

# *Sunday of the Divine Mercy*

*April 7, 2024*



*Please join us for a Divine Mercy Holy Hour this Sunday at St. Denis at 2:00 p.m., with Confessions from 1:30-3:00 p.m.*

# SCHEDULES, EVENTS & DAILY READINGS

## MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS FOR APRIL 6-14

- 06 Sat:** 4:00 p.m. Mark Barlage & Steve Heuing
- 07 Sun:** 9:00 a.m. Lavern & Rosetta Francis, Becky Ranly, Carol Rindler, & Valerie Magoto
- 11:00 a.m. Special Intention
- 1:30 p.m. Confession at St. Denis** (ending at 3:00)
- 2:00 p.m. Divine Mercy Holy Hour at St. Denis**
- 08 Mon:** 8:15 a.m. **Annunciation**—Special Intention
- 10 Wed:** 11:15 a.m. Amy Depp & Dwight Kurtzman
- 11 Thurs:** 8:15 a.m. Nancy Wood & Bob Schaub
- 3:00 p.m. Confession (ending at 4:00 p.m.)
- 3:10 p.m. Children's Eucharistic Adoration
- 7:00 p.m. Confession (ending at 8:20 p.m.)
- 12 Fri:** 8:15 a.m. Vocations/Diane Kramer
- 13 Sat:** 3:00 p.m. Confession (ending at 3:45 p.m.)
- 4:00 p.m.\* Living & Deceased Members of the Bob & Sally Tebbe Family
- 14 Sun:** 8:00 a.m. Confession (ending at 8:45 a.m.)
- 9:00 a.m.\* Living & Deceased Members of the Chelcie & Nora Lachat Family/Healing for Norb Lachat
- 11:00 a.m. Our Family of Parishes

\*4:00 p.m. Masses on Saturdays at St. Remy are celebrated "Versus Populum" (with the priest facing the people). All other Masses are celebrated "Ad Orientem" (with the priest facing the Lord in the tabernacle). Incense will be used at the 9:00 a.m. Sunday Masses.



**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION** is held every Thursday, beginning at the conclusion of the 8:15 a.m. Mass, and ending with Benediction at 8:30 p.m.

### WEEKLY RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE

Thursday: 3:00—4:00 p.m., 7:00—8:20 p.m.  
Saturday: 3:00—3:45 p.m.  
Sunday: 8:00—8:45 a.m.

### REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

- Knights of Columbus—3rd Monday of the month (April 15) at 8:00 p.m. in the parish office basement.
- Children's Adoration—every Thursday from 3:10-4:15.
- Pastoral Advisory Council—4th Tuesday of every other month of the school year (May 28) at 7:00 p.m. in the parish office basement.
- Catholic War Veterans—3rd Wednesday of the month (April 17) at 8:00 p.m. at the CWV Hall.
- Patriotic Rosary—will be prayed on the First Friday of the month (May 3) following the 7:00 a.m. Mass.
- Blessing for Expectant Mothers—will take place in church following the 11:00 Mass on the first Sunday of the month.

## MINISTRY SCHEDULES FOR THE WEEKEND OF APRIL 13-14

### SERVERS

- 4:00 p.m. Max Mayer, Micah & Isaiah Grieshop
- 9:00 a.m. Jonah York, Eli & Michael Borchers, Ben, Nathan, & Nicholas York
- 11:00 a.m. Damian Borchers, Michael & Simon Voisard

### LECTORS

- 4:00 p.m. Danielle Francis
- 9:00 a.m. Dave Peyton
- 11:00 a.m. Henry Cordonnier

### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

- 4:00 p.m. Linda Grogan
- 9:00 a.m. Don Borchers
- 11:00 a.m. Deacon Meyer

### USHERS FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL

- 4:00 p.m. Kevin Barhorst, Kevin Borchers, Pat Sherman, Doug Borchers
- 9:00 a.m. Mike Bergman, Tommy Francis, Rick Simon, Jeff Simon
- 11:00 a.m. Craig McEldowney, Mike York, Sam York, Steve Rose

### COLLECTION COUNTERS

Jerry Borchers, Gene Monnin,  
Jake/Heather Borchers

## READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

<b>This Sunday:</b>	Acts 4:32-35 1 Jn 5:1-6 Jn 20:19-31	Divine Mercy Sunday
<b>Monday:</b>	Is 7:10-14; 8:10 Heb 10:4-10 Lk 1:26-38	The Annunciation of the Lord
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Acts 4:32-37 Jn 3:7b-15	Easter Weekday
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Acts 5:17-26 Jn 3:16-21	Easter Weekday
<b>Thursday:</b>	Acts 5:27-33 Jn 3:31-36	St. Stanislaus
<b>Friday:</b>	Acts 5:34-42 Jn 6:1-15	Easter Weekday
<b>Saturday:</b>	Acts 6:1-7 Jn 6:16-21	St. Martin I
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Acts 3:13-15, 17-19 1 Jn 2:1-5a Lk 24:35-48	Third Sunday of Easter

# *Let's Take Another Look at the Master*

*The following information was taken from "In Conversation with God" by Francis Fernandez.*

***We have seen the Lord.*** The first day of the week, the day on which Our Lord rose from the dead, is a day full of incident, from very early in the morning when the women go to the tomb, until very late at night, when Jesus comes to comfort His closest friends. "Peace be with you," he says to them. When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. On that occasion, Thomas was not with the other Apostles; he was not able to see the Lord or to hear His consoling words. This is the Apostle who had said on one occasion, "Let us go too and die with Him." At the Last Supper, he had expressed his ignorance to Our Lord in the simplest possible terms: "Lord, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?" Filled with the deepest joy, the Apostles would have looked for Thomas throughout Jerusalem on that very same night or the next day. As soon as they found him, they would not be able to tell him quickly enough: "We have seen the Lord." But Thomas, like all the others, had been deeply affected by what his *own* eyes had seen. He would never forget the crucifixion and death of the Master. He doesn't give the slightest credence to what the others have to tell him, as he responds, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in His hands and put my finger into the nail marks and put my hand into His side, I will not believe." Those who had been his companions during those three years and with whom he was united by so many bonds would have repeated to him in a thousand different ways that same truth which was their joy and their certainty: "We have seen the Lord."

***Contributing personally to the building up of the Church.*** Thomas thought the Lord was dead. The others assured him that He is alive, that they themselves have seen and heard Him, that they have been with Him. That's what we have to do also. For many men and women, Christ is, as it were, dead because He hardly means a thing to them. He counts for almost nothing in their lives. Our faith in the risen Christ compels us to go to those people, to tell them in a thousand different ways that Christ is alive, that we unite ourselves to Him by faith and love every day, that He guides us and gives meaning to our lives. In this way, fulfilling that obligation of faith to make the truth known with our example and our word, we contribute personally to the building up of the Church, like those first Christians who are mentioned in the Acts of the Apostles: "And more than ever, believers were added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women."

***Spending our lives in His service.*** A week later, Jesus' disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Thomas' reply is an act of faith, of adoration, and of self-surrender without limits: "My Lord and my God." These five words of his are inexhaustible in their significance. His faith springs not so much from the evidence of seeing Jesus as from an immense sorrow. It isn't so much the proof, but His love that leads him to adoration and to renewing his mission. Tradition tells us that the Apostle Thomas died a martyr for his faith in Our Lord. He spent his life in His service.

***Keeping faith in the face of difficulties.*** These preliminary doubts of Thomas have served to confirm the faith of those who were to believe in Him later on. As St. Gregory the Great said, "What conclusion, dear brethren, do you come to? Surely it was not by chance that this chosen disciple was missing in the first place? Or that on his return he heard, that hearing he doubted, that doubting he touched, and that touching he believed? It was by divine dispensation and not by chance that things so fell out. God's mercy worked wonderfully, for when that doubting disciple touched his Master's wounded flesh, He cured the wound of our disbelief. So this doubting disciple, who actually touched, became a witness to the reality of the resurrection." If our faith is firm, then that of many others will be supported by it. It is essential that our faith in Jesus Christ increases every day, that we learn to look upon happenings and persons as He looks on them, that our activity in the middle of the world be animated by Jesus' doctrine. But, at times, we too find ourselves lacking in faith like the Apostle Thomas. We have need of greater confidence in Our Lord in the face of difficulties, in events and situations that we don't know how to interpret from His point of view, in times of darkness that God permits so that we may grow in virtue.

***Let us take another look at the Master.*** The virtue of faith is one that gives us the true dimension of events and permits us to form a correct judgement about everything. Acts 17 tells us: "Only by the light of faith and by meditation on the word of God can one always and everywhere recognize God...seek His will in every event, see Christ in everyone, whether he be a relative or a stranger, and make correct judgements about the true meaning and value of temporal things, both in themselves and in their relation to man's final goal." Let us meditate on the Gospel of today's Mass. Let us take another look at the Master. Let us hear Our Lord asking us to place our hand in His side and to cease in our doubting, but believe. Let us cry out, "My Lord and my God! I acknowledge You once and for all as my Master. From now on, with Your help, I will treasure Your teachings and try to follow them loyally." These same words, "My Lord and my God," can serve as our prayer when Jesus' real presence is brought before us at the Consecration of the Mass, or when we come into church and bow before the tabernacle, or when we make the Sign of the Cross when passing by a Catholic church. The Resurrection of Our Lord is a call to us to show with our lives that He lives. Our Lord wills that the world, the street, the workplace, the school, the gym, and the home be channels for the transmission of the faith.

# LIVE YOUR FAITH



Receiving the **TRAVELING VOCATION CHALICE** to display in their home this Sunday is the Jack and Julie Homan family. Receiving it the week of April 14 is the Kevin and Becca Miller family. Please pick up the chalice from the area inside the door to the parish office after Mass on Sunday, and return it to the same place the following Friday.

**ARE YOU CELEBRATING YOUR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY IN 2024?** If so, you are invited to take part in a Golden Anniversary Mass on Saturday, September 7 at 4:00 p.m. at St. John the Baptist Church in Tipp City. It is necessary to register online at <https://bit.ly/31gyXfv>. Please contact the parish office if you have any questions or need assistance in registering.



**THE MONTHLY 70ish AND OLDER LUNCH** will be held on Tuesday, April 16 at 11:30 a.m. at the St. Joseph Village Centre. Don't miss the great food and the uplifting fellowship!

**THE NEXT "BIBLE, BOURBON, AND BROS" EVENT** will be held on Thursday, April 11 at the Loramie Brewing Company. All men are welcome for the social time at 7:00 p.m., followed by the speaker at 7:30. For additional information, check their Facebook page.



**THE NEXT BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS** will be held on Saturday, April 13 from 9:30-10:30 a.m. in the Parish Center. The next opportunity to take the class will be in July. Parents are required to attend a class before the Baptism of their first child. Call Steven and Regina Schulze at (937)638-3642 to register or for more information.

**THE 2024 RUSSIA HOMECOMING FESTIVAL IS ONLY 5 MONTHS AWAY!** We are in need of a Head of Stand for two committees: "Lunch Stand Cashiers" and "Right to Life Tent." We thank Carrie Siegrist for her generosity in volunteering to head up the "Fish Pond." If you are willing to work with the wonderful people of our community and take on a leadership role, or if you have any questions about the responsibilities involved, please reach out to one of the members of the General Committee: Carrie Borchers at (937)418-9711, Rachel Borchers at (937)935-1549, or Lindsay Mayer at (937)622-8877.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL



We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination they experience in different parts of the world.

## Mass on the Solemnity of the Annunciation



Father Reutter will be celebrating Mass on the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord this Monday, April 8 at 8:15 a.m. On this day we celebrate that great moment when the

angel Gabriel visited the Blessed Virgin Mary to share with her God's message that He had chosen her to be the mother of the Savior. It ordinarily takes place on March 25, but was transferred this year since it fell during Holy Week. All are welcome to participate.

## Note of Deepest Thanks

Thank you to all parishioners who donated to the Haiti fund drive during the Lenten season. We exceeded our goal of \$20,000 because of your great generosity! Father Emmanuel, the priest at Our Lady of Victory Parish, is desperately trying to educate and feed over 300 children, along with all the other responsibilities he has in running a parish and ministering to the people. With your generous support and the help of Food for the Poor (FFTP), he will be able to continue to at least give the children one meal a day, and just as importantly, give them HOPE.

The people of Haiti find themselves in a very difficult environment right now. We certainly share the concerns that some people have voiced about the responsible stewardship of your donated funds in this chaotic atmosphere. This is why we chose to partner with FFTP in 2021, as they have staff on the ground keeping a careful watch, helping to get food, fuel, and basic supplies to the villages. They give accountability for every dollar that is donated to their organization. We simply could not support our sister parish in Balan, Haiti without their dedicated staff!

We are grateful that, for now, the gangs have not been as much of a problem in northern Haiti, where our sister parish is located. FFTP is being very cautious and is limiting their support until it is safer for them to continue their work. Your donated funds will be held in our St. Remy Haiti Fund until it is safe to distribute them. We ask that you continue to fervently pray for the people of Haiti.

~St. Remy Haiti Committee

Mike & Joan Bergman, Ed Borchers, Bart Doseck, Mark Fullenkamp, Larry Roll, Dave & Bonnie York

# LIVE YOUR FAITH

## Bulletin Sponsor of the Week



This week's featured sponsor is  
**SILVER CROSS CATHOLIC  
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located on Main Street in Fort Loramie. There you will find statues, crucifixes, religious art, jewelry, rosaries, gifts, and one of the largest selections of Catholic books in the area. Head over today to see how you can give treasured gifts and be inspired in your Catholic Faith by selecting their products, or call at (937)295-2040.

We extend a sincere thank you to all of the businesses that advertise on the back cover of our bulletin. Their sponsorship covers the church's entire expenses in printing the bulletins each week.

Please call on these businesses when you are looking for products and services.

Please remember to pray for the people listed in the St. Remy Prayer Intentions Book located in the back of church.

## SUNDAY AND HOLYDAY OFFERINGS for Fiscal Year 2024

Easter collection:	\$13,220
Weekly "bill pay" collection:	\$5,100
Good Friday Collection:	\$339
Donations for Haiti:	\$2,970
Donations for Tornado Victims:	\$75
Average weekly "online giving" collection:	\$2,160
7/1/23-3/31/24 Sunday offerings budgeted:	\$323,200
7/1/23-3/31/24 Sunday offerings collected:	\$327,985

If you would like to make your offerings online, please consider "bill pay" through your bank (which is free to use and involves no fees for the church), or go to [stremychurch.com](http://stremychurch.com) and click on "Online Giving" (in which the church pays transaction fees).

Thank you for your generosity!

## From the Deacon's Desk

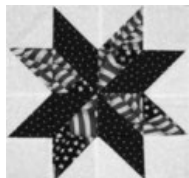
The following article was submitted by Deacon Meyer.

The magnificent Gospel reading today declares that there is no greater manifestation of Divine Mercy than the forgiveness of sins. It invites us to close our eyes and place ourselves in the upper room with Jesus' disciples. These are the people who walked with Jesus, who were eyewitnesses to His preaching and healings. Yet, when He is confronted with condemnation and death, they deny, betray, and abandon Him. And now, three days later, He comes to them in the upper room, where they have huddled together, afraid and disillusioned. Jesus stands in their midst. What are they thinking and feeling? They must have had thoughts like, "We denied Him and left Him when He needed us the most. I feel so guilty. What is He going to say to us? Is He angry? Will He call us out on our lack of faith?"

How their hearts must have melted when Jesus showed them His unconditional love with His greeting, "Shalom - peace." He shows them His hands and His side, vivid reminders of what the world did to Him. Yet he harbors no anger, places no blame. He only offers a word of mercy. Jesus' love and mercy fill the upper room, and the disciples' eyes are opened. They believe He has truly risen from the dead, and faith tells them that this will forever change their earthly lives and their eternity.

Jesus challenges them to an extraordinary commission: "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." Jesus' mercy is communicated to His disciples, who in turn are sent to communicate His mercy to the world. How fitting that this Gospel passage is read every year on Divine Mercy Sunday, a day for us to open our hearts in a special way to the Divine Mercy that Jesus offers us every day of our lives. Are we holding back in receiving the mercy of Jesus because we think our sins are unforgivable? Are there things in our lives that we struggle to let go of? Do we need to forgive others? Do we need to forgive ourselves? Jesus is in our midst in a special way today saying, "Shalom—peace." He offers us His saving grace. He offers us true freedom from sin and fear and spiritual death. Let's open our hearts to His forgiveness and healing.

# RUSSIA COMMUNITY NEWS



**THE GATHERING PLACE QUILTING LADIES** are having a quilt raffle for our CWV veterans. All are welcome to support our veterans, who have sacrificed so much for our country. Tickets are one for \$1 or six for \$5; the drawing will be held on June 11. Please contact one of the following ladies to purchase your tickets: Marilyn Sherman, Trudy York, Betty York, Diane Grillot, Mary Ann Bohman, Wanda Monnin, Carolyn Francis, Rosie Pierron, Ellen Heffner, or Marilyn Monnin. For more information, please contact Marilyn Monnin at (937)205-6524.



**AN OPEN HOUSE** to honor Mary Philipot as she celebrates her 80th birthday will be held this Sunday, April 7 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. at the St. Joseph Village Centre. Feel free to stop in and wish Mary a "Happy Birthday!"



# CCD & YOUTH MINISTRY



## Welcome Kennedie Goubeaux!

Please join us in welcoming Kennedie Goubeaux to St. Remy's staff! Kennedie is taking over Gina Hoying's role of overseeing our Youth Ministry Program. She is a lifelong parishioner of St. Remy Church and is the daughter of Wes and Chandra Goubeaux. After graduating from Wright State University with degrees in political science and agriculture, she worked as the campaign manager for State Representative Susan Manchester. She is excited for her new role, serving the youth of our parish.



## High School Rosary & Donuts

All high school students are invited to meet in church to pray the Rosary on Friday, April 19 at 7:15 a.m. Donuts will be served in the St. Joseph Village Centre afterward. Don't miss this great way to start the day!

## Events for Ladies in April



- Daughters of the Immaculate Heart (grades 4-6) will meet on Monday, April 15 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the St. Joseph Village Centre.
- Rosa Mystica (grades 7-8) will meet on Wednesday, April 17th from 8:00-9:30 p.m. at the St. Joseph Village Centre.
- Stella Maria (grades 9-12) will meet on Wednesday, April 24 8:00-9:30 p.m. at the St. Joseph Village Centre.

## Events for Gentlemen in April



- Knights of St. Michael (grades 1-3) will meet on **Tuesday**, April 9 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the St. Joseph Village Centre. Please note that this was postponed last week.
- The April event for the Knights of Our Lady (grades 4-6) will be announced next week.
- Soldiers of Christ (grades 7-8) will meet on Wednesday, April 17 from 8:00-9:30 p.m. at the school commons.
- Brotherhood of Virtue (grades 9-12) will meet on Wednesday, April 24 from 8:00-9:30 p.m. at the school commons.

## First Communion Information



- First Communion Mass for second graders will be celebrated on Sunday, April 21 at the 11:00 Mass. Children are to meet in the church basement at 10:30 a.m. Pews will be reserved for the students and their parents.
- The group picture will be taken after Mass.
- Mandatory practice for First Communicants and their parents will be held in church on Wednesday, April 17 at 7:00 p.m. The practice should take about 30 minutes. Please pray for our second graders during this important time of formation.

# L ife I nformation F or E veryone

Join us for a

## Baby Shower

hosted by the  
St. Remy LIFE Committee

**APRIL 14 10:00 - 1:00** at the  
St. Joseph Center

*Gifts can be dropped off during this time.  
Light refreshments will be served.*

All gifts will be donated to  
the Elizabeth New Life  
Center, a local Pregnancy  
Resource Center located in  
Sidney behind Culvers.

For more information,  
contact Karen Doseck, Kathy  
Pinchot, Laura Counts, Gina Hoying,  
Jenni Bohman, or Deb Timmerman.

*Gift Ideas:* Diapers, Wipes,  
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Bath Towels, Clothes, Toys,  
Car Seats, Boppy Pillow

*Thank you for  
your generosity!*

**Please note that early  
drop-offs can be placed  
on and under the table in  
the back of church.**

## Will You Pray with Me for One Hour?

The month of April is dedicated by the Church to the Most Holy Eucharist, the Word made flesh that dwells among us. On behalf of our Eucharistic Lord, as well as His mother, everyone is encouraged to pray for just one hour at Eucharistic Adoration during the month of April for the intention of an increase in love, devotion, and reverence for Jesus in the Eucharist. Please also include prayers for our parish and our family of parishes, for all families, for the conversion of sinners (starting with ourselves, of course), and especially for our priests, and for *more* holy priests. Our priests do so much for us, and they need and deserve our prayers. Here is a prayer for priests that you may like to use:

*O Jesus, I pray for Your faithful and fervent priests, for Your unfaithful and tepid priests, for Your priests laboring at home and abroad in distant mission fields, for Your tempted priests, for Your lonely and desolate priests, for Your young priests, for Your dying priests, for the souls of Your priests in purgatory. Above all, I recommend to You the priests who are dearest to me: the priest who baptized me, the priests who have absolved me from my sins, the priests who have given me Your precious Body and Blood in Holy Communion at Mass, the priests who have taught and instructed me, and all the priests who I am indebted to in any way. O Jesus, keep them all close to Your Sacred Heart, and bless them abundantly in time and in eternity. Amen.*

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