



## 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

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## Website: www.holycrossfop.org



www.facebook.com/holycrossfop



St. Anthony



St. Joseph



St. Mary



St. Paul



St. Peter

Sunday, January 4, 2025 The Epiphany of the Lord

**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	
<b>Monday, January 5</b> Saint John Neumann,	Sharon Siefring †	FJP	7:15 am ( <i>L/S</i> )	Holy Trinity	After Mass	
Bishop; Memorial	Tim Heitkamp †	FAW	6:45 pm	St. Peter	5:45 - 6:30 pm	
<b>Tuesday, January 6</b> Saint Andre Bessette,	Daniel Brackman †		7:15 am	St. Mary	After Mass	
Religious; opt. mem.	Paul Lamm †	FJP	6:45 pm	St. Joseph	5:45 - 6:30 pm	
<b>Wednesday, January 7</b> Saint Raymond of Penyafort, Priest	L/D Lochtefeld & Wenning Families †	FAW	7:15 am ( <i>L/S</i> ) MHC		After Mass	
	Velma Hartke †	FJP	Noon (L/S)	Holy Trinity	11:30 am - end	
Thursday, January 8	L/D Ralph & Connie Guggenbiller Family †		7:15 am St. Paul		After Mass	
Christmas Weekday	Kathryn Chambers †	FJP	6:45 pm	St. Anthony	5:45 - 6:30 pm	
Friday, January 9 Christmas Weekday	Mary Jo Schlater †	FAW	7:15 am ( <i>L/S</i> ) Holy Trin:		After Mass	
	L/D Les & Elaine Wenning Family †	FJP	Noon (L/S)	MHC	11:30 am - end	
<b>Saturday, January 10</b> Christmas Weekday	Poor Souls in Purgatory †	FAW	9:00 am	St. Joseph	After Mass	
	L/D Laloge Family †	FAW	4:00 pm	St. Anthony	3:15 - 3:45 pm	
	Harold Livingston †	FJP	4:30 pm	Holy Trinity	3:45 - 4:15 pm	
	L/D Cy & MaryAnn Fortkamp Family †	np Family † FEM 4		MHC	3:45 pm - end	
	Dottie Fullenkamp †	FEM	7:00 am	St. Joseph	N/A	
<b>Sunday, January 11</b> The Baptism of the Lord; Feast	Catherine & Leroy Bruggeman †	FAW	8:00 am ( <i>L/S</i> )	Holy Trinity	7:25 am - end	
	Evelyn Muhlenkamp †	FEM	9:00 am ( <i>L/S</i> )	MHC	8:25 am - end	
	L/D Leonard & Mildred Prenger Family †	FAW	10:00 am ( <i>L/S</i> )	Holy Trinity	9:25 am - end	
	Chuck Post †	FJP	11:00 am	St. Paul	10:25 - 10:45 am	
	Vocations to the Priesthood & Consecrated Life	FEM	11:00 am	St. Peter	10:25 - 10:45 am	
	Members of Holy Cross Family of Parishes	FAW	Noon	St. Mary	11:25 - 11:45 am	
MASSES ON INC	Matthew Schwieterman Jr. †	FJP	6:00 pm	Holy Trinity	5:15 - 5:45 pm	

MASSES ONLINE — Watch Masses at Holy Trinity & Mary Help of Christians online, indicated by (L/S) with the time.

Masses are also archived and viewable on a later day and can be accessed on the website: holycrossfop.org

(Masses are also streamed to Youtube. For Holy Trinity search: Coldwater Cluster, then click on the logo and subscribe.

For Mary Help of Christians search: mhc-gg4zm, then click on the logo and subscribe.)

### Reference for Church Abbreviations

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

Tentatively Scheduled Celebrants listed above: Fr. Alexander Witt (FAW); Fr. Ethan Moore (FEM); Fr. Joseph Pasala (FJP); Fr. Barry Stechschulte (FBS); Deacon Dan Kahlig (DDK); Deacon Roger Kaiser (DRK)

### Adoration Schedules

Mon., SPT: 5:45 - 6:30 pm
Tues., SM: 7:45 am - Noon
Tues., SJ: 8:30 am - 6:30 pm
Fri., MHC: 8 - 11:45 am

Wed., HT: 8 am - 11:45 am
Thurs., SPL: 7:45 am - 5 pm
Thurs., SA: 5:45 - 6:30 pm

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 Y<u>ou!</u>

### - Mary Help of Christians -

Wednesday, January 7, 7:15 am

Servers: Zavier Bruns **Lector:** Les Wenning Friday, January 9, 12:00 pm

Servers: Levi Sutter **Lector:** Kathy Portz

Saturday, January 10, 4:30 pm

Servers: Natalie Wenning, Vincent Wenning, John Bihn,

Tucker Huntsman Lector: Debbie Bueter

EMHC: Debbie Bueter, Tom Bueter Sacristan: Tom & Debbie Bueter

**Ushers:** Floyd Bergman, Don Lennartz, Bobby Stump,

Matt Whitacre

Sunday, January 11, 9:00 am

Servers: Chase Fiely, Milo Fiely, Blake Homan,

Vance Tobe, Gabriel Jutte Lector: Amy S. Wendel EMHC: Bill Gaerke, Wes Kahlig Sacristan: Amy S. Wendel

**Ushers:** Paul Alig, Roger Broerman, Joe Dues,

Kevin Fortkamp

- St. Joseph -

Tuesday, January 6, 6:45 pm

Servers: Logan Gaerke, Gavin Gaerke

**Lector:** Mary Gaerke Sacristan: Shel Sutter

Saturday, January 10, 9:00 am Servers: Theresa Hipple

**Lector:** Jane Hipple

Sunday, January 11, 7:00 am

Servers: Tyler Dues, Blaise Bergman, Brinley Steinbrunner, Rhea Steinbrunner

Lector: Aimee Pottkotter EMHC: Aimee Pottkotter Sacristan: Shel Sutter

Ushers: Bryan Pottkotter, Jerry Sutter

- St. Paul -

Thursday, January 8, 7:15 am

Servers: Russell Hart

Sunday, January 11, 11:00 am

Servers: Brady Evers, Hope Evers, Ty Evers, Mya Will

**Lector:** Mary Lochtefeld

EMHC: Holly Wuebker, Angie Will Ushers: Jared Rindler, Kevin Will Rosary: Ken & Lil Knapke

- St. Peter -

Monday, January 5, 6:45 pm

Servers: Levi Sutter **Lector:** Ryan Sutter

Sunday, January 11, 11:00 am

Servers: Isaac Roessner, Alex Roessner,

Charlie Roessner, Theresa Hipple, James Pottkotter,

Francis Pottkotter

**Lector:** Nathan Fortkamp **EMHC:** Karen Timmerman Sacristan: Jane Hipple **Ushers:** Joe Will, Kyle Bettinger - Holy Trinity -

Monday, January 5, 7:15 am

Servers: Archer Bihn, Claire Bertke

**Lector:** Rene Klosterman

Wednesday, January 7, 12:00 pm

Servers: James Pottkotter, Francis Pottkotter

Lector: Lauren Baucher Friday, January 9, 7:15 am

Servers: Mason Evers, Miles Bruns

**Lector:** Rita Riethman

Saturday, January 10, 4:30 pm

**Servers:** Isabelle Schwieterman, Alex Schwieterman,

Josh Homan

Lector: Tara Berkenstock

**EMHC:** Denny Riethman, Michelle Wilker, Brenda

Sunday, January 11, 8:00 am

Servers: Carter Heitkamp, Owen Heitkamp, Gavin Heitkamp

Lector: Lauren Baucher EMHC: Adam Alig, Ralph Alig Sunday, January 11, 10:00 am

Servers: Sam Grigsby, Leo Grigsby, Gabriel Simper,

Eli Eyink

Lector: Gary Griesdorn

EMHC: Tony Hart, Connie May, Deb Kaiser

Sunday, January 11, 6:00 pm

Servers: Emmett Wermert, Heidi Wermert,

Carson Wermert, Levi Sutter

**Lector:** Ryan Sutter

EMHC: Sarah Klosterman, Amy Klingshirn

- St. Anthony -

Thursday, January 8, 6:45 pm

Servers: Volunteer Needed Lector: Marty Knapke Sacristan: Janet Brockman Saturday, January 10, 4:00 pm

Servers: Bryant Evans, Allie Evans, Danielle Evans,

Hailey Grey

Lector: Joanne Alig EMHC: Lisa Knapke

Sacristan: Janie Timmerman Ushers: Greg Alig, Nick Dues

Rosary: Marty Knapke

– St. Mary –

Tuesday, January 6, 7:15 am

Servers: Sam Grigsby, Leo Grigsby

Lector: Viki Dues

Sunday, January 11, 12:00 pm Servers: Benjamin Liette, Jay Liette,

Lana Kaiser, Grace Siefring Lector: Adam Liette EMHC: Martin Schoenherr Ushers: Dustin Uhlenhake,

Alex Uhlenhake



# Message from the Priests

### Epiphany Blessings...and a Special Invitation!

In preparation for the feast of the Epiphany, yesterday we blessed Epiphany Water for each of the churches. On the feast of the Epiphany, one of the mysteries we focus on is the visit of the Magi who bring the Holy Family gifts. So during this season, it's traditional to bless our homes. By prayer, Christ Himself visits our homes and brings the gift of His blessings with Him. So, some practical considerations:

- 1. Every Catholic should get their home blessed by a priest or a deacon. While this can be done at any time, it's preferable that this happens soon after they move into a new home.
- 2. The blessing remains with the home as long as the occupant who asked for the blessing lives there, so if you bought a house from someone who had their home blessed before you lived there, that blessing left with them, so you should get your home blessed.
- 3. Typically, once a home is blessed, it does not need to be repeated by a priest or a deacon, but it is a good and pious thing that the family periodically rededicates their home to God. They can do this in their daily prayers ("God, please make")

EPIPHANY
BLESSING
20+C+M+B+26

The numbers represent the year (2026).
The letters represent both the names of the Magi (Caspar, Melchoir, and Balthasar) and the phrase
"Christus Mansionem Benedicat,"
which is Latin for
"May Christ Bless the House."

CatholicLink

Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. May we be blessed with health, goodness of heart, gentleness and the keeping of your law. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our love for each other may go out to all. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

my family and our home holy") as well as through sacramentals, like sprinkling holy water or blessed salt around the house and property. With the Epiphany Water in the churches are handouts and chalk with a prayer that the family can pray together, asking God to bless their homes.

- 4. If you would like your home blessed by a priest or deacon, call the office, and we will arrange a time during the month of January to do so. The blessing takes no more than 10 minutes. It's preferable to have the whole family there but not necessary.
- 5. If you have had your home blessed by a priest or deacon in the past, we would ask you to please use the family blessing in the pamphlets provided. This will allow us to prioritize families that have not yet had their homes blessed.

We have done these Epiphany blessings for a number of years now and so many people have taken us up on our offer to bless their homes. Thank you all so much for being open to God and your spiritual fathers in this way!

But homes are not the only thing that can be blessed. This year, we want to issue a special invitation. If you would like your business or place of work blessed, please call us and let us know! I would love

to make it into as many of our local businesses as we can. God loves you...all of you...including your work. Your work can be something that helps you to get to Heaven if it is carried out in an honorable and generous way for God's sake ("Jesus, help me to treat this customer as if he were You", "Lord, I offer up this tedious task that I don't like and unite it to Your smallest sufferings. Please purify my heart by this work").

We want to make sure that businesses that would like this blessing are able to receive it this year, so if a business calls in, they will be given top priority. God bless you, your homes, and your work!

In Jesus, through Mary,

Fr. Witt

PS: Please pray especially for Fr. Barry who will leave on Monday for a three-month sabbatical. We wish him a relaxing, rejuvenating, and spiritually renewing time away!

Please also pray for Fr. Joseph, Fr. Ethan, and myself. We will do our best to make sure that things go as smoothly as possible, despite being down a priest for the next 3 months. I know you all will be patient with us if we have to cancel or rearrange something because of the difficulty of only having three priests the next few months. But with your help and God's grace, we will do our absolute best!

# Sacramental Information



### **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.

#### **Sacrament of Matrimony**

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

### **Baptismal Class**

Fort Recovery Classes are held on Tuesdays at 7 pm. The next class at Fort Recovery is on January 06, 2026. Please call 419-375-4153 to register. Coldwater Classes are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month at 7 pm. Please call 419-678-4802 to register. The Baptismal Class is required for all first-time parents.

### **Baptismal Schedule**

 1st Sunday
 2nd Sunday
 3rd Sunday
 4th Sunday

 12:30 pm - MHC
 12:30 pm - St. Peter
 12:30 pm - St. Paul
 12:30 pm - St. 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

**ANNOUNCEMENT** — Starting this week we will be **PRAYER HOUR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** — We are in need 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!

**EPIPHANY BUSINESS & HOUSE BLESSINGS** — Business and house blessings will be offered Monday, January 5th through Saturday, January 31st. The blessing will take less than 10 minutes. (Note: Everyone is welcome to call, but we will give priority to businesses. Families who have not had their homes blessed yet will also be prioritized. We recommend that you have your house blessed no more than once every three years to allow everyone to have an opportunity for a house blessing.) If you would like to have your home blessed by a priest or deacon, please contact the Fort Recovery or Coldwater Family Office to let us know your address and availability. Also, there is family home blessing information and chalk available in the back of each parish for a family to do their own house blessing.

Book of the Month Searching for and Maintaining Peace: A Small Treatise on Peace of Heart by Father Jacques Philippe

Book Review by: Hannah Bihn



Many of us roam this world aimlessly and full of anxiety. We fill our lives with noise – and let our media spoon feed us new things constantly. All of these promise to satisfy our longing. They can't do that – our hearts will only rest in God.

God desires to give you true and lasting peace. This rest is found when you surrender; put all your confidence & trust in the Lord who loves you. The book Searching for and Maintaining Peace: A Small Treatise on Peace of Heart by Father Jacques Philippe is a quick read – only 110 pages. He teaches you to believe in and embrace the peace that God desires for you.

The treatise will give you practical advice and meditations on the spiritual life, but I think it boils down to the statement: "all the reasons that cause us to lose our sense of peace are bad reasons." If you find this hard to believe, I challenge you to read the book. Remember this: the Gospel is called Good News for a reason. Allow yourself to reflect on what Jesus is offering you: eternal life in Him – not just after your death but here and now. All He has is yours for the taking!

> A copy will be available in each of our Parish Office Libraries.

Have a favorite Catholic Book... send the title, author & a short review to bulletin.holycrossfop@gmail.com. Your write-up may be featured in an upcoming "Book of the Month" bulletin feature.

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



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 6<sup>th</sup> anytime from 9am - 7pm. Thank you for all of your help! Contact Michelle Weber at (937) 572-7850 with any questions Holy Trinity Grotto on Friday, February 6th 7850 with any questions.



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

## Parish App Feature-of-the-Week



- Quick access anytime
- Current and past copies
- Our full parish bulletin available on your phone

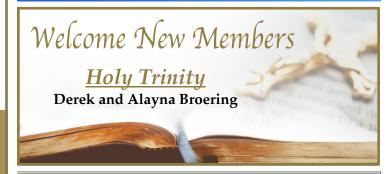
Bulletin

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





**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.

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. 31<sup>st</sup> through Sat., Mar. 28<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

**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 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of April. It will instead be held on Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> during the 10 am Mass.

MASS INTENTIONS REMINDER — Mass Intentions are open for scheduling through January 2027. As a reminder, each individual parishioner at the Coldwater parishes is allowed one Mass Intention and each individual parishioner at the Fort Recovery parishes is allowed two Mass Intentions per calendar year. The suggested donation for a Mass Intention is \$5. Example formats for Mass Intentions are as follows: John Doe; John & Jane Doe; L/D John & Jane Doe Family; L/D Jones & Doe Families, John & Jane Doe Wedding Anniversary.



**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.

**SERVANTS OF CHRIST** — This is a Holy Cross Family of Parishes mens group that meets the first and third Fridays 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 the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every 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** — Meetings will be held the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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.





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:	
<b>Emergency Contact Name/Relationship</b>	£
Emergency Contact Phone number:	
Emergency Contact Email:	
Please list diet restrictions or food alle	rgies:
Do you plan to stay the night? YES.	NO.
Name of church you regularly attend in	our parish family:



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.

Register w/ the above QR code or drop oil	this portion at the Coldwater Parish office.				
Name:	Phone Number:				
Email Address:					
Home Address:					
<b>Emergency Contact Name/Relationship</b>	:				
Emergency Contact Phone number:					
Emergency Contact Email:					
Please list diet restrictions or food alle	rgies:				
Do you plan to stay the night? YES.	NO.				
Name of church you regularly attend in our parish family:					

# Parish Information



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 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 29<sup>th</sup> and January 11<sup>th</sup>. 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.



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.



GATHERING FOR FELLOWSHIP —

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

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

**BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT** — We need volunteers Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup> – Saturday, January 31<sup>st</sup> 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 12<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:30 pm. Food and drinks will be provided.



St. Joseph

L A D I E S S O D A L I T Y WINTER PARTY — All

St. Joe ladies are welcome to join us on Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup>.

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



ANNUAL DINNER & MEETING — St. Paul's Men's Society will have their annual dinner

and meeting in the parish hall on January 12<sup>th</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup>. 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 8<sup>th</sup>.



St. Peter

SNOW REMOVAL C O M M I T T E E S 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!!!



# 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.

- Go to FORMED.org
- Click "sign up as a parishioner", find our FORMED parish, & enter zip code: 45828.
- Make an account by entering your name and email, then you are good to go!



### Epiphany of the Lord

K	I	N	G	Т	U	K	Χ	S	F
K	С	K	R	R	D	С	S	С	В
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N	В	Т	L	R	S	Χ	Ε	S	J
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F	R	Α	D	R	S	J	D	M	Ε
U	N	Χ	L	Н	В	S	Ε	Н	W

Born King Star Priests Scribes Land Ruler Shepherd Child Treasure

@ Diocesan



### Saint of the Week - Saint Raymond Penyafort

Since Saint Raymond of Peñafort lived into his hundredth year, he had a chance to do many things. As a member of the Spanish nobility, he had the resources and the education to get a good start in life. By the time he was 20, he was teaching philosophy. In his early 30s he earned a doctorate in both canon and civil law. At 41 he became a Dominican. Pope Gregory IX called him to Rome to work for him and to be his confessor. One of the things the pope asked him to do was to gather together all the decrees of popes and councils that had been made in 80 years since a similar collection by Gratian. Raymond compiled five books called the Decretals. They were looked upon as one of the best organized collections of Church law until the 1917 codification of canon law. Earlier, Saint Raymond of Peñafort had written for confessors a book of cases. It was called Summa de Casibus Poenitentiae. More than simply a list of sins and penances, it discussed pertinent doctrines and laws of the Church that pertained to the problem or case brought to the confessor. At the age of 60, Raymond was appointed archbishop of Tarragona, the capital of Aragon. He didn't like the honor at all and ended up getting sick and resigning in two years. He didn't get to enjoy his peace long, however, because when he was 63 he was elected by his fellow Dominicans to be the head of the whole Order, the successor of Saint Dominic. Raymond worked



hard, visited on foot all the Dominicans, reorganized their constitutions and managed to put through a provision that a master general be allowed to resign. When the new constitutions were accepted, Raymond, then 65, resigned. He still had 35 years to oppose heresy and work for the conversion of the Moors in Spain. He convinced Saint Thomas Aguinas to write his work Against the Gentiles. In his 100th year, the Lord let Raymond retire.

## Youth Ministry

## Coldwater Youth Group

**Contact: Maria Gruss** 

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

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

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

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

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

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 11** — 3:15 - 5:45 pm | Youth Group Christmas Party @ The Grotto

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 13** — 7 - 8 am | Christ & Coffee @ Rooster Joe (grades  $7^{th}$  -  $12^{th}$ )

## Fort Fiat Youth Group

**Contact: Natalie Ashbaugh** nashbaugh.holycrossfop@gmail.com

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

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

**LADIES YOUTH GROUP** — Tuesdays 7:15 - 8 am @ MHC (grades 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>)

**MEN'S YOUTH GROUP** — NO Men's Group January 7<sup>th</sup> (grades 7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>)

**BREAKFAST CLUB** — January 16<sup>th</sup> 7:15 - 8 am @ MHC (6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>)

**CHRISTMAS PARTY** — January  $11^{th}$  5:30 - 8:00 pm @ HT Basement. ( $6^{th}$  -  $12^{th}$ )

**SOUP & STATIONS** — Every Friday of Lent starting Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> 3:30 - 4:30 pm at MHC. Use the QR code or link below to sign up to bring a soup or have your son serve. https://docs.google.com/document/d/1haEqNaBLRTUF8DEXmKen5nck0jdqati3uFKgag2qL\_4/edit?tab=t.0

# FISHERS OF FUN REC NIGHT

Casting out good times and great company!

EVERY 1<sup>ST</sup> WEDNESDAY
7:30 - 8:45 PM
@ THE FR. YAUSS BASEMENT
AGES 12+ WELCOME!



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 RVSP 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

Contest is for 9<sup>th</sup> / 10<sup>th</sup> grade and 11<sup>th</sup> / 12<sup>th</sup> grade Mercer county high school students. 2nd place will receive \$200 and 1st place will receive \$300! All participants will receive a \$20 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 MCRTL. Include in subject line of the e-mail submission the contestant's name. In the message portion list the contestant's address, age group, and school. Essays are to be e-mailed to prolifegeneration.mercercounty@outlook.com by Jan. 18, 2026.

GIRLS FAITH NIGHT OUT — Tues., Jan. 20, 2026, in Lehman Catholic High School Gym (Lehman's Lachey gymnasium) from 6 - 8 pm. Sponsored by the Holy Angels Altar Rosary Society, this year's great learning event for women features Father Benedict O'Cinnsealaigh, Pastor of Queen of All Saints Family of Parishes, Cincinnati, and past President of the Athenaeum and Rector of Mount St. Mary's Seminary of the West. Fr. Ben will be focusing on "Being Called...How God Calls You Through Everyday Life." All adult women, from any parish, are welcome. Wine, water and snacks will be served during the social time. Parking is best on the east side of Lehman, and the front doors will be open for drop-offs as well. Doors open at 5:30. For your recommended kind \$5 donation at the door, you will receive a ticket to enter one of three gift baskets. A \$10 donation gives you 3 tickets for the gift baskets. Tables will accommodate the first 150 ladies with overflow seating in the bleachers.

MERCER COUNTY RIGHT TO LIFE ESSAY CONTESTS — 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.

> COLDWATER K OF C FREE THROW CONTEST Coldwater K of C Free Throw Contest for boys and girls ages 9 - 14. Sunday, January 18th @ The Palace. Registration opens 3:30 pm Contest begins At 4:00 pm. Winners will receive a basketball and a Coldwater Chamber of Commerce gift certificate. Contact Dave Bettinger (419) 852-2582 with any questions.

> 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 complete 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!

> 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.

# Stewardship

## Did You Know?

### Traditional Church Envelope Giving

Using the contribution envelopes is the traditional method of giving to your church. When you register at the Parish, you are added to the mailing list to receive these envelopes. The envelope system helps to:

- 1. Organize the collections throughout the year, including the second or special collections.
- 2. Record your individual contributions for your year-end statement.
- 3. Encourages parishioners to contribute by providing a tangible reminder each week.
- 4. Provides the parishioner the ability to specify the donation amount and where their contributions are applied (e.g. general fund, PPI,

In order to update our envelope mailing list, if you are receiving envelopes and do not use them, please contact your business manager to be removed from the list.

#### Year-End Statements

Year-end statements are available upon request. If you would like to receive your 2025 year-end statement, please call or email your business manager.

### Holy Trinity, St. Anthony or St. Mary Parishes:

Charmaine Bettinger: cbettinger.holycrossfop@gmail.com or 419-678-4802

Mary Help of Christians, St. Joseph, St. Paul or St. Peter Parishes: Amy Lennartz: alennartz.holycrossfop@gmail.com or 419-375-4153

## **Contributions**

#### December 15 - 21, 2025 Mary Help of Christians **Holy Trinity** Offertory.....\$14,570.00 Offertory.....\$ 7,166.00 Loose.....\$ 3,768.51 Immac. Conception .....\$ 100.00 Retired Religious ......\$ Total .....\$10,934.51 125.00 Allocated Loose ......\$ 1,279.50 Perm. Improvement.....\$ 345.00 Food Pantry.....\$ 2,073.00 St. Joseph Candles.....\$ 317.00 Offertory.....\$ 2,185.00 Youth Group .....\$ 55.00 Retired Religious ......\$ 310.00 Retired Religious ......\$ 334.00 Allocated Loose ......\$ 267.20 Immac. Conception .....\$ 95.00 CHD.....\$ 430.00 Offertory.....\$ 4,698.00 St. Anthony Christmas .....\$ 200.00 Offertory....\$ 425.00 Immac. Conception.....\$ 517.00 11.11 Loose.....\$ Religious Ed.....\$ 45.00 Total .....\$ 942.00 Retired Religous.....\$ 20.00 Allocated Loose ......\$ 545.26 St. Mary Offertory.....\$ 780.00 St. Peter Loose.....\$ 407.00 Offertory.....\$ 2,160.00 Total .....\$ 1,187.00 120.00 Maintenance.....\$ Retired Religious ......\$ 315.00 Allocated Loose .....\$ 432.29

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 Business Managers

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

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

**Director of Communications** 

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

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

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

Cindy Muhlenkamp - cmuhlenkamp.holycrossfop@gmail.com

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

Ginny Fortkamp - gfortkamp.holycrossfop@gmail.com 419-375-4153

Parish Life Coordinator

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

Maintenance

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

<u>Music</u>

(HT) - Ron Johnson - rjohnson.holycrossfop@gmail.com (MHC) - Deanna Knapke, Linda Kahlig, Katie Fortkamp (SA) - Julie Brackman - 419-942-1580

(OA) - Julie Diackillali - 4 19-942

(SJ) - Maria Bergman

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

(SPL) - Susan Bertke

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

**Hall Rentals** 

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

**Safe Environment Coordinator** 

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

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

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

## Pastoral Staff

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

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

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

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

**Deacon Daniel Kahlig:** dkahlig.holycrossfop@gmail.com

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

**COLDWATER KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #1991** 

Grand Knight — Mike Hoying 937-594-2816

FORT RECOVERY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #3324

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

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

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

ST. ANN'S ROSARY ALTAR SODALITY

President — Julie Pleiman 419-953-7116 Vice President — Katie Hamberg 513-614-5117

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

Special Thanks
to our Bulletin Sponsors!
This week we highlight:

C & B Sanning Auto Repair Midwest Dock & Door N. J. Hogenkamp Sons, Inc - Coldwater A & M RV Repair LLC American Legion Post 470 Brunet Dental Clearwater Systems Coldwater Lumber



Almighty God, we thank You for the gift of our parish family, staff, vicars, pastor, and all of Your faithful parishioners. Please send Your Holy Spirit to fill all of us with wisdom, courage, and a pure heart to serve You. Protect us from evil and temptation along with granting us endurance and joy in our ministry and vocation, that we may always point others to Christ's love and redemption.

