling step where other men have trod.
Shortens the road leading home to my God.

Lead on, Lead on,
My God, My God
Lead on, Lead on, kindly Light.”

Audrey Assad song based from J. H. Newman poem



Holy Cross Family of Parishes & Sacraments

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS — Aging religious need your help. “Your support acknowledges that we continue the mission of Christ even in our retirement,” says Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart Sister Celeste Burgos, 80. Donations provide for the care, medicine, and daily needs of over 24,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who have dedicated their lives to service. Please give to the Retirement Fund for Religious.

WOMEN'S SOCIAL GROUP — We meet on the first & third Thurs. of every month, 7:30 - 9 pm in Holy Trinity Grotto's St. Isidore room. Our group is led by Fr. Ethan Moore. Currently we are reading the book “Jesus I Trust in You”. The next meeting is on Thurs., Dec. 5, 2024.

FAMILY COOKBOOKS — Stop by either the Coldwater or Fort Recovery Family Office to pick up a Holy Cross Family cookbook for \$10. All proceeds will be going towards the Welcome Baskets for our New Parishioners.

MASS INTENTIONS REMINDER — Currently Mass Intentions are open for scheduling through Dec. 2025.

REPARATION VIGILS — Vigils are held every Fri./Sat. through Dec. 6/7, 2024, at St. Joseph. The vigils run the same as the monthly first Fri./Sat. vigils that are held at St. Joseph.

OFFICES CLOSED — Both Family Parish Offices will be closed on Mon., Dec. 9th in observance of the Immaculate Conception Holy Day.

HOLY DAY OBSERVANCE — Since the Feast of the Immaculate Conception falls on a Sunday this year, the observance is transferred to Mon, Dec. 9. This is a Holy Day of Obligation with Masses celebrated only on the 9th within our Family of Parishes. There will be no Vigil Masses.

DAYS OF MERCY — Confessions will be available from 8 am - 8 pm on Thurs., Dec. 5th at Holy Trinity and Thurs., Dec. 12th at Mary Help of Christians.

NEW YEARS EVE ADORATION UPDATE — Adoration will still be held at St. Joseph on Tues., Dec. 31st, 2024, as per the usual schedule. Please take time on New Years Eve to come Adore our Lord.

MEN'S GROUP ANNOUNCEMENT — Meetings are every first and third Fri. of every month, 4:30 am in the Grotto. Men of all ages are welcome to join. There is no commitment to come every meeting. Contact David Bettinger @ 419-852-2582 with any questions. The next meeting is on Fri., Dec. 6, 2024.

GUATEMALA MISSION TICKETS — The Guatemala mission committee is selling raffle tickets for year 2025 to assist the people of La Labor with their educational and health care needs. Each ticket is \$20.00. The weekly winners are paid \$100 based on the Wednesday night Ohio Lottery drawing and there is an annual winner of \$1000, \$300 & \$200. If you would like to purchase tickets please put money in the collection with your name, address and phone number and we will get tickets back to you. Thank you for aiding the people of La Labor.

CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT — Thank you for your generous support. The money raised supports those who live in poverty in the United States. If you missed the collection visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections and click “How to Give” under “Resources.” #iGiveCatholicTogether also accepts funds for the collection at <http://usccb.igivecatholictogether.org/>.

In Loving Memory...



Liam Jerome Pottkotter
Child of Bryan & Sherri Pottkotter
November 13, 2024 - November 13, 2024
(St. Joseph)

*I am the resurrection and the life,
says the Lord whoever believes
in me will never die.*
- John 11:26

VIGIL OF TWO HEARTS Schedule of Events @ St. Joseph

Friday, December 6

7 pm: Scriptural Rosary
7 - 8 pm: Confessions
8 pm: Holy Mass followed by Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament
8:30 pm - 12 midnight: Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament throughout the night with private and group prayer.

Saturday, December 7

12 - 5:40 am: Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament
4:30 am: Morning Prayer (Lauds)
4:45 am: Scriptural Rosary
5:45 am: Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament
6:15 am: Holy Mass
6:45 am: Confessions



Addresses are Provided for Parishioners
wanting to send Christmas Cards to
Fr. Mike & Fr. Hoying:

Fr Michael Kapolka Fr. Ethan Hoying
1009 Sitting Bull Court 309 Perry St.
Box Elder, SD 57719 Wapakoneta, OH 45895

Wedding Banns

II Andrew Schoen & Joetta Wagner

And the two shall become one.



Newly Baptized

Holy Trinity
Eleanor Marie Silver
Child of Kyle & Stephanie

St. Joseph
Hallie Dawn Bihn
Child of Luke & Kaylee

Vincent Paul Hartings
Child of Justin & Ann

Josie Joan Vagedes
Child of Mitchel & Nicole



HOLY CROSS FAMILY OF PARISHES PRESENTS:

THE VIGIL PROJECT

WAY OF THE STAR

A one-night Advent mission experience of Scripture, music, art, and Eucharistic encounter



TUESDAY DECEMBER 10, 2024 // 7:00 PM

MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CATHOLIC CHURCH
403 SHARPSBURG RD., FORT RECOVERY, OH 45846

QUESTIONS? CONTACT TRACY
MUHLENKAMP: (419) 852-9918

THEVIGILPROJECT.COM 

(A Personal Gift to Jesus)...
Candlelit Adoration w/ Christmas Lights

December 23, 2024

Holy Trinity: 7:45 - 9:00 am

St. Joseph: 5:15 - 7:30 pm

St. Peter: 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Mary Help of Christians, St. Anthony,
St. Mary, & St. Paul: 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Note: The regular scheduled Adoration at
St. Joseph is canceled for Tues., Dec. 24th.



Immaculate Conception
(Holy Day of Obligation observed on Mon. Dec. 9 this Year.)

Monday, December 9

(Mass Times)

Holy Trinity: 6:15 am

MHC: 7:00 am

Holy Trinity: Noon

MHC: Noon

Holy Trinity: 5:30 pm

MHC: 5:30 pm

Holy Trinity: 7:30 pm

MHC: 7:30 pm

Note: There are NO Vigil Masses
on Dec. 8th for this Holy Day.



Christmas & Christmas Eve

December 24 Mass Times

4:30 pm - Holy Trinity

4:30 pm - MHC

11:00 pm - St. Mary

December 25 Mass Times

Midnight - MHC

Midnight - Holy Trinity

8:00 am - St. Peter

8:00 am - Holy Trinity

9:00 am - MHC

9:00 am - St. Anthony

10:00 am - Holy Trinity

10:00 am - St. Joseph

11:00 am - St. Paul

Poinsettia Donation

"In Memory of a Loved One"

A poinsettia may be donated in memory of a loved one at your parish by filling out this form. Please enclose your donation in an envelope marked "Poinsettia" and drop it in a collection basket at any of our parishes or at either Holy Cross Family Office. Each poinsettia costs the parishes \$25 - \$35. A donation amount to cover the cost of a poinsettia is recommended, but any donation amount will be accepted.

Your name: _____

Parish: _____

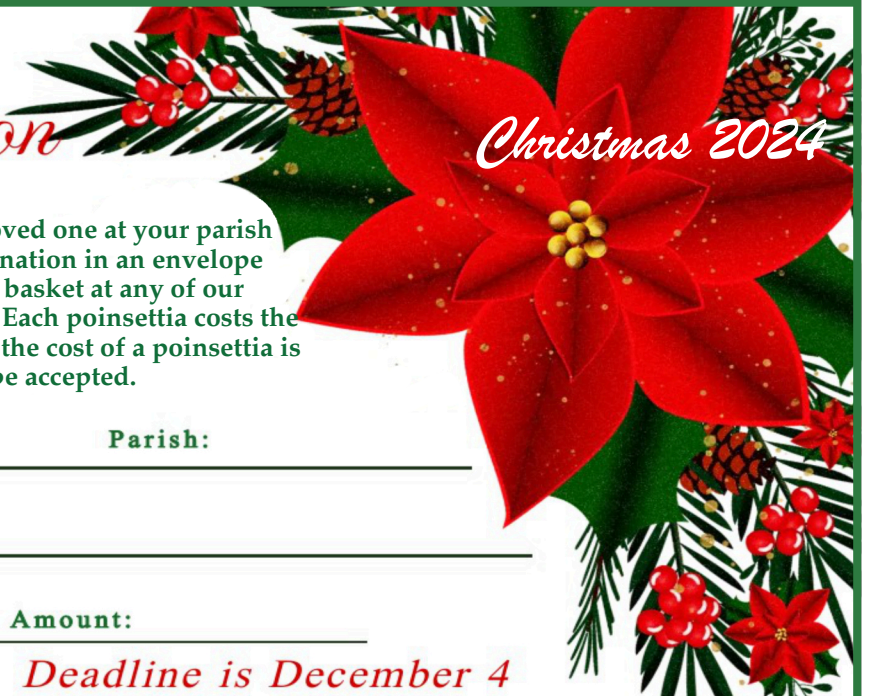
Loved One's Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Amount: _____

Deadline is December 4

Christmas 2024





Holy Trinity

ADORERS NEEDED

— Enjoy a chance to spend time with the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament at Holy Trinity

on Wednesday, December 18th from 6:00 - 7:30 pm OR 7:30 - 9:00 pm. If interested in filling one of these time slots, please contact Sarah at sklosterman.holycrossfop@gmail.com or 419-678-3328.

ANGEL TREE — Reminder: gifts/gift cards for the Angel Tree are due back by this Sunday, December 1st. Questions please contact Lisa at (419) 852-4481. Thank you!!

LOST & FOUND CLEAN OUT — The lost & found cupboards in the back of church (located in the choir loft stairwell) will be cleaned out after Dec. 1st, 2024. Please retrieve any items that you may have lost before this date. All remaining items will be used in our religion classrooms, or they will be donated. *Thank You!*

ROSARY LEADERS NEEDED — Please contact the Coldwater Office if you would be willing to volunteer as a Rosary Leader before any of the weekend Masses. Currently we are in need of leaders for the Saturday 4:30 pm, Sunday 10 am, or Sunday 6 pm Masses.

ADVENT CANDLES — Advent candles are available in the Server's Sacristy for \$5.



St. Anthony

ADORERS NEEDED

— Enjoy a chance to spend time with the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament at St. Anthony

on Wednesday, December 18th from 6:30 - 8:00 pm. If interested in filling this time slot, please contact Sarah at sklosterman.holycrossfop@gmail.com or 419-678-3328.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED — The St. Anthony Parish is seeking 1 volunteer for the Finance Committee and 2 volunteers for the Buildings and Ground Committee. There are slips at the end of each pew and can be dropped in lock box at back of church or during the week. If no volunteers, we will then hold an election starting the week of December 15th. Please prayerfully consider, and if you have any questions or would like to volunteer you can reach out to Chuck Post at 260-706-1981.

THURSDAY ADORATION — Please join us for our Eucharistic Adoration which is held every Thursday before the evening Mass at St. Anthony beginning at 5:45 pm.

ST. ANTHONY LADIES CHRISTMAS PARTY — Mon., Dec. 2, 2024, at Pub 49. It starts at 6 pm, dinner at 6:30. Meal includes 2 piece Chicken, Baked Potato, Green Beans, Tossed Salad, and Dessert. Price \$10.00.

MEN'S SODALITY MEETING — There will be a meeting of the St. Anthony Men's Sodality on Mon. Dec. 2nd at 7:30 pm in the parish hall. All men of the parish are welcome. We hope to see you there!

CHRISTMAS AT ST. CHARLES — Follow the Star 2024. Come enjoy a special family event with many activities and offerings at St. Charles seminary on December 7th & 8th. St. Anthony is participating in decorating one of the trees this year! Be sure to find your child's ornament that they decorated and vote for our tree! All donations from our tree will be used for Vacation Bible school next spring at St. Anthony. For more information, visit "Follow the Star: Christmas at Saint Charles" on Facebook.



St. Mary

ADORERS NEEDED

— Enjoy a chance to spend time with the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament at St. Mary on

Wednesday, December 18th from 6:30 - 7:15 pm. If interested in filling this time slot, please contact Sarah at sklosterman.holycrossfop@gmail.com or 419-678-3328.

PATRIOTIC ROSARY — Please join us for the patriotic rosary every Tuesday at 7:30 pm at St. Mary Church.

LADIES SODALITY CHRISTMAS PARTY — The Party will be on Mon., Dec. 9 with cocktails at 6:30 and dinner at 7 pm. A sign-up sheet will be in church from Nov. 1 through Dec. 1 for reservations. If you need a ride to the party, please call Jane Homan at 419-305-1522. Come and enjoy a night out!

Coldwater Youth Group

Contact: Maria Gruss

mgruss.holycrossfop@gmail.com, 419-678-3328

UPCOMING EVENTS:

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3 — 7 - 8 am - High School Bible Study @ Rooster Joe (grades 9th - 12th)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4 — 7:30 - 8:30 pm - BOYS Junior High Youth Group @ Fr. Yauss (grades 7th & 8th)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8 — 7:15 - 8:45 pm - High School Youth Group @ Fr. Yauss (grades 9th - 12th) Saint Night! Discover Saints Anne & Joachim!

ATTENTION:

- No High School Youth Group on Sunday, December 1, 2024
- Thanksgiving Break!

- No High School Lunch on Monday, December 2, 2024 - Enjoy day off School!

2025 STEUBENVILLE SUMMER CONFERENCE — Information and forms are available online at holycrossfop.org under youth ministry tab, or you may pick up physical copies at the parish office front desk. **Deadline to turn in forms and \$50 deposit is Wednesday, December 11th! Must have forms and deposit turned in by this date to hold your spot for the trip!** Any questions contact Maria Gruss.

Coldwater Religious Ed.

Contact: Sarah Klosterman

sklosterman.holycrossfop@gmail.com, 419-678-3328

ATTENTION:

ADORERS NEEDED — Enjoy a chance to spend time with the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament at Holy Trinity, St. Anthony, and St. Mary on Wednesday, December 18th from 6:00 - 7:15 pm OR 7:30 - 8:45 pm. If interested in filling one of these time slots, please contact Sarah at sklosterman.holycrossfop@gmail.com or 419-678-3328. This is open to all parishioners!

DATES TO NOTE:

NO CCD CLASSES — Dec. 25th, Jan. 1st, & Jan. 8th

CCD ADORATION NIGHT — Dec. 18th (All are welcome)

ST. ANTHONY CHRISTMAS PAGEANT — Dec. 18th @ 7:30 pm

ST. MARY CHRISTMAS PAGEANT — Dec. 18th @ 7:20 pm

**Subs and Building Monitors are still needed!*



Mary Help of Christians

ADORERS

NEEDED

— Enjoy a chance to spend time with the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament at Mary Help of

Christians on Wednesday, December 18th from 6:00 - 7:15 pm OR 7:30 - 8:45 pm. If interested in filling one of these time slots, please contact Harlie at hmetzger.holycrossfop@gmail.com or 419-375-4153.

ADVENT PARTY — MHC Ladies Sodality will be having their Advent party on Tues., Dec. 17 @ 6 pm in the Undercroft. Join us for a meal and entertainment, cost is \$10.00. The ladies sewing group will be set up during the party. All Mary Help of Christian ladies are welcome! RSVP to Megan Wendel at 419-852-5066 by Dec. 13th.

ANGEL TREE — Would you like to help with the Mercer County Angel Tree Program and make Christmas memorable for hundreds of children in Mercer County? This wonderful program connects generous people to local families who need a helping hand this Christmas season. If you wish to be part of this great program but did not take a tag and would rather make a financial donation, you may do that by putting your donation in an envelope marked "ANGEL TREE" and drop it in the collection. If you do this by check please make your check payable to "Mary Help of Christians" and mark the memo "Angel Tree". If you took a tag, make sure the gift is returned by December 8th. Thanks for your continuous help with this project year after year. If you have any questions please call Mary at 419-852-6213.



St. Joseph

CHRISTMAS DECORATING

— We will be decorating the inside of church and setting up the nativity outside for

Christmas on Mon., Dec. 16th beginning at 6:30 pm. All hands are welcome and greatly appreciated!

CLEANING — (December) **Bonnie Fortkamp, Jean Grube, Casi Grube, Angela Siegrist, Holly Grube, Linda Fullenkamp, Leanne Grube



St. Paul

ADORERS

NEEDED

— Enjoy a chance to spend time with the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament at St. Paul on

Wednesday, December 18th from 6:00 - 7:15 pm OR 7:30 - 8:45 pm. If interested in filling one of these time slots, please contact Harlie at hmetzger.holycrossfop@gmail.com or 419-375-4153.

GIVING TREE — Families need our support this Christmas once again. A Giving Tree is set up at St. Paul with ornaments listing gifts for the children. Take an ornament, buy the item listed and return the gift under the tree with the ornament attached. It really helps if the gift is in a box ready to be wrapped. Junior & senior high students will wrap once again. Please return the gift no later than Dec. 8th. Parishioners are always so generous and much appreciated. Thank you for your support. If you would prefer to donate a gift card from a grocery store, those too are very welcome by the families. Call or text Helen 419-852-0763 with questions.

GIRLS CYO — 12/1/24 @ Ft. Recovery, 12:30 pm w/ St. Anthony St. Mary. Dennis Siefring: 419-375-4676 or Brent Willman: 419-852-9195



St. Peter

ADORERS

NEEDED

— Enjoy a chance to spend time with the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament at St. Peter on

Wednesday, December 18th from 6:00 - 7:15 pm OR 7:30 - 8:45 pm. If interested in filling one of these time slots, please contact Harlie at hmetzger.holycrossfop@gmail.com or 419-375-4153.



Fort Fiat Youth Group

Contact: Alyssa Overman
aoverman.holycrossfop@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS:

TO THE HEIGHTS — Tuesdays 3:30 - 4:30 pm at MHC, grades 6-8

MEN'S GROUP — Wednesdays 9-10 pm at MHC, grade 7-12

LADIES GROUP — Tuesdays 7:15-8 am at MHC, grades 9-12

BREAKFAST CLUB — Friday, December 6th (Linda Thieman); Friday, January 10th (Karen Homan); Friday, January 24th (TBD - speaker needed) from 7:15-8 am at MHC Undercroft, grades 6-12

HOLY HOUR — Thursday, December 12th from 3:30-4:30 pm at St. Joe, transportation not provided

ATTENTION:

STEUBENVILLE FORMS - Forms & deposits are due 12/11/24.

SPEAKERS NEEDED — Fort Fiat is looking for breakfast club speakers. Breakfast club meets two Fridays a month from 7:15-8 a.m. Speakers can speak on any catholic topic or share their personal faith journey. Please **prayerfully consider & email** aoverman.holycrossfop@gmail.com if interested. 1/24, 2/7, 3/7, 4/4 & 5/9 are available for 2025.



Fort Recovery Religious Ed.

Contact: Harlie Metzger
hmetzger.holycrossfop@gmail.com, 419-375-4153

ATTENTION:

ADORERS NEEDED — Enjoy a chance to spend time with the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament at Mary Help of Christians, St. Paul, and St. Peter on Wednesday, December 18th from 6:00 - 7:15 pm OR 7:30 - 8:45 pm. If interested in filling one of these time slots, please contact Harlie at hmetzger.holycrossfop@gmail.com or 419-375-4153. This is open to all parishioners!

STUDENT AIDES NEEDED — We are looking for a few middle or high school students interested in being a classroom aide during Sunday School at MHC. Classes are twice a month at 9 am. Student aides would be expected to help with crafts, restroom breaks, etc.

MEN INQUIRING ABOUT THE PERMANENT DIACONATE — Any man who may be discerning a possible vocation to serve the Church as a Permanent Deacon should contact Deacon Mark Machuga, Director of the Office of the Diaconate, to discuss the discernment process, prerequisites, and the formation cycle. Deacon Mark can be reached at 513-263-6641 or deaconoffice@catholicaoc.org.



Community Interests

COLDWATER AUXILIARY CHRISTMAS PARTY — The Coldwater Auxiliary Member Christmas Party will be held on Thurs. Dec. 12, 2024, at the Legion's Clubroom. Party begins at 5:30 pm, and dinner will be served at 6 pm. A \$5.00 donation will be charged. Please contact either Lynn Dembowski at 229-395-6629 or Donna Gilmore at 419-852-8805 to make your reservations. All reservations must be made by December 1st.

COLDWATER KIWANIS CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK — The Christmas parade and flip the switch is scheduled for Fri., Dec. 6th. The lights will remain on until Dec. 31st. Activities are scheduled for Sat., Dec. 7th and Sun., Dec. 8th, 2 - 5 pm.

NATIONAL NIGHT OF PRAYER OF LIFE — The event will be held at the Spiritual Center chapel, Maria Stein, 7 - 11 pm, Sun., Dec. 8, 2024. Four hours of Eucharistic Adoration and prayers of reparation to end abortion will be offered. Each hour will begin with a hymn and prayers including the rosary and the Divine Mercy chaplet and will unite many parishes across the nation for the same intention. It will be opened with Exposition by Deacon Greg Bornhorst who will also close with Benediction. All are welcome and may come for all or part of this special night of prayer for the unborn.

FOLLOW THE STAR: CHRISTMAS AT ST. CHARLES — "Follow the Star: Christmas at St. Charles," a celebration in preparation for the feast of Christmas. The residents of St. Charles Senior Living Center open their doors to the community from 12:30 - 7 pm on Sat., Dec. 7 & 11 am - 5 pm on Sun., Dec. 8 with events for all ages. All events are free and open to the public. St. Charles Center is located at 2860 U.S. Route 127 in Carthagena, Ohio. Watch our Facebook page for more information at Follow the Star: Christmas at St. Charles.

JOB OPPORTUNITY AT ST. CHARLES SEMINARY — St. Charles Infirmary is looking for assistants to help the nurses provide care for the residents. 2nd and 3rd shifts available. For more information contact HRManager@preciousbloodus.org.

ST. NICHOLAS KID'S DAY — Join us at the Maria Stein Shrine for crafts, games, activities, cookies, and hot cocoa! Children will meet with St. Nicholas of Myra and learn about the history of this great saint on Sat., Dec. 7th, 1 - 3 pm. The cost is \$10 per child, this event is for elementary school aged children, RSVP at mariasteinshrine.org.

DO GOOD'S LIVE NATIVITY — December 10, 12 & 13 from 6-8 pm. Do Good's Live Nativity will be held in the Children's Memorial Garden area located behind the restaurant along the walking path. We invite you to view the five different scenes depicting the evening of Jesus's birth: "Joseph and Mary traveling to Bethlehem," "No Room at the Inn," "Shepherds looking at the Star of Bethlehem," "Three Wise Men traveling to Bethlehem," and "The birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." There will be cookies and hot chocolate for kids and adults to enjoy at the end of the five scenes. This event is free and open to the public. Freewill offerings will be accepted at the entrance, which will be located in Do Good's courtyard area. Come witness the true meaning of Christmas at this special event!

HAPPY HEARTS 4H MEETING — Mon., Dec. 2nd, in the Good Shepherd Church basement from 7 to 9 pm. This will be our annual Christmas party. Remember your gift if participating in the exchange. Also all dues and candy fund raiser money is due at this meeting.

FORT FESTIVAL OF TREES — Held at the Ft. Recovery Public Library Mon., Dec. 9th through Tues., Dec. 31st during normal business hours. The Friends of the Library is looking for businesses, organizations, clubs, families or individuals that would be interested in participating. This is an annual free community event open to the public, where library visitors vote on their favorite decorated tree. For more information on how your organization or family can participate, contact Toni at the library by calling 419-375-2869, or sending an email to tlefevre@seolibraries.org.

CATHOLIC NURSES — Nurses, student nurses & retired nurses' meetings are on the 1st Sat. of each month, 11 am on the 2nd floor at the Shrine of the Holy Relics. The last meeting of the year is Dec 7. Questions, please call or text Janet Munday: (419) 954-1670

MCRTL ESSAY CONTEST — The youth essay contest is for 9th/10th grade & 11th/12th grade. 2nd place is awarded \$200 and 1st place \$400 cash! All participants receive a \$10 McDonald's gift card. Each educational or persuasive essay is to be 600-800 words covering the following topics: 'Why I Am Pro-Life', 'How I Defend My Pro-Life Position', or 'How I Can Assist the Pro-Life Movement'. Essays will be scored on: grammar, facts, creativity, & inspiration. Essays are expected to reflect the pro-life convictions held by Mercer County Right to Life. Please include the contestant's name in the subject line of the e-mail submission. In the message portion please list the contestant's address, the age group the essay is to be entered, and school. Essays are to be e-mailed to proliferation.mercercounty@outlook.com by Jan. 15th, 2025.

AL-ANON & AA MEETINGS — Al-Anon for family/friends of alcoholics, Thursdays, 7:30 - 8:30 pm at Spiritual Center (Montezuma Annex) & Fridays from 7:30 - 8:30 pm in Briarwood's Private Dining Room at 100 Don Desch Dr, Coldwater. AA Meetings on Fridays from 7:30 - 8:30 pm at the Fr. Yauss, Coldwater. Meetings are open, anonymous, & free.

FOOD PANTRIES — Holy Trinity Food Pantry is open Saturdays, from 9 - 11 am. Located at 830 W. Main St, Coldwater (Mercer Health West Campus). For information: Rob Fisher (419) 678-3538. The Food Pantry located at the Ft. Recovery Family Office is open by appointment Mon. - Fri. Call the office at 419-375-4153 to schedule a time. Anyone in the county in need is welcome to use the pantries.

FT. RECOVERY AUXILIARY CHRISTMAS PARTY UPDATE — Due to the Holy Day, the Ft. Recovery Auxiliary Christmas Party will begin with cocktails at 6:30 and the meal at 6:45 on Dec. 9th.

QUO VADIS — Sun., Dec. 1st, at 7:00 pm at the Maria Stein Spiritual Center. David Slonkosky will be speaking. This event is for young adults ages 18-29. It will be live-streamed on our Facebook page (Quo_Vadis) if you want to watch it!

RADIO ROSARY — Radio Rosary prayed on WCSM at 9:30 am every Sunday. The Radio Rosary is sponsored each week by local Catholic organizations and individuals.



Contact Information & Stewardship

St Joseph: (Est. 1839) 1689 St. Joe Rd., Ft. Recovery, OH 45846
St. Mary: (Est. 1851) 3821 Philothea Rd., Coldwater OH 45828
St. Anthony: (Est. 1852) 471 St. Anthony Rd., Ft. Recovery, OH 45846
St. Peter: (Est. 1860) 1477 Philothea Rd., Ft. Recovery, OH 45846
Holy Trinity: (Est. 1867) 120 E. Main St., Coldwater OH 45828
St. Paul: (Est. 1868) 517 Meiring Rd., Ft. Recovery, OH 45846
MHC: (Est. 1881) 403 Sharpsburg Rd., Ft. Recovery, OH 45846

Business Managers

Amy Lennartz - (MHC/SJ/SPL/SPT) alennartz.holycrossfop@gmail.com
 Charmaine Bettinger - (HT/SM/SA) cbettinger.holycrossfop@gmail.com

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 Karen Timmerman - (SJ/SPT) ktimmerman.holycrossfop@gmail.com
 Julie Schmitz - (HT/SA/SM) staff.holycrossfop@gmail.com

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Lisa Cowan - bulletin.holycrossfop@gmail.com

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Director of Adult Evangelization

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Cindy Muhlenkamp - (HT/SM/SA) cmuhlenkamp.holycrossfop@gmail.com
 Ginny Fortkamp - (MHC/SJ/SPL/SPT) gfortkamp.holycrossfop@gmail.com

Bereavement Ministry Coordinator

Ginny Fortkamp - gfortkamp.holycrossfop@gmail.com 419-852-8960

Parish Life Coordinator

Cindy Muhlenkamp (SA) 419-852-1745
 Donna Hemmelgarn - (SM) 419-305-3441

Maintenance

Ralph Leugers - (SA) 419-942-8365
 Rick Hemmelgarn - (SM) 419-852-8126
 Rob Schmidt - (HT) 419-678-4802

Music

(HT) - Ron Johnson - rjohnson.holycrossfop@gmail.com
 (MHC) - Deanna Knapke, Linda Kahlig, Paige Timmerman
 (SA) - Julie Brackman - 419-942-1580
 (SJ) - Maria Bergman
 (SM) - Diane Geier - 419-678-4470
 (SPL) - Susan Bertke
 (SPT) - Anna Roessner, Mary Gaerke, Paige Timmerman

Hall Rentals

Amy Schmitz - (MHC) 419-375-4153
 Harlie Metzger - (SJ) 567-279-8664
 Jen Thompson - (SPL) 419-852-1093
 Julie Gaerke - (SPT) 419-852-6474
 Julie Schmitz - (HT/SA/SM) 419-678-4802

Safe Environment Coordinator

Kathy Portz - (MHC/SJ/SPL/SPT) kathyporz@gmail.com
 Charmaine Bettinger - (HT/SM/SA) cbettinger.holycrossfop@gmail.com

Parish Council Presidents

(HT) - Terry Muhlenkamp - 419-852-9601
 (MHC) - Greg Schmitz - 419-852-9385
 (SA) - Mitch Alig - 419-852-7525
 (SJ) - Eric Lamm - 419-852-9249
 (SM) - Kristen Klosterman - 419-953-9490
 (SPL) - Mitch Stammen - 419-852-3265
 (SPT) - Aaron Will - 419-852-2126

Call for Prayer

Holy Trinity - 419-678-4084
 Janie Timmerman - (SA) 419-375-2320
 Karla Kunk - (SM) 419-852-2162
 Rita McEldowney - (SPL) 937-621-3126

Contributions

November 11 - 17, 2024

MHC
 Offertory.....\$4,183.00
 Cemetery.....\$ 5.00
 Religious Ed.....\$ 40.00
 Flowers.....\$ 45.00
 Allocated Loose.....\$1,119.46

St. Joseph
 Offertory.....\$1,465.00
 Allocated Loose.....\$ 222.03

St. Peter
 Offertory.....\$2,780.00
 Building.....\$ 25.00
 Flowers.....\$ 105.00
 Allocated Loose.....\$ 361.96

St. Paul
 Offertory.....\$3,407.11
 Maintenance.....\$ 100.00
 Allocated Loose.....\$ 447.78

November 17, 2024

Holy Trinity
 Offertory.....\$5,599.00
 Loose.....\$3,114.65
 Total.....\$8,713.65
 Food Pantry.....\$1,950.00
 Candles.....\$ 185.00

St. Anthony
 Offertory.....\$ 529.00
 Loose.....\$ 327.00
 Total.....\$ 856.00
 Perm. Improvement.....\$ 300.00
 Candles.....\$ 51.00

St. Mary
 Offertory.....\$ 555.00
 Loose.....\$ 372.00
 Total.....\$ 927.00
 Cemetery.....\$ 20.00



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