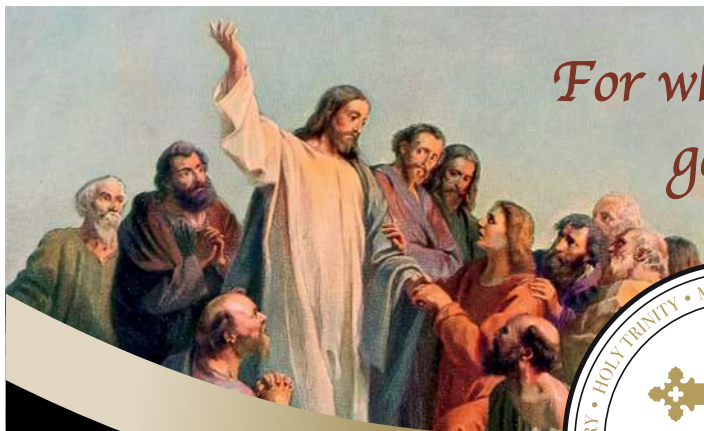




*For where two or three are
gathered together in My Name*



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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, September 6, 2026
Twenty-Third 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, September 7 <i>Weekday</i>	L/D Joseph & Alberta Nieberding Family †	FBS	9:00 am (L/S)	Holy Trinity	N/A
	L/D John & Mary Ann Wendel Family †	FAW	9:00 am (L/S)	MHC	N/A
Tuesday, September 8 <i>The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary; Feast</i>	Fred Borger †	FEM	7:15 am	St. Mary	After Mass
	L/D Ahrns & Heitkamp Families †	FJP	6:45 pm	St. Joseph	5:45 - 6:30 pm
Wednesday, September 9 <i>Saint Peter Claver, Priest; Memorial</i>	Poor Souls in Purgatory	FEM	7:15 am (L/S)	MHC	After Mass
	Mary Jane Zahn †	FJP	Noon (L/S)	Holy Trinity	11:30 am - end
Thursday, September 10 <i>Weekday</i>	Jeff Knapke †	FEM	7:15 am	St. Paul	After Mass
	Don & Jean Adams 60 th Wedding Anniv.	FJP	6:45 pm	St. Anthony	5:45 - 6:30 pm
Friday, September 11 <i>Weekday</i>	Eileen Bruns †	FEM	7:15 am (L/S)	Holy Trinity	After Mass
	Bob & Bernie Muhlenkamp †	FJP	Noon (L/S)	MHC	11:30 am - end
Saturday, September 12 <i>The Most Holy Name of the Blessed Virgin Mary; BVM on Saturday; opt. mem.</i>	Norman Alig †	FBS	9:00 am	St. Joseph	After Mass
	Kaiser / Knapke Wedding	FBS/DDK	1:30 pm	MHC	N/A
	Andy Wendel †	FEM	4:00 pm	St. Anthony	3:15 - 3:45 pm
	L/D Koenig & Pleiman Families †	FJP	4:30 pm	Holy Trinity	3:45 - 4:15 pm
	Travis Fullenkamp †	FAW/DDK/DRK	4:30 pm	St. Joseph (Outdoor)	3:45 - 4:15 pm
Sunday, September 13 <i>24th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	Canceled	N/A	7:00 am	St. Joseph	N/A
	Cami Wenning †	FEM	8:00 am (L/S)	Holy Trinity	7:25 - 7:45 am
	L/D Elmer & Joan Wendel Family †	FAW	9:00 am (L/S)	MHC	8:25 - end
	L/D Gary Niekamp Family †	FJP	10:00 am (L/S)	Holy Trinity	9:25 - 9:45 am
	Members Holy Cross Family of Parishes	FAW	11:00 am	St. Paul	10:25 - 10:45 am
	Vocations to the Priesthood & Consecrated Life	FBS	11:00 am	St. Peter	10:25 - 10:45 am
	Canceled	N/A	Noon	St. Mary	11:25 - 11:45 am
	Allen Lefeld †	FJP	6:00 pm	Holy Trinity	5:15 - 5:45 pm

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

Masses are also archived and viewable on a later day and can be accessed on the website: holycrossfop.org
(Masses are also streamed to Youtube. For Holy Trinity search: Coldwater Cluster, then click on the logo and subscribe.

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

Reference for Church Abbreviations

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

Tentatively Scheduled Celebrants listed above:

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

Adoration Schedules

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

St. Joseph - First Fridays of the Month

8:30 pm Friday - 8:30 am Saturday

Contact Info.: Adoration.nw1@gmail.com

Ministry Schedule

Notice: The below scheduled ministers are responsible for finding a substitute if they are unable to fill the originally assigned position.
- Thank You!

- Mary Help of Christians -

Monday, September 7, 9:00 am

Servers: Milo Fiely, Chase Fiely

Lector: Kathy Portz

Wednesday, September 9, 7:15 am

Servers: Elijah Grieshop, Ezekiel Grieshop

Lector: Elly Boeckman

Friday, September 11, 12:00 pm

Servers: Levi Sutter

Lector: Diane Siegrist

Saturday, September 12, 4:30 pm (Canceled)

Sunday, September 13, 9:00 am

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

Lector: Chris Bihn

EMHC: Lori Thien, Jane Weitzel

Sacristan: Dan & Grace Jutte, Abby Evers

Ushers: Joe Dues, Randy Wendel, Don Willmann, Paul Alig

- St. Joseph -

Tuesday, September 8, 6:45 pm

Servers: Joseph Bruns, Henry Bruns

Lector: Jane Hipple

Sacristan: Shel Sutter

Saturday, September 12, 9:00 am

Servers: Tyler Dues

Lector: Jane Hipple

Sacristan: Kelsie Schmitz

Saturday, September 12, 4:30 pm (Outdoor)

Servers: Tyler Dues, Blaise Bergman, Hudson Pottkotter, Tanner Grube

Lector: Ryan Steinbrunner

EMHC: Deacon Roger Kaiser, Deacon Dan Kahlig, Eileen Lochtefeld

Sacristan: Shel Sutter, Rebecca Schulze

Ushers: Jerry Sutter, Ed Dues

Sunday, September 13, 7:00 am (Canceled)

- St. Paul -

Thursday, September 10, 7:15 am

Servers: Russell Hart

Sunday, September 13, 11:00 am

Servers: Russell Hart, Korbin Wuebker, Hayden Wuebker

Lector: Marcia Weigel

EMHC: Marcia Weigel, Chrissy Hart

Ushers: Doug Weigel, Matt Hart

Rosary: Joe & Kim Knapke

- St. Peter -

Monday, September 7, 6:45 pm (Canceled)

Sunday, September 13, 11:00 am

Servers: Kale Diller, Easton Diller, Logan Gaerke, Gavin Gaerke, Benson Gaerke

Lector: Marissa Gaerke

EMHC: Jim Knapke

Sacristans: Lisa Roessner, Lydia Gaerke

Ushers: Tom Braun, Scott Overman

- Holy Trinity -

Monday, September 7, 9:00 am

Servers: Lucas Broering, Henry Broering, Jacob Broering

Lector: Rene Klosterman

EMHC: Luke Klosterman

Sacristans: Kathy Rutschilling, Pam Wellman

Wednesday, September 9, 12:00 pm

Servers: Sam Grigsby, Leo Grigsby

Lector: Nancy Clune

Sacristans: Lucy Grigsby, Gemma Grigsby

Friday, September 11, 7:15 am

Servers: Dillan Wenning, Lincoln Homan

Lector: Rita Riethman

Sacristans: Kathy Rutschilling, Pam Wellman

Saturday, September 12, 4:30 pm

Servers: David Dues, Thomas Dues, Leo Grigsby

Lector: Yvonne Dues

EMHC: Megan Wolters, Brenda Schwieterman, Denny Riethman

Sacristan: Rita Riethman

Sunday, September 13, 8:00 am

Servers: Carter Heitkamp, Owen Heitkamp, Gavin Heitkamp, Jameson Tobe

Lector: Ken Hoying

EMHC: Kathy Bohman, Jason Heitkamp

Sacristan: Ann Van Den Bosch

Sunday, September 13, 10:00 am

Servers: Liam Cowan, Mason Evers, John Evers, Miles Bruns

Lector: Raquel Kaiser

EMHC: Melissa Bruggeman, Deb Kaiser, Tony Hart

Sacristan: Jerri Buening

Sunday, September 13, 6:00 pm

Servers: Sam Grigsby, Leo Grigsby, Lincoln Homan

Lector: Charmaine Bettinger

EMHC: Amy Klingshirn, Stephanie Rutschilling, Pam Hicks

Sacristan: Cindy Broering

- St. Anthony -

Thursday, September 10, 6:45 pm

Servers: Volunteer Needed

Lector: Cindy Homan

Sacristan: Cindy Homan

Saturday, September 12, 4:00 pm

Servers: Mason Alig, Logan Alig

Lector: Cindy Homan

EMHC: Amanda Forsthoefel

Sacristan: Cindy Homan

Ushers: Greg Alig, Nick Dues

Rosary: Julie Brackman

- St. Mary -

Tuesday, September 8, 7:15 am

Servers: Lincoln Homan

Lector: Stephanie Wendel

Sunday, September 13, 12:00 pm (Canceled)



Message from the Priests

The Sacraments Rediscovered: Part 1 (of 10)

As school and CCD start back up and we all get settled in for a new year of learning, I want to start a series of bulletin articles. This is a project that has long been on my heart. The Sacraments of the Church are things near and dear to many of our hearts. For us as Catholics, they are foundational to our relationship with God. I know so many people in our communities who love the Sacraments, the milestones that they represent, and work hard to make them special, especially to the next generation. And yet, something that often breaks my heart is when I hear people talk about the Sacraments, and it becomes evident that they aren't reaching down to the full depth of what they are. Sometimes it's because they were never taught that full depth. Other times, the Sacraments have been reduced to a few concepts. There have also been times where otherwise good Catholics have unintentionally adopted some of the misunderstandings common in Protestant circles.

My hope over the next few weeks is to go through each Sacrament, one at a time, and point out a few things that are misunderstood or underappreciated about the Sacraments. This will not be exhaustive, nor will I be able to cover every misunderstanding. Entire books have been written about the Sacraments. These articles can only at best get the conversation started. My greatest hope is that somewhere along the way, you will learn something new and be inspired to dive more deeply into one or more of the Sacraments. **The Sacraments bring us into a living relationship with Jesus Christ.** Whenever we rediscover their riches, beauty, and power it is an opportunity to rediscover God Himself!

"Seated at the right hand of the Father" and pouring out the Holy Spirit on His Body which is the Church, Christ now acts through the Sacraments He instituted to communicate His grace. The Sacraments are perceptible signs (words and actions) accessible to our human nature. By the action of Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit they make present efficaciously the grace that they signify."--Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1084.

The Sacraments in General

Before diving into the Sacraments in particular, I want to talk about a few things relating to the Sacraments as a whole. It's easy for conversations between Catholics and non-Catholics to break down because of these misunderstandings.

Two Misunderstandings

1. *The Sacraments are works of human beings.* This is wrong. The Sacraments are not about what we do for God, they are moments in time where God does something for us. At Baptism God Himself brings a child to new life; God Himself forgives sins in Confession.
2. *The Sacraments are not Biblical.* This is wrong. Every Sacrament has a Biblical basis which we will highlight throughout the series. The reason why we do them is precisely because Christ commanded them to be done.

Three Truths to Rediscover

1. The Sacraments are the logical continuation of the Old Testament. Let's dive a little deeper into that fact.

In the Old Testament, there were five times that God entered into a relationship with humanity and established a covenant with them. Throughout Scripture, covenant is often described with the imagery of marriage. God repeatedly bound Himself to His people in a relationship of faithful love. He married

Himself to His people. He did this through Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, and David. But each of these covenants fall short of the relationship that God wanted. Similarly each of them were broken by humanity's unfaithfulness.

But "but in these last days [God] has spoken to us by a Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things" (Hebrews 1:2). Jesus came to establish a new and everlasting covenantal relationship between God and humanity. And because Jesus is perfect, He is incapable of breaking this covenant through unfaithfulness (unlike the Patriarchs listed above). The New Covenant (sometimes translated from the Latin *Novus [new] Testamentum* as the New Testament) is not primarily a book, but a Sacrament (see Scott Hahn's book *Consuming the Word*).

The Church Fathers saw Christ's pierced side as the fountain from which the Sacramental life of the Church flows (see, for example, St. Augustine's Commentary on John's Gospel, tractate 15). The seven Sacraments are the way He wants to establish us in a relationship with Him (the Sacraments of Initiation), sustain that relationship throughout our earthly life (the Sacraments of Healing), and allow us to enter into the mission with Jesus (the Sacraments of Service). But there is another reason the Sacraments take the form they do: God knows exactly what kind of creatures He made us to be.

2. The Sacraments are visible, exterior signs because they correspond to our human nature.

God made us as a body-soul composite. We are not really one without the other. Even in Heaven, our souls will await our glorified, resurrected bodies. We say this every Sunday in the Creed: I believe in the Resurrection of the body and life everlasting. If our Heavenly homeland is incomplete until our souls have been reunited with our bodies, so likewise is our journey to Heaven incomplete without our bodies. As St. Augustine once said, God "Who created us without us, [does] not will to save us without us". We are not abstracted beings trapped within a body. Our body forms an important part of who we are and how we interact with the world around us. We are not Angels who are pure intellects. We encounter reality through our bodies. God therefore gives us water, oil, bread, wine, actions, and words as He saves our entire selves.

Importantly (see Genesis 3), man's first sin in the Garden of Eden included a bodily component. The sin, which was conceived in the heart, was actuated through the body. If the first sin affected Adam and Eve on a moral, spiritual, and a physical level, then it definitely seems fitting, even poetically beautiful, that our whole self, body and soul, participates in our redemption.

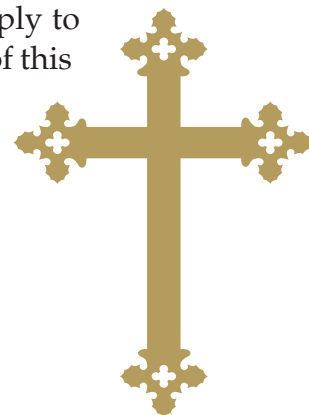
3. The Sacraments are not optional. We cannot have the relationship that God wants to have with us without them.

This does not mean that those who do not have access to the Sacraments are damned. God is merciful and can act outside of His own ordinary means. God has bound us to the Sacraments but is not Himself bound by them. But for us who have been privileged to hear the story of God's saving mission to rescue us from sin and establish this new and everlasting covenant, they are the means of our salvation.

Over the next seven weeks we'll look at each sacrament individually--not simply to learn more facts, but to encounter Christ more deeply. My hope is that, by the end of this series, each of us will not only understand the Sacraments better, but receive them with greater faith, gratitude, and expectation. God has chosen these ordinary signs as the ordinary means of communicating His extraordinary grace. Let's rediscover them together.

In Jesus, through Mary,

Fr. Witt



Sacramental Information

Marriage Congratulations!

Bradley & Emma (Grieshop) Siefker
Married Saturday, August 22, 2026
(Holy Trinity)

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

Sacrament of Matrimony

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

Wedding Banns

- III Nathan (Nate) Kaiser & Aubrey Knapke
- II Aydan Sanders & Mary Combs
- II Grant Ebbing & Lilie Leuthold
- II Landon Post & Molly Barga
- I Jackson Kiser & Katie Larkin
- I Colin Block & Harmony Bonifas

And the two shall become one.

Newly Baptized

Mary Help of Christians

Johanna Sue Post
Child of Todd & Sara

St. Anthony

Duke Dennis Cisco
Child of Cody & Samantha

Lexi Elise Diller

Child of Andrew & Courtney

St. Joseph

Alivia Ann Davidson
Child of Kyle & Stacy

Shelby Leeann Pottkotter
Child of Grant & Danielle

Walter Henry Grieshop
Child of Dustan & Olivia

St. Mary

John Zachary Zwiebel
Child of Zachary & Abby

VIGIL OF TWO HEARTS

Schedule of Events @ St. Joseph

Friday, September 4

7 pm: Rosary & Confessions

8 pm: Holy Mass followed by Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament

8:30 pm - 12 am: Ongoing Eucharistic Adoration throughout the night with private & community prayer

Saturday, September 5

12 am - 8:40 am: Continued Eucharistic Adoration

7:45 am: Rosary

8:45 am: Benediction

9 am: Holy Mass

9:30 am: Confessions



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

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

In Loving Memory...

Steven "Michael" LoBianco
December 19, 1969 - August 25, 2026
(Holy Trinity)

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

Holy Cross Family of Parishes

OFFICES CLOSED — Both of Our Parish Offices will be closed on Monday, September 7th.

LABOR DAY MASS CHANGES — On Monday, September 7th Masses will be held at 9:00 am at Holy Trinity and Mary Help of Christians (confessions will not be available). Note: The regularly scheduled 7:15 am Mass and confessions at Holy Trinity & the 6:45 pm Mass, adoration, and confessions at St. Peter are canceled this day.

CONFESSION CANCELED — There will be no confessions available during the 4:30 pm Mass at Mary Help of Christians on Saturday, September 5th or the 10 am Mass at Holy Trinity on Sunday, September 13th.

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, will be canceled due to the festival.

ST. MARY CANCELLATIONS — The Noon Mass and confessions at St. Mary in Philothea are canceled on Sunday, September 13, 2026, due to the parish celebration.

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).

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).

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).

OCIA — 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 or Ginny Fortkamp: gfortkamp.holycrossfop@gmail.com, (419) 375-4153 (Fort Recovery parishes). Go to <https://www.holycrossfop.org/becoming-catholic> for more information. Feel free to share this information with anyone 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 24th weekly through November 23rd (no meeting on Labor Day) from 6:30 – 8:00 pm at 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 at gfortkamp.holycrossfop@gmail.com or (419) 852-8960.

33 DAY CONSECRATION TO MERCIFUL LOVE — Weekly meetings are taking 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 started 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.) Also, books are being not provided for the consecration. Please order your own.

ANNUAL COAT DRIVE — St. Joseph, St. Peter, St. Paul and Mary Help of Christian parishes along with Our Home Family Resource Center will once again conduct a winter coat drive. Please put your new or clean, gently used coat, new hats and gloves in the large containers which will be placed at the church entrances beginning in September. There is always a special need for children's coats. Watch the bulletin for updates on the exact location of the coat giveaway planned for October 17, 2026. Contact Pat Wendel (419) 375-4229 for details.

MISSION LOTTERY WINNER — (8/19/2026) #721 Bill Gaerke & (8/26/2026) #378 Betsy Overman — Congratulations!

ANNOUNCEMENT — Next week we will be operating with only three priests. Please pray for Fr. Witt as he will be away. 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!

EXPECTANT MOTHER'S BLESSING — The blessing of expectant mothers will be after all Masses the weekend of September 5th/6th.

Welcome New Members

Holy Trinity

Brandon and Jessica Hoying
along with their children
Joan, Remy, David, Maura, & Louis

Grant & Holly Muhlenkamp
along with their children
Lawson & Reed

Mary Help of Christians

Sam & Amy DuHamel

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

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.

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

- September 13th and September 20th bulletin submission deadlines have passed.

- 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!

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.

- Have you ever thought about the Four Last Things?
- Did you ever wonder what happens when someone you know passes away?
- Can you be cremated?
- Do you want to plan your own funeral but don't know how?

All About Death & Funerals

An Evening w/ Fr. Barry &
a Local Funeral Home Director

Death is a part of everyone's life and it is good to be informed on all that pertains to the end of life and beyond.

Join us for this evening of valuable information on death and funerals, clearing up misconceptions, and deepening your faith in God's providential care for the deceased.



*Holy Trinity's
Grotto*

Tuesday, October 6th
7 - 8:30 PM

*Mary Help of Christians'
Undercroft*

Tuesday, October 13th
7 - 8:30 PM

Refreshments will be provided.



Holy Cross Family of Parishes Ladies Sodality Flower Fundraiser



Supporting individual parish efforts for Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance

Celebrated during October 4, 2026 - Sunday Mass Times

Number of single cut flowers to
purchase for 10/4/26 Mass delivery
_____ (\$5/flower to commemorate
each life gone too soon)

_____ OTHER DONATION AMOUNT

PLEASE SPECIFY LADIES SODALITY/MASS TIME TO DIRECT YOUR SUPPORT AND/OR FLOWER DELIVERY. PLEASE, MAKE CHECKS OUT TO LADIES SODALITY OF CHOICE.

_____ St. Peter _____ St. Paul _____ St. Joseph _____ St. Anthony 4 pm (10/3)
_____ MHC _____ St. Mary _____ Holy Trinity 8 am _____ Holy Trinity 10 am

Anyone who has either personally or has a loved one that has suffered a miscarriage or infant loss at anytime is invited to purchase a cut flower(s) or bring flower(s) from home to commemorate each loss as a visual reminder of the impact this issue has on our parish community and a reminder that no one suffers alone. Cut flower(s) brought to church should be placed in one of the supplied vases on the table set up and located in front of the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The flowers may be placed in the vases at any time prior to the start of Mass.

**Please detach order form and place in collection basket or drop off to either
of our parish offices with donation on or before September 20, 2026.**

SERVANTS OF CHRIST MEN'S GROUP — The group resumes on September 18th at 4:30 am in The Grotto and will continue on the first and third Friday of each month. We will be watching and discussing the video series *Into the Breach: The Dignity of Work*. This series examines the nature of work and its role in a man's life and his sanctification. For more information contact Dave Bettinger (419) 852-2582.

MEN'S BOOK STUDY — The Fort Recovery Men's Book Study Group will kick off their discussion on the book, "New Adam – God's Plan for Men" by Dr. John Bishop on Saturday, September 12th and will meet for 6 consecutive weeks through October 17th at 7 am in the Mary Help of Christians rectory. Please purchase a book in advance if you intend to participate as they will not be provided. Call or text Ted Romer at (419) 852-6621 with questions or to sign up.

KAPAUN'S MEN STEWARDSHIP SERIES — Iron Sharpens Iron Men's Group will kick off the next series in the Kapaun's Men series on Stewardship starting Monday, September 7th at 7:30 pm in the Mary Help of Christians Undercroft. This will continue on the 1st & 3rd Mondays through the end of December. Why Stewardship? Rather than just a fancy way of talking about money, Stewardship is actually an attitude and a way of life that describes our proper response to the infinite love and ongoing goodness of God. All men ages 18+ are invited to attend even if you haven't participated in the previous series. Call or text Ted Romer at (419) 852-6621 with questions.

WOMEN'S SOCIAL GROUP — Meetings are the first & third 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!

MEN INQUIRING ABOUT THE PERMANENT DIACONATE — Any man who may be discerning a possible vocation to serve the Church as a Permanent Deacon should contact Deacon Mark Machuga, Director of the Office of the Diaconate, to discuss the discernment process, prerequisites, and the formation cycle. Deacon Mark can be reached at 513-263-6641 or deaconoffice@catholicaoc.org.



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

SACRED HEART RADIO
 740 AM & 910 AM

Stewardship

Did You Know?

A Loose Cash Reminder

For those who are unaware, in the Coldwater parishes wherever loose cash is donated is where it will stay — at that particular church. Fort Recovery parishes collect all of the loose cash and then divide the loose cash amongst the Fort Recovery parishes, proportional to the number of families that belong to each particular church. If you would like your donation to stay at the church you attended in the Fort Recovery churches (or a church other than the one you attended, for that matter), place your cash in any marked envelope. (It does not have to be the envelopes provided to you by the church. The envelope should be marked with the name of the particular church to which you would like it to be sent.) This is also a good time to remember that when you go to Mass while on vacation, you can still put your envelope for your home parish in that collection, too — anywhere in the world! As long as it has your home parish and parish address listed, the money will be sent home.

Contributions

August 17 - 23, 2026

Mary Help of Christians		Holy Trinity	
Offertory.....	\$ 4,635.00	Offertory.....	\$ 6,963.00
Allocated Loose	\$ 1,303.98	Loose.....	\$ 3865.25
		Total.....	\$10,828.25
St. Joseph		Perm. Improvement.....	\$ 1,204.00
Offertory.....	\$ 830.00	Food Pantry.....	\$ 120.00
Allocated Loose	\$ 267.37	Candles.....	\$ 170.00
		Youth Ministry.....	\$ 80.00
St. Paul		St. Anthony	
Offertory.....	\$ 3,330.00	Offertory.....	\$ 610.00
Parish Improvement.....	\$11,050.00	Loose.....	\$ 274.00
Flowers.....	\$ 50.00	Total.....	\$ 884.00
Cemetery.....	\$ 50.00	Perm. Improvement.....	\$ 400.00
Allocated Loose	\$ 563.23	Candles.....	\$ 89.73
St. Peter		St. Mary	
Offertory.....	\$ 2,840.00	Offertory.....	\$ 600.00
Allocated Loose	\$ 442.70	Loose.....	\$ 551.00
		Total.....	\$ 1,151.00
		Perm. Improvement.....	\$ 25.00
		Candles.....	\$ 79.25

*Thank you for
your generosity!*

Parish Information



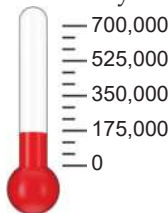
Holy Trinity

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.



DONUT SUNDAY — Holy Trinity Donut Sunday is Sunday, September 13th, following the 8:00 am and 10:00 am Masses in the Grotto. Please come and enjoy donuts and fruit! Free-will donations accepted. ALL are welcome.

HARVEST PARTY — On September 28th starting at 6:30 pm at Evergreen Winery. Please bring a favorite fall snack or dessert to share! All adult women of Holy Trinity parish are invited. Sponsored by St. Ann's Ladies Altar Sodality. RSVP to Katie at (513) 614-5117 by Sept. 21st.



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.

LADIES SODALITY MEETING — September 28th at 7 pm in the school hall.

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

BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT APPRECIATION — A special thank-you to Homan Interiors for their excellent work and generous donation to our Beautification Project. We are truly grateful for their kindness and support!

GARAGE SALE HELP NEEDED — This year's garage sale will be a little challenging due to the fact that school will be in session during the garage sale. We will need help on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (8th, 9th, & 10th); ladies and men; if you can donate an hour or two is absolutely fine. Also religion will begin the following week so we will need to get the classrooms cleaned prior; so any help then would be appreciated. Baked items are also a big part of the garage sale; all baked items of any kind are appreciated. Thank you!

GARAGE / BAKE SALE — Sept. 8th, 9th, & 10th from 9 am - 7 pm at the St. Anthony School Hall. Early Bird on Sept. 7th from 2 - 5 pm (Early Bird - \$5.00 donation). Thank you for your support! Any questions, please call (419) 852-8741. All proceeds go to the Beautification Project at St. Anthony.



St. Mary

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.

LADIES SODALITY RAFFLE FUNDRAISER — Tickets for ladies sodality members to sell will be available for pickup at the 175th anniversary event or in the back of church if you cannot attend. Return by Oct. 4th. If any additional tickets are needed please contact Kendra Siefring at (419) 733-1651.

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



St. Joseph

VEGETABLES NEEDED —

Tomatoes and bell peppers are needed for the lunch stand. Please put them in the refrigerated truck.

ST. JOE HOMECOMING FESTIVAL — The festival is September 11 - 13, 2026, on the grounds of St. Joseph Catholic Church, 1689 St. Joe Rd., Ft. Recovery, Ohio. Stands open on Friday, Sept. 11th at 7 pm, Saturday, Sept. 12th at 4:30 pm, and Sunday, Sept. 13th at 1 pm.

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.

FESTIVAL SET UP — Tuesday, September 8th - Thursday, September 10th setting up for the Saint Joe Festival beginning at 6 pm. Please meet on parish grounds.

CLEANING — (SEPTEMBER) **Lucy Kaup, Julia Kremer, Theresa Hart, Maria Bergman, Sue Lennartz, Beth Guggenbiller



St. Peter

FALL CLEANING —

St. Peter Center, Tues. Sep 8th, 6 pm - ? or if available during the

daytime come then. Please find a sub if unavailable. Trisha Dues, Melissa Hoying, Ashley Jutte, Angie Muhlenkamp, Angie Schmackers, Destinee Gaerke, Carissa Muhlenkamp, Alice Gaerke, Kylie Gaerke, Angie Gehle, Kristine Kemper, Danielle Heinrichs, Joyce Hein, Denise Bruns, Alyssa Overman, Alicia Jutte, Karen Overman, Carol(Jim) Knapke, Meghan Schoen, Mindy Bettinger, Tracy Knapke, Kris Vogel*, Sara Bruns*. Please bring buckets and rags.

PARISH PICNIC — St Peter parish picnic will be held on Sunday, October 4th with lunch at 12:30. Chili & chicken nuggets will be provided. Look for sign up sheets in the back of church to let us know how many from your family will be joining us and if you would like to bring an optional side dish.

ITEMS NEEDED — St. Peter Ladies Sodality will collect items for the raffle at the parish picnic on October 4th. Anyone who would like to donate a new or gently used item may place it in the tote at the back of church. Any cash or gift card donation can be given to a sodality officer. Raffle tickets can be purchased from any member or officer from now until the drawing! At the parish picnic the sodality will also hold a silent auction for the Nativity that no longer fits on St. Peter's altar.



Religious Education

Coldwater Religious Ed.

Contact: Stephanie Rutschilling

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

FIRST CCD CLASS — Holy Trinity & St. Mary on September 9th; St. Anthony on September 16th

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD (Ages 3 Years Old - Kindergarten) — October 4th - December 6th & February 7th - March 21st: Sundays at Holy Trinity at 8:00 & 10:00 am Masses.

CONFIRMATION RETREAT — Sunday, October 4th at St. Anthony 12:30 - 5:30 pm. If your child cannot attend, contact Stephanie ASAP so they can participate at a neighboring parish.

HOLY TRINITY TEACHERS NEEDED:

4th Grade - 3:15 - 4:30 pm: 1 teacher (*10 Commandments*)

6th Grade Boys - 6:30 - 7:45 pm: 1 teacher (*Bible*)

**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

FIRST CCD CLASS — Wednesday, September 9th. Grades 1 - 6, 6:00 - 7:15 pm. Grades 7 - 12, 7:30 - 8:45 pm.

FIRST PRE-K CLASS — Sunday, October 4th. Classes are the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month.

CONFIRMATION RETREAT — Sunday, October 4th at Saint Anthony 12:30 - 5:30 pm. If your child cannot attend, contact Harlie ASAP so they can participate at a neighboring parish.

The Precepts of the Church

Given to us by the Church, these are the minimum obligations every practicing Catholic is expected to follow.

1. You shall attend Mass on Sundays & holy days of obligation and rest from servile labor.
2. You shall confess your sins at least once a year.
3. You shall humbly receive your Creator in Holy Communion at least once a year during the Easter Season.
4. You shall observe the prescribed days of fasting and abstinence established by the Church.
5. You shall help to provide for the needs of the Church.
6. You shall observe the Church's laws regarding marriage.

Saint of the Week - Saint Peter Claver

Nearly two hundred years before the Declaration of Independence proclaimed "that all men are created equal," two hundred fifty years before the Emancipation Proclamation mandated an end to slavery, three hundred fifty years before Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream",

and four hundred years before the election of an American president boasting African heritage, Peter Claver left his native Spain behind to volunteer for the Jesuit missions in Colombia. There, he was horrified both by slavery as an institution and by the inhuman brutality inflicted upon the slaves. He solemnly vowed to become "the slave of the slaves," and lived that vow heroically for close to forty years. Not knowing their language, Peter began his ministry among the slaves by using the universal language of practical charity, providing medical care and a tangible though wordless assertion of their human dignity: "We spoke to them not with words but with our hands, kneeling beside them, bathing their faces and bodies, encouraging them with friendly gestures" (see Liturgy of the Hours, Volume 4, p. 2018). Then came evangelization and baptism. Holiness as human wholeness: Peter Claver's enduring witness. —Peter Scagnelli



- Information obtained from diocesan.com



SUNDAY KIDZ

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Suffer Raised God Human Deny
Follow Save Lose Find Glory

Youth Ministry

Coldwater Youth Group

Contact: Natalie Ashbaugh
nashbaugh.holycrossfop@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS:

HIGH SCHOOL LUNCHES — (9th - 12th grade) Mondays from 11:18 - 11:45 am @ The Fr. Yauss starting Sept. 14th.

CHRIST & COFFEE — (7th - 12th grade) Our first Christ & Coffee for the school year will be September 15th from 7 - 7:45 am @ Rooster Joe's.

FISHERS OF FUN — (5th - 8th grade) September 9th from 7:30 - 8:30 pm @ The Fr. Yauss. All rec nights will occur every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month.

CHILDREN'S ADORATION — (K - 6th grade) September 24th @ Holy Trinity from 3:15 - 4:30 pm. All Children's Adoration will occur every 4th Thursday of the month unless stated otherwise.

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.



Little Flowers Girls' Club - Coldwater

2026/2027 Meeting Schedule

October 13 - St. Mary
November 10 - St. Mary
December 15 - St. Mary
January 12 - Holy Trinity
February 9 - Holy Trinity
March 9 - Holy Trinity
April 13 - St. Anthony
May 11 - St. Anthony

Coldwater BLUE KNIGHTS Boys' Club

Crusaders for Virtue

DATE	LOCATION	TIME	WHAT TO BRING
October 13	Holy Trinity	6:30 - 8 PM	completed task sheet
November 10	Holy Trinity		
December 15	Holy Trinity		
January 12	St. Mary		
February 9	St. Mary		
March 9	St. Mary		
April 13	St. Anthony		
May 11	St. Anthony		



Fort Fiat Youth Group

Contact: Natalie Ashbaugh
nashbaugh.holycrossfop@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS:

TO THE HEIGHTS — (6th - 8th grade) Tuesdays from 3:30 - 4:30 pm at MHC beginning September 8th.

LADIES YOUTH GROUP — (9th - 12th grade) Wednesdays from 9 - 10 pm at MHC beginning September 9th.

MEN'S YOUTH GROUP — (9th - 12th grade) Wednesdays from 9 - 10 pm at MHC beginning September 9th.

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING — (7th - 8th grade) All 7th - 8th grade girls are invited to join a group geared towards studying women of the Bible at St. Joe's Sandrell Hall on the 2nd Thursday of the month from October - April at 6:15 - 7:45 pm. Please RSVP to Katie Fortkamp (419) 852-6925.

BLUE KNIGHTS — (1st - 4th grade boys) October 1st, 6:30 - 8:00 pm. Meetings are every 1st Thursday.

LITTLE FLOWERS — (1st - 4th grade girls) October 8th, 6:30 - 8:00 pm. Meetings are every 2nd Thursday.

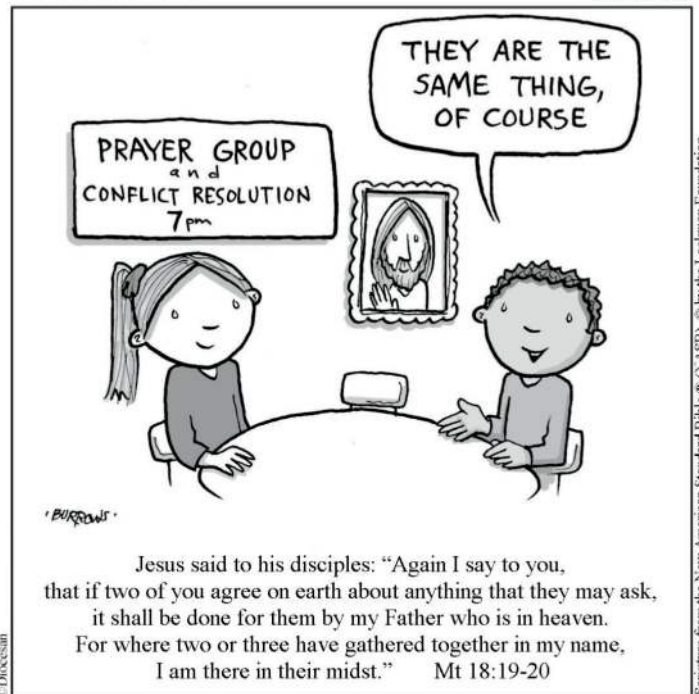
OUR QUEST — (5th - 6th grade girls) October 8th, 6:30 - 8:00 pm. Meetings are every 2nd Thursday.

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.



The Little Ones

Jim Burrows



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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!



Community Interests

AL-ANON & AA MEETINGS — Al-Anon for family/friends of alcoholics, Thursdays, 7:30 - 8:30 pm at Spiritual Center (Montezuma Annex) & Fridays from 7:30 - 8:30 pm in Briarwood's Private Dining Room at 100 Don Desch Dr., Coldwater. AA Meetings on Fridays from 7:30 - 8:30 pm in the east room of Holy Trinity's Grotto, Coldwater. Meetings are open, anonymous, & free.

PEEWEE SOCCER — St. Anthony is starting a peewee soccer league on Mondays nights at 6 pm. The first day will be on September 14th and will run till October 12th. It will be for ages 4 through 7. The only required item to bring would be shin guards. If interested in signing up your child, please contact Braedon Alig at 419-852-8337. Thank You.

STATIONS FOR VOCATIONS — Sept. 10th at 6:30 pm at the Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics. Service will begin in the Shrine's Adoration Chapel for devotions and veneration of the relic of St. Junipero Serra, patron Saint of vocations. We will then proceed to the courtyard for Stations. Refreshments immediately follow. Contact Mary Ann Kinsella at (937) 622-2478 for more information. Sponsored by: Serra Club of the Cincinnati Northwest Deanery. Led by: Fr. Michael Willig Director of Vocations for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

A DAY IN THE HEART OF JESUS THROUGH OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL — Hosted by the Order of Carmelites Discalced Seculars, St. Joseph, Protector of the Holy Family Community is on Saturday, October 17th from 8 am - 2 pm at the Montezuma Retreat Center: 6731 St. Rte. 119, Montezuma OH 45866. It is a beautiful day of recollection and prayer which includes, Mass, a Keynote Speaker, Discussions on Carmelite Doctors of the Church, holy hour, and confessions. We would love to see you there! Cost is \$30 at the door and includes a light breakfast and lunch. Please register using the link: <https://forms.gle/fv8zu5K4GxjXjgMn6> or contact Gwen Staton at (419) 733-1453.

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 jubilarian couples. Couples, RSVP online by Nov. 2nd at www.catholicaoc.org/goldenjubilee.

DISCERNMENT OF THE VOICE OF GOD — Northwest-V Family of Parishes is hosting author Fr. Cliff Ermatinge on Thurs., Sept. 10th. He is speaking on "Discernment of the Voice of God". Arrival time 6:30 pm and start time 7:00 pm. Held at St. Denis Undercroft at 14 E. Wood St., Versailles, OH. All are welcome! Free will offering is greatly appreciated.

SUPPORT LIFE — Choosing Life Pregnancy Center provides compassionate assistance to expectant mothers and families, offering resources and guidance and support. Some of the free services we offer are: 2D/4D ultrasounds, Pregnancy Test Verification, Online Parenting Classes w/ points, Adoption Planning, Life Skill Classes, Support Mentoring and Counseling. We also offer walk-in ultrasounds on Tuesdays from 11:30 am - 4:30 pm. "Everything Shoppe" is open to purchase quality items Mon. - Fri. 11 am - 5 am. We accept donations new or good used condition. Located at 560 Touvelle St., Celina, Ohio. For more info.: www.choosinglife.us or contact (419) 733-4847, (567) 890-LIFE, or choosinglife@bright.net.

HEALING MASSES - 2026 — Montezuma Retreat House at 7 pm on September 8th, October 13th, and November 10th.

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.

HERITAGE DAY CELEBRATION (HDC) — Sunday, September 20th, Noon - 4 pm at Maria Stein Shrine. There will be something for everyone, including: Free Chapel tours, basket raffle, \$1,000 raffle, and more! Sign up for the pie baking contest and/or chili contest (limited spaces available for chili contest), or purchase your raffle tickets online! <https://www.mariasteinshrine.org/heritage-day-celebration>.

ANNUAL 5K RUN/WALK FOR VOCATIONS — The Coldwater Knights of Columbus 14th Annual 5K Run/Walk for Vocations will be held on November 14th. All proceeds from this event will support seminarians and women seeking a Consecrated Religious Life. Sponsorship opportunities are available for businesses or individuals. Please contact Steve Schmidt at (419) 852-8663 for additional information.

OHIO MARCH FOR LIFE — Join us as we travel by bus to Columbus for the Ohio March for Life on October 2, 2026. (Sponsored by St. Henry Parish). Cost for the bus is \$10. Schedule: 7:15 am Morning Mass at St. Henry, 8 am Depart from St. Henry, 10 am Arrive for Pre-Rally Concert, 11 am Rally, 12 pm Ohio March for Life, Stop for Lunch (self pay), 3 pm Depart from Columbus, 5 pm Return to St. Henry. Those under 18 will need to sign a waiver if not accompanied by an adult. Scan the QR code to register. Questions: contact St. Henry Parish office.

MERCER COUNTY CANCER CORN MAZE & PETTING ZOO — This is a local fundraiser for the Cancer Association of Mercer County. The Knights of Columbus are heavily involved with the support of this event. It is family oriented and will be held the weekends of Sept 12th/13th and Sept 19th/20th. Details can be found on their Facebook page www.facebook.com/mercercountycornmaze. The QR code is a link to the volunteer sign up Google sheet. For questions about the event or help with the signup sheet, contact Dave Penno at (419) 790-9186.



FALL ANDREW DINNERS — Thurs., Sept. 24th at St. Patrick, Troy and Tues., Nov. 17th at St. Mary, Hillsboro. The 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 the vocation director, and share a meal together. For more information and to register go to: <https://catholicaoc.org/andrew-dinners>. Contact Fr. Michael Willig at mwillig@catholicaoc.org or (513) 263-3390 w/ any questions.

PILGRIMAGE INFORMATION (NWV FAMILY OF PARISHES) — Join Us for a Historic Pilgrimage to the Beatification Mass of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen. Be part of this historic moment as Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen is formally declared "Blessed," one step closer to canonization. The Northwest-V Family of Parishes invites you to join us for a 3-day pilgrimage, September 23-25, 2026, including visits to the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows, the Beatification Mass in St. Louis, and the Fulton Sheen Museum in Peoria. The pilgrimage includes daily Mass and accommodations at the Hyatt Regency St. Louis. The cost is \$709 per person (double occupancy), with pricing subject to change. If you are interested in attending, please call the St. Denis Parish Office in Versailles at 937-526-4945 to be added to the list as final details are being arranged.

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

Director of Youth Ministry

Natalie Ashbaugh - nashbaugh.holycrossfop@gmail.com 419-375-4153

Director of Adult Evangelization

Cindy Muhlenkamp - cmuhlenkamp.holycrossfop@gmail.com

OCIA

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

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
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