



*“We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God.”  
John 6:68-69*

*August 25, 2024  
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time*

**HOLY MARTYRS**  
CATHOLIC CHURCH 

3100 Old Weymouth Rd. Medina, Ohio 44256  
330-722-6633

Holy Martyrs

# Holy Martyrs Catholic Church

Encounter Christ + Grow in Faith + Make Disciples

August 25, 2024

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil	4:30 PM
Sunday	9:30 AM, 11:30 AM, 5:00PM
Monday - Friday	12:00 Noon
Holy Days	7:00 PM (Vigil) 12:00 Noon

## Sacrament of Penance

**Saturday: 3:00 - 4:00 PM**  
*or by appointment*

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:00 am - 12:45 pm  
1:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Friday - CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED

Phone: 330-722-6633 Fax: 330-725-2193

**email: [churchoffice@holymartyrs.net](mailto:churchoffice@holymartyrs.net)**

## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



@holy\_martyrs\_molina



[www.facebook.com/holymartyrschurch](http://www.facebook.com/holymartyrschurch)

## Outdoor Mass in the Pavilion



Our LAST outdoor Mass in the Pavilion is  
Sunday, September 1, 2024  
11:30am

HOLY MARTYRS  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

## VIRTUS® Protecting God's Children

A Virtus Training will be held at Holy Martyrs  
on Wednesday, August 28 at 5:30 PM.

To register go to [Virtusonline.org](http://Virtusonline.org)

If you would like additional information, contact  
Jenny Messina at [jmessina@holymartyrs.net](mailto:jmessina@holymartyrs.net)

## Parish Staff

Father Stephen J. Dohner  
*Pastor*

Skip McQuate  
*SPIRIT Coordinator*

Brandon Woods  
*Life Teen Coordinator*

Christopher Ilg  
*Director of Music*

Alyssa Nadin  
*Communications*

Father Robert F. Pfeiffer  
*Pastor Emeritus*

Father Mark Ott  
*Weekend Priest*

Janet Payton  
*Pastoral Associate*

Shannon Federinko  
*HM Kids Coordinator*

# Encounter Christ + Grow in Faith + Make Disciples

<i>Mass Intentions</i> <i>August 24 - September 1</i>			<i>This Week at Holy Martyrs</i>		
Sat	4:30 PM	Therese Pruchnicki	Sun 8/25	Mass	9:30 AM Worship Space
Sun	9:30 AM	Maria Teresa Carpio		Time Travelers	9:30 AM Rooms 203-204
	11:30 AM	Patricia Shepard		Journey Catechumenate	10:00 AM Lounge Room 105
	5:00 PM	Parishioners		Lector Training	10:45 AM Worship Space
Mon	Noon	Joan Menillo		Outside Mass	11:30 AM Pavilion
Tues	Noon	Doug Wonsettler (for healing)		Contemporary Mass	5:00 PM Worship Space
Wed	Noon	Marilyn Pay	Mon 8/26	Daily Mass	12:00 Chapel
Thurs	Noon	Eric V. Sonnie, Jr.	Tues 8/27	Glory Bees	7:30 AM Worship Space
Fri	Noon	Eleanor Holben		Daily Mass	12:00 Chapel
Sat	4:30 PM	Helen Mulhan		Stephen Leader Meeting	5:00 PM Sunday Office
Sun	9:30 AM	Ronald Cumberland	Wed 8/28	Daily Mass	12:00 Chapel
	11:30 AM	Parishioners		Prayer Shawl Ministry	1:00 PM PLC Room 103
	5:00 PM	Jeffrey Wagner		Virtus Training	5:30 PM Pfeiffer Hall B
				Choir Rehearsal	7:00 PM Worship Space
			Thurs 8/29	Daily Mass	12:00 Chapel
				Eucharistic Adoration	12:30 PM Worship Space
			Fri 8/30	Daily Mass	12:00 Chapel
			Sat 8/31	Reconciliation	3:00 PM Chapel
				Vigil Mass	4:30 PM Worship Space
			Sun 9/01	Mass	9:30 AM Worship Space
				Time Travelers	9:30 AM Rooms 203-204
				Journey Catechumenate	10:00 AM Lounge Room 105
				Outside Mass	11:30 AM Pavilion
				Contemporary Mass	5:00 PM Worship Space

**Holy Martyrs Church Office will be closed on  
Monday, September 2 for Labor Day**

***There will not be a Noon Mass.***

*USCCB Invitation  
to Prayer*

St. Joseph, Defender  
of Life, pray for us



The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops is inviting Catholics  
to join a focused effort of prayer for the end of abortion and the  
protection of women and preborn children:

Dearest St. Joseph,

at the word of an angel,  
you lovingly took Mary into your home.  
As God's humble servant, you guided  
the Holy Family on the road to Bethlehem,  
welcomed Jesus as your own son  
in the shelter of a manger,  
and fled far from your homeland  
for the safety of both Mother and Child.

We praise God that as their faithful protector,  
you never hesitated to sacrifice  
for those entrusted to you.  
May your example inspire us also  
to welcome, cherish, and safeguard  
God's most precious gift of life.

Help us to faithfully commit ourselves  
to the service and defense of human life  
-especially where it is  
vulnerable or threatened.  
Obtain for us the grace  
to do the will of God in all things.

Amen.

# Introductory Note



Let us look to the example of the Good Samaritan. Jesus' parable summons us to rediscover our vocation as citizens of our respective nations and of the entire world, builders of a new social bond. This summons is ever new, yet it is grounded in a fundamental law of our being: we are called to direct society to the pursuit of the common good and, with this purpose in mind, to persevere in consolidating its political and social order, its fabric of relations, its human goals.

(Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti*, no. 66)

As Catholics and Americans, we are blessed to be able to participate in our nation's political and public life. Our freedoms respect the dignity of individuals and their consciences and allow us to come together for the common good. Election seasons, therefore, should contain a sense of gratitude and hope. Our love for this country, our patriotism, properly impels us to vote.

But increasingly, it seems, election seasons are a time of anxiety and spiritual trial. Political rhetoric is increasingly angry, seeking to motivate primarily through division and hatred. Fear can be an effective tool for raising money. The most heated arguments online often get the most clicks. Demonizing the other can win votes.

We propose once more the moral framework of *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship* precisely as pastors, inspired by the Good Samaritan, with the hope of binding these wounds and healing these bitter divisions. This document is not based on personalities or partisanship, the latest news cycle, or what's trending on social media. Instead, it reflects the perennial role of the Church in public life in proclaiming timeless principles: the infinite

worth and dignity of every human life, the common good, solidarity, and subsidiarity. Not sure what these mean? We invite you to read a copy of *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship* and learn more.

Allowing your conscience to be stretched and formed by these reflections can give you peace! They point to Jesus' challenge to show mercy to those in need, just as the Good Samaritan. As Pope Francis writes, "Here, all our distinctions, labels and masks fall away: it is the moment of truth. Will we bend down to touch and heal the wounds of others?" (*Fratelli Tutti*, no. 70). Let this be in our hearts when we talk about politics and make political choices.

Some might be tempted to say: yes, of course, we will be the ones who help by promoting good and opposing evil. But when confronted with so much good at risk and so much evil, it is a great challenge to avoid fear and anger. The threat of abortion remains our pre-eminent priority because it directly attacks our most vulnerable and voiceless brothers and sisters and destroys more than a million lives per year in our country alone. Other grave threats to the life and dignity of the human person include euthanasia, gun violence, terrorism, the death penalty, and human trafficking. There is also the redefinition of marriage and gender, threats to religious freedom at home and abroad, lack of justice for the poor, the suffering of migrants and refugees, wars and famines around the world, racism, the need for greater access to healthcare and education, care for our common home, and more. All threaten the dignity of the human person.

So *precisely how* we promote good and oppose evil is an essential part of answering the Lord's call, of being a disciple. As St. Paul reminds us:

# Encounter Christ + Grow in Faith + Make Disciples

*Never let evil talk pass your lips; say only the good things men need to hear, things that will really help them. Do nothing that will sadden the Holy Spirit with whom you were sealed against the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, all passion and anger, harsh words, slander, and malice of every kind. In place of these, be kind to one another, compassionate, and mutually forgiving, just as God has forgiven you in Christ (Eph. 4:29-32).*

Thus, Pope Francis exhorts us to “genuine dialogue and openness to others,” by which we may “be frank and open about our beliefs, while continuing to discuss, to seek points of contact, and above all, to work and struggle together” (*Fratelli Tutti*, no. 203). This applies to the faithful both as voters and as candidates—we must consider not only candidates’ positions on these issues, but their character and integrity as well.

How can we meet this challenge? Again, St. Paul gives us a way: Put on “the mind of Christ” (1 Cor. 2:16). Take time away from social media and spend time with Holy Scripture and the Blessed Sacrament. Turn off the TV and the podcast, and listen in silence. Volunteer at a soup kitchen, a homeless shelter, a crisis pregnancy center. Serve the poor, the needy, the outcast. Pray often, letting faith inform your political participation.

Participation in political life also requires judgments about concrete circumstances. While the bishops help form the laity in accordance with basic principles, they do not tell the laity to vote for particular candidates. On these often complex matters, it is the laity’s responsibility to form their consciences and grow in the virtue of prudence to approach the many and varied issues of the day with the mind of Christ. Conscience is “a judgment of reason” by which one determines whether an action is right or wrong (see *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, no. 1778). It does not allow us to justify doing whatever we want, nor is it a mere “feeling.” Conscience—properly formed according to God’s revelation and the teaching of the Church—is a means by which one listens to God and discerns how to act in accordance with the truth.<sup>1</sup> The truth is something we receive, not something we make. We can only judge using the conscience we have, but our judgments do not make things true.

It is our responsibility to learn more of Catholic teaching and tradition, to participate in Church life, to learn from trustworthy sources about the issues facing our communities, and to do our best

to make wise judgments about candidates and government actions.

We must also seek wisdom, as Holy Scripture instructs:

*Wisdom from above is first of all innocent. It is also peaceable, lenient, docile, rich in sympathy and the kindly deeds that are its fruits, impartial and sincere. The harvest of justice is sown in peace for those who cultivate peace (Jas. 3:17-18).*

The teachings of the Church, moreover, offer a vision of hope, where justice and mercy abound, because God is the infinite source of all goodness and love. With this wisdom and hope, we can find a way to bend down as the Good Samaritan did, through the fear and divisions, to touch and heal the wounds.

May God bless you as you consider and pray over these challenging decisions. May God bless our nation with true wisdom, peace, and mutual forgiveness, that we may decide together, through our democratic processes, to uphold the dignity of life and the common good.

This bulletin insert along with five others was approved by the body of U.S. bishops in November 2023. Find this and more complementary resources at [www.faithfulcitizenship.org](http://www.faithfulcitizenship.org).

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<sup>1</sup> *Gaudium et Spes* (*The Church in the Modern World*), no. 16. See also, *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, no. 1785.

Pray ✦ Grow ✦ Serve ✦ Give ✦ Share

Parish News



Holy Martyrs Café is OPEN following all of the weekend Masses.

**DONUT SUNDAY** and the CAFÉ are entirely supported by your generosity. Thank you!



**CONNECT**  
SMALL GROUPS  
Fall 2024 - Spring 2025

**WHEN YOU PRAY**



When You Pray: A Clear Path to a Deeper Relationship with God

**Starting the week of Sept. 15-21**

Ever struggle to establish a meaningful prayer life? You're not alone. In our Fall series, we will learn how God wants to lead us on a journey to see Him in our daily lives.

CONNECT Small Group Registration is open beginning this weekend, August 24 - August 25.

To register, scan the QR Code below:




**Taize**  
PRAYER

Thursday, September 5, 2024  
7:00pm  
Worship Space



**HOLY MARTYRS STEPHEN MINISTRY**

**Christ-centered Confidential One-on-One Care and Support For Hurting People**

Contact Skip McQuate or Janet Payton if you are in need of a Stephen Minister

**Sacrament of Anointing**

Please notify the church office in advance of a surgery or scheduled hospital stay so that you may receive the **Sacrament of Anointing**. The Church has always prayed for the sick to be freed from pain and restored to health.

To schedule, please call the church office at 330-722-6633

If you would like a prayer shawl at the time of your anointing, please let us know when you schedule the anointing and one will be made available to you.

**Holy Martyrs Prayer Shawl Ministry**

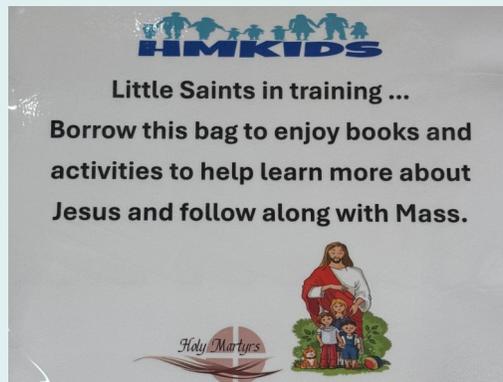
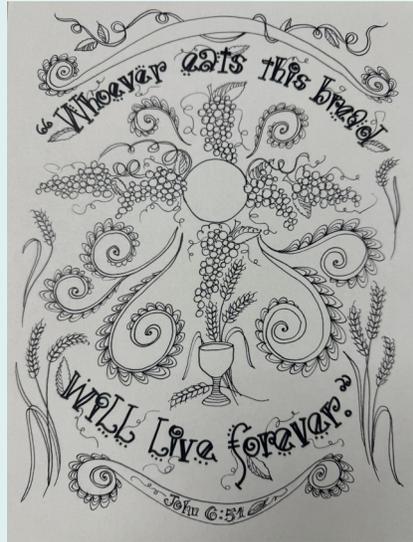
The prayer shawl gives someone a tangible example of God's love and care. The shawl is made of soft yarn so the recipient can wrap up in it and feel God's arms around him or her. The maker of the shawl prays before, during, and after they work on the shawl.

Blessed Prayer Shawls are available at no charge. If you are interested in obtaining a prayer shawl or would like more information on joining this ministry, please contact Nancy Mayes at 330-764-3161.

# Encounter Christ + Grow in Faith + Make Disciples

## Time Travelers/HM Kids

*Time Travelers continue to learn how Jesus is the Bread of Life and whoever eats this Bread will live forever.*



Pray ✦ Grow ✦ Serve ✦ Give ✦ Share

# Encounter Christ + Grow in Faith + Make Disciples

## HM Kids

### HM Kids 2024 - 2025

We are excited to get reconnected with our HM Kids Families! Our HM Kids Faith Formation Program hosts grades K-6 on Monday evenings from 6-7:15 PM, and grades 1-5, with exceptions for 6th graders, on Tuesdays from 6-7:15 PM.

Our first HM Kids Session will be our Annual Family Night complete with pizza and shaved ice, held on Monday, September 23 and Tuesday, September 24, 2024. Look for our email and text about HM Kids registration.

If your child attends Catholic school, but would like to receive Altar Server Training to serve during Holy Martyrs' Masses, Altar Server training occurs in September and October during our 5th grade HM Kids program, offered on Monday or Tuesday evening. Specific dates TBD.

If you have any questions, please contact Shannon Federinko at [sfederinko@holymartyrs.net](mailto:sfederinko@holymartyrs.net).

We are so excited to see everyone back in September!



Pray ✦ Grow ✦ Serve ✦ Give ✦ Share

*Spirit/Life Teen*



*Spirit Registration is now open.*

*Please use the QR code or go to the Holy Martyrs website and look under "events" for Spirit.*



*Spirit is our 7th and 8th grade youth group program, at Holy Martyrs.*



*LIFE TEEN kicks off the Fall on September 15<sup>th</sup> with our very own Olympic Games! All high schoolers are welcome and encouraged to bring a friend!*



*You can register for Life Teen by scanning the QR code, or by visiting our website.*



*A Disciple Gives with Gratitude*

**"FOR WHERE YOUR TREASURE IS,  
THERE YOUR HEART WILL BE ALSO."**

Matthew 6:21



How will you steward God's gifts of time, talent and treasure this year?

Your donations now and throughout the year are needed and greatly appreciated.

Holy Martyrs offers a convenient eGiving option that allows you to make a one-time gift or establish scheduled, recurring gifts. We encourage eGiving because it's secure for our parishioners, easy to use and helps the parish streamline its finances.



Thank you for your support of Holy Martyrs. Your spirited generosity ensures we can continue offering programs and services for adults, children and families. None of this would be possible without the generous ongoing support of people like you!!

***Appeal for Catholic Education  
August 17 - 18, 2024***

***Thank you to all who generously supported*** last week's collection of the Appeal for Catholic Education. Your donations ensure that students continue to have the opportunity to:

- Access academic excellence*
- Prepare to lead productive lives in our society*
- Grow in a life centered on Jesus Christ*
- Hear the Gospel message*
- Experience the joy of a worshipping community*



# Pack the Pantry!

HM Cares will be accepting donations at all Masses during the weekends of **August 24 & 25** and **August 31 & September 1**

### Items Needed:

- non-perishable food items
- paper products
- hypo-allergenic laundry soaps
- personal hygiene products

**Catholic Commission of Wayne - Ashland-Medina  
Invites you**

## FARM MASS

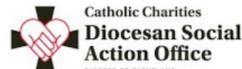
**Sunday, September 22, 2024  
11:00 AM**

**Besancon Family Farm  
6883 Weilersville Road  
Smithville, OH 44677**

***Celebrant is Bishop Martin Amos***

***Farm Tours following Mass***

**RSVP to Paul Kipfstuhl at  
330-241-9112 (call or text)  
paul.kipfstuhl@ccdocle.org**



*Elsewhere in the Diocese*

**Medina County Catholic Charities  
Christmas Memories Sale**



Medina County Catholic Charities will be hosting their 6th annual Christmas Memories Sale on Saturday, October 5, 2024, from 8:00 am - 2:00 pm. The sale will be held at the Medina County Health Department Conference Room, 4210 North Jefferson Street, Medina, Ohio

Donated ornaments, dishes, trees, decorations, collectables, lights, wreaths, and more will be bargain priced at the sale. The community can donate their used Christmas items for the sale through September 27th.

The donations can be dropped off at the Medina County Catholic Charities office located at 4210 North Jefferson St., Suite A; phone number is 330-723-9615.

Proceeds from the sale will support program services and the food shelf located in ***the lobby of the office.***

The food assistance from the food shelf as well as the program services are available to anyone in the community in need.

The First Friday Club of Akron  
Our Lady of Cedars  
507 South Cleveland Massillon Road  
Fairlawn, OH 44333

Friday, September 6, 2024

Guest Speaker Ron Nowak  
High School Youth and Young Adult Minister  
St. Mary's in Hudson

***Cracking the Code for Keeping our Youth in the Church***

Cost: \$25.00 Doors open at 11:00 AM; the program begins at noon, and ends promptly at 1:00 PM.

Reservations can be made by sending a check to the

First Friday Club of Greater Akron,  
PO Box 13291 Fairlawn, OH 44334

By calling the office, or go to the website  
no later than Tuesday, September 3, 2024.

For additional information, call 330-535-7668 or visit

[www.firstfridayclubofgreaterakron.org](http://www.firstfridayclubofgreaterakron.org) or  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/o/first-friday-club-of-greater-akron-13412536107#events>



***September 20-22, 2024***

The Retrouvaille program is designed to help married couples develop improved ways of communicating and relating to each other in order to overcome challenges which have left them feeling frustrated, hurt, distant, or even hopeless. Retrouvaille, which means rediscovery, is open to couples of all faiths and is supported by the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland. This program consists of a weekend experience and six follow up sessions.

For more information or to register, visit [www.helpourmarriage.org](http://www.helpourmarriage.org), or call Shelly or Rob at 216-509-0301 or 440-836-4810.