

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



Faith - Tradition - Family

Good News!

By: FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Sometimes human beings seem to be evolving into more than what we have been. Gradually, we become capable of experiencing more than what we pick up through our five senses. We listen to our intuition; we pay attention to our sixth sense; we discover a spiritual side to our personalities. More and more, we notice people in need. We find ourselves becoming better listeners as people unburden themselves to us. We may be more aware of some stirring deep within ourselves. All such moments may be seen by people of faith as God bringing us to a new place in life.

Just as Isaiah speaks of God doing something new among the Israelites in distant exile, God continues to guide us to becoming more completely human. By his life, passion, and death, Jesus shows us most clearly what sort of person our God is drawing us to be: compassionate and just, generous and merciful, loving in a wasteland of indifference. So, when we hear the story of Jesus not condemning the woman caught in adultery, we may find ourselves becoming conscious of our own need to stop judging, stop condemning. Most of us have not yet evolved to the point of doing what Jesus would do. Instead, we condemn others while overlooking our own culpability. We are still in the process of learning to follow Jesus, to act as he would act, to love as he would love. It is God at work in us.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

APRIL 6, 2025




MASS INTENTION SCHEDULE

Saturday	OLM	04/05	4:00	p.m.	+Dale and +Margie Arnold (The Arnold Family)
	SJB	04/05	6:00	p.m.	Living and Deceased of +Leo and +Lucy Huck Family (Family)
Sunday	SJB	04/06	7:30	a.m.	+Rowan Lee Seese (Jeff and Charlene Canterbury and Family)
	OLM	04/06	9:30	a.m.	+Bernard "Buzzard" Brooker (Julia Brooker)
	SJB	04/06	11:00	a.m.	+Ruth Lang (Ron and Monica Lang)
Monday	SJB	04/07	8:00	a.m.	Living and Deceased of Fred and Rosemary Heiss Family (Bill and Alberta Wesel)
Tuesday	SJB	04/08	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today
	OLM	04/08	5:00	p.m.	+Mary Beth Ryder (Unknown)
Wednesday	SJB	04/09	8:20	a.m.	+Penny Schwendeman (Leona Arnold and Family) School Mass
Thursday	SJB	04/10	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today
	OLM	04/10	5:00	p.m.	+John and +Marie Schilling (Ed Schilling) Stations of the Cross to follow
Friday	SJB	04/11	6:00	p.m.	+Raleen Heiss (Ron and Monica Lang) Stations of the Cross to follow
Saturday	OLM	04/12	4:00	p.m.	+Darren Cheeseman (Dan and Elanda Flieman)
	SJB	04/12	6:00	p.m.	+Norbert Kern (Anniv. 4/11) (Marilyn Kern and Family)
Sunday	SJB	04/13	7:30	a.m.	+Shelba Kern (CWC) Palm Sunday
	OLM	04/13	9:30	a.m.	+Jennette Schwendeman (David and Yvonne Kincaid)
	SJB	04/13	11:00	a.m.	+Alice Lang (Birthday) (Bob and Peggy Byers)

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

MASS	ALTAR SERVERS	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER
Saturday 6:00 p.m.	Orion and Raegan Flinn	Eugene Huck (Voice) Rachel Klinger (Narrator) Father (Jesus) People (Crowd)	Theresa Sauer
Sunday 7:30 a.m.	Dalton and Dane Schott	Hugh Arnold (Voice) Kelly Miller (Narrator) Father (Jesus) People (Crowd)	Veronica Bosner
Sunday 11:00 a.m.	Hudson, Sydney and Jade Lang	Janelle Sprague (Voice) Ashleigh Pennock (Narrator) Father (Jesus) People (Crowd)	Marilyn Zoller

<u>COLLECTION</u>	<u>DPSC</u>	
Total Collection last weekend \$ 3,538 Needed to meet parish needs \$ 4,750 Thank you for your generosity!	2025 Collected to Date \$ 14,300 2025 DPSC Goal \$ 41,330 Thank you!!	 <p>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.</p>

Please have all bulletin information to the Rectory no later than 10:00 p.m. on Monday

<p>Saint John Baptist de La Salle April 7</p> <p><i>Prayer: Saint John Baptist de La Salle, God led you one step at a time throughout your life. Your generosity to the promptings of grace in your heart led you down a path you could have never imagined. Please pray for me, that I will always be open to the plan God has for my life, and will generously respond to that plan no matter what. Saint John Baptist de La Salle, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.</i></p>	<p><i>what's happening this week ...</i></p> <p>April 6 St. Ambrose Penance Service, Little Hocking (6 p.m.) April 7 St. John School Penance Service (12:15 p.m.) April 7 St. John the Baptist Church Penance Service, Churchtown April 8 Our Lady of Mercy Church Penance Service, Lowell April 8 Ballroom Dancing Lessons, Sr. Center April 9 St. Mary's Church Penance Service, Marietta April 10 St. Bernard Church Penance Service, Beverly April 12 Lang-Hesson Wedding</p>
<p>READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND</p> <p>Luke 19:28-40 / Isaiah 50:4-7 / Philipians 2:6-11 / Luke 22:14-23:56 or 23:1-49</p>	

EASTER MASS TIME CHANGE

Please note the 11:00 a.m. mass on Easter Sunday will be held at 9:00 a.m. at St. John Church. Mass will return to 11:00 a.m. after Easter Sunday. Please mark your calendars.

CWC MEETING

The monthly CWC meeting will be held at the Sr. Center on Monday, April 14. The meeting will begin with the Rosary at 6:30 p.m. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend.

CWC MOTHER/DAUGHTER BANQUET

The CWC Mother/Daughter Banquet will be held on Monday, May 12th at the Sr. Center. We will begin with a 6:00 p.m. mass at the Church. Meal and drink will be provided. Please bring a potluck dessert or salad to share. Please RSVP to Anna Schaad by May 4th (Home 373-6181 or Cell 525-0123).

LITURGICAL MINISTER SCHEDULE

We are currently working on the liturgical minister schedule for June through August, 2025. If you would like to serve as a Lecturer, Eucharistic Minister, or your child would like to be an Altar Server, please contact the Rectory by phone (740) 896-3566 or email stjohnchurchtown@yahoo.com. If you or your child would like to be removed from the current list, please let us know as soon as possible.

PARISH DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Please note that we will not be providing a free printed copy of your 8 x 10 as in the past. You will have a digital copy available to be emailed to you or a family member or for a small fee you may request a digital copy on a thumb drive. Everyone who has their picture taken for the directory will receive a free Directory. Extra copies will be available to purchase.

ST. JOHN SCHOOL LITERACY NIGHT

Literacy Night will take place on April 7 from 6:00-7:30 p.m., and we invite everyone in the community to join us, whether or not they have a child at St. John's.

P.S.R. PROGRAM DIRECTOR

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 1st-12th grade. If interested contact the parish office.

EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

There are copies of an examination of conscience for use in preparation for confession located in the vestibule. Please feel free to take a copy.

LOWELL FISH FRY

Our Lady of Mercy in Lowell will have their final Lenten fish fry on Friday April 11th, from 4:30pm-7:30pm. The cost is \$13 for adults and \$6 for children 12 and under. The meals are dine-in or to-go.

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES

All services will be held at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted

April 6	St. Ambrose Church, Little Hocking (6 p.m.)
April 7	St. John School (12:15 p.m.)
April 7	St. John the Baptist Church, Churchtown
April 8	Our Lady of Mercy Church, Lowell
April 9	St. Mary's Church, Marietta
April 10	St. Bernard Church, Beverly

TEACHING POSITION AT ST. JOHN SCHOOL

St. John Central School is seeking dedicated 1st and 3rd grade teachers for the upcoming school year. They are looking for candidates who are committed to long-term service in Catholic education. Candidates must have an active teaching license or be able to obtain one. Retired teachers are welcome. For more information, please contact the school at 740.896.2697. You can send your resume to: St. John Central School Attn: Rebecca Hilverding 17654 SR 676 Marietta, OH 45750 .

THE ANNUAL KOFC 4617 EASTER EGG HUNT

The Annual K of C 4617 Easter Egg Hunts will be held on Easter Sunday, April 20th, for children 0-12 years old, at the following times: St. John: after 9:00 a.m. mass @ St. John School; St. Bernard: after 9:30 a.m. mass @ Church; Our Lady of Mercy: after 9:30 mass @ Church. All K of C members are asked to donate 1 or 2 dozen filled plastic eggs. They can be put in the back of the church. For information or questions, contact Taylor Pottmeyer at 412-215-6470.



K OF C 4617 ATTENDING GOOD FRIDAY

Setting an example for their community, the Knights of Columbus 4617 will be attending the Good Friday liturgy at: St. Bernard @ 7:00 PM; St. John the Baptist @ 7:00 PM (Stations @ 12:00 PM); Our Lady of Mercy @ 7:00 PM (Stations @ 3:00 PM). As we get closer to Easter, the Knights of Columbus are encouraging families in our parish communities to attend the Good Friday liturgy in their parish on Friday, April 18, 2025. Despite Good Friday's central nature in the heart of Christianity, attendance at services remains low. Putting their faith into action, the Knights of Columbus 4617 encourages participation through this promotional campaign that educates their parishes on the vital importance of Good Friday. The liturgy of the Lord's passion and death reminds families of the suffering Jesus endured through his passion and resurrection, thereby opening the gates of heaven for each of us.

5TH ANNUAL A NIGHT AT THE RACES

Knights of Columbus 4617 invites you to our 5th Annual - A NIGHT AT THE RACES - Saturday, May 3, 2025 at 17472 SR 676, Marietta, Ohio 45750. Guests should pull out their derby attire and big hats for this adults-only night of wagering on horse races, great food, drinks, and fun while supporting our building capital improvement fund. Tickets are \$35/each or \$280/table (8 people). Doors Open at 4:00. Heavy Appetizers by BIG FOOD LITTLE KITCHEN (Katie Wainwright-Tucker) @ 5:00, and Races Begin @ 5:30. BET ON THE KENTUCKY DERBY plus 10 other races for a total of 11 horse races throughout the night. All guests throughout the night can bet on any of the horses in the races, bets are \$2/horse. In addition to horse racing, there will be 50/50, Just Ducky, Magic Envelope, Three Race Trifecta and more games of chance. There will also be a BIG HAT & BEST DRESSED contest. . Your ticket includes appetizers and 2 drinks + Cash Bar to follow. For tickets or information contact Taylor Pottmeyer @ 412-215-6470.

ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST

Beverly Eagles Auxiliary 3665 is hosting an all you can eat breakfast on April 6, 8:00 am -12:00pm. Cost is \$10, kids 10 and under \$5. For more information, please call 740-984-4733.

*With the Lord
there is mercy and
fullness of redemption.*



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

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:

State Funding for K-12 Education

During deliberations of the state's two-year operating budget in odd-numbered years, state funding for K-12 education often receives much of the focus because of its percentage of the overall budget. This year has proven no different. Unfortunately, Ohio's EdChoice Expansion program has become a scapegoat for public school districts and some media outlets after districts with smaller enrollments or higher property taxes are due to receive less money in Governor DeWine's Executive Budget. The Catholic Conference of Ohio has not and will not seek to pit public schools against chartered nonpublic schools, which includes Catholic schools, or the funding for students attending public or nonpublic schools. However, we must clarify current State funding proposals given the framing of EdChoice scholarships in some places across Ohio.

Few people debate the importance of K-12 education for children. Indeed, the state agrees, as evidenced by the existence of public schools and funding for parents to choose the education they think is best for their children to succeed. The CCO continues to share the incredible benefits and life-changing situations for Ohio families because of the EdChoice program. Such funding for the EdChoice program is popular, as shown by increasing enrollment and scholarship usage in Catholic schools throughout Ohio. More and more students are enrolling in Catholic schools because Ohio provides parents with scholarships to choose the best schools for their children.

Governor DeWine's Executive Budget, currently under deliberation in the Ohio House, retained all the scholarship programs, allowing parents to send their children to *chartered* nonpublic schools. These scholarship programs include the EdChoice Expansion program, scholarships for students with special needs, and scholarships for those who live in school districts with particularly poor academic results. A nonpublic school receives a charter from the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce based on its adherence to Ohio's educational operating standards, including licensing, health and safety standards, assessments approved by the State, and instruction time.

The Executive Budget also provides less funding for public school districts for two principal reasons that often do not receive coverage in popular discussions: 1.) smaller student enrollments and 2.) higher local property taxes. The budget proposal acknowledges that schools should not receive the same amount of funding if there are fewer students to educate. Further, more local tax dollars are going to schools, especially in wealthy areas, due to increased property taxes. Therefore, the budget proposal acknowledges this reality and wants to avoid taxpayers funding wealthier districts that receive more local dollars. A recent editorial from the Fordham Institute, a nonpartisan education think tank in Ohio, elucidates these points further, highlighting the overall reduction from the governor's budget is a mere **0.2%** of districts' annual revenues.

Catholic schools across Ohio enjoy mostly cooperative relationships with public school districts in sharing resources. We must also clarify that the EdChoice program's popularity and appropriate funding do not "steal" from the public schools. It is, however, a just and pro-family policy that attracts and keeps families in Ohio who value options for their children's education. EdChoice programs comprise only 6% of the state-budgeted spending on education. Further, even the full EdChoice scholarship amounts fail to cover the full cost of educating a student in many Catholic schools in Ohio. (continued)

We encourage families attending Catholic schools, Catholic educators, and all faithful citizens to advocate and inform their elected representatives and senators with this information and share stories of those attending Catholic schools throughout Ohio. Legislators must hear from all sides of those who benefit from state-supported education funding. We are grateful for teachers, administrators, and staff who continue enacting the principal mission of Catholic schools to form students into disciples of Christ who understand the Catholic faith while providing excellent academics in a safe and supportive environment.

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 Gomer Ave. Cambridge, Ohio 43728, Ryan Budd and John Paul Gan.

Pray for our priests: 4/6 Bishop Edward Lohse, 4/7Fr. Thomas Hamm, 4/8 Fr. Vic Cinson, 4/9 Fr. Jonas Schell, 4/10 Fr. Bob Borer, 4/11 Fr. David Gaydosik, 4/12 Fr. Thomas Nau, 4/13 All Priests. Our priests speak to the faithful with their hearts and faith. Fill them, with burning zeal for the conversion of sinners.

2025 Diocesan Parish Share Campaign goal for *St. John the Baptist Church*—Churchtown is **\$41,330.60**. *Our Lady of Mercy*—Lowell is **\$21,945.35**

Knights of Columbus is looking for you. Joshua 24:15 states "But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." The Knights of Columbus promote a family first household that will serve the Lord in everything we do. Do you want to continue that journey with us and be a part of that? For more information contact: Grand Knight, Mr. Taylor Pottmeyer.

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 1st-12th grade. If interested contact the parish office.

Franciscan University of Steubenville will host a Night of Joy on Thursday, April 24, from 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. (Eastern) in the Pope St. Paul VI Event Center at Christ the Teacher Hall. The evening's event will be shared via livestream and will be open to an in-person audience free of charge. Night of Joy will include uplifting worship music performed by international country artist and worship leader John Paul Von Arx; a keynote presentation by Catholic author, speaker, podcaster, musician, and Franciscan University catechetics professor Deacon Bob Rice; and spiritual reflections and eucharistic adoration with Father Dave Pivonka, TOR, president of Franciscan University. Sponsored by Steubenville Conferences, Night of Joy is a follow up to last year's successful Night of Hope event held during the Advent season. Steubenville Conferences plans to make Night of Hope and Night of Joy yearly events to help participants deepen their faith. For more information and to register for free for the Night of Joy livestream, please visit <https://steubenvilleconferences.com/night-of-joy/>.

But just like in 325AD, we must respond with clarity and conviction. That's why Bishop Barron's book *What Christians Believe: Understanding the Nicene Creed* is so crucial right now. It walks through the Nicene Creed line by line, making Christianity's core truths accessible to everyone—lifelong Catholics, skeptics, and seekers alike—in a clear and compelling way.