

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

17784 St. Rt. 676, Marietta, Ohio 45750 Phone 740-896-3566 Fax 740-896-3567

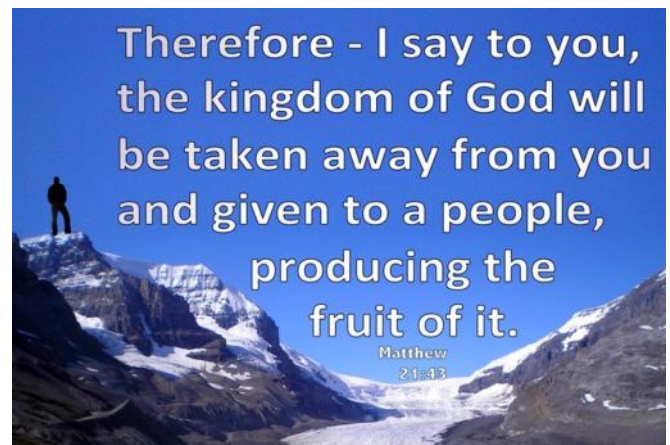
Email: stjohchurchtown@yahoo.com webpage: www.stjohchurchtown.com



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

**27TH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
OCTOBER 4, 2026**



Therefore - I say to you,
the kingdom of God will
be taken away from you
and given to a people,
producing the
fruit of it.

Matthew
21:43

Good News!

BY: FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

A wise old sage once observed, "When it starts out stupid, it just gets more stupid." The parable in today's gospel illustrates this wisdom.

The son has been sent. The jig is up. The owner is not going to give up the vineyard. The tenants gambled and lost. It's time for them to accept the inevitable and pay the rent. But common sense and wisdom do not prevail. *Kill the son, they think, and all that he would have inherited will be ours!*

How do you get from "don't pay the rent" to "kill the son"? It is not a straight or smooth path. There are a lot of twists and turns between point A and point B. But it happens. It sneaks in. It demands little compromises and small dishonesties along the way as it becomes easier and easier for you to choose what is destructive. Then, you find you have lost it all—your very self. And the corruption you've embraced convinces you that you're making wise choices. You must be completely cleansed of the seduction that has enabled you to make these choices. You need to start again.

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	10/03	4:00	p.m.	+Karen Belcher (David and Joanie Yeomans)
	SJB	10/03	6:00	p.m.	+Larry Schaad (Wedding Anniversary) (Janet Schaad)
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)
Monday	SJB	10/05	8:00	a.m.	+Fr. Mark Moore (Bob and Peggy Byers) +Herman Huck (Vincent Huck Siblings)
Tuesday	SJB	10/06	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today
	OLM	10/06	5:00	p.m.	L & D of Stephen & Jenna Huffman Families (Stephen & Jenna Huffman) +Tammy Welch (Unknown)
Wednesday	SJB	10/07	8:30	a.m.	+Fr. Charles Moran (Bill and Alberta Wesel) School Mass +Andrew and +Peggy Brooker (Tim and Judy Best)
Thursday	SJB	10/08	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today
	OLM	10/08	5:00	p.m.	+Linda Huck (Martin and Pauline Knoch) +Gary Pottmeyer (Keith, Tina, and Tami)
Friday	SJB	10/09	8:00	a.m.	+Mary Canterbury (Rick Canterbury and Family) +Family (Mona Barrett)
Saturday	OLM	10/10	4:00	p.m.	+Jake, +Poke, +Sis Misel (Debbie Misel)
	SJB	10/10	6:00	p.m.	+Fred Heiss (Bill and Alberta Wesel)
Sunday	SJB	10/11	7:30	a.m.	+Frank and +Gladys Schilling (Wed. Anniv.) (Children)
	OLM	10/11	9:30	a.m.	+Cheryl Brooker (Brian Brooker)
	SJB	10/11	11:00	a.m.	+Richard and +Bertha Pottmeyer (Children)

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

<u>MASS</u>	<u>ALTER SERVERS</u>	<u>LECTOR</u>	<u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER</u>
Saturday 6:00 p.m.	Alaina Wells, Alyssa Dyar	Virginia Dyar	Theresa Sauer
Sunday 7:30 a.m.	Eli and Will Eichmiller	Robin Eichmiller	Arnold Huck
Sunday 11:00 a.m.	Emi Lauchard, Emma Wheeler	Janelle Sprague	Amanda Walters

<u>COLLECTION</u>	<u>DPSC</u>	
Total Collection (last weekend) \$3,147	2026 Collected to date \$55,060	 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!	



UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct	4	PSR Classes Begin
Oct	4	Right to Life Chain
Oct	10	Swisher/Strahler Wedding
Oct	11	Fr. Walter heads back to Florida
Oct	12	CWC Meeting
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 BEGINS THIS WEEKEND

The first PSR class will be held on this Sunday, October 4 from 9:30-10:30 a.m. at St. John Central. Classes will be held **every Sunday** October 4 through May 2.

CWC MEETING

The CWC will meet at the Sr. Center on Monday, October 12. The Rosary will be prayed at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting will follow. The meeting for November may be a Paint and Sip. Stay tuned.

CHRISTMAS BOX OF JOY

Again, this year we are participating in "Christmas Box of Joy" through Cross Catholic Outreach. We will be partnering with the Basilica of St. Mary's in Marietta. Boxes are available in the church vestibule. Once you have filled the box with your gifts, please return it back to the vestibule by November 1.

OUR SNOWBIRD IS FLYING THE COUP FOR THE WINTER

Fr. Walter will be heading back to Florida next weekend for the winter. His address is: 5700 Bayshore Road, Lot 801, Palmetto, Florida 34221. Please keep him in your prayers.

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! 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!

K OF C PATIO PICNIC

The Knights of Columbus 4617 will have a Patio Picnic on Sunday, October 11th, 2026 from 12:00 pm until 3:00 pm. Events will start with Catholic mass at 11:00 am at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church. Afterwards, on the back patio at the hall in Churchtown, we will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, and drinks (BYOB). Guests should bring a salad or dessert to share! There will be games and prizes for the kids. Members, their families, and friends are welcome to attend. We will have applications for NEW MEMBERS to join! As part of our FOOD FOR FAMILIES program, we will be collecting canned goods to be donated to St. Vincent de Paul Society. We hope to see you there! For Questions Contact: Derek Kern @ 740-516-7219 or Clay Miller @ 740-336-4229.

"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/>.

OCTOBER IS RESPECT LIFE MONTH

Each October the Church in the United States celebrates Respect Life Month, and the first Sunday of October is observed as Respect Life Sunday. As Catholics, we are called to cherish, defend, and protect those who are most vulnerable, from the beginning of life to its end, and at every point in between. During the month of October, the Church asks us to reflect more deeply on the dignity of every human life.

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.

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.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will give you and your spouse all the tools for a stronger and more loving marriage. "But some seed fell on rich soil and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirty-fold." Let your marriage be like the rich soil and attend an upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience on October 9th-11th. At the Procter Camp and Conference Center in London, Ohio. Get away from jobs, kids, chores, and phone and focus only on each other. To apply or check out other weekend dates available visit wwme.org. Early registration is recommended.

PARISH SOCIAL

St. Stephens church in Caldwell will hold their Parish Social on Sunday, October 11 from 5-8:00 p.m. Raffles, bingo, country store, and several door prizes. Everyone is invited.



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

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.

Prayer for our Priests:

Oct. 4, -Pope Leo; Oct. 5- Fr. Thomas Nau;
Oct. 6, - Fr. Dale Tornes; Oct 7, -Fr. Leonard Cencula;
Oct. 8; -Fr. Martin Holler; Oct 9 - Fr. Msgr. George Coyne;
Oct. 10, - Fr. Matthew Gossett; Oct 11, -Bishop Edward Lohse.

Did you know??? If you are at least age 70 ½, IRS rules for 2026 state you can transfer up to \$111,000 directly from your Traditional IRA to a Qualified Charity and the donation will be tax free to you. AND If you are age 73 or above, the amount transferred may be considered part of your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) for the year. The amount transferred directly to a Section 501(c)(3) charity, by your trustee, will not be taxable to you, so it will reduce your total income and tax liability for the year. Contact your tax advisor or your financial advisor for information on how you might use this ruling to benefit your personal financial situation, while supporting a charity you value such as St. John the Baptist Church, Our Lady of Mercy Church, and St. John Central School.

St. John the Baptist Church, Churchtown. The church roof has been inspected by Catholic Mutual Insurance and damage has been reported and the issue of asbestos in the covering on the Bell Tower. The insurance company is assessing the damage and seeking bids for the repair or replacement.

Did you know?

The Meaning of Incense. Have you ever wondered why incense is sometimes used during Mass? Incense has been part of Christian worship since the early Church and has several meanings. Most importantly, the rising smoke symbolizes our prayers rising to God. The Book of Revelation describes the prayers of God's people as incense before His throne, while Psalm 141 says, "Let my prayer be incense before you." Incense is also a sign of honor and reverence. At Mass, the altar, the gifts, the priest, the people, and especially the Book of the Gospels may be incensed. At a funeral, the body of the deceased is incensed as a sign of respect and as a reminder of our hope in the Resurrection. Whenever we see incense rising, we can let it remind us to lift our hearts and prayers to God.

St. Michael the Archangel, also known as Saint Michael the Archangel or simply Archangel Michael, holds a significant place in the Roman Catholic tradition. He is an Archangel, associated with courage, protection, and divine intervention.

Biblical and Historical Roots

St. Michael's presence can be traced back to early Jewish writings, particularly in texts from the 3rd and 2nd centuries BC. In these ancient texts, he is depicted as the chief among angels and archangels, responsible for guarding and caring for Israel.

Guardian Prince of Israel

In Jewish tradition, St. Michael is often referred to as the guardian prince of Israel, a protector who stands ready to defend God's chosen people. He appears in the Book of Enoch as one of the seven archangels, alongside Uriel, Raguel, Raphael, Sariel, Gabriel, and Remiel. These archangels are described as standing before the glory of the Lord.

Defender of the Faith

St. Michael's role as a defender of faith and a warrior against evil is most vividly portrayed in the New Testament, particularly in the Book of Revelation (Revelation 12:7-12). Here, he engages in a cosmic battle against Satan, casting the adversary out of heaven and preventing him from accusing humanity before God. St. Michael's triumphant role in this battle marks a significant shift from the Old Testament to the New Testament.

Fill a Baby Bottle Change a Life

A FUNDRAISER IN SUPPORT OF Mary's House

Mary's House provides shelter, support, and job training for women 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 the amazing work they do at www.maryshouseoh.org

How it works:

1. A supply of bottles is available in the church.
2. Take a bottle home.
3. Fill it with change, cash or checks.
4. Return it to the church by October 25.

Sponsored by:



Diocese of Steubenville
Office of Marriage,
Family & Respect Life

Scan here to
give online



Please contact Joseph Schmidt with any questions
at jjschmidt@diosteub.org or 740-516-9270 (call/text)

**The vineyard of the Lord
is the house of Israel**