

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



Good News!

By: FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

If I Were a Horse by Elizabeth Bridgman is a children's story about Jenny, who daydreams about being a horse and then accepts her true reality, as she realizes no one will recognize her as a horse. In the end, she finds that she likes herself as she truly is.

The story may also be a metaphor for our human fantasy about sin, by which we try to redefine the world on our own terms, only to realize that life does not go so well when we do this. It is our stealing by which we pretend that something belongs to us rather than to another. It is our lying that attempts to redefine truth in terms of what we want life to be, rather than in what life really is. It is our addictions that redefine the source of meaning and life not as God, but as ourselves and our wants. Lent brings us face to face with who we are—which is not a horse (real or otherwise), but, by God's design, is a daughter or son of God.

The temptations Jesus experienced in the desert were temptations to define life on his own terms, just as we are often tempted to do. Yet, Jesus was the one who got it right. For him, stones were stones, not bread. Power and glory were God's, not his. He would not put God to the test, thinking he could manipulate God and get God to do what Jesus wanted. Jesus was the faithful one.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

March 9, 2025




MASS INTENTION SCHEDULE

Saturday	OLM	03/08	4:00	p.m.	+Donna Arnold (Unknown)
	SJB	03/08	6:00	p.m.	+Patricia Gaydosik (Birthday) (Bill and Roberta Dent)
Sunday	SJB	03/09	7:30	a.m.	+Patty Huck (Arnold Huck and Family)
	OLM	03/09	9:30	a.m.	+Jim Huck (1st Annv. 03/10) (The Family)
	SJB	03/09	11:00	a.m.	+Raymond and +Blanche Tornes (Donna Tornes and Family)
Monday	SJB	03/10	8:00	a.m.	+Kelton Flieman (Ferris and Susan Arnold)
Tuesday	SJB	03/11	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today
	OLM	03/11	5:00	p.m.	No Mass Today
Wednesday	SJB	03/12	8:20	a.m.	Genevieve Leun (Janet Crum) School Mass
Thursday	SJB	03/13	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today
	OLM	03/13	5:00	p.m.	+Gilbert Huck (Ben and Lisa Berndts) Stations of the Cross after Mass
Friday	SJB	03/14	6:00	p.m.	+Ben Sauer (Ed and Lois Arnold) Adoration 5:00 pm (Mass and Stations of the Cross to follow Adoration)
Saturday	OLM	03/15	4:00	p.m.	+Ron Smith (2yr Anniv.) (Paul Smith)
	SJB	03/15	6:00	p.m.	+Donnie Wells (Tom and Elaine Wells Family)
Sunday	SJB	03/16	7:30	a.m.	+Tim Strahler (Family)
	OLM	03/16	9:30	a.m.	+Dan Brooker (Marilyn and Heather Peters)
	SJB	03/16	11:00	a.m.	+Richard C. Arnold (Steve and Rachel Klinger)

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

MASS		ALTAR SERVERS	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER
Saturday	6:00 p.m.	Coletyn, Alyssa Dyar, Chase Arteaga	Virginia Dyar	Jessica Henke
Sunday	7:30 a.m.	Dalton and Dane Schott	Hugh Arnold	Arnold Huck
Sunday	11:00 a.m.	Hadleigh Pennock, Emma Wheeler	Ashleigh Pennock	Lori Hart

<u>COLLECTION</u>	<u>DPSC</u>	
Total Collection last weekend \$ 2,965 Needed to meet parish needs \$ 4,750 Thank you for your generosity!	2025 Collected to Date \$ 11,100 2025 DPSC Goal \$ 41,330 Thank you!!	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.

Please have all bulletin information to the Rectory no later than 10:00 p.m. on Monday

<p align="center">Saint Euphrasia—March 13</p> <p>God of Vocations, when Saint Euphrasia was a little girl, she lived near a convent and became fascinated by the nuns. She pleaded with her mother for permission to move into the convent, and was handed over to the tutelage of the abbess. Later, she became a nun and joyfully spent the rest of her life as Your servant. We ask Saint Euphrasia to pray for all the boys and girls who are being called to join Religious orders. Lord God, protect them from the world's distractions. Place into their lives faithful Religious who will inspire them to follow the same path. Saint Euphrasia, pray for us. Amen.</p>	<p><i>what's happening this week ...</i></p> <p>March 10 CWC meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Sr. Center March 11 Cemetery Meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the Sr. Center March 13 OLM Mass and Stations of the Cross 6:00 p.m. March 14 Adoration 5:00 p.m., Mass 6:00 p.m. and Stations of the Cross to follow.</p>
<p>READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND</p> <p>Genesis 15:5–12, 17–18 / Philippians 3:17—4:1 or 3:20—4:1 / Luke 9:28b–36</p>	

CEMETERY MEETING

There will be a Cemetery Meeting on Tuesday, March 11, 6:00 p.m. in the Sr. Center. All are invited.

CWC MEETING

CWC will have their monthly meeting on Monday, March 10, 6:30 p.m. in the Sr. Center. The Rosary will be prayed first and the meeting will follow. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend.

PRAYER LINE LIST

The CWC is currently updating the prayer line list. If you would like to be included, please contact Marilyn Zoller 740-350-8141. If you are currently on the list but would like to be removed, please let her know as well.

MOWING BIDS

At St. John the Baptist and Our Lady of Mercy we are seeking bids for mowing the church grounds and our cemeteries. Inquiries should contact the parish office. Please have all bids in by March 10.

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION PROGRAM DIRECTOR

We are looking for the next leader of our PSR (Parish School of Religion) Program. They would coordinate and supervise our Religious Education program for children 1st-12th grade. If interested contact the parish office.

CEMETERY CLEAN-UP NOTICE

In order to maintain the appearance of our parish cemetery properties and ensure the safety of visitors and employees, the Catholic Parish Cemeteries Association will be conducting our annual cemetery clean-up during the month of March. Please note that all Christmas items will be removed from all graves during the clean-up. If there are any items that you wish to keep, please remove them as soon as possible. Thank you for your cooperation! It is greatly appreciated.

A LENTEN DAY FOR WOMEN

A Lenten Day of Spirituality for women will be held on Saturday, March 22nd at St. Mary Roman Catholic Church in St. Clairsville. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Cost is \$25. If you are interested in attending please call Marilyn Zoller 740-350-8141 by March 14.

MEN'S DAY OF RENEWAL

The Diocese of Steubenville Men's Day of Renewal will be held March 22 at St. Stephen Church, Caldwell. Doors open at 9 a.m. for registration and coffee. The main program will begin with a welcome at 9:45 a.m., continuing through with the celebration of Mass at 4 p.m. to fulfill the Sunday obligation. The theme of the conference is "The Eucharist and the Biblical Vision of Men." The patron of the conference is St. Joseph.

DAILY BREAD KITCHEN

The St. Johns group for the Daily Bread Kitchen will be cooking and handing out Takeout Lunches, at the Marietta K of C hall on Gilman Ave. in Marietta, on Wednesday, March 12, 2025. 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 please leave them in the vestibule by 8am on Wednesday, March 12, 2025. If you would like to make a monetary donation there will also be a collection can in the entry of the church. Thank you!

PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Directory pictures can now be scheduled for the weekend of March 22-23 at the Sr. Center. Please go to our webpage to schedule or call Emma Brooker 740-350-2688.

PEOPLE OF THE PASSION

The Annual Performance of People of the Passion will be held on Sunday, March 16, 7:30 p.m. at St. Bernard's Church in Beverly. This is not recommended for infants or toddlers. Mark your calendar now to attend.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING IN THE WANING YEARS

Are you approaching the end of your fertile years and trying to use NFP? Are you struggling to apply fertility rules that once seemed so simple? Could you use some encouragement? Bring whatever charting method you use (or wish you used!) and come talk about it with Heather Keimig, an experienced NFP teacher with her own waning fertility, in-person at Triumph of the Cross parish in Steubenville in the Marian Room and via Google Meet. Two cumulative classes will be on Tues, March 18 and Tues, April 1, from 6:30 -8:30pm. Google Meet login is available upon request. Heather can be reached at 301-233-2210.

SQUARE DANCE

St. Bernard Youth Group is having a Square Dance in the church social hall on Saturday March 22, 2025. There will be music from the Buckeye Travelers, concessions and raffles. Cost is \$5. Time 7-10:00 pm.

LENTEN FISH FRIES

Our Lady of Mercy Church Lenten Fish Fries will be following Fridays from 4:30 PM until 7:30 PM: March 14, March 28, April 11. Cost is Adults \$13.00 Children 12 & under \$6.00. To Go Drive Through Meals \$13.00- We have drive through meals available. No need to call ahead.



MASS AND STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Mass and Stations of the Cross will be held during Lent at 6:00 p.m. every Friday at St. Johns (morning mass will be cancelled that day) and every Thursday at 6:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Mercy Church.

LENTEN REGULATIONS

All Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence (no meat). The law of abstinence binds all Catholics 14 years and older. The law of fasting binds all Catholics from their 18th birthday until their 59th birthday. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting and abstinence.



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. Becky Hilverding

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

Ancient Order of Hibernians

James Farly, President

Our Seminarians

Pray for Seminarians studying at: Sacred Heart Major Seminary 2701 Chicago Blvd., Detroit, MI 48206; Peter Stetson, St. Vincent Seminary 300 Fraser Purchase Rd., Latrobe Pa,15650; Christopher McGurn and Samuel Ivkovich. Pontifical College Josephinum 7625 North High Street, Columbus, Ohio, 43235-1499; Maximilian Kolbe Gan, Jonathan Ruscoe, Riley Morris, Aaron Pabin, Caleb Baker. On a pastoral year at Christ the Light Parish 9704 Gomber Ave. Cambridge, Ohio 43728, Ryan Budd and John Paul Gan.

Pray for our priests: 3/8-Msgr. John Kolesar; 3/9 Bishop Lohse; 3/10 Msgr. Frederick Pasquelli; 3/11 Fr. Bradley Greer; 3/12 Fr. Nick Ginnetti; 3/13 Fr. Thomas Nelson; 3/14 Fr. Mark Moore; 3/15 Fr. Nick Ward; 3/16 Fr. Tim Huffman. Our priests speak to the faithful with their hearts and faith. Fill them, with burning zeal for the conversion of sinners.

St. John the Baptist -We are looking for the next leader of our PSR (Parish School of Religion) Program. They would coordinate and supervise our Religious Education program for children 1st-12th grade. If interested contact the parish office.

SEMINARY LIVE-IN The Pontifical College Josephinum will host a **Spring Live-In** from March 13th – 16th for young men who are interested in discerning a vocation to the priesthood. This weekend is an opportunity for men who are juniors in high school through their 20's to experience life in a seminary, to attend conferences about discernment, and to spend quiet time in prayer and reflection. The weekend activities start with arrival at 4:00 pm on Thursday, March 13th and conclude at noon on Sunday, March 16th. There is no cost to attend. For more information or to register, please contact Fr. Nicholas Ginnetti at nginnetti@diosteub.org or 740-432-7609.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES NOW OFFERING TELEHEALTH COUNSELING SERVICES

Catholic Charities of Southeastern Ohio is pleased to announce that we are now offering Professional Counseling Services via telehealth in addition to in-person counseling to individuals and couples throughout all 13 counties we serve. Our licensed counselors provide support for those struggling with trauma, grief, anxiety, depression, and relationship challenges. Sessions are private, professional, and confidential. There is no need for insurance—Catholic Charities is committed to ensuring that everyone has access to the care they need, regardless of financial situation. To schedule an appointment or for more information, please contact Catholic Charities at 740-314-8660 or email catholiccharities@diosteub.org

Stations of the Cross— St. John the Baptist Churchtown Friday following the 6pm Mass. Our Lady of Mary Lowell Thursday following the 5pm Mass. Lent is about deepening our knowledge and experience of the Suffering, Crucified and Resurrected God who loves us and seeks union with us.

ST. JOHN CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Enrollment information and the link to register online for the 2025-26 school year is open. For more information please contact the school.



Chrism Mass Essay Contest—young men age 10 thru College are asked to submit a one-page-long essay answering the question: “Why is serving at Mass important for you personally and for the whole Church? All entries are due by March 31st with a letter of recommendation from your pastor, submitted to Chrism Mass Essay Contest, 701 Gomber Ave., Cambridge, Ohio 43725. Contest Prizes will include: Serve the Chrism Mass for Bishop Lohse with the Diocesan Seminarians and Dinner with the priests and seminarians. You will experience the blessing of the Sacred Oils and the Renewal of Priestly Promises at the Basilica in Marietta.

2025 Diocesan Parish Share Campaign goal for St. John the Baptist Church—Churchtown is **\$41,330.60**. Our Lady of Mercy—Lowell is **\$21,945.35**.

Applications for the **John and Blanche Mussio Scholarship** are now available. Awards under this program are for the first year of college at any Catholic college or university currently listed in the “Newman Guide” by the Cardinal Newman Society. The eligible colleges and universities can be viewed on the society’s website: <https://cardinalnewmansociety.org/college>. The scholarship was set up by Bishop John King Mussio, the Diocese of Steubenville’s first bishop, in memory of his parents as a nonrenewable scholarship for graduating high school seniors who had a certain grade point average and college test score, demonstrated a financial need, received a written recommendation from a parish pastor, and were approved by a scholarship selection committee. Applicants must reside within the boundaries of the Diocese of Steubenville and be a participating member of a Catholic parish in the diocese. Application forms are available at parish offices and school offices with the counselors. Required documentation must be on file within the Diocese of Steubenville Office of Christian Formation and Schools before April 11.

Natural Family Planning in the Waning Years:

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