

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

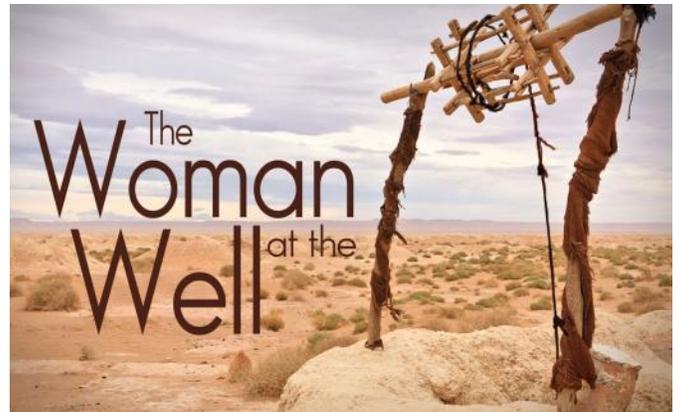


17784 State Route 676 (Churchtown)
Marietta, Ohio 45750-6530
Founded 1841—Completed 1867
*A parish of the Roman Catholic
Diocese of Steubenville*

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

**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 8, 2026**



Good News!

By: MIGUEL DULICK

Today's gospel, the healing of the man born blind, is a terrific story that includes many details. Notice that Jesus, who has his own agenda, "so that the works of God might be made visible through him," does not even wait for the man to ask to be healed. But the man is a willing subject, allowing mud and saliva to be smeared on his eyes, agreeing to go to Siloam and wash. And, he's a quick learner. At first, all he knows is "the man called Jesus" healed him. Soon, however, he's calling Jesus "a prophet." Then, as a "division" ("schism" in the original) opens among the authorities and even in his own family, he defends Jesus' divine calling when the Pharisees mock Jesus as a "sinner." Finally, expelled from the synagogue, the man finds Jesus waiting for him with the ultimate revelation: he sees before him the Son of Man, "and he worshiped him."

Now, maybe we weren't born blind, but I venture to say a lot of us are short-sighted. Do I "see the works of God"? Starting from "the man called Jesus," do I keep going forward in faith, defending Jesus when he is mocked by people, to a deeper, fuller reality than even my own family may not understand? All the way to adoration, worship, a total handing over of my whole self to the Son of Man? Or, as Thomas would later say, when his own eyes were opened, "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28).

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.

MASS INTENTION SCHEDULE

Saturday	OLM	03/07	4:00	p.m.	+David Schwendeman (Lisa Schwendeman)
	SJB	03/07	6:00	p.m.	+Tom and +Pat Thieman (Derek and Kourtney Thieman Family)
Sunday	SJB	03/08	7:30	a.m.	+Patty Huck (Anniversary 3/11) (Arnold Huck)
	OLM	03/08	9:30	a.m.	+Jim Huck (2 yr. Anniversary 03/10) (The Jim Huck Family)
	SJB	03/08	11:00	a.m.	+Bill O'Linn (Parish)
Monday	SJB	03/09	8:00	a.m.	+Regis Huck (Parish)
Tuesday	SJB	03/10	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today
	OLM	03/10	5:00	p.m.	+Raymond and +Mary Brooker (Julia Brooker)
Wednesday	SJB	03/11	8:30	a.m.	+Robert Gaydosik (Parish) School Mass
Thursday	SJB	03/12	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today
	OLM	03/12	5:00	p.m.	+Madeline Miller (The Anthony Family) Stations of the Cross to follow Mass
Friday	SJB	03/13	6:00	p.m.	+Richard and +Bertha Pottmeyer (Children) Stations of the Cross to follow Mass
Saturday	OLM	03/14	4:00	p.m.	+Fr. Edward Kakasik (David and Joanne Yeomans)
	SJB	03/14	6:00	p.m.	+Richard C. Arnold (Shelba Arnold and Family)
Sunday	SJB	03/15	7:30	a.m.	+Leo Huck (Arnold Huck)
	OLM	03/15	9:30	a.m.	+Ron Smith (3yr. Anniversary) (Paul Smith)
	SJB	03/15	11:00	a.m.	Deceased of +Alvin and +Helen Smith Family (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.	Alyssa Dyar, Alaina Wells	Kelly Miller	Jerry Dyar
Sunday 7:30 a.m.	Dalton and Dane Schott	J.D. Alexander	Connie Arnold
Sunday 11:00 a.m.	Hadleigh Pennock, Callen Pottmeyer	Kristen Pottmeyer	Marilyn Zoller

<u>COLLECTION</u>	<u>DPSC</u>		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.
Total Collection last weekend \$4,859 Need to meet parish needs \$4,750 Thank you for your generosity!	2026 Collected to date \$8,525 2026 DPSC Goal \$36,584 This includes money sent directly to the Diocese. Thank you for your contributions!		

<u>LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES</u>		
Monday, March 23 1:00 pm St. John School 7:00 pm St. John the Baptist Church Tuesday, March 24 7:00 pm Our Lady of Mercy Church Wednesday, March 25 7:00 pm Basilica of St. Mary's Church Thursday, March 26 7:00 pm St. Bernards Church Sunday, March 29 7:00 pm St. Ambrose Church	March 9 CWC Meeting March 13 School Stations of the Cross 10:31 a.m. Our Lady of Mercy Fish Fry March 20 School Stations of the Cross 8:30 a.m. Boys SEARCH Weekend March 22 Easter Flower requests due to Rectory March 27 Girls SEARCH Weekend March 30 Chrism Mass, St. Mary's Marietta	
READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND		
John 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38		
Please have all bulletin information to the Rectory by Wednesday at 6 p.m.		

EASTER FLOWERS

If you would like to donate in memory of a loved one for Easter flowers, please place your donation of \$10 in an envelope along with the name(s) of who you would like to remember and drop it in the collection basket. Please print the names so they are easily read and have your list in to the Rectory by March 22.

CONDOLENCES

Please keep in your prayers, Regis Huck, who passed away on February 28. We extend our condolences to the family and friends of Regis. May he rest in peace and light with our Lord.

CWC MEETING

There will be a CWC meeting on Monday, March 9 at the Sr. Center. They will begin with the Rosary at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting will follow.

SAVE THE DATE

St. John Central School will proudly present Disney's "Frozen" play on Thursday, April 30, 7:00 p.m. at Marietta High School. Mark your calendar now to attend.

2026 CHRISM MASS

Chrim Mass for the Diocese of Steubenville will be Monday, March 30th at 2:00 pm at the Basilica of St. Mary in Marietta. All are invited to attend.

DPSC PLEDGE CARDS

In case you have not received a DPSC pledge card in the mail, you will find the pledge cards available in the back of the church.

"SEARCH" FOR CHRISTIAN MATURITY

"SEARCH" for Christian Maturity weekend retreats for youth ages sophmore-21 is upcoming. SEARCH weekends will be held at St. John Central Grade School. Boys weekend will be held on Friday, March 20th-Sunday, March 22nd. Girls weekend will be Friday, March 27th-Sunday, March 29th. Deadline for applications will be March 15th. You can find applications at St. Johns Parish website at <https://www.stjohnchurchtown.com/>. Please contact Alana Henry for more information at 440-539-3763.

OUR LADY OF MERCY LENTEN FISH FRIES

Our Lady of Mercy Church Lenten Fish Fries will be held from 4:30 - 7:30 pm on March 13, and March 27. Cost for the meal is Adults \$13.00 and Children 12 & under \$6.00. To Go Drive Through Meals are \$13.00-No need to call ahead. Everyone is welcome to attend.

K OF C 4TH DEGREE

There will be a Fourth Degree meeting on Sunday, March 15th at 2:00 pm at the Marietta K of C hall. Please make every effort to attend. We will be voting for Officers for the coming year and to approve several new applications for membership.

There is also a Fourth Degree exemplification being held on March 22, at St. John the Baptist church in Churchtown. The exemplification will take place at the Churchtown K of C hall. Registration will begin at 7:30 am, the exemplification will begin at 9:00 am sharp. Following the exemplification we will attend 11:00 am Mass at the church, returning to the Hall afterwards for a meal.

CEMETERY CLEAN UP

In order to maintain the appearance of our parish cemetery properties and ensure the safety of visitors and employees, the Parish will conduct the Annual Cemetery Cleanup this March. Please note that all Christmas items will be removed from all graves during the cleanup. Please remove any items you wish to keep prior to March 14.

ST. BERNARD'S CHURCH PARISH MISSION

St. Bernard's Church in Beverly will hold a Parish Mission with Tim Staples. The theme for this year's Mission is "Catholic Clarity in a World of Gray". The speaker will be Tim Staples. Tim will be doing a two day parish mission at St. Bernard on Sunday, March 8th and Monday, March 9th, at 7:00pm. Tim will talk about the Church's clear teachings on morality and interacting with a fallen culture. He will talk for about an hour and will also field questions.

BLOOD DRIVE

The Basilica of St. Mary in Marietta, in cooperation with the American Red Cross, will sponsor a blood drive on March 12 from 12:00 to 6:00 PM in their social hall. Please sign up to give blood. You can sign up online at RedCrossBlood.org or you can call Nancy Funk at 740-336-8662 to schedule your appointment. Give in March for a \$15 gift card. Successful donations get a A1C testing. This blood drive is sponsored by the Catholic Women in Action (CWC) of St. Mary.

SENIOR CITIZEN PROM...SAVE THE DATE

You're invited to the Fort Frye High School Senior Citizen Prom on Friday, March 20, 1:00-2:30 p.m. in the high school gym. Hope to see you there.

ST. BERNARD'S PASSION PERFORMANCE

St. Bernard Catholic Church, Beverly will be performing their annual Lenten performance of People of The Passion on Sunday, March 15th at 7:30 p.m. The performance is not recommended for infants and toddlers.

SQUARE DANCE

St. Bernard Catholic Church Youth Group will be hosting a Square Dance in the social hall on March 21, from 7:00—10:00 p.m. Cost will be \$5. The Buckeye Travelers will be playing the music. There will be concessions, raffles and cake walks. The proceeds will support Seminarian Caleb Baker. Come and have some fun!

WOMEN'S DAY OF RENEWAL

The Diocesan Council of Catholic Women is hosting a Lenten Day of Spirituality on Saturday, March 21st at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta. Registration begins at 8:30 AM with Mass and sessions led by Sister Edie Strong from 9 AM to 3 PM. For further details or to register, please contact Marilyn Zoller 740-350-8141 or DeDe Kidder 740-632-3372

PEANUT BUTTER EASTER EGGS

Washington County Exchange 4H Club is selling 1lb. peanut butter eggs for \$10. Contact advisor Ellie Tullius @ 740-434-3064 by March 18th to place your order. Profits from this fundraiser will assist members with travel to Kansas this summer.



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

2026 Chrism Mass for the Diocese of Steubenville will be Monday, March 30th at 2pm at the Basilica of St. Mary in Marietta. All are invited to attend.

Pray for the priests of the Diocese of Steubenville,

living and deceased:

March 8, Fr. Robert Gallagher, + Msgr. David Reasbeck

March 9, Msgr. Thomas Petronek, + Fr. Carl Borosh

March 10, Fr. William Cross, +Fr. Richard Battocletti

March 11, Fr. James Dunfee, + Fr. John Cymbor

March 12, Fr. Patrick Gaughan, + Fr. George Drescher

March 13, Fr. Jonas Schell, + Fr. William Hilliker

March 14, Fr. Thomas Nau, + Fr. John Jackson

March 15, Fr. Nicholas Ginnetti, + Fr. Dennis Lyden

Pray for our seminarians (the future of our Diocese).

Deacon Peter Stetson— Blessed Sacrament Parish, 825 Main Street, Wintersville, Ohio 43953

Deacon Ryan Budd and Caleb Baker —Christ the Light Parish, 701 Gomber Ave., Cambridge, Ohio 43725

Christopher McGurn and Samuel Ivkovich;— St. Vincent Seminary. 300 Fraser Purchase Road, Latrobe, Pa.15650

John Paul Gan, Maximilian Gan, Johnathan Ruscoe,

Rily Morris, Arron Pabin, and William Gugala. — Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High Street, Columbus Ohio 43235-1499

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.

Registration for St. John Central, School in Churchtown

is now open for the 2026-2027 school year in grade Pre-Kindergarten through 6. Please call the school office (740-896-2697) to register. Financial aid is available through the Ed Choice Scholarship. We are happy to announce that we now have financial aid for Pre-Kindergarten available through the Christ the Teacher Diocesan Scholarship Fund. These funds are limited and are based on the donations the diocese receives through the Ohio tax credits. Any family who does not receive the full Ed Choice Scholarship or who has a child entering Pre-Kindergarten can complete the application forms for this CTDSF scholarship. Please call the school office for information concerning all of the financial aid options that are available.

Shout to the hills! St. John Central in Churchtown was ranked #1 in MAP growth testing, achieving the highest scores across the Diocese of Steubenville and showing the most improvement this past year. We are proud of our students and teachers. Since implementing MAP Growth testing we are gaining a clearer and more detailed picture of what our students are learning and they are growing.

St. John Central Churchtown is seeking to hire a third grade teacher for the 2026-27 school year, due to the increase in our student enrollment. If interested please contact the school.

DPSC 2026... As your pastor, I want to thank all who have given generously to the DPSC in the past or have already responded to the letter you received in the mail from Bishop Lohse. I assure you that your gifts are deeply appreciated.

The DPSC is more than just a campaign—it is the lifeblood of our diocese ministries and programs. Your generosity helps to fund those critical ministries, forming the next generation of Catholics, and supporting our seminarians studying for the priesthood. It also provides care for our retired priests, administrative support to our Catholic schools. It provides funding for our outreach to the poor, for marriage and family ministries and efforts to promote a culture of life,

Regardless of what the Vatican decides about the future of our diocese, the work of the Church—including our parishes schools, and other ministries—must continue. All funds received through the DPSC are donor restricted and will remain in the Diocese of Steubenville.

SEARCH in Churchtown: These weekend retreats to strengthen your relationship with Christ are for ages sophomore through 21 and will be held at St. John Central Grade School. The boys' weekend is on Friday, March 20th through Sunday, March 22nd. The girls' weekend is Friday, March 27th, through Sunday, March 29th. The deadline for applications is March 15th. You can find applications at <https://www.stjohnchurchtown.com/>. You can contact Alana Henry for more information at 440.539.3763.

Knights of Columbus Scholarship: K of C Council #4617 of Churchtown is taking applications for two \$500 scholarships, one to a boy and one to a girl. You must be a local Catholic, high school senior to participate. You can fill out and submit the form on the parish Facebook page. You must turn it in no later than March 14th.

CEMETERY CLEAN UP: In order to maintain the appearance of our parish cemetery properties and ensure the safety of visitors and employees, the Parish will conduct the Annual Cemetery Cleanup this March. Please note that all Christmas items will be removed from all graves during the cleanup. Please remove any items you wish to keep prior to March 14.

Lenten Penance Services

- | | | |
|-------------|------|---------------------------------|
| March 23rd. | 1 pm | St. John Central School |
| | 7 pm | St. John the Baptist Churchtown |
| March 24th | 7 pm | Our Lady of Mercy—Lowell |
| March 25th | 7 pm | Basilica of Assumption—Marietta |
| March 26th | 7 pm | St. Bernard—Beverly |
| March 29th | 7 pm | St. Ambrose - Little Hocking |