



**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2024**

## 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT



When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb." - Lk 1:41-42



## Holy Trinity Parish

33601 Detroit Road

Avon, Ohio 44011

(440) 937-5363

[www.htavon.org](http://www.htavon.org)



## St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception

2640 Stoney Ridge Road

Avon, Ohio 44011

(440) 934-4212

[www.stmaryavon.org](http://www.stmaryavon.org)



## Our Staff

Rev. Vincent Hawk - Pastor

Parochial Vicar

Deacon, *St. Mary*

Deacon, *Holy Trinity*

Executive Assistant

Director of Evangelization

Director of Religious Education

Director of Youth & Campus Ministry

Music Minister, *Holy Trinity*

Musician & Accompanist, *Holy Trinity*

Music Minister, *St. Mary*

Care & Consolation Minister

Accountant

Scholarship Coordinator

Social Media Communications

Special Projects Coordinator

Receptionist

Rev. Deogratias Ruwainenyi

Daniel Hancock

Michael Puhalla

Karen Boehm

Desi Gould

Kevin Kaufhold

Clare Sherman

Helen Herbst

Mark Slatter

Jolene Nelson

Tammie Frank

Colleen Stalla

Nicole Walther

Brooke Uehlein

Meg Harrison

Kathleen Ulintz

### Holy Trinity School:

Co-Principal

Co-Principal

Director, Marketing & Admissions

School Secretary

Office Assistant

Kim Kuchta

Michael Modzeleski

Cheryl Roche

MaryKay Kotsybar

Laura Menser

### St. Mary School:

Principal

Administrative Assistant

Bart Chatfield

Barbara Bowers

## Devotions

### Eucharistic Adoration:

Wednesdays: 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm (Holy Trinity)

Thursdays: 10:00 am to 3:00 pm (Holy Trinity)

Thursdays: 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm (St. Mary)

### Confessions:

Mondays: 7:00 to 7:25 pm (St. Mary)

Saturdays: 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm (St. Mary)

Saturdays: 4:00 pm to 4:30 pm (Holy Trinity)

## Sacraments

### Baptism:

Please call the Parish Office to make arrangements

### Anointing:

Please call to make arrangements with a priest

### Marriage:

Couples who are registered members of the parish should contact the pastor at least 6 months in advance of the intended date.

## Office Hours

**The Parish Offices will be closed on Tuesday, December 24th and Wednesday, December 25th for Christmas!**

### Avon Catholic Community Office Hours

Mon - Fri..... 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (*Holy Trinity*)

Tuesday.....8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (*St. Mary*)

Thursday.....12:30 to 4:30 p.m. (*St. Mary*)

\*Office closed daily from 12:00 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.

### Bulletin Information

Send all Bulletin inquiries to: [bulletin@avoncc.org](mailto:bulletin@avoncc.org)

The deadline for information is **Monday at 12:00 pm**  
*[different deadlines are in place for our Holiday publications]*



## *A Christmas Message from Father Hawk*



Dear Parishioners,

As we come together this time of year - as a parish community, with friends, or with our family - we see the heart of God at work. God's heart is generous, full of love and mercy. Pause for a moment. Think of how you've visually seen our greatest gift on earth, the gift of Jesus, at work throughout this season.

Christ came to earth to share an extraordinary message: one of love, hope, joy and peace. I am in awe of our parishioners and the collective focus made on this message. The Avon Catholic Community has provided for those in need through our Giving Tree, Birthright donation box, prepared meals for the St. Elizabeth shelter, and spent time in worship and fellowship with one another during Advent Lessons and Carols and Advent by Candlelight. In all of these ways, the joy of Advent and Christmas has penetrated your hearts to live a Christ-filled life. Through these actions, those we help have felt loved and seen during what may be a difficult time.

I hope that each of you have cherished the time spent with family and prayed for loved ones that shaped our Christmas traditions of years past. I believe that each of us radiates love as we recognize the face of Christ in others. I personally am excited to spend time with family and visit with my Godson. Relaxing, laughing and helping assemble Christmas gifts provides me the opportunity to center myself before starting the New Year.

Looking ahead to 2025, there are two new faces to welcome to the Avon Catholic Community. I am excited to share that the Diocese of Cleveland will be assigning an additional priest to join our staff full-time. He will have responsibilities at both St. Mary and Holy Trinity. We'll learn the name of who will be joining Father Deo and I sometime late Spring. To support our growing youth ministry program, we will welcome new hire Rachel Frankart. Rachel, a native of Northeast Ohio, has served as youth minister at St. Timothy parish in Mesa, Arizona. She and her husband are returning to the area to be closer to family. Rachel will collaborate on youth ministry efforts with Clare Sherman.

My prayers are with you now through the New Year. May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi and the peace of the Christ child.

Fr. Hawk



**Christmas Eve and Christmas Day  
Mass Times**

**Tuesday, December 24  
Christmas Eve**

Holy Trinity 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Saint Mary 4:00 PM - Midnight
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**Wednesday, December 25 Christmas Day**

Holy Trinity 9:00 AM - Noon	Saint Mary 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM
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## DISCIPLESHIP DIGEST *with desi*

Today we encounter a tender and powerful moment between Mary and Elizabeth. Both women are carrying miracles: Mary, the Savior of the world, and Elizabeth, the long-awaited child who will prepare His way. Elizabeth's exclamation, "Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled," highlights Mary's unwavering faith and trust in God's promise.

This Gospel invites us to consider how we respond to God's call in our lives. Like Mary, we are called to trust, even when we do not fully understand God's plan. And like Elizabeth, we are called to recognize the work of God in others and encourage them in their faith. During this Advent season, let us strive to cultivate Mary's trust and Elizabeth's joy, preparing our hearts to welcome Jesus with faith-filled hope and gratitude.

### **Last Call to Join "Bible in a Year"**

Don't miss your chance to participate in our **Bible in a Year study**, deadline to register is December 23. This study will officially begin **Wednesday, January 8**, and will be led by Deacon Michael Puhalla. This program is a meaningful way to deepen your faith, grow in understanding of Scripture, and build a community of believers.

What to Expect:

- Weekly sessions** exploring key Bible stories and lessons
- Fellowship** with others on a journey of faith
- Reflections and insights** to help you live Scripture daily

Details:

- Cost:** \$50 per person (includes materials and snacks)
- When:** Wednesdays, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
- Where:** St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception
- Childcare available**

This is your opportunity to take a step closer to God through His Word. **Register today using the QR code, website or by calling the parish office!**

### **Save the Date: Avon Catholic Ministry Fair**

Looking to grow your involvement in the parish? Mark your calendars for the **Avon Catholic Ministry Fair** on **Thursday, February 27, 6p.m. at Tom's Country Place**. Discover the variety of ministries in our community and learn how you can contribute your time, talents, and faith.

As Mary and Elizabeth teach us to trust and rejoice in God's promises, let's embrace this season with faith and a heart ready to serve. Join us for these opportunities to grow, learn, and celebrate our journey of faith together!

**Desi**

Desi Gould, Director of Evangelization



# BIBLE STUDY

Start your New Year with a journey through the Word of God! As part of your New Year's resolutions, consider deepening your faith and understanding of Scripture. In celebration of the Jubilee Year, join us for the Bible in a Year Bible Study—a transformative experience guided by Deacon Michael Puhalla.

 **BEGINNING JANUARY 2025**

Please check the parish website, use QR code or call parish office for more information. **CHILDCARE WILL BE AVAILABLE!**

**Scan to register  
by 12/23**





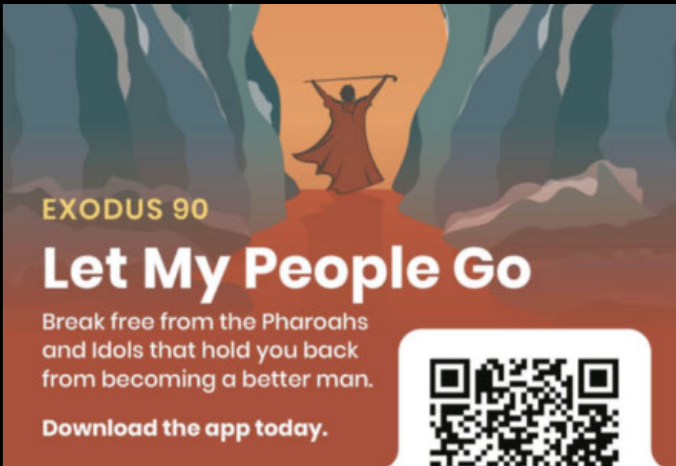


**MINISTRY FAIR**

Save the date

Avon Catholic Community  
February 27, 2025  
6pm-8pm  
Tom's Country Place

MASS INTENTIONS		
	HOLY TRINITY	ST. MARY
Mon. Dec 23		
7:45 A.M.	Frances Ondik	
7:30 P.M.		Wilma Jacovetti
Tues. Dec 24 <b>Christmas Eve</b>		
4:00 P.M.	Deceased members of the Lengen Family	Living & Deceased members of the McGervey & Banville Families
6:00 P.M.	Greg Ravas	
10:00 P.M.	Parishioners	
Midnight		Amanda Philpott
Wed. Dec 25 <b>Christmas Day</b>		
8:00 A.M.		Mary Browne
9:00 A.M.	Living & Deceased members of the Piazza & Glenn Families	
10:00 A.M.		Charles Bommer
Noon	Jerome Rettig	
Thurs. Dec 26 <b>St. Stephen</b>		
7:45 A.M.	Morning Prayer	
7:30 P.M.		Deceased Members of the DiFrancesco
Fri. Dec 27 <b>St. John, Apostle &amp; Evangelist</b>		
7:45 A.M.	Mary Gramling-Belfy	
8:30 A.M.		Joan & Dix Miller
Sat. Dec 28		
8:30 A.M.		Parish All Souls
4:00 P.M.		Bob Urig
5:00 P.M.	Parishioners	
Sun. Dec 29 <b>Holy Family of Jesus, Mary &amp; Joseph</b>		
7:30 A.M.	Jeanne Schubert	
8:00 A.M.		Parishioners
9:00 A.M.	Living & Deceased members of the Failor & Ulery Families	
10:00 A.M.		Grzybowski, Reising & Villwock Families
10:30 A.M.	Bob & Shirley Doss 55th Anniversary	
Noon	John Corrigan	John A. Ravotti Sr.




**EXODUS 90**

**Let My People Go**

Break free from the Pharaohs and Idols that hold you back from becoming a better man.

Download the app today.

 **Exodus 90**  
Join the Avon Catholic Group

**Why should you join?**

If we're ruled by our 'modern Pharaohs,' how can we truly be free to become the men God made us to be? Exodus 90 gives you the tools to take control of your life and find deeper unity with God — and a brotherhood of men on the same journey.

**STARTS JAN. 20th**  
**Register Today**  
Call Parish Office for more Information

## From the Office of Care & Consolation Ministry:

The **Grief Recovery Method**, grief support group, will begin the next 8-week series on Wednesday, January 15 from 6:30—8:30 p.m. Gatherings are held in the parish office located behind the Holy Trinity school entrance. RSVP is kindly requested by January 10 to Tammie Frank by calling ext. 233 at the parish office (440-937-5363). Grief recovery method is for anyone who has lost a loved one, a job, a relationship, a home or more. The program is designed to give a person tools to help along their journey.

Bereavement is Sunday, December 22nd from 1-2 in the parish office.

**The Seven Sisters prayer group is seeking additional help from women of the Avon Catholic Community.** Parishioners from St. Mary and Holy Trinity are welcome to join in daily prayer for all priests serving the Avon Catholic Community. Seven Sisters prays one holy hour each week for the assigned priests and our weekend associate priests. We are in need of seven sisters for each priest, one for each day of the week. More information about the Seven Sisters apostolate may be found here: [seven-sistersapostolate.org](http://seven-sistersapostolate.org). If interested, please call the parish office and ask to speak to Eileen Schlather.

## Join the Vocations Committee

The Avon Catholic Community Vocations Committee is dedicated to nurturing vocation discernment. The team aims to promote, encourage and support vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Through a supportive environment and love, the committee gathers to provide:

- † Prayer
- † Education and Awareness
- † Financial Support and Assistance
- † Community Outreach

Interested in joining? Email Mary Saar at [cubsaar@aim.com](mailto:cubsaar@aim.com)

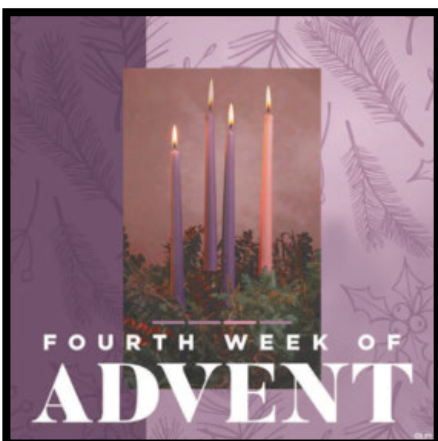
## Concert series continues featuring Mark Slatter

On **Friday, December 27 at 6:30 p.m.** all are welcome to Holy Trinity for a complimentary concert featuring Christmas music from European traditions. The German portion features contrapuntal preludes and fantasies written on simple Christmas tunes. The English portion includes the Hallelujah chorus from the Oratorio, Messiah, a choral and instrumental work telling the story of the salvation of humankind, and a handful of traditional English carols sung at Christmas time.



The French portion contains a set of variations on a popular instrumental Christmas tune and offertories, a piece played during the preparation of the gifts, based around two different Christmas tunes.

If you or someone you know is interested in performing during one of Mark's concerts, please contact the parish office and ask for Mark Slatter.



As we celebrate the **fourth week of Advent** we rejoice in the endless love that God has for us, which is made apparent in the birth of his son. We reflect on the good news of God's love brought to us from the angel Gabriel.

The fourth candle is purple and represents love, it is called the Angel's candle to remind us of the message from the angels.

### Advent wreath prayer:

Dear Jesus, may the light of your love always shine in our hearts. As Christmas draws closer, we marvel at your great love for us. Let your love transform every aspect of our lives and touch everyone we encounter. Our hearts are open to you, Jesus. Amen.

## **Avon Catholic Community Compassion in Action is looking for volunteers.**

Volunteers are needed to assist shoppers at St. Augustine's Community Cupboard and Closet on the **third Saturday** of each month from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. or 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. The address is: 2466 W. 14th Street, Cleveland.

Volunteers are also needed to help stock shelves at the St. Elizabeth Center in Lorain on **Wednesdays** from 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. The address is: 2726 Caroline Avenue, Lorain.

If you are interested or would like more information, please call the parish office.

### **The Singing Angels Youth Choir Concert**

**TODAY—Sunday, December 22, 2024 at 3:00 P.M.**  
St. Richard Church, 26855 Lorain Road, North Olmsted  
FREE concert. A free will offering will be taken.

For more information visit [www.singingangels.org](http://www.singingangels.org).



For the safety and well-being of our parishioners and guests, defibrillators have been installed at both Holy Trinity and St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception parishes.

These devices are available in case of an emergency to assist in life-saving efforts.

**Holy Trinity.....**The defibrillator is located in the sacristy next to the sink.

**St. Mary.....**The defibrillator can be found in the usher closet.

We encourage everyone to familiarize themselves with the locations of these devices, as prompt access can make a significant difference in critical situations. Your safety is our top priority.

### **Pray for the Sick at Holy Trinity:**

Tina Doss Abshire ■ Thomas Ackim ■ Greg Bierek ■ Kelly Callahan ■ David Carroll ■ Mary Christner ■ Philomena Dillon ■ Mark Fox ■ Matt Gould ■ Kelly Konya ■ Theresa Lattimore ■ Janice Leemans ■ Marguerite Morphe ■ Patrick O'Toole ■ Paula Parker ■ Chad Rawlings ■ Regis Saltis ■ Tom Shaughnessy ■ Robert Shinko ■ Amanda Shultzberger ■ Brittany Snahnican ■ Clyde Thom ■ Vinny Thomas ■ Mary Travagliante-Bloss ■ Paul Tremblay ■ Venla Urig ■ Jennifer Varga ■ Shirley Zalac and for all of our homebound parishioners.

### **Pray for the Sick at St. Mary of the Immaculate**

**Conception:** Anne Benisek ■ Kurt Cummings ■ John Good ■ Edie Healan-Pepin ■ Kaylee Sanders ■ George Szocs ■ Martin Wilczenski ■ Judith Wilczenski and for all of our homebound parishioners.

If you or a family member would like to be placed on our prayer list, please call the Parish Office to submit your request.



**Please Pray For Our Troops**  
**We thank them and you for your sacrifice.**

### **Pray for our Troops from Holy Trinity:**

Patrick Bergen ■ Paul Bohnert ■ John Camp ■ Ethan Cutright ■ Cayden Fischbach ■ Dillon Franciscus ■ Grace Fryer ■ Emma Kennelly ■ Ryan Kennelly ■ Shawn Komora ■ Alex Leigh ■ Jacob McCann ■ Matthew O'Donnell ■ Dominic Opron ■ Hannah Price ■ Katie Schlather ■ Michelle Kennelly Sweeney ■ Daniel Vrablic ■ David Vrablic ■ Ethan Williams

### **Pray for our Troops from St. Mary:**

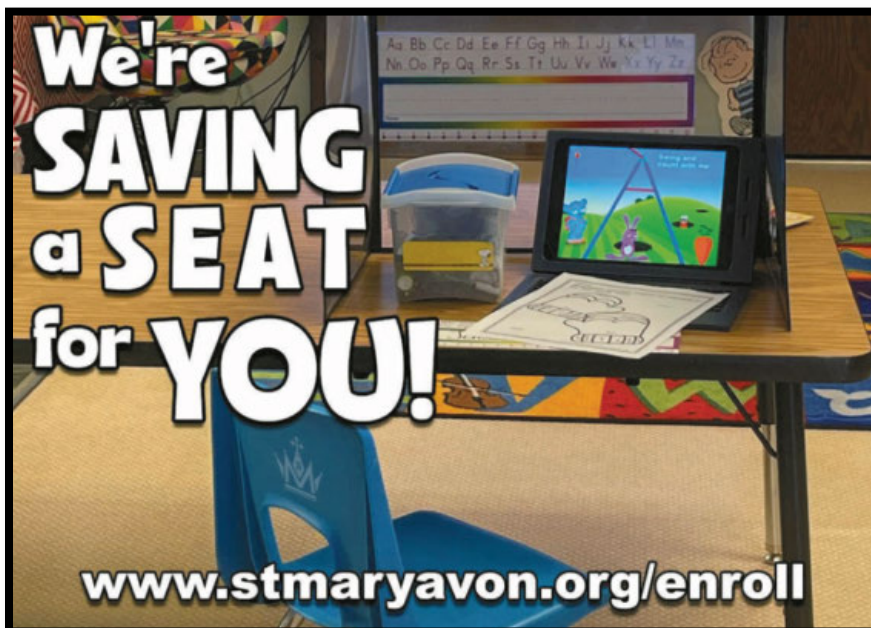
Amber Derryberry ■ Gabrielle Greszler ■ Richard Greszler ■ Tres Greszler ■ Riley Oldenburgh

We invite all families to include their sons and daughters to our prayer list. Please call the Parish Office with their name and branch of the military. You can also email the information to: [bulletin@avoncc.org](mailto:bulletin@avoncc.org).





**Stained glass window update:** the specially commissioned stained-glass window that will be going into the new, safe entrance vestibule, is nearing completion. The artist shared the picture above to give an idea how it is coming along. It is expected to be delivered in the next few weeks with arrangements to have it installed before the school Open House at the end of January.



## Winterfest returns in 2025: Wildcat Western Wonderland

Winterfest 2025 will be a Wildcat Western Wonderland that is sure to be a rip-roarin' good time! Get your spurs ready for a honky-tonk night of fun on **February 22 at 6 p.m. at Tom's Country Place**. The event will feature reverse raffles, a 50/50, basket raffles, line dancing and more. Ticket prices include appetizers, dinner, dessert and refreshments/open bar.

**Scan this QR code to purchase Winterfest 2025: Wildcat Western Wonderland tickets.**



## St. Mary TEC Browns Squares Results

**December, 8 2024**

Browns vs. Pittsburgh Steelers

1<sup>st</sup> Qtr (Cle 7 Pit 3) Charlie Cindric  
2016 (\$50)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr (Cle 7 Pit 3) Erb (\$50)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr (Cle 7 Pit 27) Addie (\$50)  
Final (Cle 14 Pit 27) ROSIE (\$100)

Congratulations to the winners and thanks for supporting St. Mary TEC!



**Time † Talent † Treasure**

The remaining December collection amounts will be available in January.

## Birthright Donations for the Holiday Season continue.

Please help make a difference for low-income families in Lorain County. Any Enfamil powdered formula, 4oz and 8oz bottles, kids new or gently used coats size 3 months to 12 years old, or monetary donations are appreciated. There is a box for UNWRAPPED gifts in the church for the month of December. To make a monetary donation, you may put it in an envelope marked Birthright in the box in the church or at [www.birthright.org/elyria](http://www.birthright.org/elyria).

Thank you in advance for your generosity in serving others. If you have any questions, please contact Deb Janosik for more information.





## New Eagle Tots Mommy & Me Sessions Open in January

The **Eagle Tots** program at Holy Trinity School is a Mommy (or Caregiver) and Me style class designed for **children ages 2 to 3**. Families may choose to attend either a **Thursday or Friday session, from 11:00 a.m. - Noon**. The class is held in our Pre-school building and facilitated by our preschool director, Mrs. Cher McCann and librarian, Kim Millar. The program includes: prayer, play and story time. New Sessions begin January 16 & 17 with class size limited to 10 students per session. The cost is \$25 for a 6-week session.

Please visit [holytrinityavon.org](http://holytrinityavon.org), email [cheryl.roche@htsavon.org](mailto:cheryl.roche@htsavon.org) or scan the QR code in the flyer below.

**ENROLLMENT & OPEN HOUSE INFO**

Our experienced teachers and engaging curriculum offer children the opportunity to learn and grow in a safe, nurturing environment.

- Intro to Preschool**  
M, T, W 8-10:30am or 11am-1:30pm  
3 yrs old by Aug. 1st
- Half Day Pre-K**  
5 Days per week 8-10:30am  
4 yrs old by Aug. 1st
- Full Day Pre-K**  
5 Days per week 8am-1:30pm  
4 years old by Aug. 1st  
Before and Aftercare Available
- Kindergarten**  
5 Days per week 7:35am-2:05pm  
5 yrs old by Aug. 1st  
Before and Aftercare Available

**Open House Dates:**  
Tuesday Jan 14th 6-7pm  
Sunday Jan 26th 10-Noon

**Holy Trinity Eagles Preschool**

**MORE INFORMATION**  
Scan QR code, call 440-937-6420, email [cheryl.roche@htsavon.org](mailto:cheryl.roche@htsavon.org) or visit [holytrinityavon.org](http://holytrinityavon.org)

**Eagle Tots Mommy & Me Class**

- 2 to 3 years w/ parent or caregiver
- Thurs or Friday
- 11 am - 12:00 pm
- Includes play, prayer, storytime & crafts
- \$25 for each six-week session

**Register today!**  
Scan the QR code, visit [www.holytrinityavon.org](http://www.holytrinityavon.org) or call 440-937-6420

## Holy Trinity School Hosts Open Houses in January

Discover the difference at Holy Trinity School during our upcoming Open Houses! On **Tuesday, January 14** from 6-7:00 p.m. families are invited to explore our exceptional **Preschool, Pre-K, and Kindergarten** programs, designed to foster a love of learning from the start.

On **Sunday, January 26** from 10:00 a.m. - Noon, join us for an Open House showcasing **all grade levels**, from Preschool through eighth grade. Meet our amazing teachers, tour our vibrant facilities, and experience the warm, faith-filled community that makes Holy Trinity special.

Whether you're looking for a strong academic foundation, a nurturing environment, or vibrant extracurricular opportunities, Holy Trinity is ready to welcome your family. We hope to see you there!

**Time † Talent † Treasure**

The remaining December collection amounts will be available in January.

**Save the Date**  
**Spaghetti Dinner**  
Holy Trinity  
Sun. Jan. 26  
11:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.




## Support Catholic Education Through Ohio Tax Credits

Your participation in the Angel Scholarship Fund strengthens our schools and our future in countless ways. Contributions may be made online or by mail. The Angel Scholarship Fund provides tuition assistance for students to attend our Catholic schools. Donors receive a **100% Ohio income tax credit** of up to \$750 (\$1,500 for married couples filing jointly) against their state tax liability. In other words, the state of Ohio allows you to “spend” some of the state income taxes you must pay anyway to provide tuition assistance for students seeking an education in our Catholic schools. The Angel Scholarship Fund is a win-win for taxpayers, donors, scholarship recipients, and our diocese. Scan the QR code to begin.

*Help Our Children Grow in Faith.*

**DONATE TODAY TO THE ANGEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND THROUGH THE OHIO TAX CREDIT PROGRAM**

RECEIVE A 100% OHIO INCOME TAX CREDIT UP TO \$750 (\$1,500 IF MARRIED FILING JOINTLY).




**EXAMPLE OF OHIO TAX CREDIT SCENARIOS\***

INDIVIDUAL		MARRIED, FILING JOINTLY	
Ohio Income Tax owed	<b>\$1,000</b>	Ohio Income Tax owed	<b>\$2,000</b>
Tax Credit on \$750 Contribution to the Angel Scholarship Fund	<b>- \$750</b>	Tax Credit on \$1,500 Contribution to the Angel Scholarship Fund	<b>- \$1,500</b>
Ohio Income Tax owed after Tax Credit	<b>\$250</b>	Ohio Income Tax owed after Tax Credit	<b>\$500</b>

The above scenarios do not include additional federal tax benefit for those who itemize charitable contributions. \*This tax credit scenario does not constitute income tax advice. Always consult with your tax professional for information on the impact of any charitable donation.





**Randy D. Nix**  
216-905-3712  
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North Ridgeville, OH 44039

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GIVING TUESDAY 2024

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