

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

**33rd SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
NOVEMBER 16, 2025**



Good News!

By: FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

It is the time of year when seasons turn and the rhythm of life changes as days become dismantled and reassembled in new and varied ways. All of this is not unlike the much deeper process continually at play within our hearts. Indeed, the seasons of our individual lives can be dismantled and reassembled—and often more than once in a lifetime. That white-robed prophet of doom who proclaims that the end is near is right. Our lives do collapse in such cosmic ways that not one stone is left upon another. The end may come with a life-robbing illness or the premature death of someone we love. It may take the shape of an unwanted move to a new city or a life collapsed by addiction. It may happen slowly, as life forces us to surrender passion or enthusiasm or the dreams of our youth, like colors faded by sunlight yet never noticed until suddenly we realize the color has all but disappeared. Such transitions can feel as violent as the end of our lives in this world. Indeed, at such times, we may feel that a part of us has died. Yet, if we pay attention, we may discover that we have been refashioned, recreated into something new. It is the story of the divine phoenix rising from the ashes, lived by every human being and understood by every person who lives with faith in the resurrection.

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.

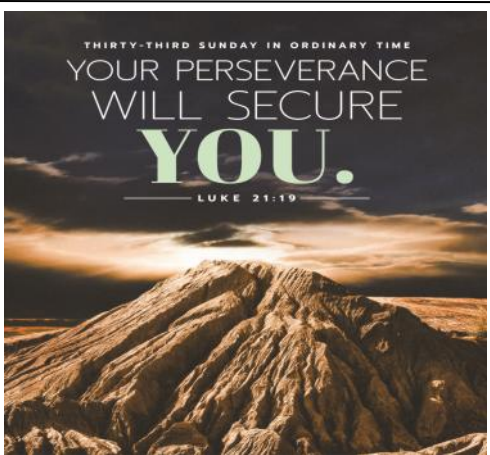
Baptism: call the Parish Office to schedule a Baptism 740-896-3566.

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.

MASS INTENTION SCHEDULE

Saturday	OLM	11/15	4:00	p.m.	+Gary Pottmeyer (1yr. Ann) (Chris Pottmeyer)	
	SJB	11/15	6:00	p.m.	+Virginia Arnold (Anniv.) (Family)	
Sunday	SJB	11/16	7:30	a.m.	+Edith Brooker (Family)	
	OLM	11/16	9:30	a.m.	+Charles and Nina Hockenberry (Edwin and Grace Long)	
	SJB	11/16	11:00	a.m.	Deceased of the +Alvin and +Helen Smith Family (Donna Tornes and Family)	
Monday	SJB	11/17	8:00	a.m.	+Shirley Oliver Stollar (Vince and Shelly Stollar)	
Tuesday	SJB	11/18	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today	
	OLM	11/18	5:00	p.m.	+Pat Huck (Lisa Schwendeman)	
Wednesday	SJB	11/19	8:30	a.m.	+Dave Pottmeyer (Anniv.) (Erin and Sherri Pottmeyer) School Mass	
Thursday	SJB	11/20	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today	
	OLM	11/20	5:00	p.m.	+Charles Higgins Jr. (Ed Schilling)	
Friday	SJB	11/21	8:00	a.m.	+Ted DeWitt (Charlotte Lang and Family)	
Saturday	OLM	11/22	4:00	p.m.	+Msgr. Lawrence Luciana (Ed Schilling)	
	SJB	11/22	6:00	p.m.	+Bill Wesel Sr. (Bill and Alberta Wesel)	
Sunday	SJB	11/23	7:30	a.m.	+Robert Heiss (Dave and Dottie Schaad)	
	OLM	11/23	9:30	a.m.	L & D Members of John Bauerbach Family (Cecil Bauerbach)	
	SJB	11/23	11:00	a.m.	+Larry Schaad (Steve and Rachel Klinger)	
LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND						
MASS		ALTER SERVERS		LECTOR		EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER
Saturday	6:00 p.m.	Coletyn Dyar, Weston Hennes		Eugene Huck		Jason Henke
Sunday	7:30 a.m.	Eli, Lola, Will Eichmiller		Robin Eichmiller		Arnold Huck
Sunday	11:00 a.m.	Sydney and Jade Lang		Janelle Sprague		Lori Hart
COLLECTION			DPSC			 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.
Total Collection last week		\$4,621	2025 Collected to date		\$70,615	
Need to meet parish needs		\$4,750	2025 DPSC Goal		\$41,330	
Thank you for your generosity!			This includes money sent directly to the Diocese. Thank you for your contributions!			
 THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YOUR PERSEVERANCE WILL SECURE YOU. LUKE 21:19			November 17	K of C Memorial Mass 7:00 p.m.		
			November 21-23	Boys Search Weekend		
			November 25	School Thanksgiving Feast, Mass at 11:00 a.m.		
			November 26-Dec. 1	No School		
			December 4	Senior Citizen Meeting 11:00 a.m.		
			December 4	St. John's School Christmas Play		
			December 7	Children's Christmas Choir practice after 11 a.m. Mass		
			December 8	Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, (Holy Day of Obligation)		
				School Mass at 8:30 a.m., OLM 6:00 p.m., SJB 7:00 p.m.		
			December 8	Blessing of the Trees, K of C Hall—7:45 p.m.		
			December 9	CWC Christmas Party at the Marietta Country Club		
			December 15	St. John the Baptist Penance Service 7:00 p.m.		
			December 16	Our Lady of Mercy Penance Service 7:00 p.m.		
			December 21	Children's Christmas Choir practice after 11 a.m. Mass		
READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND: 2 Samuel 5:1–3 / Colossians 1:12–20 / Luke 23:35–43						

ANNUAL THANKSGIVING FOOD COLLECTION

The annual food collection baskets for St. Vincent De Paul are set up on the altar. Please place food items (canned goods, peanut butter, mac & cheese or any non-perishables) in the boxes located on the altar. Please be generous and help those who are less fortunate.

GIVING TREE

St. Vincent DePaul is taking requests for help this Christmas. If you know of anyone needing assistance, please call Alberta Wesel at 740-374-4428.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please remember in your prayers, Fr. Tom Magary and Msgr. John Kolesar, retired priests of the Diocese of Steubenville, who recently passed away. May the Lord reward them for all the good things they did in this life.

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (HOLY DAY)

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is Monday, December 8. This is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass will be held at 8:30 a.m. (school mass), 6:00 p.m. in Lowell, and 7:00 p.m. at St. John's.

A REQUEST FROM THE WEEKLY COLLECTIONS TEAM

When donating by check to more than one collection (Regular adult, Building Fund, candles, World Mission Sunday, School Foundation, All Souls Day, etc.), please write a separate check for each collection. Because we count and record each collection separately, we have to split up the checks by making change from cash donations, which takes extra time and creates opportunities for mistakes. Thank you and thank you for your generous contributions.

ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The Lowell Ecumenical Thanksgiving service will be held at Our Lady of Mercy on **Tuesday, November 25th, at 7:00 p.m.** All parishioners, as well as the public, are invited to attend. This is a great opportunity for the Christian community of Lowell to join together in prayer to offer thankfulness and gratitude for the blessings we have and share.

CWC CHRISTMAS DINNER

The CWC Christmas Dinner will be held on Tuesday, December 9, 5:30 p.m. at the Marietta Country Club. There will be 3 options for an entrée: 1) Chicken Alfredo, 2) Grilled Salmon, 3) Penne Alfredo. Prices range from \$20-\$24 depending on which entree you choose. This will include salad, entrée, two sides, rolls, dessert, coffee and water. Entertainment will be provided by "Two For the Road" (Nic Hart and Emma Clark). Please RSVP to Marilyn Pottmeyer by November 30 at 740-516-6248. There will also be door prizes available.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

If you would like to donate in memory of a loved one, please place your donation of \$10 in an envelope along with the name(s) of who you would like to remember and drop it in the collection basket. Please try to write the names so they are easily read and have your list in to the Rectory by December 15.

K OF C 4617 MEMORIAL MASS

Knights of Columbus 4617 Memorial Mass will be held at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church on Monday, November 17, at 7:00 p.m. The celebration honors our Brother Knights from Council 4617 who have passed away. All are welcome to attend and there will be refreshments after the mass at the K of C hall in Churchtown.



K OF C KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

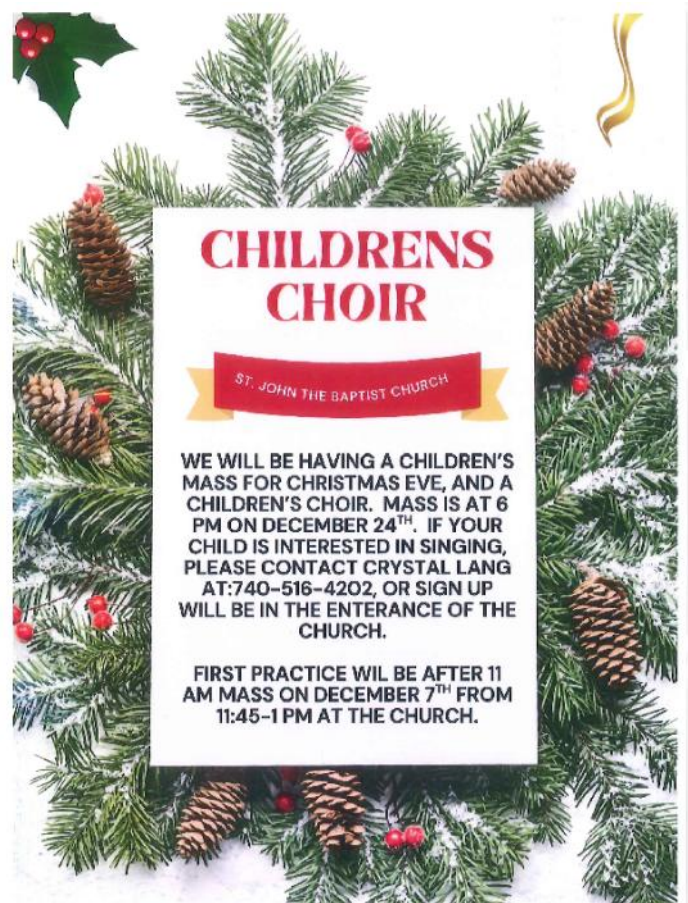
POSTER CONTEST

The Knights of Columbus Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest is for all boys and girls in grades Kindergarten through 8th. Our council will be able to send 1 winner from each group. There are 5 groups: Kindergarten, 1st - 2nd, 3rd - 4th, 5th - 6th, and 7th - 8th. Our council will award the winner of each age group \$25! They can earn additional prizes if they advance in the other levels. For an entry form and rules please go to <https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/faith-in-action-programs/family/keep-christ-in-christmas/5025-kcic-entry-score-sheet-fillable.pdf>

We need to have these completed and turned in by Wednesday, December 3, 2025. We will award the winners at the Spread the Light of Christ blessing on Monday, December 8th at 7:45 pm following the holy day mass. We plan to display them at the K of C Hall in Churchtown throughout the Christmas Season! If you have any questions contact Tanner Pottmeyer at 740-516-4749 or at churchtownkofc@gmail.com.

K OF C CATHOLIC CITIZENSHIP ESSAY CONTEST

The Knights of Columbus 4617 in Churchtown, Ohio invites all Catholic students in public, private and parochial schools grades 8-12, to participate in the 2025 Knights of Columbus Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest. Essay topic: In an essay of 500-750 words, out of the 267 popes that have led the Catholic Church, who are your three favorite popes and why? All participants should mail essays and the attached Entry Form (or at <https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/faith-in-action-programs/community/catholic-citizenship-essay-contest/4208-essay-entry-form.pdf>) to *Knights of Columbus 4617, 19170 State Route 676, Marietta, Ohio 45750* or email to churchtownkofc@gmail.com by Wednesday, December 3, 2025. Any questions please contact Tanner Pottmeyer at 740-516-4749 or email churchtownkofc@gmail.com.





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: Nov. 15, Fr. Anthony Batt, Nov 16 Fr. Thomas Chillog, Nov. 17, Fr. David Cornett, Nov. 18, Fr. William Cross, Nov. 19, Fr. James Dunfee, Nov. 20, Fr. Fred Kihm, Nov 21, Fr. Josh Erickson, Nov. 22, Fr. Robert Gallagher

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; Christopher McGurn and Samuel Ivkovich— St. Vincent Seminary Latrobe, Pa. John Paul Gan, Maximilian Gan, Johnathan Ruscoe, Rily Morris, Arron Pabin, and William Gugala.— Pontifical College Josephinum, Columbus Ohio .

Diocese of Steubenville Vocations:

Father Nicholas Ginnetti, Director of Vocations
(740) 432-7609 OR nginnetti@diosteub.org

X: @dsvocations

Facebook: www.facebook.com/dsvocations Diocesan Website: steubenvillevocations.com

On the weekend of December 13-14, we will have the opportunity to support more than 21,000 elderly sisters, brothers and religious order priests. Coordinated by the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO), the annual collection taken up by participating (arch) dioceses helps provide critical financial assistance to eligible religious institutes caring for their retired members.

For decades, women and men religious have devoted their lives to service through countless Church ministries, often for little to no pay. Today, their communities face a severe gap between the rising cost of care and the limited resources available. In 2024, religious past the age of 70 outnumbered younger religious by nearly three to one, and only 4% of communities reporting to the NRRO said they were adequately funded for retirement.

Since 1988, the Retirement Fund for Religious has been a lifeline for our aging religious, but the need remains urgent. In 2024, the collection raised \$28.1 million, while annual care costs for senior religious exceeded \$1 billion. The average annual cost to care for senior religious, as reported by the NRRO, is \$56,600 per person, with skilled nursing averaging \$96,000. The typical Social Security benefit for a religious is just \$9,090—less than half that of the average lay beneficiary. This gap underscores the critical importance of the national appeal.

“For decades, the faithful service of these religious has touched countless lives, including my own,” said NRRO director John Knutsen. “Through your generosity, we can help ensure they are cared for with the dignity they so rightly deserve while also living out the values of compassion and solidarity that unite us as disciples of Jesus.”

“Supporting our aging religious is a profound opportunity to show gratitude for their lifetime of service, and we hear all throughout the year how deeply thankful they are for that support,” he continues.

On Friday, November 21 at 10:15 a.m. ET, history will be made as the **Holy Father, Pope Leo**, embarks on his **first-ever digital visit to the United States**. In this **Jubilee of Hope**, the Holy Father extends a heartfelt invitation to **young people everywhere**—to come together in faith, to be **seen, heard, and valued**. This momentous occasion represents a new chapter in the Church’s mission to encounter all people where they are, guided by the light of Christ and the promise of hope. We invite you to **join this extraordinary digital gathering**, where faith meets the future and hearts are moved toward renewal and unity.

Pope Leo’s Digital Visit to the United States Live from the National Catholic Youth Conference Friday, November 21st at 10:15 a.m. ET Livestream anywhere EWTN is found. May this encounter with the Holy Father inspire us all to deeper faith, greater hope, and renewed commitment to the Gospel message.

St. Frances Xavier Cabrini feast day on November 13th. St. Frances Xavier Cabrini (July 15, 1850 – December 22, 1917) was born in the village of Sant’Angelo Lodigiano, Italy. Young Frances dreamed of being a missionary. She was educated to be a teacher by the Daughters of the Sacred Heart, but was refused entry to the order due to her poor health. Instead, she worked as a teacher and administrator at an orphanage in Cadogno, Italy, run by the Sisters of Providence. In September 1877, she made her vows there and took the religious habit, adding Xavier to her name in honor of St. Francis Xavier. When the orphanage closed in 1880, she founded the Institute of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. In 1887, St. Frances Xavier Cabrini sought an audience with Pope Leo XIII, to seek permission to go as missionaries to China. He famously told her to go “not to the East, but to the West,” and in 1889 she and six other sisters departed for New York, to serve Italian immigrants in the United States. However, anti-Italian and anti-immigrant attitudes were prevalent at the time, even in the Church. When she arrived, the archbishop advised her to go back to Italy. Undeterred, she provided education and healthcare within the Italian Catholic immigrant community.

At first, St. Frances Xavier Cabrini followed and served Italian immigrant populations, from New York to Chicago, and across the U.S., becoming a U.S. Citizen in 1909. Eventually she also founded institutions in Central and South America and Europe. Overall, she established 67 schools, hospitals, and orphanages. She was also known for her deep spirituality, often entering a trancelike state during the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. She died in her own Columbus Hospital in Chicago, Illinois. She was canonized in 1946 by Pope Pius XII, the first United States citizen to be canonized. She is the Universal Patron of Immigrants. St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, Pray for us! © LPI