

*How often
must I forgive?*



What's Inside:

Pg. 2 - Mass, Confession,
Adoration, & Liturgy
Schedules

Pg. 3 - Ministry Schedule

Pg. 4/5 - Message from the Priests

Pg. 6 - Sacraments

Pg. 7-9 - Holy Cross Family
Information

Pg. 9 - Stewardship

Pg. 10 - Parish Information

Pg. 11 - Religious Education

Pg. 12 - Youth Ministry

Pg. 13 - Community Interests

Pg. 14 - Contact Information

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 13, 2026
Twenty-Fourth 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 14 <i>The Exaltation of the Holy Cross; Feast</i>	L/D Ed & Anna Pottkotter Family †	FJP	7:15 am (L/S)	Holy Trinity	After Mass
	Virgil Heinrichs †	FBS	6:45 pm	St. Peter	5:45 - 6:30 pm
Tuesday, September 15 <i>Our Lady of Sorrows; Memorial</i>	Ruth (Borger) Wyatt †	FEM	7:15 am	St. Mary	After Mass
	Sally Siegrist †	FJP	6:45 pm	St. Joseph	5:45 - 6:30 pm
Wednesday, September 16 <i>Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs; Memorial</i>	Poor Souls	FEM	7:15 am (L/S)	MHC	After Mass
	L/D Post & Schwieterman Families †	FJP	Noon (L/S)	Holy Trinity	11:30 am - end
Thursday, September 17 <i>Saint Robert Bellarmine, Bishop, Doctor of the Church; Saint Hildegard of Bingen, Virgin, Doctor of the Church; opt. mem.</i>	Vocations to the Priesthood & Consecrated Life	FEM	7:15 am	St. Paul	After Mass
	Rose Ann Post †	FJP	6:45 pm	St. Anthony	5:45 - 6:30 pm
Friday, September 18 <i>Weekday</i>	Charlene Obringer †	FJP	7:15 am (L/S)	Holy Trinity	After Mass
	L/D Beyke & Siegrist Families †	FEM	Noon (L/S)	MHC	11:30 am - end
Saturday, September 19 <i>Saint Januarius, Bishop, Martyr; BVM on Saturday; opt. mem.</i>	L/D Tom Litmer Family †	FJP	9:00 am	St. Joseph	After Mass
	Ebbing / Leuthold Wedding	FEM	1:30 pm	Holy Trinity	N/A
	Post / Barga Wedding	FBS	1:30 pm	St. Paul	N/A
	Sanders / Combs Wedding	DTG	2:30 pm	St. Peter	N/A
	L/D Sudhoff & Youngpeter Families †	FAW	4:00 pm	St. Anthony	3:15 - 3:45 pm
	Bill Huber †	FBS	4:30 pm	Holy Trinity	3:45 - 4:15 pm
	Carl & Cathy Koesters 50 th Wedding Anniv.	FEM	4:30 pm (L/S)	MHC	3:45 - 4:15 pm
Sunday, September 20 <i>25th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	Mark Hart †	FEM	7:00 am	St. Joseph	N/A
	Members of Holy Cross Family of Parishes	FAW	8:00 am (L/S)	Holy Trinity	7:25 - 7:45 am
	Jerry Schmitz †	FJP	9:00 am (L/S)	MHC	8:25 - end
	Leon Homan †	FBS	10:00 am (L/S)	Holy Trinity	9:25 - 9:45 am
	L/D Philip & Elizabeth Weitzel Family †	FEM	11:00 am	St. Paul	10:25 - 10:45 am
	L/D Joseph & Cleopha Brunswick Family †	FJP	11:00 am	St. Peter	10:25 - 10:45 am
	L/D Schmackers Family †	FAW	Noon	St. Mary	11:25 - 11:45 am
	L/D Richard & Velma Hartke Families †	FBS	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-qq4zm. 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); Deacon Tom Graber (DTG)

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, September 16, 7:15 am

Servers: Chase Fiely

Lector: Pauline Faller

Friday, September 18, 12:00 pm

Servers: Blaise Bergman

Lector: Keshia Willmann

Saturday, September 19, 4:30 pm

Servers: John Bihn, Tucker Huntsman, Owen Wenning

Lector: Lisa Romer

EMHC: Irene Roessner, Ted Romer

Sacristan: Linda Lennartz

Ushers: Floyd Bergman, Don Lennartz, Matt Whitacre, Nick Dues

Sunday, September 20, 9:00 am

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

Lector: Elly Boeckman

EMHC: Jodi Wendel, Elly Boeckman

Sacristan: Sharon Metzger, Kelsie Schmitz

Ushers: Jeff Wendel, Roger Broerman, Kevin Fortkamp, Harry Hart

– St. Joseph –

Tuesday, September 15, 6:45 pm

Servers: Logan Gaerke, Gavin Gaerke

Lector: Paige Schulze

Sacristan: Paige Schulze

Saturday, September 19, 9:00 am

Servers: Blaise Bergman

Lector: Lisa Roessner

Sacristan: Danielle Schulze

Sunday, September 20, 7:00 am

Servers: James Pottkotter, Francis Pottkotter, Michael Pottkotter

Lector: Paige Schulze

EMHC: Eileen Lochtefeld

Sacristan: Paige Schulze, Jennifer Schulze

Ushers: Jerry Sutter, Steve Post

– St. Paul –

Thursday, September 17, 7:15 am

Servers: Sam Grigsby, Leo Grigsby

Sunday, September 20, 11:00 am

Servers: Nick Siefing, Riley Stammen, Joseph Siefing

Lector: Holly Wuebker

EMHC: Holly Wuebker, Rita McElDowney

Ushers: Chris Siefing, Mike Bruns

Rosary: Ken & Lil Knapke

– St. Peter –

Monday, September 14, 6:45 pm

Servers: Logan Gaerke, Gavin Gaerke

Lector: Mary Gaerke

Sunday, September 20, 11:00 am

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

Lector: Jane Hipple

EMHC: Jane Hipple

Sacristan: Jane Hipple

Ushers: Derek Gaerke, Jake Gaerke

– Holy Trinity –

Monday, September 14, 7:15 am

Servers: Sam Grigsby, Leo Grigsby

Lector: Rene Klosterman

Sacristan: Kathy Rutschilling, Pam Wellman

Wednesday, September 16, 12:00 pm

Servers: Oliver Link, Jude Link

Lector: Lauren Baucher

Sacristan: Peyton Link

Friday, September 18, 7:15 am

Servers: Archer Bihn, Miles Bruns

Lector: Rene Klosterman

Sacristan: Kathy Rutschilling, Pam Wellman

Saturday, September 19, 4:30 pm

Servers: Lucas Broering, David Dues, Henry Broering, Jacob Broering

Lector: Diane Wellman

EMHC: Brenda Schwieterman, Michelle Wilker, Megan Wolters

Sacristan: Brenda Schwieterman

Sunday, September 20, 8:00 am

Servers: Sam Grigsby, Leo Grigsby, Oliver Link, Jude Link

Lector: Connie May

EMHC: Connie May, Tim Wellman

Sacristan: Thomas Langenkamp, Lucy Grigsby, Gemma Grigsby

Sunday, September 20, 10:00 am

Servers: Jack Bettinger, A.J. Alig, Ryan Alig

Lector: Nick Knapke

EMHC: Nate Wenning, Luke Klosterman, Deanna Wenning

Sacristan: Nancy Wolters, Michelle Giere

Sunday, September 20, 6:00 pm

Servers: Levi Sutter, Gabriel Simper, Eli Eyink

Lector: Kim Rose

EMHC: Stephanie Rutschilling, Amy Klingshirn, Sarah Klosterman

Sacristan: Cindy Broering

– St. Anthony –

Thursday, September 17, 6:45 pm

Servers: Wesley Geier

Lector: Paul Welling

Sacristan: Janie Timmerman

Saturday, September 19, 4:00 pm

Servers: Jacob Kahlig, Wesley Kahlig

Lector: Cindy Homan

EMHC: Ellen Sudhoff

Sacristan: Cindy Homan

Ushers: Corey Sudhoff, Mitch Sudhoff

Rosary: Teri Minnich

– St. Mary –

Tuesday, September 15, 7:15 am

Servers: Lincoln Homan, Leo Huelskamp

Lector: Vicki Dues

Sunday, September 20, 12:00 pm

Servers: Matthew Uhlenhake, Garrett Uhlenhake, Cole Uhlenhake

Lector: Vicki Dues

EMHC: Tracy Liette

Ushers: Craig Uhlenhake, Nick Uhlenhake



Message from the Priests

Rediscovering Baptism: Part 2 (of 10)

Which is more important: Baptism or the Eucharist? For us as Catholics, they are both necessary and interrelated. Think of it in this way: is birth or food more important for human life? We need birth to begin life. We need food to sustain it. Baptism gives us new life in Christ; the Eucharist nourishes that life until we reach Heaven. Today, let's focus on Baptism.

Key Verses: John 3:1-15; Romans 6; 1 Peter 3:18-22

1. The thought can go: *Baptism is symbolic. It is something someone can do once God has already moved them in their hearts.* This is biblically wrong. Baptism doesn't merely make us a Christian. It makes us another Christ. In St. Paul's letter to the Romans, he asks them,

"Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were buried, therefore, with Him by Baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life."--Romans 6: 3-4

This is immediately very different from how many people perceive Baptism. For many, it is merely a symbolic entry into the Church, the acknowledgement of something that has already happened to us (sometimes even by our own decision). That's incorrect: In Baptism, you have died in Christ. As St. Paul goes on to explain, the old man of sin is dead, the new man of virtue and grace has been resurrected in his place (Romans 6:6). The whole moral life stems from this fact. When we are anointed with the Sacred Chrism (that beautiful smelling oil) at our Baptism, it symbolizes the Holy Spirit coming down on us, just like He came down upon Jesus at His Baptism (see Matthew 3:16). Because we have become another Christ, we are--like Him--a priest, a prophet, and a king (or queen) in the Kingdom.

-- A priest is one who offers sacrifice: the sacrifice of a Christian's life is that everything we do or say (*note: not just believe, action must flow from our belief according to St. Paul and others*), we do for the glory of God (see 1 Corinthians 10:31)

--A prophet is someone who speaks God's word here and now (see Jeremiah 1:9).

--A king is someone who lives by their royal dignity. Sin is those things which are beneath the dignity I have received by my Baptism.

My moral life does not earn my salvation. Far from it. My moral life flows from the fact that I have been saved. This is why sin committed after Baptism is so important to rectify that it requires another Sacrament, another encounter with the living Jesus.

Two things that flow from our Catholic understanding of Baptism: **The reason why we baptize even infants who cannot choose for themselves is that Baptism is not about our actions, it is God's action that changes our soul.** A little baby will exercise his or her Baptism differently throughout his or her life (for example, a person may be a prophet by applying the teachings of Christ to his or her life decisions; a baby is a prophet when he or she adds his or her cries to the Mass, testifying to God calling us together as His Church (see Acts 2:42).

This is also why no other identity can occupy our central identity. Other identities along the lines of job, vocation, sexuality, etc. do not change the core of who we are--our substance. It only changes aspects of how we live our life--whether by drawing us closer to God or driving us further from Him. Only our identity in Christ gives us and our lives their fullest meaning possible. In Baptism, my soul is changed. I am no longer the same person I was before those waters were poured over me.

Baptism is one of three Sacraments that effect a permanent change to my soul. The Catechism describes it this way:

Incorporated into Christ by Baptism, the person Baptized is configured to Christ. Baptism seals the Christian with the indelible spiritual mark (character) of his belonging to Christ. No sin can erase this mark...Given once for all, Baptism cannot be repeated. Incorporated into the Church by Baptism, the faithful have received the sacramental character that consecrates them for Christian religious worship. The Baptismal seal enables and commits Christians to serve God by a vital participation in the holy liturgy of the Church and to exercise their Baptismal priesthood by the witness of holy lives and practical charity. --Catechism, 1272-1273.

There's a lot to unpack here. God works through the priest or deacon performing the Baptism to change the soul from the man of sin into another Christ. Without God's intervention, I cannot enter into a real and living relationship with God. This follows from the Old Testament covenants. Those covenants had to be entered into in an objective, physical manner in order for the person to be able to exercise the rights and duties of that covenant (Genesis 17:10-13). If a person failed to enter into the covenant through the external action (circumcision in the Abrahamic covenant, for example), then what was the result? He "shall be cut off from [God's] people; he has broken [God's] covenant" (Genesis 17:14).

2. Another common misunderstanding is that Baptism is optional or even unnecessary. The unbiblical thinking goes that, as a result, Baptism can be delayed or may even be written off as a "work". But Jesus clearly anticipates that thought and repudiates it when He tells Nicodemus "Amen, amen I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God" (John 3:5). Note His words: not "unless one believes", but "unless one is born of water and the Spirit". This discussion with Nicodemus in the dead of night is a fulfillment of an Old Testament prophecy. In this prophecy, Israel has abandoned God, but God promises that a new day will come when, for the sake of the whole world,

I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses...A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you...And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. --see Ezekiel 36:25-28.

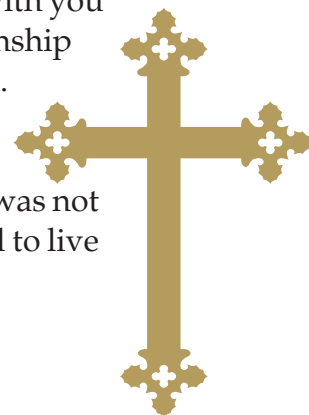
What are those statutes and ordinances? In no small part, participation in the Sacraments of the Church by which we continue to encounter the living God. The Second Vatican Council put it this way:

It is through the Sacraments and the exercise of the virtues that the sacred nature and organic structure of the priestly community is brought into operation. Incorporated in the Church through Baptism, the faithful are destined by the Baptismal character for the worship of the Christian religion; reborn as sons of God they must confess before men the faith which they have received from God through the Church. --Lumen Gentium, 11.

God was not kidding around when He instituted His new and Everlasting Covenant. This speaks to the deep love and intimacy God desires to have with His children. He wants to be with you through thick and thin, from the cradle to grave. God strongly desires this relationship with you, and we are able to enter into that relationship only through Baptism. Most of us may not be able to remember the day of our Baptism...but God does! On that day He called you by name, claimed you as His own, and began a work in your soul that He still desires to bring to completion (Philippians 2:12). Baptism was not simply a ceremony in your past--it is the beginning of the life of grace you are called to live today.

In Jesus, through Mary,

Fr. Witt



Sacramental Information

Wedding Banns

III Aydan Sanders & Mary Combs
 III Grant Ebbing & Lilie Leuthold
 III Landon Post & Molly Barga
 II Jackson Kiser & Katie Larkin
 II Colin Block & Harmony Bonifas

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.

In Loving Memory...

Virgil Heinrichs
 December 31, 1988 - August 17, 2025
 (St. Peter)

Kurt Grieshop
 April 20, 1956 - August 28, 2026
 (Holy Trinity)

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

Baptismal Sponsors

This is an honor, but so much more. Whether for Baptism or Confirmation, being a sponsor means that you are promising to assist the parents in raising this person in the Catholic Faith. In order to fulfill that responsibility, the sponsor needs to be a practicing Catholic. This means that prayer, scripture, the sacraments and especially Mass are important priorities in his/her life. This also means that a sponsor needs to be a fully initiated Catholic who has received the sacraments of Baptism, Holy Communion, Confirmation, and, if married, was married in the Catholic Church.

Baptismal 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

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.

Newly Baptized

Holy Trinity
 Madden Joseph Dues
 Child of Craig & Amanda

Riley Grace Eyre
 Child of Larry & Alexandria

Bronson Michael Brunet
 Child of Timothy & Veronica

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.

*The Lord is kind
 and merciful,
 slow to anger, and
 rich in compassion.*

Holy Cross Family of Parishes

CONFESSION CANCELED — There will be no confessions available during 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.

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.

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.

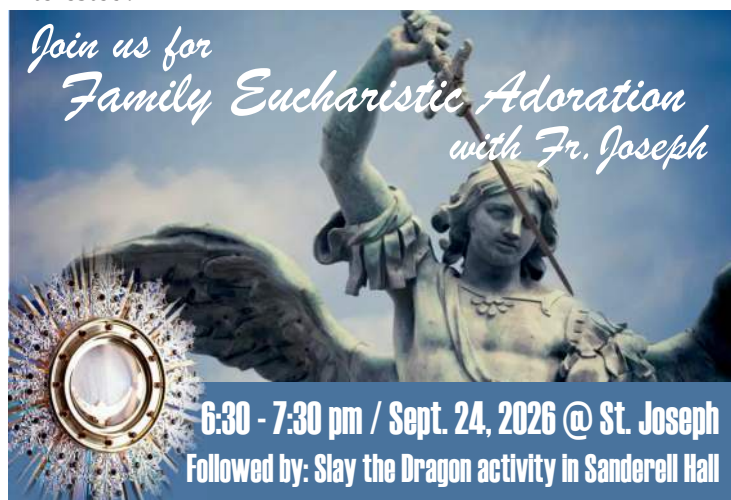
33 DAY CONSECRATION TO MERCIFUL LOVE — Weekly meetings are taking place in Holy Trinity's Grotto on Tuesdays, 6:30 - 7:30 pm from Aug. 25th to Sept. 29th. Day 1 of the 33 days started on Sat., Aug. 29th ending with the Consecration taking place on Thurs., Oct. 1st at the 6:45 pm Mass at St. Anthony. (Refreshments will be provided in the school after the Mass.) Also, books are not being 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT — This 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!

BULLETIN SUBMISSION DEADLINES — Please be advised: the Sept. 20th, Sept. 27th, and Oct. 4th bulletin submission deadlines have passed. If you have any information that you need advertised throughout our parishes before the publication of the October 11th bulletin, please contact cmuhlenkamp.holycrossfop@gmail.com or cbettinger.holycrossfop@gmail.com. They will handle getting your information out through our other means of communication: Facebook, Website, MyParish App, & bulletin boards in the churches. 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.



Join us for
Family Eucharistic Adoration
with Fr. Joseph

6:30 - 7:30 pm / Sept. 24, 2026 @ St. Joseph
Followed by: Slay the Dragon activity in Sanderell Hall



Welcome New Members
Holy Trinity
Zachary Koesters

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.

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!



Cookie Fundraiser

crumbl

Wed., Sept. 23rd
@
Mary Help of Christians' Parking Lot
3 - 7 pm

Wed., Sept. 30th
@
Holy Trinity's Parking Lot
3 - 7 pm

Proceeds support the Big Events Committee for future events

- *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.



<i>Holy Trinity's Grotto</i> Tuesday, October 6th 7 - 8:30 PM	<i>Mary Help of Christians' Undercroft</i> Tuesday, October 13th 7 - 8:30 PM
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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.

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@holycrossoff@gmail.com or (419) 852-8960.

Save the Date!

Welcome.
There is **More** to Life

— *Women's Retreat for women (21+) —*

You are invited to step away from the busyness of life and take time for you! Join other women from our parish family for an overnight retreat filled with prayer, fellowship, and renewal in God's presence. This overnight retreat is a chance to be still, be refreshed, and to grow in faith with your sisters in Christ.

Location: Holy Trinity Grotto
Dates: February 6-7th, 2027
Cost: FREE (with meals provided!)
Registration: Opens January 2nd



LITTLE FLOWERS MUSIC LEADER — We are looking for someone to help with the music station at MHC's Little Flowers meetings. This can be a high school student or adult. Meetings are once a month October through March. Please contact Rachel Tobe for more information at (567) 644-6188.



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.

AMPHITHEATER:
Enjoy the musical talents of **Danny Schneible**

"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.

4:00 PM



All are welcome to attend, Catholic & Non-Catholic

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 24 - 30, 2026

Mary Help of Christians

Offertory.....	\$8,185.00
Flowers.....	\$ 100.00
Religious Ed.....	\$ 30.00
Cemetery.....	\$ 5.00
Allocated Loose	\$1,219.20

St. Joseph

Offertory.....	\$ 690.00
Allocated Loose	\$ 249.99

St. Paul

Offertory.....	\$1,630.00
Parish Improvement.....	\$ 30.00
Flowers.....	\$ 20.00
Maintenance.....	\$ 100.00
Allocated Loose	\$ 526.61

St. Peter

Offertory.....	\$3,650.00
Cemetery.....	\$ 300.00
Maintenance.....	\$ 100.00
Allocated Loose	\$ 413.91

Holy Trinity

Offertory.....	\$ 5,583.00
Loose.....	\$ 3,745.00
Total.....	\$ 9,328.00
Candles.....	\$ 107.00
*Online Giving Month	\$12,224.00

St. Anthony

Offertory.....	\$ 655.00
Loose.....	\$ 432.00
Total.....	\$ 1,087.00
*Online Giving Month	\$ 1,155.00

St. Mary

Offertory.....	\$ 780.00
Loose.....	\$ 602.00
Total.....	\$ 1,382.00
*Online Giving Month	\$ 1,285.00

Thank you for your generosity!

Parish Information



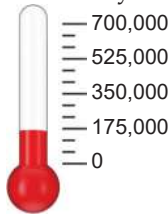
Holy Trinity

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.



Mary Help of Christians

SEWING GROUP

— The sewing group will meet on September 14th at 9:00 am in the Mary Help of Christians

Undercroft. If there is a funeral on Monday, Sept. 14 we will not meet again until Oct. 12. Everyone is welcome to join our sewing group and help us sew, press, cut out fabrics and other things that are needed to help the less fortunate. The group thanks everyone for all of the donations.



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 Rick and Kate Kremer, Roger Kremer, Bob Kremer, Jeff and Kay Grey, Erik and Jessica Grey, and Nick and Amy Grey for sponsoring Phase II the Ceiling Mural, window surrounds to genuine gold leaf application, and gold leaf border around the Stations of the Cross with the balance going towards the new priest and server bench. We are truly grateful for their kindness and support!



St. Mary

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

LADIES SODALITY RAFFLE

FUNDRAISER — Raffle tickets for ladies sodality members to sell will be available for pickup at the 175th anniversary event. Please pick them up at the event or in the back of church if you cannot attend and return by October 4th. If any additional tickets are needed please contact Kendra Siefring at (419) 733-1651.

MEN SODALITY MEETING — St. Mary's Men Sodality will have a meeting Monday evening September 14th at 7 pm in the school hall.



St. Joseph

CLEANING

(SEPTEMBER) **Lucy

Kaup, Julia Kremer, Theresa Hart, Maria Bergman, Sue Lennartz, Beth Guggenbiller

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.

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

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



St. Peter

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 liking 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.

"Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive?"



Religious Education

Coldwater Religious Ed.

Contact: Stephanie Rutschilling

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

ST. ANTHONY'S FIRST CCD CLASS — 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)

*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 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.

Saint of the Week - Saint Robert Bellarmine

When Saint Robert Bellarmine was ordained in 1570, the study of Church history and the fathers of the Church was in a sad state of neglect. A promising scholar from his youth in Tuscany, he devoted his energy to these two subjects, as well as to Scripture, in order to systematize Church doctrine against the attacks of the Protestant Reformers. He was the first Jesuit to become a professor at Louvain. His most famous work is his three-volume Disputations on the Controversies of the Christian Faith. Particularly noteworthy are the sections on the temporal power of the pope and the role of the laity. Bellarmine incurred the anger of monarchists in England and France by showing the divine-right-of-kings theory untenable. He developed the theory of the indirect power of the pope in temporal affairs; although he was defending the pope against the Scottish philosopher Barclay, he also incurred the ire of Pope Sixtus V. Bellarmine was made a cardinal by Pope Clement VIII on the grounds that "he had not his equal for learning." While he occupied apartments in the Vatican, Bellarmine relaxed none of his former austerities. He limited his household expenses to what was barely essential, eating only the food available to the poor. He was known to have ransomed a soldier who had deserted from the army and he used the hangings of his rooms to clothe poor people, remarking, "The walls won't catch cold." Among many activities, Bellarmine became theologian to Pope Clement VIII, preparing two catechisms which have had great influence in the Church. The last major controversy of Bellarmine's life came in 1616 when he had to admonish his friend Galileo, whom he admired. He delivered the admonition on behalf of the Holy Office, which had decided that the heliocentric theory of Copernicus was contrary to Scripture. The admonition amounted to a caution against putting forward—other than as a hypothesis—theories not yet fully proven. This shows that saints are not infallible. Saint Robert Bellarmine died on September 17, 1621. The process for his canonization was begun in 1627, but was delayed until 1930 for political reasons, stemming from his writings. In 1930, Pope Pius XI canonized him, and the next year declared him a doctor of the Church.



- Information obtained from franciscanmedia.org



SUNDAYKIDZ

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Sins Often Forgive Seven King
 Debt Patient Pay Beg Heart

©Diocesan

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 23rd 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	
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		completed task sheet



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 began September 8th.

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

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

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



"And his lord, moved with anger, handed him over to the torturers until he should repay all that was owed him. My heavenly Father will also do the same to you, if each of you does not forgive your brother from your heart." Mt 18:34-35

2026 - 2027 Schedule



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.

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 Sat., Oct. 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.

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 pm. 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 October 13th and November 10th.

NOMINATE AN OUTSTANDING CAREGIVER FOR RECOGNITION TODAY! — Caregiver Masses honor all those who work or volunteer as a caregiver – helpful family members and friends, nurses and physicians, dietary staff and lab workers, social workers and home health aides, those who volunteer at healthcare facilities, retirement communities and in parishes. You can nominate an individual for this year's Mass and reception here: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/q70NuT3gqf>, email nominations to can@ccswoh.org or call the Caregiver Assistance Network at (513) 869-4483. All nominations are due by Sept. 25th. The 22nd Annual Caregiver Mass is scheduled for November 22nd, 10:00 am, at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Peter in Chains.

ST. CARLO ACUTIS EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES EXHIBITION AT THE MARIA STEIN SHRINE — October 5th - October 16th this exhibition is free and open to the public during normal business hours. Located in the Upper Room of the Maria Stein Shrine (elevator available). If your parish or organization would like to exhibit this International Exhibition of The Eucharistic Miracles of the World or, if you would like to know more information, please contact Caleb Gaier at c.gaier@mariasteinshrine.org or call 419-925-4532 ext 206.

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.

PEEWEE SOCCER — St. Anthony is starting a peewee soccer league on Monday 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.

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.

MERCER COUNTY CANCER CORN MAZE & PETTING ZOO — Fundraiser for the Cancer Association of Mercer County. The K of C 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 sign up 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.

ST. PEREGRINE CANCER PRAYER SERVICE — St. Peregrine Relic for prayer and veneration at the Maria Stein Shrine. The prayer service is held for those who are on a journey with cancer, as a patient or as a caregiver. The next service is on Sun., Oct. 11th at 2 pm in the Shrine's Adoration Chapel. This event is free and open to the public. All who have been affected by cancer are encouraged to attend. For those battling cancer, you can submit your name or a loved one's name for prayer. Please contact Caleb Gaier at c.gaier@mariasteinshrine.org or call 419-925-4532.

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 must sign waiver if not accompanied by an adult. Register w/ QR code or contact St. Henry Parish office.



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

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

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

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

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

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

Call for Prayer

Cindy Hemmelgarn - 419-678-4084

Janie Timmerman - (SA) 419-375-2320

Karla Kunk - (SM) 419-852-2162

Rita McEldowney - (SPL) 937-621-3126

Pastoral Staff

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

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

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

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

Deacon Daniel Kahlig:
dkahlig.holycrossfop@gmail.com

Deacon Roger Kaiser:
rkaiser.holycrossfop@gmail.com

COLDWATER KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #1991

Grand Knight — Mike Hoying 937-594-2816

FORT RECOVERY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #3324

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Deputy Grand Knight — Joe Knapke 419-852-5188

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