



**PILGRIMAGE OF FAITH
Central Trail
10 Miles**

- CATHOLIC CHURCH
- FORMER PLACE OF WORSHIP
- RAILROADS

1000 Ft 500 Ft

V3 Revised 11/16/14



Central Trail (10 miles)



his Central Trail covers the locations of the first and oldest Catholic Churches in Dayton in the central portion of the Archdioceses of Cincinnati.

The first documented-by-name Catholics in Dayton were Robert Conway and his family. In 1832, they moved into Ice Alley, now called Ice Ave., between First and Second St. (now E. 1st and E. 2nd). More Irish and German Catholics moved to town in 1833. At this time in Dayton, Masses were offered by visiting itinerant missionary priests, as with most of Ohio.

The first known place used for Catholic worship in Dayton was the Conway place in Ice Alley. Later, as the number of Catholics grew, they switched to a one story brick meeting hall and bakery about a block away, on St. Clair St., across the street from what is now Cooper Park. (The brick building is now a parking lot.) Mass was in Latin, but sermons were in German, because German speakers outnumbered the Irish- and English-speaking Catholics.

In 1835, Mrs. Prudence Pierson donated a lot on Franklin Street, between Ludlow and Prairie, to the Archbishop of Cincinnati. Fr. Thienpont was told to begin raising money to build a church. In 1836, Fr. Thienpont was made pastor of Dayton's parish-to-be, and continued collecting money. In 1837, construction began. The new church was consecrated by Archbishop Purcell on November 26, 1837. Dayton's mother church was named "Emmanuel."

Note: Most addresses listed are usually the Parish Rectory, but the Church is close at hand.

Begin your Pilgrimage of Faith at;

1. Emmanuel Catholic Church
149 Franklin St., Dayton, Ohio 45402
(937) 228-2013
<http://emmanuelcatholic.com>
39.753114,-84.193518



Starting from Emmanuel Catholic Church
1 Head east on Franklin St toward S Ludlow St
2 Turn left onto S Ludlow St
3 Turn left onto W 6th St
4 Continue onto North on S Wilkinson St
Arriving at Sacred Heart Church
Total: 0.5 mi - about 10 mins

2. Sacred Heart Church
217 West 4th St., Dayton, Ohio 45402
(937) 224-3904
39.757771,-84.195054



Starting from Sacred Heart Church
1 Head east on W 4th St
2 Turn left onto S St Clair St
- Between 2nd St and 3rd St is Cooper Park.
Across from the park is a parking lot. It formally held a building where Masses were held.
3 Turn right onto Ice Ave.
- Masses were first held at the Conway family home in the Ice Alley.
4 Turn right onto N Patterson Blvd
5 Turn left onto E 2nd St
Arriving at St Joseph Church
Total: 0.9 mi - about 19 mins

3. St. Joseph Church
411 E 2nd St, Dayton, Ohio 45202
(937) 228-9272
<http://stjosephdayton.org>
39.762249,-84.184829



Starting from St Joseph Church
1 Head west on E 2nd St toward Madison St
2 Turn left onto Madison St (South)
3 Turn left (East) onto E 3rd St
4 Turn right (South) onto Wayne Ave
5 Turn left onto E 5th St
6 Turn left onto Bainbridge St
Arriving at Holy Trinity Catholic Church
Total: 0.6 mi - about 12 mins

4. Holy Trinity Catholic Church
272 Bainbridge St., Dayton, Ohio 45402
(937) 228-1223
<http://holyltrinitydayton.org>
39.757649,-84.1803



Starting from Holy Trinity Catholic Church
1 Turn left onto E 5th St
2 Head east to S Findlay St
Arriving at Holy Family Catholic Church
Total: 1.4 mi - about 27 mins

5. Holy Family Catholic Church
140 S Findlay St, Dayton, Ohio 45403
(937) 938-6098
<http://daytonlatinmass.org>
39.761516,-84.155855



Starting from Holy Family Catholic Church
1 Head west on E 5th St
2 Turn left onto Linden Ave
3 Sharp right onto Xenia Ave
4 Turn left onto Carlisle Ave
5 Turn right (West) onto St Charles Ave
Arriving at St Anthony Church
Total: 1.5 mi - about 31 mins

6. St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church
830 Bowen St, Dayton, Ohio 45410
(937) 253-9132
<http://stanthonydayton.org>
39.748873,-84.154133



Starting from St Anthony Church
1 Head north on Bowen St toward Xenia Ave
2 Turn left (West) onto Xenia Ave
Arriving at St. Mary Catholic Church
Total: 1.1 mi - about 21 mins

7. St. Mary Catholic Church
310 Allen St, Dayton, Ohio 45410
(937) 256-5633
<http://stmarydayton.org>
39.752772,-84.167915



Starting from St. Mary Catholic Church
1 Head west on Xenia Ave
2 Turn left (South) onto Fillmore St
3 Turn right onto Wyoming St
4 Turn left onto Wayne Ave
5 Turn right onto Medford St
6 Turn right onto E Stewart St
7 Turn left onto Zehler Ave.
Arriving at The Chapel of the Immaculate Conception on the left.
Total: 2.0 mi - about 41 mins

8. The Chapel of the Immaculate Conception
University of Dayton
University Circle, Dayton, OH 45409
39.739238,-84.177793



Starting from the Chapel
1 Head west on University Circle
2 Turn left onto L St
Arriving at Holy Angels Church on L Street.
Total: 0.2 mi - about 3 mins

9. Holy Angels Church
221 L St, Dayton, Ohio 45409
(937) 229-5911
<http://holyangels.cc>
39°44'20.1"N 84°10'54.2"W



Begin in front of Holy Angels Church on L Street
1 Head west on L St toward Brown St
2 Turn right onto Brown St
3 Turn left onto E Stewart St
4 Turn right onto Great Miami River Recreational Trail/S Patterson Blvd
5 Turn left onto Great Miami River Recreational Trail. Continue to follow Great Miami River Recreational Trail
6 Slight right toward W Washington St
7 Turn right onto W Washington St
8 Turn left onto S Perry St
9 Turn right onto Franklin St
Arriving back Emmanuel Catholic Church
Total: 1.8 mi - about 35 mins

Travel Information

1 to 2 - Total: 0.5 mi - about 10 mins
2 to 3 - Total: 0.9 mi - about 19 mins
3 to 4 - Total: 0.6 mi - about 12 mins
4 to 5 - Total: 1.4 mi - about 27 mins
5 to 6 - Total: 1.5 mi - about 31 mins
6 to 7 - Total: 1.1 mi - about 21 mins
7 to 8 - Total: 2.0 mi - about 41 mins
8 to 9 - Total: 0.2 mi - about 3 mins
9 to 1 - Total: 1.8 mi - about 35 mins

Estimated Distance – 10 miles

Estimated Hiking Time – 3 hours, 20 min.

Trail Safety

This is an urban trail along a busy roads. Follow BSA Safe Hiking Rules and travel with a minimum of two adults and four scouts.

Trail History

This trail was developed for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati's Catholic Committee of Scouting (2014).