

# 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  
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Parish Sr. Center 740-896-3610

Email: [stjohnchurchtown@yahoo.com](mailto:stjohnchurchtown@yahoo.com)  
webpage: [www.stjohnchurchtown.com](http://www.stjohnchurchtown.com)

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



**Faith - Tradition - Family**

## Good News!

By: FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

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**SIXTH SUNDAY  
OF EASTER  
May 5, 2024**

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**THIS IS MY**  
*commandment*  
**THAT YOU** *Love*  
**ONE ANOTHER**  
*as I have loved you.*  
*John 15:12*

A while back I decided to plant two saplings that were about ten feet tall along the property line of the parish home where I lived. Some time after I planted them, I noticed that one was leaning in one direction and the other a bit in the opposite direction. *Strange*, I thought, *for it seemed that when I planted them they were staked with rope and stood straight.* So I bought some six-foot fence posts and tied the trees to them, thinking that as they grew they would straighten themselves. Not so. After three years the trees seemed to insist on growing their own way, one leaning into the wind and the other a bit twisted. It seemed the only solution was to love them the way they were.

It is so with the people in our lives as well. Sooner or later we find ourselves needing to love them with their idiosyncrasies and foibles and perhaps even their sinfulness. We may try to reshape them, but ultimately it is usually to little avail. They have been created by God, after all, and if God has chosen us—as the Gospel suggests—then God also has chosen us to love them as they are, and perhaps to love them into all that they can be. Ultimately though, God does the pruning, the reshaping, not us. We participate in that process by caring for them and bringing good to them, always in the image of Jesus.

**MASS SCHEDULE**

<b>Saturday</b>	OLM	05/04	4:00	P.M.	+Mary Canterbury (Rick Canterbury Family)	
	SJB	05/04	6:00	P.M.	+Mary Canterbury (Birthday) (Rick Canterbury and Family)	
<b>Sunday</b>	SJB	05/05	7:30	A.M.	+Evelyn Neill (Churchtown Sr. Citizens)	
	OLM	05/05	9:30	A.M.	+Robert Kurucz (Stephen and Jenna Huffman)	
	SJB	05/05	11:00	A.M.	+Norbert Lang (Wedding Anniv.) (Charlotte Lang and Family)	
<b>Monday</b>	SJB	05/06	8:00	A.M.	+Richard C. Arnold (Ed and Lois Arnold) +Terry Ellis (Charlotte Lang and Family)	
<b>Tuesday</b>	SJB	05/07	8:00	A.M.	+Gladys Schilling (Steve and Rachel Klinger Family)	
	OLM	05/07	5:00	P.M.	+Glen Schwendeman (Lisa Schwendeman)	
<b>Wednesday</b>	SJB	05/08	8:20	A.M.	+Mary E. Huck (Birthday 5/9) (Regis Huck) +Earl Tornes (Churchtown Senior Citizens)	School Mass
<b>Thursday</b>	SJB	05/09	8:00	A.M.	+Mildred Arnold (Richard and Brenda Arnold)	
	OLM	05/09	5:00	P.M.	+Tristan Sine (Jason and Jennifer Morris)	
<b>Friday</b>	SJB	05/10	8:00	A.M.	+Anna Mae Brooker (Jim and Connie Legraen) +Terry Arnold (Carolyn Alloway)	
<b>Saturday</b>	OLM	05/11	4:00	P.M.	+Emily Susanne Huck (Lisa Bernedts)	
	SJB	05/11	6:00	P.M.	+Leora Arnold (Jerry and Virginia Dyar)	
<b>Sunday</b>	SJB	05/12	7:30	A.M.	+Mary Canterbury (Mary Brooker and Family)	
	OLM	05/12	9:30	A.M.	Living and Deceased of OLM CWC (OLM CWC)	
	SJB	05/12	11:00	A.M.	+Richard C. Arnold (Churchtown CWC)	

*"Give your hands to serve and your hearts to love." Mother Teresa*

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND**

MASS	ALTAR SERVERS	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER
Saturday 6:00 p.m.	Coletyn Dyar, Weston Hennes	Kelly Miller	Virginia Dyar
Sunday 7:30 a.m.	Sophia Huffman, Owen Henry	Hugh Arnold	Veronica Bosner
Sunday 11:00 a.m.	Hudson and Sydney Lang	Brynlee Pottmeyer	Marilyn Zoller

<u>COLLECTION</u>		<u>D.P.S.C.</u>		<u>BINGO</u>	
Total Collection for weekend	\$2,607	2024 Collected to date	\$39,475	April 21	Group 1 \$3,694
Needed to meet parish needs	\$4,750	2024 Goal	\$43,047	If you are unable to work, please try to find a replacement	
Thank you for your generosity!		This includes all monies sent directly to the Diocese. Thank you for your generosity!			

<u>ST. JOHN BINGO WORK SCHEDULE</u>		<u>C.W.C. BINGO CAKES</u>		<u>PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY</u>	
May 5	Group 3 with Ryan Lauchard	May-Group F with Tonia Skinner		Please pray for all of the men and women who are serving our country in the military. May God watch over them and keep them safe.	
May 12	Group 4 with Derrick Pottmeyer				
May 19	Group 5 with Kenley Schwendeman				
May 26	Group 6 with Jeff Canterbury				
Jun 2	Group 7 with Brandon Wheeler	Meetings held the 2nd Monday of each month, (September through May) 6:30 p.m. in the Sr. Center			
Jun 9	Group 8 with Russ Lang				

<u>READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND</u>		Please have all bulletin information to the Rectory no later than 10:00 p.m. on Monday	
Acts 1:1–11 / Ephesians 1:17–23 or Ephesians 4:1–13 or 4:1–7, 11–13 / Mark 16:15–20			

## WELCOME

Welcome and Congratulations to Mrs. Rebecca Hilverding as the new Principal of St. John Central Elementary School for the 2024-25 school year. We wish to thank Dr. Larry Moegling and Mrs. Karen Pottmeyer (Mrs. Pottmeyer will be returning to the classroom to teach) for their leadership and dedication to our school over these past years.

## PLEASE NOTE

In the near future, we will be repairing and resurfacing the parking lot across from the church. The lot may have to be closed while the work is completed, however we are hoping this will not be too much of an inconvenience. More information will be provided.

## EUCHRE

Euchre will be held at 1:00 p.m. at the Sr. Center on May 15 and 29. All are welcome.

## CWC MOTHER/DAUGHTER BANQUET

Please remember to RSVP for the Mother Daughter Banquet to be held on May 13th at the Sr. Center. Mass will be held at 6:00 p.m. with the dinner to follow. Please bring a salad or dessert to share. It will be a wonderful evening of fellowship and door prizes. Please RSVP to Tonia Skinner by May 6th (740-350-5355).

## CWC CONVENTION

The Annual CWC Convention will be held on Wednesday, June 5 at Holy Family Church in Steubenville. Reservations are due by May 20. The entry fee will be covered by the CWC. For questions or to register, please contact Marilyn Zoller (896-3626).

## SCHOOL VISIT

On Thursday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, St. John Central School will be hosting a day for potential students to come and visit our school. They can spend half a day or a whole day at the school. Parents are also welcome to tour the school. Anyone interested in coming on May 9<sup>th</sup> should call the office at 740-896-2697.

## TEACHERS NEEDED AT ST. JOHN SCHOOL

St. John is hiring for the 2024-2025 school year a Full-Time First Grade Teacher and a Full-Time Fifth-Eighth Grades Math and Science Teacher or Part-Time Fifth-Eighth Math Teacher. Certified teachers are needed for these positions. Interested applicants should contact Michelle Schwendeman at 740-896-2697 (school) or 740-525-7925 (cell) or Karen Pottmeyer (Principal) at 740-525-3623 (cell) for additional information.

## SCHOOL REGISTRATION

School Registration for the 2024-25 school year has begun at St. John Central School. St. John Central has been providing a quality education for our students for over 60 years. Our school is fully accredited, and we offer a complete academic program from Early Learning and Pre- Kindergarten at the pre-school through K-8 at the grade school. For registration materials or additional information, please call the school office at 740-896-2697.

## SAVE THE DATE

The Washington County Right to Life and the Marietta K of C will be providing a presentation by Mr. Joseph Schmidt on "Understanding End of Life Decisions". The event will be held on July 20, 12:00 p.m.—2:00 p.m. at the O'Neill Center In Marietta. More information will follow.

## PERSUASIVE PROLIFE CONFERENCE

Together with the Office of Marriage, Family and Respect Life, the Office of Christian Formation and Schools would like to encourage our young people to attend Persuasive Pro-life, Apologetic Conference for Students on Saturday, May 18 in Columbus. A conference has been organized by Pro-life offices and Ohio dioceses to train high school and college students on how to articulate the pro-life message. This is such an important skill for our youth today! Trent Horn from Catholic Answers is the keynote speaker. Cost is \$20 per student. To register, please go to [Ohiolife.org](http://Ohiolife.org).

## MOTHER'S DAY DINNER

St. Henry's Church in Harrietsville will hold their annual Mother's Day Chicken and Ham Dinner on Sunday, May 12 from 11:00 a.m. Until 2:00 p.m. The meal includes mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, applesauce, homemade noodles, rolls, dessert and drink. Adult meals \$15 and Children (10 and under) \$7. Take outs are available in the basement serving line.

## CHICKEN BARBECUE

A Chicken Barbecue will be held at St. Michael's Church in Carlisle on Sunday, May 26. Serving time is 11:00 a.m.—1:30 p.m. Dine in or drive thru carryout available. There will be an afternoon of Bingo and a square dance from 7-10:00 p.m. by "Little Creek Band".

Love One Another  
*As I have loved you.*  
John 13:34

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST  
CATHOLIC CHURCH  
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL  
"Diving into friendship with God"  
June 23-27, 2024

## ST. JOHN SCHOOL UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- May 10 Field Day with St. Mary's School
- May 17 Pre-School Graduation (6:00 p.m.)
- May 21 8th Grade Graduation and Banquet  
Mass 6:00 p.m., Banquet to follow
- May 22 Last Day of School  
Mass at 11:00 a.m. with  
Kindergarten Graduation  
Awards at 1:30 p.m. (approx.)





### 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

### Scrip Coordinator

Betina Lang

### PSR Coordinator

Andrea Ralston

### 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

### Club of Catholic Women

President Marilyn Zollar

### St. John Central School

(740) 896-2697  
Mrs. Karen Pottmeyer  
Principal

### Knights of Columbus

Council 4617

Grand Knight Taylor Pottmeyer

### St. John School Foundation

Gary Arnold, President

### Diocesan Catholic Charities & Information

Referral Line:  
1-800-339-7890

**A Note:** Dear Fr. Gaydosik, Thank you for your very kind hospitality at the Confirmation Mass at St. John the Baptist Church in Churchtown. I very much appreciate your prayerful support, for I am honored and blessed to be your Apostolic Administrator. With prayerful best wishes to you and everyone at St. John the Baptist Church, and entrusting you to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I am, Fraternaly yours in Christ, Most Reverend Paul J Bradley, Apostolic Administrator of Steubenville.

**Sunday Bingo:** Is major parish fundraiser in support of Catholic Education is our Bingo. We have a successful bingo due to the dedication and hard work of our volunteers. We need more regular helpers on the floor, and especially additional bingo callers. If you can help, please let us know.

The **Ohio EdChoice** Expansion Scholarship program now offers ALL Ohio students the opportunity for a scholarship to attend a Catholic school! A family of four making \$140,400 per year or less is eligible for a full scholarship for each child in the amount of \$6,166 (K-8) and \$8,408 (grades 9-12). Families above that income level are eligible for scholarships awarded on a sliding scale based on income and household size, with no less than \$650 awarded per child. Visit [ohiocathconf.org/edchoice](http://ohiocathconf.org/edchoice) to learn how EdChoice scholarships can help you send your child to a Catholic school near you. *Applications are now open for the 2024-2025 school year.*

**Interested in finding our more about the Permanent Diaconate?** Join Deacon Mark Erste, Director of Diaconal Ministries, and his wife along with other interested men and their wives at an information session to find out more about the life of a permanent Deacon. Saturday May 10<sup>th</sup> at St. Mary Church, St. Clairsville, Ohio, 10am to 2:30pm (Lunch provided). RSVP (so we have enough food!) to Deacon Mark at 740-512-4135 by May 8th.

**CANYONLANDS TOUR:** Join Fr. Jim Dunfee and members of St. Agnes Parish on a tour of the magnificent canyons and desert scenes of the American Southwest from September 12<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024. See the breathtaking Grand Canyon, Bryce Canyon, Zion and Arches National Parks, take a train ride through the Colorado Rocky Mountains and a boat cruise on Lake Powell, and much more. Cost: Only \$3,899 - double occupancy including roundtrip airfare from Pittsburgh! For a brochure, please contact: Fr. James M. Dunfee, Pastor, St. Agnes Church, 204 St. Clair Avenue, Mingo Junction, Oh 43938. Telephone: 740-535-1491 or email: [frjmd1984@stagnesmingo.org](mailto:frjmd1984@stagnesmingo.org).

**SUPPORT OUR SEMINARIANS** Please join in praying for Seminarians of the Steubenville Diocese:

**Monday:** Peter Stetson

**Tuesday:** Paul Gan and Christopher McGurn

**Wed.:** Jonathan Rusco

**Thursday :** Riley Morris,

**Friday:** Aaron Pabin,

**Saturday:** Caleb Baker,

**Sunday:** Samuel Ivkovich

**The great leaders** of history influenced people from the outside in. With their speech, their ideas, their example, and even their presence they moved and motivated those around them. Jesus, however, goes much deeper, influencing us also from the inside out. He not only calls us from the outside, through the voice of the Church, the actions of Providence, and the example of his faithful disciples. But he also unites himself to us so intimately that his very life flows through our veins. I am the vine, you are the branches, he says in the Gospel. Where does a vine stop and its branches begin? Their union is too complete to tell. The same sap gives life to the vine and to its branches. And it the same way, grace is God's own divine life flowing through Jesus and into us. Staying united to the vine means constantly growing in our life of prayer. Prayer is how we expose our souls to the divine sunlight. Just as plants need exposure to sunlight for energy, so we need to expose ourselves to God's truth and love through reading and reflecting on the sacred scriptures, and through conversing with him in the quiet of our hearts. If our prayer life is the same when we are fifty as it was when we were fifteen, it could be a sign that we are stunting our spiritual growth.

Second, remaining in Christ means making good use of the sacraments, most especially the sacraments of the Eucharist and confession. If a branch gets damaged in a wind storm, the gardener knows how to tie it up properly so that it will once again attach itself firmly to the trunk. He binds it or grafts it back on to the vine. That is what happens with confession: Jesus renews the connection with him that our sin has damaged or broken. And in the Eucharist, our union with Jesus is strengthened more powerfully than at any other time. We receive an influx of grace like no other, because he is truly present there under the appearances of bread and wine. If prayer is sunlight, the Eucharist is a rain shower, refreshing and renewing our souls. Every Holy Communion is like a spiritual springtime in which a new outpouring of divine life surges into our hearts and minds. Prayer and the sacraments are among some of the ways that keep the Christian sap flowing in our lives. They yield the fruit we yearn for most: a life that resounds with meaning and energy, a life that positively impacts others and exudes joy and enthusiasm, a life that changes this world for the better in as profound a way as Christ's own life did, and a life whose meaning and impact over-flow into eternity. This is what God wants for us; this is why Jesus came to earth: By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

**Benedictine Nuns** of St. Emma Monastery in Greensburg, Pa., invite Single women 18-35, to experience Monastic Immersion. Experience our monastic life. Is God calling you to Benedictine Monastery life. Watch our videos and begin to know us. Join us in prayer as we live-stream Lauds and daily Mass. [www.StEmma.org](http://www.StEmma.org).

**THANK YOU** to the many volunteers that spend their time at St. John the Baptist Parish and St. John Central School. We are VERY appreciative of your time and talents