

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



17784 State Route 676 (Churchtown)
Marietta, Ohio 45750-6530
Founded 1841—Completed 1867
*A parish of the Roman Catholic
Diocese of Steubenville*

Phone 740-896-3566
Fax 740-896-3567
Parish Sr. Center 740-896-3610
Email: stjohnchurchtown@yahoo.com
webpage: www.stjohnchurchtown.com

Fr. David Gaydosik, Pastor
Cell number 740-391-1093
Fr. Walter E Heinz, retired
Fr. Dale Tornes, retired

24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 14, 2025



Good News!

By: FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

As he stood in line in front of me, the back of his T-shirt read, “Pain is weakness leaving the body.” Though unsaid, it implied that the parting pain would be replaced by newfound strength. Yet, the more I thought about it, I wondered if that is always the case. Some pain simply leaves one empty, like the grief that comes with the death of one’s child. That emptiness never leaves, it is never replaced. So too, the pain of living with mental illness, as it seems to isolate one from many of life’s joys and satisfactions. Or, eventually, the aging process in all of us, as it slips in and steals the treasures of life, one by one. Pain is not always weakness leaving the body. Sometimes, it is the pain of an alien spirit settling in for the long haul.

If St. Paul’s assertion that Jesus came and “emptied himself...coming in human likeness...even [to] death on a cross,” then those times that seem to empty us of all we would hold dear are the times when we slowly take on the image of Jesus in our own lives. It is at such times when we are most powerless but also when God’s spirit shines through our broken and wounded lives, if only because we become totally dependent upon God. It is Saint Teresa of Kolkata who is said to have once remarked that even God cannot fill what is already full.

Matrimony: Engaged couples, should contact the Parish Office at least six months in advance of the intended wedding, for Pre-marriage interview. Pre-marriage formation (Pre-Cana) is required to prepare for this serious, lifelong commitment.

Baptism: call the Parish Office to schedule a Baptism 740-896-3566.

The Homebound/Nursing Home/Hospitalized: Please call the parish office. Due to HIPPA laws we may not be otherwise notified.

Anointing of the Sick: Celebrated upon request. Call the Parish Office.

Prayer line: Offering our prayerful support for your intentions. Mary Brooker 740-896-2002 or Mrs. Elaine Wells 740-896-3112.

Reconciliation:: Opportunities to celebrate God’s forgiveness in one’s life are available on Saturday from 5:00-5:45 p.m., Sunday 6:45am to 7:15am and 10:00am to 10:45am. Individual appointment by calling parish office.

MASS INTENTION SCHEDULE

Saturday	OLM	09/13	4:00	p.m.	+Stephen Kuchyt (Todd and Katheryn Arnold)
	SJB	09/13	6:00	p.m.	+Ben Sauer (Birthday) (Family)
Sunday	SJB	09/14	7:30	a.m.	+Leo Huck (Doug and Mary Parks)
	OLM	09/14	9:30	a.m.	+David Erb (Richard and Melissa Tornes)
	SJB	09/14	11:00	a.m.	+Frank and +Ruth Lang (Donna Tornes and Family)
Monday	SJB	09/15	8:00	a.m.	+Mary Huck (Wedding Annivesary) (Regis Huck) +Richard Arnold (Janet Schaad and Family)
Tuesday	SJB	09/16	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today
	OLM	09/16	5:00	p.m.	TBA
Wednesday	SJB	09/17	8:30	a.m.	+Judy Britton (Bernard and Marilyn Schilling) School Mass +Penny Schwendeman (Terry and Patti Miller)
Thursday	SJB	09/18	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today
	OLM	09/18	5:00	p.m.	TBA
Friday	SJB	09/19	8:00	a.m.	+Patricia Gaydosik (Denny and Elaine Gerst) +Leora Arnold (Vincent and Allene Huck Family)
Saturday	OLM	09/20	4:00	p.m.	TBA
	SJB	09/20	6:00	p.m.	+Betty Pottmeyer (Anniv. 9/18) (Erin and Sherri Pottmeyer)
Sunday	SJB	09/21	7:30	a.m.	+Kendrick Schwendeman (Alvin Arnold and Family)
	OLM	09/21	9:30	a.m.	TBA
	SJB	09/21	11:00	a.m.	+Evelyn Neill (Margie Stephens)

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

ALTER SERVERS		LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER
Saturday	6:00 p.m.	Abby Henke, Coletyn Dyar	Virginia Dyar
Sunday	7:30 a.m.	Adalyn and Eli Eichmiller	Robin Eichmiller
Sunday	11:00 a.m.	Emi Lauchard, Emma Wheeler	Brynlee Pottmeyer
			Roxanne Heiss

COLLECTION

Total Collection last weekend \$ 4,110
 Needed to meet parish needs \$ 4,750
 Total Gaza Collection \$ 895

Thank you for your generosity!

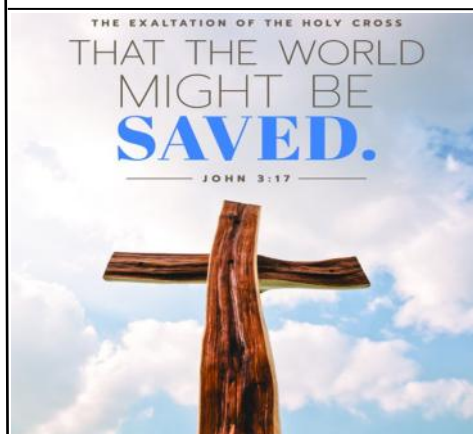
DPSC

2025 Collected to Date \$ 61,125
 2025 DPSC Goal \$ 41,330

This includes money sent directly to the Diocese. Thank you for your contributions!



Please pray for all of the men and women who are currently serving our country in the military. May God watch over them and keep them safe.



What's Happening

September 19 Pre-K Lemonade stand at the Sr. Center
 September 26 No school at St. John Central
 September 30 Cemetery Meeting 6:00 p.m.
 October 2 Sr. Citizen Meeting 11:00 a.m.
 October 4 Mass of Remembrance at St. Mary's Marietta 9:00 a.m.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

Amos 8:4-7 / 1 Timothy 2:1-8 / Luke 16:1-13 or 16:10-13

Please have all bulletin information to the Rectory no later than 10:00 p.m. on Monday

SCHOOL MASS TIME CHANGE

Please take note that School Mass on Wednesdays now begins at 8:30 a.m.

CEMETERY MEETING

A cemetery meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 30 in the Sr. Center. All are welcome.

CONFIRMATION

The Confirmation Class will meet on Sundays, November 9, December 14, January 11, February 8, March 8, and April 12, 2-3:30 pm at the Convent. This includes all parish students who wish to be confirmed in grades 5 and above, even if they attend St. John Central School. The date for Confirmation is TBA.

Please register at <https://forms.gle/h1iaQoNkrXSTpzv4A>.

ST. JOHN SCHOOL PRE-K LEMONADE STAND

September 19th the pre-k class will be inviting the grade school classes to the preschool to enjoy a cup of lemonade at their lemonade stand. The children will charge a quarter for each cup. This will help them to learn about money, how to pour and make lemonade and much more. Parish members are welcome! We plan to serve lemonade throughout the day.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?

The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) is the process by which those who are unbaptized or baptized in another Christian denomination come into the Roman Catholic Church. Now is the perfect time to learn more for yourself or invite those you love to take the next step! For more information about the OCIA program or the Catholic faith, call Father Dave, 740-391-1093.

CASINO NIGHT

St. John Central School's Annual Fundraising Event "Casino Night" is scheduled for November 15th with doors opening at 4:30 PM. If you or your business is wanting to be a sponsor of the event, please email Allie Lang with your business logo and contact information to stjohncentralgala@gmail.com or to purchase a \$50 ticket to the event, call or text Allie Lang 407-920- 1565.

MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

You are invited to a Mass of Remembrance for those who have suffered the loss of a child. The Mass will be held on October 4, 9:00 a.m. at Saint Mary Basilica in Marietta. Light refreshments will be served.

FALL "COME AND SEE" LIVE IN

For those interested in the priesthood or religious life, there is an upcoming weekend designed to answer questions and help give a feel for what it is like in the seminary environment. The event is in Steubenville, OH on Thursday, November 6th thru Sunday, November 9th with more information to follow. Let us pray that the Lord may open the hearts and minds of more young people to receive his call to religious life and the courage to explore that call.



DUELING PIANOS

The Knights of Columbus 4617 will host DUELING PIANOS on Saturday, October 11, 2025. \$1,000 in CASH Prizes! Tickets: \$40/each, only 250 Tickets Sold! Doors Open at 5:00 p.m. for games and raffles. A New York Strip Steak or Grilled Chicken Dinner will be held at 6:00 p.m.. The Dueling Pianos Show will begin at 8:00 p.m. by Shake Rattle & Roll Pianos! Your ticket includes the dinner, show, beer/wine, and water/drinks! In addition to dinner and the show, there will be 50/50, raffles, and more games of chance. For tickets or information contact Jeff Brooker @ 740-749-3538 or Taylor Pottmeyer @ 412-215-6470.

JUBILEE OF MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

This celebration will take place on Sunday, November 9, at 12:00 noon Mass at the Basilica of St. Mary in Marietta. A reception will follow Mass. The Mass will honor those couples whose 10th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th, 55th, 60th and 60+ (every year thereafter) anniversary of marriage is (or was) in 2023 or 2024. To register, please contact the Rectory by October 10, 2024.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The 2025 Eucharistic Rosary Congress will be held October 4-10 throughout the Diocese of Steubenville. This is part of a nationwide movement of prayer, taking place concurrently in 32 diocese throughout the country. The Eucharist Rosary Congress promotes the mission of the current National Eucharistic Revival: to renew our worship of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Eucharist and to encounter His healing grace. This will be an opportunity for our diocese to come together to pray in union with others through the country in adoration, reparation, and intercession for all of the needs of our community and Church.

*Do not forget the
works of the Lord!*

IMPORTANT.....PLEASE READ

CHANGE TO CEMETERY MEMBERSHIP RATE

The St. John Cemetery membership rates will remain the same cost, but the opening and closing of the graves will no longer be part of the fee starting October 1st, 2025. Anyone who has the fee paid in full before October 1st will have the opening and closing included. If not paid in full by October 1st, the opening and closing of the grave will need to be paid at the time of that service.

This change is being made due to the uncertainty of who will be handling the grave opening and closing in the future and the cost associated with this service.

We have asked many times if someone would be interested in taking charge of the opening and closing of the graves and no one has stepped up or shown interest, so we have no choice but to look for other options. If someone is interested, please let us know.

For more information or to inquire about your balance due, contact Kevin Brooker (740-538-1887) or Pam at the parish office (740-896-3566) with questions.



New Parishioners

Welcome!

You can register by calling our Parish Office.

Prayer Network: Call Mary Brooker 740-896-2002 Elaine Wells 740-896-3112 to place a prayer request on the prayer line or to join in the prayers for those in need.

Becoming Catholic (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)

For those interested in becoming Catholic, contact the parish office.

Care for the Sick or Homebound:

Call the Parish Office or Marilyn Kern to set up Communion visits or to receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick.

Pastoral Musicians

Valerie Strahler, Crystal Lang

PSR Coordinator

Amanda Warner

Pastoral Council

Chairperson Maria Huffman

Parish Finance Council

Chairperson Russ Lang,
Casey Lang, Rachel Schott,
Jeff Canterbury, Pam Brooker

Cemetery Association

Andy Miller, Kevin Brooker,
Dean Hart, Howard Brooker

Senior Citizens of Churchtown

President Marilyn Kern

Club of Catholic Women

President Marilyn Zollar

St. John Central School

(740) 896-2697
Mrs. Becky Hilverding
Principal

Knights of Columbus

Council 4617
Grand Knight Tanner Pottmeyer

St. John School Foundation

Gary Arnold, President

Diocesan Catholic Charities & Information

Referral Line:
1-800-339-7890

Pray for the priests of the Diocese of Steubenville: September 13, Fr. Mark Moore; September 14, Bishop Edward Lohse; Sept. 15, Fr. Nick Ward; Sept. 16 Fr. Timothy Huffman; Sept. 17, Fr. Richard Tuttle, Sept. 18, Fr. Kevin Barrett; Sept. 19, Fr. Wayne Morris; Sept. 20, Fr. Michael Gossett; Sept. 21, Fr. Thomas Magary. Eternal God, please bless our priests, who represent you on this earth. Heavenly Father, grant that our priests be strengthened by the power of the Eucharist they celebrate.

Pray for our seminarians (the future of our Diocese). Deacon Peter Stetson—Blessed Sacrament Parish Wintersville, Ohio; Deacon Ryan Budd and Caleb Baker — Christ the Light Parish, Cambridge, Ohio; St. Vincent Seminary Latrobe, Pa. Christopher McGurn and Samuel Ivkovich; Pontifical College Josephinum Columbus John Paul Gan, Maximilian Gan, Johnathan Ruscoe, Rily Morris, Arron Pabin, and William Gugala.

We are looking for individuals who are willing to serving our parish family as Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Ushers, Greeters, Servers. Lay participation is a vital part of the life of our parish community. Whether you're a lifetime member or new to our parish family, your service can make a real difference. Training will be provided. If interested contact the parish office.

As the world learns more about Carlo Acutis, who was declared a saint on Sunday, September 7, here are some words of wisdom from this young man who died at the age of 15 from leukemia. May we all learn from his example. Thanks be to God for this beautiful witness of faith, hope, and love.

1. "The Virgin Mary is the only woman in my life."
2. "The more Eucharist we receive, the more we will become like Jesus, so that on earth we will have a foretaste of heaven."
3. "By standing before the Eucharistic Christ, we become holy."
4. "There are people who suffer much more than me."
5. "Continuously ask your guardian angel for help. Your guardian angel has to become your best friend."
6. "Do not be afraid because with the Incarnation of Jesus, death becomes life, and there's no need to escape: in eternal life, something extraordinary awaits us."
7. "Jerusalem is right on our doorstep."
8. All people are born as originals but many die as photocopies."
9. To always be close to Jesus, that's my life plan".
10. "Sadness is looking at ourselves, happiness is looking towards God."
11. "Not me, but God."
12. "The more Eucharist we receive, the more we will become like Jesus, so that on this earth we will have a foretaste of heaven".
13. "The only thing we have to ask God for, in prayer, is the desire to be holy."
14. "Our soul is like a hot air balloon. If by chance there is a mortal sin, the soul falls to the ground. Confession is like the fire underneath the balloon enabling the soul to rise again. . . It is important to go to confession often."
15. "I am happy to die because I have lived my life without wasting a minute on those things which do not please God."
16. "Our goal must be infinite, not the finite. The infinite is our homeland. Heaven has been waiting for us forever."
17. "The Eucharist is the highway to heaven."



September is dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows. Do you know what the Seven Sorrows of Mary are? These are moments of deep suffering in Mary's life that help us reflect on her strength, faith, and compassion. They include: 1. Simeon telling Mary that Jesus would suffer, 2. Escaping to Egypt to live as refugees, to protect Jesus from King Herod, 3. Losing 12-year-old Jesus for three days, only to find Him teaching in the temple, 4. Seeing Jesus carry His cross on the way to His crucifixion, 5. Watching Jesus suffer and die on the cross, 6. Holding her lifeless Son after He is taken down from the cross, and 7. Watching Jesus be buried in the tomb. Through these sorrows, Mary draws near to all who suffer. May we turn to her in our own times of grief and find peace and comfort in her loving, maternal heart.

St. John Central School opened the 2025-2026 school year with 54 students in grades kindergarten to grade 6.

St. John the Baptist has 30 students

Our Lady of Mercy has 3 students

St. Bernards 3 students

St. Ambrose 5 students

St. James 1 student

Non-affiliated 12 students

The School Mass time on Wednesday will move to 8:30am due to certain buses arriving later than in the past.

There is no question that the Bible is pro-child. The first commandment of the Bible, "Be fruitful and multiply" (Gen 1:28) has **not** been cancelled. Another translation is "Be fertile and multiply." Psalms 127 and 128 further exemplify the pro-family attitude encouraged in the Bible. Children thrive best in a family of several children where they learn to give, share, and care. One of our favorite quotations on this subject comes from Pope John Paul II. He was making his first trip as Pope to the United States, and on October 7, 1979, he celebrated Mass on the Capitol Mall in Washington, D.C. In his homily he said: "Decisions about the number of children and the sacrifices to be made for them must not be taken only with a view to adding to comfort and preserving a peaceful existence. Reflecting upon this matter before God, with the graces drawn from the Sacrament, and guided by the teaching of the Church, parents will remind themselves that it is certainly less serious to deny their children certain comforts or material advantages than to deprive them of the presence of brothers and sisters, who could help them to grow in humanity and to realize the beauty of life at all its ages and in all its variety."

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If you get any emails from Fr. Gaydosik, please check the email address. His email is dgaydosik@diosteub.org. The scammers are at it again! Thanks!