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Holy Trinity

Coldwater Office

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



Mary Help of Christians

Fort Recovery Office

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, October 11, 2026
Twenty-Eighth 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, October 12 <i>Weekday</i>	Floyd Winner †	FBS	7:15 am (L/S)	Holy Trinity	After Mass
	L/D Louis & Ruth Lennartz Family †	FAW	6:45 pm	St. Peter	5:45 - 6:30 pm
Tuesday, October 13 <i>Weekday</i>	L/D Penno & Diller Families †	FEM	7:15 am	St. Mary	After Mass
	Kimo Bechtol †	FJP	6:45 pm	St. Joseph	5:45 - 6:30 pm
Wednesday, October 14 <i>Saint Callistus I, Pope, Martyr; opt. mem.</i>	JoAnn Wagner †	FAW	7:15 am (L/S)	MHC	After Mass
	Brian Westgerdes †	FBS	Noon (L/S)	Holy Trinity	11:30 am - end
Thursday, October 15 <i>Saint Teresa of Jesus, Virgin, Doctor of the Church; Memorial</i>	Dan Kaiser †	FAW	7:15 am	St. Paul	After Mass
	L/D Norma & Hilda Alig Family †	FBS	6:45 pm	St. Anthony	5:45 - 6:30 pm
Friday, October 16 <i>Saint Hedwig, Religious; Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin; opt. mem.</i>	L/D Joe & Donna Rose Family †	FAW	7:15 am (L/S)	Holy Trinity	After Mass
	L/D Jerry & Norma Grieshop †	FBS	Noon (L/S)	MHC	11:30 am - end
Saturday, October 17 <i>Saint Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop, Martyr; Memorial</i>	L/D William & Virginia Pottkotter Family †	FJP	9:00 am	St. Joseph	After Mass
	Huelskamp / Davis Wedding	FEM	1:30 pm	Holy Trinity	N/A
	Wendel / Kahlig Wedding	FJP	1:30 pm	St. Peter	N/A
	L/D Elmer & Mary Lou Klenke Families †	FAW	4:00 pm	St. Anthony	3:15 - 3:45 pm
	Rich & Rita Boeckman †	FBS	4:30 pm	Holy Trinity	3:45 - 4:15 pm
	Pat Stammen †	FEM	4:30 pm (L/S)	MHC	3:45 - 4:15 pm
Sunday, October 18 <i>29th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	Terry Kunkler †	FEM	7:00 am	St. Joseph	N/A
	Joe Homan †	FAW	8:00 am (L/S)	Holy Trinity	7:25 - 7:45 am
	Tracy Westgerdes †	FJP/DDK	9:00 am (L/S)	MHC	8:25 - end
	Brian Clune †	FBS	10:00 am (L/S)	Holy Trinity	9:25 - 9:45 am
	Elaine Brunswick †	FJP	11:00 am	St. Paul	10:25 - 10:45 am
	Steve Muhlenkamp †	FEM	11:00 am	St. Peter	10:25 - 10:45 am
	Members of Holy Cross Family of Parishes	FAW/DRK	Noon	St. Mary	11:25 - 11:45 am
	Confirmation Mass	ARC	2:30 pm	Holy Trinity	N/A
	Allen Lefeld †	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); Archbishop Robert Casey (ARC)
Deacon Dan Kahlig (DDK); Deacon Roger Kaiser (DRK)

Adoration Schedules

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

St. Joseph - First Fridays of the Month

8:30 pm Friday - 8:30 am Saturday

Contact Info.: Adoration.nw1@gmail.com

Ministry Schedule

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

– Mary Help of Christians –

Wednesday, October 14, 7:15 am

Servers: Chase Fiely

Lector: Pauline Faller

Friday, October 16, 12:00 pm

Servers: Blaise Bergman

Lector: Julie Schmitz

Saturday, October 17, 4:30 pm

Servers: Carson Fullenkamp, Joseph Fortkamp, Daniel Fortkamp

Lector: Missy Hart

EMHC: Missy Hart, Maggie Hartings

Sacristan: Maggie Hartings,

Rachel Fortkamp

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

Sunday, October 18, 9:00 am

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

Lector: Sean Kahlig

EMHC: Bill Gaerke, Tim Hart

Sacristans: Sharon Metzger,

Mackenzie Kahlig

Ushers: Steve Wendel, Paul Alig,

Roger Broerman, Joe Dues

– St. Joseph –

Tuesday, October 13, 6:45 pm

Servers: Joseph Bruns, Henry Bruns

Lector: Paige Schulze

Sacristan: Paige Schulze

Saturday, October 17, 9:00 am

Servers: Tyler Dues

Lector: Jane Hipple

Sunday, October 18, 7:00 am

Servers: James Pottkotter, Francis Pottkotter, Michael Pottkotter

Lector: Paige Schulze

EMHC: Paige Schulze

Sacristans: Paige Schulze,

Jennifer Schulze

Ushers: Mel Bertke, Dave Lennartz

– St. Anthony –

Thursday, October 15, 6:45 pm

Servers: Wesley Geier

Lector: Paul Welling

Sacristan: Cindy Homan

Saturday, October 17, 4:00 pm

Servers: Mason Alig, Logan Alig

Lector: Janet Brockman

EMHC: Tana Sudhoff

Sacristan: Janet Brockman

Ushers: Jeff Sudhoff,

Patrick Forshoefel

Rosary: Julie Brackman

– St. Mary –

Tuesday, October 13, 7:15 am

Servers: Lincoln Homan,

Leo Huelskamp

Lector: Stephanie Wendel

Sunday, October 18, 12:00 pm

Servers: Derek Dues, Trent Dues, Gibson Dues

Lector: Betsy Uhlenhake

EMHC: Amy Welling

Ushers: Brian Siefring, Craig Hartings

– St. Peter –

Monday, October 12, 6:45 pm

Servers: Chris Timmerman

Lector: Nathan Fortkamp

Sunday, October 18, 11:00 am

Servers: Reed Westgerdes, Will Westgerdes, Logan Gaerke,

Gavin Gaerke, Benson Gaerke

Lector: Jack Gaerke

EMHC: Donna Brunswick

Sacristan: Lydia Gaerke,

Donna Brunswick

Ushers: Mike Roessner,

Matt Schoenherr

– St. Paul –

Thursday, October 15, 7:15 am

Servers: Sam Grigsby, Leo Grigsby

Sunday, October 18, 11:00 am

Servers: Landon Sudhoff, Vance Tobe, Gabe Fullenkamp, Blaine Fullenkamp

Lector: Nikki Hawk

EMHC: Julie Bruns, Carl Link

Ushers: Joe Hawk, Jared Hemmelgarn

Rosary: Mark & Marylene Brunswick

– Holy Trinity –

Monday, October 12, 7:15 am

Servers: Jack Bettinger,

Blake Wenning

Lector: Rene Klosterman

Sacristans: Kathy Rutschilling,

Pam Wellman

Wednesday, October 14, 12:00 pm

Servers: Sam Grigsby, Leo Grigsby

Lector: Rene Klosterman

Sacristans: Lucy Grigsby,

Gemma Grigsby

Friday, October 16, 7:15 am

Servers: Sam Grigsby, Leo Grigsby

Lector: Rene Klosterman

Sacristans: Kathy Rutschilling,

Pam Wellman

Saturday, October 17, 4:30 pm

Servers: Lucas Broering, David Dues,

Henry Broering, Jacob Broering

Lector: Diane Wellman

EMHC: Brenda Schwieterman,

Michelle Wilker, Nate Wenning

Sacristan: Brenda Schwieterman

Sunday, October 18, 8:00 am

Servers: Samuel Gerlach,

Blake Wenning, Leo Gerlach

Lector: Paul Howell

EMHC: Ralph Alig, Deanna Wenning

Sacristans: Thomas Langenkamp,

Peyton Link

Sunday, October 18, 10:00 am

Servers: Jack Bettinger, A.J. Alig,

Ryan Alig

Lector: Abbie Homan

EMHC: Scott Noonan, Luke Klosterman

Sacristans: Nancy Wolters,

Michelle Giere

Sunday, October 18, 2:30 pm

Servers: Sam Grigsby, Leo Grigsby,

Owen Heitkamp, Gavin Heitkamp,

Lincoln Homan

Sacristans: Pam Wellman

Sunday, October 18, 6:00 pm

Servers: Levi Sutter, Emmett Wermert, Carson Wermert

Lector: Kim Rose

EMHC: Amy Klingshirm,

Sarah Klosterman, Pam Hicks

Sacristans: Cindy Broering



Message from the Priests

Rediscovering the Mass: Part 6 (of 10)

Last week, we talked a lot about the Eucharist itself, but not about the Mass. Even though the Mass itself is deeply united with the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, I think it's important to take a moment and consider the Mass itself. We need to rediscover what the Mass is.

1. *Misunderstanding: the Mass is just what the Catholics call their worship service.* It is not hyperbole to say that the Mass is Heaven on earth. In fact, far from being an exaggeration, to acknowledge that fact is to truly understand the Mass. In the Mass:

You have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to a judge who is God of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks more graciously than the blood of Abel.--Hebrews 12: 22-24

The Mass is made up of human and divine elements. The problem is that we often get bogged down in arguments about the human elements to the point that we might need to rediscover those divine elements. Just like water and the words point to the inner and invisible grace of spiritual adoption and becoming another Christ, the human elements which meet the eye during the Mass all point us to a deeper spiritual reality. If we want to truly understand the Mass, we cannot simply become more familiar with the human elements (when to sit, stand, kneel, and why), but we have to understand what invisible spiritual reality those human elements point us to.

The analogy we often use is that the Mass is a mountain expedition. On the bottom of the mountain is earth, but at the top is Heaven. The Mass takes us up the mountain into Heaven, then back down to the earth. We start with preparation for the ascent:

- The expedition team gathers together because we are doing this as a family.
- We repent of our sins, putting down any extra baggage that we cannot afford to drag up the mountain.
- We listen to and are instructed by the word of God.

By the time that we get to the preparation of the Altar, we are ready to begin our ascent into Heaven.

- I like to think of the Preface as the call and response of the leader of the expedition with the people behind him: The Lord be with you (are you with me?); And with your Spirit (yes, we are!)

But the Ascent into Heaven is a lot shorter than you would think. By the time we finish the Preface, we are in Heaven. And we know this because of several key factors:

- We hear the song that the Angels sing in Heaven (see Isaiah 6:3 and Revelation 4:8): "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God of Hosts". Because we faithfully follow Christ's command to "Do this" Sunday after Sunday, Heaven has become a second home to us. So we join the Angel's hymn of praise.
- The next clue is that we fall down on our knees. When St. John has his vision of Heaven, this is exactly what he sees people doing (see Revelation 4:4, 10)
- Importantly we see the priest standing among us in the person of Christ who stands forever in Heaven interceding for us before the Father (see Hebrews 7:25). As the priest prays the Eucharistic Prayer, we see him acting in the person of Christ with increasing clarity.
- Until finally, the priest enters into the anamnesis: the part of the Mass at which he leads the people in remembering in such a way that the Holy Spirit makes the past event present in our here and now. Notice the shift in language:
 - On the day before he was to suffer, He took bread in His holy and venerable hands, and with eyes raised to Heaven to You, O God, His almighty Father, giving You thanks, He said the blessing, broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, saying: TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT, FOR THIS IS MY BODY, WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.

- The priest begins speaking in his own voice, but as the Holy Spirit fills this man who was given power and authority to act in the person of Jesus Christ, Jesus Himself works through the hands of the priest to take bread, the eyes of the priest to behold His Heavenly Father, the body of the priest to lead His flock, and the voice of the priest so that His saving words and the saving action that they signify can break into our here and now.

As Mass continues, we are in the Presence of Jesus who stands forever in Heaven interceding for us before the Father, offering Himself as an eternal, everlasting sacrifice (see Hebrews 10:12).

- We continue to pray for those in need, invoking the saints who stand around us in Heaven.
- We pray the prayer Christ Himself taught us to pray.
- When He is presented before us: the Lamb once slain who lives forever (Revelation 5:6, 12-13), we humble ourselves and say the only thing that we can: Lord, I am not worthy...(Matthew 8:8).
- And then we arrive at a moment that is so precious, so dramatic, that it needs to be clearly understood:

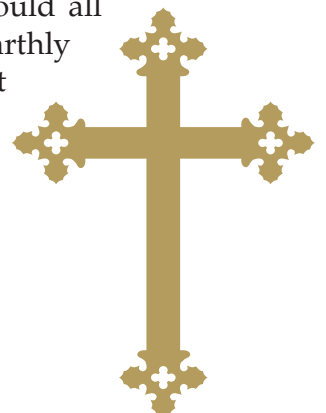
2. The *misunderstanding can be: I went to Mass, I get to receive the Eucharist*. But from the first days of Christianity, the Eucharist, Jesus Himself, is not something that is received light-heartedly. After all, we just acknowledged that we are not worthy to have this Lord under our roof.

We receive the Eucharist only if we are ready: if we have fasted for at least one hour...if we are free from grave sin ("Nothing unclean will enter [Heaven], Revelation 21:27)...If we are not knowingly rejecting what Christ and His Church teach. The Eucharist is not a reward for showing up. That's expected and required if we are physically able to be there. It's an action that we do which arises from deep faith and a sincere desire to do even the hardest things that Christ has asked us to do. What could be harder than eating the flesh of the God-Man? And yet we do not because we're perfect, not because we've earned it, not because we understand and see everything, not even because it's easy, but because Christ "has the words of everlasting life". We believe that He is the Son of God and to follow Him, no matter where it leads, is to walk in the light of life (John 8:12).

But very quickly, we are sent out to bring this world back to Heaven from which we have just come. Christ came into the world so that we may have life. We have been made other Christs, expected to do what He did: to offer that life to others. This is what the Christian life is all about: being transformed and transforming others through our encounter with Jesus Christ in the Sacraments.

3. This brings us to our final *misunderstanding: that the life we live outside of Mass is disconnected from the life I live during the week*. I hope that it is evident from this deeper spiritual understanding of the Mass that this is why not praying throughout the week, arriving late, leaving early, being inattentive and/or irreverent, missing Mass or simply watching it virtually are not at all sufficient and can seriously offend our God.

I want to specifically highlight irreverence. Some people think that dressing as best as we reasonably can, keeping holy silence before and after Mass, and making sure that our gestures, body posture, etc are reverent are a thing of the past. The reality is that they can be incredible tools to enter more deeply into the spiritual reality of the Mass. Remember: God created us with our bodies. Our bodies can be powerful channels to bring us deeper into a life with God. When we treat the Mass too casually, we can blind ourselves to the deeper spiritual realities. The church building, the gestures, our outward participation should all point us to those Heavenly realities. But when we treat the Mass like "just another earthly thing", they can inadvertently glue us down to earth. I don't want that for you. I want your heart to soar to Heaven. We need to let our bodies lead the way. In the Mass, we go to Heaven. It should change our entire lives. And it can if we let it. And I deeply want that for every single one of you!



In Jesus, through Mary,

Fr. Witt

Sacramental Information

Wedding Banns

III Devin Huelskamp & Rachel Davis
III Kendrik Wendel & Emma Kahlig
I Andrew Varno & Libby Pottkotter
I Cale Rammel & Lydia Brunswick

And the two shall become one.

Sacrament of Matrimony

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

Marriage Congratulations!

Jackson & Katie (Larkin) Kiser
Married Saturday, September 26, 2026
(Holy Trinity)

Colin & Harmony (Bonifas) Block
Married Saturday, September 26, 2026
(St. Anthony)

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

Newly Baptized

Holy Trinity

Vincent Aloysius Stolly
Child of Jacob & Emma

St. Mary

Ruth Dianne Zwiebel
Child of Lucas & Miley

St. Peter

Joseph Philip Dues
Child of Scott & Trisha

In Loving Memory...

Janet K. Westgerdes
May 22, 1948 - September 19, 2026
(Holy Trinity)

Rose Ann M. Diller
August 23, 1945 - September 22, 2026
(St. Peter)

*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

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.

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.



Holy Cross Family of Parishes

UPCOMING MEMORIAL MASSES — The Memorial Mass remembers and prays for the individuals from Holy Cross Family of Parishes who have passed away this past year - mid October to mid October. Masses will be on Mon., Nov. 2, 2026 @ 6:45 pm at Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church for the deceased from Mary Help, St. Joseph, St. Paul and St. Peter Parishes and Thurs., Nov. 5, 2026 @ 6:45 pm at Holy Trinity Catholic Church for the deceased from Holy Trinity, St. Anthony and St. Mary Parishes. The evening begins at 6:45 pm with a candle lighting service, followed immediately with Mass. After Mass a social and light lunch will take place at both churches. An invitation will be mailed to a contact person from each individual's family, but all are welcome to attend.

CANCELLATIONS — The regularly scheduled Adoration, Confession and Mass at St. Peter on Mon., Nov. 2 and at St. Anthony on Thurs., Nov. 5 are both canceled due to the Memorial Masses being held those evenings.

PRIEST VISITS — Our priests, as a group or individually, are always happy to come and visit you and your family. There is no expectation for dinner or food. They are happy just to get to know you and be a part of your family life. If interested in scheduling a home visit, please feel free to email them or call either family office anytime.

SERVANTS OF CHRIST MEN'S GROUP — Meetings are at 4:30 am in The Grotto on the first and third Friday of each month. They are currently 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 REMINDER — The October meetings are on the third & fifth Thursday for the month of October. Meetings are held in the St. Isidore room of Holy Trinity's Grotto. All adult women of the Holy Cross Family of Parishes community are welcome! Keep up to date on meeting information by using the "groups" button within the MyParish App. Use the QR code provided to get the MyParish App.



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.

FINANCIAL REPORTS — The Parish Financial Reports for fiscal year 2025-2026 are available at the entrances of each church. Thank you for your generous contributions to our parishes and designated collections throughout the year. Please contact your business manager if you have any questions. Fort Recovery Parishes: Amy Lennartz (419) 375-4153. Coldwater Parishes: Charmaine Bettinger (419) 678-4802

ANNOUNCEMENT — Next week we will be operating with only three priests. Please pray for Fr. Moore 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!

MISSION LOTTERY WINNER — (09/23/2026) #783 Mike & Kathy Laux — Congratulations!

HOLY CROSS FAMILY OF PARISHES PRESENTS

MARRIED COUPLES

TRIVIA NIGHT

BONANZA!

SECRET GRAND PRIZE FOR THE WINNING TEAM

A very Mercer County trivia night

CATEGORIES INCLUDE:
The MAC, 'Merica, Last Names, Fun Facts about Fr. Joseph, & more!

WHEN:
SAT, OCT 24
Doors Open 7:00 PM
Games 7:30 PM

TEAMS:
Round up 2 or 3 couples and make a night of it

BYOB:
Bring your own drinks & snacks for your crew

WHERE:
MHC UNDERCROFT

RSVP YOUR TEAM TO:
frethan.holycrossfop@gmail.com

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

Welcome New Members

Holy Trinity

Tyler & Tana Scott
along with their child Luke

Drew & Maureen Feltz
along with their children
Blaine, Reese, and Sutton

Brian & Katherine Raney
along with their child Gracelynn

Justin & Rachel Ahlers
along with their child Bennett

Daniel & Chloe Lennon

Jackson & Katie Larkin

Grant & Lilie Ebbing

Join us for...

OCIA for Everyone

First Monday of the Month

@

St. Peter School Hall,

7:30 - 8:30 pm

November: Are all denominations equal if someone loves Jesus and seeks to follow him? What should we do for our loved ones who have stopped practicing the Catholic faith?

December: NO SESSION

January: The Sacraments

February: The Mass

March: Consecrations and other Catholic Devotions, Living the liturgical calendar.

April: The Four Last Things, and Jesus' second coming

May: Questions about difficult social issues and the Catholic response

Note: Please bring your own Catechism of the Catholic Church to each meeting.

- 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.



Mary Help of Christians' Undercroft

Tuesday, October 13th

7 - 8:30 PM

Refreshments will be provided.

You Are Invited To Join Fr. Barry Stechschulte

on an 11-day Catholic
Pilgrimage Tour to France



Cathedral of Notre Dame - Paris

Including:

Lisieux, Normandy, Mont St. Michel,
Chartres, Nevers, Paray-le-Monial, Ars,
Lyon, La Salette, Annecy, Beaune & Paris.

June 7 - 17, 2027

\$5,695

All-inclusive from Columbus, OH

DAILY MASS AT THE HOLY SITES

PILGRIMAGE TOURS LLC

1766 Scherersville Road
Allentown, PA 18104

E-mail: PilgrimageTours@aol.com
www.catholic-pilgrimage-tours.com

1-800-278-1351

**All deposits by check or
money order only.**

**Please note the "cash price" for
the tour is \$5,695.**

**If paying your final balance by
credit card, the price of the tour
will be \$5,995.**

Registration forms and more details
can be found in the brochures
available in our churches, on the
announcements page of our website
at holycrossfop.org, or on our
Facebook page.

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 — Sunday, October 11th, following the 8:00 and 10:00 am Masses in the Grotto. Please come and enjoy donuts and fruit! Free-will donations accepted. ALL are welcome.

HOMEBOUND MEALS — St. Ann's of Holy Trinity is offering Homebound Meals on October 18th. If you are not on the list and would like to be added, please call (567) 644-8373.

OCTOBER - MONTH OF THE ROSARY

Please join us in prayer at Holy Trinity!

Mon., Oct. 12 @ 6:30 pm	Wed. Oct. 21 @ 7:20 pm
Tues., Oct. 13 @ 7:00 pm	Mon., Oct. 26 @ 6:00 pm
Wed. Oct. 14 @ 7:20 pm	Tues., Oct. 27 @ 7:00 pm
Mon., Oct. 19 @ 6:30 pm	Wed. Oct. 28 @ 7:20 pm
Tues., Oct. 20 @ 7:00 pm	

(Mondays – Led by St. Ann's Rosary Sodality)

(Tuesdays – Led by The Knights of Columbus)

(Wednesdays – Led by The Squires)



St. Paul

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AT ST. PAUL —

We are in need of more committed Eucharistic

Adorers on Thursdays at St. Paul's Parish from 8:00 - 9:00 am and also from 12:00 - 1:00 pm. If you would be able to fill a slot for an hour or even a half hour, or if you could share a slot with someone, we would appreciate hearing from you. Text or call Rita McEldowney at (937) 621-3126.

LECTORS — The 2027 lector workbooks are in each parish sacristy labeled with your name. Please pick up at your earliest convenience. Thank you!

ROSARY — The 6th grade CCD class will lead the rosary every Wednesday in October beginning at 7:00 pm in the Church. All are welcome!

PARISH HALL OPEN HOUSE — All are welcome to join us for an open house at the newly renovated parish hall on Sunday, October 11th after the 11:00 am Mass. Light snacks and drinks will be provided.

ST. PAUL'S ROSARY SODALITY — Our fall meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 13th at 7:00 pm at the hall. Every woman age 18 and older has a place in the St. Paul Ladies Sodality, and we'd love to have you come to the fall meeting! It's a great opportunity to get involved, connect with other women of the parish, and learn more about upcoming activities and events.

ACCEPTING DONATIONS — The Fall Raffle/CYO Brunch will be on Sunday, November 1st from 8:30 am - 12:30 pm. If you or your business would like to donate an item or prize to the raffle, please contact a sodality officer or call Kathy at (419) 852-6125.

FALL RAFFLE & CYO BRUNCH — The St. Paul's Altar Rosary Sodality Raffle will be held on Sunday, November 1st, following the 11:00 am Mass. Raffle tickets will be available in the back of each church for anyone who would like to participate. Tickets are \$5 each. Please place your completed ticket(s) and payment in an envelope and drop it in the collection basket. Everyone is also invited to attend the CYO Brunch that morning from 8:30 am - 12:30 pm. Thank you for supporting St. Paul's Altar Rosary Sodality and the CYO!



St. Peter

THANK YOU —

We would like to thank Fr. Barry,

Deacon Roger Kaiser, Ginny Fortkamp, Kathy Staugler,

the St. Peter Choir, the Funeral Luncheon Committee and anyone else who helped in the funeral of our wife and mother. We are grateful for all the kind words and guidance during this difficult time. Thank you all for making the Mass so beautiful and for providing a wonderful meal after. We have been blessed by this community and the members of the Holy Cross Family. With sincere thanks,

- The Rose Ann Diller Family

LECTORS — The 2027 lector workbooks are in each parish sacristy labeled with your name. Please pick up at your earliest convenience. Thank you!

Support St. Ann's Sodality!

Order online or from any St. Ann's Sodality member

AVAILABLE TO ORDER

Texas Roadhouse rolls

Honey cinnamon butter

Beef jerky

Peanut brittle

PICKUP

Pickup:
November 19, 2026

Pickup location
Holy Trinity Parking Lot

ORDER DETAILS

Rolls limited to 250 dozen packages

Beef jerky and peanut brittle packages include a FREE appetizer voucher

Scan to order

Orders due October 26th



Mary Help of Christians

DATE CHANGE FOR FLOATING ROSARY — 1st - 6th

grade parents, siblings, grandparents, and all community members are welcome as we honor Our Heavenly Mother and Her Most Holy Rosary with a Floating Rosary on Sunday October 18, 2026 at 7:00 pm on the soccer fields (just north of Mary Help of Christians Church). Each child will attach an intention to send up to Our Blessed Mother for Her Intercession. Please join us as we get excited to pray the Rosary! If interested in volunteering to help make the Floating Rosary the day of, please reach out to Sarah Kahlig @ (419) 234-3152.



LECTORS — The 2027 lector workbooks are in each parish sacristy labeled with your name. Please pick up at your earliest convenience. Thank you!

SEWING GROUP — The sewing group will meet on October 12th at 9 am in the Mary Help of Christians Undercroft. If there is a funeral on Monday, October 12 at our church we will not meet until Nov. 9. 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.

MHC - Ladies Sodality Sewing Group Raffle

November 9, 2026



Tickets: \$1/each or 6 for \$5

1st Prize: Maroon Quilt - 56"x78"

2nd Prize: Noah's Ark Quilt - 34"x42"

3rd Prize: Fairy Tote Bag

4th Prize: OSU Tote Bag

5th Prize: Purple & White Afghan - 26"x44"

Tickets are available in the back of MHC, St. Joe, St. Peter, St. Paul Catholic Churches & MHC Office.
Or contact Eileen Tobe: 419-852-3534

Drop tickets and donations in the weekly collection before November 1, 2026 at any of the above churches or mail to:
Eileen Tobe, 234 New Weston Ft. Loramie Rd., Ft. Recovery, OH 45846

**Thank you for supporting the
MHC Ladies Sodality Sewing Group!**



St. Anthony

GATHERING FOR FELLOWSHIP — Join

us for 30 minutes of prayer in the church every 2nd Thursday of the month at 8 am

followed by coffee and conversation at the Pub. All are welcome to join at the church and pub or either of the two. Questions or opinions please call (419) 852-8741.

THANK YOU — The St. Anthony garage sale was again a great success; this is only possible because of the wonderful cooperation of the entire parish plus surrounding communities. This year, all proceeds are being evenly split between the St. Anthony Men's and Ladies' Sodality. Thank you Fr. Witt and the religion teachers for allowing us to "push" back religion for a week in order to have the garage sale. To everyone who helped in any way: donating items, purchasing items, setting up, pricing, tearing down etc; it certainly was a huge undertaking; but working with everyone made it an enjoyable experience. And a special "THANK YOU" to Bart and Mary Doll for donating a large tent and putting it up and taking down: so much appreciated. Thank you to all involved!
- Garage Sale Committee



St. Mary

PATRIOTIC ROSARY — Rosary is

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

LADIES SODALITY MEETING —

Meeting, Mon., Oct. 12th at 7 pm in the school hall. All ladies of the parish are welcome to attend. Meeting minutes will be posted in the back of church within 2 weeks after the meeting.

THANK YOU — What a wonderful celebration of 175 years of faith, family, and community! We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who joined us in celebrating this very special milestone in the life of our parish. We were especially blessed by the presence of our Archbishop, who celebrated Mass with us and shared in the joy of this historic occasion. As we celebrate 175 years of our parish's history, we give thanks for the generations who came before us and for the faith that continues to bring us together today. May we carry that faith forward and continue building a strong and vibrant parish community for generations to come.

- The 175th Celebration Planning Committee



St. Joseph

LOST & FOUND —

There are many items in the back of church in the lost & found on the shelf and in a box on the floor. If you

had lost any items at the St. Joe Festival, they are in the with the other lost & found items. Please take your items. Any items still remaining by November 1st will be donated or discarded.

LECTORS — The 2027 lector workbooks are in each parish sacristy labeled with your name. Please pick up at your earliest convenience. Thank you!

CLEANING — (OCTOBER) **Julie Kaiser, Harlie Metzger, Jill Hart, Stephanie Leistenschneider, Michele Dues, Patty Homan, Kenzie Kaiser

- 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!

FORMED
THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.



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

September 21 - 27, 2026

Mary Help of Christians

Offertory.....	\$4,955.00
Cemetery.....	\$ 200.00
Youth Group.....	\$ 65.00
Religious Ed.....	\$ 30.00
Allocated Loose.....	\$1,103.05

St. Joseph

Offertory.....	\$ 955.00
Allocated Loose.....	\$ 226.17

St. Paul

Offertory.....	\$2,181.00
Parish Improvement.....	\$ 540.00
Allocated Loose.....	\$ 476.45

St. Peter

Offertory.....	\$2,625.00
Maintenance.....	\$ 200.00
Allocated Loose.....	\$ 374.48

Holy Trinity

Offertory.....	\$4,568.00
Loose.....	\$3,764.00
Total.....	\$8,332.00
Perm. Improvement.....	\$5,308.00
Candles.....	\$ 90.00

St. Anthony

Offertory.....	\$ 629.00
Loose.....	\$ 657.00
Total.....	\$1,286.00
Perm. Improvement.....	\$ 750.00
Candles.....	\$ 66.00

St. Mary

Offertory.....	\$ 697.00
Loose.....	\$ 823.00
Total.....	\$1,520.00
Perm. Improvement.....	\$ 700.00

Thank you for your generosity!

Religious Education

Coldwater Religious Ed.

Contact: Stephanie Rutschilling
srutschilling.holycrossfop@gmail.com,
(419) 678-4802

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

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.

CONFIRMATION PRACTICE — Wed., October 14th at 8 pm at Holy Trinity. Confirmation candidates and their sponsor need to attend this practice.

CONFIRMATION MASS — October 18, 2026 at 2:30 pm at Holy Trinity.

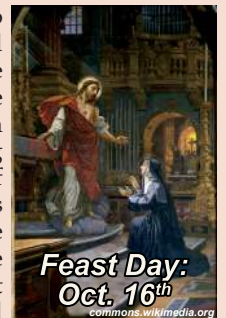
Fort Recovery Religious Ed.

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

FIRST PRE-K CLASS — Classes are the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month.

Saint of the Week - Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque

Margaret Mary Alacoque was chosen by Christ to arouse the Church to a realization of the love of God symbolized by the heart of Jesus. Her early years were marked by sickness and a painful home situation. "The heaviest of my crosses was that I could do nothing to lighten the cross my mother was suffering." After considering marriage for some time, Margaret Mary entered the Order of the Visitation nuns at the age of 24. A Visitation nun was "not to be extraordinary except by being ordinary," but the young nun was not to enjoy this anonymity. A fellow novice termed Margaret Mary humble, simple, and frank, but above all, kind and patient under sharp criticism and correction. She could not meditate in the formal way expected, though she tried her best to give up her "prayer of simplicity." Slow, quiet, and clumsy, she was assigned to help an infirmarian who was a bundle of energy. On December 21, 1674, three years a nun, Margaret Mary Alacoque received the first of her revelations. She felt "invested" with the presence of God, though always afraid of deceiving herself in such matters. The request of Christ was that his love for humankind be made evident through her. During the next 13 months, Christ appeared to her at intervals. His human heart was to be the symbol of his divine-human love. By her own love Margaret Mary was to make up for the coldness and ingratitude of the world—by frequent and loving Holy Communion, especially on the first Friday of each month, and by an hour's vigil of prayer every Thursday night in memory of his agony and isolation in Gethsemane. He also asked that a feast of reparation be instituted. Like all saints, Margaret Mary had to pay for her gift of holiness. Some of her own sisters were hostile. Theologians who were called in declared her visions delusions and suggested that she eat more heartily. Later, parents of children she taught called her an impostor, an unorthodox innovator. A new confessor, the Jesuit Claude de la Colombière, recognized her genuineness and supported her. Against her great resistance, Christ called her to be a sacrificial victim for the shortcomings of her own sisters, and to make this known. After serving as novice mistress and assistant superior, Margaret Mary died at the age of 43, while being anointed. She said: "I need nothing but God, and to lose myself in the heart of Jesus."



Feast Day:
Oct. 16th
commons.wikimedia.org

- Information obtained from franciscanmedia.org

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.

CHRIST & COFFEE — (7th - 12th grade) Tuesdays from 7:15 - 8 am @ Rooster Joe.

FISHER OF FUN — (5th - 8th grade) Wednesday, October 14th, 7:30 - 8:30 pm. Please meet in the Youth Group Room in the Fr. Yauss building.

CHILDREN'S ADORATION — (K - 6th grade) October, 22nd @ Holy Trinity from 3:15 - 4:30 pm.

BLUE KNIGHTS BOYS' CLUB — First meeting is on October 13th at Holy Trinity from 6:30 - 8 pm. Please bring completed task sheet.

LITTLE FLOWERS GIRLS' CLUB — First meeting is on October 13th at St. Mary from 6:30 - 8 pm. Please bring your tote bag, binder, and water bottle.

STEBENVILLE INFO MEETING — If your 8th - 12th grader is interested in joining us for the annual Steubenville Conference in the summer of 2027, we will be hosting an informational meeting on Thursday, October 29th at 7:30 pm.

At the meeting, we will go over:

- Conference dates
- Cost
- How to register
- What to expect during the conference

This is just an informational meeting. Attending this meeting does not mean your child is committing to attend the conference. Come learn more, ask questions, and see if Steubenville is something your child might be interested in!

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.

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

MEN'S YOUTH GROUP — (7th - 12th grade) Wednesdays from 9 - 10 pm at MHC.

LITTLE FLOWERS — (1st - 4th grade girls) Meetings are every 2nd Thursday, 6:30 - 8:00 pm. (Please note: The December meeting will be on the third Thursday of the month on December 17th.)

OUR QUEST — (5th - 6th grade girls) Meetings are every 2nd Thursday, 6:30 - 8:00 pm at St. Peter in the south building. Next meeting is November 12th. (Please note: The December meeting will be on the third Thursday of the month on December 17th.)

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING — (7th - 8th grade girls) This is a group studying women of the Bible at St. Joe's Sanderell Hall on the 2nd Thursday of the month from October through April at 6:15 - 7:45 pm. RSVP to Katie Fortkamp at (419) 852-6925.

STEBENVILLE INFO MEETING — If your 8th - 12th grader is interested in joining us for the annual Steubenville Conference in the summer of 2027, we will be hosting an informational meeting on Thursday, October 29th at 7:30 pm.

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- How to register
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This is just an informational meeting. Attending this meeting does not mean your child is committing to attend the conference. Come learn more, ask questions, and see if Steubenville is something your child might be interested in!

The Little Ones

Jim Burrows



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

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

King
Guests
Feast
Invite
Ready
Streets
Bad
Good
Few
Chosen



SUNDAYKIDZ

Community Interests

ST. GERARD MASS OF HOPE AND HEALING — All married couples, family, and friends are invited to the annual St. Gerard Mass of Hope for the Blessing of Children. Fri., Oct. 16, 2026, at 7:00 pm at Holy Rosary Church, St. Marys. Hosted by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, this free event provides an opportunity for prayerful support for married couples experiencing infertility or pregnancy loss. It includes Holy Mass on the feast day of St. Gerard Majella, the patron saint of expectant mothers, followed by a reception with fellowship, delicious hors d'oeuvres and resources. For more information contact Dcn. David Ulmer at dulmer@catholicaoc.org.

14th ANNUAL K OF C RUN/WALK FOR VOCATIONS — This is scheduled for Saturday, November 14th on the historic grounds of St. Charles Center, Carthage, Ohio with registration from 8:30 - 9:45 am. The 5K begins at 10 am. The mission of the 5k, is to further our support for Vocations by increasing awareness and providing financial support to Seminarians and other Religious Vocations. All runners and walkers are encouraged to participate. Pumpkin pies will be awarded to age group winners for door prizes. There will be fresh donuts for all participants. Pre-registration: \$15. Race day registration: \$20. Participants 18 and under receive a \$5 discount. For more information and to register online go to: <https://runsignup.com/Race/OH/Celina/KofC5kRunWalkforVocations>. 

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. Register using the link: <https://forms.gle/fv8zu5K4GxjXjgMn6> or contact Gwen Staton at (419) 733-1453.

BREAKFAST — All are invited to Our Lady of Guadalupe Mission Breakfast on Oct. 25 from 9 - 11:30 am in the OLG church basement. It is a free will offering with all profits going to our Mission projects in Guatemala.

2026 T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST — MCRTL is again offering their T-Shirt Design Contest. The winning design will receive a cash prize of \$300 and be used for the 2027 'Pro-Life T-Shirt Day'! All participants will receive a \$20 gift card to McDonalds. The rules are as follows: designs must have a maximum of two colors and utilize one side of a t-shirt. Submit design entries to: prolifegeneration.mercercounty@outlook.com by October 23rd, 2026. 7th - 12th grade students who live in or worship in Mercer County are eligible. Please include the contestant's name in the subject portion of the e-mail. In the message portion of the entry please list the contestant's address, age, and school. Scores will be based equally on inspiration and creativity.

GIVING THANKS — A free community Thanksgiving Day meal, will be held at Coldwater American Legion on Thursday, November 26th serving from 11 am - 1:30 pm. Dine-in or carry-outs are available. There is no charge, but donations are accepted to defray the cost of the meal. Can goods, dry goods and monetary donations will also be accepted for the Holy Trinity Food Pantry. Delivery for home bound will also be available. Call Marilyn Kahlig (419) 852-0428. Anyone willing to make desserts for Giving Thanks or anyone willing to volunteer at Giving Thanks please call Marilyn Kahlig (419) 852-0428.

COLDWATER K OF C — Meetings are held the third Thursday of every month in the Grotto (church basement) at 7 pm.

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.

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.

COLDWATER K OF C SWEET CORN PROJECT — The K of C wants to thank the parish and community for supporting the Sweet Corn Project this year. We had a wet start to the season which hurt the yields on several of the pickings thus the early sell-outs that occurred. Overall, we had a good year and the proceeds are being donated to the following organizations: Mercer County Right to Life, Center for Neurological Development, Maria Stein Shrine, Choosing Life Pregnancy Center, and Rustic Hope. The K of C plans to have a sweet corn fundraising project again in 2027.

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

ST. CARLO ACUTIS EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES EXHIBITION AT THE MARIA STEIN SHRINE — October 5th - 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). For more information please contact Caleb Gaier by calling (419) 925-4532 ext 206 or at cgaier@mariasteinshrine.org.

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

A STRONGER MARRIAGE BEGINS WITH ONE WEEKEND — The Encounter Weekend helps couples deepen their love, strengthen communication, and renew their commitment to one another. Upcoming weekend: November 6 - 8 | Spiritual Center, Maria Stein, OH. Apply today at <https://esharing.org/applyWeekend.php>. For questions or more details contact: Andy and Melanie Reinersman at (859) 653-8464, or register at application@esharing.org or visit esharing.org.

VOCATION NIGHT AT MOUNT ST. MARY'S SEMINARY & SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY — On Wed., Oct. 14, 2026, single men aged 18 - 35 are invited to come to a Vocation Night at Mount St. Mary's Seminary & School of Theology. Doors open at 4:45 pm and the evening ends at 8:30 pm. The evening includes Mass, dinner, talks, a tour and a social with the seminarians. Registration is required. To register, email Fr. Michael Willig at vocations@catholicaoc.org.

ARMOR OF GOD ROSARY PROCESSION — Meet in front of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Celina, Ohio on Saturday, October 17th at 2:00 pm. Bring a rosary, water bottle, good walking shoes and a friend. We will be walking downtown. Questions: contact Krista at (419) 852-0794.

Contact Information

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

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 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

Physical Location of Churches w/ in our Family of Parishes (Please see front cover for mailing addresses.)

Holy Trinity: (Est. 1867) 116 E. Main St., Coldwater OH 45828
St. Anthony: (Est. 1852) 471 St. Anthony Rd., Ft. Recovery, OH 45846
St. Mary: (Est. 1851) 3821 Philothea Rd., Coldwater OH 45828
MHC: (Est. 1881) 403 Sharpsburg Rd., Ft. Recovery, OH 45846
St. Joseph: (Est. 1839) 1689 St. Joe Rd., Ft. Recovery, OH 45846
St. Paul: (Est. 1868) 517 Meiring Rd., Ft. Recovery, OH 45846
St. Peter: (Est. 1860) 1477 Philothea Rd., Ft. Recovery, OH 45846

Pastoral Staff

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

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