

# SAINT MARY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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Church Website: <http://www.stmarydefiance.org>  
*A member of the St. Maximillian Kolbe Deanery*

## PARISH PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Randy Giesige - Pastor  
Deacon George Newton - Pastoral Associate  
Mrs. Valerie Fogle - Business Manager  
Deacon Jeff Mayer - Bereavement Ministry  
Deacon John Weber - Social Justice and Outreach  
Mrs. Mary Steyer - Youth Ministry  
Sr. Barbara Sloan, SND- Director of Sacramental Preparation  
Mrs. Jean Carr - Secretary/Bookkeeper  
Mrs. Shelly Shafer - Secretary  
Mr. Ralph Hahn - Part-time Maintenance/Custodian

## GENERATIONS OF FAITH

Mrs. Carol Kurivial

## HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

1745 S. Clinton Street • Phone: 419-784-2021  
School Website: <http://www.defianceholycross.org>  
Sr. Lynda Snyder, SND - Principal Minister  
Mrs. Barbara Naymik - School Secretary

## RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:30 p.m. and privately by request

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

For the required parent interview, call Deacon George Newton (782-2776). Instructions are the first Sunday and Baptisms the third Sunday at 1:00 p.m. in Feb., April, June, Aug., Oct. and Dec. Baptisms may take place during a Sunday Liturgy the other months by arrangement.

## SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Please call Parish office.

## SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Please arrange with the Parish at least 6 months in advance.

## FOOD PANTRY

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 3:00–5:00 p.m.

## MISSION

### STATEMENT

We are the members of the Body of Christ who strive to Know, Love and Serve God and Our Neighbors.

## MASS SCHEDULE

### LORD'S DAY

Saturday: 4:30 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.

Weekdays: Please see inside bulletin

**ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH**

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**From the desk of George Newton:** A woman once told me she was a little upset because the homilist seemed to be chastising the assembly. She felt that being at Mass was proof of her allegiance to the church. Actually, the purpose of a sermon is not to chastise nor to entertain, rather, it is to instruct and to edify. Since the scripture readings are sometimes difficult to understand and even more difficult to apply to our everyday life, the on-going teaching is necessary.

As it has been many times in the past, our world is in deep turmoil. In fact, in our country religious liberty and freedom of conscience for Christians have been under attack for many years. Our bishops have now taken a strong stand for religious freedom and we must support them, not try to find a false compromise.

This is a difficult task because governments have a history of forcing their own agenda. To avoid unnecessary problems with our government, our employers, and our neighbors, we need sermons that are factual, practiced and true to the Spirit of God's Word. So, don't think that the homilist is chastising you, rather, listen carefully and realize that all of us must follow the truths handed down to us from Christ and all the prophetic voices that speak the truth. We can win out over evil, but the struggle will be difficult.

**Today's Readings:** Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46/1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1/Mark 1:40-45

**Next Sunday's Readings:** Isaiah 43:18-19, 21-22, 24b-25/2 Corinthians 1:18-22/Mark 2:1-12

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**Liturgical Roles**

**Feb 18: Saturday 4:30 pm**

E. Ministers: Bill Kasuga, Agnes McDonald,  
Helen & Jim Bauer, Mary Kimmet,  
Joanne Santo & Barb Switzer  
Lectors: Raul Sanchez & Mark Ryan  
Servers: Mary Kimmet, Mike Wolfrum &  
volunteer  
Greeters: Joanne Auer & Mary Keller

**Feb 19: Sunday 8:00 am**

E. Ministers: Rose Pessefall, George Newton,  
Carol Maag, Sandy Simon, and 3  
volunteers  
Lectors: Jill Mack & Mary Steyer  
Servers: Becky Saxton, Justin & Cameron  
Layne  
Greeters: Luann Mealer & Gretchen Davis

**Feb 19: Sunday 9:30 am**

E. Ministers: Steve Hageman, Craig Riedel,  
Rob Carr, Delbert Densmore,  
Adam Shafer, Harriet Steel & Emily  
Willitzer  
Lectors: Dawn Buchholz & Lisa Becher  
Servers: Tyler & Brandon Shafer, Cordell  
Stover  
Greeters: Becky Erford & Norma Wittler

**Feb 19: Sunday 11:30 am**

E. Ministers: Grace Lipp, Doug George, Geri  
Grube, Karley Gustwiller, Sara  
Trejo & 2 volunteers  
Lectors: Sara Leininger & Jay Brown  
Servers: William & Colleen Johns, Jaiden  
Shock  
Greeter: Vivian Kregg

**2012 Annual Catholic Appeal:**

Next weekend, February 18/19, will be Commitment Weekend at our parish for the 2012 Annual Catholic Appeal. If you are registered with the parish, you should have already received a letter regarding this vital appeal. Please bring your completed pledge form with you to Mass next weekend. Additional pledge envelopes will be available in the pews for our visitors.

75% of funds raised over our parish goal of \$28,572 will be rebated back to our parish.

*"While we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith."* Galatians 6:10

**Director of Music & Worship:** We are currently taking applications for the position of Director of Music & Worship. If you are interested or you know of anyone who may be interested in this position, please mail or drop off your resume and references to the Parish Ministry Center. For any questions, please contact Valerie Fogle at 419-782-2776.

**Prayer Intention Book:** Just a reminder, the prayer intention book is inside the church, near the main entrance. You are invited to write any of your prayer intentions that you would like the St. Mary Community to pray for. At each Mass, during the Prayer of the Faithful, a Petition will be prayed for all the intentions written in the Intention Book. This is a wonderful way to support one another in our needs as we remember the words of Jesus to pray for one another and be healed.

**Thank you!** Have you noticed the new literature centers at each of the church side entrances? These have been made possible through the Time and Talent of Mr. Sam Strable. Sam graciously donated his time and labor to craft these beautiful new pieces making all of our newsletters, the Catholic Chronicle, and other literature more visible and easier to access. Thank you, Sam for your efforts.

**Burn Palms:** St. Mary's will burn palms from last Lent after the Tuesday morning Mass on February 21. Baskets are in place at the Church entrances for you to place your palms.

**For all Eucharistic Ministers** who did not get commissioned at Mass on the weekends of October 23 or November 20, the last make-up weekend is February 19 at the 9:30 am Mass. This is mandatory for all who distribute communion at church or to the home-bound.



Deep in the heart of every person, there is a desire to know God and draw nearer

**Come to the February Generations of Faith where Sr. Karen Elliott, CPPS will teach us how to use our Bibles to achieve both of these inevitable desires.**

**DON'T MISS IT!!!**

**BRING YOUR BIBLES AND REMEMBER OUR CHALLENGE TO BRING A FRIEND!**

**Sunday, February 12 (12:45 to 2:45) and  
Wednesday, February 15 (6:30 to 8:30)  
Holy Cross Catholic School**

**Also, any high school student interested in being involved in the March 11 and 14 Generations of Faith "The Seven Last Words of Christ" drama, please fill out and return the registration form by February 17. Forms are available at the parish office or from your Youth Minister. (Further details including rehearsal dates are included on the form.) Don't miss being a part of this powerful experience!**

**Youth Update:  
Wednesday, February 15th  
Activity Schedule**

**No Youth choir**

**High School & Junior High should attend Generations Of Faith with presenter Sr. Karen Elliott. Don't forget your bible!**

**High School ladies are you looking for a way to beat the winter blues? We've got the answer!**

**Join us at Just Be You - BODY, MIND & SPIRIT...**

Sat. Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm – Sun. Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm.

**Treat yourself to a 25 hour retreat!**

**SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup> "MIDDLE SCHOOL RALLY!" (Grades 6 – 8)**

**Parents' Valentine's Day Blessing**

God of all love,  
you brought us together as man and woman



so that we might love each other and show your love to the world through the gift of the children you have given us. Help us to be loving and kind to one another each day of our lives.

Bless our children with your love in our home and in every other place.

May your love be shown to others, in our family and beyond the walls of our home. May all of us know the depth of your enduring love and be strengthened to share that same love that comes from you and is spread throughout the world.

Amen.

True love doesn't have a happy ending. True love doesn't HAVE an ending. –unknown

**HOLY CROSS SCHOOL NEWS:**

**Reverse Raffle**

Thank you for your wonderful support and participation! The Children's Art Auction made \$2,187.50—more than double of last year's! Congratulations, Mrs. Zedaker, and all who helped in any way! Good food. Good friends. Good fun.



**Lego Robotics** The members of the Lego Robotics class are doing an awesome job programming their bots to go in specific sized rectangle and circles and to talk!

**Kid's Focus**

The latest HCCS Kid's Focus was delivered to DCTV last Thursday— this month's program focuses on the chapel with an interview with Nick Varano and Mrs. Boyd and a tour inside the chapel— watch the Crescent News for the air times!

**PMO**

Thank you to PMO for the gift books to each classroom for Catholic Schools Week!

**Fr. Randy Religion Classes**

Fr. Randy resumed his visits to the classroom Religion classes.

Feb. 7	Grade 4 and Grade 6
Feb. 9	Grade 3
Feb. 16	Grade 2

**Chapel Wish List**

We have been blessed with many generous donors for the chapel and for chapel items.

Here are some items we still need:

**\*Communion set:** \$675.00  
(2 distributing bowls and ciborium with lid)

**\*New Servers Albs**  
 Small size \$80.00 each  
 Medium Size \$86.25 each  
 Large Size \$97.25 each  
 Extra large/tall \$101.25 each

**\*Altar cloths for the various seasons**

**\*Altar linens:**  
 Purificators \$15.00 each (small cloths used to wipe chalice during communion)  
 Corporal \$21.00 each (cloth on which the chalice, paten and cups are placed)  
 Lavabo Towels \$12.00 (small towel for priest to dry hands after washing)

**Stained Glass windows \$21,000 (for 3)**

- Celtic Rose
- Noah's Ark
- (New Testament story, as per students' suggestions)

Please contact school if you have any questions. Many thanks.

**Scout Mass with Bishop Blair**

All Scouts, Scouters, family and friends please join in on Sunday, February 26, at 10:00 am at Our Lady Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral for a Scout Mass with the Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair, STD.

There is a brunch with awards following Mass. Brunch is \$7 (in advance) a person and requires reservations. For more information, or to make reservations, call or e-mail Gary Holewinski 419-704-7811 or gholewinski@bex.net

**EN THEOS - Enthusiasm for the Faith**

**Does God make people suffer because of their sins?**

Let's use the analogy of parents. If your children did something wrong, would you make them suffer? In other words, would you make them feel pain just because they did something wrong? Probably not. You chastise them, and the punishment or correction might not be pleasant, but out of love for your children, you will not hurt them just to hurt them. Sometimes, they suffer the consequences of their actions and that is punishment enough. You hope they learn and grow from their choices, good and bad.

God is a loving Father. He allows us to suffer the consequences of our sins, so that we will turn to him for his love and forgiveness. God wants us to grow in holiness, in virtue, in grace. He gives us free will so that we can choose, and the choices we make either bring us joy or bring us suffering. From that, we learn and grow. God does not hurt us or make us suffer to get even with us. He loves us and wants the best for us. When we suffer, He suffers with us so that we know how much we need Him and how much He loves us.

**A Family Perspective:** Family life is about decisions. The leper in today's gospel knew this when he said to Jesus, "If you will, you can make me clean." Jesus knew this when he said, "I do will it." Love is not an emotion. It is a decision to be with and for another person in "good times and bad," even when we don't feel like it.

"If we want faith, trust, hope, peace and love within the children, we must have it within ourselves, our homes, our schools, our communities."  
 Sr. Mary Catherine Evans, O. P.

**Parish Finances - Stewardship of Treasure**

Last Week You Gave.....	\$12,503.00
Need Weekly .....	\$10,827.00
Above Budget.....	+\$1,676.00
Contributions to Date .....	\$323,451.33
\$10,827 x 32 Weeks .....	\$346,464.00
Year to Date <i>Below</i> Budget .....	(\$23,012.67)

**Men's Breakfast:** All area men are invited to the Northwest Ohio Men's Fellowship Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, Feb. 18 at Zion's Lutheran Church, 1801 E. Second Street. 7:30 am coffee/ 8:00 am event starts. Come join in for fellowship and good food.

**Empty Bowls Dinner:** Defiance College Student Social Work Organization is having their 12th Annual Empty Bowls Dinner at the K of C Hall on Thursday, February 23, 4:30-7:00 pm. Tickets are \$10 and include a hand-thrown bowl, soup and bread. The bowl is yours to keep. Meal-only tickets are \$7. The goal is to raise funds to help feed the hungry, with all proceeds going to the PATH Center.

**The Sylvania Franciscan Village** is hosting "Our Whirling Solar System: A Panorama of Beauty and Mystery" on Thursday, March 8, from 4:30- 6:00 pm in Appold Planetarium at Lourdes University. As a follow-up to this overview, three discussion sessions on finding renewed reverence for earth will take place on Thursday, March 15, 22, and 29. Lial Renewal Center in Whitehouse will host the morning sessions from 9 - 10:30 a.m., and Sylvania Franciscan Village will host the afternoon sessions from 4:30- 6 pm. Free will offering. Contact Sister Mary Dean Pfahler @ Lial Renewal Center, 419-877-0432 or [mdpfahler@toledosnd.org](mailto:mdpfahler@toledosnd.org) or Sister Janet Doyle at Sylvania Village, 419-824-3533 or [jdoyle@sistersosf.org](mailto:jdoyle@sistersosf.org).

**The Deacons throughout the diocese** are praying twice a day for those who have asked for prayers. If you have any prayer requests please email them to: [maryjohncam@buckeye-express.com](mailto:maryjohncam@buckeye-express.com).

**Daily Readings for This Week  
Readings for the Week of February 12**

Monday:	Jas 1:1-11/Mk 8:11-13
Tuesday:	Jas 1:12-18/Mk 8:14-21
Wednesday:	Jas 1:19-27/Mk 8:22-26
Thursday:	Jas 2:1-9/Mk 8:27-33
Friday:	Jas 2:14-24, 26/Mk 8:34-9:1
Saturday:	Jas 3:1-10/Mk 9:2-13

**EVENTS FOR THIS WEEK**

**Sunday, February 12**

- 8:00 am** Mass– Wilber Steinbrener
- 9:30 am** Mass– Lucille Burkhart
- 9:30 am Celebrate the Word
- 10:30 am RCIA
- 11:30 am** Mass– John & Violet Relue
- 12:45 pm Generations of Faith

**Monday, February 13**

- 8:00 am** Communion Service
- 5:30 pm Furniture Bank Meeting
- 7:00 pm Charismatic Prayer Group

**Tuesday, February 14**

- 8:00 am** Mass– Dr. H.C. Brown
- 7:00 pm HUG Gathering
- 7:00 pm Pastoral Council
- 7:30 pm Cub Scouts
- 7:30 pm Boy Scouts

**Wednesday, February 15**

- 9:30 am** School Mass– Con Gomez
- 4:00 pm Shepherd of Christ Prayer Group
- 5:30 pm Social Justice Meeting
- 6:30 pm Generations of Faith

**Thursday, February 16**

- 8:00 am** Mass– Abandoned Souls of Purgatory
- 6:00 pm T Ruth Academy
- 7:00 pm Retreat Team Meeting

**Friday, February 17**

- 8:00 am** Mass– Respect for Life
- 7:00 pm Spanish Prayer Group

**Saturday, February 18**

- 3:30 pm Reconciliation
- 4:30 pm** Mass– Frank & Lillian Radocy

**Sunday, February 19**

- 8:00 am** Mass– Don Miller
- 9:30 am** Mass– Stanley Studenka
- 9:30 am Celebrate the Word
- 10:30 am RCIA
- 11:30 am** Mass– Viola & Gilbert Behrens
- 1:00 pm Sacramental Meetings
- Grade 1– parent and child
- Grade 2– children only

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