

# 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**

**29TH SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME**  
**OCTOBER 18, 2026**



## **Good News!**

By: ANN M. GARRIDO

Jesus had to know something was up when both the Pharisees and the Herodians approached him together. Pharisees and Herodians were never together. Herodians survived by cooperating with the Roman Empire. The Pharisees found such cooperation an affront to God's law.

"Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?" they asked. It was a trap. If he answered "no," the Herodians could report him to the Romans for fomenting rebellion. If he answered "yes," the crowd watching would see Jesus as a sellout to an unpopular foreign power. But Jesus did not take the bait. He refused to give a "yes" or a "no," instead allowing onlookers to see that his Pharisee and Herodian challengers were carrying the Roman coin in their pockets—hence participating in the Roman economy—whereas he did not even possess the coin they were asking about. He was living and working for a different ruler altogether. Their question was outside his realm of concern.

So often we, too, can find ourselves trapped in heated political conversations where questions are asked in such a way that they seem to allow only a yes-or-no answer. The askers want to reveal, "Are you with us or are you against us?" as if there are no other options. As followers of Jesus, we know that there are issues of ultimate concern for us—"battle hills worth dying on." Jesus himself had one: Calvary. But Jesus himself did not feel as if he needed to take a stand on every hot political issue of his day. Sometimes he side-stepped those conversations. So can we.

**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 | 10/17 | 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 (Marilyn Kern 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)                       |
| Monday    | SJB | 10/19 | 8:00  | a.m. | +Faye Treadway (Birthday) (Mona Barrett and Family)                          |
| Tuesday   | SJB | 10/20 | 8:00  | a.m. | No Mass Today                                                                |
|           | OLM | 10/20 | 5:00  | p.m. | +Hayden Phillips (Dave and Joanne Yeomans)                                   |
| Wednesday | SJB | 10/21 | 8:30  | a.m. | +Richard C. Arnold (Birthday) (Shelba Arnold and Family)      School Mass    |
| Thursday  | SJB | 10/22 | 8:00  | a.m. | No Mass Today                                                                |
|           | OLM | 10/22 | 5:00  | p.m. | +Darren Cheeseman (Craig and Lisa Ferguson)                                  |
| Friday    | SJB | 10/23 | 8:00  | a.m. | +Lewis J. Lang (Mona Barrett)                                                |
| Saturday  | OLM | 10/24 | 4:00  | p.m. | +Ruth Rauch (Mark and Sandy Huck)                                            |
|           | SJB | 10/24 | 6:00  | p.m. | +Chris Tesi (Debbie Huck)                                                    |
| Sunday    | SJB | 10/25 | 7:30  | a.m. | Living and Deceased of +Albert and +Ella Brooker (Mary Brooker and Family)   |
|           | OLM | 10/25 | 9:30  | a.m. | +Pat Sisco (Ron and Linda Miller)                                            |
|           | SJB | 10/25 | 11:00 | a.m. | +Audrey Lang (Mona Barrett)                                                  |

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

| <u>MASS</u>        | <u>ALTER SERVERS</u>                                          | <u>LECTOR</u>    | <u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER</u> |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|
| Saturday 6:00 p.m. | Abby Henke, Keeley Thieman,<br>Braylin Pottmeyer, Emma Schaad | Rachel Klinger   | Jessica Henke                |
| Sunday 7:30 a.m.   | J.D. Alexander, Eli Eichmiller                                | Zandra Francis   | Connie Arnold                |
| Sunday 11:00 a.m.  | Sophee Lang, Hadleigh Pennock                                 | Ashleigh Pennock | Lori Hart                    |

| <u>COLLECTION</u>                       | <u>DPSC</u>                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Total Collection (last weekend) \$4,328 | 2026 Collected to date \$58,795 |  <p>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.</p> |
| Need to meet parish needs \$4,750       | 2026 DPSC Goal \$36,584         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!</b>   | <b>THANK YOU!</b>               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |



## UPCOMING EVENTS

|         |                                        |
|---------|----------------------------------------|
| 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. |
| Nov 1   | All Saints Day                         |
| Nov 6   | First Friday (adoration at 5:00 p.m.)  |
| Nov 6-8 | Girls SEARCH Weekend                   |
| Nov 9   | CWC Meeting                            |

### **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!

### **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. Please return the bottle to the church by October 25th. Thank you for helping us support mothers, strengthen families, and change lives!

### **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.

### **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.

### **COMMUNION FOR HOMEBOUND**

If you or someone you know cannot attend mass due to being confined to home and would like to receive communion, please contact the Rectory 740-896-3566.

### **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.

### **COME AND SEE**

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 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. For more information, please email Fr. Nicholas Ginnetti, the Director of Vocations, at [nginnetti@diosteub.org](mailto:nginnetti@diosteub.org).

**What we see is the hand of God at  
work everywhere.**

### **EYEGLASSES DONATION**

Marietta Lion Club is accepting donations of eyeglasses. The Lion "Recycle for Sight" program collects, refurbishes, and distributes donated eyeglasses to provide free vision correction for adults and children in need worldwide. The clubs who participate do so proudly and attentively manage collection boxes to ensure every pair makes a difference. A collection box has been placed in our parish church entrance.

### **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, 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!

### **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 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 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

**Welcome to our Parish!** If you are a visitor, we want you to know how welcome you are. If you attend on a regular basis, please be sure to register as a member of the parish. This will facilitate pastoral care for you and your family. Registration forms can be found in the gathering space and the parish office. You may place it in the collection basket or mail it to the parish office.

**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](mailto:nginnetti@diosteub.org).

**The Pontifical College Josephinum** will host their annual fall "Come and See" Live-In from Friday, November 13<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. 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](mailto:nginnetti@diosteub.org).

#### **Prayer for our Priests:**

Oct. 18, All Priests; Oct 19, Fr. John McCoy;  
Oct 20, Fr. Vic Cinson; Oct 21, Fr. Timothy Davison; Oct 22, Msgr. Tony Giannamore; Oct 23, Fr. Micheal Gossett;  
Oct 24, Fr. Chester Pabin; Oct 25, Fr. Bradley Greer.

#### **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



**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](mailto: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.

**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.

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.

**Baby Bottle Fundraiser.** Fill a baby bottle, change a life! Donate to a fundraiser in support of Mary's House. Mary's House provides shelter, support, and training for woman who have decided to give life to their babies. Located in Morgan County, they assist women from throughout southeastern Ohio, and beyond. Learn more about Mary's House at [www.maryshouseoh.org](http://www.maryshouseoh.org). How to give: 1. pick-up a baby bottle. 2. Fill your bottle with change, cash, or checks. 3 return bottles to parish by October 25.

