



SAINT MARY PARISH

731 Exchange Street
Vermilion, OH., 44089
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

CONFESSOR 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

My dear parishioners,

As we move forward with our "Honoring the Past, Securing our Future" Campaign, I think it is important to share with you our early history of Saint Mary Parish –



In this first part of our history, we look from the time our community first started celebrating Mass in Vermilion, to the building of the church and our first renovation of the parish in 1930. The following information has been gathered from our parish records and compiled into one streamlined account.

Vermilion Catholics, considered a station of the Cleveland Diocese, were served by Father Peter McLaughlin in 1842 until 1843, the year it became a station of Chippewa. It was again listed as a station of Cleveland in 1847; little about the area's pastoral care is recorded between 1847 and 1857, when a priest from Elyria began serving settlers by offering Mass in private homes.

The first frame church was constructed in 1862, but lack of funds prohibited the completion of its interior and it was used in that condition with a dry goods box for an altar and rough benches for pews. When Father Louis Molon became pastor of Elyria in 1865, he guided Vermilion Catholics in the completion of the church interior and bought the adjoining lot as the site of the future rectory. The parish house was built in 1870 and has seen two additions since then.

Saint Mary attained parish status in 1871 with Father James Rouchy as pastor, though it continued to struggle. It reverted back to mission status in 1875 until 1879, when a second resident pastor was assigned. In the year 1900 the parish consisted of about twenty-eight families. With the loss of considerable importance as a lake port, Vermilion lost some of its Catholic families, a situation which caused Saint Mary to become a mission church to Huron. The tower bell was added to the church in 1914.

(Continued on Pg 2)

Father Paul's Message Continued...

The Very Reverend Alfred Metzger, from the Huron parish, served Vermilion as a mission, holding Mass at 8:00am on the 2nd and 4th Sundays and Holy days, and 10:00 on the 3rd and 5th Sundays. In the year 1922, according to the decree ceding Huron, Richmond, and Erie counties to the Toledo Diocese, Vermilion became attached to the Toledo Diocese.

On June 28, 1924, the Rev. William J. Cotter arrived at Saint Mary as the first resident pastor in 25 years. This date was also memorable because of a tornado having hit the Lorain and Sandusky areas, causing thousands of dollars in property loss and 85 fatalities. Standing knee-deep in mud from the storm flooding, Father Cotter described his new parish as "a little frame church that looked like Noah's Ark."

By this time, the amount of parishioners had increased to 65 households. The steady increase of lake front cottages made the little frame church inadequate, especially during the summer months. In 1927 plans were drawn for a new church to be made of stone and brick. The cost of building a new church seemed prohibitive and the plans were indefinitely dropped.

Father William Armitage served St. Mary's from 1929 to 1936. He found the church in a very run-down condition, inadequately sized, and no longer a fitting place for the Holy Sacrifice. Through his efforts, several of the parish societies were reorganized and with the cooperation of several of the leading workers of the parish, inaugurated a campaign to remodel the old church. Building experts declared the timbers in the old church in excellent condition; therefore, plans were drawn up for the remodeling and enlarging of the old building. The old edifice, which had stood for half a century facing Exchange Street, had been raised and a basement put under it, now facing Ohio Street. The seating capacity was now 350 persons and the entire interior of the church had been redecorated. By May of 1930, Mass was said for the first time in the new building.

On July 27, 1930, the new building was completely renovated and was blessed by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Stritch. Father Armitage labored zealously and successfully for 6 years tending to the spiritual welfare and financial balance of the parish during the Great Depression. During this time, he managed to pay off approximately \$6000 of church debt. He also introduced Saint Theresa as the secondary patron of the parish. His pastorate ended in the summer of 1936 when he was transferred to Holy Angels in Sandusky, Ohio.

Father Armitage returned for visits as late as 1960.

(To be continued...)



Interior of the church when the transept addition was completed in 1930. Father Armitage was the pastor.



NATIVITY of MARY

©LPI

We celebrate
Mary's
Birthday on
September 8th

A Prayer of Praise to the
Blessed Virgin Mary by
St. Ephrem



O pure and immaculate and likewise blessed Virgin, who art the sinless Mother of thy Son, the mighty Lord of the universe, thou who art inviolate and altogether holy, the hope of the hopeless and sinful, we sing thy praises.

We bless thee, as full of every grace, thou who didst bear the God-Man: we all bow low before thee; we invoke thee and implore thine aid.

Rescue us, O holy and inviolate Virgin, from every necessity that presses upon us and from all the temptations of the devil.

Be our intercessor and advocate at the hour of death and judgement; deliver us from the fire that is not extinguished and from the outer darkness; make us worthy of the glory of thy Son, O dearest and most clement Virgin Mother.

Thou indeed art our only hope, most sure and sacred in God's sight, to whom be honor and glory, majesty and dominion, for ever and ever, world without end. Amen.

Please check at your calendar...We will be celebrating our 40 Hour Devotion on October 19, 20, and 21. More info to come.

On both October 19th and 20th, we will be hosting the Relics of St. Padre Pio.

Won't you join us?





From the Heart of Deacon John

- another teaching moment.

Recently, I had the joyful opportunity to talk to everyone at the weekend Masses about Martha, Martha, Martha and how we should be like both Martha and Mary. I discussed how when we have those readings most times the focus is on how Mary, Mary, Mary chose the better portion and how it will not be taken from her. Hopefully, everybody now sees how important it is to have a balance of both Martha and Mary. Our Parishes really need both Mary and Martha. However my friends, I would like to take some time to take this a bit further, because we totally forgot about Lazarus. My goodness!!! Think about this a moment, Jesus made an example out of him.

All kidding aside, let's look at the Gospels of Luke (10: 38-42) and John (11: 19-27). We have two poignant scenes. Mary sits at the feet of Jesus representing the contemplative side of our faith over service. Then Martha greets Jesus in both stories representing the active and vocal side of our faith over contemplation. What then of Lazarus? The church chose not to focus on Lazarus' resurrection, but rather on the relationship and faithful response. Lazarus, silently offering his life to become a vessel through which Jesus reveals God's glory and power over death. Of course, my deacon brain says, "Jesus made an example out of Lazarus."

To be honest, campers, Jesus uses all three as examples.

- Mary for Prayer and Listening, we should all make time to sit with our Lord and truly listen to His Word.
- Martha for Service and Action, we should have *mistrust* hands and hearts that welcome and work with purpose for our Lord and Savior.
- Lazarus for Sacrifice and Witness, we should realize that we are called to give deeply, trusting that our sacrifices serve a greater mission for our Lord Jesus.

My friends, always remember and never forget... Jesus had friends and desired companionship. He still desires friends and companionship. Jesus shared in our humanity and invites us to do the same in our ministries (come see me if you don't have one or wish to have another.) Our mission is to love, serve, and offer ourselves just like Martha, Martha, Martha, and Mary, Mary, Mary, and don't forget Lazarus, Lazarus, Lazarus.

I invite you to jump in and join the rest of us. The water is fine. Stop "just hanging in there." At least, come join our Bible Discussion Group on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays every month and/or our Faith Discussions every week on Thursday for coffee, conversation, and study. Of course, you can also accept my invitation to join us for our OCIA sessions every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month after the 10:30 am Mass to learn more about what it means to be Catholic. Call me maybe!

May God Bless Us Everyone,

Deacon John Murray Jr.



EXPERIENCE THE MYSTERY OF GOD....

EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH BUT DIDN'T KNOW WHERE TO BEGIN!!!!!!

We are sending this as a personal invitation to consider joining our church or learning more about our faith through the **Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)** this coming year 2025/2026.

It is a wonderful time to meet with others who are considering joining the church as full members of our church or just want to learn more about our faith.

We also want you to know that we will be praying for you during this time. We eagerly await for your response.

Please consider this an invitation not only from our church, but from God who loves you beyond measure.

Deacon John and our OCIA Team are available in person, by phone, and/or e-mail to answer any questions you have. We are at your service.

May God Bless Us Everyone,



St. Mary Catholic Church
Vermilion, Ohio
Deacon John Murray Jr

731 Exchange Street
Vermilion, Ohio 44089

Phone: 440-967-8711 ext. 104
website: stmaryvermillion.org
Email: deacon@stmaryvermillion.org
Registration: On our website
stmaryvermillion.org/ocia
[St. Mary OCIA Registration](#)

1. Pray to respond

2. Call or Click to Register

Parish Office: 440-967-8711 ext. 104

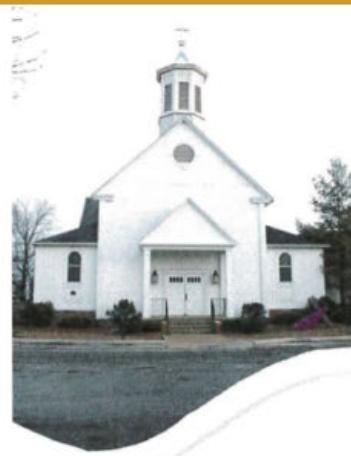
[St. Mary OCIA Registration](#)

3. Stmaryvermillion.org/ocia

4. Attend the No Strings Attached

session Aug 23rd at 10:00 am in the PLC Café.

Although this date has past, please feel to call Deacon John if you or someone you love is interested in our OCIA Program.



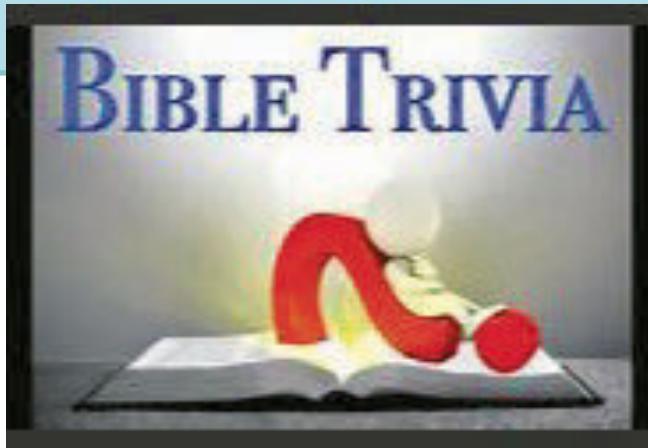
OCIA 2025-2026 Catechetical Sessions St. Mary Parish Vermillion

All sessions in the PLC Library are from ~11:45 am - 1:15 pm

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SYMBOLON TOPIC</u>	<u>PRESENTER</u>
Aug 23	No Strings Attached @ 10:00 am	Dcn. John Murray Jr
Sep 14	Seeking the Face of God	Dcn. John Murray Jr
Sep 28	I Believe in God, the Father Almighty	Jim Francisco
Oct 12	Creator of Heaven and Earth	David Boardwine
Oct 26	I Believe in Jesus Christ	Dcn. John Murray Jr
Nov 9	His Only Son, Our Lord	Raymond Gonzales
Nov 23	RITE OF ACCEPTANCE St. Mary Church @ 10:30 am	Fr. Paul
Nov 23	Born of the Virgin Mary	David Boardwine
Dec 14	He Suffered under Pontius Pilate	Jim Francisco

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

Bible Trivia / Bible Jingo Nights



Please...I need your help...I am trying to get in touch with our children here at St. Mary's who have not yet been confirmed.

The Sacrament of Confirmation gives to your children gifts and graces that help them to fulfill their personal and professional ambitions, as well as pursue a closer relationship to Jesus!

Please call Eileen Adams at:

440-967-8711 X 252 OR Email: smconnections@stmaryvermillion.org

Thank you!

Kindergarten Catechist NEEDED!!

Some reasons why you **SHOULD** join us this year:

Being a catechist: ...will help you deepen your personal faith. Between our brand new curriculum and insights from students, you will find yourself growing more in love with God and the Catholic faith.

... helps build up our parish. By showing our youth people who are on fire for their faith, we can end up inspiring them to grow in their own relationship with God and in turn, bringing more families back to church.

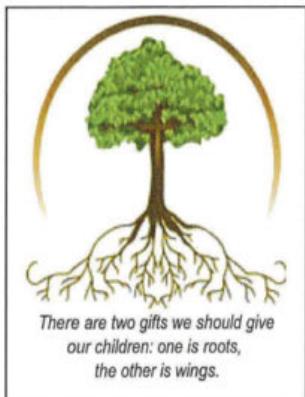
...is a way of giving back to God. We are called to give of ourselves through time, talent, and treasure. By teaching a class, you are able to give of both your time and talent in a very tangible way.

...gives back to our parish specifically. While the campaign is helping make our physical church building better in many ways, being a catechist helps make our personal church better by building relationships between one another and helping deepen our faith.

While this is just a short list of reasons, I am happy to accept any calls or emails with concerns if you are thinking about being a catechist this year. Our classes will be on Sundays from 11:45-12:45. Please reach out with any questions or concerns!

God bless,
Taylor Kaftan

You can reach Taylor at: tkaftan@stmaryvermillion.org
Or 440-967-8711 X 108



Sunday Morning Family Faith Formation Registration

Levels K thru Level 6 11: 45 am – 12:45 pm

Family Name: _____ **Registered in parish? (Y/N)** _____

Address: _____ **City** _____

Primary Phone #: _____ **Cell Phone (Y/N)** _____ **Texting Available? (Y/N)** _____

Father/Guardian: _____ **Cell Phone #:** _____

Email address: _____

Address if different from above: _____

Mother/Guardian: _____ **Maiden Name:** _____

Cell Phone #: _____ **Email address:** _____

Address if different from above: _____

Name of Child/Children (Please Print)		Circle		Birth Date M/D/YR	Grade Sep 2025	School	**Sacrament History** Dates / Church: name & location 1-Bapt 2-Euch 3-Confirm		
First Name	Last Name	M	F				1.	2.	3.

Children entering Family Faith Formation in Level 1 or Sacrament Prep must provide a copy of Baptismal Certificate

PLEASE COMPLETE AND ATTACH AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION FORM FOR EACH CHILD

Do children /child live with one or both parents? _____ If one, which one? _____ should communications be sent to both?

Did your child/children attend Faith Formation (PSR, Catholic School) last year? _____ If so, where? _____

To further help us in creating the best experience / environment for your child / children's faith formation, please share anything we should know in working with your child/children: Limitations physical or emotional, medications taken, allergies, learning strategies (IEP's) school activities, custody arraignments, attendance conflicts, etc.

PHOTO / VIDEO RELEASE FORM – please check one and sign.

I hereby **GRANT PERMISSION** for my child / children / family to be photographed and /or videotaped during activities and events hosted by St. Mary Parish, Vermilion, OH. I understand that those images and / or video footage may be published and/or broadcasted for the purpose of promoting youth / family programs of St. Mary Parish, Vermilion, OH.

I hereby **DECLINE PERMISSION** for my child / children / family to be photographed or videotaped.

Signature of Parent /Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Registration fee per child: \$30 to cover cost of materials Sacrament Prep fee: additional \$30

If you need financial assistance, please reach out to the parish office!

For office use only: Date paid _____ amount paid _____ check # _____ cash _____

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION FORM -

Please Complete One form for EACH child attending

PURPOSE: to enable parents/guardians to authorize the provision of emergency treatment for children who become seriously ill or injured while under St. Mary's authority, when parent/guardian is not present or cannot be reached.

Child's Name: _____

Date: _____

RESIDENTIAL PARENT/GUARDIAN: Please Print

Mother: _____
Alternate# _____

Phone # _____

Father: _____
Alternate# _____

Phone# _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBER Beside Parent/Guardian:

Name _____ **phone** _____
relationship _____

PART I: TO GRANT CONSENT – (Please Print) I hereby give consent to the following medical care providers and local hospital to be called:

Physician: _____

Phone: _____

Dentist: _____

Phone: _____

Local Hospital: _____

or closest hospital in the area

In the event reasonable attempts to contact me have been unsuccessful, I hereby give my consent for (1) the administration of any treatment deemed necessary by above named doctors, or in the event the designated preferred practitioner is not available, by another licensed physician or dentist; and (2) the transfer of the child to any hospital reasonably accessible. This authorization DOES NOT cover major surgery unless the medical opinions of two other licensed physicians or dentists, concurring in the necessity for such surgery are obtained prior to the performance of such surgery. **Facts concerning the child's medical history, including allergies, medications being taken and any other physical impairments to which a physician should be alerted:**

Date: _____ Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

PART II: REFUSAL TO CONSENT

I do NOT give my consent for emergency medical treatment of my child. In the event of illness or injury requiring emergency treatment, **I wish St. Mary authorities to take the following action:**

Date: _____ Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____



BLUE MASS

You are invited to honor, pray for, and bless all active and retired military, state, and federal law enforcement officers, firefighters, emergency personnel, and all first responders.

Those who have died in the line of duty and those who currently serve.

Wednesday, September 24, 2025

6:15 p.m.

Ohio & Exchange Streets



St. Mary Fiscal Year Report: July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

Church Income	ACTUAL - 24-25	BUDGET 25-26
Sunday & Holy Day Collections	555,090	541,200
Christmas and Easter Collections	28,790	39,975
Other Collections	1,215	1,000
Mass Stipends	5,813	6,500
Festivals - Other fundraising	25,000	10,650
Religious Education and Youth	4,121	4,400
Bequests/Special Gifts	18,442	2,400
Renovation Income - Envelopes and special	73,421	
Other: Flowers, Candles, etc.	14,032	21,000
Maintenance And Upkeep	45,734	62,400
Other Misc Income	16,657	14,839
Non-Operating Gifts	71,767	
Total	\$ 860,082	704,364
Church Expense	ACTUAL - 24-25	BUDGET 25-26
Salaries/Payroll	324,664	345,962
Payroll Taxes & Benefits	82,706	104,121
Altar, Sanctuary, Liturgical	15,731	14,000
Religious Education and Youth	40,621	42,512
Rectory Expense	4,161	6,000
Office Supplies, Telephone, Internet	48,104	42,950
Utilities	46,356	46,200
Maintenance Supplies	17,940	4,100
Services: Trash, Security, Cleaning, etc.	4,309	5,650
Repairs	7,363	5,600
Insurance, Permits, Other Building	31,159	31,350
Diocesan Assessments	56,883	53,720
Other Misc Expenses	1,936	2,199
Non-Operating Expenses	112,217	
Total Expenses	\$ 794,150	704,364
Parish Net Income over Expenses	\$ 65,932	0
Parish Checking/Savings/Investments	JUNE 30, 2025	
Parish Checking/Savings	148,347	
Key Bank Money Market	345,399	
Catholic Foundation - Diocesan Investments	458,404	
Key Bank Investments	666,714	
Total Cash/Investments	\$ 1,618,864	

(Capital Campaign Income and Expenses not shown as we are in process.)

6th Annual St. Mary Parish Clam Bake

Sponsored by Knights of Columbus, Vermilion Council 4539

Monday, September 29th, 6:00 PM

Location - Paper Moon Vineyards, 2008 State Rd., Vermilion

Tickets must be purchased by September 19th!

NO TICKET SALES ON NIGHT OF DINNER – (food has to be pre-ordered)

ORDER FORMS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE GATHERING SPACE AND ON THE PARISH WEBSITE



Clam Dinner

- Clam Broth
- New England Clam Chowder and Mussels
- Doz. Top Neck Clams
- Boneless Chicken Breast
- Redskin Potatoes
- Corn on the Cob
- Roll and Butter

\$38



Chicken Dinner

- Clam Broth
- New England Clam Chowder
- Boneless Chicken Breast
- Redskin Potatoes
- Corn on the Cob
- Roll and Butter

\$25



- Drinks must be purchased at the winery
- CARRY OUT AVAILABLE

Mail the below form, along with check made payable to KOFC Council 4539 to:

David Boardwine, 1070 Wayne Trail, Vermilion, OH, 44089 OR Skip Woods, 135 Calvary Rd, Vermilion, OH, 44089

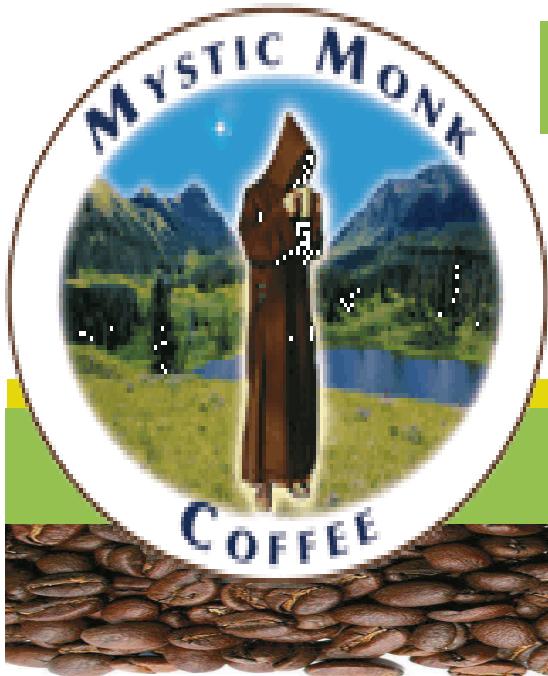
QUESTIONS: Call Dave Boardwine @ (440)320-2053 or Skip Woods @ (440)541-7506

Clam Bake Ticket Order Form (Purchased tickets will be available @ the door, evening of the event)

Your Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____

		# of Dinners	\$ Totals
Clam Dinner	\$38.00	X _____	= \$ _____
Chicken Dinner	\$25.00	X _____	= \$ _____
1 Doz. Extra Clams	\$15.00	X _____	= \$ _____
		Total Due =	\$ _____



Renovation FUNdraiser

From their monastery nestled deep in the Rocky Mountains, the Wyoming Carmelites (a small group of Carmelite Monks) were looking for a way to support their growing community.



After much discernment and prayer, the monks had the inspiration to start roasting coffee and selling the beans online. The first samples were roasted on a cast-iron skillet in the monastery kitchen and in 2007, Mystic Monk Coffee, a catholic coffee company was born.

**As noted in our August 3rd bulletin,
one of our FUNdraisers will be the
SALE
of
MYSTIC MONK COFFEE.**

**There are many different flavors. I'm sure
that you will find something that will suite
your taste.**

**Variety packs (PODS) "Monk Shots"
on hand (\$9.00) in the office.**

TEA drinkers...

they have flavors for us too.

**ORDER FORMS ARE AVAILABLE in
THE OFFICE and Online**

**Orders will be placed at the end of each
month to save on postage.**

Please...make your choice(s).

**Make your check for the total amount.
Please give your order and your check to
either Betty or Kathie.**

