

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

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 27, 2026



Good News!

By: ANN M. GARRIDO

Most parents can resonate with today's gospel. Who hasn't had a child promise to do their chores and then neglect to do them? Or a child who threw a fit when asked to help but then pitched in after all?

Jesus' parables intend to give clues about a mystery he called the kingdom of God—a revelation about what the world will look like when God's dreams for it are realized. We get a good hint that this parable is meant to be about the kingdom of God because it speaks of a vineyard, and Jesus often compared God's kingdom to a vineyard. Vineyards throughout the ancient world were associated with joy and abundance, but they also required much tending. They needed workers, and that is what God has called us to be for the kingdom.

Jesus observed that those who professed to support God's coming kingdom often seemed to do little to help bring it about whereas those who historically had been viewed as resistant to God's ways were more receptive to John the Baptist's preaching—and, we can imagine, Jesus' message as well. They were the ones who proved in the end more willing to lend a hand.

The vineyard of which Jesus spoke still requires workers. It still requires people willing to collaborate with God in gathering the abundant harvest that will mark a season of great joy. We can imagine that, like any parent, God's greatest delight would be to have children who say "yes" and then follow through on their word!

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	09/26	4:00	p.m.	+Norbert and +Linda Huck (Tony and Kristin Offenberger)	
	SJB	09/26	6:00	p.m.	+Joseph Heiss (Bill and Alberta Wesel)	
Sunday	SJB	09/27	7:30	a.m.	+Tim Strahler (Duane and Tina Duff)	
	OLM	09/27	9:30	a.m.	+Mike Mullenix (Fagan Family)	
	SJB	09/27	11:00	a.m.	+Richard and +Bertha Pottmeyer (Children)	
Monday	SJB	09/28	8:00	a.m.	+Alvin Arnold (Chris and Jenny Semon) +Larry Huffman (Erin and Sherry Pottmeyer)	
Tuesday	SJB	09/29	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today	
	OLM	09/29	5:00	p.m.	+Mildred Schwendeman (Martin and Pauline Knoch) +Eldon Miller (Betty Strahler)	
Wednesday	SJB	09/30	8:30	a.m.	+Jay Pottmeyer (Nora Huffman)	School Mass
Thursday	SJB	10/01	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today	
	OLM	10/01	5:00	p.m.	+Jeremy Schott (Jason and Jennifer Morris) +Alice Huck (Lisa Schwendeman)	
First Friday	SJB	10/02	6:00	p.m.	+Ronald Lang (Monica Lang and Family) +Dorothy Gantley (Mary Brooker and Family) Adoration 5-6:00 p.m.	
Saturday	OLM	10/03	4:00	p.m.	+Karen Belcher (David and Joanie Yeomans)	
	SJB	10/03	6:00	p.m.	+Larry Schaad (Janet Schaad and Family)	
Sunday	SJB	10/04	7:30	a.m.	+Ed and +Donna Klinger (Steve and Rachel Klinger Family)	
	OLM	10/04	9:30	a.m.	+Jerry Huck (Joe and Carol Lang)	
	SJB	10/04	11:00	a.m.	+Tony Tornes (Birthday 10/3) (Donna Tornes 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.	Tanner Crum, Abby Henke	Coletyn Dyar	Jerry Dyar
Sunday 7:30 a.m.	Keegan Pottmeyer Connor McCartney	Hugh Arnold	Connie Arnold
Sunday 11:00 a.m.	Hudson, Jade, Sydney Lang	Angie Henniger	Tonia Skinner

<u>COLLECTION</u>	<u>DPSC</u>	
Total Collection (last weekend) \$3,638	2026 Collected to date \$54,905	 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!	

Live The Liturgy **Inspiration of the Week**

The owner of the vineyard gave both his sons the same opportunity. Only one took it, even though he had rejected it at first. Always remember: it is never too late to do the will of God. He waits for you.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sep 30	Daily Bread Kitchen
Oct 1	Sr. Citizen Meeting
Oct 2	Blessing of Pets
Oct 4	PSR Classes Begin
Oct 4	Right to Life Chain
Oct 17	K of C Dueling Pianos
Oct 29	Churchtown Trick or Treat 6-7:30 p.m.
Oct 30	Trunk or Treat at the K of C 6:00 p.m.

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION

The first PSR class will be held on Sunday, October 4 from 9:30-10:30 a.m. at St. John Central. Students are to report to the school cafeteria and they will be dismissed to their classrooms from there. The full PSR schedule will be handed out on October 4. Classes will be held every Sunday October 4 through May 2. To help cover the cost of students learning materials families are asked to send \$15/child on the first week of class.



SENIOR CITIZEN MEETING

There will be a Senior Citizen meeting on Thursday, October 1 at 11:00 a.m. in the Sr. Center. Soup is on the menu. All are welcome.

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, September 30th. 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, September 30th. 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!

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 would like to participate by decorating your trunk and passing out treats, please contact Jessica Pottmeyer at 740-336-1048! For those of you that would like to pass out candy but forgo the trunk decorating, please feel free to set up under the back porch! Last year we had nearly 150 kids, so the more trunks we have the better! There will be pizza, chips, and beverages for a donation in which all proceeds will go towards the new playground equipment at the KofC! 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!



BAPTISM

We welcome into our parish family through Baptism: Landon Dane Bosner, son of Cameron and Martyna Bosner. May God watch over them now and always.

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.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Blessing of the Animals is in honor of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals. A Blessing of the Animals will be held at St. John School on Friday, October 2, 1:45 p.m. at the school. Bring your pets for a special blessing.

RIGHT TO LIFE CHAIN

In October, the Catholic Church in the United States celebrates Respect Life Month, and the first Sunday of October is designated as Respect Life Sunday. The Right to Life Chain will be held on October 4th. Life Chain is a silent demonstration opposing abortion. Participants will stand and hold signs from 2:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M. along State Route 60 in front of Greenleaf Landscapes in Marietta, joining hundreds of thousands of pro-life believers across the nation. We pray and sing silently from our heart for God to deliver us from the horrors of abortion. For those who are unable to stand, it is perfectly appropriate to bring a chair. Please consider donating an hour of your time to join us for this important event.

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.

ST. STEPHEN CWC ANNUAL GAME NIGHT

St. Stephen CWC Game Night will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 20 from 6-9:00 p.m. Cost is \$15/person and includes heavy Hors D'oeuvres, soft drinks and door prizes. Bring your cards, dominoes, board game, and family and friends for a fun night out. Tickets are available in advance or at the door.

respect life
month

October, 2026





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

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish in Churchtown, Ohio. We as followers of Jesus the Christ, fed by the Eucharist and Word, called to Love, Serve and Welcome all.

Jubilee of Marriage 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.

Pray for the priests who serve the people of the Diocese of Steubenville. Sept. 20, Msgr. Thomas Petronek; Sept. 21, Fr. William Cross; Sept. 22, All Priests; Sept. 23, Fr. James M. Dunfee; Sept. 24, Fr. Jonas Schell; Sept. 25, Fr. Thomas Nau; Sept. 26, Fr. Nicholas Ginnetti; Sept. 27, Msgr. George Coyne.

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

We also pray for Benjamin Arnold the son of Tim and Tammy Arnold, grandson of Shelba Arnold who is a seminarian for the Diocese of Columbus, studying at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus.

Fall "Come and See" Retreat
Friday, November 13 – Sunday, November 15 for any high school junior or senior.

October 3-10, 2026, marks the 10th year that our Diocese will be hosting a **Eucharistic Rosary Congress**. Since 2017, when Bishop Monforton requested the Congress in order to live out more fully our Diocese's Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, we had no idea where we would be today. So much has transpired in the Steubenville Diocese, not to mention what has transpired in our country and in the world. And yet, we are not called to dwell on these events. We are simply called to pray and to trust. Our prayers help so many people. Our prayers during this Eucharistic Rosary Congress are so efficacious, hundreds of people praying the rosary around the clock as one heart and one mind, before the Blessed Sacrament. Maybe your parish cannot participate in a big way, but your parishioners can in their own way.

MASSSES OF REMEMBRANCE

We are again hosting two Masses of Remembrance within our Diocese for those who are grieving the loss of a child or grandchild. They will happen in Marietta and in Mingo Junction this year. Light refreshments will be served after both Masses. Here are the details: **Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption** (Marietta) September 19th, 9:00 a.m.

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.

You can begin at any time. You can access Catholic Legacy **from your parish website**, or from the **diocesan website from this link:** <https://www.catholiclegacy.com/org/diosteub>.

Dad Jokes

Why couldn't Jonah trust the ocean?

He knew there was something fishy about it.

How do angels greet each other? *Halo, halo, halo.*

Where was Solomon's temple located? *On the side of his head.*

What is a dentist's favorite hymn? *Crown him with many crowns.*

Blessing of pets. *October 2nd at 1pm St. John Central School. Bring your pets for a special blessing.*

St. John the Baptist Church. *Catholic Mutual Insurance has inspected the church roof and identified major damage. The bell tower contains asbestos and will require special repair. More will follow as figures come in. — Fr. David*

Ohio State Right to Life Rally

When: October 2

Where: The Ohio Statehouse (1 Capitol Sq, Columbus, OH 43215)

Times: A Mass for Life will be offered at 9:00 am at St. Joseph Cathedral (212 E Broad St. Columbus, OH 43215)

10 am - Pre-rally concert

11 am - Rally

12 pm - March

For more information visit MarchforLife.org/Ohio

Collection for the Immaculate Heart Fund. This Fund goes directly toward providing Catholic school tuition assistance to children who normally would not be able to afford a Catholic education.

REMEMBER YOUR MERCIES,
O LORD