

# 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



ST. MARY CHURCH ST. BENIGNUS CHURCH

## FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JANUARY 28, 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, January 28, 2024

8:00 a.m. St. Mary - Regina Schmidt (Rockey Family)

# 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 – Stanley & Rosemary Feder (Joyce Combs)

**Noon St. Benignus** – Mary Lou Haines (Leah Salyer & Mary Lynn Burnett)

Fr. Mike Paraniuk

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

**9:15 a.m. St. Mary** – Valeriano, Ludivina & Segundina Minoza (Dr. Mesina)

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

11:30 a.m. St. Benignus – Jerry Powell (Ann Marie Gunderman) Fr. Mark Bredestege

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

Thursday, February 1, 2024

7:00 p.m. St. Mary – Inez Koenig (Paula Vukavich)
Fr. Mike Paraniuk

Friday, February 2, 2024 - First Friday

9:30 a.m. St. Mary - MSJB (Priests Intention)

**Noon St. Benignus** – Rosemary Kropfelder (Greenfield Hobby Club)

(Greenheid Hobby Ci

Fr. Mark Bredestege

Saturday, February 3, 2024

3:30 p.m. St. Benignus – Bill Soards & Kyle Garrison (Birthdays) (Eric & Cathy Givens)

5:30 p.m. St. Mary – Barb Wilkinson (Mary Tamborski) Fr. Mark Bredestege

Sunday, February 4, 2024

8:00 a.m. St. Mary – Gail Hollen-Smith (Amanda Hall) 10:00 a.m. St. Mary – Joan Wright (Gary & Joyce Baker)

**Noon St. Benignus** – Anthony Beverly (Josh Beverly)

Fr. Mark Bredestege

#### ST. MARY COLLECTION JANUARY 21, 2024

Weekly Need\$	6,500.00
Weekly Collection\$	3,703.00
Variance\$	-2,797.00
FISCAL YEAR NEED\$	195,000.00
FISCAL YEAR COLLECTED\$	181,217.00
VARIANCE\$	-13,783.00

#### ST. BENIGNUS COLLECTION JANUARY 21, 2024

Weekly Need\$	1,900.00
Weekly Collection\$	1,824.00
Variance\$	-76.00
FISCAL YEAR NEED\$	57,000.00
FISCAL YEAR COLLECTED\$	73,893.00
VARIANCE	+16.893.00

#### 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, 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, Anna Turner, Becky Hiser

\*\* 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

# 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 <u>computer access scheduled dates at each church in the</u> <u>coming weekends</u> as well as a paper copy, if requested.\*\*

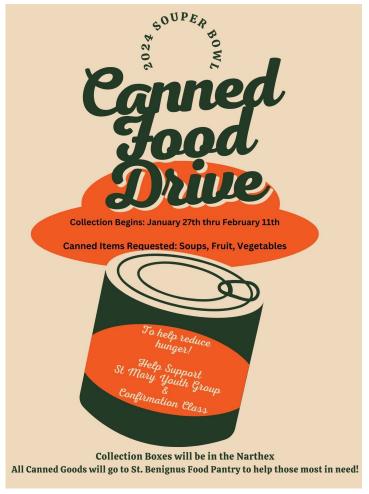
St. Mary (Hillsboro) – https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/b272yb Holy Trinity – https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/b2c6bb

St. Benignus – https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/bk75db St. Mary Queen of Heaven – https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/b273x5

#### ST. BENIGNUS SIGN UP

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

<u>St. Benignus Record Update:</u> Please fill out a *BLUE Paper* located at the back of the church to help update our St. Benignus Parish Records. **Please return to the Collection Basket** – Thank You!



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

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

## Birthday Blessings!

January 28 – Linda Friessen February 1 – Christina Witt

February 2 – Nancy Bennett, Hannah Singleton

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 1, 2024

6:00-7:30 p.m. St. VdP Pantry – Religious Ed. Bldg. – St. Benignus

#### 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* 

#### **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.

# CELEBRATE WITH YOUR VALENTINE AT THE ELEGANT AND LIVELY "SHARE THE LOVE" DINNER/DANCE

A fundraiser supporting Heaven's Gain Ministries. This delightful date night includes dinner, dancing, open bar, and fun life-loving adults.

Proceeds sustain the mission of this local Catholic pro-life organization that works to preserve the dignity of the human baby by serving families experiencing pregnancy loss.

The event will be held Saturday, **February 17, 2024**. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.; dinner is served at 6:30 p.m. Dancing continues through 11:00 p.m. The Dinner/Dance will be hosted at Receptions Event Center located at 1379 Donaldson Hwy, Erlanger, KY 41018.

Tickets are \$50.00 per person, table sponsorship available. Religious/clergy can attend free of charge. For more information about this valuable ministry or to purchase tickets, please visit www.heavensgain.org.

Contact Donna Murphy at 513-607-6083 with questions.

#### **FEBRUARY 14, 2024**

#### 2024 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL (CMA)

Next weekend (February 3rd & February 4th) 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! You can mail your pledge card or bring it to Mass next weekend. For more information about the CMA or to donate online, visit CatholicAOC.org/CMA. Thank you!



Office of the Archbishop

archbishop@catholicaoc.org 513.263.6612

January 24, 2024 Feast of St. Francis de Sales

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Today we celebrate the feast of St. Francis de Sales, principal patron of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. As a bishop and renowned confessor and spiritual guide, St. Francis de Sales led people to follow the Lord more devoutly, and his writings have inspired countless thousands over the past 400 years to walk the path of holiness. It is good for us to consider how we also can lead people to Christ in our time and place, particularly through the parishes of the archdiocese.

At this midpoint of the second year of Beacons of Light, most Families of Parishes have progressed through Phase 1, which is focused on leadership. The leadership principle states, "Pastors, in collaboration with parochial vicars, deacons and lay ministers, according to their proper roles and charisms, share responsibility for pastoral leadership. The spiritual, physical and mental health and ongoing support of ordained and lay leaders is vital for Families of Parishes."

Beacons of Light is a process of pastoral planning to best arrange all the resources of the archdiocese to proclaim the Gospel and make disciples in this particular time and place. The goals and aspirations of this process have their roots in the Great Commission given by our Lord to the apostles: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you" (Mt. 28:19-20). Thus, the purpose of Beacons of Light is perennial, and will endure well beyond my tenure as your archbishop or the terms of our pastors, parochial vicars, deacons, lay staff, or parishioner leaders.

The decisions regarding how to best arrange resources – human, financial, physical – to pursue our Godgiven mission will be discerned and made locally, specific to the circumstances and opportunities within each Family of Parishes. Leadership is and will continue to be essential to this process. Over the past eighteen months, Family Leadership Teams have come together, key staff members have been designated or are being hired, and leadership training has been provided. This is only the beginning. As the leadership principle of Beacons of Light indicates, there is an ongoing need for priests, deacons, and lay leaders to grow in skill and collaboration to discern the best steps toward missionary discipleship in their respective Families.

In the recent Parish Vitality survey that many of you completed, leadership was identified among the highest needs for the future of our parishes. Please pray for all the leaders – priests, deacons, and lay leaders – in our archdiocese that they may fruitfully encourage others to radiate the love of Christ to all. I am deeply grateful for all of you who, in this way, serve the mission of the Church in and through your parish and Family of Parishes. May God bless each of you as you continue this holy work.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Dennis M. Schnurr Archbishop of Cincinnati

ljh

### **SERMON ON MARK 1:21-28**

One of the greatest events in World History occurred at 6:30 a.m. the morning of Tuesday, June 6th, 1944. Seven thousand ships carried 175,000 American, British and Canadian soldiers to the Normandy coast of France to fight for the freedom of Europe from the Nazis. Years ago, I obtained cassette tapes that recorded the entire two-day CBS Radio broadcast of the invasion. Famous newsman, Robert Trout, was working late in the CBS New York studios when reports came in from German radio that an invasion was underway. He joked that only he and the cleaning lady were there in the newsroom to report this momentous event. You could hear her running the sweeper in the background. I listened to these tapes many evenings in the dark, reliving in my mind the hell our soldiers faced. Nazi bullets rained down on them from the hills above as they tried to storm the beach below. Ten thousand brave allied soldiers died on the first day. This day will forever be known as D-Day, deliverance day.

Mark's story of Jesus healing a man with the evil spirit I call J-Day. It is a report of the very first battle of Jesus fighting Satan for the liberation of the human people. Jesus declared in Mark 1:15 "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the Good News." Jesus then goes headlong into battle against the demonic power. The Good News of our deliverance has begun. The evil spirit took control of this man, screaming out at Jesus, "What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are – the Holy One of God!" (Mark 1:24) By mentioning the name of Jesus, the devil is trying to claim authority over Jesus. In the Bible, one can claim authority over an opponent if you know his name. It's like when your mom catches you doing something bad, and she calls you by your full name. I can still hear my mom yelling, "Michael Allen! What have you done?" The devil is telling the Holy One of God, Jesus, I know your name. I know who you are. I have power over you. I command you to be gone. Go away!

Jesus was peeved. He angrily yelled at the devil, "Shut your darn mouth and get your sorry butt out of here!" Then the devil threw a baby temper tantrum, shaking and screaming before he left. The devil was the first one to know what the kingdom of God meant. It meant that the reign of Satan's hatred over humans would crumble before the power of God's Love. It is correct to say that when Jesus came to earth, "all hell broke loose". Jesus broke us loose from the hell of eternal suffering, the hell of eternal loneliness, the hell of eternal despair. I have counselled many who were addicted to drugs. They all described their addiction as "hell on earth".

There is an important fact in this story we must not forget. Jesus healed that possessed man. The Kingdom of God is revealed in healing. Jesus yearns for you to give Him authority over you. God also allows you to have authority over Him. That's why God revealed His name to us. When you call upon the name of Jesus, God will personally come to you with a special blessing tailored just for you. Jesus said this in John 14:13, "And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son." There is true power in the name "Jesus". The very mention of the name Jesus will bring God's power directly to you for healing the messes, chaos, and troubles you face. The most powerful prayer is only three words, "Jesus help me".

I remember a powerful story of a man who was in the hell of addiction. He couldn't give up the beer. He was living the country song "What's Made Milwaukee Famous (Has Made a Loser Out of Me)". Every morning, he would look into his bathroom mirror and hate the face looking back on him. He reached a point of losing everything. His wife, his kids, his job, his home, and his life. He told me, "I reached bottom when I lost hope. I felt like no cared for me anymore. I saw my future as being alone, sucking on a beer bottle in an alley. One day I took a hot shower that steamed up the bathroom. I prayed in the shower. I haven't prayed in years. I simply asked God to give me a sign that He hasn't rejected me like so many others had done. I turned the water off and got out of the shower. I grabbed a towel hanging on the wall. I turned around to look at the mirror that reflected my shame for far too many years. This morning was different. A miracle happened. Etched into the steam on the mirror were the words, "Still Love you." I called my wife to come quickly upstairs. I asked, "Did you write this?" She replied, 'Yes, I wrote it while you were in the shower. I felt you needed to know that. I hope one day you can love yourself enough to get help.' I know God used her to give me His sign that He still loved me. That day was the first day of my sobriety. With God's help and AA I have been sober for twenty years. I believe God did for me what I couldn't do for myself."

I close with a lyric from the hymn "There is Power in the Blood."

Would you be free from your burden of sin?

There's power in the blood, power in the blood;

Would you over evil a victory win?

There's wonderful power in the blood.

There is power, power, wonder-working power,

In the blood of the Lamb

Blessings...Fr. Mike

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