

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.

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.

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.

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. MIKE PARANIUK, PASTOR

937-403-2510 · edbourdase@yahoo.com

FR. MARK BREDESTEGE, VICAR

937-637-8035 · fibredestege@holytrinity-ac.org



ST. MARY CHURCH • HILLSBORO
ST. BENIGNUS CHURCH • GREENFIELD



**FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
FEBRUARY 4, 2024**

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

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

Sunday, February 4, 2024

8:00 a.m. St. Mary – Gail Hollen-Smith (Amanda Hall)

**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 – Joan Wright (Gary & Joyce Baker)

Noon St. Benignus – Anthony Beverly (Josh Beverly)

Fr. Mark Bredestege

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

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

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

11:30 a.m. St. Benignus – Ann Flynn Corwin (Bob Dye)

Fr. Mike Paraniuk

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

Thursday, February 8, 2024

7:00 p.m. St. Mary – Max Taylor (Dr. Mesina)

Fr. Mike Paraniuk

Friday, February 9, 2024

Noon St. Benignus – Rosemary Kropfelder (Frances Dettwiller)

Fr. Mike Paraniuk

Saturday, February 10, 2024

3:30 p.m. St. Benignus – Loren, Margaret & Michael Hays
(Patty Hays)

5:30 p.m. St. Mary – Elwood & Ellen Walker, Harold Baker
(Joyce & Gary Baker)

Fr. Mike Paraniuk

Sunday, February 11, 2024

8:00 a.m. St. Mary – Arnold, Nance, Tim & Pat Lafferty
(Dennis Lafferty)

10:00 a.m. St. Mary – Ray DeMilliano (Maryanne DeMilliano)

Noon St. Benignus – Robert (Bob) Miller
(John, Paula & Yvonne Miller)

Fr. Mike Paraniuk

ST. MARY COLLECTION JANUARY 28, 2024

Weekly Need	\$ 6,500.00
Weekly Collection.....	\$ 5,824.00
Variance	\$ -676.00
FISCAL YEAR NEED	\$ 201,500.00
FISCAL YEAR COLLECTED	\$ 187,041.00
VARIANCE.....	\$ -14,459.00

ST. BENIGNUS COLLECTION JANUARY 28, 2024

Weekly Need	\$ 1,900.00
Weekly Collection.....	\$ 889.00
Variance	\$ -1,011.00
FISCAL YEAR NEED	\$ 58,900.00
FISCAL YEAR COLLECTED	\$ 74,904.00
VARIANCE.....	\$ +16,004.00

Thank You for your Generosity!

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, Becky Hiser, Theresa Shackelford, Cathy Thompson, Teresa Staten, Edna Maxwell, Jean Smith, Howard Smith, Lide Parker, Laura Sprauer, Bill Combs, Joe Trimpe, Sandy Singer, Ed Davis, Anna Turner, Jonda Davidson, Patricia Wolfe, Deacon Len Parker

**** 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.****



\$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 or
 stbenignus@gmail.com
Pro-Life Representative: Mary Tamborski; Contact: 937-205-4458

**Parishioner Family in need of hospital bed at home.
If you can be of help, please contact 954-770-6190.**

2024 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL (CMA)

This is Commitment Weekend for the 2024 Catholic Ministries Appeal. More than anyone in the world, the Catholic Church teaches, feeds, and heals. In our local community, this happens through the Catholic Ministries Appeal. Join us in supporting these ministries! Pledge cards are available for your convenience *this weekend, yellow envelopes*. If you have already responded by mail or online, or if you brought your completed pledge card to place in the offertory today, thank you! **To make a gift online, visit CatholicAOC.org/CMA.**

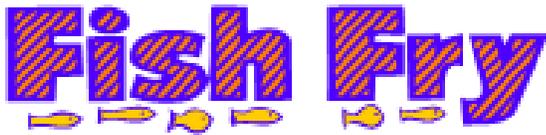
"Worry about nothing. Pray about everything"

CHURCH SURVEY – PLEASE COMPLETE BEFORE FEBRUARY 26th
 Our Lady of the Hills Family will be participating in a parish-wide survey!
 January 20th through February 26th

(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 reach out to the Church Office at 937-40-9932 or 937-205-3038 for any help/questions!! The online links are posted below for each church.

****There will be computer access scheduled dates at each church in the coming weekends as well as a paper copy, if requested.****

St. Mary (Hillsboro) – <https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/b272yb>
 Holy Trinity – <https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/b2c6bb>
 St. Benignus – <https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/bk75db>
 St. Mary Queen of Heaven – <https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/b273x5>



ST. MARY FISH FRY

Each week during the fish fry season at St. Mary, there will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex to volunteer to bring a dessert and/or to serve food at the Fish Fry. Each week we will need 15 desserts and 14 volunteers to serve. Please sign your name on the sheet if you can help out. Desserts and workers need to be at the hall by 4:00 p.m. on the afternoon of the Fish Fry. Any questions, please contact Lois Richendollar at 513-543-4098. Thank you.



Evangelization Team: Meets **April 11, 2024**, at 6:00 p.m.
 at **St. Mary – Hillsboro**

Love In Action Team: Meets **April 13, 2024**, at 10:00 a.m.
 at **St. Mary – Hillsboro**

Stewardship Team: Meets **April 18, 2024**, at 6:30 p.m.
 at **Mary Queen of Heaven – Peebles**

St. Mary Church BINGO Income – Total since May 5, 2023: \$11,206.70
Bingo Team 2 (April 5, 2024)
 Sally Frydryk, Tara Bloom, Joyce Combs, David & Mary Tamborski, Kevin & Teresa Stuebs

Birthday Blessings!

- February 4 – Jennifer Link
- February 5 – Nancy Witt
- February 6 – George Sakash, Judy Schmidt, Mary Strain
- February 7 – Josyln Rockey, Diane Michael, Cailin Wehrung, Haylee Wehrung
- February 8 – David Howell
- February 10 – Michael Kelner, Jeanine Powell
- February 11 – Tony Wood

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Sunday, February 4, 2024**
 10:30 a.m. PSR – Religious Ed. Bldg. – **St. Benignus**
 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Youth Group (Nacho Bar and Bible Bowl) – **St. Mary**
- Sunday, February 11, 2024**
 10:30 a.m. PSR – Rel. Ed. Bld. – **St. Benignus**
 1:00 p.m. Saint Vincent de Paul Meeting – Religious Ed. Bldg. – **St. Benignus**

2024 SOUPER BOWL

Canned Food Drive

Collection Begins: January 27th thru February 11th

Canned Items Requested: Soups, Fruit, Vegetables



Collection Boxes will be in the Narthex
 All Canned Goods will go to St. Benignus Food Pantry to help those most in need!



ENGAGE AND SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH

Online Giving will help sustain our church.

We currently live in a society that is always on the move. We are constantly traveling and looking for new places to adventure. Whether we are on a work trip, out of town for our kid's sporting event, or forget our checkbook, Online Giving gives you the opportunity to give anytime and anywhere with just the click of a button.

Online Giving allows you to make donations, payments, and pledges via your smart device or computer to your church.

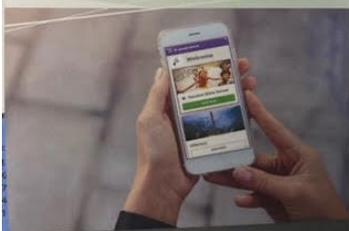
How Does Online Giving Benefit Me and My Church?

Donor Benefits

- **Convenient** anytime, anywhere access through the internet.
- **Secure and Confidential.** Adheres to banking security standards.
- **Flexible.** Start, stop and change your contributions at any time.
- **Simple.** No need to contact your bank or the church office.
- Contribute using direct withdrawal (ACH) or credit cards.

Church Benefits

- **Stabilize Contributions.** Regularly scheduled gifts occur automatically. Allows church to effectively manage monthly expenses.
- **Secure and Confidential.** No need to store member account information.
- **Efficient.** Participation saves time and expense in bookkeeping.
- **Current.** A tool for people who prefer to use electronic services.



Set up your gift today or consider an additional gift via our website on your smart device.

January 27th through February 11th Canned Food Drive for St. Mary Youth Group & Confirmation Class – Collection Boxes in the Narthex!!!

ST. MARY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FISH FRY

Friday's from 4:30-7:30 p.m.

February 16 & 23

March 1, 8, 15, 22

Credit & Debit Cards Accepted

Drive-Thru Available or Dine In

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 in a room adjacent to the retreat for those who register early.



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.

Our Lady of the Hills

Ash Wednesday 2024 Mass Schedule

9:00am Holy Trinity Church

12:00pm St Mary Church

5:30pm St Mary Queen of Heaven Church

6:00pm St Benignus Church

7:00pm Holy Trinity Church

7:30pm St Mary Church

Saint Benignus Knights of Columbus 14092 FISH FRY



Friday February 16 And every Friday until March 22

4:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Adults: \$12.00

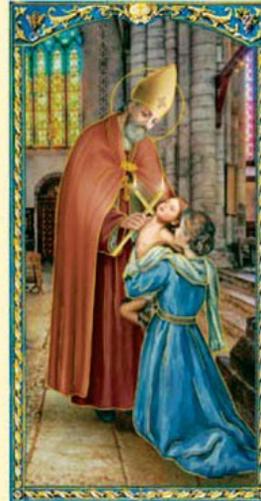
Child 12 and under: \$8.00

Fish Sandwich: \$7.00

ALL YOU CAN EAT OR CARRY OUT

Fish, Cole slaw, Mac & Cheese, Green Beans, Deserts, Drinks

Corner of 2nd St. and Mirabeau St.



Prayer to Saint Blaise

O glorious Saint Blaise, who by thy martyrdom didst leave to the Church a precious witness to the faith, obtain for us the grace to preserve within ourselves this divine gift, and to defend, without human respect, both by word and example, the truth of that same faith, which is so wickedly attacked and slandered in these our times. Thou who didst miraculously restore a little child when it was at the point of death by reason of an affliction of the throat, grant us thy mighty protection in like misfortunes; and, above all, obtain for us the grace of Christian mortification together with a faithful observance of the precepts of the Church, which may keep us from offending Almighty God. Amen.



ST. BLAISE

BISHOP AND MARTYR

February 3rd



SERMON ON MARK 1:29-39

The very first healing that Jesus performed was a family affair. Jesus healed Peter's mother-in-law. Mothers-in-law have been the butt of jokes for centuries. Take this one for example: "My mother-in-law suffers from diabetes and hay fever... I always try to cheer her up with chocolate and flowers." Simon must have loved his mother-in-law very much. When his mother-in-law lay sick with fever, Simon immediately told Jesus about her with the hope of healing her. The way that Jesus healed her is very simple and undramatic. All Jesus did was grab her by the hand and raise her up from bed. A man "swiffing" his wood floors has more excitement than this. But if you look closer you will find some powerful things Jesus did in this healing.

First, the very first non-demonic healing Jesus did was with a woman. Women were considered second class in a male-dominated society when Jesus lived. They were regarded only slightly above children, Samaritans, shepherds, the divorced, prostitutes, tax collectors and lepers. All of these had very little to no standing in the Jewish society. (A Jewish woman who cooked a great matzo ball soup might be given more importance.) By this healing, Jesus is proclaiming everyone is important to God. God doesn't care about your money, or your looks, or whether you can lead a team to the Super Bowl. God believes ALL His children deserve the very best. Jesus said, "Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? ... Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows." (Mt 10:29-31) Don't be afraid to approach God even though you have failed Him many times. God wants your faith, not your successes.

Second, the way Jesus "grasped her hand" is revealing. Jesus didn't grasp her hand gently like when a male suitor gently holds a woman's hand to kiss it. Mark uses the word "egeiren" which describes a "forceful grip" like when a cat grabs your arm to keep from going into the bath water. (Been there. Done that). Jesus held her hand tightly as if to say, "Don't worry. I got you. I'm not letting go." Jesus does more than gently lift her up. He thrusts her out of bed using the strength of His hand holding hers. Jesus is saying to her, "Get up! You're not sick anymore." When I preached at my Black Catholic Communion Church, the worshipers would declare, "When God heals you, you KNOW you're healed!" Then they would all shout, "Amen." Be sure to hold onto God's hand when life tries to sink you. Don't let go.

Third, when mother-in-law was healed, what's the first thing she did? The Bible says, "she waited on them." She served the needs of those who were hungry. There are so many who hunger for not just food, but for love. I meet so many lonely, unloved people. The number one pain that people face when they retire is...loneliness. A man named Joe Lamy started a group to serve retirees who feel "cut off" from friends. They gather simply to talk. Lamy said, "When it comes to happiness, it's not about money but relationships."

Lamy retired from work at 75. But loneliness kept working. Empty house walls became his friends. His wife died recently. No children to visit. Friends died or moved away. Then he made a life-changing discovery at a Walgreens pharmacy in Seattle.

"When his turn finally came to approach the counter, the pharmacist placed a pill bottle into a bag, stapled it, and tossed it into a box about eight feet away.

'Good shot,' Lamy said to the pharmacist.

'Practice,' she replied, and each of them carried on with their day.

While the interaction might have been insignificant to the pharmacist, it carried meaning for Lamy and shifted the course of his day.

'I didn't have to say anything, but I did. And it made me happy. She and I had this little moment, this tiny little moment.'

Lamy discovered what other psychologists confirm. Even your smallest connections to another human being can fill you with joy. That's why he started a bi-weekly "talking group" of older people just like him. One hour can turn into a whole afternoon of connecting.

The group is so successful that it is going nationwide. Lamy concluded, "the typical American Dream, like being successful and accumulating wealth, are not important. Relationships are."

I have been attending a group like this for years. We have them right here in West Union and Peebles. It's called "CHURCH." Church is where I connect with fellow friends of Jesus. Then we celebrate the "big moment" when we connect with God in prayer. When we leave church, God sends us out to "wait on others" who need to connect with God, too. We should not just "go to church". We should "make church" by connecting others with Jesus.

What do you call a book club that's been stuck on the same book for years? CHURCH

(An old Baptist church joke that Catholics have never heard.)

Blessings..... Fr. Mike

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