

Joy

V. *And the Word
was made flesh.*
R. *And dwelt among us.*
Hail Mary, full of grace.



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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



Website:
www.holycrossfop.org



Facebook:
www.facebook.com/holycrossfop



St. Anthony



St. Joseph



St. Mary



St. Paul



St. Peter

Sunday, December 15, 2024
Third 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 16 - Advent Weekday

7:15 am @ Holy Trinity (FBS) – Joan Hesson † (L-S)
6:45 pm @ St. Peter (FAW) – L/D Jerry & Carolyn Obringer Family †

Tuesday, December 17 - Advent Weekday

7:15 am @ St. Mary (FEM) – Mary Jane Zahn †
6:45 pm @ St. Joseph (FJP) – L/D William & Virginia Pottkotter Family †

Wednesday, December 18 - Advent Weekday

7:15 am @ MHC (FJP) – L/D Rohrer & Wendel Families † (L-S)
12:00 pm @ Holy Trinity (FEM) – Brian Clune † (L-S)

Thursday, December 19 - Advent Weekday

7:15 am @ St. Paul (FJP) – Ed Wehrkamp †
6:45 pm @ St. Anthony (FEM) – Donald J. Muhlenkamp †

Friday, December 20 - Advent Weekday

7:15 am @ Holy Trinity (FJP) – Robert Beckman † (L-S)
12:00 pm @ MHC (FEM) – Dan Diller † (L-S)

Saturday, December 21 - Saint Peter Canisius, Priest, Doctor of the Church

9:00 am @ St. Joseph (FAW) – Leonard Bihn †
4:00 pm @ St. Anthony (FAW) – Raymond Wenning †
4:30 pm @ MHC (FJP) – L/D Mark Hein Family † (L-S)
4:30 pm @ Holy Trinity (FBS) – Francis & Joan Pax † (L-S)

Sunday, December 22 - 4th Sunday of Advent

7:00 am @ St. Joseph (FJP) – Jill Tobin †
8:00 am @ Holy Trinity (FAW) – L/D Luke Schmitmeyer Family † (L-S)
9:00 am @ MHC (FEM) – Michael Fullenkamp † (L-S)
10:00 am @ Holy Trinity (FBS) – L/D Bernard & Kathleen Muhlenkamp Family †
11:00 am @ St. Peter (FJP) – Members of the Holy Cross Family
11:00 am @ St. Paul (FEM) – Mary Jean Evers †
12:00 pm @ St. Mary (FAW) – L/D Ron & Julie Spoltman Family †
6:00 pm @ Holy Trinity (FBS) – L/D Thelma Bruns Family †

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

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

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

Saturday Confession Schedule

SA - 3:15 - 3:45 pm
HT - 3:15 - 3:45 pm
MHC - 3:45 - end

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 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 18, 7:15 am

Servers: Charlie Roessner, Chris Timmerman

Lector: Les Wenning

Friday, December 20, 12:00 pm

Servers: Joseph Bruns

Lector: Ted Romer

Saturday, December 21, 4:30 pm

Servers: Xavier Bruns, Tucker Huntsman, Lane Zehringer

Lector: Missy Hart

Ushers: Floyd Bergman, Don Lennartz, Ken Romer, Matt Whitacre

EMHC: Ruth Beyke, Maggie Hartings

Sacristan: Maggie Hartings

Sunday, December 22, 9:00 am

Servers: Emma Pearson, Grant Pearson, Cora Pearson, Ava Luster

Lector: Carol Jutte

Ushers: Joe Grube, Harry Hart, Mark Metzger, Steve Wendel

EMHC: Grace Jutte, Dan Jutte

Sacristan: Dan & Grace Jutte

– St. Joseph –

Tuesday, December 17, 6:45 pm

Servers: Hoyt Schmitz, Corbyn Schmitz

Lector: Lisa Roessner

Sacristan: Shel Sutter

Saturday, December 21, 9:00 am

Servers: Levi Sutter

Lector: Ryan Sutter

Sunday, December 22, 7:00 am

Servers: Blaise Bergman, Joseph Bruns, Haley Easton

Lector: Pat Gehret

Ushers: Dave Lennartz, Gary Pottkotter

EMHC: Norma Pottkotter

Sacristan: Christa Fullenkamp

– St. Paul –

Thursday, December 19, 7:15 am

Servers: Korbin Wuebker

Sunday, December 22, 11:00 am

Servers: Alexis Grisez, Hailey Grisez, Liza Knapke, Kate Knapke

Lector: Holly Wuebker

Ushers: Steve Keller, Ken Knapke

EMHC: Deacon Dan Kahlig, Holly Wuebker

Rosary: Ken & Lil Knapke

– St. Peter –

Monday, December 16, 6:45 pm

Servers: Theo Schmitz

Lector: Tim Hart

Sunday, December 22, 11:00 am

Servers: Mason Diller, Easton Diller, Kale Diller, Theresa Hipple, Amber Timmerman, Corbyn Schmitz

Lector: Lisa Kahlig

Ushers: Shane Gaerke, Tom Post

EMHC: Greg Diller

Sacristan: Jane Hipple

– Holy Trinity –

Monday, December 16, 7:15 am

Servers: Jack Bettinger, Owen May

Wednesday, December 18, 12:00 pm

Servers: James Pottkotter, Francis Pottkotter

Friday, December 20, 7:15 am

Servers: Carter Heitkamp, Owen Heitkamp

Saturday, December 21, 4:30 pm

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

Lector: Doug Bertke

EMHC: Dave Bertke, Connie May, Michelle Wilker

Sunday, December 22, 8:00 am

Servers: Leo Grigsby, Sam Grigsby, Josh Homan

Lector: Gary Diller

EMHC: Betty Hamberg, Herb Hamberg

Sunday, December 22, 10:00 am

Servers: Archer Bihn, Owen May, Emma Siefring, Evan Schmitmeyer

Lector: Kim Rose

EMHC: Cindy Geise, Abbie Homan, Scott Noonan

Sunday, December 22, 6:00 pm

Servers: Ryan Mathewson, Brady Mathewson, Breann Mathewson

Lector: Terry Liette

EMHC: Amy Klingshirn, Sarah Klosterman

– St. Anthony –

Thursday, December 19, 6:45 pm

Servers: Wesley Geier, Sam Grigsby, Leo Grigsby

Lector: Paul Welling

Sacristan: Bonnie Muhlenkamp

Saturday, December 21, 4:00 pm

Servers: Mason Alig, Allie Evans, Lilly Alig, Jack Link

Lector: Marty Knapke

Ushers: Corey Sudhoff

EMHC: Janie Timmerman

Sacristan: Janet Brockman

Rosary: Teri Minnich

– St. Mary –

Tuesday, December 17, 7:15 am

Servers: Sam Grigsby, Leo Grigsby

Lector: Stephanie Wendel

Sunday, December 22, 12:00 pm

Servers: Lana Kaiser, Reagan Liette, Jacob Uhlenhake, Kate Uhlenhake

Lector: Amanda Schoenherr

Ushers: Jason Kaiser, Alex Uhlenhake

EMHC: Kyle Uhlenhake



Message from the Priests

It's About to Get a Lot Bigger!

The new year always brings something, and this new year is going to be no different. Starting January 2025, we are going to be enlarging our bulletin to 16 pages from its current 12 pages. This is something that's going to serve us very well, I think. So today, I want to briefly outline some reasons why we're doing this as well as some reasons why we are not doing this.

What This Is For

1. This will obviously provide more space for bulletin submissions. With 7 parishes, there's a lot of information to cram into a bulletin consisting of 12 pages, and we aren't always able to include all the information that some parishioners would like. In addition, there are times when parishioners, who are running exciting things in our parishes, would like an event advertised over multiple bulletin inserts. When we are tight on space, it's not always possible to accommodate either all the information or to run the information for as long as would be desired. While more space will alleviate some of these issues, it will not solve all of them.

2. As we have talked to parishioners, there are some additional sections of information that have been requested. We want to be able to add these sections when space allows. Some of these proposed sections are things like a family information section, a youth group section, a section dedicated to saints, as well as a children's section.

3. Formerly, the Ft. Recovery bulletin would be able to include photos that parishioners sent into the office for any families that celebrated a Sacrament (like Baptism or Marriage) in the parish family. This is something that we--and many of our parishioners--want to bring back! The additional space in the bulletin will allow this to happen.

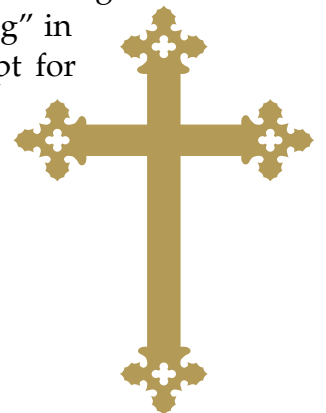
What It's Not For

1. Somebody joked with me the other day: Father, your homilies have been getting longer, is that why you're expanding the bulletin? Jokes aside, the bulletin isn't meant to be read before or during Mass. Mass preparation should include prayerfully preparing our hearts and minds for participating fruitfully in the sacrifice of Christ on the Cross during the Mass. While the things advertised in the bulletin are all geared towards helping people grow in their relationship with God, it is not a good substitute for prayerfully surrendering our hearts to God. So, as a reminder, please read the bulletin after Mass.

2. Finally, you don't have to do everything that's in the bulletin. The Devil loves to distract us, even with good things. The things that are in the bulletin are things that you are invited to participate in. There have been times where parishioners have expressed feeling bad for not doing something that they saw in the bulletin. You don't need to feel guilty if you "miss something" in the parish activities. These events are always invitations, not obligations (except for Mass and Confessions!) Sometimes, you just need to be at home with your family. If that's where God is calling you to be, please don't feel bad!

In Christ,

Fr. Witt



Holy Cross Family of Parishes

REMINDER TO ALL BUSINESSES AND PARISHIONERS

— We have a No Soliciting Policy on all of our church grounds. This includes all church properties within our entire Family of Parishes. You may not distribute any forms of advertising on any church premises. For business wanting to advertise in our bulletin, you may contact Sherry Montel with Diocesan @ smontell@diocesan.com or 614-301-7444.

NON-PROFITS & PARISH EVENTS — All flyers or promotional materials for non-profit organizations or parish events must be approved by the Holy Cross Director of Communications before distribution in any of our churches. Contact: 419-678-4802 or bulletin.holycrossfop@gmail.com.

BULLETIN SUBMISSION DEADLINES — Due to the upcoming holidays, all bulletin submissions are due by 8 am on Monday, December 16th for the December 29th bulletin and by 8 am on Friday, December 20th for the January 5th bulletin. All submissions are subject to approval and space availability.

HOLY CROSS FAMILY LOGO — We love how enthusiastic our parishioners are about supporting our parishes, but we kindly ask that if you would like to use the Holy Cross logo, to please contact the Parish Office for assistance instead of using our logo at your own discretion. This pertains to advertising as well as products featuring our logo. *Thank You!*

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS — Religious women and men offer gratitude. "Sincere thanks to the donors of the Retirement Fund for Religious. I hope we meet, if not in this world, then in the next," says Sister Teresa Korycka, 81, of the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate. Your gift impacts over 24,000 senior women and men religious, providing them a dignified retirement. To learn how your donation helps, visit retiredreligious.org.

WELCOME. (CRHP 2.0) — Registration Opens Jan. 6th! Holy Cross Family of Parishes Women (21+ and older) are invited to spend time away from the hustle and bustle of your otherwise busy life to be still, reflect, spend time on YOU, and reconnect with your spiritual life! This free, overnight retreat is a chance to meet and grow in faith with other women in our family of parishes! What could be better than some time for yourself, fellowship with other women, and not having to cook!? Info will be coming on Jan. 6th where you can register via link, QR code, or a mail in portion to secure 1 of the 25 available spots.

GUATEMALA MISSION TICKETS — Year 2025 tickets are available at \$20.00 each. This assists the people of La Labor with educational and health care needs. Weekly winners are paid \$100 based on the Wed. night Ohio Lottery drawing, and there is an annual winner of \$1000, \$300 & \$200. You may purchase tickets by putting money in the collection with your name, address, and phone. We will get tickets back to you.

MEN'S SATURDAY PRAYER GROUP — If you are an early riser and are looking for time to dedicate to praying each week, then come to Holy Trinity church in Coldwater on Saturdays and pray the Liturgy of the Hours with Fr. Barry and other men of our family of parishes. We pray the Office of Readings beginning at 6:45 am, followed by Morning Prayer at 7:00 am. You can download the app for these on your phone. <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.netguru.ibreviary>. The Liturgy of the Hours is the official prayer of the Catholic Church, consisting of psalms and other scripture verses, hymns and writings of saints. Through this prayer we join thousands of priests, religious and lay people around the world in offering praise and petition to God. Hope you can join Fr. Barry on Saturday mornings for this time of prayer.

SAVE THE DATE — There will be a Marriage Renewal Event on Feb. 8, 2024, at Mary Help of Christians after the Vigil Mass, focusing on a deeper understanding of the sacrament of marriage as it relates to Jesus and his bride the Church. The main theme being marriage as not a cap stone to a relationship but the foundation stone. There will be a meal with drinks and speaker Fr. Ethan Moore. More info to come on where to purchase tickets and RSVP.



(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.



Join us for a guided Holy Hour with Our Lord.
This hour is family friendly & all ages are welcome!
6:30-7:30 pm
Thursday, Dec. 19th

FAMILY ADORATION @ St. Joseph
After Adoration head to Sanderell Hall to decorate cookies & Christmas cards. Kids can taste test & bring them to a loved one to practice the giving spirit in anticipation of Christmas.



Christmas & Christmas Eve

Dec. 24 Mass Times
4:30 pm - Holy Trinity
4:30 pm - MHC
11:00 pm - St. Mary

Dec. 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



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.



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.

THANK YOU — Thank you to all who donated gifts and gift cards for the Angel Tree. Blessings to all!



St. Anthony

CHURCH DECORATING

— St. Anthony's church decorating will be held on

Mon., Dec. 16 at 6:30 pm.

Volunteers are needed to help bring trees, boxes, and totes over to the church. Men and high school students are needed because some heavy lifting may be involved. Any help would be greatly appreciated! If you have any questions, please contact Bonnie Muhlenkamp at 419-942-1154 or 419-852-5301.

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.

Thank you to everyone who participated and donated to this year's Sock and Underwear Drive! We had an incredible turnout thanks to your generosity and support! Your donations will contribute to helping over 900 children this Christmas season through Our Home Family Resource Center. We deeply appreciate your kindness. Wishing you a wonderful Christmas filled with peace and happiness!



- Maria Gruss & Coldwater Youth Ministry

Children's Eucharistic Adoration

— Grades K - 6th —

December's Adoration will be on the 3rd Thursday due to Christmas vacation! Games & Snacks will follow! Students will be walked over from school. Grades K-4, meet by the elementary library. Grades 5-6, meet by the high school office. Contact Maria Gruss with any questions at 419-678-4802.

Thursday, December 19, 2024
After School @ Holy Trinity

Coldwater Youth Group

Contact: Maria Gruss
mgruss.holycrossfop@gmail.com, 419-678-3328

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 — 7:15 - 8:45 pm - High School Youth Group @ Fr. Yauss (grades 9th - 12th) Christmas Celebration & Games!

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16 — 11:18 - 11:45 am - High School Lunch @ Fr. Yauss (grades 9th - 12th)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17 — 7 - 8 am - High School Bible Study @ Rooster Joe (grades 9th - 12th)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18 — 7:30 - 8:30 pm - BOYS Junior High Youth Group @ Fr. Yauss (grades 7th & 8th)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22 — 7:15 - 8:45 pm - High School Youth Group - 30 min guided Adoration @ Holy Trinity, Social & Games to follow @ Fr. Yauss (grades 9th - 12th)

ATTENTION: From mid-January to mid-April, I will be on maternity leave. During this time, the JH youth groups will be led by volunteers and will meet once a month. Zach Schoen and Jeremy Gruss will meet with the boys on the following dates: January 15, February 19, March 19, and April 16. Raquel Kaiser, Grace Huwer, and Amanda Clune will meet with the girls on the following dates: January 22, February 12, March 12, and April 9. The regular schedule for the JH boys' and girls' youth groups will resume upon my return.

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!*



St. Paul

A D O R E R S 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. This is open to all parishioners!

CHURCH CHRISTMAS DECORATING — Anyone who is available and willing can join the Ladies Sodality officers on Thurs., Dec. 19, at the church at 7 pm to decorate for Christmas. All members of the parish are welcome to help as "many hands make light work"!

GIRLS CYO — 12/15/24 @ Ft. Recovery, 3:30 pm w/ Osgood. Dennis Siefring: 419-375-4676 or Brent Willman: 419-852-9195.

CHOIR PRACTICE — St. Paul will have choir practice for the Christmas Mass on Tues., Dec. 17th at 7 pm. All are welcome! We'd love to have more voices to celebrate the Lord's birth. If you can't make it to practice but would still like to join us on Christmas morning, just come up, as we will be singing traditional Christmas hymns.

DIAPER DRIVE — Dear Parish members, we are having a diaper drive for a St. Paul family that has had QUAD GIRLS!!! Two of the girls are at home and two are still in the hospital, so we're trying to help the family by collecting PAMPERS Diapers and Wipes, snack foods, gift cards, gas cards or monetary donations. Items can be placed in the back of St. Paul Church and gas cards, gift cards and monetary donations in the collection, marked "St. Paul Diaper Drive" or dropped-off at the parish office at Mary Help of Christians until Jan. 3rd. THANK YOU for helping this family and wishing you all a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS!

THANK YOU — With heartfelt gratitude, our family extends our sincere thanks to Fr. Linus Evers C.P.P.S., Fr. Joseph Pasala, Thomas Shaw of Brockman-Boeckman Funeral Home, the Holy Cross Bereavement Ministry Coordinator Ginny Fortkamp, and the American Legion Auxiliary. The very peaceful viewing, the beautiful Mass, and your prayers and words of compassion & comfort throughout the process of laying Mary Jean Evers to rest were an immense blessing. To Deanna Knapke and the choir, thank you for the lovely music. To the St. Paul's luncheon committee, thank you for the delicious meal. To Be You Floral, thank you for creating so many individually special flower arrangements. To our parish family, friends, and neighbors, your kindness and prayers during this difficult time was a gift that will be cherished. Thank you to everyone who offered loving support, prayers, kind words and deeds, and/or gifts of remembrance to any one of us. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

- The family of Mary Jean Evers"

The Precepts of the Church

Given to us by the Church, these are the minimum obligations every practicing Catholic is expected to follow.

1. *You shall attend Mass on Sundays & holy days of obligation and rest from servile labor.*
2. *You shall confess your sins at least once a year.*
3. *You shall humbly receive your Creator in Holy Communion at least once a year during the Easter Season.*
4. *You shall observe the prescribed days of fasting and abstinence established by the Church.*
5. *You shall help to provide for the needs of the Church.*
6. *You shall observe the Church's laws regarding marriage.*



St. Joseph

A D O R E R S NEEDED

— 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) Jean Grube, Casi Grube, Angela Siegrist, Holly Grube, Linda Fullenkamp, Leanne Grube

LADIES SODALITY WINTERFEST PARTY — Party on Jan. 20, 2025, with cocktails at 6 & dinner at 6:30 pm, cost \$10 a plate. Sign up for reservations in the back of church until Dec. 31, 2024. A short meeting will follow dinner. Fr. Ethan Moore is our guest speaker, talking about his calling to be a priest and adventures he's experienced thus far. For the season of giving, we are asking for diapers size 5 or 6 to be donated to Rustic Hope. You can bring them that night. Hope to see you there!



Mary Help of Christians

A D O R E R S 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. This is open to all parishioners!

SEWING GROUP — Mon., Dec. 16 from 9 am to 3 pm in the Undercroft. If anyone is interested in sewing with us please come enjoy the day or just a few hours. If there is a funeral luncheon on Monday, we will not meet until Jan., 2025, or if school is canceled due to the weather conditions, we will not meet. If anyone has any questions about the sewing group please call RuthEtta at 419-375-4064 or Mary at 419-852-6213.

THANK YOU — Please extend your gratitude to both Michelle Evers and Greg Schmitz for going above and beyond in their service to the Mary Help of Christians parish council. As their 3 year term limits have been met, they are ready to take their well-deserved leave. If there is any interest in participating in parish council, or nominating someone for parish council, please submit your nomination to the office or contact Greg Schmitz at 419-852-9385. Thank you!



St. Peter

A D O R E R S 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. This is open to all parishioners!

SNOW REMOVAL COMMITTEE DECEMBER 2024 — **Chris Rammel, Craig Evers, Jacob Gaerke, Tim Gaerke, Jim Knapke, Rob Gaerke, Paul Fortkamp, Keith Evers, Scott Schmitz, Dan Link, Eric Schmitz, Jerome Muhlenkamp, Cale Dues, Ross Overman, Christopher Dues, Dennis Heitkamp, Dan Schmitz, Grant Muhlenkamp, Nick Rammel, Derek Gaerke, Jim Klenke, Tony Heitkamp, Charlie Grube, Greg Fortkamp, Brandon Rose, Jesse Fortkamp, Austin Kahlig, Cole Dues, Mike Hein. Responsible for church sidewalks. Please, don't forget that Wed. evenings is CCD. It is very important to have the snow cleared away as much as possible. Thanks!



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 — Fri., Jan. 10th (Karen Homan); Fri., Jan. 24th (Fr. Hess); Fri., Feb. 7th (Trent Pearson) from 7:15-8 am in MHC Undercroft, grades 6-12

ATTENTION:

SPEAKERS NEEDED — Fort Fiat is looking for breakfast club speakers. Breakfast club meets two Fridays a month from 7:15-8 am. Speakers can speak on any catholic topic, share their personal faith journey or do a catholic activity with the kids. Please prayerfully consider & email Alyssa if interested. Speakers are needed March 7th and April 4th.

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.



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.

*He will baptize you with
the Holy Spirit*

MATTHEW 3:II

Sacramental Information

Wedding Banns



II Will Broering & Shelby Stammen

And the two shall become one.

Sacrament of Matrimony

The Sacrament of Holy Matrimony involves more than just "booking" a particular date for a wedding. Please keep in mind that church dates are limited. It is highly recommended to book the church when booking your reception hall. Also, since the marriage preparation process usually takes several months to complete, please contact the Family Office at least nine months in advance to start the marriage preparation process.

Baptismal Sponsors

This is an honor, but so much more. Whether for Baptism or Confirmation, being a sponsor means that you are promising to assist the parents in raising this person in the Catholic Faith. In order to fulfill that responsibility, the sponsor needs to be a practicing Catholic. This means that prayer, scripture, the sacraments and especially Mass are important priorities in his/her life. This also means that a sponsor needs to be a fully initiated Catholic who has received the sacraments of Baptism, Holy Communion, Confirmation, and, if married, was married in the Catholic Church.

Baptismal Class

Fort Recovery Classes are held on Tuesdays at 7 pm. The next class at Fort Recovery for 2025 is January 7th. Please call 419-375-4153 to register. Coldwater Classes are held on the 3rd Sunday of the month @ 7pm. Please call 419-678-4802 to register. The Baptismal Class is required for all first-time parents.

Baptismal Schedule

1st Sunday	2nd Sunday	3rd Sunday	4th Sunday
12:30 pm - MHC	12:30 pm - St. Peter	12:30 pm - St. Paul	12:30 pm - St. Joseph
1:30 pm - Holy Trinity	1:30 pm - St. Mary	1:30 pm - Holy Trinity	1:30 pm - St. Anthony

In Loving Memory...



Marcella "Sally" R. Siegrist
Nov. 17, 1959 - Dec. 1, 2024
(St. Peter)

*I am the resurrection and the life,
says the Lord whoever believes
in me will never die.*

- John 11:26

Newly Baptized



Holy Trinity
Jayleen Janett Perez
Child of Mario Ricardo Perez -
Chagolla & Janett Martinez

Community Interests

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.

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 prolifegeneration.mercercounty@outlook.com by Jan. 15th, 2025.

SCHOENSTATT HOME SHRINE CLASSES — Classes will be offered Sunday Evenings from 7:00-8:15 pm on Jan 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th and Feb 2nd. The classes will be located in classroom A in the church basement at Sacred Heart of Jesus. Contact Colleen Tebbe at 937-726-7377 or ctebbe4@gmail.com to register.

FISH FRY — Ft. Recovery Community Club 18th annual fish fry. Sat., Jan. 11, 2025, at the Ohio Progressive Sportsman Club from 4 - 7 pm. Donation \$12 for Adults \$7 (8 and under).

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.

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.

JUBILEE YEAR 2025 — The Archdiocese of Cincinnati has launched a web page with information for the Jubilee Year 2025. Visit <https://catholicaoc.org/jubilee-2025> to learn about the Church's celebration of an Ordinary Jubilee every 25 years, obtaining the Jubilee Indulgence, pilgrimage sites within the archdiocese, and a special pilgrimage to Italy in October 2025. All are invited to join Archbishop Schnurr for Mass on Sunday, December 29, 4:00 p.m. at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Peter in Chains to open the Jubilee Year in communion with dioceses throughout the world.

BLOOD DRIVE — The next Fort Recovery Red Cross blood drive is at the American Legion on Dec. 23 from noon to 6 pm.

GRIEFSHARE SUPPORT GROUP — The Christ Our Light Family of Parishes will be offering GriefShare Sessions to the local communities. The program consists of 13 weekly DVD sessions for people grieving the loss of someone close. It's a place where you can be around people who understand how you are feeling and are able to offer you encouragement. The DVD seminars are combined with support group discussion of the material presented during the DVD. The sessions will be held in the Precious Blood Church Basement, 35 S. Maple St., Chickasaw. Every Tuesday, January 7th through April 1st from 7 to 8:30 pm. All materials are donated by Hogenkamp Funeral Homes. For more information or to register, contact Herb Wilker: hiwilker@yahoo.com or (419) 953- 5398.

THE WORLD IS NOISY - GOD WHISPERS — 5th Annual Retreat on January 17-18, 2025, at The Retreat House in Maria Stein. Registration is now open. Learn more at journeysrevealed.com/retreat. Join us as we unpack the tenacity of the Little Flower, St. Thérèse of Lisieux, and spend the weekend in prayer, silence, reflection, fellowship, adoration, Mass, and Confession. Come and be immersed in the profundity of St. Thérèse's spirituality as you seek the Lord in greater depths. Talks will be given by author and speaker Julia Monnin and Fr. Jedidiah Tritle. Mass will be celebrated both days by Fr. Sean Wilson. Confessors joining us this year are Fr. Sean Wilson, Fr. Andrew Hess, and Fr. Ethan Hoying. Space is limited to 50 retreatants.

CATHOLIC IN RECOVERY RETREATS — These retreats offer hope and healing for individuals and family members impacted by a variety of addictions, compulsions, and unhealthy attachments. Retreat participants are given various opportunities to encounter the Lord and deepen their recovery through various talks, personal testimonies, meetings, prayer & reflection time, engaging the sacraments, & fellowship with others seeking recovery rooted in Catholic spirituality. Info.: <https://catholicinrecovery.com/events>.

GROW IN FAITH/EXPAND YOUR KNOWLEDGE — Registration is now open for day, evening, weekend, and online spring semester courses at Mount St. Mary's Seminary & School of Theology. In addition to the seminary campus in Cincinnati, Saturday classes are always offered either in the Dayton area or north of Dayton. You can take individual courses or you can earn a master's degree, a certificate, or an endorsement. Options for financial aid and tuition discounts are available. Spring semester begins the first week of January, so apply and enroll now at www.mtsm.org > School of Theology.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER — Do you want to rediscover the joy you and your spouse had when you were first married? A Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend will help do just that! The 2025 Marriage Encounter weekends in this area are now scheduled. February 28 - March 2 and September 19-21 at the Holy Spirit Center in Norwood, Ohio, November 7-9 at the Spiritual Center at Maria Stein, Ohio, and at our newest retreat location July 25-27 at the Jesuit Spiritual Center in Milford, Ohio. Weekends can fill up quickly, so applying early is encouraged to avoid the waiting list. Apply today at <https://esharing.org/applyWeekend.php>. Questions or details contact: Andy and Melanie Reinersman at 859-653-8464, application@esharing.org or visit esharing.org



Pray for the Unborn, Pray for Life!

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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 Julie Schmitz - (HT/SA/SM) staff.holycrossfop@gmail.com

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Lisa Cowan - bulletin.holycrossfop@gmail.com

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 Sarah Klosterman - (HT/SM/SA) sklosterman.holycrossfop@gmail.com

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 Maria Gruss - (HT/SM/SA) mgruss.holycrossfop@gmail.com

Director of Adult Evangelization

Cindy Muhlenkamp - cmuhlenkamp.holycrossfop@gmail.com

OCIA

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

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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 25 - December 1, 2024

December 1, 2024

Mary Help of Christians

Offertory.....\$4,968.00
 Religious Ed.....\$ 60.00
 Human Development...\$ 165.00
 Flowers.....\$ 620.00
 Allocated Loose\$1,268.17

St. Joseph

Offertory.....\$ 754.00
 Flowers.....\$ 295.00
 Human Development...\$ 5.00
 Allocated Loose\$ 251.52

St. Peter

Offertory.....\$2,155.00
 Building\$2,045.00
 Flowers.....\$ 415.00
 Religious Ed.....\$ 405.00
 Human Development...\$ 750.00
 Allocated Loose\$ 410.04

St. Paul

Offertory.....\$1,472.11
 Religious Ed.....\$ 20.00
 Human Development...\$ 65.00
 Maintenance.....\$ 100.00
 Flowers.....\$ 809.62
 Allocated Loose\$ 507.27

Holy Trinity

Offertory.....\$ 6,028.00
 Loose.....\$ 3,718.38
 Total\$ 9,746.38
 Food Pantry.....\$ 531.50
 Candles.....\$ 157.00
 Thanksgiving.....\$ 2,026.06
 *Online Giving Month\$13,261.00

St. Anthony

Offertory.....\$ 485.00
 Loose.....\$ 272.00
 Total\$ 757.00
 Cemetery.....\$ 20.00
 Thanksgiving.....\$ 64.54
 *Online Giving Month\$ 1,130.00

St. Mary

Offertory.....\$ 824.00
 Loose.....\$ 369.10
 Total\$ 1,193.10
 Candles.....\$ 79.00
 Thanksgiving.....\$ 35.31
 *Online Giving Month\$ 1,080.00

*Thank you for
your generosity!*

Note: *Online Giving represents ALL eCatholic and EFT donations including Perm. Improvement and any other special collections that were donated online.

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to our Bulletin Sponsors!

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 Catholic Life Every Day

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