



Great is your Faith!



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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, August 16, 2026
Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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, August 17 <i>Weekday</i>	Virgil "Shorty" Braun †	FBS	7:15 am (L/S)	Holy Trinity	After Mass
	L/D Donald & Rosamary Homan Family †	FAW	6:45 pm	St. Peter	5:45 - 6:30 pm
Tuesday, August 18 <i>Weekday</i>	David & Eileen Sieftring †	FEM	7:15 am	St. Mary	After Mass
	L/D Alvin Wendel Family †	FBS	6:45 pm	St. Joseph	5:45 - 6:30 pm
Wednesday, August 19 <i>Saint John Eudes, Priest; opt. mem.</i>	L/D Urban & Bernice Dirksen Family †	FAW	7:15 am (L/S)	MHC	After Mass
	Richard Alig †	FBS	Noon (L/S)	Holy Trinity	11:30 am - end
Thursday, August 20 <i>Saint Bernard, Abbot, Doctor of the Church; Memorial</i>	L/D Brunswick & Balster Families †	FAW	7:15 am	St. Paul	After Mass
	Mike Stein †	FBS	6:45 pm	St. Anthony	5:45 - 6:30 pm
Friday, August 21 <i>Saint Pius X, Pope; Memorial</i>	L/D Arnold & Lillian Homan Family †	FAW	7:15 am (L/S)	Holy Trinity	After Mass
	Poor Souls in Purgatory	FBS	Noon (L/S)	MHC	11:30 am - end
Saturday, August 22 <i>The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary; Memorial</i>	Sherri Keller †	FJP	9:00 am	St. Joseph	After Mass
	Siefker / Grieshop Wedding	FMH	1:00 pm	Holy Trinity	N/A
	Jeanette Brunswick †	FAW/DDK	4:00 pm	St. Anthony	3:15 - 3:45 pm
	Vernie Wynk †	FBS	4:30 pm	Holy Trinity	3:45 - 4:15 pm
	Roscoe Timmerman †	FEM	4:30 pm (L/S)	MHC	3:45 - 4:15 pm
Sunday, August 23 <i>21st Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	Jill Tobin †	FEM	7:00 am	St. Joseph	N/A
	L/D Elise Tobe Family †	FAW/DRK	8:00 am (L/S)	Holy Trinity	7:25 - 7:45 am
	Allen Dues †	FJP	9:00 am (L/S)	MHC	8:25 - end
	Neal & Delores Wolters †	FBS	10:00 am (L/S)	Holy Trinity	9:25 - 9:45 am
	Dan Kaiser †	FJP	11:00 am	St. Paul	10:25 - 10:45 am
	L/D Wagner & Fortkamp Families †	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
	Anthony & Mary Homan Family †	FBS	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); Fr. Mark Hoying (FMH)
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, August 19, 7:15 am

Server: Xavier Bruns

Lector: Pauline Faller

Friday, August 21, 12:00 pm

Server: Blaise Bergman

Lector: Ted Romer

Saturday, August 22, 4:30 pm

Servers: Vincent Wenning, Xavier Bruns, Beau Schlater

Lector: Les Wenning

EMHC: Maggie Hartings, Esther Heitkamp

Sacristan: Maggie Hartings

Ushers: Floyd Bergman, Don Lennartz, Bobby Stump, Matt Whitacre

Sunday, August 23, 9:00 am

Servers: Chase Fiely, Milo Fiely, Grant Pearson, Will Addington

Lector: Trent Pearson

EMHC: Trent Pearson, Dottie Pearson

Sacristans: Dan & Grace Jutte, Emma Pearson

Ushers: John Faller, Kevin Fortkamp, Harry Hart, Chuck Keller

– St. Joseph –

Tuesday, August 18, 6:45 pm

Servers: Tyler Dues, Levi Sutter

Lector: Paige Schulze

Sacristan: Paige Schulze

Saturday, August 22, 9:00 am

Servers: Logan Gaerke, Gavin Gaerke

Lector: Mary Gaerke

Sacristan: Danielle Schulze

Sunday, August 23, 7:00 am

Servers: Tyler Dues, Blaise Bergman, Tanner Grube

Lector: Karen Bertke

EMHC: Karen Bertke

Sacristan: Kim Pottkotter

Ushers: Mel Bertke, Ed Dues

– St. Paul –

Thursday, August 20, 7:15 am

Servers: Sam Grigsby, Leo Grigsby

Sunday, August 23, 11:00 am

Servers: Nick Siefing, Riley Stammen, Joseph Siefing

Lector: Mary Lochtefeld

EMHC: Theresa Siefing, Joe Knapke

Ushers: Chris Siefing, Kevin Wuebker

Rosary: Chris & Theresa Siefing

– St. Peter –

Monday, August 17, 6:45 pm

Server: Tate Kahlig

Lector: Tim Hart

Sunday, August 23, 11:00 am

Servers: Reed Westgerdes, Will Westgerdes, Carter Fortkamp, Derek Fortkamp, Wade Gaerke

Lector: Mindy Bettinger

EMHC: Ben Knapke

Sacristan: Donna Brunswick, Jemma Bettinger

Ushers: Shane Gaerke, Blayne Tobe

– Holy Trinity –

Monday, August 17, 7:15 am

Servers: Lucas Broering, Archer Bihn, Henry Broering

Lector: Rene Klosterman

Wednesday, August 19, 12:00 pm

Servers: Leo Grigsby, Leo Huelskamp

Lector: Nancy Clune

Sacristans: Lucy Grigsby, Gemma Grigsby

Friday, August 21, 7:15 am

Servers: Sam Grigsby, Oliver Link, Leo Huelskamp

Lector: Rita Riethman

Saturday, August 22, 4:30 pm

Servers: David Dues, Lincoln Homan, Alex Schwieterman

Lector: Rita Riethman

EMHC: Denny Riethman, Michelle Wilker, Megan Wolters

Sunday, August 23, 8:00 am

Servers: Sam Grigsby, Leo Grigsby, Jude Link

Lector: Connie May

EMHC: Brenda Kaiser, Deacon Roger Kaiser

Sunday, August 23, 10:00 am

Servers: Emmitt May, Mason Evers, John Evers, Brandon Wendel

Lector: Ed Hosbach

EMHC: Lynn Giere, Cindy Hemmelgarn, Cindy Geise

Sunday, August 23, 6:00 pm

Servers: Levi Sutter, Emmett Wermert, Carson Wermert

Lector: Pam Hicks

EMHC: Pam Hicks, Stephanie Rutschilling, Amy Klingshirn

– St. Anthony –

Thursday, August 20, 6:45 pm

Server: Wesley Geier

Lector: Janet Brockman

Sacristan: Janet Brockman

Saturday, August 22, 4:00 pm

Servers: Mason Alig, Logan Alig

Lector: Janet Brockman

EMHC: Deacon Roger Kaiser

Sacristan: Janet Brockman

Ushers: Greg Alig, Nick Dues

Rosary: Julie Brackman

– St. Mary –

Tuesday, August 18, 7:15 am

Servers: Lincoln Homan, Leo Huelskamp

Lector: Stephanie Wendel

Sunday, August 23, 12:00 pm

Servers: Matthew Uhlenhake, Garrett Uhlenhake, Cole Uhlenhake

Lector: Amy Welling

EMHC: Deacon Roger Kaiser

Ushers: Brian Siefing, Craig Hartings

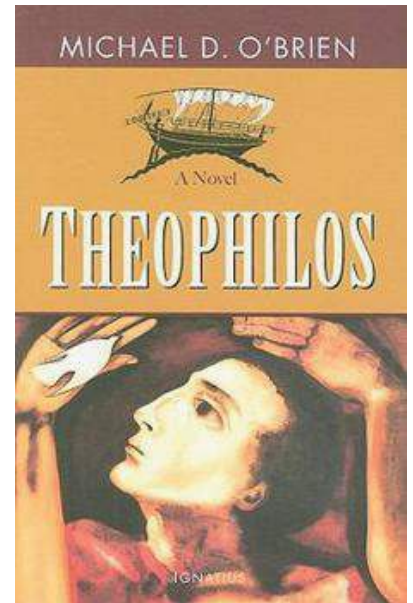


Message from the Priests

Read Any Good Books Lately?

What books have you been reading this summer? I hope you had a reading plan for the summer months. But I know that with the instant satisfaction of a YouTube short, reading a book has become a little tedious and probably rare in most people's lives. I try to read books, though, and I just finished Great Expectations by Charles Dickens, a great story from one of the best authors of English literature. Then I started David Copperfield, again by Dickens, but found it a little slow. It didn't have the intriguing character relationships and plot misdirection that Great Expectations has. It's one of my favorite books to read.

Currently I am reading a book titled, Theophilos: A Novel, by a Catholic author from Canada named Michael D. O'Brien. He wrote my all-time favorite fiction book, Father Elijah, which tells the story of a Jewish convert to Catholicism become priest, who must battle with the Anti-Christ. It's great, thoroughly Catholic treatment on the end of the world theme. I highly recommend it.



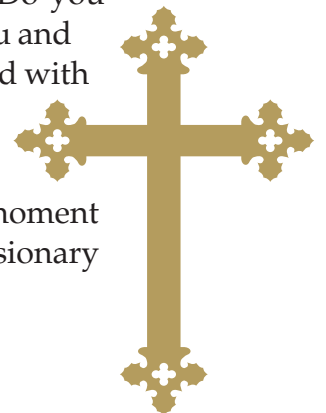
So, this book, Theophilos, is a fictionalized account of the man to whom St. Luke addressed his Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles. It imaginatively recounts his own investigation into the new phenomenon of the Christian church in first century Palestine. In the story, St. Luke is the adopted son of Theophilos, who trains him to be a doctor like himself but is skeptical of his newfound faith in Jesus.

What struck me most while reading this book was the utter impossibility of spreading the Christian Faith throughout the known world at that time. There was no social media or cell phones, no efficient means of transportation, no reliable mail system. Yet, the early Church did grow and flourish throughout the known world. I just don't know how they did it. How did they make known the Christ who came into the world, was brutally executed and reportedly rose from the dead? It's almost too much to imagine. But we have the Church today in every corner of the world with over 2.3 billion Christian believers to date.

It all started with 11 men in an upper room set aflame with the faith by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Amazing! These men and others around them experienced something incredible in this Jesus of Nazareth which totally overtook their whole selves, and they made it known. St. Luke, writing to Theophilus, was just a small part of this work of God. O'Brien, in his novel, gives flesh and bone to the story in his detailed account of what this small part meant for the Church.

Each of us has a part in this great mission as well, small though it may be. Do you realize that by your baptism you are an instrument of God's grace in the world? You and I are on the winning side. We just have to let God work through us by our lives filled with his grace through prayer and the Sacraments.

The world is only around 29% Christian today. It may seem just as impossible for us as it did for the early Church, but we can be a part of this great evangelizing moment in history. You gotta have faith, though. Pray for the grace of an ever-growing, missionary faith and look for ways you can help the Church grow, right here in our area.



- Father Barry

Sacramental Information

Wedding Banns

III Bradley Siefker & Emma Grieshop
I Parker Rabe & Courtney Bye
I Samuel Lofaso & Audrey Guggenbiller

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!

Colin & Brooklyn (Fiely) Knapke
Married Saturday, August 1, 2026
(St. Peter)

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

Newly Baptized

Holy Trinity
Elliott Judah Gruss
Child of Jeremy & Maria

Mary Help of Christians
Benson Douglas Schmitz
Child of Adam & Carlie

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 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

Stewardship

Did You Know?

Database & Records

Our parishes are actively updating the database to ensure accurate and complete records. This is part of our ongoing effort to improve communication, streamline services, and better serve our community.

If any of the following changes have occurred, please let your parish know:

- New to the parish, you can go online to register: <https://www.holycrossfop.org/new-parishioner-registration>
- Address change
- Marital status change
- Birth of child
- No longer wish to receive contribution envelopes

*You can contact the Coldwater Parish Office at
419-678-4802, Ft. Recovery Parish Office at 419-375-4153.*

Contributions

July 27 - August 2, 2026

Mary Help of Christians	Holy Trinity
Offertory.....\$6,348.28	Offertory.....\$ 6,319.00
Youth Group.....\$ 30.00	Loose.....\$ 3598.37
Flowers.....\$ 5.00	Total.....\$ 9,917.37
Allocated Loose.....\$1,357.98	Candles.....\$ 181.00
St. Joseph	Youth Ministry.....\$ 1,453.00
Offertory.....\$1,081.00	*Online Giving Month\$11,894.00
Flowers.....\$ 40.00	St. Anthony
Allocated Loose.....\$ 278.44	Offertory.....\$ 445.00
St. Paul	Loose.....\$ 253.00
Offertory.....\$3,010.00	Total.....\$ 698.00
Parish Improvement.....\$1,241.65	*Online Giving Month\$ 1,105.00
Maintenance.....\$ 100.00	St. Mary
Allocated Loose.....\$ 586.55	Offertory.....\$ 700.00
St. Peter	Loose.....\$ 361.00
Offertory.....\$2,880.00	Total.....\$ 1,061.00
Allocated Loose.....\$ 461.03	*Online Giving Month\$ 1,265.00

Note: *Online Giving represents ALL eCatholic and EFT donations including Perm. Improvement and any other special collections that were donated online.

Thank you for your generosity!

Holy Cross Family of Parishes

MASS & CONFESSION CANCELLATION — The Noon Mass and confessions at St. Mary in Philothea are canceled on Sunday, September 13, 2026, due to the parish celebration.

INITIAL SERVER TRAINING — This training is for rising 5th grade boys. Training will take place on Tuesday, September 15th at 3:30 pm at Holy Trinity and Thursday, September 17th at 3:30 pm at Mary Help of Christians. Registration is not required but appreciated (please contact either parish office for registration).

REGULAR SERVER TRAINING — This training is for all current boy novices (rising 6th graders) and any young man 6th grade and older who has not been trained. Training will be on Tuesday, September 8th at 3:30 pm at Holy Trinity and Thursday, September 10th at 3:30 pm at Mary Help of Christians. Registration is not required but appreciated (please contact either parish office for registration).

SACRISTAN TRAINING — This training is for any young woman from our parishes (rising 5th grader and up). Training will take place on Monday, September 21st at 3:30 pm at Holy Trinity and Thursday, September 24th at 3:30 pm at Mary Help of Christians. Registration is not required but appreciated (please contact either parish office for registration).

BULLETIN SUBMISSION CHANGES — Please be advised of the upcoming bulletin due date changes:

- September 13th bulletin submissions are due by Sunday, August 30, 2026.
- September 20th bulletin submissions are due by Wednesday, September 2, 2026.
- September 27th bulletin submissions are due by Sunday, September 6, 2026.
- October 4th bulletin submissions are due by Wednesday, September 9, 2026.

If you have any information that you would like featured in these bulletins please submit the information to bulletin.holycrossfop@gmail.com as soon as possible or by the above dates at the latest. Also, please note which bulletin or bulletin dates you would like to see your submission featured in. Thank You!

MASS CHANGES — On Saturday, September 12, 2026, the 4:30 pm Mass and confessions are canceled at Mary Help of Christians. Instead, an outdoor Mass will be held at St. Joseph at 4:30 pm during the St. Joe Homecoming Festival. Also, the 7 am Mass at St. Joseph on Sunday, September 13, 2026 is canceled due to the festival.

PRAYER REQUEST — Please keep Fr. Michael Kapolka in your prayers as he has been deployed overseas.

MEN'S GROUP — Meetings are suspended over the summer, picking back up sometime in the fall of 2026. The restart date will be determined closer to that time.

MISSION LOTTERY WINNER — (7/29/26) #434 Don Lennartz — Congratulations!

CCD TEACHERS NEEDED — Please prayerfully consider teaching CCD for the upcoming 2026/2027 school year. More details are available in the Religious Education section of this bulletin. If interested in volunteering, or for questions, please contact Stephanie Rutschilling for the Coldwater Parishes or Harlie Metzger for the Ft. Recovery Parishes.

CCD REGISTRATION — Registration is still open for the Coldwater Parishes (Note: The after school session is now full). Volunteer hall monitors are needed. Volunteer teachers are also still needed (see religious education section for more details). Please note: high school students can also volunteer teach. Register by scanning the QR code or by going to the Holy Cross Family of Parishes website @ holycrossfop.org. Questions: contact the Coldwater Parish Office.



Welcome New Members

Holy Trinity
Mark Dahlinghaus

Landon & Ashlyn Schlater
along with their children
Lillian and Miles

BULLETIN SUBMISSION NOTICE: Submissions must be received by 8:00 am, 10 days prior to the Sunday publication date unless otherwise noted (see above). Submit info to bulletin.holycrossfop@gmail.com. Also, please follow submission guidelines at holycrossfop.org.



Synod 2027

Where is the Holy Spirit Leading Us?

As part of Synod 2027, Archbishop Casey invites each of us to participate in a Conversations in the Spirit listening session. Join others across our archdiocese in prayerfully considering what the Holy Spirit is asking of our Church at this time, thereby assisting Archbishop Casey as he establishes pastoral priorities for the future.

There are approximately 60 sessions scheduled between Labor Day and Thanksgiving.



Register today at catholicaoc.org/conversations



OCIA

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

Go to <https://www.holycrossfop.org/becoming-catholic> or use the QR Code to check out our website for more information.

ARE YOU OR ANYONE YOU KNOW...

- Someone who has not been baptized into any faith denomination and wishes to learn about becoming a member of the Catholic Faith?
- Someone who was baptized in another Christian denomination and wishes to learn about becoming a member of the Catholic Faith?
- Someone who was baptized in the Catholic Church but never received the sacraments of Holy Eucharist and/or Confirmation?

We offer an opportunity to come together in a small group to learn more about the Catholic Faith in a process called Order of Christian Initiation of Adults, also known as **OCIA** (formerly RCIA). The day and time for our sessions are set to fit the needs of those who register. Questions about registration or inquiry about special circumstances can be directed to:

Cindy Muhlenkamp: cmuhlenkamp.holycrossfop@gmail.com; 419-678-4802 (Coldwater parishes.)

Ginny Fortkamp: gfortkamp.holycrossfop@gmail.com; 419-375-4153 (Fort Recovery parishes)

Feel free to share this information with anyone you know who may be interested.

GriefShare®

**Help and encouragement
after the death of a loved one**

A GriefShare support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. At this 13-week group, you'll receive valuable guidance and tips, leading you to relief, comfort, and peace of mind.

**Sessions begin Monday, August 24 weekly
through November 23 (no meeting on Labor Day)
6:30 – 8:00 PM**

**Mary Help of Christians Church Library
(enter the doors on the back side of church)**

**Please register on the GriefShare website
www.griefshare.org
– click on "Find a Group"
OR email, call or text Ginny Fortkamp
gfortkamp.holycrossfop@gmail.com
419-852-8960**



Family EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Sept. 24, 2026: Archangels w/ Fr. Joseph
Nov. 19, 2026: Giving Thanks w/ Fr. Barry
Jan. 21, 2027: Praying for the Unborn w/ Fr. Ethan
**March 18, 2027: St. Joseph (Catholic Father's Day)
w/ Deacon Dan Kahlig & Deacon Roger Kaiser**
May 27, 2027: Mary, Queen of Heaven w/ Fr. Witt
July 22, 2027: St. Mary Magdalene Feast Day w/ Fr. Witt

**St. Joseph Catholic Church, Fort Recovery
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM**

Refreshments and an activity to follow in Sanderell Hall



FAMILY DAY

Sept. 20, 2026
**Coldwater Memorial Park
Amphitheater & Depot**
Coldwater Park Depot: (approx. 5 pm)
 Join us for a potluck meal following the Shroud of Turin presentation w/ BBQ pork from Wendel's BBQ.
Bring a side dish to share along w/ your own drinks & lawn-chairs.

4:00 PM
"The Man of the Shroud"
 Dave Staples presents "The Man of the Shroud" including a viewing of a life-size photographic reproduction of the Shroud of Turin and an exploration of modern research concerning the Shroud.

AMPHITHEATER:
 Enjoy the musical talents of Danny Schneible

All are welcome to attend, Catholic & Non-Catholic

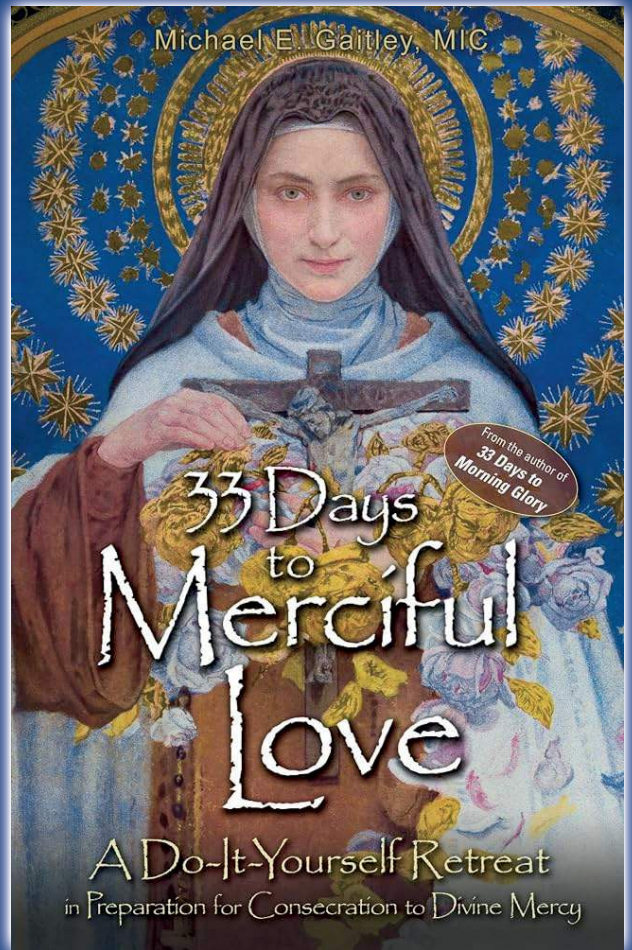
Join our Family of Parishes for the
33 Day Consecration
to
Merciful Love

Weekly meetings will take place in
Holy Trinity's Grotto on Tuesdays,
6:30 - 7:30 pm from Aug. 25th to Sept. 29th.

Day 1 of the 33 days starts on Sat., Aug.
29th ending with the Consecration taking
place on Thurs., Oct. 1st at the 6:45 pm
Mass at St. Anthony.

(Refreshments will be provided in the school after the Mass.)

Note: Please purchase the book on your
own prior to the start of the consecration.



#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

Theo of Golden



Allen Levi

*Please Note: The church will not be
providing copies of the book, so please
order one on your own.*

WOMEN'S SOCIAL GROUP

Join us at the first Meeting for the Year
where we will be introduced to...

"Theo of Golden"

on

Thurs., Sept. 3rd @ 7:30 pm

Meetings are every 1st & 3rd Thursday
of each month in the St. Isidore room of
Holy Trinity's Grotto.



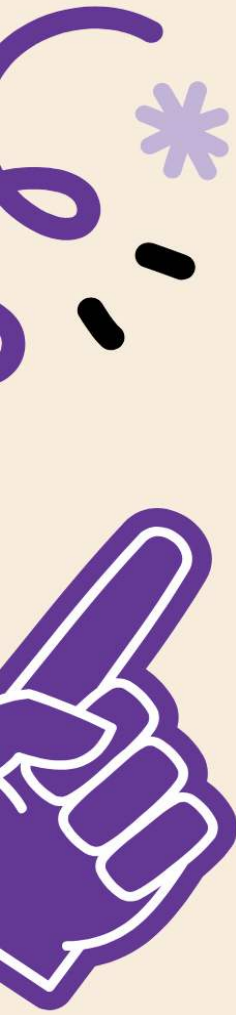
All Adult Women of the
Holy Cross Family of Parishes Community are Welcome!

Hope to see you there!



You are invited to a

TAILGATE PARTY



Gear up for game day with food trucks, music, yard games, and a 50/50 drawing!

**FRIDAY,
SEPTEMBER 4TH
FROM 4:30-7:00 PM**



MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS
PARKING LOT
403 Sharpsburg Rd
Fort Recovery



Parish Information

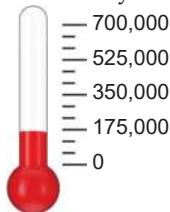


Holy Trinity

FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

— We have reached our 1st year goal of \$175,000!

Thank you for your generosity. As we enter the second year of our 4 years, we continue to monitor the condition of the roof, spouting/gutters/downspouts and the parking lot. Once again, we are targeting \$14,500 per month in order to reach our 2nd year goal.



St. Mary

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

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

CHURCH CLEANING — Ladies please sign up for church cleaning in preparation for our church's 175th anniversary. A sign up sheet will be located at the back of church and cleaning should be completed September 6th – 12th.



St. Joseph

COUNTRY STORE — Items for Country Store may be left at the back of church. Baked items may be left in the refrigerated

truck the weekend of the festival.

FESTIVAL WORKER SCHEDULES — Completed Saint Joe Festival workers schedules will be in the back of church.

CLEANING — (AUGUST) **Victoria Lochtefeld, Becki Metzger, Alysha Homan, Jenny Post, Rachel Hess, Eileen Lochtefeld

Holy Trinity Cleaning

Annual Church Cleaning
August 31st
6 PM

Many hands make light work—please consider joining us! Sign up link →





Mary Help of Christians

LOST & FOUND

— There are lost and found items in the main entrance of the church. Please check to see if any of these items are yours. Any items left after August 17th will be donated. Thanks!



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.

GARAGE SALE UPDATE — Labor Day is fast approaching which means St. Anthony Garage Sale!!!! The dates for the garage/bake sale are: Sept. 8th, 9th, & 10th from 9:00 am - 7:00 pm with EARLY BIRD on Sept. 7th from 2:00 - 5:00 pm (\$5.00 donation). We have clothing (all sizes), furniture, kitchen items, books, Christmas decorations, tools, toys, games, baby furniture (A BEAUTIFUL BABY CRIB) and so much more. Any questions, please call (419) 852-8741.

THANK YOU CELEBRATION — As Phase 1 is nearing completion we would like to extend our gratitude and appreciation to all who prayed, labored, gave of their time and talents, and financial support. Please join us in celebrating the completion of Phase One at the Pub 49 Bar and Grille on Monday, September 14, 2026 between 7 pm - 9 pm. We give All Glory to God whom through Him has made this possible! Please join us!

THE 43RD ANNUAL ST. JOE HOMECOMING FESTIVAL SEPT. 11TH - 13TH, 2026

Friday, Sept. 11th

7:00 p.m. Beer Stand Opens - Limited Food & Drinks Available
Cornhole Sign-In Begins
8:00 p.m. **St. Joe's Largest Cornhole Tournament**
(\$20 Entry Per Team - Bring Your Own Partner - Payouts to Top Teams)

Saturday, Sept. 12th

4:30 p.m. **Outdoor Mass** (Bring Lawn Chairs)
5:30 p.m. Almost World Famous Chili
Food/Drink Stands Open
6:00 p.m. All Stands Open
7:30 p.m. Amateur Horseshoe Tournament (Sign-In 7:00)
10:00 p.m. **Music by Wicked Sound**

Sunday, Sept. 13th

1:00 p.m. Food/Drink Stands Open - NFL Games on TV
2:00 p.m. All Stands Open
Kona Ice
Kiddie Tractor Pulls (Sign-In 1:30)
Beanbag Tournament (Sign-In 1:30)
Horseshoe Tournament (Sign-In 1:30)
4:00 p.m. BBQ Chicken Dinners (Drive-Thru or Carryout Available)
5:00 p.m. **LIVE Entertainment by Mike Hemmelgarn**
7:30 p.m. **Raffle Drawing - Over \$8,000 in Prizes**

50/50 Drawings
Attendance Prizes

Kiddie Games
Instant Gambling

Country Store
Mug Shuffle

ST. JOSEPH PARISH GROUNDS • 1689 ST. JOE ROAD, FORT RECOVERY

Religious Education

Coldwater Religious Ed.

Contact: Stephanie Rutschilling

srutschilling.holycrossfop@gmail.com, (419) 678-4802

RELIGION CLASSES 2026/2027 — The first religion class of the 2026/2027 school year starts on Wednesday, September 9th.

HOLY TRINITY TEACHERS NEEDED:

Grades 1st - 5th - 3:15 - 4:30 pm session: 1 teacher

6th Grade Boys - 6:30 - 7:45 pm session: 1 teacher

*All lesson plans and supplies will be provided to you. There are 28 class nights in total. Contact Stephanie Rutschilling at srutschilling.holycrossfop@gmail.com with any questions or to learn more!

VOLUNTEERS FOR NIGHT RUNNERS — Crosswalk and hall monitoring is needed at the Middle School and Fr. Yauss Center during the 6:30 pm religion session.

Fort Recovery Religious Ed.

Contact: Harlie Metzger

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

RELIGION CLASSES 2026/2027 — The first religion class of the 2026/2027 school year starts on Wednesday, September 9th.

MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS TEACHER NEEDED:

5th Grade - 7 Sacraments, How to Pray the Rosary, Types of Prayer (one year commitment due to large class size)

7th Grade - Gospel Messages, Grace/Virtue, 7 Sacraments

*All lesson plans and supplies will be provided to you. There are 28 class nights in total. Contact Harlie Metzger at hmetzger.holycrossfop@gmail.com with any questions or to learn more!

- Go to [FORMED.org](https://www.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!

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20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

H	E	A	L	E	D	E	E	M	Q
S	F	H	Q	H	U	J	C	M	Z
C	Q	R	J	A	F	H	S	M	A
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S	H	E	E	P	M	V	S	P	S

Woman Pity Daughter Sheep Help
Dogs Scraps Great Wish Healed

The Little Ones

Jim Burrows



Jesus said to her, "O woman, your faith is great; it shall be done for you as you wish."
And her daughter was healed at once. Mt 15:28

Scripture from the New American Standard Bible (NASB), © by the Lockman Foundation. Used by permission. www.Lockman.org

Youth Ministry

Coldwater Youth Group

Contact: Natalie Ashbaugh
nashbaugh.holycrossfop@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS:

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY (9th - 12th grade) — All high school boys are welcome to join a bible study led by Fr. Witt. It is held at the St. Joe shelter house after 9:00 am Mass.

CHRIST & COFFEE (7th - 12th grade) — Will continue at 8:15 am at Rooster Joes. New start time will begin on September 1st at 7:15 am.

FISHERS OF FUN (ages 12+) — Beginning September 9th from 7:45 - 8:45 pm and occurs every second and fourth Wednesday of the month unless stated otherwise @ Fr. Yauss.

HIGH SCHOOL LUNCH (9th - 12th grade) — Beginning September 7th and occurs every Monday @ Fr. Yauss.

CHILDREN'S ADORATION (K - 6th grade) — 3:30 - 4:30 pm on the fourth Thursday of the month @ Holy Trinity.

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



Fort Fiat Youth Group

Contact: Natalie Ashbaugh
nashbaugh.holycrossfop@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS:

TTH (6th - 8th grade) — The first To the Heights will be September 8th from 3:30 - 4:30 pm @ MHC.

LADIES GROUP (9th - 12th grade) — The first Ladies Group will be September 9th from 9 - 10 pm @ MHC Youth Group Room.

MEN'S GROUP (7th - 12th grade) — The first Men's Group will be September 9th from 9 - 10 pm @ MHC Undercroft.

BREAKFAST CLUB (6th - 12th grade) — The first Breakfast Club will be September 4th beginning at 7:15 am @ MHC Undercroft.

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



 **SACRED HEART RADIO**
740 AM & 910 AM



Saint of the Week - Saint John Eudes

How little we know where God's grace will lead. Born on a farm in northern France, John died at 78 in the next "county" or department. In that time, he was a religious, a parish missionary, founder of two religious communities, and a great promoter of the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

John joined the religious community of the Oratorians and was ordained a priest at 24. During severe plagues in 1627 and 1631, he volunteered to care for the stricken in his own diocese. Lest he infect his fellow religious, during the plague he lived in a huge cask in the middle of a field.

At age 32, John became a parish missionary. His gifts as a preacher and confessor won him great popularity. He preached over 100 parish missions, some lasting from several weeks to several months.

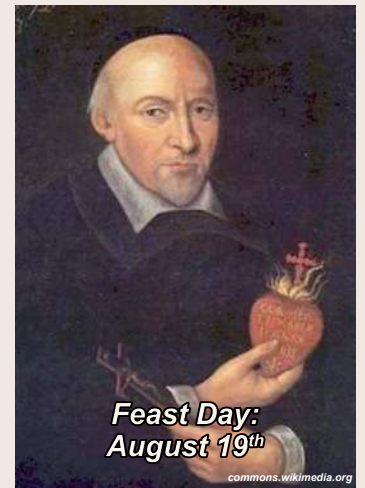
In his concern with the spiritual improvement of the clergy, John realized that the greatest need was for seminaries. He had permission from his general superior, the bishop, and even Cardinal Richelieu to begin this work, but the succeeding general superior disapproved. After prayer and counsel, John decided it was best to leave the religious community.

That same year John founded a new community, ultimately called the Eudists—the Congregation of Jesus and Mary—devoted to the formation of the clergy by conducting diocesan seminaries. The new venture, while approved by individual bishops, met with immediate opposition, especially from Jansenists and some of his former associates. John founded several seminaries in Normandy, but was unable to get approval from Rome—partly, it was said, because he did not use the most tactful approach.

In his parish mission work, John was disturbed by the sad condition of prostitutes who sought to escape their miserable life. Temporary shelters were found, but arrangements were not satisfactory. A certain Madeleine Lamy, who had cared for several of the women, one day said to him, "Where are you off to now? To some church, I suppose, where you'll gaze at the images and think yourself pious.

And all the time what is really wanted of you is a decent house for these poor creatures." The words, and the laughter of those present, struck deeply within him. The result was another new religious community, called the Sisters of Charity of the Refuge.

John Eudes is probably best known for the central theme of his writings: Jesus as the source of holiness; Mary as the model of the Christian life. His devotion to the Sacred Heart and to the Immaculate Heart led Pope Pius XI to declare him the father of the liturgical cult of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary.



- Information obtained from franciscanmedia.org

Community Interests

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

COMEDY FUNDRAISING EVENT — Join us Sat., Oct. 10th, at the Osgood Community Veterans Center for an evening of laughter featuring comedian Shayne Smith. Doors open at 5 pm with food trucks and a cash bar available before the show begins at 7:30 pm. This 21+ fundraiser will support adult faith formation efforts at St. Henry Parish and the Holy Cross Family of Parishes. Tickets are \$52 and can be purchased by scanning the QR code or go to: <https://sthenryfamily.flocknote.com/signup/255629>.



CELEBRATE YOUR JUBILEE WEDDING ANNIVERSARY WITH ARCHBISHOP CASEY — Couples celebrating jubilee anniversaries (25th, 50th, 55th, 60th, etc.) in 2026 are invited to Mass with Archbishop Casey on November 15th, 10:00 am, Cathedral Basilica of St. Peter in Chains (Cincinnati) or November 21st, 4:30 pm, St. Francis of Assisi (Dayton). Family members are welcome to attend as well, and a special blessing will be offered for the jubilarians couples. Couples, RSVP online by Nov. 2nd at www.catholicaoc.org/goldenjubilee.

SCHOENSTATT FAMILY DAY — Sunday, September 13th from 1:00 – 4:00 pm. Paris Street Park, 155 S. Paris St., Minster, OH 45865. Invitation open to singles, couples, families, and children. Join us for a joyous afternoon of fun, family, food and building faith community! Questions? Contact Deacon Roger Klosterman at rklosterman7797@gmail.com or schoenstattcouplesleague.nwohio@gmail.com. RSVP & Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/VkjUwVVQ7Tt2Gp588> "The family is the place where hearts are formed and communities are built." - Fr. Joseph Kentenich

PATRIOTIC ROSARY — At the Mercer County fairgrounds on Veterans Day, Tuesday, August 18, 2026, @ 4:00 pm and the Cornerstone Chapel at the fairgrounds. Patriotic music provided by the Sound Waves. Come join us as we pray for our country!

BIBLE, BOURBON, & BROS — Caleb Mitchell from The Catholic Pipe Company will be coming in from Nebraska on Aug. 20th to speak on "Fear and Rest" at the Loramie Brewing Co (Ft. Loramie, OH). Caleb lives on a farm and loves the outdoors. He started creating tobacco pipes as a hobby for himself, but through different conversations by word of mouth and with the Lord's grace, The Catholic Pipe Company was born. This will be an evening you will not want to miss. Social begins at 7:00 pm, and the talk will be at 7:30 pm! Lawn chairs are welcome!

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.

GRIEF SHARE — Grieving a loss? Find hope and healing after the death of a loved one. Join us at GriefShare, a weekly grief support group. Meetings will be held at St. Augustine Rectory Basement, 48 N. Hanover St., Minster, Ohio starting on Monday, September 14, 2026, from 7 - 8:30 pm. To register or need more information, call Bonnie Trzaska at (419) 584-8456 or email trzaska-bonnie@hotmail.com.

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

CATHOLIC FAMILY NIGHT AT GREAT AMERICAN BALLPARK 2026! — You are invited to join Archbishop Casey and Bishop Iffert of the Diocese of Covington and Catholics from across our region at Catholic Family Night at Great American Ballpark on Saturday, Sept. 5, 2026, which is the Saturday of Labor Day weekend. The Cincinnati Reds will play the Milwaukee Brewers that evening at 6:40 pm. Ahead of the game an on-field ceremony will recognize local Catholics who put Love into Action. The first pitch ceremony will include Fr. Michael Willig pitching to his brother, Fr. Jacob Willig. Join us at the ballpark by purchasing discounted tickets for the Sept. 5th game through Reds ticketing at: <https://www.gofevo.com/event/Archdiocesecincinnati22>.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED — The Spiritual Center of Maria Stein is in need of volunteers. Can you spare a couple hours in the morning? Gather your friends & come help us make beds/sweep/light dusting. We need you around 9 am or 10 am. No more than 2 hours max. We are very busy with retreats & need additional help before we wear out the wonderful volunteers we have! What a great opportunity to make a difference. (419) 925-7625 or email marketing@spiritualcenter.net

PILGRIMAGE TO CINCINNATI — In Persona Christi Pilgrimage to Cincinnati on Monday, October 26, 2026 (7:30 am - 8:30 pm). Cost: \$80/adult, \$40/child under 18. Join Journeys Revealed Ministries and Silver Cross Catholic Store for a pilgrimage to Cincinnati with Fr. Andrew Reckers this fall! Come and see the Cathedral Basilica where the priests in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati are ordained and the seminary where they are formed. Visit us online at journeysrevealed.com/pilgrimage for a more detailed itinerary and to register.

MarchforLife.org/Ohio

Ohio MARCHforLIFE

October 2, 2026

Join us as we travel by bus to Columbus for the Ohio March for Life. Cost for bus is \$10.

Schedule
7:15am Morning Mass
8am Depart from St. Henry
10am Arrive for Pre-Rally Concert
11am Rally
12pm Ohio March for Life
Stop for Lunch (self pay)
3pm Depart from Columbus
5pm Return to St. Henry

Scan the code to register

Those under 18 will need to sign a waiver if not accompanied by an adult.

Sponsored by: St. Henry Parishes

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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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 - 419-852-8830

(SPL) - Susan Bertke

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

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Harlie Metzger - (SJ) 567-279-8664

Jen Thompson - (SPL) 419-852-1093

Julie Gaerke - (SPT) 419-852-6474

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

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

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(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

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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

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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.



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