

# THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ADAMS AND HIGHLAND COUNTIES

FR. MIKE PARANIUK, PASTOR 937-403-2510 • edbourdase@yahoo.com

# ST. MARY CHURCH

212 S. High St. • Hillsboro, OH 45133 937-840-9932

#### 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 *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. BENIGNUS CHURCH

204 S. Second St. • Greenfield, OH 45123 937-981-2785 stbenignus@gmail.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 *Masses:* Sun. 8:30 a.m. Tues. 9:00 a.m. Thurs. 9:00 a.m.

FAMILY WEBSITE: http://www.ourladyofthehillsoh.com

At Our Lady of the Hills Catholic Family, our vision is to be a vibrant community that radiates love and compassion, grounded in prayer, and guided by the Holy Spirit. We strive to be a beacon of hope and refuge for all who seek God's Grace, welcoming all with open hearts and unwavering faith in Jesus.









ST. MARY	SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT MARCH 16 2025		
PROGRAM CONTACTS	SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT – MARCH 16, 2025 CONFESSION (RECONCILIATION): CONFESSION IS AVAILABLE		
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL:	BEFORE THE MASSES OR BY APPOINTMENT.		
George Sakash; 937-205-0919	Sunday, March 16, 2025		
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:	8:00 a.m. Mary, Queen of Heaven – Mass		
Grand Knight, Jim Hehl	9:30 a.m. Holy Trinity – Mass		
937-661-4835	<b>11:30 a.m.</b> St. Mary – Theresa Staten (Salyer Family)		
OCIA:	Joseph Markland (Markland & Caplinger Family)		
Joyce Combs & Cindy Sprauer	1:00 p.m. St. Benignus – Judy Hagerty (Ann Marie Gunderman)		
937-403-6708	Monday, March 17, 2025		
	6:00 p.m. Confession/Adoration – Holy Trinity Church		
PARISH FAITH FORMATION, DIRECTOR OF EVANGELIZATION,	7:00 p.m. Holy Trinity Church – Mass		
	TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2025		
SAFE ENVIRONMENT COORDINATOR: Michelle Vanzant Salyer	9:00 a.m. Mary, Queen of Heaven – Communion Service Only		
937-840-9932	9:15 a.m. St. Mary – Tom Moran (Margaret Hudson) &		
stmarycre119@gmail.com	Ray deMilliano (Maryanne deMilliano)		
,	11:30 a.m. St. Benignus – Theresa Staten (Jackie Soards)		
CHOIR/MUSIC DIRECTOR	WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2025		
Lynn Turner; 937-763-8522	6:00 p.m. St. Benignus – Exposition		
PRO-LIFE REPRESENTATIVE:	3rd Thursday Mass Every Month is dedicated to Pro-Life		
Mary Tamborski; 937-205-4458	Holy Hour Every Thursday at St. Mary Church		
ST. MARY CHURCH OFFICE &	THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2025		
ST. MARY PRESCHOOL:	6:00 p.m. Exposition at St. Mary		
Leah Salyer, Administrative Assistant &	6:30 p.m. Recitation of the Rosary at St. Mary		
Beacons of Light	6:50 p.m. Benediction at St. Mary		
Office: 937-840-9932	7:00 p.m. St. Mary – Amy Simpson (Joseph Markland & Jesse Caplinger)		
Cell: 937-205-3038	FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 2025		
justleahatstmary@gmail.com	Noon St. Benignus – Jodie Flynn (Bob Dye)		
	Noon Holy Trinity Church – Communion Service Only		
ST. BENIGNUS	SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2025		
PROGRAM CONTACTS	3:00 p.m. St. Benignus – Judy Hagerty (Ron Hagerty)		
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL:	4:30 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet		
Gene DeBruin; 937-981-2785	5:00 p.m. St. Mary – Dr. Monica Salido (Joan Salido) 7:00 p.m. Holy Trinity – Mass		
OCIA:			
937-981-2785	SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 2025 8:00 a.m. Mary, Queen of Heaven – Mass		
stbenignus@gmail.com	8:00 a.m. Mary, Queen of Heaven – Mass 9:30 a.m. Holy Trinity – Mass		
	11:30 a.m. St. Mary – Barb Wilkinson (Mary Tamborski)		
ST. BENIGNUS MEN'S AUXILIARY:	Jim Dean (Loretta Dean)		
937-981-2785	<b>1:00 p.m.</b> St. Benignus – Ed Block (Jim & Margaret Block)		
PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION:			
Chyane Collins; 740-572-2101			

## MARY, QUEEN OF HEAVEN - FREE LIVESTREAM

https://www.twitch.tv/marygueenofheaven ST. MARY – FREE LIVESTREAM https://www.twitch.tv/saintmaryhillsboro No Sign-ups Needed, Free Live streaming of Mass WLRU Radio 106.9FM plays when Mass is not in session!

St. Mary Online Giving Link & QR Code osvhub.com/stmaryhillsboro/giving/funds You can give Online to (SOPC, SVdP, Building Fund, Church) to the link above.



Our Lady of the Hills Facebook Page Please Like and Share! www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61565871562111 Fr. Mike Sermon YouTube Direct Link www.youtube.com/@ourladyofthehills



**CHOIR/MUSIC DIRECTOR:** Kristy Bockrath; 937-361-6590 krbockr@icloud.com

chyanecollins@gmail.com

Bruce Bennett, Jr.; 740-572-2085

bennettb@greatoaks.com

LADIES AUX:

President: Paula Miller 937-876-9883

**ST. BENIGNUS CEMETERY:** 937-981-2785

stbenignus@gmail.com **PRO-LIFE REPRESENTATIVE:** 

Mary Tamborski; 937-205-4458

**ST. BENIGNUS CHURCH OFFICE:** 937-981-2785 stbenignus@gmail.com

MARCH	15/16,	2025
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## ST. MARY COLLECTION - MARCH 9, 2025

Weekly Need	7,200.00
Weekly Collection	-
Ash Wednesday	
Variance	
FISCAL YEAR NEED	256,400.00
FISCAL YEAR COLLECTED	5 196,554.00
VARIANCE	-59,846.00
ST. BENIGNUS COLLECTION - MARCH 9, 2025	5
Weekly Need	2,900.00
Weekly Collection	3,611.00
Variance	<b>+711.00</b>
FISCAL YEAR NEED	5 100,400.00
FISCAL YEAR COLLECTED	84,529.00

#### Thank You for your Generosity!

"Faith and reason are like two wings on which the human spirit rises to the contemplation of truth; and God has placed in the human heart a desire to know the truth in a word, to know himself so that, by knowing and loving God, men and women may also come to the fullness of truth about themselves." – Pope St. John Paul II

"[Jesus'] body was for Him not a limitation, but an instrument, so that He was both in it and in all things, and outside all things, resting in the Father above. At one and the same time—this is the wonder—as man He was a human life, and as Word He was sustaining the life of the universe, and as Son He was in constant union with the Father."

- St. Athanasius of Alexandria

## ST. MARY CHURCH BINGO

Bingo Team 2 (May 2, 2025) – David T., Mary T., Tara B., Joyce C., Kevin/Teresa S., Mary B./JoAnn M. Looking for something fun to do on a Friday night?! Come play Bingo at St. Mary! Bring a friend/family or come and make new friends! Support St. Vincent de Paul (Food Concession) during Bingo! All are welcome! *Must* be over 18.



## THE BULLETIN CAN BE EMAILED!

If you would like to have the Bulletin emailed to you, please call 937-840-9932 or email justleahatstmary@gmail.com.

#### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

In the month of February, your contributions helped St. Benignus In the month of February, your contributions helped St. Benignus SVDP send 20 families home with \$40.00 worth of groceries and cleaning items. Essential utilities were kept on for two clients for \$129.00. Clients were missing egg donations yet in February, Neighbors Helping Neighbors

however March clients were very grateful the hens are producing more. If you would like to help with your time or ideas, contact Kristy Bockrath at 937-361-6590. The more hands we have the more services we can provide.

### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Do you feel the call to ministry to shut-ins? We have shut-ins who would love to receive Holy Communion on weekends. Training will be provided. If you are interested, please call 937-840-9932 for more information.

# CELEBRATE THE MARCH SAINTS WITH US

March 17 – St. Patrick March 19 – St. Joseph March 24 – St. Oscar Romero March 25 – The Annunciation



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

# ST. BENIGNUS & ST. MARY PRAYER LIST

Pope Francis, Archbishop Schnurr, Dave Shoults, Kristen Wise, Gail Grim, Hannah Burton, Robert Wheaton, Ally Wright, Bonnie Hammons, Joe Carson, Bob Dye, Joe Turley, Jeff Thoroman, David Tolle, Brittany Kinzer, Eric Arrington, Paula Miller, Claudia Frank, Jeff Hadley, Becky Hiser, Theresa Shackelford, Cathy Thompson, Edna Maxwell, Jean Smith, Howard Smith, Ron Speakman, Linda Strahler, Dick Lester, Linda Bradford, Joe Wright, Emily Konerman, Kirk Wuellner, Roseann Cordrey, Pam Ryan, Robert Wintrow, Evers Family, Richard Vilvens, Danielle Gehler, Mike Vermeersch, Lydia Breckel, Rosemarie Muenster, Dale Braun

\*\* To Add/Remove from Parish Prayer List, please inform the office (937-840-9932 St. Mary) or leave a note in the collection basket. (St. Benignus Church office, 937-981-2785) \*\*

#### BULLETIN DEADLINE

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

#### FR. LUEHRMANN HALL

\$44,505.66 Debt on Fr. Luehrmann Hall

"Who except God can give you peace? Has the world ever been able to satisfy the heart?" – St. Gerard

#### BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

- March 16 Cathy Breckel, Regina Melink, Jim Poole, Charlie Rusch
- March 17 Marc Duckwall
- March 18 Linda Bradford, Kit Lowe
- March 19 Jim Georges,
- Patti Herron-Karnes, Lil Piezer
- March 21 Dennis Lafferty, Ralph Schweitzer
- March 22 Sherryll Cordrey
- March 23 Rick Howell
- March 27 Matthew Thery
- March 29 Nicholas Cimis
- March 30 Saint C. Markel, Robert Roth
- March 31 Adam Rockey, Ellen Turner





## WHAT IS "ST. JOSEPH'S TABLE"?

Invite the Holy Family into your home with this joyful tradition! A "table" in honor of St. Joseph – whose Solemnity we celebrate in a week – is a delightful tradition that comes to us from Sicily. And guess what: you can re-create it in your own home!

According to legend, a terrible drought struck Sicily in medieval times. The people begged St. Joseph to intercede for them and, sure enough, rain fell and saved the people from starvation.

In thanksgiving, the people created a great table filled with delicious foods and treats and shared their abundance with the poor.

The tradition took off, and every year Sicilians – and eventually other regions and countries – would celebrate this feast day with a "St. Joseph's Table" to be shared with friends, family, and, in a particular way, the less fortunate. Traditionally, food was specially set aside for giving to the poor. No one is turned away from the Table!

You can find this tradition today at many parishes right here in the United States.

Here's how the traditional Table usually looks. Different places have their own regional specialities and you can add your own as well!

The table gives the impression of a little makeshift shrine or altar, with three tiers representing the Holy Trinity and steps leading to Heaven. A statue of St. Joseph stands on the topmost tier. Lilies and other flowers as well as candles and a basket of prayer intentions are often included.

Surrounding St. Joseph is a smorgasbord of beautiful foods, which are symbolic as well as delicious. Some of the most common ones include:

- Sardines and other fish. No meat is included, to commemorate the time of Lent.
- Sesame bread, which is formed into shapes such as St. Joseph's staff, a sheaf of wheat, the Cross, and the Crown of Thorns.
- Bean dishes, especially lentils and fava beans (the hardy bean that is said to have sustained the Sicilians during the famine).
- Bread crumbs are used in the cooking of the foods, to represent the sawdust of St. Joseph's workshop.
- Lots of sweets. A traditional Italian one is St. Joseph's Sfinge, a puff pastry filled with ricotta and topped with a cherry.
- Citrus fruits and wine.

Many places begin the celebration with the "tupa-tupa" or "knock-knock." Children dressed as the Holy Family move from one building or door to another, knocking and asking for shelter. They are refused until they get to the building containing the St. Joseph's Table. They are then invited in with joy and served first as the guests of honor.

As a carpenter, St. Joseph appreciates beautiful woodwork.





# PAYING IT FORWARD AS

A LEAD MOTHER IN NIGERIA In Nigeria, over 25 million people are experiencing extreme food insecurity due to



climate change, poverty and conflict. Because of violence in their hometown, Amina and her family were forced to flee and start life over again in a new village. Learn how Amina's participation in a Catholic Relief Services program helped her prepare nutritious meals for her family and support other families in her community to overcome the challenges of hunger and malnutrition. Visit crsricebowl.org/week-2 to read this week's Story of Hope. You can visit crsricebowl.org for stories, meatless recipes, prayers and more to enrich your Lenten journey. Please pick up your Rice Bowl for your family, located in the church.

"Happiness can only be achieved by looking inward and learning to enjoy whatever life has, and this requires transforming greed into gratitude." – St. John Chrysostom



OUR LADY OF THE HILLS OCIA – RITE OF SENDING DINNER AT ST. MARY Lindsey Evers (Cindy Sprauer), Aiden Holt (Joyce Holt Ward), Sheri Holt (Norma Butsch), Jacob Staggs (Rich Staggs), Areena Hesler (Ray Hesler), Miley Hesler (Ryan Hesler)

# RITE OF SENDING





(Left to Right) Joyce Combs, Joyce Holt Ward, Aiden Holt, Sheri Holt, Norma Butsch, Cindy Sprauer, John Evers, Lindsey Evers, Emmy Lou Evers, Areena Hesler, Lee Hesler

## **CLERGY COMMUNICATIONS**

A date has been announced for the *installation of Most Reverend Robert G. Casey! He will be installed as Archbishop of Cincinnati on Thursday, April* 



3 at 2:00 p.m. at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Peter in Chains. Attendance will be by invitation only. Additional information about the livestream of the installation Mass is forthcoming.

**GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION** – Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection for Christians in the Holy Land. Your support helps the Church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools, offer religious education, and preserve the sacred shrines. For information about Christians in the Holy Land, visit https://myfranciscan.org/good-friday-2025/.

**2025 PARISH VITALITY REPORT** – Curious about progress toward parish vitality and the goals of Beacons of Light in our 57 Families of Parishes? Archbishop Schnurr has released the 2025 Parish Vitality Report to bring everyone in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati up to date. In addition to facts, figures, stories and witness, there's an opportunity for you to give feedback on your experience of parish life, which we will use as we plan for the future. Check it out at www.catholicaoc.org/pvr.

**CROSS THE BRIDGE FOR LIFE** – Join thousands of others Sunday, June 1 at 1:00 p.m. for the annual Cross the Bridge for Life across the Purple People Bridge to raise awareness for the sanctity of human life – born and unborn. Meet at Newport, KY's Riverfront Row Festival area for live music, food, face painting and balloons for children, brief presentations, and many booths sponsored by our local life-saving agencies! All are welcome to participate in this day of family fun and powerful witness. For more information, see CrossTheBridgeForLife.org.

MARCH is a month dedicated to SAINT JOSEPH Daily Morning Prayer to St. Joseph **Blessed Joseph, husband of Mary** Be with us this day. You defended the Virgin loving the Child Jesus as your son, you rescued Him from danger of death. Defend the Church, the household of God purchased by the blood of Christ. Guardian of the Holy Family, be with us in our trials, may your prayers obtain for us the grace to flee from error and wrestle with the powers of corruption, so that in life we may grow in holiness and in death rejoice in the **Crown of Victory. Amen** 

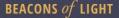
## THE PARISH VITALITY REPORT

The Parish Vitality Report highlights progress and challenges of Beacons of Light. Take a moment to review the report and help us build a vibrant future for our community! https://pathway. catholicaoc.org/parish-vitality-report/.



Are you curious about the progress of Beacons of Light and how our 57 Families of Parishes are growing?

The Center for Parish Vitality recently released the 2025 Parish Vitality Report, providing key updates for everyone in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. Read the report and share your experience in your Family of Parishes by responding to the Parish Vitality Survey.



Box) .....7.00

Juice Box) .....7.00

\*Kids Shrimp Meal (ages 6-12) (4 Shrimp, 1 side, &

(Hush Puppies, Cole Slaw, Small Baked Potato,

French Fries, or Macaroni and Cheese)

\*Drinks included

Accepting cash or credit cards

Proceeds goes toward

The Knights of Columbus & St. Vincent de Paul

Thank you for your support.



mothers and babies. Simply gift a box of diapers and/or purchase items listed and return to Narthex by April 13th. Items will be given to The Southern Ohio Pregnancy Center before Good Friday. Items in need:

- Baby wipes
- Diapers, size 3 and 4
- Pull-ups all sizes
- Sleepers, size 3 months to 18 months
- Spring clothing for girls, size 18 months and 24 months
- Lightweight Spring jackets, size 0-3 months up to 2T

"It is not the magnitude of our actions but the amount of love that is put into them that matters." – Mother Teresa Thank you for your donation.

Let us pray for peace this Lenten season and always. In JESUS' name.

# SERMON ON LUKE 4:1-13

ave you ever walked a prayer labyrinth or even know what it is? It is a one-way path in a circle that leads to a center spot where you open your heart to listen to God. It is a prayer where you empty your mind of all daily cares so God can talk with you.

As I began this prayer journey, I thought about the many people I knew disfigured by sickness, loneliness, sadness or grief. My walk through the labyrinth began with painful memories. I prayed for them, but realized I had to let go of those memories so I could listen to God speak.

I reached the center spot where I expected a divine revelation from the Lord. It never came. I stood there for ten minutes. Nothing happened. Disappointment came over me. I walked out of the labyrinth feeling like it failed.

God finally revealed Himself once I walked out of the labyrinth. He said to me, "Michael, I was speaking to you the whole time through your memories." Then three words came to me I believe were from God. He said, "Transfigure the disfigured."

God helped me to understand what that meant through a little boy who had a disease that disfigured his face. He had a disease similar to the elephant man, John Merrick, called neurofibromatosis. His face had thick lumpy skin like an elephant. If one looked beyond his disfigured face, they could see divine goodness in his soul. I spent a lot of time with this little boy who got a bum deal in life. I played a game with him called, "flip a dollar." I would flip a dollar in the air. He would call "heads or tails." I always made sure the dollar landed to whatever he called. He got a lot of money from me, but it was worth it.

The day came I would never see him again because he was moving away to another hospital. Some of his last words to me were, "Thanks for making me happy. Life isn't all bad."

Jesus transfigured His body to reveal the divinity with in Him. Jesus knew that very soon Peter, James and John would behold His disfigured bloody, broken, and dead body on the Cross. Jesus was saying to them, "Keep faith. God is in control. I am with you when life seems hopeless. I can change (transfigure) the worst situation into goodness." The worst sin ever committed against God was "deocide." Humans killed God. Yet from the worst sin ever committed came the greatest blessing known to man. The disfigured Jesus on the Cross transfigured human life into something beautiful for the Father. Friendship is restored, Life lives on, and Love reigns supreme. Romans 10:15 says, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news of good things!"

Jesus brings to you the good news that God's Divinity dwells within the most difficult, the most painful, the most sorrowful moments in your life. The Divine Jesus can transfigure the disfigured. You have to let Him be in control. Give it over to Him. See the Divine working in everything.

I close with the lyrics from a very old song penned by Charles Wesley:

"Christ whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true, the only light, Sun of righteousness, arise, triumph o'er the shades of night; Dayspring from on high, be near; daystar in my heart appear."

