

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*

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Email: stjohnchurchtown@yahoo.com

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Fr. David Gaydosik, Pastor

Cell number 740-391-1093

Fr. Walter E Heinz, retired/in residence

Fr. Dale Tornes, retired

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME FEBRUARY 4, 2024



Faith - Tradition - Family

Good News!

By: FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

At some point in one's faith journey, every believer asks: If God is good and loving, why is there evil in the world? Why is there war? Why do children die prematurely? Why do pandemics rage? The biblical story of Job seeks to speak to that question, though it never really answers it.

God and the satan (the name he is called in the Book of Job) are discussing Job and what a fine man he is. The satan suggests Job is a good man only because everything is going well for him. God then tells the satan that he may do whatever he wishes to test Job but may not harm him. By a series of catastrophes, then, Job loses his flocks, his camels, and even his sons and daughters. It is at this point that we hear today's first Scripture reading—Job's lament of misery and hopelessness.

Though Job's friends suspect that the cause of all that has befallen him must be due to some grave sin on his part, Job denies this accusation and continues believing in the goodness of God, never wavering in his faith. Though frustrated by what life has brought, Job never blames God or asks God to fix his life. God is God, concludes Job, whether we understand the ways of life or not. To seek any more is to seek to be God. He continues to trust in God and admits that the ways of God are incapable of being understood. This becomes Job's only answer to the question about the "why" of evil.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday	OLM	02/03	4:00	P.M.	+Linda Huck (Max and Tess Huck)		
	SJB	02/03	6:00	P.M.	+Jim Thieman (Anniv.) (Norma Thieman and Family)		
Sunday	SJB	02/04	7:30	A.M.	+Martha Huck (Connie Arnold)		
	OLM	02/04	9:30	A.M.	+Kelton and Helen Fliehman (Dan and Elanda Fleihman)		
	SJB	02/04	11:00	A.M.	+Lewis J. and Theresa Audrey Lang (Family)		
Monday	SJB	02/05	8:00	A.M.	Living and Deceased of +James and +Maglena Arnold (Family)		
Tuesday	SJB	02/06	8:00	A.M.	No Mass Today		
	OLM	02/06	5:00	P.M.	+Donna Arnold (Unknown)		
Wednesday	SJB	02/07	8:20	A.M.	+Rob Adams (Charlotte Lang and Family) School Mass		
Thursday	SJB	02/08	8:00	A.M.	No Mass Today		
	OLM	02/08	5:00	P.M.	Living and Deceased of Clemence and Eulia Huck Family (Ellen Huck)		
Friday	SJB	02/09	8:00	A.M.	+Emmett Brooker (Birthday) (Mary Brooker and Family)		
Saturday	OLM	02/10	4:00	P.M.	+Larry Zwick (Eileen Schilling)		
	SJB	02/10	6:00	P.M.	+Ed Brooker (Birthday) (Family)		
Sunday	SJB	02/11	7:30	A.M.	+Terry Arnold (Birthday 2/13) (Family)		
	OLM	02/11	9:30	A.M.	Anthony and Judy Gale (Jason and Jennifer Morris)		
	SJB	02/11	11:00	A.M.	+Gladys Schilling (Richard and Shelba Arnold)		
LITURGICAL MINISTERS							
MASS		ALTAR SERVERS		LECTOR		EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER	
Saturday 6:00 p.m.		Cody and Emma Schaad		Eugene Huck		Jason Henke	
Sunday 7:30 a.m.		Owen Henry, Sophia Huffman		Kelly Miller		Veronica Bosner	
Sunday 11:00 a.m.		Baylee and Morgan Warner Maycee Lang		Janelle Sprague		Roxanne Heiss	
"Prayer is the key that opens the heart of gold" St. Padre Pio							
COLLECTION		D.P.S.C.		BINGO			
Total Collection for weekend \$3,465 Needed to meet parish needs \$4,750 Thank you for your generosity!		2024 Goal is not available yet 2024 Collected \$3,810 Total DPSC Collected for 2023 was \$141,360. We met 558% of our goal. Thank you so much for your contributions.		January 21 Bingo was cancelled If you are unable to work, please try to find a replacement			
ST. JOHN BINGO WORK SCHEDULE		C.W.C. BINGO CAKES		PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY			
Feb 4 Group 6 with Jeff Canterbury Feb 11 Group 7 with Brandon Wheeler Feb 18 Group 8 with Russ Lang Feb 25 Group 1 with Jeff Brooker Mar 3 Group 2 with Jessica Henke		February Group D with Elaine Wells Meetings held the 2nd Monday of each month, 6:30 p.m. in the Sr. Center		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.			
READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND				Please have all bulletin information to the Rectory no later than 10:00 p.m. on Monday			
Leviticus 13:1–2, 44–46 / 1 Corinthians 10:31—11:1 / Mark 1:40–45							

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

A Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday, February 12, 6:30 p.m. in the Senior Center.

PALM COLLECTION

We are collecting palms to burn for Ash Wednesday which is February 14. In preparation for the day, we will be collecting old palm branches to be burned. Please drop them off in the boxes in the back of Church.

CWC BREAKFAST

A Dine in or Drive-thru breakfast will be held at the K of C Hall on Sunday, February 25 from 8:00 a.m.—10:00 a.m. An adult meal consisting of eggs, bacon, home fries, biscuit/sausage gravy and a drink is \$10. A kids meal consisting of pancakes, bacon, eggs and a drink is \$5. Mark your calendar now to attend.

CWC MONTHLY MEETING

The CWC monthly meeting for February has been cancelled. See everyone at the breakfast on February 25.

EUCHRE

Euchre will be held at 1:00 p.m. at the Sr. Center on February 14 and February 28. All are welcome.

SUPER BOWL SUB SALE

St. John Central School Super Bowl Sunday Sub Sale - February 10-11 after Saturday and Sunday Masses. Cost is \$4.75 per sub. Subs will be available to purchase after all Masses (or until sold out). To ensure you get subs, it is recommended that you pre-order by calling the school at (740) 896-2697. We will have the subs you order at whatever mass you request. Thank you for your support!

BAPTISM

We welcome into our parish family through Baptism: Collins Jane Hendershot, daughter of Brandon and Ashleigh (Tornes) Hendershot. May God bless Collins and her family now and always.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please keep in your prayers Lawrence Schaad, who passed away on January 25. Our thoughts and prayers are with Larry's family and friends. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.

WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS?

A parishioner recently suggested that we consider getting ADS for the back page of the bulletin as many other parishes do. This will help cover the cost of the bulletins, etc. So what do you think? Before this could be done it will have to have input from Pastoral (Parish) Council and our Finance Council. [That would mean the pastor's page would no longer exist]. Please let us know your thoughts.



Blessing of the throats after each
mass this weekend

PRIESTS RETIREMENT FUND COLLECTION

The collection will be taken up this weekend. Your continued generosity is a blessing and much appreciated. Thank you!

THANK YOU

Fr. Tornes would like to thank everyone who sent cards, gifts and well wishes for his recent birthday. Your kindness is greatly appreciated. God bless you all.

K OF C MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Knights of Columbus 4617 will be hosting a membership drive on February 3rd and 4th at Our Lady of Mercy Church in Lowell. They are looking for new members and have a goal of obtaining 10 new members this year! If you are an 18 year old Catholic male, please consider joining the most active church ministry in the area! If you are interested in joining contact Taylor Pottmeyer @ 412-215-6470 or visit www.kofc.org/join

MARY'S HOUSE BAG AND BASKET BINGO

Sunday, February 25 at 2:00 pm (doors open at 1:00 pm) at the St Bernard Social Hall in Beverly. There will be 20 Games for \$20.00. Tickets sold at door only. There will be a 50/50 drawing, concession stand & raffle. For question about these upcoming events call: 740-960-9944. Follow us at: maryshouseoh.org or <https://www.facebook.com/maryshousesoutheastern>.

SENIOR CITIZEN PROM

Fort Frye High School invites any local senior citizens to their annual Senior Citizen Prom. The Prom will be held at the Fort Frye High School Main Gym on February 16, from 1:00-2:30 p.m. This will be a fun afternoon of music, dancing, bingo and door prizes.



ASH WEDNESDAY MASS TIMES

Mass will be held at St. John's on Ash Wednesday, February 14 at 8:20 a.m. (School Mass) and 7:00 p.m. Volunteers (altar servers, lector and a eucharistic minister) will be needed for the 7:00 p.m. mass at St. Johns. Mass at Our Lady of Mercy in Lowell will be at 6:00 p.m. on the 14th. This is not a Holy Day of Obligation.

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.

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 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

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. Karen Pottmeyer
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

Dear Friends,

Last week we celebrate Catholic Schools Week throughout our diocese and our country. I want to share a reflection I read recently on the value of Catholic Education.

An open letter to Catholic School Students: Do you know why you are going to a Catholic school? Permit me to give you a little bit of background. Your parents and grandparents are the ones who built the Catholic school educational system in our city. Your parents and grandparents saw the importance of a great education and saw the connection between their faith in God and his Church and education to assist the greater community in becoming more than just an average citizen of society and believer in Christ. A Catholic school education is now more expensive than it used to be. In previous decades, religious sisters and brothers who worked for next to nothing staffed our Catholic schools. They spent long hours to make sure the teachings of the Church and the education of the next generation was excellent. Now our teachers are mostly laywomen and men. And they deserve a living wage and to provide for their own families. Let us remember where our Catholic schools were, and where they are going.

Let us pray ... *God of knowledge and faith, thank you for the opportunity to go to a Catholic school. When I go to Mass, I hear that knowledge is so important. Thank you for my parents and grandparents who have built our school and supported it throughout the years. Help me to be a good student and to become a good supporter of my parish, city, and country. Please bless all those men and women who have spent their lives teaching in our Catholic schools. Please bless my friends and teachers I learn with every day. I ask for all these blessings in the name of God's Son, Jesus. Amen.*

We are truly blessed to have St. John's Central Grade School available to all students who wish to have a faith-based Catholic education incorporated into all of their classes and to have the opportunities to pray, worship, and discuss God and religion freely. We are so grateful to our faculty, staff, and administration for their loving and faithful dedication to Catholic education. May God continue to bless all our efforts to support and enhance our St. John's Central School.

MEN's RETREAT—The Diocese of Steubenville is hosting its annual Men's Day of Renewal on Saturday, March 9 at St. Stephen Church in Caldwell, Ohio. Doors open for registration at 8:00am. The day consists of a Holy Hour, two presentations, a penance service, lunch, and concludes with Mass celebrated by Bishop Paul Bradley at 2:30 p.m. The speaker this year is Dr. Alan Schreck, Professor Emeritus of Theology at Franciscan University, and the theme is: Living in the Power of The Holy Spirit. You can register online at https://athenscatholic.org/steubenville-mens-day_

WOMEN's RETREAT—A Lenten Day of Spirituality for all women of the Diocese will be held on Saturday, March 16, 2024 at the Basilica of St Mary in Marietta. The program includes these topics: • The Eucharistic Revival • The Eucharistic Rosary Congress. Reservations are through your CWC President or by contacting DeDe Kidder (740-632-4018). The FEE is \$25 payable in advance. Registration 8:30-9:45.

SUPPORT OUR SEMINARIANS Please join in praying for Seminarians of the Steubenville Diocese:

Monday: Peter Stetson

Tuesday: Paul Gan, Christopher McGurn

Wed.: Jonathan Rusco

Thurs: Riley Morris,

Friday: Aaron Pabin,

Saturday: Caleb Baker,

Sunday: Samuel Ivkovich



Diocesan Priests Retirement Fund Collection — Firstly, thank you for your generous response to last year's first annual collection for this purpose! It was a great start toward reaching a fully-funded status for the Plan. This collection, which is distinct from the collection for retired religious, from which our diocesan priests derive no benefit, will be taken up on the weekend of February 3rd & 4th. Your continued generosity is a blessing and much appreciated. Thank you!

JOHN AND BLANCHE MUSSIO SCHOLARSHIP

Awards are for the first year at any Catholic College/University currently listed in the Cardinal Newman Society's "Newman Guide" at: <https://cardinalnewmansociety.org/college/>.

Please note that this is a change from previous years. Applicants for this award must: Be a high school senior who will be a member of the graduating class of 2024, AND whose residence is located within the boundaries of the Diocese of Steubenville; be a participating member of a Roman Catholic parish in the Diocese of Steubenville; meet the enrollment standards of the College/University they are planning to attend; demonstrate financial need as determined by the college or university's Office of Student Financial Services. Documentation to be provided by the applicant to the Selection Committee.

PRE-CANA. A Pre-Cana Session is scheduled at the Basilica. For Saturday, March 9th, 2024. Couples planning marriage should register for this class by calling the Basilica Parish Office at 740-373-3643. Pre-Cana is a requirement for marriage in the Diocese of Steubenville.

Palm Collection to burn for Ash Wednesday.

Ash Wednesday is Feb 14. In preparation for the day, we will be collecting old palm branches to be burned. Please drop them off in the boxes in the back of Church.

K of C Scholarship: Council #4617 of Churchtown is offering a \$500 scholarship to any senior who is currently attending a local high school. One boy and one girl will be selected from this area. The application must be submitted by March 15th. There is a link to the application on the parish Facebook page. For more information you can text or call Taylor Pottmeyer at 412.215.6470.

St. John's Super Bowl Sub Sale: St. John Central School will have their annual Super Bowl Sub Sale the weekend of February 11th after the Saturday and Sunday Masses. The price is \$4.75 per sub. All proceeds from the sub sale will go towards the St. John Central School field trips. You can preorder by calling the school at 740.896.2697.