

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mahoning Valley Cultural Alliance presents

Stories of Immigrants of the Mahoning Valley: Czechoslovakia

The Mahoning Valley Cultural Alliance will hold its next meeting at 5:00 pm on Monday, October 6, 2025, when our topic will be "Stories of Mahoning Valley Immigrants: Czechoslovakia." We will meet at St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church's Assumption Social Center, 356 S. Belle Vista Ave. in Youngstown, Ohio. Our speaker will be Loretta Ekoniak, an active member of the Slovak community and author of the book *Slovaks of the Greater Mahoning Valley*. Our meal will be prepared by St. Mary's caterers, and will include stuffed cabbage, and a number of other ethnic delicacies. Cultural enrichment will be provided by accomplished popular accordionist Luke Politsky, rendering Slavic melodies. The cost for the entire evening is \$35.00 for MVHS members and \$40.00 for non-members. Advance reservations must be made by Wednesday, October 1, 2025, using the form below. Come to enjoy the final meeting of the MVCA 2025 year. See you soon and bring a friend. Phone: 330-743-2589 Registration forms in the back of the Church

October Vines

Enjoy an evening of community impact, wine and beer tastings, dinner, live music featuring The Cugines, a cash bar, raffles and a wine pull-all in support of the Ursuline Sisters Mission and its programs, including Beatitude House.

Cheers to making a difference!

Friday, October 17, 2025, 6-10 p.m.

St. Mary's Assumption Social Center

356 S. Belle Vista Ave Youngstown, Oh 44509

Tickets \$75 per person

Please RSVP by October 1st Contact Sheila at 330-793-0434 ext. 358

www.givebutter.com/OctoberVines

Schedule of Divine Services: September 14th, 2025

EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

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Sat 4:30 p.m.	+George & Kathryn Sheppa by Children
Sun 10:30 a.m.	Health and Blessings of Parishioners
Mon. 10:30 a.m.	No Liturgy
Tue. 10:30 a.m.	+Steve & Anna Ilko by Tomaino Family
Wed. 10:30 a.m.	No Liturgy
Thu. 10:30 a.m.	No Liturgy
Fri. 10:30 a.m.	No Liturgy

SUNDAY AFTER THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

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Sat 4:30 p.m.	+Susan Bayus by Sharon Hrina
Sun 10:30 a.m.	Health and Blessings of Parishioners

Save your people, O Lord and bless Your inheritance. Grant victory to Your Church over evil and protect Your people by Your Cross.



September 14

The Feast of the Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross is celebrated each year on September 14. The Feast commemorates the finding of the True Cross of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ by Saint Helen, the mother of the Emperor Constantine.

In the twentieth year of his reign (326), the Emperor Constantine sent his mother Saint Helen to Jerusalem to venerate the holy places and to find the site of the Holy Sepulchre and of the Cross. Relying upon the oral tradition of the faithful, Saint Helen found the precious Cross together with the crosses of the two thieves crucified with our Lord. However, Helen had no way of determining which was the Cross of Christ.

With the healing of a dying woman who touched one of the crosses, Patriarch Macarius of Jerusalem identified the True Cross of Christ. Saint Helen and her court venerated the Precious and Life-Giving Cross along with many others who came to see this great instrument of Redemption.

The Patriarch mounted the ambo (pulpit) and lifted the Cross with both hands so that all of the people gathered could see it. The crowd responded with "Lord have mercy".

This became the occasion of the institution in all of the Churches of the Exaltation of the Precious Cross, not only in memory of the event of the finding of the Cross, but also to celebrate how an instrument of shame was used to overcome death and bring salvation and eternal life.

The Feast is an opportunity outside of the observances of Holy Week to celebrate the full significance of the victory of the Cross over the powers of the world, and the triumph of the wisdom of God through the Cross over the wisdom of this world. This Feast also gives the Church an opportunity to relish the full glory of the Cross as a source of light, hope and victory for Christ's people. It is also a time to celebrate the universality of the work of redemption accomplished through the Cross: the entire universe is seen through the light of the Cross, the new Tree of Life which provides nourishment for those who have been redeemed in Christ.

Congratulations

Luna Milanise, Lia Rose and Brian Javier

Children of Kevin and Nicholette Sierra

The children received the Sacraments of Initiation

(Baptism, Chrismation, Holy Eucharist)

May God Bless the Sierra Family for many blessed years!



Special Thank You

St. Mary's would sincerely like to acknowledge and thank Dave Muransky on his recent retirement as Bingo Manager. Dave and his late wife Karen Wallace Muransky devoted many years and hours toward the success of our social games. May God bless Dave for many years of dedication.

We would also like to thank Alice and Ken Giba for their generous donation of all the postage stamps used for our church's 125th anniversary. In addition, we would like to thank Ken and Alice for purchasing, preparing and serving breakfast to the men of our church when they recently helped with the renovations of our Pavillion. May God grant you many blessed years!

St. Mary's Cemetery

We are taking up a special collection for our cemetery. We are painting the chapel and installing new security cameras with lights. We are also getting bids to replace the fencing, especially in the front with gates, and some new landscaping, trees down and irrigation issues being addressed. May God bless all our parishioners, living and deceased.