



## 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

### What's Inside:

Pg. 2 - Mass, Confession, Adoration, & Liturgy Schedules

Pg. 3 - Ministry Schedule

Pg. 4 - Message from the Priests

Pg. 5 - Sacraments

Pg. 6-9 - Holy Cross Family
Information

Pg. 9/10 - Parish Information

Pg. 11 - Religious Education

Pg. 12 - Youth Ministry

Pg. 13 - Community Interests & Stewardship

Pg. 14 - Contact Information



### Website: www.holycrossfop.org



www.facebook.com/holycrossfop



St. Anthony



St. Joseph



St. Mary



St. Paul



St. Peter

Sunday, November 23, 2025
Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

#### **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.

### Liturgy Schedule (Note: This schedule is subject to change per priest availability)

Day	Mass Intention	Priest	Time	Church	Confession
Monday, November 24 Saint Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs; Memorial	L/D Lavern & Pat Muhlenkamp Family †	FBS	7:15 am ( <i>L/S</i> )	Holy Trinity	After Mass
	L/D Lavern & Dorothy Brockman Family †	FAW	6:45 pm	St. Peter	5:45 - 6:30 pm
Tuesday, November 25 Saint Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin, Martyr; opt. mem.	L/D Clete & Lou Ann Knoth †	FBS	7:15 am	St. Mary	After Mass
	Travis Fullenkamp †	FJP	6:45 pm	St. Joseph	5:45 - 6:30 pm
Wednesday, November 26 Weekday	L/D John & Marlene Bihn Family †	FBS	7:15 am ( <i>L/S</i> )	МНС	After Mass
	Jim Heyne †	FAW	Noon (L/S)	Holy Trinity	11:30 am - end
Thursday, November 27 Thanksgiving Day	Louie & Joan Reigelsperger †	FJP/ FBS/ DRK	9:00 am ( <i>L/S</i> )	Holy Trinity	After Mass
	Jim & Mary Faller †	FAW/ DDK	9:00 pm ( <i>L/S</i> )	MHC	5:45 - 6:30 pm
Friday, November 28 Weekday	L/D Gregor & Helen Buening Family †	FBS	7:15 am ( <i>L/S</i> )	Holy Trinity	After Mass
	L/D Alvin & Rose Timmerman Family †	FAW	Noon (L/S)	MHC	11:30 am - end
Saturday, November 29 BVM on Saturday; opt. mem.	L/D Nietfeld & Rammel Families †	TBD	9:00 am	St. Joseph	After Mass
	Hartnagel / Stachler Wedding	FEM	1:00 pm	St. Paul	N/A
	Henry T. Gaerke †	FBS	4:00 pm	St. Anthony	3:15 - 3:45 pm
	Robert & Evelyn Geise †	FAW	4:30 pm	Holy Trinity	3:45 - 4:15 pm
	Caleb Kunkle †	FEM	4:30 pm ( <i>L/S</i> )	MHC	3:45 pm - end
Sunday, November 30 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent	Dottie Fullenkamp †	FEM/ DDK	7:00 am	St. Joseph	N/A
	Eileen Boeckman †	FBS/ DRK	8:00 am ( <i>L/S</i> )	Holy Trinity	7:25 am - end
	Tim Heitkamp †	FJP	9:00 am ( <i>L/S</i> )	MHC	8:25 am - end
	L/D Richard & Doris Moeller Family †	FAW	10:00 am ( <i>L/S</i> )	Holy Trinity	9:25 am - end
	Mark Brackman †	FJP	11:00 am	St. Paul	10:25 - 10:45 am
	Eileen Boeckman †	FEM	11:00 am	St. Peter	10:25 - 10:45 am
	Gary Siefring †	FBS	Noon	St. Mary	11:25 - 11:45 am
	Members of Holy Cross Family of Parishes	FAW	6:00 pm	Holy Trinity	5:15 - 5:45 pm

MASSES ONLINE — Watch Masses at Holy Trinity & Mary Help of Christians online, indicated by (L/S) with the time. Masses are also archived and viewable on a later day and can be accessed on the website: holycrossfop.org (Masses are also streamed to Youtube. For Holy Trinity search: Coldwater Cluster, then click on the logo and subscribe. For Mary Help of Christians search: mhc-gg4zm, then click on the logo and subscribe.)

#### Reference for Church Abbreviations

SA = St. Anthony HT = Holy Trinity SJ = St. Joseph SM = St. Mary SPL = St. Paul SPT = St. Peter

MHC = Mary Help of Christians

Tentatively Scheduled Celebrants listed above:

Fr. Alexander Witt (FAW); Fr. Ethan Moore (FEM); Fr. Joseph Pasala (FJP);
Fr. Barry Stechschulte (FBS); not scheduled (TBD)
Deacon Dan Kahlig (DDK); Deacon Roger Kaiser (DRK)

#### Adoration Schedules

Mon., SPT: 5:45 - 6:30 pm Tues., SM: 7:45 am - Noon Tues., SJ: 8:30 am - 6:30 pm Wed., HT: 8 am - 11:45 am Thurs., SPL: 7:45 am - 5 pm Thurs., SA: 5:45 - 6:30 pm

Fri., MHC: 8 - 11:45 am

St. Joseph - First Fridays of the Month 8:30 pm Friday - 8:30 am Saturday Contact Info.: Adoration.nw1@gmail.com

## Ministry Schedule

Notice: The below scheduled ministers are responsible for finding a substitute if they are unable to fill the originally assigned position. - Thank You!

- Mary Help of Christians -

Wednesday, November 26, 7:15 am

Servers: Charlie Roessner, Chris Timmerman

Lector: Ted Romer

Thursday, November 27, 9:00 am

Servers: Milo Fiely, Chase Fiely, Gabriel Jutte, Blake Homan

Lector: Elly Boeckman

EMHC: Elly Boeckman, Deacon Dan Kahlig

Sacristan: Amy S. Wendel Friday, November 28, 12:00 pm

Server: Zavier Bruns Lector: Ted Romer

Saturday, November 29, 4:30 pm

Servers: Carson Fullenkamp, Rachel Fortkamp, Joseph Fortkamp

**Lector:** Missy Hart

EMHC: Cindy Fullenkamp, Rose Tobe

Sacristan: Linda Lennartz

**Ushers:** Floyd Bergman, Don Lennartz, Jeff Fullenkamp,

Dan Schmitz

Sunday, November 30, 9:00 am

Servers: Brodie Hart, Paisley Hart, Grant Pearson, Emma Pearson

**Lector:** Tim Hart

EMHC: Tim Hart, Tim Barman Sacristan: Amy S. Wendel

Ushers: Gary J. Wendel, Chuck Keller, Mike Laux, Mark Metzger

- St. Ioseph -

Tuesday, November 25, 6:45 pm

Servers: Braxton Schmitz, Corbyn Schmitz

Lector: Lisa Roessner Sacristan: Matt Hess

Saturday, November 29, 9:00 am

Server: Tyler Dues **Lector:** Jane Hipple

Sunday, November 30, 7:00 am

Servers: Ben Homan, Eric Lamm, Dillan Schulze, Matt Grigsby,

Sam Grigsby, Leo Grigsby Lector: Jean Grube EMHC: Deacon Dan Kahlig Sacristan: Norma Pottkotter

Ushers: Allen Grube, Gary Pottkotter

- St. Paul -

<u>Thursday, November 27, 7:15 am (Canceled)</u> <u>Sunday, November 30, 11:00 am</u>

Servers: Dan Siefring, Nick Siefring, Landon Sudhoff,

Raelyn Sudhoff, Coralai Sudhoff Lector: Amanda Brackman

**EMHC:** Theresa Siefring, Julie Bruns Ushers: Mike Bruns, Chris Siefring

Rosary: Ken & Lil Knapke

– St. Peter –

Monday, November 24, 6:45 pm

Server: Tate Kahlig Lector: Nathan Fortkamp

Sunday, November 30, 11:00 am

Servers: Reed Westgerdes, Will Westgerdes, Carter Fortkamp,

Brinley Fortkamp, Addison Fortkamp, Derek Fortkamp

Lector: Nathan Fortkamp **EMHC**: Clark Knapke Sacristan: Jane Hipple

Ushers: Jim Knapke, Scott Overman

Holy Trinity –

Monday, November 24, 7:15 am

Servers: Oliver Link, Dillan Wenning

Lector: Rene Klosterman

Wednesday, November 26, 12:00 pm

Servers: Samuel Gerlach, Oliver Link, Jude Link

Lector: Raquel Kaiser

Thursday, November 27, 9:00 am

Servers: Liam Cowan, Sam Grigsby, Leo Grigsby, Levi Sutter,

Lincoln Homan

Lector: Rene Klosterman

**EMHC:** Luke Klosterman, Mary Lou Wenning,

Deacon Roger Kaiser, Brenda Kaiser

Friday, November 28, 7:15 am

Servers: Myra Stammen, Jack Bettinger

Lector: Rita Riethman

Saturday, November 29, 4:30 pm

Servers: Isabelle Schwieterman, Alex Schwieterman,

Claire Bertke

Lector: Diane Wellman

EMHC: Dave Bertke, Denny Riethman,

Brenda Schwieterman

Sunday, November 30, 8:00 am

Servers: Karsyn Homan, Kratyn Homan, Krew Homan

Lector: Lauren Baucher

EMHC: Abbie Homan, Deacon Roger Kaiser

Sunday, November 30, 10:00 am

Servers: Blake Wenning, Reagan Wenning, Kendall Wenning,

Emma Siefring, Lincoln Homan Lector: Raquel Kaiser

EMHC: Cindy Geise, Lynn Giere, Scott Noonan

Sunday, November 30, 6:00 pm

Servers: Emmett Wermert, Heidi Wermert, Carson Wermert,

Levi Sutter

Lector: Ryan Sutter

EMHC: Pam Hicks, Melinda Pleiman

- St. Anthony -

Thursday, November 27, 6:45 pm (Canceled)

Saturday, November 29, 4:00 pm

Servers: Mason Alig, Lilly Alig, Logan Alig, Wesley Geier

**Lector:** Joanne Alig EMHC: Lisa Knapke

Sacristan: Cindy Muhlenkamp Ushers: Greg Alig, Nick Dues

Rosary: Marty Knapke

– St. Mary –

Tuesday, November 25, 7:15 am

Servers: Sam Grigsby, Leo Grigsby

Lector: Viki Dues

Sunday, November 30, 12:00 pm

Servers: Matthew Uhlenhake, Garrett Uhlenhake, Cole Uhlenhake,

Grace Siefring

Lector: Betsey Uhlenhake

**EMHC**: Karla Kunk Ushers: Kevin Welling,

Nick Uhlenhake



## Message from the Priests

#### THE BIG GAME

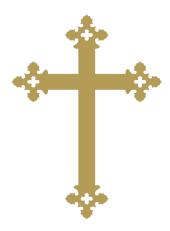
The high school football season is getting exciting as the state tournament playoffs have begun. And I've been watching the Buckeye games where they've been easily handling opponents before thousands and thousands of fans each week. Exciting stuff.

I sometimes wonder what it would be like if we filled a football stadium with over 100,000 Catholics every week for Mass. I know that we do fill up our little churches each week, and that is great. But the fact is that there are so many more Catholics out there that don't come to church. Mass attendance is down by about half over the last 25 years.

But, boy would it be neat if we needed a football stadium for Mass each week. Wouldn't that be fantastic? What is it about going to church that doesn't excite people like going to a football game does? At church we have a star quarterback (Jesus, of course). A capable center (the priest). We have the best head coach (God the Father), and we have a very powerful team spirit (the Holy Spirit). Great cheerleaders (the Angels). A great band (the organ, the choir and all of us singing). We have a great pregame warm up (the Penitential Rite). We have the best game plan (the Scripture readings and the Homily). We always score the game winning touchdown (the Consecration of the Bread and Wine into the Body and Blood of Christ). And we enjoy the best refreshments (Holy Communion). What could be better? And we will win the Super Bowl (Eternal Life). I don't know about you, but I'm not going to miss the Big Game (the Mass). I hope to see you in the grandstands (the pews in church) every week.

The Mass is by far the greatest event that we could be so privileged to take part in. And it happens every day of the week, every day of the year. But especially on Sundays, it gives us a chance to witness, under sacramental signs and by the power of the Holy Spirit acting in the Church, the divine action of the Incarnate Son of God, in his supreme offering to God the Father for our salvation. There is nothing greater than this, and we should be anxiously awaiting the chance to be there for Mass. Let's never miss the Big Game on Sunday, and we will be champions for all eternity.

- Father Barry Stechschulte



## Sacramental Information



III Logan Hartnagel & Taylor Stachler

And the two shall become one.

## Newly Baptized

#### Holy Trinity

Reggie James Geier Child of Brady & Jaclyn

Quinn Marjorie Osterholt Child of Kevin & Lauren

St. Mary

Augustin Ronald Kaiser Child of Jason and Emily

St. Peter

Briar Michael Jutte Child of John & Ashley

Ivan Donald Rammel
Child of Nicholas & Andrea

### 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.

#### 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.

#### **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.

# Marriage Convalidation Congratulations!

Wyatt & Emily (Selhorst) Dirksen
Marriage Convalidated
Saturday, November 8, 2025
(St. Paul)

May God always bless you & may He bestow on you the gifts of a happy marriage.

## In Loving Memory...

Carol E. Knapke March 30, 1952 - November 9, 2025 (St. Peter)

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

#### **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 is on January 06, 2026. Please call 419-375-4153 to register. Coldwater Classes are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month at 7 pm. 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. 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

## Holy Cross Family of Parishes

**BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS** — All bulletin submissions for **DAY OF MERCY** — Priests will be available at Holy Trinity to the December 7th bulletin are due by Tuesday, November 25, 2025 to bulletin.holycrossfop@gmail.com.

**CANCELLATIONS** — The regularly scheduled Masses and Adoration at St. Paul, St. Anthony, and Briarwood are canceled on Thursday, November 27th due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

THANKSGIVING DAY MASSES — Mass will be held at 9 am at both Holy Trinity and Mary Help of Christians on Thursday, November 27th.

PARISH OFFICES CLOSED — Both parish offices will be closed on Wednesday, November 26th starting at Noon through Friday, November 28th for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

**RAFFLE TICKETS** — The Guatemala mission committee are selling raffle tickets for 2026 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 your assistance in aiding the people of La Labor.

FT. RECOVERY ORGANIST NEEDED — Our cluster is looking for an organist to assist with music ministry at weekend Masses once or twice a month. If you or someone you know has experience playing the organ or piano (willing to train on the organ) and would like to serve the church through music, please contact the Fort Recovery office at (419) 375-4153.

Advent Series
with

Fr. Witt Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> - Why we need Mary Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> - Mary, Mother of God Immaculate Conception Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> - Perpetual Virginity Dec. 21st - Assumption of Mary Fr. Yauss Center after the Holy Trinity 10 am Mass Mary Help of Christians Library at 7 pm

hear confessions on Thursday, December 4th from 8 am - 8 pm. Additional priests, not from our Family of Parishes, will be available from 8 am - 2 pm and 5 - 8 pm.

**REMINDER** — This week we will be operating with only three priests. Please pray for Fr. Moore as he is out of town. The remaining priests will do their best to make things run as smoothly as possible. Thank you for your patience in the case that something happens or needs to be canceled. Please pray for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life!

EMHC TRAINING/REFRESHER — Sessions will be held on Tuesday, December 2 at 7 pm in Holy Trinity's Grotto and Thursday, December 4 at 7 pm in MHC's Undercroft. Contact either parish office to let them know if you will be attending.

**WOMEN'S SOCIAL GROUP** — Meetings are the first & third Thursday of each month from 7:30 - 9 pm in the Grotto's St. Isidore room. Meetings are led by Fr. Ethan Moore. We are focusing on "Women in the Word" covering heroic women of the bible. The group is open to all adult women of the Holy Cross Family of Parishes and community.

**SERVANTS OF CHRIST** — This is a Holy Cross Family of Parishes mens group that meets every first and third Friday of every month at 4:30 am in the Grotto. Men of all ages are welcome to attend any or all meetings. Contact David Bettinger @ 419-852-2582 with any questions.

**WOMEN'S BOOK STUDY** — Meetings will be held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at 7:30 pm. The next meeting will be held at St. Peter Hall. The book "Home" will continue to be discussed. Have week 7 read for the next meeting.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY — Meetings will be held at 1184 Philothea Rd, Ft. Recovery, Ohio, from 7:30 - 8:30 pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month during November & December.



**BULLETIN SUBMISSION NOTICE: Submissions must** be received by 8:00 am, 10 days prior to the Sunday publication date unless otherwise noted. Please submit info to bulletin.holycrossfop@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS KICKOFF — November 29, 2025 from 9 am to Noon at MHC's church basement. Santa will be there along with facepainting, games, Christmas science experiments, shepard snack station, breakfast & coffee bar. Plus, all new: walk-thru interactive outdoor nativity journey. All are welcome!

#### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEMBERSHIP INVITATION

— Members of Coldwater Council 1991 and Ft. Recovery Council 3324 will be attending each of our Holy Cross Family of Parishes Masses on the weekend of November 23 with an invitation to join the Knights of Columbus. Our local K of C councils focus on faith, family, and serving others by supporting worthy community causes, and we have a little fun along the way. Men 18 years of age or older from all of our parish locations are welcomed to join. If you'd like to join today, please go to KofC.org/join and enter Council 1991 (Ref. 2419667) or Council 3324 (Ref 03587231). Our contact information is always listed in the bulletin if you ever have questions.

NON-PROFITS & PARISH EVENTS — All flyers or promotional materials for non-profit organizations or parish events must be approved by the Director of Communications per the direction of the pastor before distribution in any of our churches, and after approval, all materials will be distributed by Holy Cross Family staff members. Contact: (419) 678-4802 or bulletin.holycrossfop@gmail.com.

#### 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 businesses wanting to advertise in our bulletin, you may contact Sherry Montell with Diocesan @ smontell@diocesan.com or 614-301-7444.

**2026 MARIAN PILGRIMAGE THROUGH FRANCE** — Fr. Witt will be leading a pilgrimage tentatively from Sept. 14 - 24, 2026. More information to come in the near future.

SAVE THE DATE — Hope of the Poor Mission Trip with Holy Cross Family of Parishes is scheduled for June 4 - 9, 2027 in Mexico City. Fr. Witt will be the Chaplain. Cost will be \$850 plus airfare. Please fill out our interest form. \*Participants under 18 years old need to have a parent/guardian accompany them on the trip.

HEARTS ON FIRE: CAMPING WITH CHRIST

Registration is full for this event, but there is a wait list available if you would like to sign up in case those who are already registered are unable to attend. The event will be held at 4171 Burrville Rd., Coldwater, Ohio on Memorial

Day weekend, May 22-24, 2026. You must be registered in order to attend. Join the wait list using the QR Code provided.



Update: To receive items before Christmas, order by Dec. 1st

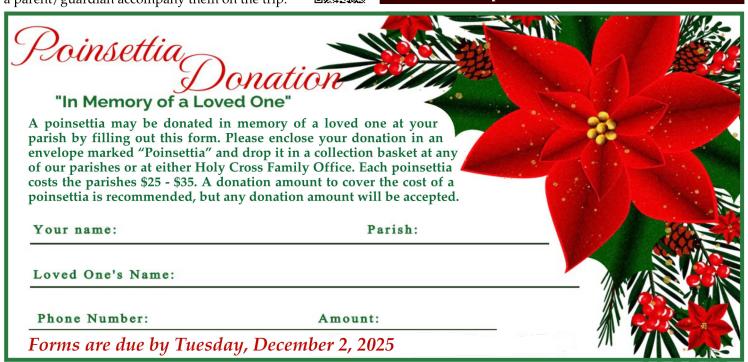
Celebrate

the Season!

New items have been added to our online store!



Christmas items will be available for purchase up until the New Year!





The Rescue Project presents the message of the gospel in a unique and compelling way, seeking to explore the following questions that many of us have:

- Why is there something rather than nothing?
- Why is everything so messed up?
- What, if anything, has God done about it?
- How will I respond?

Additional Date: Combined Retreat at Holy Trinity on 2/21/2026

### **HOLY TRINITY**

Mondays: 6:30-8:30 pm

January 12, 2026

January 19, 2026

January 26, 2026

February 2, 2026

February 9, 2026

February 16, 2026

February 23, 2026

### MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

Tuesdays: 6:30-8:30 pm

January 13, 2026

January 20, 2026

January 27, 2026

February 3, 2026

February 10, 2026

February 17, 2026

February 24, 2026

The Rescue Project registration is now available on our website at https://www.holycrossfop.org/events-activities. There is no cost. Pre-registration allows us to plan for food that will be provided.



our parish family for an overnight retreat filled with prayer, fellowship, and renewal in God's presence. This overnight retreat is a chance to be still, be refreshed, and to grow in faith with your sisters in Christ. WELCOME Women's Retreat for women (21+) will be held on Feb. 7 - 8, 2026 at Holy Trinity. Cost is free. Registration opens Jan. 3rd, 2026.

FAITH FUELED FRIDAY PRESENTS: Damascus Worship COME ENJOY A NIGHT OF MUSIC FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY AS WE PREPARE FOR CHRIST'S COMING! **ALL AGES WELCOME!** FRIDAY DECEMBER 5, 2025 **MUSIC AT 7PM** \*Vendors/Shopping: Before and after starting at 6 pm for all your faith-filled Christmas gifts \*Divine Little Ones Preschool Advent Craft station for the kids FORT RECOVERY E/MS AUDITERIA

**SAVE THE DATE** — You are invited to step away from the **SAVE THE DATE** — MEN!!! We are beyond pumped to host busyness of life and take time for you! Join other women from the first annual Men's WELCOME retreat (formerly known as CRHP) within the Holy Cross Family of Parishes early next year! Mark your calendars for Mar. 7 - 8, 2026! Come attend this retreat to strengthen your relationship with God and gain a strong men's community! This free, overnight retreat is open to all Men 21+ and older and will be held at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in the Grotto. All meals will be provided! Only 25 spots will be available. Registration opens Jan. 3rd!

### Parish App Feature-of-the-Week



- Helpful Confession guide
- See available times
- Set useful reminders for your next Confession

Learn more or download our parish app at myparishapp.com

\*Available on Apple and Android Phones

Follow the instructions after downloading the App. Note: To find our parish family allow location services through the App or type in 💾 either of our zip codes: 45828 or 45846



## Parish Information

THE **FROM** BUSINESS Holy Trinity **MANAGER** — As mentioned in our recent annual business summary, we

are currently budgeting our Parish Permanent Improvement fund (PPI Envelopes and PPI Online giving) to address three major projects within the next 5 years. These include a new roof, new gutters/spouting/downspouts and a complete resurface of the parking lot. Our goal is to set aside \$175,000 each year over the next 4 years (or roughly \$14,500/month). For reference, July PPI was \$4,300, August \$5,100, September \$11,200 and October \$26,300 for an average of \$11,725. We kindly ask you to keep this in mind as you make your weekly/monthly or special donations. The PPI envelopes are a separate donation from the normal weekly contribution envelopes and online giving. Working together, we can continue to keep Holy Trinity's buildings and grounds well maintained and a special place for worship.

**HELP NEEDED** — It's that time of year again where we will be switching out the books in church for the next liturgical year. Please help us switch out books after the Noon Mass on Wednesday, November 26th at Holy Trinity.

HOLY TRINITY CHOIR — Join our choirs: Mixed Choir -Thursdays from 7 - 8:15 pm for 10 am Sunday Mass; Cantors -Saturday Mass at 4:30 pm and Sunday Mass at 8:00 am; Children's Choir - Wednesdays from 4:30 - 5:15 pm (starts Oct. 29th); and Resurrection Choir - Gather at 9:45 am day of funeral (funerals typically start at 10:30 am). Questions contact: Ron Johnson at rjohnson.holycrossfop@gmail.com.

ADVENT CANDLES — Advent candles are available at \$5.00 per set in Holy Trinity's sacristy.



Reminder gifts and gift cards for the Angel Tree are due back by November 30th. Please place all gifts in the East Wing entrance. If you did not take a tag and would like to make a financial donation, you may do so by placing your donation in an envelope marked "Holy Trinity Angel Tree" and drop it in the Sunday collection. Please make checks out to Holy Trinity with Angel Tree in memo. Contact Lisa at (419) 852-4481 with any questions. Thank you!





M E R C E R
COUNTY ANGEL
TREE TAGS — This

**ns** wonderful program connects generous people to local

families who need a helping hand this Christmas season. Tags are available in the main entrance of Mary Help of Christians, St. Peter, and St. Joe churches. If you 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 7th. Thanks for your continuous help with this project year after year. If you have any questions, please call Mary at (419) 852-6213.

**HELP NEEDED** — We are looking for someone to launder the altar cloths at Mary Help of Christians. If interested, please call the Fort Recovery Office at (419) 375-4153.

**FUNERAL DESSERT COMMITTEE** — We want to thank all the ladies for donating desserts. If anyone would like to join the group, please contact Mary Granger: (419) 375-4342, or Mary Barman: (419) 852-1817.

**ADVENT PARTY** — Mary Help of Christians Ladies Sodality will be having their Advent party on Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 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 December 13<sup>th</sup>.



## GATHERING FOR FELLOWSHIP —

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month, at 8:00 am, you are invited to join St. Anthony

parishioners for 30 minutes of prayer in the church. Then join at the Pub for coffee and some good conversation. Everyone is invited! You are welcome to join in at the church and pub or either of the two. If you have any questions or opinions please call (419) 852-8741. Looking forward to seeing everyone!



OFFERTORY
NOTICE — Anyone
wishing to sign up for
offertory can sign up in the
back of church.

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

**LOCAL FAMILIES IN NEED** — The Ladies Sodality will have a locked box in the back of church for monetary donations from November 9<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup>. Please consider donating to help make the Christmas season brighter for these families.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING — The CYO will be Christmas caroling on Wednesday, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> from 6:45 to 8 pm. If you or someone you know in the Philothea area would like to be added to our visits, please contact Kim at (937) 638-1380.

**ST. MARY LADIES SODALITY CHRISTMAS PARTY** — Join us for a festive evening of fun and fellowship on December 1, 2025. Cocktails at 6:30 pm with dinner at 7 pm at the Philothea School Hall. Sign up in the back of church from November 1<sup>st</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup>. Let's celebrate the joy of the season together.



M E R C E R
COUNTY ANGEL
TREE TAGS — This
wonderful program

connects generous people to local

families who need a helping hand this Christmas season. Tags are available in the main entrance of Mary Help of Christians, St. Peter, and St. Joe churches. If you 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 7th. Thanks for your continuous help with this project year after year. If you have any questions, please call Mary at (419) 852-6213.

CLEANING — (November) \*\*Jenni Jones, Nicole Pottkotter, Carrie Lamm, Lindsey Lamm, Amy Steinbrunner, Sara Leuthold

St. Paul

ST. PAUL GIVING
TREE — Help families
who need extra support
this Christmas by taking an
ornament from the Giving Tree in

the entrance of St. Paul church. Purchase the item listed on the ornament, and return under the tree by Dec. 7. It really helps if the gift is in a box that can be wrapped by Grades 7-12. Thank you for all the generous support in the past. All gifts are greatly appreciated. If you prefer, drop a gift card or cash in the collection in an envelope with St. Paul Giving Tree on the envelope. Gift cards for groceries are always included for the families. If you have extra wrapping paper, please place under the tree as well. Call or text Helen at (419) 852-0763 with any questions.

**LADIES SODALITY CHRISTMAS PARTY** — The party will be Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> with cocktails at 6:00 and dinner at 6:30 pm. A short meeting will follow. A sign-up sheet will be in the church until December 2<sup>nd</sup> for reservations. ALL ladies of the parish are invited and encouraged to join us for food, fellowship, and fun!!

St. Peter

MERCER COUNTY ANGEL TREE TAGS

— This wonderful program connects generous people to local families who need a

helping hand this Christmas season. Tags are available in the main entrance of Mary Help of Christians, St. Peter, and St. Joe churches. If you 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 7<sup>th</sup>. Thanks for your continuous help with this project year after year. If you have any questions, please call Mary at (419) 852-6213.

- · Go to FORMED.org
- Click "sign up as a parishioner", find our parish, & enter zip code: 45828.

 Make an account by entering your name and email, then you are good to go!



## Religious Education

## Coldwater Religious Ed.

#### Contact: Sarah Klosterman

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

#### **ATTENTION:**

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD — We are in need of parent volunteers to help bring children to and from church during Mass, assist with activities, and ensure all children are safely returned to their parents. To meet Safe Environment guidelines, we must have one adult for every ten children; if we are unable to meet this ratio, we may have to discontinue the program.

We would very much like to avoid this, so if you can help even once a month, please sign up using the QR code or contact Sarah Klosterman. Your help makes a big difference!



**BUILDING MONITORS NEEDED** — We are in need of 4-5 building monitors at each of our parishes. You will be assigned to a specific week of the month and will help ensure the safety of our students, especially at drop off and pick up. Please reach out to Sarah Klosterman if interested!

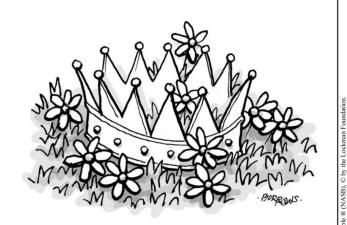
**SUBSTITUTES NEEDED** — Substitutes are also needed to help ensure things run smoothly on Wednesday nights. If you are interested you would be given a lesson to cover on the nights you sub and can specify which parish and age range you would prefer before you would be added to the contact list. Please reach out to Sarah Klosterman if interested!

**NO CLASS** — Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> - Thanksgiving Break

ST. MARY & ST. ANTHONY CONFESSIONS — Dec. 3rd

#### The Little Ones

Jim Burrows



And he was saying, "Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom!" And He said to him, "Truly I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise." Lk 23:42-43

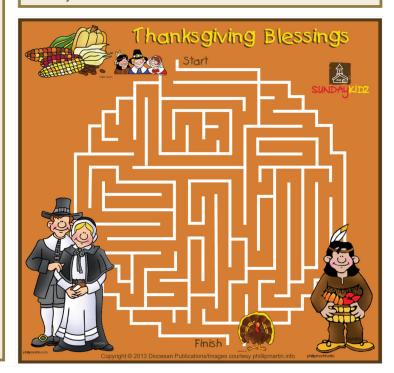
### Fort Recovery Religious Ed.

#### Contact: Harlie Metzger

hmetzger.holycrossfop@gmail.com, 419-375-4153

#### **ATTENTION:**

NO CLASS — November 26th, Thanksgiving Break SUNDAY SCHOOL — Classes are held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month.



#### Saint of the Week - Saint Catherine of Alexandria

According to the Legend of St. Catherine, this young converted Christianity after receiving a vision. At the age of 18, she debated philosophers. Amazed at her wisdom and debating skills, they became Christians—as did about 200 soldiers and members of the emperor's family. All of them were martyred. Sentenced to be executed on a spiked wheel, Catherine of Alexandria touched the wheel and it



shattered. She was beheaded. Centuries later, angels are said to have carried the body of Saint Catherine to a monastery at the foot of Mt. Sinai. Devotion to her spread as a result of the Crusades. Catherine of Alexandria was invoked as the patroness of students, teachers, librarians and lawyers. Catherine is one of the 14 Holy Helpers, venerated especially in Germany and Hungary.

- Information obtained from franciscanmedia.org

## Youth Ministry

### Coldwater Youth Group

Contact: Maria Gruss

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

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24** — 11:18 - 11:45 am | High School Men's & Ladies Lunch @ The Fr. Yauss Basement (grades 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>)

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25** — 7 - 8 am | Christ & Coffee @ Rooster Joe (grades 7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>)

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2** — 7 - 8 am | Christ & Coffee @ Rooster Joe (grades 7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>)

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3** —7:45 - 8:45 pm | Fishers of Fun Rec Night @ The Fr. Yauss Basement (Ages 12+)

**STEUBENVILLE** — All 8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to Steubenville 2026 July 10-12. All forms and \$50 deposit must be turned into Maria by December 1<sup>st</sup>. Any questions contact Maria.

### Fort Fiat Youth Group

Contact: Natalie Ashbaugh nashbaugh.holycrossfop@gmail.com

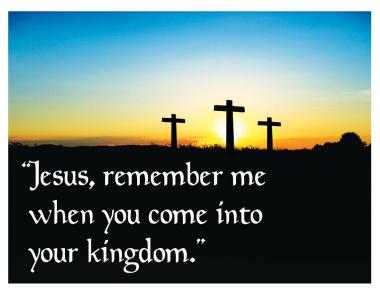
#### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**TO THE HEIGHTS** — Tuesdays 3:30-4:30 at MHC ( $6^{th}$  -  $8^{th}$  grade)

**LADIES YOUTH GROUP** — Tuesdays 7:15-8 am at MHC Youth Group Room (9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade)

**MEN'S YOUTH GROUP** — No Men's Group this week due to Thanksgiving break.

**STEUBENVILLE** — All 8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to Steubenville 2026 July 10-12. All forms and \$50 deposit must be turned into Natalie by December 1<sup>st</sup>. Any questions contact Natalie.







## Community Interests

GIVING THANKS — A free community Thanksgiving Day meal, will be held at Coldwater American Legion on Thurs., Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>, serving from 11 am - 1:30 pm. Dine-in or carry-outs are available. There is no charge, but donations are accepted to defray the cost of the meal. Canned goods, dry goods, and monetary donations will also be accepted for the Holy Trinity Food Pantry. Delivery for home bound will also be available. Call Marilyn Kahlig, 419-852-0428. Anyone willing to make desserts for Giving Thanks or anyone willing to volunteer at Giving Thanks, please call Marilyn Kahlig, 419-852-0428.

**DISCERNMENT DAY WITH THE DOMINICAN SISTERS OF ST. CECILIA** — The Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia will host a discernment retreat day on Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup> (10 am - 4:30 pm). Open to single Catholic women ages 17 - 30, the event includes Mass, prayer with the sisters, Adoration, spiritual talks, and lunch at St. Gertrude Catholic Church. For more information or to RSVP, please email vocation@op-tn. org. Come spend time with the Lord, and get a glimpse of the beauty of religious life!

NATIONAL NIGHT OF PRAYER FOR LIFE — The 36<sup>th</sup> annual National Night of Prayer for Life will be held at the Spiritual Center chapel, Maria Stein, starting at 7 - 11 pm, Mon., Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025. 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.

**WANTED** — Able body workers needed at St. John Bosco School & Training Center in Jamaica for 7 to 10 days; 8 till 6 work day. Temp. 65-85° around Feb. 8, 2026. Need a passport. Need more info, call Dennis Siefring: 419-852-9063.

MEN'S OPEN SPIRITUAL EXERCISES/RETREAT -Friday-Sunday, January 9-10, 2026 at the Spiritual Center of Maria Stein (2365 St. Johns Road, Maria Stein, Ohio 45860). Registration starts on Friday, January 9th, 2026 at 6 pm. Welcome at 7:30 pm. Retreat ends Sunday, January 11th, 2026 at 1 pm after Mass and Lunch. There is no meal on Friday night. Cost per participant: \$250 before December 19th and \$275 after that date. This includes single room and bath, all meals and fees. Spiritual Exercises are limited to 25 Participants. This "Spiritual Exercises/Retreat" is silent and is according to the methods and principles of St. Ignatius of Loyola and includes meditations, conferences, Mass, confession, Program of Life, opportunity for confession, spiritual direction and personal prayer. The retreat is preached by a priest of the Legionaries of Christ. Register online at: www.rcohiovalley.org by Friday, December 19th, 2025. For more information regarding the Retreat contact: Jay Brown at E-mail: Jab84@nktelco.net or Phone: (419) 733-5819.

CATHOLIC NURSE SOCIETY — We encourage all nurses to join us for fellowship, prayer, and fun conversations that are uniquely about the joys, triumphs, and hardships of being a nurse. Meetings are held at 11 am on the first Saturday of each month, second floor, at the Shrine of the Holy Relics in Maria Stein. We hope you will join us. Contact Janet Munday with any questions, (419) 954-1670 voice/text.

## Stewardship

### Did You Know?

#### Qualified Charitable Distributions

- If you are over age 70 ½ and required by the IRS to take annual distributions from your IRA account, you have the option to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from your IRA account directly to the church.
- QCD's will satisfy your annual distribution requirement and will not be included in your taxable income for the year. This could be a great way to save taxes and financially support the church. For more details on Qualified Charitable Distributions from your IRA account, please contact your tax advisor.



Thank you for your generosity!

## Contributions

#### November 3 - 9, 2025 **Holy Trinity** Mary Help of Christians Offertory.....\$10,414.00 Offertory.....\$5,551.00 Military .....\$ 1,694.00 Loose.....\$2,491.00 732.00 Total .....\$8,042.00 Flowers.....\$ Religious Ed.....\$ 20.00 Perm. Improvement.....\$2,583.00 Food Pantry.....\$ 20.00 Candles.....\$ 165.00 250.00 Military ......\$3,639.55 Youth Group .....\$ Allocated Loose .........\$ 1,022.89 St. Anthony Offertory.....\$ 290.00 St. Joseph Offertory.....\$ 4,139.00 Loose.....\$ 215.00 Military .....\$ 231.00 Total ...... \$ 505.00 Flowers.....\$ 65.00 Perm. Improvement.....\$ 420.00 Allocated Loose ......\$ 213.61 Military .....\$1,314.00 Cemetery ...... \$ 100.00 St. Paul Offertory.....\$ 1,750.00 Military .....\$ 792.00 Offertory.....\$ 625.00 Flowers.....\$ 260.00 Loose.....\$ 501.00 Total .....\$1,126.00 Maintenance.....\$ 200.00 All Saints.....\$ 25.00 Perm. Improvement.....\$ 495.00 Allocated Loose .....\$ 435.90 Cemetery ...... \$ 83.00 Military .....\$ 281.00 Respect Life ...... \$ 60.00 Offertory.....\$ 2,425.00 941.00 Military .....\$ 340.00 150.00 All Saints....\$

Allocated Loose ......\$ 345.60

## Contact Information

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 Administrative Assistants

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

#### **Director of Communications**

Lisa Cowan - bulletin.holycrossfop@gmail.com CCD Offices

Harlie Metzger - (MHC/SJ/SPL/SPT) hmetzger.holycrossfop@gmail.com Sarah Klosterman - (HT/SM/SA) sklosterman.holycrossfop@gmail.com Youth Ministry

Maria Gruss - (HT/SM/SA) mgruss.holycrossfop@gmail.com Natalie Ashbaugh - (MHC/SJ/SPL/SPT) nashbaugh.holycrossfop@gmail.com Director of Adult Evangelization

Cindy Muhlenkamp - cmuhlenkamp.holycrossfop@gmail.com

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 419-375-4153

Parish Life Coordinator

Cindy Muhlenkamp - (SA) 419-678-4802 Stephanie Wendel - (SM) 419-733-2930

#### 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, Katie Fortkamp

(SA) - Julie Brackman - 419-942-1580

(SJ) - Maria Bergman

(SM) - Diane Geier - 419-678-4470

(SPL) - Susan Bertke

(SPT) - Anna Roessner, Mary Gaerke, Paige Dysert

#### **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) kathyportz@gmail.com Charmaine Bettinger - (HT/SM/SA) cbettinger.holycrossfop@gmail.com Family Council Representatives

(HT) -Brooks Topp 419-953-3633 & Tim Wellman 567-644-1739 (MHC) - Hannah Bihn 419-852-4528 & Tim Hart 567-644-3922 (SA) - Chuck Post 419-942-1133 & Cindy Homan 419-852-9686 (SJ) - Grant Pottkotter 419-852-6313 & Aimee Pottkotter 419-852-7637 (SM) - Adam Liette 419-852-5868 & Amy Welling 419-852-5473 (SPL) - Mitch Stammen 419-852-3265 & Lindsey Reinhard 419-852-4446 (SPT) - Isaac Siegrist 419-852-2710 & Trisha Dues 419-733-2434 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

## 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

**Deacon Roger Kaiser:** rkaiser.holycrossfop@gmail.com

**COLDWATER KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #1991** 

Grand Knight — Mike Hoying 937-594-2816

FORT RECOVERY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #3324

Grand Knight — Calvin May 419-852-6973 Deputy Grand Knight — Joe Knapke 419-852-5188

**OUR LADY OF FATIMA DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA #810** 

Regent — Lindsey Reinhard 419-852-4446 Vice Regent — Chrissy Hart 419-852-7743

ST. ANN'S ROSARY ALTAR SODALITY
President — Julie Pleiman 419-953-7116
Vice President — Katie Hamberg 513-614-5117

If interested in joining one of the above organizations, call the number listed.



#### This week we highlight:

Midwest Plumbing & Heating Rose Construction & Electric, Inc. Professional Family Eyecare Roessner Energy Products, Inc. Ray's Refrigeration, Inc. Grube Auctioneering LLC/ Lakeshore Realtors Wabash Mutual Telephone

#### **Church Bulletin Advertising**

Attention Business Owners, Professionals, Self-Employed and Families!

**Bulletin Advertising Opportunities Available!** 

Sherry Montell representing Diocesan (our Bulletin Publisher) is currently seeking new advertisers and sponsors. Support our parish, while you promote your business digitally and in print. If interested, please contact Sherry directly (feel free to text).

DIOCESAN
Catholic Life Every Day

Contact

Sherry Montell smontell@diocesan.com 614-301-7444



Thanks to you and Diocesan, the bulletin is published weekly at no cost to the parish!

