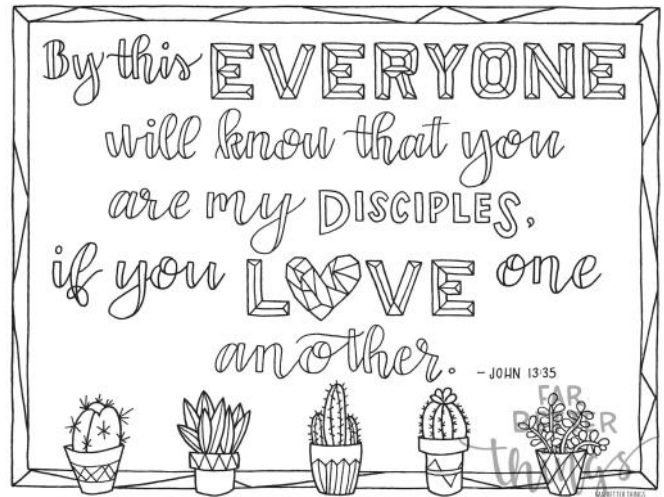


ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



Good News!

By: FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**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

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Fr. David Gaydosik, Pastor

Cell number 740-391-1093

Fr. Walter E Heinz, retired

Fr. Dale Tornes, retired

**FIFTH SUNDAY
OF EASTER**

MAY 18, 2025

We have an instinct to love; this is something woven into the foundation of human life. It's also a godly instinct, for anything embedded into the human spirit with such intensity must surely be of God. In fact, it is how God is creating a new heaven and a new earth, thereby making all things new as is written in the Book of Revelation. So intense is that inclination to love, we read in the first letter of John that God is love.

While our culture tends to romanticize love, the reality is that, all too often, if we are seriously committed to loving someone, it can also be a lonely effort. Love is not always romantic or satisfying. At times, it can be demanding and even harsh. One day, when I was meeting with an engaged couple in preparation for their marriage, I asked them, as I often do, for their definition of love. Usually, couples are tongue-tied when I ask that question. They know they're in love, and, to them, that seems to be enough. This time, however, the young groom-to-be did not hesitate. He said that love is caring for someone even when they are unlovable—an insightful definition, for it is precisely during such times that we need someone's love. It is the weakest moments of life that are in need of rebuilding, the loneliest moments of life that are in need of someone reaching out a hand, and the darkest moments of life that are in need of light. When that happens, creation is made new.

MASS INTENTION SCHEDULE

Saturday	OLM	05/17	4:00	p.m.	Bob Peters (Marilyn and Heather Peters)
	SJB	05/17	6:00	p.m.	Deceased Members of the +Ralph and +Pauline Zoller Family (Janet Schaad and Family)
Sunday	SJB	05/18	7:30	a.m.	Living and Deceased of +Leo and +Lucy Huck Family (Family)
	OLM	05/18	9:30	a.m.	+Victor Cianetta (Jason and Jennifer Morris)
	SJB	05/18	11:00	a.m.	+Tony Tornes (Donna Tornes and Family)
Monday	SJB	05/19	8:00	a.m.	Living and Deceased of +John and +Virginia Arnold (Family) Living and Deceased of +James and +Maglene Arnold (Family)
Tuesday	SJB	05/20	11:00	a.m.	+Jay Pottmeyer (CWC) (School Mass) Kindergarten Graduation +Martha Huck (Dave and Veronica Bosner)
Wednesday	OLM	05/20	5:00	p.m.	+Jerry Lang (Kathryn Reed+); Martha Huck (Rod and Dianna Rauch)
	SJB	05/21	8:20	a.m.	Special Intention (Mary Brooker and Family) +Edith Brooker (Card Club)
Thursday	SJB	05/22	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today
Friday	OLM	05/22	5:00	p.m.	+Ron Smith (Paul Smith); +Donivan Heiss (Ivan Huck and Brenda Eddy)
	SJB	05/23	8:00	a.m.	+Msgr. Lawrence Luciana (Dr. Lisa Cain); +Herb Mason (CWC)
Saturday	OLM	05/24	4:00	p.m.	+Denna Lang (Raymond Lang)
	SJB	05/24	6:00	p.m.	+Bob Pottmeyer (Anniv.) (Erin and Sherri Pottmeyer Family)
Sunday	SJB	05/25	7:30	a.m.	+Ben Brooker (Anniv.) (Family)
	OLM	05/25	9:30	a.m.	+Kenneth and +Margert Yeomans (David and Joanne Yeomans)
	SJB	05/25	11:00	a.m.	+Gladys Schilling (Family)

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

If you are unable to serve, please try to find a replacement. Thank you!

MASS		ALTAR SERVERS	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER
Saturday	6:00 p.m.	Chase Arteaga, Alyssa Dyar	Kelly Miller	Melinda Treadway
Sunday	7:30 a.m.	Connor McCartney, Keegan Pottmeyer	Zandra Francis	Veronica Bosner
Sunday	11:00 a.m.	Hudson and Sydney Lang	Ashleigh Pennock	Amanda Walters

<u>COLLECTION</u> Total Collection last weekend \$ 3,804 Needed to meet parish needs \$ 4,750 Thank you for your generosity!	<u>DPSC</u> 2025 Collected to Date \$ 38,940 2025 DPSC Goal \$ 41,330 This includes money sent directly to the Diocese. Thank you for your contributions!	 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.								
 St. Caterina Volpicelli (1839-1894) left a life of elegant Neapolitan society to serve the Lord. She adhered to the Apostleship of Prayer, dedicating each day to the Sacred Heart. Her order, the Servants of the Sacred Heart, opened an orphanage, a lending library, and nursed cholera victims. ©LPI	 <table><tr><td>May 20</td><td>Kindergarten Graduation</td></tr><tr><td>May 21</td><td>Last Day of School</td></tr><tr><td>May 25</td><td>Graduates Mass</td></tr><tr><td>May 26</td><td>Fr. Walter Heinz 63rd Anniversary of his Ordination</td></tr></table>		May 20	Kindergarten Graduation	May 21	Last Day of School	May 25	Graduates Mass	May 26	Fr. Walter Heinz 63rd Anniversary of his Ordination
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May 21	Last Day of School									
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May 26	Fr. Walter Heinz 63rd Anniversary of his Ordination									
READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND Acts 15:1–2, 22–29 / Revelation 21:10–14, 22–23, John 14:23–29										
Please have all bulletin information to the Rectory no later than 10:00 p.m. on Monday										

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CWC CONVENTION

The annual CWC Convention will be held on Wednesday, June 4 at Holy Family Church in Steubenville. If you are interested in attending, please contact Marilyn Zoller at 740-350-8141 or 740-896-3626. Reservations are due by May 19.

GRADUATES RECOGNITION

All graduating high school and college seniors will be honored at the 11:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday, May 25. If you would like to participate, please wear your cap and gown and sit together in the front pews.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. JOHN SCHOOL

Kindergarten graduation will be on May 20 at the 11:00 a.m. School Mass. This will be the final day of school for our kindergarteners. The last day for all other students will be May 21, which will feature Field Day, Awards Day, and the official start of summer break!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School will be held June 22-26! There are extra registration forms in the church vestibule or you can sign up on our webpage. We'll have fun, faith, and unforgettable memories for kids of all ages. Want to be part of the fun? We'd love your help! If you're interested in volunteering, please reach out to Maggie Huffman at 740-885-0202.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULES

Liturgical Minister schedules for June - September are available in the church vestibule. Please stop by and take a copy home.

K OF C FATHER'S DAY STAG FISH FRY

The K of C Father's Day Stag Fish Fry will be held at the Hall on Sunday, June 15 from 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. Cost is \$15 and is open to all gentleman of the public and K of C members. All you can eat fish, fries, coleslaw and drink.

TO THE PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN

May we suggest....relax! God puts the wiggle in young children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's House. All are welcome! Sit toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to see and hear what's going on at the altar. They tire of seeing the back of other people's heads. Quietly explain the parts of the Mass and actions of the priest, altar servers, choir, etc. Sing the hymns, pray and voice the responses. Children learn liturgical behavior by copying you. If you have to leave Mass with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me." Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to the church, to God, and to one another. Let them know they are at home in this house of worship.



TO MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH

The presence of children is a gift to the church and they are a reminder that our parish is growing. Please welcome our children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents. If you see a parent struggling, offer to help them.

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, May 28, 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 of any of these items, you can leave them in the box in the entry of the church by 8am on Wednesday, May 28, 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 for all your past and present donations. You are helping to make a difference!

CHICKEN BARBECUE

A Chicken Barbecue will be held at St. Michael's in Carlisle on Sunday, May 25. Serving time is 11:00 a.m.—1:30 p.m. There will be afternoon bingo and a square dance from 7-10:00 p.m. by "Little Creek Band". Dine in or Drive thru carryout available.

Congratulations to the following St. John's School 2025 Pre-School Graduates

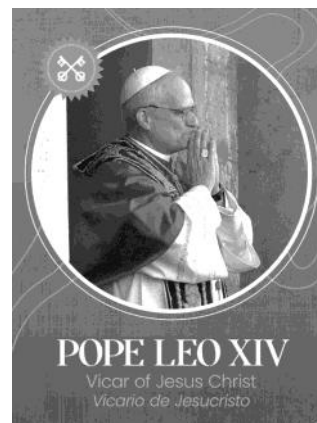
Brooklyn Arnold
Case Arnold
Atlee Chestnut
Braxton Coleman
Liam De Jesus
Amelia Lang

Connor Lang
Luke Lang
Aiken Miller
Charlotte Paxton
Jaxson Spindler
Bristol Tkach
Haven Tornes



Congratulations to the following St. John's School 2025 Kindergarten Graduates

Anson Fyffe
Samuel Huck
Hadley Lang
Kasen Marks
Dayne Pottmeyer
Vincent Schaad
Kennedy Warner



Let us pray that the new pope, Pope Leo XIV, will guide the world with his declaration of hope so that we his people know the presence of God in our everyday lives.

"Peace be with you all"

~ first words from Pope Leo XIV



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

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 Taylor Pottmeyer

St. John School Foundation

Gary Arnold, President

Diocesan Catholic Charities & Information

Referral Line:

1-800-339-7890

HELP... 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 in grades 1-12. If interested contact the parish office.

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: 5/17 Fr. Timothy Huffman, 5/18 Fr. Matthew Gossett, 5/19 Fr. Nicholas Ginnetti, 5/20 Fr. Michael Gossett, 5/21 Fr. Tom Magary, 5/22 Msgr. J. Michael Campbell, 5/24 Msgr. George Coyne, 5/25 Fr. Leonard Cencula.

The Catholic Bishops of Ohio invite all the faithful to spend time with Jesus and pray for our nation, state, and government leaders in the Ohio capitol building. Eucharistic Adoration will take place: **Tuesday, June 3, from 10 am to 2 pm.** Governor Thomas Worthington Center (*inside the Ohio Statehouse*) 1 Capitol Square, Columbus, Ohio, 43215.

Since prayer helps to save and sanctify souls, Eucharistic Adoration is a tremendous blessing, given that at least one person will be praying during extended exposition of the Real Presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Saint Pope John Paul II greatly desired perpetual adoration to be established in every parish. Although round the clock hours are the gold standard, many parishes have fewer hours when possible. Incredible fruits are evidenced in parishes we have helped to expand adoration. Clergy and parishioners receive abundant graces through the power and peace of adoration. Parish life, vocations and souls are nourished and thrive through this constant vigil and legacy of prayer. Would their be an interest to having a weekly Eucharistic Adoration in one or both of our parishes? It could be an hour or several hours on a given day. And when would best to allow the most parishioners to partake of this opportunity?

On a recent highway trip, one bumper sticker in particular grabbed my eye and caused me to consider its frank command: **"LEAD, FOLLOW, OR GET OUT OF THE WAY."** —In a sense, the Scripture readings for, *Good Shepherd Sunday*, offer the same challenge to believers. Christianity admits of no mediocrity. The decision of Faith (which discipleship demands), requires a daily deliberateness and a constantly renewed certainty. Either Jesus and his way of life are accepted and followed, or they are rejected. There is no middle path; to live otherwise is to become an obstacle in the way of others. — As Christians, each of us is called to be both a leader and a follower. Ultimately, as John points out in the Gospel, our leader is Jesus, the loving shepherd who calls us away from sin and self to union with him and one another.

HABEMUS PAPAM!

Ad Multos Annos, Pope Leo XIV.

Pope Leo XIV, in his first Mass as pope, said Christians must offer witness in a world that prefers power, pleasure and success to faith.

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Who the new pope will be is not exactly who he has been — being Leo is different than being Robert, just as being Peter is different than being Simon.

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One afternoon many years ago, a child knocked on the door where St. John Bosco lived in the city of Turin, Italy. He asked the boy what he wanted, and the boy told him that he wanted to be a priest! His name was Dominic Savio. Behind every vocation there is a mystery of love. The idea of becoming a priest does not come spontaneously or by chance. It is God who calls, but he needs to find a soul well willing to listen and follow the vocation. Jesus says "My sheep hear my voice. I know them and they follow me. Pope Benedict XVI expressed in one his Angelus prayers, that a serene family climate, illuminated by faith favors the emergence and flowering of vocations at the service of the Gospel. It can be said that the crisis of vocations is a crisis of the family. Have any of your children expressed a desire to be a priest or religious? Do you know children or young people who need a word of encouragement to help them discern their desire to follow Jesus Christ? You can be a vocational promoter by cultivating the practice of the Christian life among those around you. A priestly vocation can depend on you! Today, we pray for more vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. Let us also encourage our young people to consider responding to God's call to serve the Church as a priest, religious, or deacon.

From the Conventual Franciscan Friars and Staff of Our Lady of Consolation

This month marks a huge milestone in the history of Our Lady of Consolation: May 24 is the 150th anniversary of the original procession of the statue of Our Lady from Frenchtown in 1875. That blessed day has led to a century and a half of pilgrims coming to the small village of Carey seeking hope and healing. In honor of this amazing gift of Mary's favor toward our ancestors 150 years ago and all who have come since then, we are eager to celebrate a weekend full of events to honor our Blessed Mother.

We are excited to welcome Friar Tommy Piolata, OFM Cap., who is on the faculty at the Catholic University of America, to preach throughout the weekend. As we celebrate this 150th anniversary, we hope that you are able to attend as many events as possible to worship our Lord Jesus in this Easter Season and honor Our Lady.

May God's peace be with you.

*Have a
Great Day!*