

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

17784 St. Rt. 676, Marietta, Ohio 45750 Phone 740-896-3566 Fax 740-896-3567

Email: stjohchurchtown@yahoo.com webpage: www.stjohchurchtown.com



Founded 1841—Completed 1867
*A parish of the Roman Catholic
Diocese of Steubenville*

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

**28TH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
OCTOBER 11, 2026**



Good News!

By: MIGUEL DULICK

The closer Jesus gets to his death, the more targeted are his parables, specifically to the "chief priests and elders." He has no patience with their hypocrisy.

The wedding feast has a long history in the prophets and the psalms, always a glorious celebration of love and delight—God marrying the chosen people. But in today's gospel, Jesus speaks of the feast as a massacre. When the guests refuse to attend his son's wedding, and they even kill the messengers sent to invite them, the enraged king amasses his troops to destroy "those murderers" and burn their city to the ground. So, the chosen people are un-chosen. Then, the king tries again, this time sending the servants to "whomever [they] find." And then comes a beautiful moment: the servants invite the "bad (literally, "evil") and good alike," and they fill up the hall! This echoes Jesus' own promise of the cross: "When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself" (John 12:32).

There is one more twist to the story that keeps Jesus in his own uncompromising space. When the king spots a guest without a "wedding garment," he binds him hand and foot and throws him out into the darkness. Pretty scary—but do stay with Jesus. Accept the invitation to the banquet. And let Jesus dress you in his own garment of grace.

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.

Bulletin Information: Please have all bulletin information to the Rectory no later than Wednesday at 6 p.m.

MASS INTENTION SCHEDULE

Saturday	OLM	10/10	4:00	p.m.	+Jake, +Poke, +Sis Misel (Debbie Misel)
	SJB	10/10	6:00	p.m.	+Fred Heiss (Bill and Alberta Wesel)
Sunday	SJB	10/11	7:30	a.m.	+Frank and +Gladys Schilling (Wed. Anniv.) (Children)
	OLM	10/11	9:30	a.m.	+Cheryl Brooker (Brian Brooker)
	SJB	10/11	11:00	a.m.	+Richard and +Bertha Pottmeyer (Children)
Monday	SJB	10/12	8:00	a.m.	+Norma Thieman (Birthday 10/11) (Family)
Tuesday	SJB	10/13	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today
	OLM	10/13	5:00	p.m.	+Sandra Schilling (8 yr. Anniv.) (Her Children)
Wednesday	SJB	10/14	8:30	a.m.	+Tillie Kern (Charlotte Lang and Family) School Mass
Thursday	SJB	10/15	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today
	OLM	10/15	5:00	p.m.	Living and Deceased of Herbert and Claire Huck Family (Max Huck)
Friday	SJB	10/16	8:00	a.m.	+Mary Schwendeman (Birthday) (Family)
Saturday	OLM	10/17	4:00	p.m.	+Marlene Huck (Clair Huck)
	SJB	10/17	6:00	p.m.	Living and Deceased of +Leo and +Lucy Huck Family (Family)
Sunday	SJB	10/18	7:30	a.m.	Living and Deceased of +Clarence and +Hilda Arnold (Mary Brooker and Family)
	OLM	10/18	9:30	a.m.	+Patricia Huck (Hugh and Kelly Arnold)
	SJB	10/18	11:00	a.m.	+William and +Eleanor Lang (Charlotte Lang and Family)

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

<u>MASS</u>	<u>ALTER SERVERS</u>	<u>LECTOR</u>	<u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER</u>
Saturday 6:00 p.m.	Jade and Sydney Lang	Eugene Huck	Jason Henke
Sunday 7:30 a.m.	Dane and Dalton Schott	J.D. Alexander	Arnold Huck
Sunday 11:00 a.m.	Reese Lang, Weston Burt	Jerry Smith	Marilyn Zoller

COLLECTION

Total Collection (last weekend) \$4,343
Need to meet parish needs \$4,750

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

DPSC

2026 Collected to date \$58,720
2026 DPSC Goal \$36,584

THANK YOU!



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.

OCTOBER 17
NATIONAL CREMATION PLACEMENT DAY
A time to provide a permanent and sacred place of rest.

Are you holding the cremated remains of a loved one at home? National Cremation Placement Day is a reminder to consider giving your loved one a permanent place of rest in a cemetery.



A meaningful place to be remembered.



A sacred place to be prayed for.



A place for generations to come.

No matter how long you have been caring for the remains of a loved one, it's never too late to take this important step.

REACH OUT TODAY
to your local cemetery or your pastor to learn more about cremation placement options.

Honoring Lives. Always.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct 11	Fr. Walter heads back to Florida
Oct 12	CWC Meeting
Oct 17	K of C Dueling Pianos
Oct 25	Baby Bottles are to be returned
Oct 28	Daily Bread Kitchen
Oct 29	Churchtown Trick or Treat 6-7:30 p.m.
Oct 30	Socktober socks due
Oct 30	Trunk or Treat at the K of C 6:00 p.m.

DIOCESE MARRIAGE JUBILEE

The diocese will again be celebrating special Masses in recognition of significant wedding anniversaries. Couples celebrating their 10th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th, 55th, 60th and 60+ (every year thereafter) anniversaries of marriage are cordially invited to attend. The Mass is scheduled to take place on Sunday, November 8, at 12:00 noon at St. Mary Basilica, Marietta. An informal reception will follow each celebration. To register, please contact the parish office by October 16.

CWC MEETING

The CWC will meet at the Sr. Center on Monday, October 12. The Rosary will be prayed at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting will follow. The meeting for November may be a Paint and Sip. Stay tuned.

OUR SNOWBIRD IS FLYING THE COUP FOR THE WINTER

Fr. Walter is heading back to Florida this weekend for the winter. His address is: 5700 Bayshore Road, Lot 801, Palmetto, Florida 34221. Please keep him in your prayers. Fr. Walter would like to express his gratitude for everyone's kindness during the summer and for his 90th birthday in August. God bless you all.

CHURCHTOWN TRICK OR TREAT

Mark your calendar now. Churchtown Trick or Treat will be held on Thursday, October 29, 6 -7:30 p.m. If you will be giving out treats, please turn your outside light on.

CHURCHTOWN K OF C TRUNK OR TREAT

The Knights of Columbus 4617 will again host Churchtown's Annual Trunk or Treat on Friday, October 30th from 6:00 to 7:00 pm at 17472 State Route 676, Marietta, Ohio 45750. If you have any questions, you can contact Jessica Pottmeyer on Facebook or text her at 740-336-1048. We are looking forward to having another fun filled trunk or treat with you!

K OF C 4617 PLAYGROUND PROJECT UPDATE

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our members, local businesses, organizations, and community, we have now reached \$42,100 of our \$50,000 goal - 84%! This includes \$21,100 in community donations along with \$20,000 pledged by KofC Council 4617. While the playground is being built, our fundraising isn't finished yet! We will continue accepting donations through October 31, 2026. Every contribution helps, and we sincerely appreciate everyone who has already supported this project. To donate, contact Erin Pottmeyer at (740) 525-5561, or email churchtownkofc@gmail.com. Checks can be made payable to "Knights of Columbus 4617" and mailed to: Bob Byers, Financial Secretary, 565 Indian Run Road, Marietta, OH 45750. Together we can build more than a playground - we can build a lasting legacy for our community.

OLM CHICKEN PIES AND NOODLE SALE

Our Lady of Mercy CWC is taking orders for homemade chicken pies and noodles through Thursday, October 29th. Frozen chicken pies are \$14 each. Noodles are \$8 per bag and are available in wide or narrow width. To place an order, please contact Heather Peters at 740-350-6972 or Marilyn Peters at 740-350-1751.



DAILY BREAD KITCHEN

The St. John's group for the Daily Bread Kitchen will be cooking and handing out takeout lunches, at the Marietta KofC Hall on Gilman Ave. in Marietta, on Wednesday, September 2nd and Wednesday, October 28th. At this time, we are in need of packaged cookies, snack cakes, or doughnuts, pastries or muffins and fruit cups (to put in the Takeouts). If you would like to make a donation of any of these items, you can leave them in the box in the entry of the church by 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 28th. If you would like to make a monetary donation there will also be a collection can in the entry of the church. Thank you for all your past and present donations. You are helping to make a difference!

FILL A BABY BOTTLE

Change a Life. Mary's House provides shelter, support, and job training for women who have chosen to give life to their babies. Here's How It Works: Take a bottle from the entrance of the church and bring it home with you. Fill the bottle with change, cash, or a check. Return the bottle to the church by October 25th. Every contribution, no matter the amount, can make a difference in the life of a mother and her baby. Thank you for helping us support mothers, strengthen families, and change lives!

SEARCH" FOR CHRISTIAN MATURITY

SEARCH for Christian Maturity weekend retreats for youth ages 16-21 is upcoming. SEARCH weekends will be held at St. John Central Grade School in Churchtown and is open to all Denominations. Girls weekend will be held on Friday, November 6th-Sunday, November 8th. Boys weekend will be Friday, November 20th-Sunday, November 22nd. Deadline for applications will be October 30th for girls, and November 13th for boys. Please contact Alana Henry for more information at 440-539-3763. You can find applications at St. John Parish website at <https://www.stjohnchurchtown.com/>.

SOCKTOBER

The 6th grade class at St. John Central School will be collecting socks for men, women, and children to be distributed to those less fortunate in our community. Help us keep our neighbors warm. Our goal this year is 2000 pairs of socks. We will be collecting through the month of October and you may drop off your donation at the school or in the box in the church vestibule. Together we can make a difference one pair at a time.

RESPECT LIFE NOVENA

The US Catholic Bishops are organizing a novena starting on October 22, 2026 (the Memorial of Pope St. John Paul II) and concluding on October 30, 2026. Learn more about the novena and sign up for reminders at <https://www.respectlife.org/respect-life-month-novena>. Please contact Joe Schmidt 740-516-9270) with any questions.

HALLOWEEN SQUARE DANCE

A Halloween Square Dance will be held on October 24, from 7-10:30 p.m. at St. Henry's Catholic Church Hall in Harriettsville. The band will be "Pickin On Country". Unmasking will take place at 7:30 p.m. and there will be raffles, food, country store and fun for all. Admission is \$5 per person. Children 10 and under are free.



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

OUR SEMINARIANS *Pray for Seminarians* studying at: *St. Vincent Seminary 300 Fraser Purchase Rd., Latrobe Pa, 15650*: Third Theology: Christopher McGurn and Samuel Ivkovich; First Theology: Aaron Pabin *Pontifical College Josephinum 7625 North High Street, Columbus, Ohio, 43235-1499*: Second Theology: John Paul Gan; Fourth College Riley Morris; Third College: Maximilian Kolbe Gan; Second College: William Gugala. Fr. Nicholas Ginnetti, Director of Vocations (740) 432-7509 or nginnetti@diosteub.org.

The Pontifical College Josephinum will host their annual fall "Come and See" Live-In from Friday, November 13th to Sunday, November 15th. The weekend begins with arrival at 4:00 pm on Friday and concludes at noon on Sunday. This event is for men in high school and college who are interested in learning more about seminary and discernment in general. There is no cost to participate. To register or for more information, please email Fr. Nicholas Ginnetti, the Director of Vocations, at nginnetti@diosteub.org

Prayer for our Priests:

Oct 11, Bishop Edward Lohse; Oct. 12, Fr. Walter Heinz; Oct. 13 Msgr. Don Horak; Oct. 14, Fr. Peter Stetson; Oct. 15 Fr. Edward Maxfield; Oct 16, Fr. Wayne Morris; Oct. 17, Fr. Anthony Batt; Oct. 18, All Priests.

Did you know??? If you are at least age 70 ½, IRS rules for 2026 state you can transfer up to \$111,000 directly from your Traditional IRA to a Qualified Charity and the donation will be tax free to you. AND If you are age 73 or above, the amount transferred may be considered part of your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) for the year. The amount transferred directly to a Section 501(c)(3) charity, by your trustee, will not be taxable to you, so it will reduce your total income and tax liability for the year. Contact your tax advisor or your financial advisor for information on how you might use this ruling to benefit your personal financial situation, while supporting a charity you value such as St. John the Baptist Church, Our Lady of Mercy Church, and St. John Central School.

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR OCTOBER

Pope Leo XIV asks us to pray for greater collaboration among all faith traditions to work together for peace, justice, and human fraternity. As we mark the 60th anniversary of Nostra Aetate, we pray that religions become bridges, not barriers, and that hearts recognize what unites us.

Catholic in Recovery for the Mid-Ohio Valley holds weekly, general recovery meetings on Monday's at 7pm in the St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church parish hall in Parkersburg, WV,. For more information please contact John B. at: CatholicInRecoveryMOV12@gmail.com or call (681) 229-7220.

A Prayer for Hope

Heavenly Father, in the sacrament of Baptism, you have given us the gift of new life. Through your son our Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, you have made us your own. Help us to recognize the gift of human life as a sign of hope in our world. Reveal to us the places where your precious gift of life is most in need of protection and strengthen us to defend life in all stages and circumstances, from the child in the womb to the elderly and dying. Guided by your Holy Spirit, guard us from discouragement and give us the grace to be messengers of hope, filled with confidence that nothing can separate us from your love. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Boxes of Joy: This is your chance to make a child's Christmas special. Pick up one of the boxes and fill it according to the included instructions. Please do not tape the boxes. The CWC will pay for the shipping. Please return your box by October 25th.

October is Respect Life Month: This year's theme is Mary, Mother of Life, Pray for us. Also, the US Bishops are organizing a nationwide Rosary Novena for Life starting Thursday, October 22nd. Make sure to do what you can to promote a pro-Life community and country.

Diocesan Rosary Congress: The diocese will hold the Congress on October 3rd through 10th. There will be a starting procession, perpetual Adoration and many other events at Blessed Sacrament in Wintersville, with Matthew Leonard being a guest speaker. For more details please visit diosteub.org/rosary-congress

Each year, the Church celebrates **World Mission Sunday**, a special day dedicated to supporting the Church's missionary work throughout the world. This year, World Mission Sunday will be celebrated on Sunday, October 18.

As Catholics, we are part of a universal Church that reaches far beyond our own parish, diocese, and country. In many places throughout the world, missionaries are bringing the Gospel to communities where the Church is still growing and where people may have limited access to churches, religious education, healthcare, and other basic resources. Our prayers and financial support help missionaries proclaim the Gospel and serve people in need. Through the generosity of Catholics around the world, the church is able to support mission dioceses, train seminarians and catechists, provide assistance to religious communities, and help build and sustain schools, churches, clinics, and other ministries.

**I shall live in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life. of my life.**