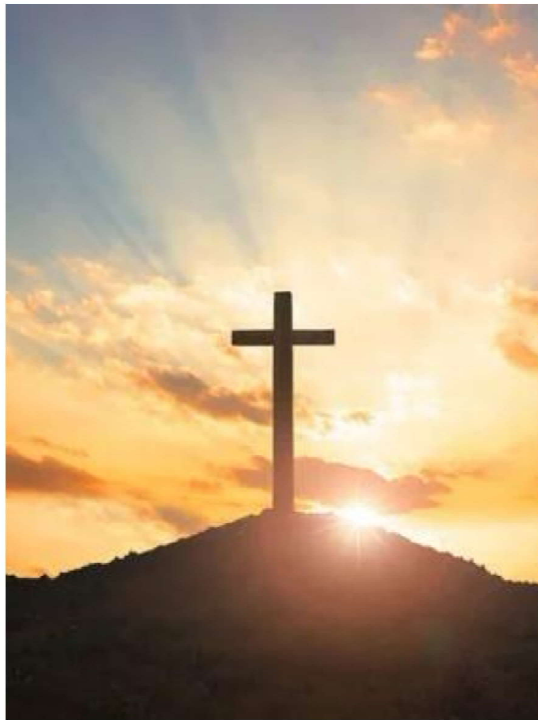


In Hoc Signo Vinces! **The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

“And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in Him may have eternal life.” (Jn. 3:14-15).

On 14 September 320, St. Helena, the mother of Emperor Constantine, discovered the True Cross upon which Jesus died. On 13 September 335, the Church of the Holy Sepulcher (also called the Church of the Resurrection) was dedicated in Jerusalem. The following day, the Holy Cross that Empress Helena had discovered was publicly exalted (venerated) for the first time in a solemn ceremony in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. In 614 AD, the Persian King, Chosroes II, waged war on the Romans. After conquering Jerusalem, he confiscated many treasures, among which was the Holy Cross of Jesus. The Byzantine emperor Heraclius initiated peace negotiations with Chosroes, but was rejected. As a result, Heraclius waged war against Chosroes in 628 AD and defeated him near Nineveh. Heraclius demanded that the Holy Cross be restored. The sacred relic was returned to Christianity on 13 September 628 and returned to Jerusalem for veneration.

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (September 14) arose from these three events in which the Cross of Jesus was exalted: Its finding and exaltation by St. Helena, its public exaltation in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, and its restoration and exaltation by Emperor Heraclius. Although these three events became the occasions for this great feast day, they are not the reason for the celebration. The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross commemorates the salvation won by Jesus Christ on His Holy Cross. As explained on the Vatican website about this holy feast:



“Today, the cruelty of the Cross is not what is exalted, but the Love that God manifested to humanity by accepting death on the Cross: “Who, though in the form of God, emptied Himself, taking the form of a slave. This is the glory of the Cross of Jesus!” (Pope Francis).

In the year 312 AD, Emperor Constantine was waging war with a usurper emperor, Maxentius, who controlled Rome. Constantine was not a Christian, but his mother was. Before his final battle with Maxentius on the outskirts of Rome, Constantine had a vision of the Christian *Chi Ro* symbol, which appeared as a cross. The symbol stands for “Christ.” In his vision, Constantine saw the Greek words, “(ἐν) τούτῳ νικά” accompany the cross. The Greek words are translated in Latin as, “*In hoc signo vinctes*,” and in English mean, “*In this sign, you will conquer.*” Constantine ordered his troops to paint the cross on their shields before battle. He won a decisive victory, and attributed it to the Christian God of his mother. The following year, he issued the famous Edict of Constantine, which legalized Christianity and ended the Roman persecutions of Christians. He would himself accept baptism before his death.

Jesus humbled Himself, accepting death on a cross for our salvation (Phil. 2:6-11). The instrument of His humility is the instrument of our exaltation. When we celebrate the exaltation of the Holy Cross, we celebrate our salvation. When you venerate the Cross, know that you are a conqueror with Christ. Know that in this sign, you will conquer sin and death and share His glory!

Catholics United for the Faith: 1-800-MY FAITH [693-2484], Cuf.org.

Ask about our FAITH FACTS:

- ✠ Holy Things to the Holy: Sacred Things, Places, and Times
- ✠ Christ’s Descent into Hell
- ✠ Christian Joy

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* HARRISON COUNTY * CATHOLIC CHURCHES



**Sacred Heart Church
Hopedale**



**St. Matthias
Freeport**



**St. Teresa of Avila
Cadiz**

SEPTEMBER 27, 2026 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FOR OUR VISITORS



RESTROOM FACILITIES

FREEPORT ST. MATTHIAS - The restrooms in St. Matthias are located off of the gathering room behind the worship area.

CADIZ - ST. TERESA - There are no restrooms in the church itself. Restrooms are located in the Activity Center which is the building right next to the church at the back of the parking lot.

HOPEDALE - SACRED HEART - The restrooms are located in the basement of the church but you have to go outside and down to the front of the church to access the basement and restroom facilities.

SCRIPTURE FOR THIS WEEK

SUN - Ezekiel 18:25–28, Psalm 25:4–5, 6–7, 8–9, Philippians 2:1–11, Matthew 21:28–32

MON - Job 1:6-22, Psalm 17:1bcd, 2-3, 6-7, Luke 9:46-50

TUE - Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14, Psalm 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5, John 1:47-51

WED - Job 9:1-12, 14-16, Psalm 88:10bc-11, 12-13, 14-15, Luke 9:57-62

THU - Job 19:21-27, Psalm 27:7-8a, 8b-9abc, 13-14, Luke 10:1-12

FRI - Job 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5, Psalm 139:1-3, 7-8, 9-10, 13-14ab, Matthew 18:1-5, 10

SAT - Job 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17, Psalm 119:66, 71, 75, 91, 125, 130, Luke 10:17-24



★ **HARRISON COUNTY CATHOLIC CHURCHES** ★

St. Teresa of Avila (Cadiz) - Sacred Heart (Hopedale) - St. Matthias (Freeport)

Parish Offices: 143 E. South St. - Cadiz, OH 43907

Pastor: Rev. Frederick Kihm

(740) 942-2211 - email: d_vargo3@yahoo.com or fkihm@diosteub.org

<https://www.harrisoncountycatholicchurches.org>

*ST = at St. Teresa, SH = at Sacred Heart, SM = at St. Matthias
The Rosary is recited one half hour before all weekend Masses.
Confessions will be heard after Mass at Sacred Heart and St. Matthias and
Tuesdays after 4:30 PM Mass at St. Teresa*

09/26/2026	SAT	4:30 PM	ST	50th Wedding Anniv. (Rick & Paula Celestino) - 5847
09/26/2026	SAT	7:00 PM	SM	People of Our Parishes
09/27/2026	SUN	9:30 AM	ST	Louis Filippi (Irma Filippi & Sons) - 5844
09/27/2026	SUN	11:00 AM	SH	Don Jochims (Karen Jochims) - 4514

09/28/2026	MON		NO MASS	
09/29/2026	TUE	4:30 PM	ST	Sharon Leck (Julie Leck - Meyer Family) - 5859
09/30/2026	WED	4:30 PM	ST	Louis Martin, III (Barry & Carolyn Peterson) - 4690
10/01/2026	THU	4:30 PM	ST	Roberta A. Darios (Joseph W. Darios) - 5537
10/02/2026	FRI	12:15 PM	SH	Intentions of the St. Joseph Foundation - 5753

10/03/2026	SAT	4:30 PM	ST	Chuck George - 70th Birthday (Sara & Sons) - 5891
10/03/2026	SAT	7:00 PM	SM	Don Robinson (Diana R. Vargo) - 5619
10/04/2026	SUN	9:30 AM	ST	Angie Zantene (Family) - 5679
10/04/2026	SUN	11:00 AM	SH	People of Our Parishes

2026 D/PSC: Thank you to our parishioners of our three parishes for making their 2026 goals. Therefore, the 2026 Diocesan Parish Share Campaign is done for this year.

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION CLASS: will be held Sunday, October 4th at 8:30 AM— 9:20 AM before the 9:30 AM Sunday Mass. We will meet in St. Teresa's Activities Center. (Next class: October 18th)

ITALIAN DINNER: On October 11th, 1:00 - 5:00 PM at St. Frances Cabrini, Colerain. Cost: \$15 per person or \$25.00 for two. For tickets call: 740-296-3490. (Pasta, meatballs, salad, bread, desserts and beverage.) Sponsored by their CWC.



**COFFEE & DONUTS
SUNDAY**

September 27th
This Sunday at St. Teresa's
**Come join the
Fellowship!**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: The 2026 Eucharistic Rosary Congress will be held October 3 - 9 at Blessed Sacrament Church in Wintersville. . For more information call Peggy Downs at 410-596-1936.

PRAY AND TAKE ACTION — to Protect Women and Babies from the Abortion Pill: The USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities is inviting Catholics to join a focused effort of prayer and action to stop the spread of abortion pills by invoking the intercession of St. Joseph, Defender of Life. Join us in prayer from now until the end of October! For facts and resources about abortion pills visit: respectlife.org/abortion-pills. (From the office of Marriage, Family & Respect Life of the Diocese of Steubenville).

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: The 2026 Life Chain will be held nationwide on October 4, 2026. The schedule will be listed in the September 18th issue of the Steubenville Register.

CWC RAFFLE WINNERS: The Catholic Woman's Club Annual Raffle winners are: \$200.00 - Barbara Momyer, SH; \$150.00 - Judy Kelly, ST; \$100.00 - Michael Nunner, ST; \$50.00 - Sandy O'Bradovich, ST. \$1,366. 00 total profit. Thank you for your support.

If everyone, everywhere,
at all times and under all circumstances
followed the teachings of Jesus Christ
and His Church, the world would be
so much more like heaven, and
so much less like hell!

Fr. Fred Kihm

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR
PRAYERS**

Tammy Belon, Michael Beckler, Ginger Russell, Julie Meyer, Richard Kidd, Lisa and Baylor Barger, Joyce Antol, Celeste Coelho, Irma Filippi, Jerry Jackson, Cherilynn Morgan, Dolly Ferraro, Joanne Raha, Ann (Fledderus) Crouse, Walter Carman, Holly & Niko Kirsch, Laura Griffin, Kaden and Suzy Cable, Melody Beckler, Jennifer Wright, Mike & Marilyn Belon, Pamela Kutcher, Michael Folio, Connie & Sam Gardner, Sue Bollman.



**PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR
PARISH CHURCH
IN YOUR WILL!**

POPE LEO'S OCTOBER PRAYER INTENTION:
For mental health ministry -- Let us pray that mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

YOUTH ENVELOPES: There are youth envelopes in the back of the church for children to use. It goes without saying that generosity is a virtue that needs to be learned at an early age.

K OF C ACCEPTING DONATIONS: The Knights of Columbus Council #4590 is accepting donations of nonperishable food items as well as laundry detergent, cleaning supplies and new or gently used clothing for the Cadiz Food Pantry. Please leave the items in the church basement (Hopedale) or in the Activity Center lobby (Cadiz). Mometary donations will also be accepted and may be dropped in the collection basket. Make your check out to the Knights of Columbus Council #4590 and on the memo line write: "Cadiz Food Pantry". God bless you for helping the needy of Harison County.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CHARITY CAMPAIGN
TICKETS: were handed out on August 30th asking for your help in either buying or selling the tickets. You were asked to return all ticket stubs and money or the unsold tickets to Barry Momyer or Bernie Stetson by September 13th. That date is incorrect. THE RETURN DATE IS SEPTEMBER 27TH. Thank you for buying or selling your tickets to help the K of C to meet our goal.

JUBILEE of MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARIES: On Sunday, November 8th, 5:30 PM, at Holy Family Church, Steubenville, Rev. Drake McCalister will offer a special Mass to recognize significant marriage anniversaries of the faithful in the Diocese of Steubenville. This year's celebration will be offered for couples celebrating their 10th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th, 55th and 60th plus (every year thereafter). anniversary of marriage during 2025 or 2026. If you are one of the special couples celebrating a significant marriage anniversary and want to attend the Mass on November 8th, call the rectory office, 740-942-2211 by October 4th.

ARCHANGELS: Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael are significant figures in Christian theology, each serving distinct roles as messengers and protectors. Michael is known as the protector against evil, Gabriel as the messenger of God, and Raphael as the healer. Patron Saints of soldiers, police, paramedics, and the sick and dying (Michael); messengers, postal workers, broadcasters, and expectant mothers (Gabriel); travelers, the blind, medical workers, and matchmakers (Raphael) The Church celebrates their feast day on September 29th.

Contributions & Donations

ST. TERESA
Regular: \$662.00
Building Fund: \$312.00
Imm. Heart Fund: \$250.00

SACRED HEART
Regular: \$213.00
Building Fund: \$154.00
Imm. Heart Fund: \$120.00

ST. MATTHIAS
Regular: \$250.00
Imm. Heart Fund: \$20.00

**GOD BLESS EVERYONE WHO HAS DONATED
TO THE SUPPORT OF OUR CHURCHES!**