

*He will give you another
Advocate to be with you always*



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Holy Trinity

419-678-4802
120 E. Main St.
P.O. Box 107
Coldwater, OH 45828

Mon - Thurs:
8:30 am - 12:30 pm & 1 pm - 5 pm
Fri: 8:30 am - 1 pm

Family Offices



Mary Help of Christians

419-375-4153
403 Sharpsburg Road
Fort Recovery, Ohio 45846

Mon: 9 am - 3 pm
Tues - Thurs: 8 am - 5 pm
Fri: 9 am - 1 pm



Website:

www.holycrossfop.org



Facebook:

www.facebook.com/holycrossfop



St. Anthony



St. Joseph



St. Mary



St. Paul



St. Peter

Sunday, May 10, 2026
Sixth Sunday of Easter

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, May 11 <i>Easter Weekday</i>	Mike Franzer †	FBS	7:15 am (L/S)	Holy Trinity	After Mass
	Julia Heitkamp †	FAW	6:45 pm	St. Peter	5:45 - 6:30 pm
Tuesday, May 12 <i>Saints Nereus and Achilles, Martyrs; Saint Pancras, Martyr</i>	Alice Schmidt †	FEM	7:15 am	St. Mary	After Mass
	Paul Lamm †	FBS	6:45 pm	St. Joseph	5:45 - 6:30 pm
Wednesday, May 13 <i>Our Lady of Fatima; opt. mem.</i>	L/D John & Marceil Alig Family †	FBS	7:15 am (L/S)	MHC	After Mass
	Clem & Regina Dues Family †	FEM	Noon (L/S)	Holy Trinity	11:30 am - end
Thursday, May 14 <i>Saint Matthias, Apostle; Feast</i>	JoAnn Wagner †	FBS	7:15 am	St. Paul	After Mass
	Donald J. Muhlenkamp †	FEM	6:45 pm	St. Anthony	5:45 - 6:30 pm
Friday, May 15 <i>Saint Isidore; opt. mem.</i>	Velma Wellman †	FBS	7:15 am (L/S)	Holy Trinity	After Mass
	Joan Timmerman †	FEM	Noon (L/S)	MHC	11:30 am - end
Saturday, May 16 <i>Easter Weekday</i>	L/D Fort Recovery Graduating Class of 1976 †	FBS	9:00 am	St. Joseph	After Mass
	Mestemaker / Homan Wedding	FJP	1:00 pm	MHC	N/A
	Graduates & Their Families	FBS	4:00 pm	St. Anthony	3:15 - 3:45 pm
	Ron & GERALYN BUENING 50 th Wed. Anniv.	FEM	4:30 pm	Holy Trinity	3:45 - 4:15 pm
	L/D Smith & Heuker Families †	FJP/ DDK/ DRK	4:30 pm (L/S)	MHC	3:45 - 4:15 pm
Sunday, May 17 <i>The Ascension of the Lord; Solemnity</i>	Gerald Dillhoff †	FJP	7:00 am	St. Peter	N/A
	Catherine & Leroy Bruggeman †	FBS	8:00 am (L/S)	Holy Trinity	7:25 - 7:45 am
	Graduates & Their Families	FAW/ DDK	9:00 am (L/S)	MHC	8:25 - end
	Graduates & Their Families	FEM	10:00 am (L/S)	Holy Trinity	9:25 - 9:45 am
	Graduates & Their Families	FAW/ DRK	11:00 am	St. Paul	10:25 - 10:45 am
	Graduates & Their Families	FJP	11:00 am	St. Joseph	10:25 - 10:45 am
	Graduates & Their Families	FBS	Noon	St. Mary	11:25 - 11:45 am
	L/D Gruss & Diller Families	FKG	3:00 pm	Holy Trinity	N/A
	Members of Holy Cross Family of Parishes	FEM	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-qg4zm, 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); Fr. Kraig Gruss (FKG)
 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, May 13, 7:15 am

Servers: Joseph Bruns, Henry Bruns

Lector: Les Wenning

Friday, May 15, 12:00 pm

Server: Blaise Bergman

Lector: Keshia Willmann

Saturday, May 16, 4:30 pm

Servers: John Bihn, Rachel Fortkamp, Joseph Fortkamp

Lector: Lisa Romer

EMHC: Deacon Roger Kaiser, Deacon Dan Kahlig

Sacristan: Maggie Hartings

Ushers: Floyd Bergman, Don Lennartz, LaVern Grube, Chuck Kaiser

Sunday, May 17, 9:00 am (Baccalaureate)

Servers: Carson Fullenkamp, Anthony Roessner, Brodie Hart, Josh Evers

Lector: Graduate

EMHC: Deacon Dan Kahlig, Lori Rohrer

Sacristan: Roger & Cheryl Wenning

Ushers: John Faller, Joe Grube, Jeff Fullenkamp, Mark Metzger

- St. Joseph -

Tuesday, May 12, 6:45 pm

Servers: Joseph Bruns, Henry Bruns

Lector: Danielle Pottkotter

Sacristan: Shel Sutter

Saturday, May 16, 9:00 am

Server: Blaise Bergman

Lector: Paige Schulze

Sunday, May 17, 11:00 am (Baccalaureate)

Servers: Tyler Dues, Blaise Bergman, Tanner Grube

Lector: Graduate

EMHC: Holly Grube

Sacristan: Norma Pottkotter

Ushers: Gary Pottkotter, Grant Pottkotter

- St. Paul -

Thursday, May 14, 7:15 am

Server: Russell Hart

Sunday, May 17, 11:00 am (Baccalaureate)

Servers: Nick Siefiring, Camden LeFevre, Mya Will

Lector: Graduate

EMHC: Deacon Dan Kahlig, Theresa Siefiring

Ushers: Chris Siefiring, Joe Hawk

Rosary: Ken & Lil Knapke

- St. Peter -

Monday, May 11, 6:45 pm

Server: Chris Timmerman

Lector: Nathan Fortkamp

Sunday, May 17, 7:00 am

Servers: Reese Diller, Theresa Hipple, Levi Sutter, James Pottkotter, Francis Pottkotter, Michael Pottkotter

Lector: Jane Hipple

EMHC: Clark Knapke

Sacristan: Jane Hipple

Ushers: Derek Gaerke, Shane Gaerke

- Holy Trinity -

Monday, May 11, 7:15 am

Servers: Myra Stammen, Archer Bihn, Henry Broering

Lector: Rene Klosterman

Wednesday, May 13, 12:00 pm

Servers: Samuel Gerlach, Oliver Link, Jude Link

Lector: Julie Schmitz

Sacristan: Peyton Link, Emma Gerlach

Friday, May 15, 7:15 am

Servers: Audrey Alig, Abby Alig, A.J. Alig, Jack Bettinger

Lector: Rita Riethman

Saturday, May 16, 4:30 pm

Servers: Isabelle Schwieterman, Alex Schwieterman, Emma Siefiring

Lector: Julie Schmitz

EMHC: Denny Riethman

Sunday, May 17, 8:00 am

Servers: Carter Heitkamp, Owen Heitkamp, Gavin Heitkamp, Karsyn Homan, Kratyn Homan, Krew Homan

Lector: Paul Howell

EMHC: Betty Hamberg, Herb Hamberg

Sunday, May 17, 10:00 am (Baccalaureate)

Servers: Lucas Broering, Henry Broering, Blake Wenning, Reagan Wenning, Kendall Wenning, Brandon Wendel

Lector: Rene Klosterman

EMHC: Karen Stammen, Luke Klosterman, Brooke Stammen

Sunday, May 17, 3:00 pm (Fr. Kraig Gruss - First Solemn Mass)

Sunday, May 17, 6:00 pm

Servers: Levi Sutter, Emmett Wermert, Heidi Wermert, Carson Wermert, Eli Eyink

Lector: Pam Hicks

EMHC: Sarah Klosterman, Amy Klingshirn

- St. Anthony -

Thursday, May 14, 6:45 pm

Server: Leo Grigsby

Lector: Paul Welling

Sacristan: Janet Brockman

Saturday, May 16, 4:00 pm (Baccalaureate)

Servers: Jacob Kahlig, Hallory Kahlig, Wesley Kahlig, Hailey Grey

Lector: Cindy Muhlenkamp

EMHC: Tana Sudhoff

Sacristan: Cindy Muhlenkamp

Ushers: Greg Alig, Nick Dues

Rosary: Julie Brackman

- St. Mary -

Tuesday, May 12, 7:15 am

Server: Volunteer Needed

Lector: Stephanie Wendel

Sunday, May 17, 12:00 pm (Baccalaureate)

Servers: Austin Uhlenhake, Jake Uhlenhake, Will Moorman, Henry Uhlenhake

Lector: Mya Wehrkamp

EMHC: Amy Welling

Ushers: Kevin Welling,

Ben Uhlenhake



Message from the Priests

Part III: Something Old and Something New

The last few weeks, we talked about the importance of programs in the parish being informed by their purpose. The purpose of the altar serving program is to help foster the possibility of a call to the priesthood, a vocation reserved to men by our Lord's design. But our Lord does not love His sons more than His daughters—He loves His daughters immensely. We hope and pray that many of our young women will hear His call to follow Him completely through the life of a religious sister.

At the same time, we want to be very clear: our young women are wanted and needed in the life of the Church. There are many meaningful ways for them to serve Christ at Mass. These roles may be different, but they are no less important in offering beautiful worship to God.

Already Available Opportunities

There are many ways that women already serve our parishes in a wonderful way. Many of our parishes offer opportunities to help with religious education, especially on Sundays. Additionally, our choirs are always looking for new voices. Singing at Mass is vital to the celebration, especially on Sundays and Solemnities. You don't have to be the best singer--simply offering your voice in praise of God is a beautiful gift to the parish.

Another important opportunity is proclaiming the readings at Mass. This requires preparation and confidence, but we have seen many young people do this beautifully. For those who are able, this is a powerful way to serve directly in the liturgy.

A New Opportunity

When we asked religious sisters what we could offer our young women to help them discern a vocation to religious life, one answer came up again and again: inviting them to serve as sacristans.

Sacristans prepare for Mass and help ensure that everything is ready for the celebration of the liturgy. Over the last few years, we have invited some young women to assist with this work, and they have done an incredible job. Because of this, we now want to extend an invitation to any young woman (rising 5th grader and up) to be trained to serve as a sacristan for her parish.

This Sacristan Program will work alongside the Server Program. Over the summer, we will offer training and create a schedule so that our young women can serve regularly. Younger women will be paired with more experienced sacristans, allowing them to learn and grow in confidence.

Sacristans will arrive about 15 minutes before Mass to prepare what is needed and will assist afterward in returning the sacristy to order. This role plays an important part in preparing the Mass and serving the worship of God.

Our hope is that this will give our young women a meaningful way to serve their parish and an opportunity to be like Mary, who lovingly and diligently prepared a place for her Son to enter into the world. Just as altar serving can open a young man's heart to consider a call to the priesthood, we hope this program will help our young women remain open to God's call in their own lives, including the possibility of a vocation to religious life.

Both men and women have a mission from God. These missions are different, but not greater or lesser than one another. We want to do everything we can to help our young people hear that call and respond to it generously.

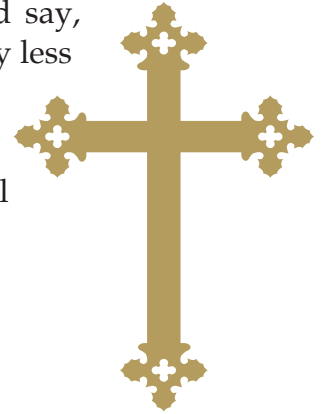
We know many families may have questions, and we want to walk through this together. We invite any young woman from our parishes (rising 5th grader and up) and her parents to a meeting on Wednesday, May 20th, 7 pm at St. Peter School Hall.

We know that the Mass is a team effort. As St. Paul reminds us, the Body of Christ has many parts: "For the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot should say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,' that would not make it any less a part of the body" (1 Cor 12:14-15). Different does not mean less.

We are deeply grateful for all those in our parishes who serve our Lord in so many different ways. Let us continue to live our lives for Jesus, serving Him in all that we do, every day.

In Jesus, through Mary,

Fr. Witt and Fr. Barry, Fr. Joseph, and Fr. Ethan



Sacramental Information

Wedding Banns

- III Craig Mestemaker & Beth Homan
- II Mitchel Homan & Sierra Fisher
- II Reese Rogers & Bailee Tebbe

And the two shall become one.

Sacrament of Matrimony

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

Marriage Congratulations!

Tim & Lily (Schoenherr) Muhlenkamp
 Married Saturday, April 25, 2026
 (Holy Trinity)

Elijah & Kenadie (Ervin) Horstman
 Married Saturday, April 25, 2026
 (Mary Help of Christians)

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

In Loving Memory...

Carl Homan
 September 19, 1958 - April 25, 2026
 (Holy Trinity)

Aaron Vagedes
 December 12, 1992 - April 27, 2026
 (St. Mary)

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

Newly Baptized

St. Anthony

Emmett Douglas Koesters
 Child of Raymond & Amber

Carter Andrew Jutte
 Child of Wyatt & Caitlynn

Baptismal Classes

The Baptismal Class is required for all first-time parents and registration is needed prior to attendance. Please contact the Coldwater Parish office if you prefer baptism of your child at Holy Trinity, St. Anthony, or St. Mary. Please contact the Ft. Recovery Parish office if you prefer baptism of your child at Mary Help of Christians, St. Joseph, St. Paul, or St. Peter.

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

"GLORY!" APPAREL AVAILABLE — Check out the "Glory!" apparel on the Holy Cross Family of Parishes online store. Products featuring our Holy Cross Family of Parishes logo are available continuously on our online store. In addition, specialty items are available at select times. Also, Easter Season items will continue to be available through Pentecost (May 24, 2026). Products can be purchased at https://designsemb.com/holy_cross/shop/home or by using the QR Code. Please contact either Holy



Cross Family Parish Office if you are in need of assistance. Thank you for showing your faith and supporting our family of parishes!

CROSS CATHOLIC OUTREACH — This weekend we are blessed to be hosting Fr. Alan Bower representing Cross Catholic Outreach. This official Catholic ministry was founded to link parishes in the U.S. with priests, religious brothers and sisters, and laypeople working in Church missions overseas. Its programs span the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, and Central and South America. Donation envelopes will be provided. Please be generous and be sure to say, "Hi", after Mass. Brochures with a donation envelope will be provided if you wish to support this worthy Catholic ministry. For more information on Cross Catholic Outreach, please go to CrossCatholic.org/outreach, or scan this QR code.



FLOWERS FOR MARY — During the month of May, all are welcome to bring flowers from their homes and gardens to place them around or near the Mary statue at any of our parishes. The month of May is dedicated in a special way to our Blessed Mother, and it's also the month that brings flowers. It is an age-old, beautiful, easy tradition that the lay faithful, with their family, would always offer flowers to Mary during May. This is a symbol of their love for her and a way to ask her to reign over their family, their children, and their hearts. Might we suggest to our families that this is an excellent way to live the faith at home. Sometime during this month take an evening as a family to bring flowers up to Mary at church, say a decade of the rosary together, and go out for ice cream afterwards! Please make sure your name is written on the bottom of your vase if you eventually would like it returned to you.

MISSION LOTTERY WINNER — (4/15/26) Kathleen Hemmelgarn, Fort Recovery, Ohio & (4/22/26) Deb Homan Minster, OH — Congratulations!

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES — All are welcome to attend the Memorial Day Service on Monday, May 25th, at Coldwater Memorial Park following the 9 am Mass at Holy Trinity. The park service will begin at 10 am. Following the service at the park, a Cemetery Ceremony will be held at St. Elizabeth Cemetery in Coldwater and at St. Mary's Cemetery, Philothea. Both Cemetery Ceremonies will be at 11:00 am.

ANNOUNCEMENT — At times throughout the month of May we will be operating with only three priests during most weeks and some weekends as well. Please pray for Fr. Joseph as he is away during this month. 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!

MASS CHANGE — On Sunday, May 17th, St. Peter will have the 7:00 am Mass and St. Joseph will have the 11:00 am Mass due to the Baccalaureate Mass being held at St. Joseph.

IGNITE

YOUNG ADULT GROUP (18-24)

Every Thursday @ 7:00 pm
Beginning May 7th
MHC Youth Group Room
403 Sharpsburg Rd Fort Recovery

If you want to grow deeper in community and love of Jesus Christ while navigating adulthood, join us every Thursday.

Stay up to date by following us on Instagram @ignite_catholic and joining our GroupMe using the QR code.

Questions contact
Chase at 419-268-8432 or Natalie at 419-852-7816

Baccalaureate Masses

Masses will be held the weekend of May 16/17.

Saturday, May 16

St. Anthony ~ 4:00 pm

Sunday, May 17

Mary Help of Christians ~ 9:00 am

Holy Trinity ~ 10:00 am

St. Paul ~ 11:00 am

St. Joseph ~ 11:00 am

(Includes St. Joseph & St. Peter Baccalaureates)

St. Mary ~ Noon

ANNOUNCEMENT — Maria Gruss will be stepping away from her position as our Coldwater Youth Ministry Coordinator, in June of 2026, to stay at home with her growing family. Thank you Maria for all you have done for our Family of Parishes!

PHILOTHEA SCHOOL HALL — The ramp will be redone from June 6 - July 18, 2026. Be aware that the school hall will not be handicap accessible during this time.

MOTHER'S DAY ROSE SALE — Volunteers will be selling roses after Masses within our Family of Parishes, on Mother's Day weekend (May 9th/10th). Thank you to all the volunteers, and all the people supporting this fundraiser to defend the "Right to Life" of all innocent human beings, from the moment of conception, until natural death.

MISCARRIAGE KITS — Miscarriage kits are now available at any time, day or night, in the main entrance of Holy Trinity's Grotto. Kits are in white boxes featuring the Morgan's Place logo as shown. Please know that you are not alone during this difficult time, and the kits are being provided to help you honor your baby. Information and assistance from Morgan's Place can be found at <https://www.morgansplacecemetery.org>



FIRST SOLEMN MASS RECEPTION — Everyone is invited to a reception in the Grotto at Holy Trinity following, soon to be ordained, Fr. Kraig Gruss's First Solemn Mass to congratulate him. Mass is at 3 pm on Sunday, May 17, 2026. Refreshments provided by St. Ann's Hospitality Committee.



Soon to be ordained Fr. Kraig Gruss

*First Solemn Mass
on
May 17, 2026
3:00 pm*

Holy Trinity Catholic Church

All are welcome to attend!

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.

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

WOMEN'S BOOK STUDY — The last meeting will be held Monday, May 11th at 7:30 pm at the shelter house at 171 Burrville Rd., Coldwater, Ohio. The book "Home" will be discussed. Have week 12 read for the next meeting.

SERVANTS OF CHRIST — This is a Holy Cross Family of Parishes mens group that meets the 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.

JOYFEST

SATURDAY MAY 30TH

**OPENS AT 5:30 PM
A TENT EVENT HOSTED AT
MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS FIELD**

HOLY CROSS GOT TALENT

SIGN UP



**ALL TALENTS WELCOME
FOOD TRUCKS - BOUNCY HOUSES - PRIZES**

Use the QR Code above to sign up for
HOLY CROSS GOT TALENT SHOW
or contact either parish office if interested in performing.
Sign up by: Saturday, May 23rd for Talent Show participation!
(Questions: please contact either Family Parish Office.)



*Family
Eucharistic Adoration*

**St. Joseph
Catholic Church
6:30 - 7:30 pm
Thursday, May 28, 2026**

Mary, Queen of Heaven w/ Fr. Witt
*There will be refreshments w/ a King/Queen activity in Sanderell Hall following Adoration.

40 Hours of Adoration

Friday, June 5th @ Noon

—◇◇ Sunday, June 7th @ 2:00 pm



Please join us in Adoration...

honoring & spending time w/ Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament

- Sign up sheets are in the main entrance of each of our seven churches.
- One parishioner from each parish is asked to sign up in each time slot.
- Noon Mass on Friday at St. Peter will mark the start of 40 Hours leading up to the Feast of Corpus Christi on Sunday.
- Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will start after the Noon Mass.

Jesus' one sacrifice on Calvary is sacramentally made present in every holy sacrifice of the Mass. The Feast of Corpus Christi, also known as the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, celebrates the real presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. Every consecrated host is the Body, Blood, Soul & Divinity of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Note: Mary Help of Christians will not be having Noon Mass on Friday. Mass will be held at St. Peter instead.



**Mount St. Mary's
Seminary
&
School of Theology**

Ember Day

WHAT IS GOD'S MISSION FOR YOU?

FRIDAY, JUNE 5

Ember Day is a retreat for high school men aged 15-19. The day will include Mass with Archbishop Emeritus Dennis Schnurr, sports, talks, and food. It's an opportunity for high school boys to meet the seminarians and learn more about vocation, priesthood, and fatherhood. Hosted by the Cincinnati seminarians and vocation director Fr. Michael Willig. Register at <https://resources.catholicaoc.org/event/ember-day-june-5>.

**BIKE BLESSING
&
ROSARY RUN**

SATURDAY, MAY 30TH AT 11 AM

WHERE: MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARKING LOT
403 SHARPSBURG RD.
FORT RECOVERY, OH 45846

WHY: TO BEGIN THE RIDING SEASON WITH A BLESSING FOR PROTECTION AND TO CONSECRATE OUR TIME ON THE ROAD TO JESUS

WHAT: BLESSING FOLLOWED BY A GROUP RIDE TO 10 LOCAL CHURCHES WITH AN OPPORTUNITY FOR LUNCH AND FELLOWSHIP TO CONCLUDE



Mother's Day

Motherhood comes in many forms, not just the biological. There are adopted mothers, spiritual mothers, godmothers, saintly mothers and of course the most beautiful & wonderful example of mothers, Our Blessed Mother.

- ♥ To those who gave birth this year to their first child – we celebrate with you.
- ♥ To those who lost a child this year – we mourn with you.
- ♥ To those who are in the trenches with little ones every day and wear the badge of food stains – we appreciate you.
- ♥ To those who experienced loss this year through miscarriage, failed adoptions, or running away – we grieve with you.
- ♥ To those who walk the hard path of infertility, fraught with pokes, prods, tears, and disappointment – we walk with you. Forgive us when we say foolish things. We don't mean to make this harder than it is.
- ♥ To those who are foster moms, mentor moms, and spiritual moms – we need you.
- ♥ To those who have warm and close relationships with your children – we celebrate with you.
- ♥ To those who have disappointment, heartache, and distance with your children – we sit with you.
- ♥ To those who lost their mothers this year – we grieve with you.
- ♥ To those who experienced abuse at the hands of your own mother – we acknowledge your experience.
- ♥ To those who lived through driving tests, medical tests, and the overall testing of motherhood – we are better for having you in our midst.
- ♥ To those who will have emptier nests in the upcoming year – we grieve and rejoice with you.
- ♥ And to those who are pregnant with new life, both expected and surprising – we anticipate with you.

Parish Information



Holy Trinity

FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

— We are 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, Aug. \$5,100, Sept. \$11,200, Oct. \$26,300, Nov. \$18,009, Dec. \$20,536, Jan. \$25,683, Feb. \$17,029, Mar. \$13,988, Apr. \$7,475.00 for an average of \$14,962. 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. Thank you for your generosity!

FUNERAL COOKS — We are looking to add 1 or 2 cooks to our Funeral Lunch Ministry. Contact Charmaine Bettinger for more details if interested. (419) 678-4802 or cbettinger.holycrossfop@gmail.com

OUTDOOR BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE — We are looking for 3 - 4 people to join the outdoor beautification committee which helps with the watering of all the beautiful flowers. Your team would be added to the rotation schedule. Contact Charmaine Bettinger for more details if interested: (419) 678-4802 or cbettinger.holycrossfop@gmail.com



St. Anthony

GATHERING FOR FELLOWSHIP

— Every 2nd Thurs. of the month, at 8 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! Join in at the church and pub or either of the two. Questions or opinions please call (419) 852-8741.

VBS — St. Anthony VBS is back this summer. Join us June 15 - 18, 2026 from 6:15 - 8:15 pm as we explore the Marvelous Mystery of the Mass. Participants and volunteers need to register by 5/11/26. Scan QR code or visit www.vbspro.events/p/vbsstanthony for more details, opportunities to donate or volunteer, and to register.

ANNUAL GARAGE SALE — St. Anthony will be having the annual garage sale again this year. However; due to the fact that the church will be receiving an uplift; we will be having the garage sale in September. This gives everyone an ample amount of time to go through your closets, garage, shops etc. Of course, more information will follow. If anyone has any questions, please call (419) 852-8741.

ST. ANTHONY PRAYER CHAIN — Anyone can participate! Contact Janie Timmerman at (419) 852-8741 to help pray for others. If someone needs prayers, St. Anthony has a group of prayer warriors waiting to hear your request! No personal information will be sent with the request if you choose to keep it confidential. Please join our Army of Angels by contacting Janie to be put on the list to help pray for our friends and family.



Mary Help of Christians

QUEEN OF PEACE GROUNDS KEEPER NEEDED

— We are looking for someone to maintain the Queen of

Peace Walk area. Responsibilities would include maintaining landscaping, watering flowers, pulling weeds, etc. around the rosary walk area. This is a paid position. If interested, please contact the office by calling (419) 375-4153.

SEWING GROUP — Meeting is on May 11th at 9:00 am in the Mary Help of Christians Undercroft. If there is a funeral on Monday, May 11th, we will not meet until June 8th. The group would like to thank everyone who donated to the sewing group this past year. Anyone and everyone is welcomed to join our sewing group and help us sew, press, cut out fabrics and other things that are needed for the less fortunate.



St. Mary

PATRIOTIC ROSARY

— Rosary is held every Tuesday at 7:30 pm at St. Mary Church.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

— St. Mary will be celebrating their 175th Anniversary on Sept. 13th. We are looking for volunteers to help plan the event. Please text or call Jeff Timmerman at (419) 305-0745 to sign up.

175TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT — We are looking for any stories, history, photos, etc. regarding the church, past families/events - anything people would love to see or hear about. Please include any dates or information you may have, even a phone call with a fun story would be extremely appreciated. Send, call or text Barb Uhlenhake at (419) 953-0582 or email at Uhlenhake7@gmail.com - Thank you!

CYSC FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE — The Men's sodality will be giving financial assistance to any member of St. Mary's who has children attending CYSC this summer. Contact Jay Uhlenhake for more information (419) 953-5615.

PHILOTHEA SCHOOL HALL — The ramp will be redone from June 6 - July 18, 2026. Be aware that the school hall will not be handicap accessible during this time.

BRUNCH — There will be a brunch hosted by the CYO in the school hall following the graduation Mass on May 17th. All are welcome and encouraged to come enjoy the food and congratulate our graduating seniors!

ST. MARY BIBLE SCHOOL 2026 — Please join us for bible school "Finding Jesus through Mary" on June 1st - 4th in Philothea. Please use the QR code to register.

GROUNDS CLEAN UP — Men's sodality will be mulching and doing grounds clean up May 19th at 6 pm. May 20th will be a rain date. Also with a men's sodality meeting following at the philothea country club.

COLLECTING DONATIONS — St. Mary's Ladies Sodality will be collecting donations for Mercer County Council on Aging's garage sale. Any donations can be placed in the trailer parked next to the church from June 6th - 8th.



St. Joseph

CLEANING — (MAY) **Sandy Stein, Hillary Stein, Ann Backs, Lisa LeFevre, Casey Steinbrunner, Natalie Sudhoff, Brianne Pottkotter

Religious Education

Coldwater Religious Ed.

Contact: Stephanie Rutschilling
srutschilling.holycrossfop@gmail.com, (419) 678-3328

ATTENTION:

CCD REGISTRATION — Registration is now open for the 2026-2027 CCD year. Please register your family by scanning the QR code or by visiting the Religious Education page of our website: holycrossfop.org. Registration is due July 1st.



UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE:

BACCALAUREATE MASSES — Holy Trinity - May 17th @ 10:00 am, St. Anthony - May 16th @ 4:00 pm, St. Mary - May 17th @ 12:00 pm

CONFIRMATION 2026-2027 — Sunday, October 18, 2026 at 2:30 pm @ Holy Trinity Church.

Fort Recovery Religious Ed.

Contact: Harlie Metzger
hmetzger.holycrossfop@gmail.com, (419) 375-4153

ATTENTION:

CCD REGISTRATION — Registration is now open for the 2026-2027 CCD year. Please register your family by scanning the QR code, or by visiting the Religious Education page of our website: holycrossfop.org. Registration is due July 1st.



BACCALAUREATE MASSES — MHC - Sunday, May 17th at 9:00 am; St. Paul - Sunday, May 17th at 11:00 am; & St. Peter/St. Joseph - Sunday, May 17th at 11:00 am @ St. Joseph. **Please note, St. Peter will have 7:00 am Mass on May 17th.*

CONFIRMATION 2026-2027 — Sunday, January 24, 2027 at 1:00 pm @ Mary Help of Christians Church.



SUNDAYKIDZ

6th Sunday of Easter

A D V O C A T E V B
L I W S T Y L C R H
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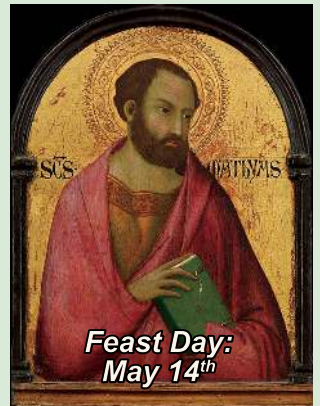
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- Go to FORMED.org
- Click "Find Your Parish Subscription" (top right), find our parish, & enter zip code: 45828.
- Make an account by entering your name and email, then you are good to go!



Saint of the Week - St. Matthias

According to Acts 1:15-26, during the days after the Ascension Peter stood up in the midst of the brothers—about 120 of Jesus' followers. Now that Judas had betrayed his ministry, it was necessary, Peter said, to fulfill the scriptural recommendation that another should take his office. "Therefore, it is necessary that one of the men who accompanied us the whole time the Lord Jesus came and went among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day on which he was taken up from us, become with us a witness to his resurrection" (Acts 1:21-22).



They nominated two men: Joseph Barsabbas and Saint Matthias. They prayed and drew lots. The choice fell upon Matthias, who was added to the Eleven.

Saint Matthias is not mentioned by name anywhere else in the New Testament.

- Information obtained from franciscanmedia.org



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Youth Ministry

Coldwater Youth Group

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

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SUNDAY, MAY 10 — 7:15 - 9:30 pm | Movie Night @ Fr. Yauss Basement (High school) Triumph of the Heart: Fr. Maximilian Kolbe volunteers to join nine men in an Auschwitz starvation bunker and fights to forge a brotherhood of hope in the darkest place on earth. | Rated PG-13

MONDAY MAY 11 — 11:18 - 11:45 am | Men's and Ladies Lunch @ The Fr. Yauss

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

MONDAY MAY 18 — 11:18 - 11:45 am | Men's and Ladies Lunch @ The Fr. Yauss

TUESDAY, MAY 19 — 7 - 8 am | Christ & Coffee @ Rooster Joe (grades 7th - 12th)

Fort Fiat Youth Group

Contact: Natalie Ashbaugh
nashbaugh.holycrossfop@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS:

MEN'S YOUTH GROUP BIBLE STUDY — TBD (7th - 12th grade)

ONGOING FORMS — If your child would like to participate in any youth events starting June 2026 - May 2027, please use the QR code to fill out a permission form.



END OF YEAR PARTY — Join us May 20th from 7:30 - 9:00 pm at MHC for our End of the Year Party. The night will include a campfire, yard games, food, prizes, and more.

HS REC NIGHTS — High School rec nights will begin June 1st, and will occur every other week from 7:30 - 9:00 pm at MHC. Nights will include slip-n-kick, pickleball, capture the flag, and more.

MS REC NIGHTS — Middle School rec night will begin June 8th, and will occur every other week from 7:30 - 9:00 pm at MHC. Nights will include car races, pickleball, and more.



Highschool Movie Night

FEATURING



TRIUMPH
of the **HEART**

A feature film about St. Maximilian Kolbe and his companions' triumph over death

WHEN: MAY 10TH

WHERE: FR. YAUSS BASEMENT

TIME: MOVIE STARTS AT 7:15 PM

BRING A SNACK TO SHARE IF YOU'D LIKE!

Thank You!

To This Week's Youth Group Lunch Sponsor

Coldwater Knights of Columbus

FORT FIAT

HIGH SCHOOL REC NIGHTS

EVERY OTHER MONDAY STARTING JUNE 1ST

7:30 PM - 9:00 PM

@ MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

NIGHTS INCLUDE

PICKLEBALL, CAPTURE THE FLAG, SLIP N KICK, CAMPFIRE, AND JESUS!

SNACKS AND DRINKS WILL BE PROVIDED

FORT FIAT

MIDDLE SCHOOL REC NIGHTS

EVERY OTHER MONDAY STARTING JUNE 8TH

@ Mary Help of Christians

7:30 PM - 9:00 PM

NIGHTS INCLUDE

SLIP N KICK, CAR RACES, PICKLEBALL, AND JESUS!

Snacks and drinks will be provided



Stewardship

Did You Know?

Contact Information

Have you moved? Changed your phone number or email addresses? Has there been a family status change? Please contact the church so we can make sure our information is correct and up to date.

Why we need to know:

- Sacramental Records Management. The Church is required by Canon Law to maintain Sacramental Records as they serve as official documentation for parishioners and future generations.
- Pastoral Care and Outreach. Assists our priests and deacons, along with parishioner volunteers to serve our families specific needs.
- Effective Communication. Assists in our evangelization and educational outreach efforts in reaching the correct people.
- Accurate distribution of church donations.

Contributions

April 20 - 26, 2026

Mary Help of Christians

Offertory.....	\$4,763.00
Catholic Relief.....	\$ 435.00
Youth Group.....	\$ 20.00
Allocated Loose.....	\$1,467.59

St. Joseph

Offertory.....	\$ 857.00
Allocated Loose.....	\$ 306.48

St. Paul

Offertory.....	\$2,196.11
Maintenance.....	\$ 100.00
Cemetery.....	\$ 35.00
Allocated Loose.....	\$ 625.41

St. Peter

Offertory.....	\$3,005.00
Maintenance.....	\$ 200.00
Catholic Relief.....	\$ 603.00
Religious Ed.....	\$ 200.00
Allocated Loose.....	\$ 495.84

Holy Trinity

Offertory.....	\$6,094.00
Loose.....	\$3,805.00
Total.....	\$9,899.00
Perm. Improvement.....	\$ 903.00
Food Pantry.....	\$ 235.00
Candles.....	\$ 213.00
Youth Ministry.....	\$ 25.00
Catholic Relief.....	\$ 660.00

St. Anthony

Offertory.....	\$ 505.00
Loose.....	\$ 360.00
Total.....	\$ 865.00
Perm. Improvement.....	\$ 220.00
Catholic Relief.....	\$ 25.00

St. Mary

Offertory.....	\$ 966.00
Loose.....	\$ 459.00
Total.....	\$1,425.00
Perm. Improvement.....	\$ 23.00
CRS.....	\$ 9.00

Thank you for your generosity!

Community Interests

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.

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 in the east room of Holy Trinity's Grotto, Coldwater. Meetings are open, anonymous, & free.

FOLLOW & PRAY WITH ARCHBISHOP CASEY — Follow Archbishop Casey at: Instagram: @archbishopcasey and/or Facebook: facebook.com/archbishopcasey

CELEBRATING CENTURY FARMS 2026 — Applications for Catholic Families celebrating 100 years on their farm are available! These families will be honored at the Farm Mass at Scott & Shelly Hartings Farm on Friday, June 26 at 7 pm, St. Henry, OH. Apply with Roger Hoying rbhoying@hotmail.com or (419) 733-4543. Sponsored by the Catholic Social Action Office.

SUMMER CHAPEL TOURS — From Memorial Day until Labor Day, the Shrine is offering free Chapel tours on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 10 am. Meet in the Gathering Space, across from reception.

HEALING MASSES - 2026 — Montezuma Retreat House at 7 pm on May 12th, Sept. 8th, Oct. 13th, & Nov. 10th.

SHOE COLLECTION — Coldwater Kiwanis is collecting new and gently used shoes of all sizes for those in third world countries supported by Missions in Motion. Shoes must be wearable with NO holes. Will not accept high heels, wedges or winter boots. Drop off May 1 - 31 at Innergy Fitness, Chief's, Briarwood and Coldwater Library. Also at Coldwater High School through May 19th.

BICYCLE SAFETY RODEO — Get your bike blessed on Sunday, May 17th from 11 am - 1 pm at the village parking lot next to 610 West Sycamore Street. The Coldwater Kiwanis and Police Department will be hosting a free bicycle safety course along with a chance to win a new bicycle. Free kids' bicycle helmets will be given out while supplies last. Also, a water activity course will be available and Coldwater residents can license their bikes for free. Questions email: info@coldwaterohiopd.gov

SPRING ANDREW DINNER — Tuesday, May 12th, St. Gertrude Parish, Madeira. Andrew Dinners are meant for high school and college-age men. These events provide an opportunity for young men to learn about priesthood and seminary, speak with Archbishop Emeritus Dennis Schnurr and vocation director Fr. Michael Willig, and share a meal together. Register here: <http://catholicaoc.org/andrew-dinners>.

2026 TASTE OF THE SHRINE FUNDRAISER — Enjoy the historical beauty and charm of the Maria Stein Shrine while sampling some of the finest food and drink crafted in God's country! The 2026 Taste of the Shrine Fundraiser is set for Thursday, May 21st from 5 pm - 8 pm. Enjoy food and drinks, a chance to win \$1,000 and a silent auction. For more information and to get your tickets, go to the Shrine's website, mariasteinshrine.org or stop by the Shrine.

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

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Charmaine Bettinger - (HT/SM/SA) cbettinger.holycrossfop@gmail.com

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

Director of Communications

Lisa Cowan - bulletin.holycrossfop@gmail.com

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Stephanie Rutschilling - (HT/SM/SA) srutschilling.holycrossfop@gmail.com

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Natalie Ashbaugh - (MHC/SJ/SPL/SPT) nashbaugh.holycrossfop@gmail.com

Director of Adult Evangelization

Cindy Muhlenkamp - cmuhlenkamp.holycrossfop@gmail.com

OCIA

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Ginny Fortkamp - (MHC/SJ/SPL/SPT) gfortkamp.holycrossfop@gmail.com

Bereavement Ministry Coordinator

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

Parish Life Coordinator

Cindy Muhlenkamp - (SA) 419-678-4802

Stephanie Wendel - (SM) 419-733-2930

Maintenance

Ralph Leugers - (SA) 419-942-8365

Rick Hemmelgarn - (SM) 419-852-8126

Rob Schmidt - (HT) 419-678-4802

Music

(HT) - Ron Johnson - rjohnson.holycrossfop@gmail.com

(MHC) - Deanna Knapke, Linda Kahlig, Katie Fortkamp

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

(SJ) - Maria Bergman

(SM) - Diane Geier - 419-852-8830

(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) kathyporz@gmail.com

Charmaine Bettinger - (HT/SM/SA) cbettinger.holycrossfop@gmail.com

Family Council Representatives

(HT) - Zach Kaup 419-763-9199 & Mark Gruss 419-852-7712

(MHC) - Kim Metzger 567-644-6781 & Doug Schmitz 419-852-7741

(SA) - Chuck Post 419-942-1133 & Cindy Homan 419-852-9686

(SJ) - Holly Grube 419-852-0889 & Dillan Schulze 419-733-0045

(SM) - Ben Siefing 419-852-8394 & Jeff Timmerman 419-305-0745

(SPL) - Dustin Sudhoff 937-344-1590 & Lindsey Reinhard 419-852-4146

(SPT) - Lynn Pleiman 740-438-1488 & Roger Roessner 419-852-1351

Call for Prayer

Cindy Hemmelgarn - 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

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Grand Knight — Mike Hoying 937-594-2816

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Vice President — Katie Hamberg 513-614-5117

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