



OUR LADY OF THE HILLS

Fr. Scott Morgan, *Pastor*
Fr. Adam Lewis, *Parochial Vicar*

St. Mary Church

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

Holy Trinity Church

612 E. Mulberry St. • West Union, OH 45693
937-544-2757
secretary@holytrinity-ac.org

St. Benignus Church

204 S. Second St. • Greenfield, OH 45123
937-981-2785
stbenignus@gmail.com

St. Mary Queen of Heaven Church

205 Wendell Ave. • Peebles, OH 45660
937-544-2757
secretary@holytrinity-ac.org

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.

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VICAR, FR. ADAM LEWIS

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ST. BENIGNUS CHURCH OFFICE:

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TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**SEPTEMBER 7, 2025****SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2025****8:00 a.m. Queen of Heaven – Mass****9:00 a.m. St. Benignus – Rosemary Kropfelder +****10:00 a.m. Holy Trinity – Mass****11:30 a.m. St. Mary – Ronald & Sandy Burnett +****MONDAY SEPTEMBER 8, 2025****8:30 a.m. Holy Trinity – Mass****TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2025****8:30 a.m. St. Benignus – Rev. Frank Klamet +****WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2025****8:30 a.m. Queen of Heaven – Mass****9:00 a.m. Queen of Heaven – Confessions****Noon St. Benignus – Bob Corwin****12:30 p.m. St. Benignus – Confession and Adoration**3rd Thursday Mass Every Month is Dedicated to Pro-Life**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2025****8:30 a.m. Holy Trinity – Mass****9:00 a.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament – Holy Trinity****9:00 a.m. Holy Trinity – Confessions****Noon St. Mary – Mary Trumble +****6:00 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament – St. Mary****6:00 p.m. St. Mary – Confessions****FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2025****8:30 a.m. Mass at Mary Queen of Heaven****Noon Mass at St. Mary – Mariam Markland****SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2025****2:00 p.m. St. Mary – Confessions****3:00 p.m. St. Mary – Nancy Sprauer +****4:00 p.m. Holy Trinity – Confessions****5:00 p.m. Holy Trinity – Mass****SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2025****8:00 a.m. Queen of Heaven – Mass****9:00 a.m. St. Benignus – Calvin Peterson****10:00 a.m. Holy Trinity – Mass****11:30 a.m. St. Mary – John Bohl**Daily Mass Readings can be found at: usccb.org.**MARY, QUEEN OF HEAVEN – FREE LIVESTREAM**<https://www.twitch.tv/maryqueenofheaven>**ST. MARY – FREE LIVESTREAM**<https://www.twitch.tv/saintmaryhillsboro>

No Sign-ups Needed, Free Livestreaming of Mass

Audio Stream for WLRU Radio is: wlr.radio12345.com**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

From the Pastor's Desk



I remember going through RCIA, now known as OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults), and being in awe of the richness of our faith and the encouragement I received from my parish community. It has been 16 years since I received my sacraments, and yet I remember it as if it were just yesterday! During these months of preparation, we, as a family of parishes, have the opportunity to accompany these men and women on their journey of faith and discovery. It is an exciting season for our parishes – a time for us to share the beauty and richness of our faith and to welcome our new members into our community. Our OCIA classes begin this Wednesday, and will conclude with the Easter Vigil, when our candidates and catechumens will be fully initiated into the Catholic Church. I invite you to join me in praying for them, and for our OCIA team, during this time. We will witness their growth in faith, welcome them into our Sunday worship, and accompany them through the various rites of the catechumenate. While this is certainly a season of great joy and anticipation, it can also be a season of trial and a test of faith – making our prayers and support all the more necessary. I am committing to praying every day for our candidates, catechumens, and OCIA team, and I ask you to join me in this promise. Let us pray: *All-powerful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by water and the Holy Spirit you free your sons and daughters from sin and give them new life. Send your Holy Spirit upon our candidates, catechumens, and catechists to be their helper and guide. Give them the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of right judgment and courage, the spirit of knowledge and reverence. Fill them with the spirit of wonder and awe in your presence, that filled with the gifts of your Spirit, they may join us in time at the table of the Eucharist. We ask this through Christ, Our Lord.*

Fr. Scott Morgan

Notes From Fr. Adam Lewis



Brothers & Sisters, it often happens that I do not include all the material from my notes in Sunday’s homily for the sake of brevity. I want to include some of last Sunday’s notes here for your edification (22nd Sunday in OT):

Four characteristics of pride and humility:

Defensiveness vs. Contrition, Criticism vs. Gratitude, Stonewalling vs. Bonding, Contempt vs. Charity. (From the podcast: OptimalWork, *Professional Humility I-VI* and *Why Marriages Succeed or Fail: What You Can Learn from the Breakthrough Research to Make Your Marriage Last*, by John M. Gottman) St. Benedict outlines the twelve steps of humility in Chapter 7 of his Rule, emphasizing that humility is essential for spiritual growth and the attainment of divine grace.

Here’s a summary of each step:

- 1. Fear of God: Always keep the fear of God before your eyes, remembering His commandments and the consequences of sin.
- 2. Self-Will: Do not be wedded to your own will; instead, seek to fulfill God’s will in all things.
- 3. Obedience: Submit to the authority of your superiors and obey their commands as if they were God’s.
- 4. Silence: Speak only when necessary and avoid excessive talk, which can lead to pride and distraction.
- 5. Humility in Action: Perform your duties with a humble heart, recognizing that all actions are seen by God.
- 6. Avoiding Pride: Recognize that pride leads to downfall; strive to remain humble in all circumstances.
- 7. Simplicity: Embrace simplicity in your life, avoiding the complexities that can lead to pride and distraction.
- 8. Self-Examination: Regularly examine your thoughts and actions, ensuring they align with humility and virtue.
- 9. Community Life: Live in harmony with others, valuing their contributions and maintaining a spirit of cooperation.
- 10. Acceptance of Correction: Accept correction and guidance from others with a humble heart, recognizing it as a path to growth.
- 11. Perseverance in Humility: Remain steadfast in your commitment to humility, even in the face of challenges and temptations.
- 12. Physical Manifestation of Humility: Show humility in your physical demeanor, such as bowing your head and keeping your eyes downcast, reflecting your inner state.

ST. MARY COLLECTION – AUGUST 31, 2025

Weekly Collection.....	\$ 4,074.00
Southern Ohio Pregnancy Center Special Collection.....	\$ 831.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 190.00
St. Mary Fr. Luehrmann Hall July Debt Balance	\$ 31,071.92

ST. BENIGNUS COLLECTION – AUGUST 31, 2025

Weekly Collection..... Will be reported next weekend

Thank You for your Generosity!

BULLETIN DEADLINE OR BULLETIN EMAIL REQUEST

Bulletin can be Emailed – If you would like to have the Bulletin emailed to you, please contact the email below or church office. Please submit by **Monday 10:00 a.m.** Bulletin submissions 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.

"O Holy Spirit, descend plentifully into my heart. Enlighten the dark corners of this neglected dwelling and scatter there Thy cheerful beams."
— St. Augustine

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

St. Benignus & St. Mary Parish Council meeting that is scheduled for **Wednesday, September 10 at 6:00pm** will be in the Religious Education Building at St. Benignus-Greenfield.

DATES TO REMEMBER AT ST. BENIGNUS

Men's group of St. Benignus will be meeting the **2nd Wednesday of the month**, and all men are invited to join us at 6:00 p.m.

St. Benignus Ladies Auxiliary Meetings will be held on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Any questions, please reach out to Paula at 937-876-9883.

St. Benignus Men's Club Church Picnic

Sunday, September 14, 2025 Mitchell Park Shelter

2:00 p.m. 753 S. 7th Street, Greenfield, Ohio

Meat and Drinks will be provided. Please bring covered dish.

St. Benignus PSR will begin on Sunday, September 14th. Parents/Guardians and children are invited to join all parishioners in the church basement immediately following 9:00 a.m. Mass for refreshments. We will have a group prayer together before walking to the Religious Ed. Building for classes to start by 10:30 a.m. Parents/guardians should plan to pick up their child/children at 11:30 a.m. each Sunday (at the Rel.Ed. Bldg). A sign-up sheet is available at the back of the church; please sign up or text/call Chyane, so that we can plan accordingly.

DATES TO REMEMBER AT ST. MARY

Parish School of Religion (PSR) will start September 14th, 2025, 10:00 a.m. to 11:20 a.m. Meet in the parish hall for prayer, Grades Preschool through 8th. Packets are in the Narthex on a table.

St. Mary Women's Group Meeting Thursday, September 25th at 5:30 p.m. at St. Mary Hall.

Save the Date: Together Sunday for St. Mary, Hillsboro, September 28th – Details Coming Soon!!!

"In everything, whether it is a thing sensed or a thing known, God Himself is hidden within."
— St. Bonaventure

ST. MARY CHURCH BINGO

Bingo Team 1 (October 3, 2025) – Michelle S., Jane H., Ann L., Barb R., Josh P., Tim L., 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 Concessions) during Bingo! All are welcome! **Must be over 18.**



ARCHDIOCESE OF
CINCINNATI

CLERGY COMMUNICATIONS SEPTEMBER 2025

MEN CONSIDERING THE DIACONATE – Men who are inquiring about the vocation of Deacon and their wives are invited to attend a Deacon Information Evening hosted by the Office of the Diaconate. • North: Tuesday, October 28, St. Michael Parish, Fort Loramie • Dayton: Wednesday, October 15, St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Kettering • Cincinnati East: Thursday, October 16, St. Mary Parish, Hyde Park • Cincinnati West: Thursday, October 23, St. Ignatius Parish, Montfort Heights. All meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m. and end by 8:30 p.m. Please RSVP to Deacon Mark Machuga, Director, at deaconoffice@catholicaoc.org or 513.263.6641 to reserve your spot.

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

Richard Oakes, Cathy & Ed Morris, Dave Shoults, Gail Grim, Hannah Burton, Robert Wheaton, Ally Wright, Bonnie Hammons, Joe Carson, Bob Dye, Joe Turley, Jeff Thoroman, David Tolle, Brittany Kinzer, Paula Miller, Claudia Frank, Jeff Hadley, Becky Hiser, Theresa Shackelford, Cathy Thompson, Edna Maxwell, Jean Smith, Dick Lester, Linda Bradford, Emily Konerman, Roseann Cordrey, Barry Reinholz, Rosemarie Muenster, Dale Braun, Mary Williams, Greg Burns, Rob Wintrow, Nicole Rhoads, Alan Lane, Elaine Feder, Kristin Cadwallader Murray, Aubrey Griego, Jamey Phillips

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)

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

September 6 – Mary Bradley, Dan Cook, Wendy Culbreath

September 7 – Emily Davis, Tara Karnes-Hathaway, Rudy Thomsen, Jr.

September 8 – Ethan Howard

September 9 – Jack Cornele

September 10 – Ana Lopez, John Mayer, Chris Salyer

September 11 – Jerry Leibold, George Worley

September 13 – Charles Volk II

September 14 – Kathy Hutchens, Jinny Wendel

September 15 – Mary Frump, Sarah Smith

September 16 – Emma Worley, Brooklyn Sexton

September 18 – Paige Howland

September 19 – Patricia Garrett, Tim Leibreich

September 20 – Heather Boden, Kristina Harless

September 22 – Sue Kennedy

September 23 – John Michael

September 25 – Monty Rayburn

September 26 – Karen Hawk, Walter Pogorzelski, Mike Shorten

September 28 – Liam Georges, Josh Michael, Linda Perry, Kathie Wietmarschen



<https://catholicaoc.org/beacons-of-light>

Pope Leo XIV today urged altar servers to deepen their friendship with Jesus Christ, to “engrave” on their hearts that He is the only Savior of the world, and to remember that His sacrifice on the Cross, renewed on the altar during every Holy Mass, is “the most marvelous reality of our Catholic faith.” “The celebration of the Mass saves the world today,” he said, exhorting them to keep always in mind the grandeur and holiness of what is being celebrated, and to reflect it by their silence and demeanor. Addressing the Altar Servers, in the Clementine Hall of the Apostolic Palace, the Holy Father also invited them to be open to the Lord’s call.



In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Peace be with you!

Dear Altar Servers, who have come, good morning!

I welcome you to Rome, and I am very happy to meet you, together with all those accompanying you: laypeople, priests, and bishops, whom I greet warmly.

You know that this year is a special one: it is a *Holy Year*—which takes place only every 25 years—during which the Lord Jesus offers us an exceptional opportunity. By coming to Rome and passing through the Holy Door, He helps us to “convert,” that is, to turn towards Him, to grow in faith and in His love, so as to become better disciples, that our life may be good and beautiful in His sight, in view of eternal life. It is therefore a great gift from Heaven that you are here this year! I invite you to embrace it by living with intensity the activities that are offered to you, but above all by taking the time to speak with Jesus in the secret of your heart and to love Him more and more. His one desire is to be part of your life, to illumine it from within, to become your truest and most faithful friend. Life becomes beautiful and joyful with Jesus. But He awaits your response. He knocks at the door and waits to enter: *“Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me”* (Rev 3:20). To be “with” Jesus, the very Son of God, to enter into His friendship!—what an unimaginable destiny! What happiness! What consolation! What hope for the future!

Hope, in fact, is the theme of this Holy Year. Perhaps you sense how greatly we need to hope. You certainly hear that the world is in distress, faced with ever more serious and troubling challenges. It may be that you yourselves, or those close to you, are touched by suffering, illness or disability, failure, the loss of a loved one; and, in the face of such trials, your heart is burdened with sadness and anguish. Who will come to our aid? Who will have mercy on us? Who will come to save us—not only from our sorrows, our limitations, and our faults, but even from death itself?

The answer is perfectly clear and has resounded throughout history for two thousand years: Jesus alone comes to save us, and no one else—for He alone has the power, since He is God almighty Himself, and because He loves us. Saint Peter declared it with force: *“There is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved”* (Acts 4:12). Never forget this word, dear friends; engrave it upon your heart; and place Jesus at the center of your life. I hope you will return from Rome closer to Him, more determined than ever to love and follow Him, and thus better equipped with hope for the journey that lies before you. This hope will always be present in moments of difficulty, doubt, discouragement, and storm, like a solid anchor cast towards Heaven (cf. Heb 6:19), which will enable you to continue along the way.

There is one sure proof that Jesus loves us and saves us: He gave His life for us by offering it on the Cross. Indeed, there is no greater love than to lay down one’s life for those one loves (cf. Jn 15:13). And

here lies the most marvelous reality of our Catholic faith, something no one could ever have imagined or even hoped for: God, the Creator of heaven and earth, chose to suffer and to die for us, His creatures. God loved us unto death! To bring this about, He came down from Heaven, He humbled Himself by becoming man, and He offered Himself on the Cross as a sacrifice—the most important event in the history of the world. What have we to fear from such a God who has loved us to this extent? What more could we possibly hope for? What are we waiting for to love Him in return as He deserves? Gloriously risen, Jesus lives at the Father's side; He now cares for us and communicates to us His imperishable life.

And the Church, from generation to generation, carefully keeps alive the memory of the Lord's death and resurrection, of which she is the witness, as her most precious treasure. She preserves it and hands it on by celebrating the Eucharist, which you have the joy and the honor of serving. The **Eucharist is the Treasure of the Church, the Treasure of Treasures**. From the very first day of her existence, and then throughout the centuries, the Church has celebrated the Mass, Sunday after Sunday, to remember what her Lord has done for her. In the hands of the priest, and at his words, "*This is my Body, this is my Blood*," Jesus still gives His life upon the Altar; He still pours out His Blood for us today. **Dear Altar Servers, the celebration of the Mass saves us today! It saves the world today! It is the most important event in the life of the Christian and in the life of the Church, for it is the encounter where God gives Himself to us in love, again and again. The Christian does not go to Mass out of duty, but because he needs it—absolutely!—the need for the life of God, which is given without reserve!**

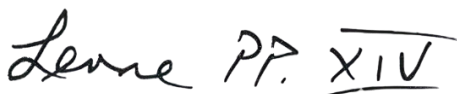
Dear friends, I thank you for your commitment: it is a very great and generous service that you render to your parish, and I encourage you to persevere faithfully. When you draw near to the Altar, **always keep in mind the greatness and the holiness of what is being celebrated. The Mass is a moment of festivity and of joy. Indeed, how could the heart not rejoice in the presence of Jesus? And yet, the Mass is at the same time a solemn, serious moment, imbued with gravitas. May your demeanor, your silence, the dignity of your service, the beauty of the liturgy, the order and majesty of the gestures, draw the faithful into the sacred grandeur of the Mystery.**

I also express the wish that you remain attentive to the call that Jesus might address to you, **inviting you to follow Him more closely in the priesthood**. I appeal to your consciences as youngsters, enthusiastic and generous, and I will tell you something that you must hear, even if it may trouble you somewhat: the shortage of priests in France, and in the world, is a great misfortune! A misfortune for the Church. May you gradually, Sunday after Sunday, come to discover the beauty, the joy, and the necessity of such a vocation. How wonderful is the life of a priest, who, at the heart of each of his days, encounters Jesus in so extraordinary a way and gives Him to the world!

Dear Altar Servers, I thank you once more for your visit. Your number, and the faith that animates you, are a great consolation, a sign of hope. Persevere courageously, and bear witness around you to the pride and joy that come from serving at Mass.

From my heart I bestow upon you, and upon your companions, your priests, and your families, the Apostolic Blessing.

Thank you!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Leanne P.P. XIV". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Aug 25, 2025

“COME AND SEE” LIVE-IN WEEKEND AT THE JOSEPHINUM COLLEGE SEMINARY, NOVEMBER 6-9 – Young men (high school and college students) interested in learning more about college seminary and the priesthood in general are invited to a live-in weekend at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus. There is no cost for the registrant. Those interested should contact Fr. Michael Willig for registration information: vocations@catholicaoc.org.

BETHANY BRUNCH FOR YOUNG WOMEN: OCTOBER 5 – The Holy Cross Family of Parishes will host the first in a new series of Bethany Brunches for young women discerning their vocation. The event will take place at Mary, Help of Christians Parish in Fort Recovery on **Sunday, October 5**, beginning with 9:00 a.m. Mass, followed by brunch and fellowship with the Mercedarian Sisters. More details and RSVP info are available at: <https://tinyurl.com/BethanySeries25>.

PILGRIMAGES OF HOPE FOR CREATION – Join Catholic communities across the U.S. in participating in a local pilgrimage! This is a sacred opportunity to pray for the grace to encounter Christ in Creation and renew our relationships with God, the Earth, and one another. During the Season of Creation (September 1-October 4), the Archdiocese of Cincinnati is hosting four easily-accessible pilgrimages. With two pilgrimages in Dayton and two in Cincinnati, you can visit multiple nature and garden sites, learn of their history, and how God works through all Creation. For more information, contact Jillian Foster at jfoster@catholicaoc.org (937-281-4124) or visit the webpage for more details: <https://resources.catholicaoc.org/offices/catholic-social-action/catholic-social-teaching/laudato-si-main/pilgrimages-of-hope-for-creation>.

FOOD FOR ALL – Nutritional, affordable food is not readily available to every person in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. Hunger exists in our communities. Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio travels to where hunger is located in Adams, Brown, Clermont, Clinton, Hamilton and Highland Counties. Interested in reducing hunger and food insecurity, volunteering at a mobile pantry or learning more about hunger in our area? Call April Hoak, Food for All coordinator at 513-672-3720 or email ahoak@ccswoh.org.

SOUTHEASTERN CATHOLIC RURAL LIFE RETREAT DAY – Catholic Rural Life, St. Mary Deanery, and the Catholic Social Action Office are offering a daylong retreat “Mass-Misa-Mission: The Eucharist as the Source of all Mission” on **Saturday, September 13 from 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.** Register and learn more here: <https://resources.catholicaoc.org/event/crl-2025-retreat-day> or contact Sr. Christine Pratt at cpratt6@tds.com.

JUBILEE YEAR 2025 – The Archdiocese of Cincinnati has launched a webpage with information for the Jubilee Year 2025. Visit <https://catholicaoc.org/jubilee-2025> to learn about the Church’s celebration of an Ordinary Jubilee every 25 years, obtaining the Jubilee Indulgence, pilgrimage sites within the archdiocese, and a special pilgrimage to Italy in October 2025.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES SOUTHWESTERN OHIO’S ESOL ENGLISH CLASSES – The next ESOL English classes start October 20, 2025. Interested students should register by completing the form at the following link: <https://forms.office.com/r/mCP1VHQTrZ>. After processing the registration, Educational Services will contact students to confirm their class schedule. We offer morning classes on Mondays and Wednesdays and evening classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays, both in-person and virtual modalities. Please refer questions to EducationServices@ccswoh.org or call 513-672-3750.

LAS PRÓXIMAS CLASES DE INGLÉS OFRECIDAS POR CARIDADES CATÓLICAS – del Suroeste de Ohio empiezan el 20 de octubre – Estudiantes interesados deben inscribirse rellenoando el formulario en el siguiente enlace: <https://forms.office.com/r/mCP1VHQTrZ>. Después de recibir la respuesta, Servicios Educativos contactarán a los estudiantes para confirmar sus horarios de clases. Ofrecemos clases en la mañana los lunes y miércoles y en la tarde los martes y jueves en persona y en línea (computadora). Por favor escriba a EducationServices@ccswoh.org o llame al 513-672-3750 con preguntas.

HELP

Help is needed from all four churches in the family. Please consider volunteering to help plan the 2026 Family Picnic.

Our Lady Of The Hills Annual Family Picnic Committee

Want to join the committee to help plan and organize the annual family picnic!?

Call (937)840-9932 or

E-Mail: justleahatstmary@gmail.com



CONGRATULATIONS HIGHLAND COUNTY FAIR 2025 EXHIBITORS

Please submit Name/Project Photos to justleahatstmary@gmail.com or text to 937-205-3038 to have them featured in the bulletin.

CONGRATULATIONS, PRINCESSES

Pictured left to right are:

*Chloe Fullenkamp, Eloise Roehm
and Clare Fullenkamp*

**Highland County Shepherds Club names
Lamb and Fleece Queen, Princesses**

Princess Clare Fullenkamp is 10 years old and in the sixth grade at Hillsboro. **Princess Chloe Fullenkamp** is 9 years old and a fourth grader at Hillsboro. Both Clare and Chloe are the daughters of Brandon and Sarah Fullenkamp and are members of the Premier Showmen 4-H Club.



CONGRATULATIONS TO CHLOE FULLenkAMP ON CLASS WINNER & 4TH OVERALL MEAT RABBIT



CATHOLIC RURAL LIFE
Promoting Catholic life in rural America



The delicate Forget-Me-Not is a gentle reminder of Our Lady's constant love and care for her children. Its name calls us to remember Mary's intercession, trusting that she never forgets those who turn to her in prayer. Just as the tiny blossoms blanket the garden with beauty, devotion to Mary fills our lives with quiet grace.

How to grow them:

- Choose a spot with partial shade and moist, rich soil
- Scatter seeds in spring or late summer (just press them gently into the soil!)
- Water regularly and let them reseed naturally, they'll return year after year!



ONE WEEK LEFT. WHO WILL YOU INVITE?

Next Sunday – **September 14** – is **Together Sunday**, our parish-wide effort to welcome and show radical hospitality to everyone who attends Mass here.

Have you extended your personal invitation yet?

We've got the music, the Word of God, the Body and Blood of Christ, and each other. Let's welcome some guests with genuine, personal outreach. One invitation might change everything.

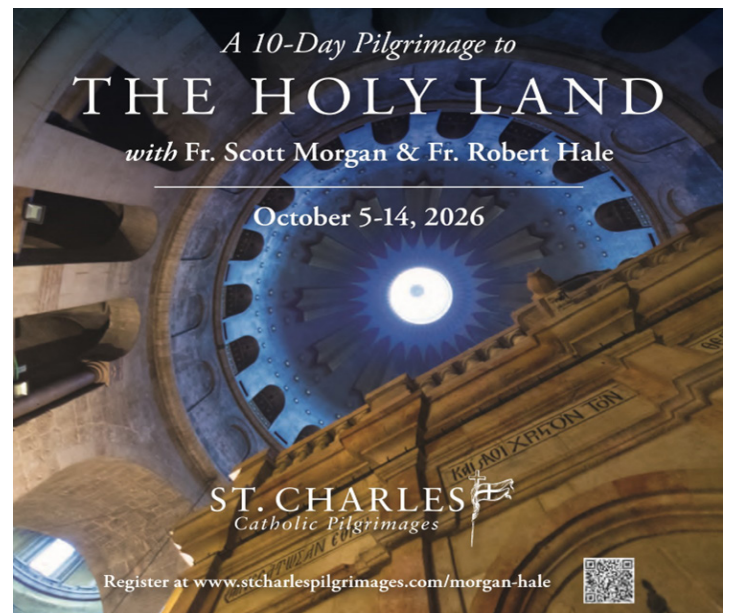
Let's do this – **together**.

Together Sunday is more than a moment – it's the beginning of a movement toward becoming a more welcoming and hospitable community. Every Sunday, we gather to worship Christ in the Eucharist – and every Sunday is an opportunity to open our doors and our hearts more widely.

SOUTHERN OHIO PREGNANCY CENTER

Shirley Amshoff Memorial Annual Walk for Life is Saturday, September 13, 2025. All are encouraged and welcome to show their support by taking part in the Walk for Life. It is a simple 2-mile walk, rain or shine; registration starts at **8:30 a.m. at the Southern Ohio Pregnancy Center**. Please come and support our precious moms, their children and their preborn babies of Highland County. The **walk begins at 9:00 a.m.** Online registration is available at sopcwecare.com. You may also pick up a registration in the back of church and in the Narthex. Hope to see you there!!! Please pray for the Pro-Life movement to succeed!!!

🙏 Blessings, Mary, Pro-Life Representative



THE CATHOLIC COMPANY PRESENTS: GET FED – BITE-SIZED FAITH

Who were the Catholic heroes of revolutionary France?

Meet the rebels of the Vendée—a group who gave everything for God and country. “I often fought, sometimes I was beaten, but I have never been killed off.”

— General François-Athanase de Charette, leader of the Vendée revolt

Amidst the bloody horror of the French Revolution, stories of heroism miraculously arose. One of the most famous is the tragic but glorious tale of the rebels of the Vendée – a region in western France that was devoutly Catholic and resisted the vicious attacks on the Church enacted by the revolutionary government. The Vendéans weren’t initially against all the Revolution’s aims, but things got ugly when the Civil Constitution of the Clergy was passed in the summer of 1790. This decree abolished over a third of dioceses and a quarter of the parishes in France. Clergy were exiled, interned, and killed for refusing to swear a required oath of loyalty to the state. The decimation of the Catholic religion was clearly underway, and the Vendéans would not stand for it. The tipping point came when the government introduced conscription. The Vendéans had no interest in fighting for the Republic, and they instead organized themselves into the Catholic and Royal Army. It was composed mostly of peasants, in the name of whom the Revolution – ironically – claimed to act. The Sacred Heart patch worn by the Vendéan rebels. It reads, “God, the King.”

Members of the Catholic nobility joined later, bringing much-needed military expertise with them. Some of the revolt’s most famous leaders were these young aristocrats – men mostly in their 20s and 30s – who would lay down their lives on the battlefield or by execution. The Catholic and Royal Army had some success initially, taking several towns and the city of Angers by midsummer 1793. But in autumn, the Revolutionary Army had reinforced and reorganized themselves to deadly effect. They crushed the rebels at the Battle of Le Mans, and engaged in dreadful slaughter of prisoners afterwards. The terror had only just begun. In November, a law came into effect that delineated a plan to exterminate the Vendéans—including women, children, and the elderly. The groundwork for the plan had been laid even earlier, in the spring of that year. At the end of November, the inhuman General Louis Marie Turreau took command of the Republican army and formed “infernal columns” that marched through the Vendée, burning villages and slaughtering the inhabitants. Though the rebels were effectively defeated at the Battle of Savenay on December 21, 1793, the terror against civilians lasted from August 1793 through July 1794, a campaign that has been accurately called genocide. With the recall of Turreau and the rise of a more moderate faction in the government, an amnesty was reached at the end of 1794. Early the next year, the rebels were granted freedom of worship and exemption from conscription. When Napoleon – a great admirer of the Vendéans – came to power, he further granted compensation and assistance to the devastated region.

The Republic tried to bury the history of this rebellion, and for a long time the official narrative excluded much mention of it. Even up until the 20th century, the story was not fully known. A French historian, Reynald Secher – whose ancestors died in the Vendée – decided to change that. Beginning in the 1970s and continuing for decades, his monumentally important research shed new light on this period of history.

The Vendéan rebels—like St. John Paul II—remind us to “be not afraid” in our own day.





PILGRIMAGES OF HOPE FOR CREATION

Join the **Archdiocese of Cincinnati** as Pilgrims of Hope for Creation! Catholic communities across the U.S. are organizing local pilgrimages as sacred opportunities to pray for the grace to encounter Christ in Creation and renew our relationships with God, the Earth, and one another.

<p>SAT SEPT 06 9 AM</p>	<p>Cincinnati Virtual Pilgrimage Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur 701 E Columbia Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45215</p>
<p>SAT SEPT 13 9 AM</p>	<p>Dayton NW Pilgrimage Aullwood Audubon Nature Center 1000 Aullwood Rd, Dayton, OH 45414</p>
<p>SAT SEPT 27 9 AM</p>	<p>Cincinnati Pilgrimage Mill Creek and Lick Run Greenway Exact location TBD</p>
<p>SAT OCT 04 9 AM</p>	<p>Dayton East Pilgrimage Mount Saint John 4435 E. Patterson Rd, Beavercreek, OH 45430</p>
<p>SAT OCT 11 9 AM - 4 PM</p>	<p>Laudato Si' Conference Xavier University, Health United Building 1723 Cleneay Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45212</p>

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For more information, contact Jillian Foster
jfoster@catholiccaoc.org

For more on Pilgrimages of Hope go to
www.catholicpilgrimagesofhope.org

Registration and
Information Here:

*these pilgrimages will
not be on foot



OUR LADY OF THE HILLS

OCIA

OCIA IS THE ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF
ADULTS. IT IS A PROCESS WHERE THE
INFORMATION
AND REASON FOR BEING CATHOLIC IS SHARED
AMONG A GROUP OF FRIENDS AND PARISHIONERS.

MAKE THE JOURNEY OF FAITH

Join us for a time of worship, teaching, and connection as we come together to grow deeper in our faith and strengthen our community.

If you are interested, know someone who is interested, or if you just want to learn more for yourself, then this process is for you. Contact us to find out how you can join this Journey of Faith.

THE PROCESS
The OCIA process forms participants in the Catholic faith and practices through worship, ritual celebrations, prayer, scripture, learning sessions on Catholic beliefs and teachings, and retreat experience.

**September 10, 2025
Starts at 6:00 PM**

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