

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



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

PENTECOST SUNDAY

MAY 24, 2026



Good News!

By: ANN M. GARRIDO

When reading aloud today's passage from Acts of the Apostles, do you stumble over the names of the peoples gathered as I do? "Parthians, Medes, and Elamites." Where is "Cappadocia, Phrygia, and Pamphylia"? And why were all these peoples in Jerusalem in the first place?

It might help to know that Pentecost did not originate as a Christian feast. There are three pilgrimage festivals that drew Jews from across the Mediterranean region to Jerusalem. Sukkot celebrates the fall harvest and God's protection during the exodus from Egypt. Two are in the spring: Passover, the Feast of the Unleavened Bread, recalling the night the Jews were freed from enslavement in Egypt; and Shavuot, or *Pentecost* in Greek, remembering the giving of God's law on Mount Sinai.

The scene described in Acts echoes the story at Mount Sinai. The peoples who gathered outside the house in Jerusalem represent the breadth and diversity of peoples known at that time, and not just at that time. Some of the civilizations mentioned had not existed for hundreds of years. The book of Acts wants us to know that the gift of the Holy Spirit was an event of such significance that somehow *all* were mysteriously present—not just those of times gone by, but even we who live in such faraway, hard-to-pronounce places as Islamabad or Albuquerque. Today, we celebrate a gift that transcends time and geography. A gift that continues to draw all of us together in wonder and awe.

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	05/23	4:00	p.m.	+Siobhan Huck (Ben and Lisa Berendts)
	SJB	05/23	6:00	p.m.	+Edith Brooker (Bob and Peggy Byers)
Sunday	SJB	05/24	7:30	a.m.	+Ed Lang (Todd and Annette Schott)
	OLM	05/24	9:30	a.m.	+Gary Pottmeyer (Larry and Linda Pottmeyer)
	SJB	05/24	11:00	a.m.	+Gladys Schilling (Anniv. 5/27) (Children)
Monday	SJB	05/25	8:00	a.m.	+Herb Mason (Janet Schaad and Family)
Tuesday	SJB	05/26	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today
	OLM	05/26	5:00	p.m.	+Joanne Schott (Jason and Jennifer Morris)
Wednesday	SJB	05/27	8:00	a.m.	+Jim Thieman (Birthday) (Family)
Thursday	SJB	05/28	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today
	OLM	05/28	5:00	p.m.	+Ken Stehly (Patricia Finkel)
Friday	SJB	05/29	8:00	a.m.	+Richard C. Arnold (Shelba Arnold and Family)
Saturday	OLM	05/30	4:00	p.m.	Linda Huck (Marilyn Peters & Heather Peters)
	SJB	05/30	6:00	p.m.	+Kenny Britton (Ferris and Susan Arnold)
Sunday	SJB	05/31	7:30	a.m.	+Ben Brooker (Anniversary) (Family)
	OLM	05/31	9:30	a.m.	+Jeri Lang (06/02) (2 yr. Anniv.) (Larry and Linda Pottmeyer)
	SJB	05/31	11:00	a.m.	+Anna Mae Brooker (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.	Baylee and Morgan Warner	Virginia Dyar	Theresa Sauer
Sunday 7:30 a.m.	Lola, Will, Eli Eichmiller	Robin Eichmiller	Veronica Bosner
Sunday 11:00 a.m.	Sydney and Jade Lang	Angie Henniger	Marilyn Zoller

<u>COLLECTION</u>	<u>DPSC</u>	 <p>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.</p>
Total Collection last weekend \$2,921	2026 Collected to date \$38,455	
Need to meet parish needs \$4,750	2026 DPSC Goal \$36,584	
Thank you for your generosity!		This includes money sent directly to the Diocese. Thank you for your contributions!



May 25 Memorial Day
 May 26 Fr. Heinz's 64th Anniversary of Priestly Ordination
 May 30 Ordination Mass at the Basilica of St. Mary's
 June 1 VBS registrations due
 June 4 Senior Citizens Meeting
 June 20 Fr. Gaydosik's 39th Anniversary of Priestly Ordination
 June 24 Feast of the Birth of John the Baptist. Mass at 6pm with reception at the Sr. Center
 June 28 Vacation Bible School Begins

UPCOMING
Events

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9 / 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 / John 3:16-18

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Congratulations Graduates! We joyfully celebrate our high school and college graduates for their hard work, dedication, and perseverance. As you step into the next chapter of your journey, may your faith guide your steps, your heart remain steadfast, and your dreams be anchored in God's purpose. Your parish family is proud of you and praying for continued blessings in all you pursue.

WEDNESDAY MASS TIME CHANGE

Due to school being out for the summer, Wednesday morning mass will now be at 8:00 a.m. until school begins again.

SENIOR CITIZEN MEETING

The Senior Citizen meeting will be held June 4, 11:00 a.m. at the Sr. Center. All are invited.

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION AND MASS

First Friday Mass will be held on June 5. Adoration will be held from 5-6:00 p.m. with mass to follow.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OPEN HOUSE

Please join us for an Open House to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Bob and Peggy Byers. It will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, June 7, 2026, at the Churchtown Knights of Columbus Hall. No gifts please.

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, May 27. 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 am on Wednesday, May 27. 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!

LITURGICAL MINISTER SCHEDULES

Liturgical Minister Schedules for June through September are located in the church vestibule. Please stop by and pick up a schedule.

DIOCESAN CWC CONVENTION

The CWC Convention will be held in Steubenville on Wednesday, June 3rd. If any women of the parish are interested in attending they can contact Marilyn Zoller 740-350-8141.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS is just around the corner. Registration forms are available in the back of the church. There will be an envelope in the church vestibule if you wish to complete a paper copy of the registration form. A QR code is also provided to do online registration. Please register by June 1st so we can order enough supplies and t-shirts. Volunteers are also needed for each station and crew leaders. Sign-ups to Volunteer can be done using the QR code or contacting Maggie Huffman at 740-885-0202. Thank you!!

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations, Fr. Heinz, on your 64th Anniversary of Ordination to the priesthood on May 26. Your years of faithful service, spiritual guidance, and dedication to God and His people have been such a blessing to our parish community. May God continue to bless you with peace, strength, and joy.

ST. JOHN SCHOOL GOLF SCRAMBLE

St. John School Athletic Boosters will host a four man golf scramble at Lakeside Golf Course on June 27, 2026. Cost is \$280 per team. Registration is at 7:00 a.m. with a shotgun start at 8:00 a.m. Cost includes 18 holes with cart, pop, water and hotdogs will be provided, dinner following play at the course and beverages will be for sale on the course. There will be a 50/50 raffle and skins game. Pre-register or become an event sponsor by contacting Kourtney Thieman 740-525-6503.

BAPTISM

We welcome into our parish family through Baptism: Canon John Brooker, son of Montana and Dani (Drayer) Brooker. May God bless this family now and always.

ST. STEPHEN PARISH SOCIAL

St. Stephen Catholic Church in Caldwell will host their Parish Social on Sunday, June 7 from 5-8:00 p.m. Menu includes homemade shredded chicken sandwiches, chicken and noodles by the bowl, sloppy joe's, hot dogs and coney's, pie, cake, soda and coffee. There will be raffles, bingo, a country store and several door prizes. Everyone is invited to attend.

ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD MASS

The Diocese of Steubenville invites you to the Ordination to the Priesthood of Deacons Ryan Budd and Peter Stetson. The Ordination Mass will take place on **Saturday, May 30th at 11:00 a.m. at St. Mary's Basilica in Marietta.** This is a profound and grace-filled moment in the life of our diocese, as these two men offer their lives in service to Christ and His Church. All are warmly encouraged to attend and witness this beautiful celebration of faith and vocation. Your presence is a powerful sign of support for our future priests and for the life of the Church. Please also keep Deacons Ryan Budd and Peter Stetson in your prayers as they prepare for this sacred step. May the Lord bless them abundantly as they answer His call.





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

Catholics in Recovery. Join Catholics in Recovery in the Mid-Ohio Valley at: St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church, Monday at 7pm. Catholics in Recovery provides healing from addictions, compulsions, and unhealthy attachments. Meetings combine the spiritual principles of the 12-step recovery and the sacraments of the Catholic Church. Join others in recovery as we overlap scriptures from Sunday's Mass readings, liturgical themes, and recovery topics with honest discussion and prayer. Confidentiality is protected. For more information visit: catholicinrecovery.com or contact John B. at (681)229-7220 or catholicinrecoverymov12@gmail.com

Forgiveness & Hope after Abortion. "Many inaccurately feel that abortion is 'the unforgivable sin.' They need to hear that God forgives every sin of a repentant heart, even the sin of abortion. Did fear and shame lead you or someone you know to have an abortion? Or you felt as if you had no other choice? Are you seeking comfort from welcoming, non judgmental people to help you through your sadness and guilt? We invite you to make a confidential call to Project Rachel Ministry where you can connect with others who understand and can help. You're not alone anymore. Peace starts here at Project Rachel Ministry. Call 740-275-7038 or visit www.diosteub.org/project-rachel

On the Occasion of the U.S. Bishops Consecrating the United States of America to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

On Most Sacred Heart of Jesus: You know the longings of our hearts, and you desire that we enjoy friendship with you. From your pierced side, you have poured out the wellspring of life, for which we thirst. Your heart burns with a love for all people to return to a right relationship with you. We celebrate the abundant gifts you have given this nation, founded on the self-evident truths that our Creator has endowed all people with the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We make reparation for the offenses against you and against human dignity that have taken place in this nation. May our hearts be united to yours, so that our families and communities enjoy peace and happiness; may broken relationships be reconciled, injustices repaired, and the wounds of our land be healed. May your holy Catholic Church serve as a sign, pointing all people to your infinite love. O Desire of Nations and Center of History, we ask you to bless these United States of America. Who live and reign with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

***Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us!
Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us!***

SICK & SHUT-INS OF THE PARISH

Please call Father Gaydosik at 740-391-1093 or the Parish Office at 740-896-3566, when someone is homebound, sick, or hospitalized.

COMMUNION FOR HOMEBOUND

If you or someone you know cannot attend mass due to being confined to home and would like to receive communion, please contact the Rectory 740-896-3566.

Welcome home! If you or someone you know is looking to join our parish or if you have had a change of address or phone number, or if a member of your family has gone into a nursing facility or moved out of the household, please notify the parish office. Parishioners over 18 are encouraged to register as their own household to help us keep records accurate and up-to date.

Pope Leo's monthly prayer intention for May: Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food and ensuring that everyone has access to quality food.

- Please to remember also the Poor Souls in purgatory

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 Gomer 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.

The 2026 DPSC has been sent to the parishes.

Our parish goal for St. John the Baptist \$36,546.00

Our Lady of Mercy \$22,179.00

Once our parish goal is reached, 100% of the funds received beyond the goal are rebated to us for our parish needs.

To date we have pledged and received

St. John the Baptist \$29,775.00

Our Lady of Mercy \$18,845.00.

In addition to helping support our parish (repair and replacement of roofs and heating systems), the DPSC provides essential funding for our diocesan offices and ministries. **These funds are donor-restricted and can only be used to support parishes and ministries in the thirteen counties of our diocese, regardless of the outcome of the discernment process about the future of our diocese.**

Trivia: Breaking of the Bread: Did you know that during Mass, when the priest breaks the consecrated host, this is called the Fraction Rite? This action goes back to the earliest days of the Church—so much so that the Eucharist itself was once called "the breaking of the bread." Just as the disciples recognized Jesus in the breaking of the bread, this moment reminds us that Christ is truly present and made known to us in the Eucharist.

Pilgrimage to Italy - Join Fr. Tom Nelson on a Pilgrimage to Italy, January 4 - 15, 2027. Tour stops include Assisi, Norcia, Lancia, San Giovanni Rotondo, St. Michael's Cave, Monte Cassino, Subacio, and Rome. Land-only price is \$5059.00 per person. Option for Group Airfare is an additional \$1,468.00. Space is limited! Visit: <https://catholicfaithjourneys.com/tours/nelsonitaly/>

Trip to Fatima and Lourdes: Fr. Bradley Greer and Fr. Tim Huffman will lead a nine day pilgrimage on September 10th-20th, 2026. The price is \$5,346 and includes airfare from Pittsburgh, first class hotels, meals, deluxe motorcoaches and more. For more information visit www.QoHTours.com.

Have a
nice day.

St. John Central School

Future Curriculum Planning Letter

May 23, 2026

Dear Friends and Supporters of St. John Central School,

First and foremost, thank you for the continued generosity, prayers, and encouragement you have shown St. John Central School throughout this past year. Because of the support of our parish families, alumni, donors, and community members, our school continues to grow and move forward in so many positive ways.

As we celebrate our recent successful accreditation process and continue making improvements throughout our building, we are also beginning to look ahead toward future academic needs for our students.

One area we are prayerfully planning for is curriculum renewal in Reading, Math, Science, Health, and Social Studies over the next several years. In particular, our teachers have identified a strong need for an updated Reading curriculum for grades Kindergarten through 6th grade. The cost of implementing this new Reading series is estimated to be slightly over \$46,000, making it one of the largest academic investments our school will undertake in the coming years.

Like many schools, curriculum materials must periodically be updated to ensure students are receiving engaging, high-quality instruction that prepares them for future success while remaining rooted in Catholic values and traditions. While these updates represent a significant investment for a small rural Catholic school, we believe they are important to the long-term future of St. John Central School.

At this time, we simply ask that you keep this future need in your thoughts and prayers as we begin planning for the next phase of growth for our school. If you would ever feel called to support curriculum renewal efforts in the future, your generosity would directly benefit the students and classrooms of St. John Central School for many years to come.

Thank you again for your continued kindness, belief in Catholic education, and unwavering support of St. John Central School. We are deeply grateful for the many people who continue to help make our mission possible.

With sincere gratitude and blessings,

Rebecca Hilverding
Principal
St. John Central School