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Family Offices

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



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 28, 2025

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

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 29 <i>Saint Thomas Becket, Bishop, Martyr; opt. mem.</i>	Sandy Collett †	FBS	7:15 am (L/S)	Holy Trinity	After Mass
	Verla Roessner †	FAW	6:45 pm	St. Peter	5:45 - 6:30 pm
Tuesday, December 30 <i>6th day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord</i>	Lester Hein †	FEM	7:15 am	St. Mary	After Mass
	Delilah Wenning †	FJP	6:45 pm	St. Joseph	5:45 - 6:30 pm
Wednesday, December 31 <i>Saint Sylvester I, Pope; opt. mem.</i>	Jim Stammen †	FEM	7:15 am (L/S)	MHC	After Mass
Wednesday, December 31 <i>Vigil of the Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God; Solemnity</i>	Joe Diller †	FBS/DRK	4:30 pm (L/S)	Holy Trinity	N/A
	Bob & Bernie Muhlenkamp †	FAW	4:30 pm (L/S)	MHC	N/A
Thursday, January 1 <i>Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God; Solemnity</i>	Members of Holy Cross Family of Parishes	FJP	8:00 am	Holy Trinity	N/A
	Vocations to the Priesthood & Consecrated Life	FEM/DDK	8:00 am	St. Joseph	N/A
	Joseph H. Dues †	FAW	9:00 am	MHC	N/A
	Dale Kaup †	FBS	9:00 am	St. Anthony	N/A
	Lester Buening †	FJP	10:00 am	Holy Trinity	N/A
	George F. Fisher †	FEM	10:00 am	St. Mary	N/A
	L/D Wuebker & Post Families †	FAW	11:00 am	St. Paul	N/A
	Carol E. Knapke †	FBS	11:00 am	St. Peter	N/A
Friday, January 2 <i>Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops, Doctors of the Church; Memorial</i>	Richard John Rose †	FJP	7:15 am (L/S)	Holy Trinity	After Mass
	Donald E. Muhlenkamp †	FAW	Noon (L/S)	MHC	11:30 am - end
Saturday, January 3 <i>The Most Holy Name of Jesus; opt. mem.</i>	L/D Jerry & Carolyn Obringer Family †	FAW	9:00 am	St. Joseph	After Mass
	Jennifer Salm †	FAW	4:00 pm	St. Anthony	3:15 - 3:45 pm
	Urban Mescher †	FJP	4:30 pm	Holy Trinity	3:45 - 4:15 pm
	L/D Donald E. Muhlenkamp Family †	FBS	4:30 pm (L/S)	MHC	3:45 pm - end
Sunday, January 4 <i>The Epiphany of the Lord; Solemnity</i>	L/D Don Gehle Family †	FBS	7:00 am	St. Joseph	N/A
	L/D Luke & Mildred Schmitmeyer Families †	FEM	8:00 am (L/S)	Holy Trinity	7:25 am - end
	Members of Holy Cross Family of Parishes	FAW	9:00 am (L/S)	MHC	8:25 am - end
	Judy Knoth †	FJP	10:00 am (L/S)	Holy Trinity	9:25 am - end
	Rich Meier †	FAW	11:00 am	St. Paul	10:25 - 10:45 am
	L/D Lavern & Dorothy Brockman Family †	FBS	11:00 am	St. Peter	10:25 - 10:45 am
	Jennifer Salm †	FEM	Noon	St. Mary	11:25 - 11:45 am
	Charles Kirk †	FJP	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-qa4zm. 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 31, 7:15 am

Server: Chase Fiely

Lector: Ted Romer

Wednesday, December 31, 4:30 pm

Servers: John Bihn, Natalie Wenning, Vincent Wenning, Tucker Huntsman

Lector: Kathy Portz

EMHC: Kathy Portz, Jodi Wendel

Sacristan: Kathy Portz

Ushers: Jeff Wendel, Chuck Kaiser, Mike Laux, Mark Metzger

Thursday, January 1, 9:00 am

Servers: Kevin Dues, Carson Fullenkamp, Elijah Grieshop, Ezekial Grieshop

Lector: Amy Klingshirm

EMHC: Amy Klingshirm, Cindy Fullenkamp

Sacristan: Amy S. Wendel

Ushers: Jeff Fullenkamp, Doug Schmitz, Greg Schmitz, Gary J. Wendel

Friday, January 2, 12:00 pm

Servers: Joseph Bruns, Henry Bruns

Lector: Ted Romer

Saturday, January 3, 4:30 pm

Servers: Jameson Heitkamp, Riley Heitkamp, Xavier Bruns

Lector: Pam Hicks

EMHC: Pam Hicks, Nancy Wuebker

Sacristan: Kathy Portz

Ushers: Floyd Bergman, Don Lennartz, Randy Wuebker, Dan Schmitz

Sunday, January 4, 9:00 am

Servers: Josh Evers, Tony Evers, Kevin Dues, Jackson Barga

Lector: Julie Schmitz

EMHC: Brad Evers, Michelle Evers

Sacristan: Amy & Steve Schmitz

Ushers: Steve Vogel, Jeff Wendel, Steve Wendel, Don Willmann

- St. Joseph -

Tuesday, December 30, 6:45 pm

Servers: Joseph Bruns, Henry Bruns

Lector: Danielle Pottkotter

Sacristan: Danielle Pottkotter

Thursday, January 1, 8:00 am

Servers: Haley Easton, Blaise Bergman, Brinley Steinbrunner, Rhea Steinbrunner

Lector: Pat Gehret

EMHC: Deacon Dan Kahlig

Sacristan: Norma Pottkotter

Ushers: Gary Pottkotter

Dave Lennartz

Saturday, January 3, 9:00 am

Servers: Sam Grigsby, Leo Grigsby

Lector: Ryan Sutter

Sunday, January 4, 7:00 am

Servers: Joseph Bruns, Henry Bruns, James Pottkotter, Francis Pottkotter

Lector: Jean Grube

EMHC: Jean Grube

Sacristan: Paige Schulze

Ushers: Allen Grube, Steve Post

- St. Paul -

Thursday, January 1, 11:00 am

Servers: Maddie Weigel, Russell Hart, Vance Tobe, Korbin Wuebker, Hayden Wuebker

Lector: Marcia Weigel

EMHC: Marcia Weigel, Holly Wuebker

Ushers: John Meiring

Rosary: Steve Keller

Sunday, January 4, 11:00 am

Servers: Riley Stammen, Liza Knapke, Kate Knapke, Hailey Grisez, Olivia Grisez

Lector: Kathy Keller

EMHC: Carl Link, Lindsey Reinhard

Ushers: Dave Keller, Doug Evers

Rosary: Joe & Kim Knapke

- St. Peter -

Monday, December 29, 6:45 pm

Server: Braxton Schmitz

Lector: Kim Schmitz

Thursday, January 1, 11:00 am

Servers: Reese Diller, Clete Timmerman, Amber Timmerman, Chris Timmerman, Levi Sutter, Kinley Schoenlein

Lector: Ryan Sutter

EMHC: Abe Timmerman

Sacristan: Donna Brunswick

Ushers: Matt Schoenherr, Doug Kahlig

Sunday, January 4, 11:00 am

Servers: Coby Schmitz, Hoyt Schmitz, Braxton Schmitz, Corbyn Schmitz, Logan Gaerke, Gavin Gaerke

Lector: Mindy Bettinger

EMHC: Kristi Post

Sacristan: Brenda Kahlig

Ushers: Kegan Timmerman, Blayne Tobe

- St. Mary -

Tuesday, December 30, 7:15 am

Servers: Sam Grigsby, Leo Grigsby

Lector: Stephanie Wendel

Thursday, January 1, 10:00 am

Servers: Austin Uhlenhake, Carson Uhlenhake, Jacob Uhlenhake, Derek Dues, Henry Uhlenhake

Lector: Stephanie Wendel

EMHC: Jennifer Uhlenhake

Ushers: Tony Puthoff, Brian Siefring

Sunday, January 4, 12:00 pm

Servers: William Moorman, Jacob Uhlenhake,

Kate Uhlenhake, Isabella Uhlenhake

Lector: Martin Schoenherr

EMHC: Amanda Schoenherr

Ushers: Ben Uhlenhake, Brian Uhlenhake

- Holy Trinity -

Monday, December 29, 7:15 am

Servers: Sam Grigsby, Leo Grigsby, Leo Huelskamp

Lector: Rene Klosterman

Wednesday, December 31, 4:30 pm

Servers: Liam Cowan, James Pottkotter, Francis Pottkotter, Emmitt May, Kelly May, Owen May

Lector: Rene Klosterman

EMHC: Brenda Kaiser, Luke Klosterman, Deacon Roger Kaiser, Karen Hoying

Thursday, January 1, 8:00 am

Servers: Samuel Gerlach, Archer Bihn, Lucas Broering, Lincoln Homan, Leo Huelskamp

Lector: Paul Howell

EMHC: Joe Rose, Tim Wellman, Linda Brunswick, Chuck Wenning

Thursday, January 1, 10:00 am

Servers: Sam Grigsby, Leo Grigsby, Dillan Wenning, Eli Eyink, Jack Bettinger

Lector: Matt Grigsby

EMHC: Brooke Stammen, Karen Stammen, Tony Hart, Carla Kahlig

Friday, January 2, 7:15 am

Servers: Kennley Siegrist, Grace Siegrist, Mya Siegrist

Lector: Rita Riethman

Saturday, January 3, 4:30 pm

Servers: David Dues, Henry Broering, Claire Bertke

Lector: Rita Riethman

EMHC: Denny Riethman, Dave Bertke, Brenda Schwieterman

Sunday, January 4, 8:00 am

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

Lector: Terry Liette

EMHC: Chuck Wenning, Mary Lou Wenning

Sunday, January 4, 10:00 am

Servers: Liam Cowan, Grace Siegrist, Mya Siegrist, Leo Huelskamp

Lector: Ed Hosbach

EMHC: Karen Stammen, Brooke Stammen, Melissa Bruggeman

Sunday, January 4, 6:00 pm

Servers: Breann Mathewson, Ryan Mathewson

Lector: Dee Fullenkamp

EMHC: Dan Fullenkamp, Sarah Klosterman

- St. Anthony -

Thursday, January 1, 9:00 am

Servers: Bryant Evans, Allie Evans, Danielle Evans, Hailey Grey, Jacob Kahlig

Lector: Janet Brockman

EMHC: Janie Timmerman

Sacristan: Cindy Muhlenkamp

Ushers: Greg Alig, Nick Dues

Rosary: Julie Brackman

Saturday, January 3, 4:00 pm

Servers: Jacob Kahlig, Hallory Kahlig, Wesley Kahlig, Jack Link

Lector: Cindy Muhlenkamp

EMHC: Donna Sudhoff

Sacristan: Janie Timmerman

Ushers: Jeff Sudhoff, Patrick Forsthoefel

Rosary: Teri Minnich

Message from the Priests

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

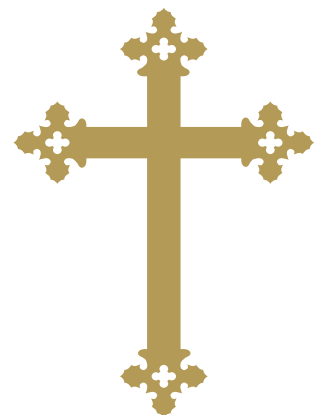
I want to wish all of you a very blessed and happy New Year! I hope you experienced a beautiful Christmas holiday and have grown in your faith and your devotion to Jesus and to the Catholic Church.

Even though we are seven different church buildings in our family of parishes, we have to remind ourselves that we are all one as we gather around the crib of our Infant Savior. May we humbly bend down in our hearts to enter the cave to adore the Lord like the shepherds of Bethlehem and the Three Kings. May we bring our finest gifts, our hearts and our lives, to the newborn King. May we join Mary in quiet contemplation of the mystery of the Emmanuel, God-with-us. May we commit ourselves even more to the practice of our Catholic Faith and give glory to the Mighty God and Prince of Peace, born in Bethlehem and born in our hearts. May this new year bring you great joy and peace, as you propose your New Year's resolutions for the coming year.

On a personal note, you won't see me for the next three months. I am going on my sabbatical – a three-month period away from the day-to-day work at the parish. Priests of our archdiocese are allowed to go on sabbatical every 10 years of service. In my case, I had to wait till year 16 due to the pandemic. I'll be spending a month on a remote island in the Philippines, followed by some time in south Texas, Napa, California, and Colorado. I will miss you, though. I hope to get recharged physically and spiritually during my time away, to be able to serve you better when I get back.

I also want to thank you for all your love and support for me this past year. And I know Father Witt, Father Moore, and Father Joseph are very grateful as well. May God bless you and your loved ones all throughout this new year 2026.

- Father Barry



Sacramental Information

Newly Baptized

St. Peter

Lillie Jo Pottkotter
Child of Scott & Emilie

Wayne Ralph Kahlig
Child of Austin & Debra



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.

VIGIL OF TWO HEARTS

Schedule of Events

St. Joseph

Friday, January 2

7 pm: Rosary & Confessions
8 pm: Holy Mass followed by Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament
8:30 pm - 12 am: Ongoing Eucharistic Adoration throughout the night with private & community prayer

Saturday, January 3

12 am - 8:40 am:
Continued Eucharistic Adoration
7:45 am: Rosary
8:45 am: Benediction
9 am: Holy Mass
9:30 am: Confessions



Sign up for an hour of adoration with the provided QR code. (Note: All are welcome, and sign-ups are not necessary to attend.)

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.

In Loving Memory...

Daniel Brackman

July 25, 1954 - December 9, 2025
(Holy Trinity)

Alice Louise Schmidt

June 8, 1944 - December 10, 2025
(Holy Trinity)



*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 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

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.



Holy Cross Family of Parishes

NOTICE — This week we will be operating with only three priests part of the week. Please pray for Fr. Ethan as he is at a conference. 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!

ANNOUNCEMENT — Starting next week we will be operating with only three priests for the next three months. Please pray for Fr. Barry as he will be on sabbatical. 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!

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. 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.

MISSION LOTTERY WINNER — (11/26/25) Bruce Kaiser, Celina; (12/3/25) Helen LeFevre, Fort Recovery; & (12/10/25) Kyle Diller, Fort Recovery — Congratulations!

EXPECTANT MOTHER'S BLESSING — The blessing of expectant mothers will be after all the Masses the weekend of January 3rd/4th.

PRAYER HOUR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED — We are in need of people to pray each hour for the women attending the Women's Welcome Retreat on February 7-8, 2026. Hours needed are from 8 am on Saturday through 3 pm on Sunday. If you feel called to pray for these women, please consider signing up for a prayer hour which can be done at home or at any church/chapel! Thank you for your support! Please sign up using the QR code! Contact Caley Thien at (419) 852-3826 with any questions.



FOOD & KITCHEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED — We are in need of helpers to serve food during a meal hour to the women attending our Women's Welcome Retreat on February 7-8, 2026. We are also in need of food donations for this retreat. If you are willing to donate a food item or your time, that would be greatly appreciated. Please use the QR code provided to sign up for food donations or helping out with a meal hour. Food items can be dropped off to the Holy Trinity Grotto on Friday, February 6th anytime from 9am - 7pm. Thank you for all of your help! Contact Michelle Weber at (937) 572-7850 with any questions.



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.



Parish App Feature-of-the-Week



News

- Catholic world news
- Daily current events
- Connect with the Church throughout the world

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



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

PRIEST ROUNDTABLE

Featuring: Our Holy Cross Family of Parishes Priests!

Friday, January 16, 2026

7pm (Social @ 6:30) MHC Undercroft

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

ADORATION CANCELLATIONS — Adoration is canceled at St. Paul and St. Anthony on Thursday, January 1st.

MASS & CONFESSION CANCELLATIONS — There will be no Noon Mass at Holy Trinity on Wednesday, December 31st. Also, the regularly scheduled Masses at St. Paul, St. Anthony, and Briarwood on January 1st are all canceled. Please see the Solemnity of Mary schedule for New Year's Eve and New Year's Day Mass times.

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.

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.

ONLINE STORE UPDATE — Holiday items will still be available For purchase through the New Year. Products can be purchased at https://designsemb.com/holy_cross/shop/home or use the QR Code provided. *Thank you for your continued support!*



SAVE THE DATE — The blessing of the Epiphany water will take place after the 9:00 am Mass at St. Joseph on Saturday, January 3, 2026. Due to this there will be no confessions after Mass. The blessing of the water takes a little over an hour. All are welcome to bring your own water, as much as you like, to be blessed along with the Epiphany water.

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.



REMINDER, HOLY TRINITY FIRST COMMUNION DATE CHANGE — First Communion at Holy Trinity is being moved for 2026. It will not be on the 4th Sunday of April. It will instead be held on Sunday, April 19th during the 10 am Mass.

WOMEN'S SOCIAL GROUP UPDATE — 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. **Please note: The Thursday, January 1st meeting is canceled.**

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 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.

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.

Solemnity of Mary The Holy Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)



— *Mass Times* —

Wednesday, December 31

4:30 pm @ Holy Trinity

4:30 pm @ Mary Help of Christians

Thursday, January 1

8:00 am @ Holy Trinity

8:00 am @ St. Joseph

9:00 am @ Mary Help of Christians

9:00 am @ St. Anthony

10:00 am @ Holy Trinity

10:00 am @ St. Mary

11:00 am @ St. Paul

11:00 am @ St. Peter

Please note: Adoration is canceled at St. Anthony and St. Paul on Thursday, January 1st.

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.



CRHP 2.0

Welcome.

There is **More to Life**

Women's Retreat

Holy Cross Family of Parishes Women (21+ and older) are invited to spend time away from the hustle and bustle of your otherwise busy life to be still, reflect, spend time on YOU, and reconnect with your spiritual life! This overnight retreat is a chance to meet and grow in faith with other women in our family of parishes!



Location: Holy Trinity Grotto (Coldwater)

Dates: February 7-8, 2026;

(Check-in begins Sat. 8:30AM - Check-out Sun. 3:00PM)

Cost: FREE! (25 spots available); Meals Provided

For any questions contact: Caley Thien (419) 852-3826

Register w/ the above QR code or drop off this portion at the Coldwater Parish office.

Name: _____ **Phone Number:** _____

Email Address: _____

Home Address: _____

Emergency Contact Name/Relationship: _____

Emergency Contact Phone number: _____

Emergency Contact Email: _____

Please list diet restrictions or food allergies: _____

Do you plan to stay the night? YES. NO.

Name of church you regularly attend in our parish family: _____



CRHP 2.0

Welcome.

There is **More to Life**

Men's Retreat

Holy Cross Family of Parishes MEN (21+ and older), come attend this life changing, community based men's retreat to strengthen your relationship with God and gain a strong men's community! You will not regret it!
We highly recommend staying the night if you are able to do so!



Location: Holy Trinity Grotto (Coldwater)

Dates: March 7 - 8, 2026;

(Check-in begins Sat. 8:30AM - Check-out Sun. 3:00PM)

Cost: FREE! (25 spots available); Meals Provided

For any questions contact: Craig Dues 419-852-7154

Register w/ the above QR code or drop off this portion at the Coldwater Parish office.

Name: _____ **Phone Number:** _____

Email Address: _____

Home Address: _____

Emergency Contact Name/Relationship: _____

Emergency Contact Phone number: _____

Emergency Contact Email: _____

Please list diet restrictions or food allergies: _____

Do you plan to stay the night? YES. NO.

Name of church you regularly attend in our parish family: _____

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 \$18,009.00 for an average of \$12,981.80. 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.

ANNUAL WINTER DONATION DRIVE — The Social Action Committee is collecting Chapstick, adult and children coats, hats, gloves/mittens, scarves & socks (new and/or clean gently used) between December 29th and January 11th. Please put your donation in the marked containers at the entrances of Holy Trinity Church. God bless those who provide warmth and comfort this winter for those in need.



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.



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!

BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT — We need volunteers Monday, January 26th – Saturday, January 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.

MEN'S SODALITY CHRISTMAS PARTY — The Christmas party will be held in the School Hall on January 12th starting at 6:30 pm. Food and drinks will be provided.



St. Joseph

LADIES SODALITY WINTER PARTY —

All St. Joe ladies are welcome to join us on Tuesday, January 13th at Sanderell Hall for a meal, games, and entertainment! Doors open at 5:30 pm, dinner at 6:00 pm. Cost is \$8, please RSVP to Claire at (419) 852-5069 by January 6th.

CLEANING — (JANUARY) **Jackie Bruggeman, Christa Fullenkamp, Deb Fullenkamp, Lynn Faller, Holly Brunswick, Chelsea Albers, Lindsey Eilerman



St. Paul

ANNUAL DINNER & MEETING —

St. Paul's Men's Society will have their annual dinner and meeting in the parish hall on January 12th at 6:00 pm. All men of the parish are invited to enjoy a free meal and drinks, with socializing and card playing after a short meeting. Please sign up on the sheet at the entrance of the church or call Ken at (419) 375-2588.

BBQ CHICKEN DINNERS — St. Paul's Men's Society BBQ chicken dinners will be available on February 22nd. Carry-out only from 11:00 - 12:30 in the parish hall. Cost is \$10.00 each dinner. Envelopes for ordering can be found in all churches in the Ft. Recovery Cluster or call Ken at (419) 375-2588. Orders need to be in by February 8th.



St. Peter

SNOW REMOVAL COMMITTEES JANUARY 2026 —

*Craig Evers, Jacob Gaerke, Tim Gaerke, Jim Knapke, Rob Gaerke, Paul Fortkamp, Keith Evers, Scott Schmitz, Dan Link, Eric Schmitz, Jerome Muhlenkamp, Cale Dues, Ross Overman, Christopher Dues, Dennis Heitkamp, Dan Schmitz, Grant Muhlenkamp, Nick Rammel, Derek Gaerke, Jim Klenke, Tony Heitkamp, Charlie Grube, Greg Fortkamp, Brandon Rose, Jesse Fortkamp, Austin Kahlig, Cole Dues, Mike Hein, Marcus Gaerke, Brayden Schoen, Chris Rammel. 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!!!



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

FORMED
THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.

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 4:30 pm on Wednesday evening.

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 4:30 pm on Wednesday evening.

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

Saint of the Week - Saint Thomas Becket

To anyone who imagines conflict between religion and politics to be a modern phenomenon, history witnesses otherwise. Martyred under Henry VIII in 1535, Thomas More declared, "I die the King's good servant, but God's first!" Thomas Becket could have said the same four centuries earlier. As Henry II's closest friend and trusted chancellor, Becket, the King presumed, could be counted on, if made Archbishop, to deliver the church to royal control. But Becket experienced a profound conversion, confirmed by the ordination liturgy's rich symbolism of the bishop as Good Shepherd and the church as Bride of Christ. Renouncing secular responsibilities, distributing his wealth to the poor, Thomas became the church's uncompromising champion. Faced with this "new" Becket, the King's previous friendship turned into a ferocious, almost irrational hatred. As eight centuries later, Archbishop Romero would be martyred at the altar of Christ's sacrifice, Becket was slain before the altar of Canterbury Cathedral by royal agents, neither the first nor last good shepherd to lay down his life as the price of freedom for Christ's church and justice for Christ's sheep. — Peter Scagnelli



- Information obtained from Diocesan.com

LET THE PEACE OF
CHRIST
CONTROL YOUR HEARTS

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY



TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

We are in the season of the Incarnation, the mystery of God's love poured out in Christ's birth. The word derives from the Latin *carnis* meaning "flesh." Throughout history, some Christians have distrusted the "flesh," and stressed a hatred of this world and its pleasures. Perhaps they have not paid enough attention to how "embodied" the sacraments are. One third-century author put it plainly in an image that may alarm diet-conscious Americans, explaining that we wash the body so the soul can be cleansed, that we anoint the body so the soul can be strengthened, and that we eat the body and blood of Christ so that "the soul can fatten on God."

Catholics "get" that God is revealed in this world. The sacraments use the "stuff" of creation: water and oil; the senses of the body, touch and taste and smell. We use the things of this world rightly. After all, God's love poured out into human flesh means the world has eternal value. Why else would Jesus describe the kingdom to come as a teeming city or a marriage banquet? Catholics are realists, and nowhere is that more evident than when we gather for a sacrament. —Rev. James Field

- Information obtained from Diocesan.com

Youth Ministry

Coldwater Youth Group

Contact: Maria Gruss

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

UPCOMING EVENTS:

CHRISTMAS BREAK — All youth ministry events will be on a pause during Christmas and New Year's break from December 23rd through January 4th. Regularly occurring events will begin again on Jan. 5th. I hope you all enjoy the break from school and get to spend quality time with your friends and family making joyful memories! May the love of Christ fill your heart this Christmas season! - Maria

MONDAY, JANUARY 5 — 11:18 - 11:45 am | High School Men's & Ladies Lunch @ The Fr. Yauss Basement (grades 9th - 12th)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6 — 7 - 8 am | Christ & Coffee @ Rooster Joe (grades 7th - 12th)

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

CHRISTMAS PARTY — January 11th 3:15 - 5:45 pm @ Holy Trinity's Grotto (church basement). All 6th - 12th graders are welcome.

Fort Fiat Youth Group

Contact: Natalie Ashbaugh

nashbaugh.holycrossfop@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS:

CHRISTMAS PARTY — January 11th 3:15 - 5:45 pm @ Holy Trinity's Grotto (church basement). All 6th - 12th graders are welcome.

CHRISTMAS BREAK — All youth events will resume on January 6th. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

Socks & Underwear Drive

Thank you to everyone who donated to our Socks & Underwear Drive this year! We are also incredibly grateful to our high school and junior high youth groups for helping bundle all the donations. Because of your kindness and generosity, we were able to support over 921 children this Christmas season. We truly couldn't have done this without you!

Holy Cross Family Youth Groups

Merry Christmas Party!

January | 11 | 3:15 - 5:45 pm

@ The Grotto

Pizza - Christmas Cookie Decorating
Hot Chocolate Bar - Zero Dollar White Elephant
Christmas Scavenger Hunt - Door Prizes

Scan to RSVP by Jan. 9th



Please Consider Donating to Our...

GUARDIAN ANGEL PROGRAM

Supporting our Youth in...

- **Experiencing**
Amazing Speakers, Worship, Adoration, Confession, and fellowship with hundreds of other Catholics their age.
- **Encountering Christ**
In an opportunity to meet Jesus in a unique way.
- **Conversion**
Changing Lives when meeting Jesus at Conference.
- **Community**
Connecting with others in the universal church as a family in Christ.

Please place your donation in an envelope marked "Fort Fiat Guardian Angel Program" or "Coldwater Youth Ministry Guardian Angel Program" in the collection basket or drop it off at one of the parish offices. Please contact either parish business manager for other donation options.

Please help financially support sending our youth to the 2026 Steubenville Youth Conference



Community Interests

MERCER COUNTY RIGHT TO LIFE ESSAY CONTESTS — Mercer County RTL is excited to sponsor their youth essay contests for the following age groups: 9th / 10th grade and 11th / 12th grade. The cash prizes for each group are as follows: 2nd place will receive \$200 and 1st place will receive \$300! All participants will receive a \$20 McDonald's gift card. Each educational or persuasive essay is to be 600 – 800 words and to have one of the following topics: 'Why I Am Pro-Life', 'How I Defend My Pro-Life Position', or 'How I Can Assist the Pro-Life Movement'. Essays will be scored equally on four criteria: grammar, facts, creativity, and inspiration. All essays expected to reflect the pro-life convictions held by Mercer County Right to Life. Please include in subject line of the e-mail submission the contestant's name. In the message portion please list the contestant's address, age group essay is to be entered, and school. All high school students who live in or worship in Mercer County are eligible. Essays are to be e-mailed to prolifegeneration.mercercounty@outlook.com by January 18th, 2026. Good luck!

RETRouvaille — HOPE for couples going through difficult times in their marriages. Retrouvaille is a program of healing and renewal consisting of one weekend and six follow-up sessions over the course of two months. For confidential information or to register for the upcoming program beginning with a weekend on January 9 - 11, 2026, call (513) 486-6222 or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.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.

D OF I — The Ft. Recovery Daughters of Isabella next meeting is going to be January 6, 2026 at 7:45 pm at the K of C Hall in Ft. Recovery.

K OF C FREE THROW CONTEST — Girls and Boys Ages 9-14 are invited to compete in the annual K of C Free Throw Contest sponsored by Fort Recovery's Knights of Columbus Council 3324. The contest will be held Sunday, January 25th at 4:30 pm at the High School Gym. Doors will open at 4:00 pm for registration and practice. The competition usually only takes about 45 minutes. 9, 10 and 11 year olds shoot from 12 ft., older kids from the standard free throw line. Trophies will be given out to all age group winners. The winners will also get to compete in the District Free Throw Contest in early February and could move on to regional, state and national competitions. Sign up forms are available on the day of the competition or you can e-mail glefevre@bright.net. There is no cost to enter. If you have any questions, feel free to call/text Greg LeFevre at (419) 852-2654. Come join the fun!

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.

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

December 8 - 14, 2025

Mary Help of Christians

Offertory.....	\$3,538.00
Immaculate Conception\$	120.00
Retired Religious	\$2,509.99
Allocated Loose	\$1,283.18

St. Joseph

Offertory.....	\$ 683.00
Immaculate Conception\$	40.00
Retired Religious	\$ 152.00
Allocated Loose	\$ 267.96

St. Paul

Offertory.....	\$2,088.00
Immaculate Conception\$	40.00
Religious Ed.....	\$ 827.00
Maintenance.....	\$ 100.00
Allocated Loose	\$ 546.82

St. Peter

Offertory.....	\$1,910.00
Immaculate Conception\$	205.00
Religious Ed.....	\$ 743.00
Allocated Loose	\$ 433.54

Holy Trinity

Offertory.....	\$ 9,349.00
Loose.....	\$ 2,878.00
Total	\$12,227.00
Perm. Improvement.....	\$ 3,741.00
Retired Religious	\$ 4,195.00

St. Anthony

Offertory.....	\$ 352.00
Loose.....	\$ 287.00
Total	\$ 639.00
Perm. Improvement.....	\$ 815.00
Retired Religious	\$ 527.00

St. Mary

Offertory.....	\$ 475.00
Loose.....	\$ 376.00
Total	\$ 851.00
Perm. Improvement.....	\$ 450.00
Retired Religious	\$ 338.00

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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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

Hall Rentals

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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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Kathy Portz - (MHC/SJ/SPL/SPT) kathyporz@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

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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:
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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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Sherry Montell
smontell@diocesan.com
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