



**ST. MARY  
PARISH**

731 Exchange Street  
Vermilion, OH 44089

[stmaryvermillion.org](http://stmaryvermillion.org)

NONPROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
VERMILION, OHIO  
PERMIT 38

## MASS SCHEDULE

### WEEKEND MASSES

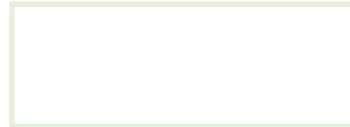
**Saturday - 4:00pm**  
**Sunday - 8:00am, 10:30am**

### WEEKDAY MASSES

**Monday - 8:30am**  
**Tuesday - 8:30am**  
Followed by Eucharistic Adoration  
**Wednesday - 6:15pm**  
**Thursday - 8:30am**  
**Friday - 12:05pm**

### CONFESSION TIMES

**Sunday - 9:45am - 10:15am**  
**Tuesday - 5:00pm - 6:00pm**  
**Saturday - 3:00pm - 3:45pm**  
Or, please call the office to make  
an appointment with Father.



## Greetings From Our Pastor

Dear Saint Mary Parishioners,

Many of you have been anticipating news of the future renovation of Saint Mary Parish and where we are in the process. I am happy to say that things continue to move forward!



Much prep work has been done leading to the current renovation efforts. It is a large task that requires many gears moving at the same time. Most importantly, it involves the participation of our parish congregation, our parish committees, our Vermilion community, our Diocese and others who help to make our needs and wants made into a reality. The following is a timeline of what has been done so far, and where we are currently:

**January 2022** – Altars, statues and pews purchased from St. Peter, Alvada, along with Stations of the Cross from St. Patrick in Bascom. These items were relegated to St. Mary Parish at a very affordable price and will be restored as needed for use in our parish.

**January to May 2023** – The Parish underwent the Diocesan Living Christ Campaign, in which we successfully fundraised our goal of \$645,000! Out of the \$700,000+ we raised, 35% of that amount (\$250,000) will be used for seed money to be put toward our future renovation cost. Thank you to all who contributed!

**August 2023** – Our Parish Renovation Committee was formed to help gather information and feedback from the parish and give advice on decision making. They have continued to help with the renovation process by sharing their expertise and experience in hiring our Architecture Firm and Capital Campaign Firm.

(Message from Father Paul continues on Page 2)

## Father Paul's Message Continued...

**October/November 2023** – The parish hosted three listening sessions, where the needs, wants and dreams of our parishioners were openly discussed and shared in small groups. These comments were published in our newsletter and bulletin in early 2024.

**August 2024 to January 2025** – RCM Architects, located in Findlay, OH, was officially chosen and hired to carry out the conceptual drawing phase of the parish renovation. The drawings are in their final stages and will be publicly shown this summer. They took the feedback given from our parish members and incorporated them into a realistic vision of what the renovation could look like. Based on our dream plans of needs and wants, they gave us an estimated cost of the renovation, which could possibly cost up to 2.7 million dollars, depending on what is eventually chosen.

**February/March 2025** – The Renovation Committee helped to interview and select a financial firm that would help us fundraise the remaining amount required for the renovation. Walsh & Associates was chosen out of the candidates.

**April/May 2025** - The parish underwent a Feasibility Study. 50 households were invited to participate in the study. 32 individuals/couples were interviewed. The results of the study were very encouraging and hopeful, in which it presented the following observations:

- 1) The level of satisfaction with St. Mary Parish is very high at the present time (91% of the respondents said that they were either satisfied or very satisfied with the church and the programs and services that are currently provided).
- 2) The level of awareness for the renovation project is fairly high at the present time (78% of survey respondents felt that they were either well informed or had a general knowledge of needs and plans).
- 3) There was high acceptance (78-82%) for the proposed project's major parts and it was found that all received majority acceptance among survey respondents. These parts include the interior and exterior improvements of our worship space. Our members recognize the lack of accessibility that comes with the age of our building, and they realize that to be welcoming to all, these improvements must be made, and that without them, it could contribute to a decline in attendance.
- 4) Awareness of a fundraising effort designed to address our expressed needs is high at the present time, with 80% of survey participants saying that they knew a campaign was being considered or planned.
- 5) Acceptance of the Renovation Campaign was expressed to be "good" or "excellent" by 48% of the survey respondents, indicating that there are some challenges to be faced, such as the current economy or the Living Christ Campaign, which is still wrapping up for our donors.
- 6) 98% of survey respondents said that they would either make or consider making a gift to the campaign. This further demonstrates that a high level of supportiveness for the project and campaign efforts already exists.
- 7) Our prospects for getting both the quality and quantity of volunteers and volunteer leaders that are needed for a successful campaign look to be promising.
- 8) Based on several potential indicators, Walsh & Associates believes that St. Mary Parish can raise a minimum of \$1.5 million dollars over a three-year period.

I was very happy to receive the results from the feasibility study! It shows that many of us are ready to move forward with anticipation and participation! If you would like to read the full report, it can be found on our website and a physical copy can be read at your leisure located in the parish office. As we wait for Diocesan approval for our Capital Campaign and Design Development phase (Summer of 2025), please continue to pray for the success of our renovation project!

**Fr. Paul**

# FAMILY FAITH FORMATION NEWS

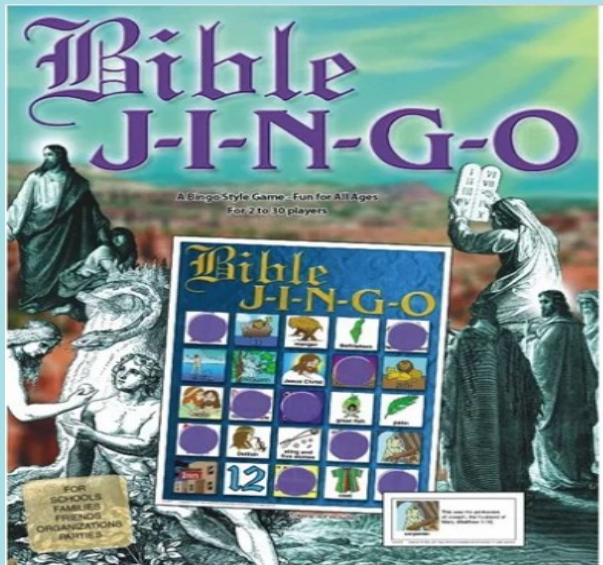
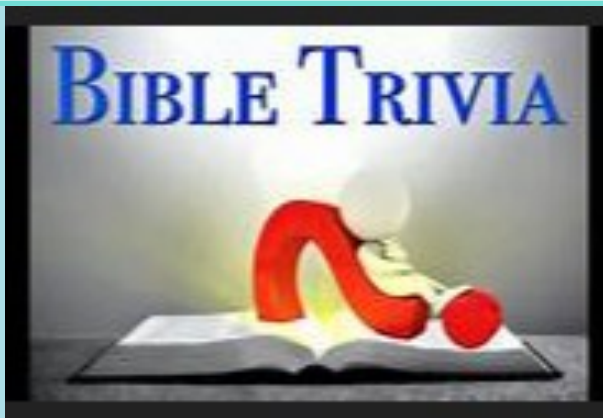
## WE ARE MOVING OUR CLASS TIME

After this past year, our religious education team has found that it would be beneficial to move our class time for grades K-6 to Wednesdays from 5-6pm starting in September. Signups will begin in August.

Contact Taylor Kaftan through the parish office for more information.

Coming to **Wednesday** evenings after **Labor Day**:

**Bible Trivia** / **Bible Jingo Nights**



You can reach Taylor Kaftan at:  
[tkaftan@stmaryvermilion.org](mailto:tkaftan@stmaryvermilion.org)

Or

440-978-8711 X 108

We are looking for catechists who are willing to take the time to help teach our children the Catholic Faith. Curriculum provided!

## WE NEED YOU!

CONTACT US  
FOR MORE  
INFORMATION

440-967-8711  
[tkaftan@stmaryvermilion.org](mailto:tkaftan@stmaryvermilion.org)

*Anniversary Blessings*



*To a Special Sister*

Sister Claudia  
is  
celebrating her  
60th Anniversary  
this June.

Please keep her in  
your prayers for this  
awesome  
achievement.

If you would like to  
send Sister Claudia a  
card, please contact  
the parish office for  
her address, etc.



As you are deciding what to do this summer, please, remember to keep St. Mary's in your prayers and in your planner.

Here are a few things...but there are many more to help you build your faith and your family...

**Mass is a must!** (Also, we even have one at 6:15 pm Wednesday evening, and another at 12:05 pm Friday mid-day.)

Watch for our **Parish Picnic**—August 17, after the 10:30 Mass

Adoration is **here** every Tuesday, 9 am to 7 pm. Also, on Tuesdays there is Bible Discussion at 7 pm (watch the bulletin).

Thursday, after the 8:30 Mass, we have Coffee, Conversation and Study Group. AND...

## THEFEST

Featuring live music from Christian bands:

**Maverick City Music • Danny Gokey  
Ben Fuller • Seph Schlueter**



8:00 pm Outdoor Mass



**united**  
IN FAITH. IN HOPE. IN LOVE.

Save the Date for Sunday, August 3, 2025  
12:00 pm Faith, Family, & Fun  
Find the details at [TheFEST.us](http://TheFEST.us)!

Held at the Center for Pastoral Leadership in Wickliffe, Ohio

CATHOLIC RENEWAL MINISTRIES PRESENTS:

# The Joy of the LORD is my STRENGTH

- Nehemiah 8:10

EVENT DATE

Saturday  
July 26, 2025

Doors Open at 7:45am, Close by 9pm

St. Albert the Great Parish Life Center  
6667 Wallings Rd, North Royalton, OH 44133

**\$40 REGISTRATION**

plus Lunch & Dinner options for purchase



Conference begins at 8:30am  
with Praise & Worship by Matt Fafrak

EVENT ACTIVITIES

- Praise & Worship
- Morning Prayer
- Dynamic Teaching
- Saturday Vigil at 4pm
- Healing Prayer

## Barrels, Bands, Blessings & More

You are cordially invited to join us for an evening of friendship and fellowship...

Thursday, July 24, 2025

6 - 9 PM

On the Outdoor Patio and East Lot

We will have several bourbons to taste (wine for those more delicate tasters), cigars to purchase, history of "Spirits and Saints", palette pickings to delight your tummy, and live music (6:30-8:30) to soothe your soul.

Cost: \$25.00 per person

Please RSVP: Call Parish Office  
(440) 967-8711



## BLUE MASS

You are invited to honor, pray for, and bless all active and retired local, state, and federal law enforcement officers, firefighters, emergency personnel, and first responders who have died in the line of duty and those currently serving.

Wednesday, September 24, 2025

6:15 p.m.

Ohio & Exchange Streets  
Vermilion, OH., 44089





# From the Heart of Deacon John

- another teaching moment.

Several people have asked how to pray before the Eucharist. I found this simple prayer process from the Eucharistic Revival website, Walk with One.

## Eucharistic Examen

This Eucharistic Examen is designed to be used as part of your “Walk with One” journey ([eucharisticrevival.org/walk-with-one](http://eucharisticrevival.org/walk-with-one)). Throughout each stage of the journey, pray this examen to help you discern the path the Lord is calling you to follow in accompanying another person towards Jesus.

### Take

Opening Prayer: Ask God to help you be aware of his presence, to truly encounter him, and to open your heart to the person whom Jesus is bringing to mind.

Choose a Scripture passage in which Jesus calls a person by name, and sit with it. For example:

Mt 4:18–22  
Mt 9:9–13  
Mt 14:22–33  
Mk 1:16–20  
Mk 2:13–17  
Lk 5:1–11  
Lk 5:27–32  
Lk 10:38–42  
Lk 13:10–17  
Lk 19:1–10  
Jn 1:35–42 and 43–51  
Jn 11:1–44 (esp. 43)  
Jn 15:1–17  
Jn 20:11–18  
Jn 21:15–19

### Bless

Reflect on some aspect of the Paschal Mystery: Jesus’ Passion and Death, Resurrection, or Ascension. Ask Jesus to shower his love upon the person for whom you are interceding, and pray for the courage to accompany the person in a spirit of self-giving and openness.

### Break

Considering your daily and weekly routines, ask the Lord to show you how to break out of your comfort zone to make space to connect with the person for whom you have been interceding. Invite the Holy Spirit to identify the next best concrete step, and pray in thanksgiving for the opportunity to build a new friendship.

### Give

Ask the Holy Spirit to help you practice the art of listening and discern a concrete invitation you can give to your friend to draw closer to Jesus. Make a resolution about how and when you will extend this invitation.

**Closing Prayer:** Ask Jesus to help you keep your resolution as you journey on mission with him, making a gift of yourself for the life of the world.

*“You go to the celebration of Mass, receive communion, adore the Lord and then what do you do after? You go out and evangelize. Jesus asks this of us. The Eucharist, then impels us to strong and committed love of neighbor... especially those who are poor, suffering, weary or who may have gone astray in life.”*

POPE FRANCIS to the Organizing Committee of the National Eucharistic Congress, 6/19/23.

May God Bless Us Everyone,

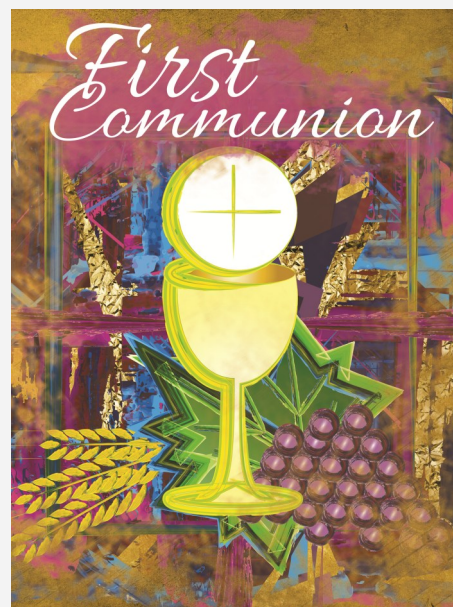
*Dea. John Murray Jr.*



# Sacramental Updates

**On Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025,  
at the 10:30 am, we welcomed and  
celebrated the reception of  
First Holy Communion  
of the following:**

**Jordan Dendorfer  
Emily Dominico  
Julia Dominico  
William DuBois  
Aurora Kistner  
Preston Moore  
Carter Novak**



**CONGRATULATIONS**  
NEWLY CONFIRMED!

©LPI

**The Sacrament of Confirmation  
was celebrated on March 22, 2025,  
with Bishop Thomas at Holy Rosary  
Cathedral in Toledo.**

**Amelia Branco  
Marley Dimacchia  
Claire Rottenborn**

**Lillian Cadwell  
Brayden Myers  
Austin Sergent**

**David Szoradi**

**At our Easter Vigil, Saturday, April 19th, at 8:30 PM, we welcomed  
into our Church the following people:**

Angela Brillon

Alexander Hunkin

Jennifer Brillon

Alexandra Mulvin

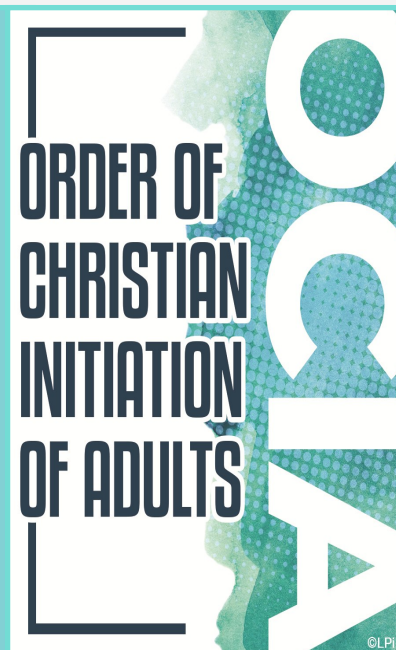
Jeffery Czuba

Joseph Montgomery

Ramond Gonzales

Beth Nauert

Daniel Rivera, Jr.



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## ARE YOU HOPING FOR PARTICIPATION FROM ST. MARY'S PARISH?

Deacon said: "If what you are planning has to do with St. Mary's Parish...It must be scheduled, in order to have the necessary participation."

For: **ALL HEADS OF MINISTRY, PASTORAL INDIVIDUAL PRAYER GROUPS, AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES...**



WOULD YOU LIKE PARTICIPATION FROM YOUR St. Mary's CONGREGATION?

**SET YOUR ST. MARY'S CALENDAR FOR BOTH ON AND OFF CAMPUS.**

It is that time of the year again! July 1st is just around the corner. You need to look at the calendar - select the days and times of your ministry. Make a list from 7/01/25, to 6/31/26, and send them to the attention of Betty Nunn, Activity Scheduler for our parish.

We have many rich and thriving ministries that reach out from our church and to our community. Scheduling enables us to know that there is not a conflict with another ministry and/or activity.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

### What is the ACA?

- ♦ The Annual Catholic Appeal is its full name.
- ♦ This is the annual fund drive run by the staff of the Diocese of Toledo.
- ♦
- ♦ Pledges are paid within a calendar year.
- ♦ Without the ACA, many of our Diocesan outreach ministries would be seriously affected.
- ♦ This annual drives helps fund many of the ordinary operations of our Diocese.

This includes:

- ◇ support for seminarians, deacon formation, and our vocations efforts;
- ◇ funding for the Marriage Tribunal;
- ◇ support for Diocesan Liturgies;
- ◇ funding for Catholic Charities;
- ◇ support for Catholic Education Office;
- ◇ funding for prison ministry;
- ◇ support for college campus ministries.
- ◇ And so much more!

**This is where we are at this time:**

**% of Goal Paid & Pledge: 35.40%**

**ACA GOAL: \$37,550.00**

**TOTAL Pledged & Paid: \$13,500.00**

### Women in Grace Ministry

What began as a simple weekly coffee date among three friends has blossomed into a vibrant monthly ministry. Women in Grace at St. Mary's is a growing community rooted in faith, fellowship, and service. We are guided by four foundational pillars that unite the women of our parish and connect us to greater community.

Our mission is simple: to serve Christ through Mary by supporting and uplifting one another - and we're just getting started.

#### The Four Pillars of Women in Grace

1. Faith Formation – Deepening our Catholic identity through study, prayer, and spiritual growth.
2. Fellowship – Building lasting, supportive relationships among the women of our parish.
3. Service - Serving our parish and local community with love, generosity, and a Marian heart.
4. Outreach - Welcoming and connecting with women beyond our parish walls to create a broader circle of support and faith.

#### A Look Back at the Past Year

This year has been rich with meaningful moments and spiritual growth. Together, we've:

- created beautiful Mary Gardens;
- crafted meaningful Advent Wreaths;
- assisted the Garden Angels by parking cars;
- participated in three seasonal book studies exploring our Catholic faith and Marian devotion;
- hosted a Lego Flower Family Night;
- enjoyed fellowship events that nurtured friendship and faith;
- organized our very successful Flower Bingo, which raised funds for our upcoming October Blessing Brunch & Mini Retreat—a special event to support pregnant women in our community.

**(Women in Grace Ministry—cont'd) Save the Date: June 29 – Family Picnic at Main Street Beach**

**Noon to 2:00 PM** Bring the whole family for a fun-filled time of sand and sunshine!

**What to expect:** Beach games & sandcastle building.

Drinks and chips (**provided**) Bring your own picnic basket with food for your crew.

With gratitude and grace,

Women in Grace Ministry

Beth Schafer, Paula Kibler and Christa Gillis

**Stay Connected** - Our group is active on Facebook, where we post our upcoming calendar, events, and ways to get involved. **Message us on Facebook.**



## **Do you have a child in 7th or 8th Grade?**

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**Will you help me, please...I am trying to get in touch with our children here at St. Mary's who have not yet been Confirmed.**

**Do you realize that the Sacrament of Confirmation, gives to you gifts and graces that helps us to fulfill our personal and professional ambitions, as well as pursue a closer relationship to Jesus?**

**Please call Eileen Adams. Her name, number and email are below.**

**Thanks,  
Kathie McBride**