

# OUR LADY OF THE HILLS

# The Catholic Community of Adams and Highland Counties

### St. Mary Church

212 S. High St. · Hillsboro, OH 45133
937-403-2510 · edbourdase@yahoo.com
www.saintmaryhillsboro.org
Masses Sat. 5:30 p.m. Sun. 8:00 & 10:00 a.m.
Tues. 9:15 a.m. Thurs. 7:00 p.m.

#### HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

612 E. Mulberry St. · West Union, OH 45693
937-544-2757 · secretary@holytrinity-ac.org
www.holytrinity-ac.org
Masses Sat. 5:00 p.m. Sun. 11:00 a.m.
Mon. 7:00 p.m. Wed. 9:00 a.m. Fri. 12:00 p.m.

Fr. Mike Paraniuk, Pastor 937-403-2510 · edbourdase@yahoo.com

### St. Benignus Church

204 S. Second St. · Greenfield, OH 45123 937-981-2785 · stbenignus@gmail.com www.stbenignus.com Masses Sat. 3:30 p.m. Sun. 12:00 p.m. Tues. 11:00 a.m. Fri. 12:00 p.m.

### St. Mary Queen of Heaven Church

205 Wendell Ave. · Peebles, OH 45660
937-544-2757 · secretary@holytrinity-ac.org
www.holytrinity-ac.org
Masses Sun. 8:30 a.m.
Tues. 9:00 a.m. Thurs. 9:00 a.m.

Fr. Mark Bredestege, Vicar 937-637-8035 · frbredestege@holytrinity-ac.org



St. Mary Church • Hillsboro St. Benignus Church • Greenfield



#### THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

# CONFESSION (RECONCILIATION): CONFESSION IS AVAILABLE BEFORE THE MASSES OR BY APPOINTMENT.

#### ROSARY EVERY SUNDAY AT 7:40 A.M. AT ST. MARY CHURCH

Sunday, January 14, 2024

**8:00 a.m. St. Mary** – Ed Cadwallader Anniversary of Passing January 7th (Jonda & Charles Davidson)

# CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY 9:45 A.M. EVERY SUNDAY BEFORE 10:00 A.M. MASS AT ST. MARY CHURCH

10:00 a.m. St. Mary - Charles Elking (Elking Family)

Noon St. Benignus - Kathy Dye (The DeBruin Family)

Fr. Mark Bredestege, Fr. Mike Paraniuk

Tuesday, January 16, 2024

9:15 a.m. St. Mary – Healing for Laura Sprauer (Cynthia Sprauer)

#### ROSARY EVERY TUESDAY AT 11:00 A.M. AT ST. BENIGNUS CHURCH

11:30 a.m. St. Benignus – Christine Bucayan (Bob Dye & MaryAnn McNichols)

Fr. Mark Bredestege

#### ROSARY EVERY THURSDAY AT 6:30 P.M. AT ST. MARY CHURCH

Thursday, January 18, 2024

7:00 p.m. St. Mary - Manuel Minoza (Dr. Mesina)

Fr. Mike Paraniuk

Friday, January 19, 2024

Noon St. Benignus - Rosemary Kropfelder (Pat & Elaine Hays)

Fr. Mark Bredestege

Saturday, January 20, 2024

3:30 p.m. St. Benignus – Rosemary Kropfelder (Jim & Margaret Block)

5:30 p.m. St. Mary - Carol Galpin, Harold Baker, Elwood &

Ellen Walker (Joyce & Gary Baker)

Fr. Mark Bredestege

Sunday, January 21, 2024

8:00 a.m. St. Mary - Velma & Jerome Winner

(Joan & Chief Jim Winner)

10:00 a.m. St. Mary - Donald Markland (Joseph Markland)

Noon St. Benignus – Deceased Members of Stuckey Spangler

Families (Larry & Susan Stuckey)

Fr. Mark Bredestege

#### **PLEASE PRAY FOR**

Remember in your prayers those parishioners or their family or friends who are sick, in the hospital, nursing home, homebound or in need of prayers...

#### ST. BENIGNUS & ST. MARY PRAYER LIST

Jeff Hadley, Theresa Shackelford, Cathy Thompson, Teresa Staten, Edna Maxwell, Jean Smith, Howard Smith, Lide Parker, Laura Sprauer, Karen Griffith, Kathy Birchfield, Bill Combs, Joe Trimpe, Sandy Singer, Ed Davis

\*\* To Add/Remove from Parish Prayer List, please inform the office at St. Mary, 937-840-9932 or leave a note in the collection basket at St. Mary or St. Benignus.\*\*

#### **BULLETIN DEADLINE**

\*\*Please submit by Monday 10:00 a.m. in writing or e-mail justleahatstmary@gmail.com or submit in my mailbox located at the front of the school or call the office at 937-840-9932.\*\*

#### ST. MARY COLLECTION JANUARY 7, 2024

Weekly Need\$	6,500.00
Weekly Collection\$	7,164.00
Variance\$	+664.00
FISCAL YEAR NEED\$	182,000.00
FISCAL YEAR COLLECTED\$	173,708.00
VARIANCE\$	-8,292.00

#### ST. BENIGNUS COLLECTION JANUARY 7, 2024

511 5211101105 CO222C110115/1110/1111 // 2021		
Weekly Need\$		
Weekly Collection\$	1,823.00	
Variance\$	-77.00	
FISCAL YEAR NEED\$	53,200.00	
FISCAL YEAR COLLECTED\$	70,135.00	
VARIANCE\$	+16,935.00	

#### Thank You for your Generosity!



\$83,104.05 Debt on Fr. Luehrmann Hall.

#### ST. MARY PROGRAM CONTACTS

St. Vincent de Paul: George Sakash; Contact: 937-205-0919 Knights of Columbus: Grand Knight: Jim Hehl; 937-661-4835

RCIA: Joyce Combs; Contact: 937-403-6708

Parish School of Religion (Grades Pre-K through 12th Grade)

Michelle Vanzant Salyer;

Contact: 937-840-9932 or stmarycre119@gmail.com Choir Director: Lynn Turner; Contact: 937-763-8522

Pro-Life Representative: Mary Tamborski; Contact: 937-205-4458

St. Mary Church Office: Contact: 937-840-9932

#### ST. BENIGNUS PROGRAM CONTACTS

St. Vincent de Paul: Gene DeBruin; Contact: 937-981-2785 Knights of Columbus: Grand Knight: Bruce Bennett, Sr.;

Contact: 740-471-5022

RCIA: Contact: 937-981-2785, stbenignus@gmail.com

Parish School of Religion: Chyane Collins; Contact: 740-572-2101

or chyanecollins@gmail.com

Bruce Bennett Jr.; Contact:740-572-2085

or bennettb@greatoaks.com

Ladies Aux: President: Paula Miller

Contact:937-876-9883

St. Benignus Cemetery: Contact: 937-981-2785

stbenignus@gmail.com

Pro-Life Representative: Mary Tamborski; Contact: 937-205-4458



Do you consider yourself a naturally caring, compassionate, and giving person? If so, come and share your gifts with people in need by joining the St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Mary Catholic Church. In the coming weeks, more information will be shared about the spirituality and works of the Society of SVdP at the Parish Masses. If you are interested, please call George Sakash, SVdP President at 937-205-0919.

#### **MEET AND GREET**

January 20,2024 after 5:30 p.m. Mass & January 21, 2024 after the 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. Masses in the St. Mary Narthex. Stop by for refreshments and meet the Board of the St. Vincent de Paul at St. Mary Parish. There will be information available to inform you what SVdP can do for our community. Everyone is welcome.

#### **COMING SOON**

Our Lady of the Hills Family will be participating in a parish-wide survey! (DMI) Disciple Maker Index Survey is an anonymous survey of parishioners that provides insights into the level of missionary discipleship in the parish in addition to the effectiveness of the Mass experience, preaching and other aspects of the parish. The survey will take 10-15 minutes and can be done online or paper form, if you have no access to the internet.

More information will be coming soon!

#### 2024 ST. BENIGNUS SIGN UP

St Benignus Funeral Luncheon Committee - Please sign up on the sheet located at the back of the church; you would only be called when the church is providing a funeral meal for a family.

Servers both Adult and Children, Sacristans, Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers Requested - Please sign up on the sheet located at the back of the church or call the Church Office at 937-981-2785. Training will be provided.

#### St. Mary Church BINGO Income - Total since May 5: \$11,206.70 Bingo Team 1 (February 2, 2024)

Anne Lerch, Taryn Hastings, Jane Horne, Barb Rayburn, Michelle Salyer, Josh Pohlman, Tom Moran



# Our Lady of the Hills Family!

**Evangelization Team Gathering** When: January 14, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.

Where: Holy Trinity Church

(612 E. Mulberry Street West Union, Ohio 45693) Point Person: Fr. Mark Bredestege, Vicar at 937-637-8035 or

frbredestege@holytrinty-ac.org

**Love in Action Team Gathering** 

When: January 27, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. Where: St. Mary Queen of Heaven

(205 Wendell Avenue Peebles, Ohio 45660)

Point Person: Michelle Vanzant-Salyer at 937-840-9932 or

stmarycre119@gmail.com

Birthday Blessings!
January 14 – Teresa Burden, Allison Gillespie, Jeff Rossolott January 15 - Brantley Engle, Kathryn Hapner, Joseph Natticchioni, Cody Yates

January 16 - Faith Howard

January 18 – John Nehrbass, Jon Salyer January 19 - Jeffrey Beery, David Cordrey

January 20 - Danielle Combs

January 21 – Abigail Gillespie, Kim Pack

January 22 – Barbara Ludwick

January 23 - Bonnie Rusch

January 24 - John Butsch, Ellie Howland, Adam King, David Spicer,

Carole Terrell, Cathy Thompson

January 25 – Steven Ventura

January 26 - Delores Kossler, Kaitlyn Strickland January 27 - David Frump, Janet Hauser

January 28 - Linda Friessen

#### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

Sunday, January 14, 2024

10:30 a.m. PSR (Religious Ed. Bldg.) - St. Benignus

Wednesday, January 17, 2024

1:00-4:00 p.m. GACC Pantry - St. Benignus

Thursday, January 18, 2024

6:00-7:30 p.m. St. Vincent De Paul Pantry (Religious Ed. Bldg.) -

St. Benignus

Sunday, January 21, 2024

10:30 a.m. PSR (Religious Ed. Bldg.) - St. Benignus

Sunday, February 4, 2024

11:00 a.m.- 12:30 p.m. Youth Group (Bible Bowl) Nacho Party -

St. Mary

Sunday, February 11, 2024

After 10:00 a.m. Mass Youth Group St. Mary Sweet Treat - St. Mary

#### **SAVE THE DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 2024**

"Being Authentically Catholic in a Difficult Culture - Maybe You Were Born for Such a Time as This" is the title of a retreat that will be held at St. Stephen Parish, 3804 Eastern Avenue, Cincinnati, 45226. Fr. David Endres will start the day with Holy Mass at 8:30 a.m. Then he will give a brief history of the Catholic Church and very difficult times through which he valiantly survived. Short presentations by gifted speakers will be followed by small group discussions that will give great hope and new insights that will help you navigate the future. The retreat will end at 3:00 p.m. Prayer teams will be available at the end of the retreat. Please bring a bag lunch to enjoy fellowship at the lunch break. Baby sitting will be available, for those who register early, in a room adjacent to the retreat.



More details and a registration link can be found at: www.presentationministries.com - Just scroll down to find the list of retreats or call 513-373-2397. Mark your calendars now! Invite a friend to register with you! Cost is a freewill offering, so everyone can afford to attend.

#### **BEACONS OF LIGHT INFORMATION SESSIONS:** JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 2024

Want to learn more about Beacons of Light and how this process will enable your parish to continue to fulfill the mission of the Church in the 21st century? Parish leaders - e.g. council and commission members, staff members, ministry leaders, et al. – are particularly invited to participate in a Beacons of Light Information Session to hear from archdiocesan leadership and ask questions. Sessions will be offered in each of the six deaneries with a few online options as well. (Should winter weather cause trouble, in-person sessions may be converted to online with 24 hours notice.)

Go to www.pathway.catholicaoc.org/beacons-of-light-info-sessions

ST. MARY CHURCH ST. BENIGNUS CHURCH

## WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY JANUARY 18TH-25TH

"You shall love the Lord your God... and your neighbor as yourself."

- Luke 10:27

The theme for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in 2024 was selected by the Pontifical Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity, the World Council of Churches, and the Christian Churches in Burkina Faso, coordinated by the community of *Chemin Neuf*, a French Catholic and ecumenical community of vowed and lay people and its local community in Burkina Faso.

The theme, taken from the first chapter of the Gospel of Luke, reflects the connection between love of God and love of neighbor with a particular concern for challenging the boundaries of who is considered "neighbor".

We pray, O gracious Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, that we all may be one as you are one. In your community of complete unity, we have our beginning and our end. To you we pray, asking for the gift of visible unity among all who believe in your Christ. As we commemorate this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, we are reminded by your Word that all human beings are our neighbors and that we are to love them like ourselves and in the same way we love you. Help us to overcome the barriers and divisions we have nurtured against your will.

Grant to us, O Lord, a new Spirit of love and solidarity, that we may proclaim your good news to all of creation. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirt are one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MONTHLY REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2023 FROM THE ST. MARY PARISH IN HILLSBORO.

#### RECEIPTS

Donations\$	674.00
Bingo Concessions\$	247.00
Total\$	921.00

Thank you for your generous financial contributions. Your contributions will enable us to help more families and individuals in crisis.

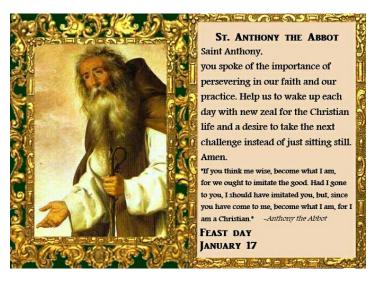
#### **EXPENDITURES**

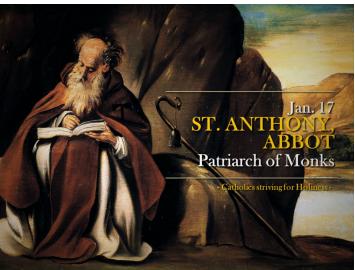
Assistance to neighbors:.....\$ 1,300.00 This includes help with paying utility bills, gasoline, temporary housing, furniture, and groceries.

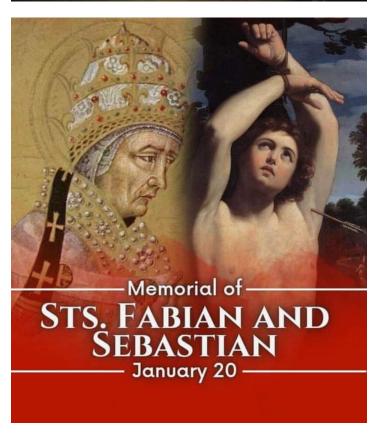
Please contact George Sakash (SVdP President) at 419-310-0867 for the following inquiries:

- To join the SVdP Board.
- Donate to SVdP.
- A parishioner in need of SVdP assistance.

The local SVDP phone number for a neighbor in need is: 937-205-0919.







#### **SERMON ON 1 CORINTHIANS 6:19-20**

I remember the first time I ate a tamale. A tamale is a Mexican dish of seasoned meat wrapped in cornmeal dough and steamed or baked in corn husks. The filing inside tastes wonderful. But you have to peel away the corn husk to get to it. I didn't know that. So here I am munching on my first tamale chewing mightily on the corn husk. I almost choked on the darn thing. Now I know why my Mexican friends were laughing. I defended myself saying, "I'm Polish. I ate the tamale like I would eat a cabbage roll." Once I got the hang of it, I couldn't stop eating them.

When I was attending Catholic catechism classes in my youth, the sisters taught us our bodies, "the flesh", must be discarded like a tamale corn husk. The flesh corrupts our souls with sin. Did not Jesus say in John 6:63, "It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh is of no avail." Our body, which is the flesh, is nothing unless it is redeemed by Jesus on the Cross. God says through St. Paul,

"Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been purchased at a price. Therefore, glorify God in your body." (1 Cor 6:19-20) This teaching is completely opposite from what I learned.

Then starting in 1979 to 1984, Pope St. John Paul II gave 129 talks entitled "The Theology of the Body." Pope John Paul II gave to the Church a revolutionary idea about the importance of our bodies. He wrote, "the body, and it alone, is capable of making visible what is invisible: the spiritual and the divine." He is saying that God uses our flesh, our bodies to make Himself visible to the world.

Hard to believe God would want to use my chubby old body to make His invisible presence visible to the world. Your body is so important to God that Jesus died to get it back from Satan by paying the price of His death. We must now ask the important question, "How do I glorify God in my body? How do I use my body to reveal God?"

First, you have to choose who is going to live there. Will you open your soul to the Holy Spirit or let the devil in. How can you flee from the devil if he is living in your heart? The virtue most needed to kick out the devil is Temperance. Temperance is where you choose not to do something that would be sinful. Temperance requires a lot of practice. Satan makes sin so pleasurable. That's why so many people do it. Sin either looks good, feels good or makes you fat. Temperance helps you overcome the sin of revenge by showing mercy, the sin of pride by practicing humility, the sin of anger by being patient, and the sin of overeating by moderation. (All I have to do is look in the mirror to see my need for moderation). Daily, you have to wage war against your sinful desires so there will be no place for the devil to sneak in.

Second, your body is a temple where God dwells. A temple is a place where God is worshipped. Each believer is a like a mobile church. Everything you think, say and do should worship God by showing Him respect and gratitude. Everyday ask yourself these two questions, "What am I going to do or say today that will show God I love Him? What am I going to do or say today to make God's invisible Love visible?" Then use your body to do it. How you use your hands can be a powerful way to make God's love visible. A hug to someone who is sad, cooking food for someone who is hungry, washing the hair of a sick person, performing surgery to save a life, drying the tears of a crying child, or even just petting your dog or cat. All of these actions glorify God.

Last Sunday, I celebrated Mass at Holy Trinity in West Union. I was not feeling good because the furnace in the Rectory went out. My bedroom was 45 degrees. I couldn't sleep well at all. Even my four cats could not keep me warm. I didn't complain because I thought about the suffering people of Ukraine who are freezing in much colder weather. My normal high energy got iced out. But God sent me encouragement from a little boy before I gave my sermon. Two-year-old Houston, son of Sarah and Nathan, was sitting in the back pew. This cute kid always smiles. He has a round, full face with a big smile that extends from ear to ear. All of a sudden, he stands up in the pew while everyone was sitting. He then did something that lifted my spirits. He started to vigorously wave his hand at me while flashing this big smile. I waved back. He waved some more. I gave little waves so as not to cause a distraction. He continued waving full force. His joy was contagious. I delivered a boffo sermon that day. This little boy made God's Love very visible when I needed to see it the most. Blessings...Fr. Mike

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