

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 14, 2025
Third Sunday of Advent

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, December 15 <i>Advent Weekday</i>	Bob Wourms †	FBS	7:15 am (L/S)	Holy Trinity	After Mass
	L/D Elmer & MaryLou Klenke †	FAW	6:45 pm	St. Peter	5:45 - 6:30 pm
Tuesday, December 16 <i>Advent Weekday</i>	Joan Hesson †	FEM	7:15 am	St. Mary	After Mass
	L/D Donald Kunk Family †	FJP	6:45 pm	St. Joseph	5:45 - 6:30 pm
Wednesday, December 17 <i>Advent Weekday</i>	L/D William & Virginia Butsch Family †	FJP	7:15 am (L/S)	MHC	After Mass
	L/D Ralph & Dorothy Harlamert †	FEM	Noon (L/S)	Holy Trinity	11:30 am - end
Thursday, December 18 <i>Advent Weekday</i>	Becky Rammel †	FJP	7:15 am	St. Paul	After Mass
	Dale Sutter †	FEM	6:45 pm	St. Anthony	5:45 - 6:30 pm
Friday, December 19 <i>Advent Weekday</i>	Robert Beckman †	FJP	7:15 am (L/S)	Holy Trinity	After Mass
	L/D Art & Esther Everman Family †	FEM	Noon (L/S)	MHC	11:30 am - end
Saturday, December 20 <i>Advent Weekday</i>	L/D Clarence & Janet Langenkamp †	FBS	9:00 am	St. Joseph	After Mass
	Ginny Schaefer †	FBS/DRK	4:00 pm	St. Anthony	3:15 - 3:45 pm
	Don Ahrens †	FAW	4:30 pm	Holy Trinity	3:45 - 4:15 pm
	Wilma Link †	FEM	4:30 pm (L/S)	MHC	3:45 pm - end
Sunday, December 21 <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i>	Members of Holy Cross Family of Parishes	FEM	7:00 am	St. Joseph	N/A
	Hein & Berger Families †	FBS	8:00 am (L/S)	Holy Trinity	7:25 am - end
	Robert Portz †	FJP	9:00 am (L/S)	MHC	8:25 am - end
	Bill Obringer †	FAW	10:00 am (L/S)	Holy Trinity	9:25 am - end
	Mary Rammel †	FJP/DDK	11:00 am	St. Paul	10:25 - 10:45 am
	L/D Norbert Roessner Family †	FEM	11:00 am	St. Peter	10:25 - 10:45 am
	Raymond J. Wenning †	FBS	Noon	St. Mary	11:25 - 11:45 am
	Robert & Evelyn Geise †	FAW	6:00 pm	Holy Trinity	5:15 - 5:45 pm

MASSSES 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);
Deacon Dan Kahlig (DDK); Deacon Roger Kaiser (DRK)

Adoration Schedules

Mon., SPT: 5:45 - 6:30 pm Wed., HT: 8 am - 11:45 am
Tues., SM: 7:45 am - Noon Thurs., SPL: 7:45 am - 5 pm
Tues., SJ: 8:30 am - 6:30 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, December 17, 7:15 am

Servers: Charlie Roessner, Chris Timmerman

Lector: Pauline Faller

Friday, December 19, 12:00 pm

Servers: Blaise Bergman

Lector: Keshia Willmann

Saturday, December 20, 4:30 pm

Servers: Anthony Roessner, John Bihn, Tucker Huntsman

Lector: Diane Siegrist

EMHC: Esther Heitkamp, Linda Lennartz

Sacristan: Mark Roessner

Ushers: Floyd Bergman, Don Lennartz, Joe Siegrist, LaVern Grube

Sunday, December 21, 9:00 am

Servers: Will Faller, Cora Pearson, Lucas Winner, Elijah Grieshop, Ezekial Grieshop

Lector: Tom Remaklus

EMHC: Tom Remaklus, Wes Kahlig

Sacristan: Dan & Grace Jutte

Ushers: Doug Schmitz, Greg Schmitz, Steve Vogel, Steve Wendel

– St. Joseph –

Tuesday, December 16, 6:45 pm

Servers: Tyler Dues, Levi Sutter

Lector: Ryan Sutter

Sacristan: Shel Sutter

Saturday, December 20, 9:00 am

Servers: Braxton Schmitz

Lector: Mary Gaerke

Sunday, December 21, 7:00 am

Servers: Tyler Dues, Haley Easton, Blaise Bergman, Hudson Pottkotter

Lector: Paige Schulze

EMHC: Holly Grube

Sacristan: Paige Schulze

Ushers: Allen Grube, Ed Dues

– St. Paul –

Thursday, December 18, 7:15 am

Servers: Maddie Weigel

Sunday, December 21, 11:00 am

Servers: AJ Sieftring, Maddie Weigel, Katelyn Sieftring, Lindsey Sieftring

Lector: Marcia Weigel

EMHC: Deacon Dan Kahlig, Marcia Weigel

Ushers: Matt Reinhard, John Fortkamp

Rosary: Jerry & Bec Bihn

– St. Peter –

Monday, December 15, 6:45 pm

Servers: Chris Timmerman

Lector: Marilyn Pottkotter

Sunday, December 21, 11:00 am

Servers: Isaac Roessner, Alex Roessner, Charlie Roessner, Theresa Hipple, James Pottkotter, Francis Pottkotter

Lector: Jane Hipple

EMHC: Jane Hipple

Sacristan: Jane Hipple

Ushers: Tom Post, Mitchell Pugh

– Holy Trinity –

Monday, December 15, 7:15 am

Servers: Kennley Siegrist, Grace Siegrist, Mya Siegrist

Lector: Rene Klosterman

Wednesday, December 17, 12:00 pm

Servers: Leo Grigsby, Leo Huelskamp

Lector: Nancy Clune

Friday, December 19, 7:15 am

Servers: Blake Wenning, Reagan Wenning, Kendall Wenning

Lector: Rita Riethman

Saturday, December 20, 4:30 pm

Servers: Isabelle Schwieterman, Alex Schwieterman, Leo Huelskamp

Lector: Denny Riethman

EMHC: Denny Riethman, Michelle Wilker, Brenda Schwieterman

Sunday, December 21, 8:00 am

Servers: Sam Grigsby, Leo Grigsby, Samuel Gerlach

Lector: Dan Fullenkamp

EMHC: Chuck Alig, Tim Wellman

Sunday, December 21, 10:00 am

Servers: Dillan Wenning, Clara Knapke, Dana Knapke, Myra Knapke

Lector: Gary Griesdorn

EMHC: Luke Klosterman, Kathy Schulze, Nancy Wolters

Sunday, December 21, 6:00 pm

Servers: Liam Cowan, Gabriel Simper

Lector: Charmaine Bettinger

EMHC: Sarah Klosterman, Dan Fullenkamp

– St. Anthony –

Thursday, December 18, 6:45 pm

Servers: Wesley Geier

Lector: Paul Welling

Sacristan: Janet Brockman

Saturday, December 20, 4:00 pm

Servers: Nolan Link, Lacey Link, Jack Link, Hailey Grey

Lector: Paul Welling

EMHC: Tana Sudhoff

Sacristan: Cindy Homan

Ushers: Greg Alig, Nick Dues

Rosary: Marty Knapke

– St. Mary –

Tuesday, December 16, 7:15 am

Servers: Sam Grigsby, Leo Grigsby

Lector: Stephanie Wendel

Sunday, December 21, 12:00 pm

Servers: Derek Dues, Trent Dues, Gibson Dues, Kali Uhlenhake

Lector: Amy Welling

EMHC: Kyle Uhlenhake

Ushers: Craig Uhlenhake, Carl Harting



Message from the Priests

💖💖💖💖🎵 An Advent Emoji Hymn 🎵💖💖💖💖

Lo, How a Rose 🌹 E'er Blooming
from tender stem 🌱 hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming,
as men of old have sung. 🎤
It came, a blossom 🍒 bright,
amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night. 🌙

Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
the Rose I have in mind; 🧠
Mary we behold it,
the Virgin 👩 Mother kind.
To show God's love 🔥 aright,
she bore to us a Savior, when half spent was the night. 🌙

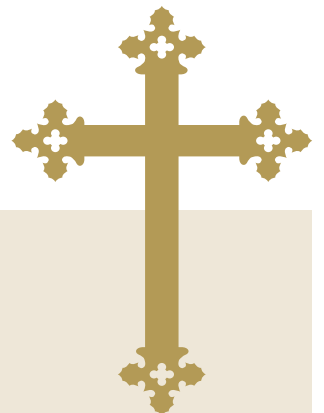
The shepherds 🐑 heard the story
proclaimed by angels 🙌 bright,
How Christ, the Lord of glory 🙌
was born on earth 🌍 this night.
To Bethlehem they sped 🚗 and in the manger found him, As angel heralds said.

This Flower 🌻 whose fragrance tender
with sweetness fills the air 🌬️,
Dispels with glorious splendor the darkness 🌑 everywhere.
True Man, yet very God, 🧔
from sin and earth he saves us and lightens every load 🏋️.

O Savior, child 🧒 of Mary,
who felt our human woe 😞,
O Savior, King 👑 of glory,
who dost our weakness know;
Bring us at length 📖 we pray,
To the bright courts of ☁️ Heaven, and to the endless day!



Check out the link to listen to the song! - Fr. Ethan



Sacramental Information

Marriage Congratulations!

Logan & Taylor (Stachler) Hartnagel
Married Saturday, November 29, 2025
(St. Paul)

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

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.

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.*



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 3rd 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. 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

WEATHER CANCELLATION POLICY — In the case of inclement weather, our goal is to have Mass at the location where it is regularly scheduled. If all of our priests are unable to make it to the scheduled location (St. Anthony, St. Mary, St. Joseph, St. Peter, or St. Paul), then the Mass will be relocated to either Holy Trinity or Mary Help of Christians. The Mass will also be live streamed from that location as well. In the case of a relocation, notices will be sent out as soon as possible through our Facebook, MyParish App, Website Announcements page, and OneCall system.

ADD/UPDATE INFORMATION FOR ONE CALL NOW — Holy Cross Family Parishioners are able to update their contact information for the One Call Now System via a link on our website, holycrossfop.org. Click on SIGN UP/EDIT ONE CALL on the left side of the screen. You can also add yourself to the groups that receive alerts regarding changes. Also, after signing up text the word "alert" to 22300 to receive text updates. These are very beneficial for CCD, Mass, & Adoration cancellations.

Parents of Second Grade Girls

Parents, please sign up your 2nd grade daughter to carry up baby Jesus for one of the below Christmas Masses.



Carry Up Baby Jesus!

Below Masses are still in need:

December 24

4:30 pm - Holy Trinity
 11:00 pm - St. Mary

December 25

Midnight - Holy Trinity
 Midnight - MHC
 8:00 am - St. Peter
 9:00 am - St. Anthony
 10:00 am - St. Joseph

Call Coldwater or Fort Recovery Parish Office to Sign-Up.

ADORATION CANCELLATIONS — Adoration is canceled at Holy Trinity on Wednesday, December 24th; St. Paul on Thursday, December 25th; and St. Anthony on Thursday, December 25th.

MASS & CONFESSION CANCELLATIONS — There will be no Noon Mass at Holy Trinity on Wednesday, December 24th. Also, the regularly scheduled Masses at St. Paul, St. Anthony, and Briarwood on Thursday, December 25th are all canceled. Please see the Christmas Schedule for Christmas Eve & Christmas Mass times for December 24th & 25th.

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.

ST. ANTHONY BEAUTIFICATION UPDATE — **Mass Relocation:** The Thursday 6:45 pm and Saturday 4 pm Masses will be held at the St. Anthony school from Sat., Jan. 31st through Sat., Mar. 28th while the Sanctuary undergoes painting and new flooring installation. To ensure a safe and beautiful worship space, the church will be closed during this time for painting and scaffolding. **Confession:** Confession will continue to be offered before Mass in the 3rd classroom at the St. Anthony school. **Gratitude & Support:** We appreciate all the support and continue to accept donations! An updated project plan is available at the entrance of the church.

A graphic with a dark green background featuring a bright starburst in the upper left and a silhouette of a church with a glowing window in the lower left. The text is white and gold.

*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 - Holy Trinity
Midnight - MHC
8:00 am - Holy Trinity
8:00 am - St. Peter
9:00 am - MHC
9:00 am - St. Anthony
10:00 am - Holy Trinity
10:00 am - St. Joseph
11:00 am - St. Paul

Note: Christmas songs by the choir will be starting @ 11:30 pm before the Midnight Masses

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.


BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS — Bulletin submissions for the December 28th bulletin are due by Monday, December 15, 2025. All bulletin submissions for the January 4th bulletin are due by Thursday, December 18, 2025. All are due by the usual 8 am deadline. Please send submissions to bulletin.holycrossfop@gmail.com

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 UPDATE — Meetings will be held every 2nd 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 8 read for the next meeting.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY UPDATE — Meetings will be held the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month at 1184 Philothea Rd, Ft. Recovery, Ohio, from 7:30 - 8:30 pm starting again in January.

A graphic with a warm, golden-yellow background. On the left is a detailed illustration of a monstrance with a host inside, surrounded by rays of light. The text is in various fonts and colors, including red and gold.

(A Personal Gift to Jesus)...
Candlelit Adoration w/ Christmas Lights
December 23, 2025
St. Mary: 7:45 am - Noon
St. Joseph: 8:30 am - 6:30 pm
Mary Help of Christians: 6:30 - 7:30 pm
Holy Trinity: 6:30 - 7:30 pm
St. Anthony: 6:30 - 7:30 pm
St. Paul: 6:30 - 7:30 pm
St. Peter: 6:30 - 7:30 pm
(Please Note: St. Mary & St. Joseph's will not have candle light during the entire duration of the adoration hours above.)

Submit your questions for the priests and RSVPs to Sarah @ 419-234-3152 or kahligss@gmail.com

***Please try to have questions submitted by January 9th**

PRIEST ROUNDTABLE

Featuring: Our Holy Cross Family of Parishes Priests!

Friday, January 16, 2026
7pm (Social @ 6:30)
MHC Undercroft

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.

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.

ADVENT SERIES WITH FR. WITT — The remaining meetings will be held on the following Sundays in December: 14th (Perpetual Virginity) & 21st (Assumption of Mary) at the Fr. Yauss Center after the Holy Trinity 10 am Mass & in Mary Help of Christians Library at 7 pm. All are welcome!

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS — Help our elders in good times and bad. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have dedicated themselves to service and acts of mercy. Today, they pray for an aching world. Yet years of serving for little or no pay have left their religious communities without enough retirement savings. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please be generous during this weekend's second collection.

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.



SAVE THE DATE — You are invited to step away from the busyness of life and take time for you! Join other women from 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.

SAVE THE DATE — **MEN!!!** We are beyond pumped to host 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!

Celebrate the Season!

New items have been added to our online store!



All proceeds will benefit

Holy Cross Family of Parishes.

Thank you for your Support!




Product options and pricing is available online using the QR code above or https://designsemb.com/holy_cross

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

My Parish App - Advent Features



Advent 2025

Advent Reflections: Through our partnership with Ave Maria Press, reflections from the book *Let Heaven and Nature Sing: Daily Prayers for Advent and Christmas* will be available!



Higher Ground

Higher Ground - Advent Podcast
The Podcast by Elevated Parish Missions that helps ignite a deeper love for Christ throughout the Advent Season.



Merry Beggars

A Christmas Carol - Audio Drama
Through our partnership with The Merry Beggars, listen to the classic story of Ebenezer Scrooge in an audio Advent calendar! Enjoy 25 10-minute episodes, one for each day of Advent. Brought to life with an award-winning cast, Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol will cheer and inspire you in the classic tale of redemption.



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



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.



the RESCUE project



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.



Please Consider Donating to our Holy Cross Family...

GUARDIAN ANGEL PROGRAM

Dear Parishioners,

Both Coldwater & Ft. Recovery youth group will be implementing the Guardian Angel Program again this year. The Guardian Angel Program is a sponsorship program where parishioners can donate to help offset the cost of different Catholic youth camps. Some examples of these camps include, but are not limited to, Steubenville, CYSC and Catholic Heart Work Camp. Parishioners can donate to the Guardian Angel Program at any time throughout the year by putting their donation in an envelope and writing "Fort Fiat Guardian Angel Program" or "Coldwater Youth Ministry Guardian Angel Program" on the outside of the envelope. These donations can be placed in the collection baskets or dropped off at one of the parish offices anytime. General donations will be split between all teens/students attending Catholic camps. Sponsored donations are when you specify a particular teen/student you'd like to donate to. These donations will go directly to that particular teen/student.

This year our youth are invited to attend the Steubenville Youth Conference. In the past, these weekends have become a life-changing experience for the teens. This conference encourages the continuation of a deep faith rooted in the Eucharist and the understanding that God lives with them. However, the cost continues to grow. This is where the Guardian Angel Program will come into play this year...

The price for each student to attend the Steubenville Youth Conference this year is approximately \$330 - \$450. Each student is responsible for the full amount. This amount covers their registration fee for the weekend, provides meals, and transportation. **We're asking and hoping that generous patrons throughout our family of parishes will consider sponsoring a teen to attend Steubenville and help offset some of this balance.** Your generous donation can remain anonymous or you may sponsor a particular teen, and we will make sure the donation is directed appropriately. Truly, any help that you can give is appreciated! Your past generosity and thoughtfulness has helped numerous teens come home renewed in faith and joy of the Lord. Thank you! We are hoping that, once again, your thoughtfulness and generosity will help us defray some of the costs of this conference. Please prayerfully consider being a part of the Guardian Angel Program here within the Holy Cross Family of Parishes.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact Maria Gruss or Natalie Ashbaugh at mgruss.holycrossfop@gmail.com or nashbaugh.holycrossfop@gmail.com... Your generosity is appreciated!

May God continue to bless you and your families.

Maria Gruss & Natalie Ashbaugh

Holy Cross Family of Parishes

Youth Ministry Coordinators



Parish Information



Holy Trinity

FROM THE BUSINESS 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, October \$26,300, and November \$15,048 for an average of \$12,389.60. 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.

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

ADORERS NEEDED — Enjoy a chance to spend time with the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament at Holy Trinity on Wed., Dec. 17th anywhere from 3 - 9 pm. If interested in filling one of these time slots, please use the QR code or contact Sarah at sklosterman.holycrossfop@gmail.com or (419) 678-4802.

ANGEL TREE — THANK YOU to all who donated gifts and gift cards for this year's Angel Tree. Blessings to all!



St. Anthony

GATHERING FOR FELLOWSHIP —

Every 2nd 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!

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT — The St. Anthony religion students will present their Christmas Pageant on Wed., Dec. 17th at 6:30 pm in the gym. All are invited to attend! Adoration will be held in the church from 6:30 - 7:30 pm, and everyone is encouraged to stay and take part. After adoration, snacks and drinks will be served in the school hall around 7:30 pm. Come celebrate the Christmas season with our students and parish family!

ADORERS NEEDED — Enjoy a chance to spend time with the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament at St. Anthony on Wed., Dec. 17th from 6:30 - 7:45 pm. If interested in filling this time slot, please use the QR code or contact Sarah at sklosterman.holycrossfop@gmail.com or (419) 678-4802.

BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT — Volunteers Needed. We need volunteers Mon., Jan. 26th – Sat., Jan. 31st to assist with: Removing pews, carpet, and etc. Moving statues, vessels, vestments, and other items. Helping set up the school for Mass during the renovation time period.



St. Mary

PATRIOTIC ROSARY —

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

ADORERS NEEDED — Enjoy a chance to spend time with the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament at St. Mary on Wed., Dec. 17th from 6:45 - 7:15 pm. If interested in filling this time slot, please use the QR code or contact Sarah at sklosterman.holycrossfop@gmail.com or (419) 678-4802



St. Joseph

CLEANING —

(December) **Casi

Grube, Angela Siegrist,

Holly Grube, Linda

Fullenkamp, Leanne Grube,

Elizabeth Hart, Jean Grube

CHRISTMAS DECORATING — All hands are welcomed on Monday, December 22nd @ 6:30 pm to set up Christmas decorations at St. Joseph. Thank you!

MERCER COUNTY ANGEL TREE PROGRAM — Thanks to all of you who donated and volunteered in any way for the 2025 Angel Tree Program. Without your continued support and donations this program would not be a success. The committee would like to wish everyone a "Very Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year".



St. Peter

ST. PETER LADIES SODALITY —

Monday, December 29th,

Doors open at 5:30 pm Supper

at 6 pm. All are invited to join for

food and fun. Please RSVP to Rachel Rammel by phone or text (419) 852-2004 by December 19th.

ADORERS NEEDED — Enjoy a chance to spend time with the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament at St. Peter on Wed., Dec. 17th from 6 - 7:15 pm OR 7:15 - 8:30 pm. If interested in filling one of these time slots, please use the QR code or contact Harlie at hmetzger.holycrossfop@gmail.com or (419) 375-4153.



SNOW REMOVAL COMMITTEES DECEMBER 2025 —

*Bill Bruns, Jack Diller, Ben Knapke, Ryan Sutter, Mark Bruns, Russell Bergman, Dale Brunswick, Wesley Bergman, Roger Schmackers, Guil Bergman, Jim Guggenbiller, Jordan Winner, Tom Braun, Greg Diller, Scott Overman, Tom Kahlig, John Schoenlein, Steve Alig, Nick Boeckman, Ryan Evers, Reese Grieshop, Nick Brockman, Jordan Steinbrunner, Dan Wendel, Trent Kaiser, Dan Post, Kyle Bettinger, Elliott Post, Patrick Klosterman, Truman Klosterman, Ed Meyer. Responsible for church sidewalks. Don't forget that Wednesday evenings is CCD. It is very important to have the snow cleared away as much as possible. THANKS!!!

MERCER COUNTY ANGEL TREE PROGRAM — Thanks to all of you who donated and volunteered in any way for the 2025 Angel Tree Program. Without your continued support and donations this program would not be a success. The committee would like to wish everyone a "Very Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year".



Mary Help of Christians

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.

ADORERS NEEDED — Enjoy a chance to spend time with the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament at MHC on Wed., Dec. 17th from 6 - 7:15 pm OR 7:15 - 8:30 pm. If interested in filling one of these time slots, please use the QR code or contact Harlie at hmetzger.holycrossfop@gmail.com or (419) 375-4153.

SEWING GROUP — The sewing group will meet Dec. 15th in the MHC Undercroft at 9:00 am. If there is a funeral or if schools are canceled because of ice and snow we will not meet until January. Lunch will be provided by the committee on Dec, 15th but additional donated dishes or snacks are welcomed. Hope to see all the sewers in December.

MERCER COUNTY ANGEL TREE PROGRAM — Thanks to all of you who donated and volunteered in any way for the 2025 Angel Tree Program. Without your continued support and donations this program would not be a success. The committee would like to wish everyone a "Very Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year".



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 Wed.,

Dec. 17th from 6 - 7:15 pm OR 7:15 - 8:30 pm. If interested in filling one of these time slots, please use the QR code or contact Harlie at hmetzger.holycrossfop@gmail.com or (419) 375-4153.



SACRED HEART RADIO

740 AM & 910 AM

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Religious Education

Coldwater Religious Ed.

Contact: Sarah Klosterman

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

ATTENTION:

CCD CANCELLATION POLICY — If Fort Recovery or Coldwater schools cancel due to weather, all Holy Cross CCD classes are also cancelled. If inclement weather comes in later in the day, parents will be notified via One Call of any class cancellations no later than 4:30pm on Wednesday evening.

Saint of the Week - Saint John of the Cross

How beautiful the experience of love for God and neighbor, a fire deep within! How disheartening when love suddenly cools; and our souls grow dark, our prayer arid. How painful when misunderstanding, even rejection, comes our way, sometimes from those we least expect. For all such "seasons of the soul," an inspiring fellow-pilgrim is the poet and mystic, John of the Cross. As a young Carmelite, he was recruited by Teresa of Avila for her Discalced ("barefoot," evangelical poverty) Carmelite reform, striving to renew the Church from within after the Protestant Reformation had led countless religious away. John suffered unspeakably harsh abuse, even imprisonment, from friars who rejected this reform. Yet during these times of deepest suffering, John composed spiritual masterpieces that still guide souls to God, their titles reflecting his own painful yet ultimately victorious journey: from *The Dark Night of the Soul*, through *The Ascent of Mount Carmel*, to his *Spiritual Canticle* and *The Living Flame of Love*. John summarized his spirituality simply: "Put love where there is no love, and you will find love." —Peter Scagnelli



— Information obtained from Diocesan.com

Fort Recovery Religious Ed.

Contact: Harlie Metzger

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

ATTENTION:

CCD CANCELLATION POLICY — If Fort Recovery or Coldwater schools cancel due to weather, all Holy Cross CCD classes are also cancelled. If inclement weather comes in later in the day, parents will be notified via One Call of any class cancellations no later than 4:30pm on Wednesday evening.

SUNDAY SCHOOL — Classes are held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month.

3rd Sunday of Advent

Y	N	D	N	K	M	D	I	N	G
P	E	P	R	O	P	H	E	T	R
A	W	W	A	L	K	K	C	F	E
I	S	V	X	B	V	A	L	I	A
I	G	I	R	L	Q	P	E	C	T
A	S	I	A	E	X	R	A	C	E
H	I	S	I	S	Q	I	N	D	R
E	G	J	S	S	A	S	S	F	H
A	H	X	E	E	K	O	E	U	M
R	T	L	F	D	V	N	G	H	U

Prison
Sight
Walk
Cleanse
Hear
Raise
News
Blessed
Prophet
Greater



SUNDAYKIDZ

© Diocesan

Youth Ministry

Coldwater Youth Group

Contact: Maria Gruss

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

UPCOMING EVENTS:

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15 — 11:18 - 11:45 am | High School Men's & Ladies Lunch @ The Fr. Yauss Basement (grades 9th - 12th)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15 — 3:15 - 4:30 pm | Totus Tuus Crafters! @ The Fr. Yauss Basement (ages 12+)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16 — 7 - 8 am | Christ & Coffee @ Rooster Joe (grades 7th - 12th)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18 — 3:15 - 4:30 pm | Children's Adoration & Storytime @ Holy Trinity (grades K - 6th)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22 — 7:15 - 8:45 pm | Awaken Night @ Fr. Yauss Basement (Ages 12+) "Awaken Hope: Waiting Well in a Restless World"

Fort Fiat Youth Group

Contact: Natalie Ashbaugh

nashbaugh.holycrossfop@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS:

LADIES YOUTH GROUP — Tuesdays 7:15 - 8 am at MHC (9th - 12th)

TO THE HEIGHTS — Tuesdays 3:30 - 4:30 pm at MHC (6th - 8th)

MEN'S YOUTH GROUP — Wednesdays 9 - 10 pm @ MHC (7th - 12th)

BREAKFAST CLUB — Our next Breakfast Club is Friday, December 19th from 7:15 - 8 am @ MHC (6th - 12th)

Children's Adoration & Storytime



Every 4th Thursday

| Holy Trinity |

3:15 - 4:30 pm

All ages welcome!

(Geared towards
K - 6 Grade)

Guided holy half hour in front of the Blessed Sacrament followed with snacks, a story, and outdoor games (weather permitting).

Students will be walked over from school.
Grades K-4: meet by the elementary library.
Grades 5-6: meet by the high school office.

Pre-K & below must be accompanied by an adult and can meet us inside the church.

Scan the QR code to sign up your kids!
Contact Maria Gruss with any questions at 419-678-3328.



Coldwater Youth Ministry

Totus Tuus Crafters

"Creating with Purpose.
Inspired by Faith."

Every 3rd Monday

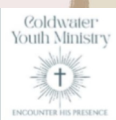
3:15 - 4:30 pm

@ The Fr. Yauss Basement

Ages 12+ Welcome!



Please use the QR
code to sign up!



Coldwater Youth Ministry AWAKEN NIGHT

Encounter His Presence. Awaken Your Soul



Talk - Adoration - Social - Snacks

Sun. Dec. 22nd

7:15 - 8:45 pm

Fr. Yauss Center (Ages 12+)

Topic: "Awaken Hope: Waiting
Well in a Restless World"



Mark Your Calendar for Future Awaken Nights

Sun. Jan. 25th
Sun. Apr. 19th

Sun. Feb. 22nd
Sun. May 10th

Sun. Mar. 29th

Community Interests

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.

A CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR MARRIED COUPLES — Couples... want to give each other something really special this Christmas? How about a gift filled with Romance and Excitement? That's just the beginning of what you will receive on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Marriage Encounter Weekend experience is Mar. 13 - 15 at Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center in Cincinnati, OH. The weekend experience is for those who wish to enrich their marriage and return to that newlywed feeling. Apply today at <https://esharing.org/applyWeekend.php> For more questions or more details contact: Andy and Melanie Reinersman at (859) 653-8464, application@esharing.org or visit esharing.org

THE CATHOLIC ADULT SINGLES CLUB — This is a Catholic club for adults 21 and older that has social events every weekend and a club meeting once a month. For more information please call (567) 510-8197.

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.

WANTED — Able-bodied 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.

GRIEFSHARE — At Griefshare, you'll find a safe comforting place where you can talk with others about your grief. You will find support, direction and guidance on how to make it through. Join us for a 13 week program, every Tuesday, beginning January 6th through March 31st, 2026 from 7 pm to 8:30 pm at Precious Blood church basement, Chickasaw. To register or for questions, contact Herb Wilker at (419) 953-5398 or email hiwilker@mercy.com.

CLOSING OF THE JUBILEE YEAR WITH ARCHBISHOP CASEY — All are invited to join Archbishop Casey as he celebrates Mass for the Closing of the Jubilee Year on Sunday, December 28th at 10:00 am at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Peter in Chains. At the request of the Holy Father, a collection for the poor will be taken.

FOLLOW AND PRAY WITH ARCHBISHOP CASEY — Archbishop Casey has launched his own social media accounts! Follow him at: Instagram: @archbishopcasey and Facebook: facebook.com/archbishopcasey. By following Archbishop Casey, you can pray with him throughout Advent as he has begun posting daily prayer reflections since Sunday, November 30th.

SAVE THE DATE! CATHOLIC DAY AT GREAT AMERICAN BALLPARK ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 — The second annual Catholic Day at Great American Ballpark will be held on Sat., Sept. 5, 2026, (Saturday of Labor Day weekend). The Cincinnati Reds will host the Milwaukee Brewers that evening. More details will be announced soon.

Stewardship

Did You Know?

EFT Giving

Would you like to simplify your weekly contribution to the church? Our EFT option allows you to make contributions to support our parish ministries without writing checks or worrying about cash donations. EFT allows you to set up automatic contributions and you may change the amount of your gift at any time. EFT stands for "Electronic Funds Transfer". EFT is a fully digital method of withdrawing money from your checking or savings account.

Benefits of EFT include:

- No need to hassle with checks or cash
- Allows you to give even if you are unable to attend your parish services
- Contribution amount is easily adjusted as needed
- No credit card fees assessed to the church

If you would like to sign up, contact Charmaine Bettinger at (419) 678-4802 or cbettinger.holycrossfop@gmail.com.

If you are currently giving through your credit card with online giving and would like to switch to EFT to reduce the credit card fees assessed to the church, please contact Charmaine Bettinger.

Contributions

November 24 - 30, 2025

Mary Help of Christians

Offertory.....	\$3,915.00
Human Development ...	200.00
All Saints.....	20.00
Religious Ed.....	\$1,394.00
Allocated Loose	\$1,136.05

St. Joseph

Offertory.....	\$1,440.00
Human Development ...	55.00
Religious Ed.....	180.00
Allocated Loose	237.24

St. Paul

Offertory.....	\$2,586.00
Religious Ed.....	510.00
Christmas	500.00
Maintenance.....	100.00
Cemetery	5.00
Allocated Loose	484.13

St. Peter

Offertory.....	\$1,940.00
Human Development ...	70.00
Religious Ed.....	795.00
Flowers.....	10.00
Allocated Loose	383.83

Holy Trinity

Offertory.....	\$ 4,757.00
Loose.....	\$ 3,543.35
Total	\$ 8,300.35
Food Pantry	\$ 2,821.00
Candles.....	\$ 117.00
Mission Sunday.....	\$ 20.00
*Online Giving Month	\$14,770.00

St. Anthony

Offertory.....	\$ 565.00
Loose.....	\$ 166.00
Total	\$ 731.00
Human Development ...	\$ 60.00
All Saints.....	\$ 50.00
Cemetery	\$ 40.00
*Online Giving Month	\$ 1,135.00

St. Mary

Offertory.....	\$ 840.00
Loose.....	\$ \$363.00
Total	\$ 1,203.00
Cemetery	\$ 80.00
*Online Giving Month	\$ 1,285.00

Thank you for your generosity!

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

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Parish Life Coordinator

Cindy Muhlenkamp - (SA) 419-678-4802

Stephanie Wendel - (SM) 419-733-2930

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Ralph Leugers - (SA) 419-942-8365

Rick Hemmelgarn - (SM) 419-852-8126

Rob Schmidt - (HT) 419-678-4802

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(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

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Harlie Metzger - (SJ) 567-279-8664

Jen Thompson - (SPL) 419-852-1093

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Julie Schmitz - (HT/SA/SM) 419-678-4802

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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

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fr.witt.aoc@gmail.com

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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.

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