

WELCOME



Christmas
2024

Holy Martyrs Catholic Church

Holy Martyrs

Holy Martyrs Catholic Church

Encounter Christ + Grow in Faith + Make Disciples

December 22, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Advent

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

Welcoming New Members to the Catholic Faith

On Sunday, January 12, we will be receiving three people into the Catholic Church at the 11:30 am Mass. As children, Lily Allison and Julia and Zak Kelly were formed as Christians in a different denomination, but more recently they have been moved spiritually to inquire about the Catholic faith. For the past few months, they have joined those preparing for full initiation this Easter to ask their questions and learn about Catholic teaching and Tradition. As they ready themselves to be received into the Catholic Church next month and then be confirmed and receive communion, we ask the people of Holy Martyrs to pray for them and welcome them into the life of our parish community.

What Brings You Here this Christmas?

We are living in a world that seems to have flipped upside down. Common sense and just normal caring about one another have been pushed aside and it feels like we have lost our way as a society. Everyone is feeling this but those who have no faith community or have not experienced Christ in their lives feel it most acutely.

If you find yourself here at this Catholic church this Christmas season frustrated with the state of the world but sensing that life has much more to offer, we invite you to inquire about how the Christian faith might help you find what you're looking for.

At Holy Martyrs, we have a special process to help individuals of all ages discover what they are seeking at their deepest core. Whether you have some or no understanding of the Christian faith, our intent is to help you find where God is calling you. Everyone's journey is different, and we respect that by meeting people where they are at.

If you are seeking something deeper in your life but aren't sure where to turn, we invite you to reach out. To begin that conversation, contact Janet Payton at jpayton@holymartyrs.net.



4TH SUNDAY OF
ADVENT
&
CHRISTMAS MASS

4th Sunday of Advent:

Saturday - 4:30pm
Sunday - 9:30am, 11:30am, & 5pm

Christmas Masses:

Tuesday Night - 4pm, 6pm, & 10pm
Wednesday - 10:00am



Parish Staff

Janet Payton
Pastoral Associate

Father Stephen J. Dohner
Pastor

Christopher Ilg
Director of Music

Father Robert F. Pfeiffer
Pastor Emeritus

Shannon Federinko
HM Kids Coordinator

Skip McQuate
SPIRIT Coordinator

Alyssa Nadin
Communications

Father Mark Ott
Weekend Priest

Brandon Woods
Life Teen Coordinator

Encounter Christ + Grow in Faith + Make Disciples

Mass Intentions

December 21 - December 29

This Week at Holy Martyrs

Sat	4:30 PM	Parishioners
Sun	9:30 AM	Brad and Jean Thomas
	11:30 AM	Frank Ivicic
Mon	5:00 PM	Kenneth Gulling
	Noon	Jane Lang
Tues	4:00 PM	Mr. & Mrs. Charles Cancasci
	6:00 PM	Ronald Nelson
Wed	10:00 PM	Norma Duplaga
	10:00 AM	Parishioners
Thurs	NO DAILY MASS TODAY	
Fri	NO DAILY MASS TODAY	
Sat	4:30 PM	Ruth Tender
Sun	9:30 AM	Jerry Bartkowiak
	11:30 AM	Mark Kaletta
	5:00 PM	Parishioners

Sun 12/22	Choir Rehearsal Mass Time Travelers Journey Catechumenate Mass Contemporary Mass	8:30 AM Pfeiffer Hall 9:30 AM Worship Space 9:30 AM Rooms 203-204 10:00 AM Lounge Room 105 11:30 AM Worship Space 5:00 PM Worship Space
Mon 12/23	Daily Mass	12:00 Worship Space
Tues 12/24	Christmas Eve Mass Time Travelers	4:00 PM Worship Space 4:00 PM Rooms 203-204
	Christmas Eve Mass Christmas Eve Mass	6:00 PM Worship Space 10:00 PM Worship Space
Wed 12/25	Christmas Day Mass	10:00 AM Worship Space
Thurs 12/26	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED NO DAILY MASS TODAY	
Fri 12/27	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED NO DAILY MASS TODAY	
	Red Cross Blood Drive	12:00 Martyrs Hall
Sat 12/28	Reconciliation Vigil Mass	3:00 PM Chapel 4:30 PM Worship Space
	Sun 12/29	Choir Rehearsal Mass Time Travelers Journey Catechumenate Mass Contemporary Mass

The Jubilee 2025—Pilgrims of Hope is a holy year in the Catholic Church that will take place from Christmas 2024 to Epiphany 2026

A Jubilee is a time for celebration, spiritual renewal, and a stronger connection to faith. It's a chance for the faithful to visit holy sites, perform pious works, and have their sins remitted.

The Catholic Holy Year usually occurs every 25 years. The 2025 Jubilee is preceded by the Year of Prayer in 2024, which was a preparatory period for personal meditations.

The Jubilee is a global celebration, but Rome and the Vatican City are the epicenters. Millions of pilgrims are expected to visit Rome, and the Pope will open the Holy Door of Saint Peter's Basilica on December 24 to grant plenary indulgence to pilgrims.

The theme for the 2025 Jubilee is "Pilgrims of Hope", chosen to promote peacebuilding in a world threatened by climate change and ongoing wars.





Steve Dimer

GOD BLESS YOU THIS CHRISTMAS!

Janet Payne

WE PRAY GOD'S BLESSINGS UPON YOU AND THOSE YOU LOVE.

Kate Zeman

AS WE REMEMBER THE BIRTH OF JESUS, MAY WE SHARE THE SONG OF THE ANGELS, THE JOY OF THE SHEPHERDS, AND THE WORSHIP OF THE MAGI.

Shannon Federisko

Barbara Carosi

MAY KINDNESS COME WITH EVERY GIFT AND GOOD DESIRES WITH EVERY GREETING.

Brenda Clarkovich

Alyssa Nader

LET US REJOICE IN THIS HOLY SEASON FOR THE BLESSINGS THAT CHRIST BRINGS.

Jenny Messina

Brandon J Wood

A VERY BLESSED CHRISTMAS FROM THE STAFF OF HOLY MARTYRS

SKIP McQUATE





A CHRISTMAS FAMILY PRAYER

BLESS US THIS CHRISTMAS
O LORD OUR GOD.
MAKE OUR HOME A NEW BETHLEHEM
WHERE OUR SAVIOR MAY DWELL.

GRANT US JOY IN OUR HEARTS,
HOPE IN OUR GOD,
LOVE THAT FORGIVES,
AND PEACE UPON THE EARTH.

BESTOW YOUR BLESSINGS
ON OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS
AND ON ALL WHO SEEK YOU THIS DAY.

MAY THERE BE BREAD FOR THE HUNGRY,
HELP FOR THE FORGOTTEN,
HEALING FOR THE SICK,
AND PROTECTION FOR THE YOUNG.

WITH THANKS IN OUR HEARTS
FOR THE DAWN OF HOPE
AND NEW LIFE IN JESUS,
FILL OUR HEARTS WITH YOUR PRESENCE
ON THE BIRTHDAY OF DIVINE LOVE.

AMEN.

HOLY MARTYRS CHURCH







Parish News



Have you ever been asked to be a godparent but then learned you were unable to accept the honor because you have not been confirmed? You're not alone. For a variety of reasons, some adult Catholics never completed their initiation into the Church by receiving the sacrament of confirmation. If this describes you, you might want to consider

participating in our 6-week Adult Confirmation Preparation series beginning on Tuesday, January 7, 2025.

Since the invitation to be a godparent or sponsor often comes shortly before the child is to be baptized, it's best to reflect on your faith journey *now* and take the step to be confirmed before the question is even posed. Just use the QR code below to sign up or get more information.



Baptism Preparation
Sunday, January 19, 2025
1:30 - 3:00 PM

Those parents seeking to have a child Baptized will need to complete a Baptism Preparation Session if this is your first child or if it has been 2 years or more since you last attended a session.

Holy Martyrs will be holding a Baptism Preparation Session on **Sunday, January 19 at 1:30PM** in the Worship Space. Please plan to arrive at church between 1:15 PM and 1:30 PM.

To register, please scan QR Code



or go to:

<https://holymartyrs.net/event-details/?id=10411>

Christmas Oplatki

Christmas Oplatki is available for purchase after all weekend Masses at the Welcome Center or at the Church Office Monday through Thursday, 9:00 AM—5:00 PM
Cost is \$2.00 each

Eucharistic Adoration

JOIN US FOR ADORATION AFTER MASS THURSDAY AFTERNOON!

Mass 12:00pm
Adoration 12:30-1pm

HOLY MARTYRS CATHOLIC CHURCH



Date Night

FOR COUPLES

WHEN - Saturday, February 1st, 2025

TIME - 4:30 Mass, 5:30-8:00 Date Night

WHAT - Dinner, Speaker, Social

Pray



Grow



Serve



Give



Share

HM Kids Advent Celebration



Our Kindergarten and First Grade singing angels "stole the show," followed by special songs to lead us into our third week of Advent from grades 2-4 and our Advent Choir, grades 3-6.

In spite of the cancellation due to the power outage Sunday, our HM Kids Annual Advent Celebration tonight was extraordinary.

With lots of help from our Catechist Team, HM Cares, Cafe', Usher, Tech, and Music Ministries, the families who attended, experienced a beautiful performance and learned about Advent through prayer, service, and community.



After Father blessed the gifts, our fourth grade helped load the gifts for Catholic Charities. Supported by our Catechists, 5th and 6th graders led sessions including Advent Wreath, Advent in Two Minutes, and Five Finger Prayer.

Our student leaders also facilitated crafts for our homebound parishioners and choosing activities to do over the advent season from an advent calendar placemat, while enjoying cookies and milk served by Miss Char's Hospitality team of 5th and 6th grade leaders.



What a beautiful way to celebrate Advent through song, community, prayer, and activities. A special thanks to our Holy Martyrs Staff and ministries for taking the time to help us. We appreciate Mrs. Emily Semenik for serving HMKids with weeks of music ministry and practice, so we could hear the beautiful voices of our children.



A special thank you also to our HM Kids' Families for donating dozens of baked goods and hundreds of gifts for children in need. HM Kids concludes our first half of the year with our Advent/Give a Gift Family Night Celebration and will resume in January.

SPIRIT / Life Teen

SPIRIT, our 7th and 8th grade youth group ministry, will not meet on Sunday, Dec 22, 2024 or Sunday, Dec 29, 2024. We will meet again on Sunday, January 5, 2025. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all Spirit Families!



Spirit is on Facebook, Instagram and the Holy Martyrs website

LIFE TEEN

at a glance

December 27
Family Bowling Day

January 5th
Winter kickoff

Feb. 28 - March 2
Retreat

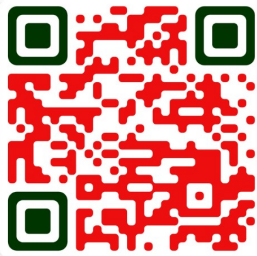
March 23
Friendship Meal

Encounter Christ + Grow in Faith + Make Disciples

A Disciple Gives With Gratitude



Your
Christmas
Offering



SCAN TO GIVE

**Please Remember:
Two Envelopes at Christmas**

Each Christmas, the people of Holy Martyrs share their generosity in many ways. In addition to the regular Sunday envelopes that fund our parish programs through the year, we rely on the extraordinary support of our people at Christmas time to help support our many activities, ministries and special needs. Both are a vital part of what we do.

This year, Christmas falls on a Wednesday. Please remember both our normal and extraordinary needs in planning your giving. God bless you!

Red Cross Blood Drive
Friday, December 27, 2024
12:00 - 5:00 PM
Martyrs Hall



To donate, sign up at:

<https://www.redcross.org/>

**Strengthen your
Catholic legacy**

Create an estate plan to grow
your impact this spring

freewill.com/catholiccommunity

HOLY MARTYRS
CATHOLIC CHURCH



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

Enriching Lives In Northeast Ohio

Pray ✦ Grow ✦ Serve ✦ Give ✦ Share