

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 Tornos, retired

**23RD SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

For where
two or
three
gather
in my name,
there am I in the midst of them.
Matthew 18:20

Good News!

By: THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

As we hear today's Gospel of the servant whose enormous debt is forgiven, yet who refuses mercy to a fellow servant owing far less, we cannot help but ask: how can this be? This is the first question that comes to mind. How could a person be forgiven so much and then, just a few minutes later, refuse to forgive something inconsequential in comparison?

Selfishness doesn't really explain it. Being so full of oneself doesn't explain it. Being completely dense and obtuse is perhaps closer to the truth, but even that explanation comes up short.

The truth is that the exaggeration of the debt is secondary to the story. What is essential to the story is the invitation to reflect on what it means to be a human being. It is to acknowledge that, when all is said and done, everyone owes a huge debt. No one is exempt from gratitude. An honest acceptance of who we are—completely and totally dependent on God who created us—is the core truth. To be so disconnected from this truth as to not recognize one's own dependence and be completely unaware of the need to be grateful—that is the real challenge the story considers.

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	09/05	4:00	p.m.	Members of the Heiss & Knoch Families (Fay Heiss)	
	SJB	09/05	6:00	p.m.	+Ben and +Edith Brooker (Wedding Anniversary) (Family)	
Sunday	SJB	09/06	7:30	a.m.	+Edward Brooker (Anniversary) (Family)	
	OLM	09/06	9:30	a.m.	+Karen Rohrer (Rob and Susan Huck)	
	SJB	09/06	11:00	a.m.	+Lewis J. Lang (Mona Barrett and Family)	
Monday	SJB	09/07	<u>9:00</u>	a.m.	+Hilda Gebhart (Charlotte Lang and Family)	Labor Day!
Tuesday	SJB	09/08	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today	
	OLM	09/08	5:00	p.m.	+Marlene Walbert (Cade Lang)	
					+Scott Mazur (David & Joanne Yeomans)	
Wednesday	SJB	09/09	8:30	a.m.	+Grace Strahler (Duane and Tina Duff)	School Mass
					+Jay Pottmeyer (Harold Arnold Family)	
Thursday	SJB	09/10	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today	
	OLM	09/10	5:00	p.m.	+Jennette Schwendman (Lisa Schwendman)	
					+Nathan Huck (Ben and Lisa Bernedts)	
Friday	SJB	09/11	8:00	a.m.	+Faye Treadway (Jerry and Melinda Treadway)	
					+Richard C. Arnold (Charles Tornes)	
Saturday	OLM	09/12	4:00	p.m.	+David Erb (Richard and Melissa Tornes)	
	SJB	09/12	6:00	p.m.	+Kendrick Schwendeman (Bernard and Marilyn Schilling)	
Sunday	SJB	09/13	7:30	a.m.	+Jeremy Schott (Ed and Anna Mae Brooker Family)	
	OLM	09/13	9:30	a.m.	+Dan Strahler (Andrew Strahler)	
	SJB	09/13	11:00	a.m.	+Richard C. Arnold (Shelba Arnold 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.	Emma Schaad, Alaina Wells, Chase Arteaga	Kelly Miller	Virginia Dyar
Sunday 7:30 a.m.	Dalton and Dane Schott	J.D. Alexander	Arnold Huck
Sunday 11:00 a.m.	Brenlee Lang, Emi Lauchard	Angie Henniger	Roxanne Heiss

<u>COLLECTION</u>	<u>DPSC</u>	
Total Collection (last weekend) \$3,050	2026 Collected to date \$53,065	 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.
Need to meet parish needs \$4,750	2026 DPSC Goal \$36,584	
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!	THANK YOU!	



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sep 7	Fr. Dave's Birthday
Sep 21	CWC Meeting
Sep 30	Daily Bread Kitchen



READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

Isaiah 55:6-9 / Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a / Matthew 20:1-16a

CWC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The CWC will be starting up again in September. This meeting will be held on the third Monday, September 21 (instead of the second Monday) in the Sr. Center. The meeting will begin with the Rosary at 6:30 p.m. All ladies of the parish are encouraged to attend. The remaining meetings will be held on the second Monday of each month unless otherwise noted.

CWC MEMBERS

Now that the CWC work groups have come out, some of our younger parishioners may have noticed that their name is on the list. Once you turn 18 or join the church through marriage, you're automatically a member of the CWC. Welcome to the club!

JUBILEE OF MARRIAGE CELEBRATION

The Diocese of Steubenville is offering a special Mass in recognition of significant wedding anniversaries for the people of the Diocese of Steubenville. Couples celebrating their 10th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th, 55th, 60th and 60+ (every year thereafter) anniversaries of marriage are invited to attend. The Mass in our area will be celebrated at 12 Noon on Sunday, November 8th at St. Mary Basilica, Marietta. All couples presenting themselves for recognition at the Mass must register and be living in union with the Catholic Church, which is married in the presence of a priest. For those wishing to attend, please register by notifying Father or the parish office by October 9th.

SICK & SHUT-INS OF THE PARISH

Please call Father Gaydosik at 740-391-1093 or the Parish Office at 740-896-3566, when someone is homebound, sick, or hospitalized.

Important Update: Special Event and Alcohol Liability Coverage

Catholic Mutual (our Diocesan Insurance) has updated its insurance requirements for parish and school fundraising events and festivals where alcohol is sold. Previously, when a parish or school hosted its own fundraiser or festival to benefit its ministry, only alcohol liability coverage was required. Special event coverage was not necessary.

Under Catholic Mutual's new process, special event coverage and alcohol liability coverage have been combined into a single application with one fee. As a result, any parish or school hosting a fundraiser or festival where alcohol will be sold must complete the new combined application.

Please note: This requirement applies to fundraising events and festivals sponsored by your parish or school to support its ministries. It does **not** apply to outside groups or organizations renting parish or school facilities for their own events.

DUELING PIANOS

The Knights of Columbus 4617 will host DUELING PIANOS on Saturday, October 17, 2026 at the Hall in Churchtown. \$2,000 in Prizes! Tickets: \$50/each! 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! For tickets or information contact Jeff Brooker @ 740-749-3538 or Taylor Pottmeyer @ 412-215-6470.

MARY'S HOUSE BENEFIT DINNER

Mary's House is hosting a dinner on Saturday, September 26th at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Churchtown. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. with dinner served at 6:00 p.m. Your \$50 dinner ticket includes one chance to win our Business Raffle, with only 300 raffle tickets sold. Tickets are available for sale by contacting 740-960-9944 or emailing maryshouseoh@gmail.com. Dinner Tickets are \$50 per person. Throughout the evening, guests will enjoy: a Live Auction, Silent Auction and Take a Chance raffle.

EUCCHARISTIC ROSARY CONGRESS

Eucharistic Rosary Congress will be held October 3-10 at Blessed Sacrament Church in Wintersville.. Please join us during this powerful week of continuous Eucharistic Adoration, hourly rosaries prayed for our Diocese and the needs of the world, opportunities for confession, additional 5:15 pm Masses, Marian processions, and guest speaker Matthew Leonard! Matt will be speaking October 7 at 6 pm, the Feast of the Holy Rosary, with a talk entitled "Hail Mary; the Biblical Back Story of the Rosary." The week entails a sustained act of communal prayer before Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, offered for the conversion of sinners, the consecration of our nation, and the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Please sign up for a holy hour at <https://signup.com/go/PBPCxyV> , or scan the QR code below, or just come! For questions please text 410-596-1936. Blessed Sacrament address: 853 Main St. Wintersville, OH, 43953.



MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Attending the Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will give you and your spouse all the tools for a stronger and more loving marriage. "Bust some see feel on rich soil and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirty-fold." Let your marriage be like the rich soil and attend an upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience on October 9th -11th. At the Procter Camp and Conference Center in London, Ohio. Get away from jobs, kids, chores, and phone and focus only on each other. To apply or check out other weekend dates available visit wwme.org. Early registration is recommended.



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 Home-bound:

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 Church-town

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

You may know a parishioner who is a relative or friend who due to illness, accident, or recovering from a medical procedure, is unable to attend Mass. Whether short or long term, these faithful need not be deprived of their place of prayer and reception of Holy Communion. Contact the parish office.

Jubilee of Mariage Anniversaries for couples celebrating 10th, 20th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th, 55th, 60th or 60+ on Sunday November 8 at 12 (noon) at St Mary Basilica in Marietta. Register by Oct. 9th.

Catholic in Recovery (CiR) 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: CatholicInRecovery-MOV12@gmail.com or call (681) 229-7220.

The Knights of Columbus have the **2026 Football CRAZZ** tickets are available until Oct 26.. Cost of each ticket is \$20. These tickets are in no way supported or affiliated with the NFL. The State K of C only uses the score of NFL games to determine a winner. To purchase tickets or for more information contact Tony Offenberger 740-525-4823 or any K of C member.

Pray for the priests who serve the people of the Diocese of Sept. 7 Fr. John Mucha; Sept 8 Fr. Thomas Nelson; Sept 9 Fr. Daniel Heusel; Sept 10 Fr. Timothy Huffman; Sept. 11 Fr. Gene Mullett; Sept 12 Fr. Kevin Barrett;

Pray for our seminarians (the future of our Diocese).

At St. Vincent Seminary. 300 Fraser Purchase Road, Latrobe, Pa.15650
in Third Theology—Christopher McGurn and Samuel Ivkovich, First Theology -Arron Pabin

At the Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High Street, Columbus Ohio 43235-1499, in second theology -John Paul Gan; in fourth college—Rily Morris; in third college—Maximilian Kolbe Gan in second college—William Gugala; **Diocese of Steubenville Vocations:** Father Nicholas Ginnetti, Director of Vocations (740) 432-7609 or nginnetti@diosteub.org. X: @dsvocations director of vocations, by emailing nginnetti@diosteub.org

God is calling you or someone you know to join the Catholic church? OCIA is a process of prayer, study, and discussion concerning the Catholic faith. If you are interested, please complete the form below and place it in the collection basket, drop it off or mail it to the Parish Offices.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

____ I am not Catholic, but I am interested in learning about the Catholic Faith.

____ I am an inactive Catholic and would like to become active in my faith.

____ I am an active Catholic, but I have not been confirmed.

Beware of SCAM Please be ware that if you receive an email or text from someone claiming to Fr. Gaydosik or Bishop Lohse, etc., from an e-mail address or number other than the one listed on the bulletin, or diocesan website, its is spam/junk. Any request for money, gift cards or "favors" of any kind, **Do Not** reply, or click on any link sent. When in doubt, call the parish office to confirm the details.

Pilgrimage to Italy - Join Fr. Tom Nelson on a Pilgrimage to Italy, January 4 - 15, 2027! Walk in the footsteps of Sts. Francis and Claire in Assisi, Sts. Benedict and Scolastica in Norcia, Monte Cassino and Subacio, St. (Padre) Pio in San Giovanni Rotondo, and too many more to list! Pray in the Cave of St. Michael, in which the Archangel appeared. Experience the Eucharistic Miracle of Lancia- no. Visit the Abbey of San Benedetto, the birthplace of the Benedictine Monks of Norcia and their famous home-brew, Birra Nursia. Tour the major basilicas in Rome, have the opportunity for a papal audience (if available), and tour some of the most ancient sites in Rome. For more information and complete itinerary please visit: <https://catholicfaithjourneys.com/tours/nelsonitaly/> or contact Maggie McDaniel for more information: 419-290-8782.

What would happen if your child or spouse had to make a healthcare decision for you, but they didn't share your Catholic faith? How would they know what the Church teaches on end-of-life care? And what if this family member wasn't aware of your wishes for a Catholic funeral? That's why planning ahead is so important. But even if we know this, many of us still don't know where to begin. That's why the **Diocese of Steubenville has partnered with Catholic Legacy** to make it easier for parishioners to prepare important plans in advance.

With Catholic Legacy's online tools, you can document important decisions such as:

- Your **Will**
- A **Healthcare Directive**
- Your **Catholic funeral plans**

We are pleased to make Catholic Legacy available to all parishioners at no cost. Its step-by-step guidance makes it easier to prepare these plans now, while giving you and your loved ones greater peace of mind for the future.

We are currently working on putting a link on our webpage. You can access Catholic Legacy at this time from the **diocesan website from this link:** <https://www.catholiclegacy.com/org/diosteub>.

The World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly reminds us of the important role grandparents and older adults have in our families and in passing on the Catholic faith to the next generation. This year, the U.S. celebration will be observed on September 12–13, 2026, following the U.S. bishops' decision to transfer the celebration to the weekend after Labor Day. Grandparents and older adults are asked to share their faith, wisdom, prayers, and experience with our parish community and their families. Grandparents and the elderly are a blessing to our parish and an important part of passing on our faith to the next generation.