

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
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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

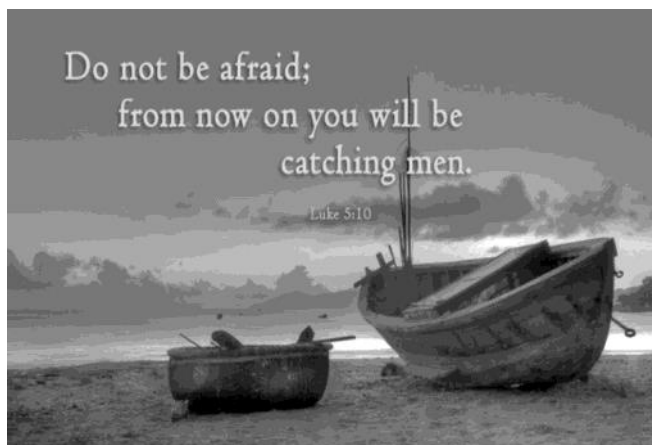
Sometimes life calls us to a place that feels just right, as if it's where we're meant to be. I know a person who has always wanted to be a dad, and so he is—a stay-at-home dad of three, and he loves it. On the other hand, sometimes life's calls unfold in directions beyond our plans and seem to flow from a wisdom greater than our own. Author John Grisham studied to be a lawyer, something that unfolded into his becoming a writer of mysteries and thrillers instead. Calls seem to be written upon our spirits. How else would God call us?

Isaiah, Paul, and Peter found themselves called by God into lives they never wanted, baffled by God's whys and wherefores. Their calls pushed them into lives they initially resisted.

Such calls can happen to us as well. A man finds himself caring for his aged mother after his father's death. His siblings seem unwilling or unable to help, so there is no one else. Grandparents find themselves raising their grandchildren because their son's or daughter's life is frayed beyond repair, and there is no one else to nurture and love the children. The calls of God at times are calls into lives not of our own choosing. They arise from greater needs when there seems to be no one else but us to say "yes." Our reluctance and anxiety may attest that these calls come from God. They then become paths to ever-deepening faith and trust in God.

5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 9, 2025




MASS INTENTION SCHEDULE

Saturday	OLM	02/08	4:00	p.m.	+Betty Schott (Ed Schilling)
	SJB	02/08	6:00	p.m.	+Margaret Klinger (Alvin Arnold and Family)
Sunday	SJB	02/09	7:30	a.m.	+Ed Brooker (Birthday 2/10) (Family)
	OLM	02/09	9:30	a.m.	Dec. Members of John and Elinor Paul Family (John and Elinor Paul)
	SJB	02/09	11:00	a.m.	Living and Deceased of James and Maglene Arnold Family (Family)
Monday	SJB	02/10	8:00	a.m.	+Patricia Gaydosik (Eileen Miller)
Tuesday	SJB	02/11	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today
	OLM	02/11	5:00	p.m.	TBA
Wednesday	SJB	02/12	8:20	a.m.	+Donnie Wells (Birthday 2/13) (Tom Wells Family) School Mass
Thursday	SJB	02/13	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today
	OLM	02/13	5:00	p.m.	TBA
Friday	SJB	02/14	8:00	a.m.	+Shirley Stollar Oliver (Vince and Shelly Stollar Family)
Saturday	OLM	02/15	4:00	p.m.	TBA
	SJB	02/15	6:00	p.m.	+Richard C. Arnold (Anniversary) (Shelby Arnold and Family)
Sunday	SJB	02/16	7:30	a.m.	+Emmett Brooker (Mary Brooker and Family)
	OLM	02/16	9:30	a.m.	TBA
	SJB	02/16	11:00	a.m.	+Gary Smith (Donna Tornes and Family)

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

MASS	ALTAR SERVERS	LECTOR	EUCHARISTIC MINISTER
Saturday 6:00 p.m.	Alyssa Dyar, Chase Arteaga, Alaina Wells	Virginia Dyar	Theresa Sauer
Sunday 7:30 a.m.	Dalton and Dane Schott	Zandra Francis	Connie Arnold
Sunday 11:00 a.m.	Hadleigh Pennock, Callen Pottmeyer	Ashleigh Pennock	Roxanne Heiss

<u>COLLECTION</u>	<u>DPSC</u>	
Total Collection last weekend \$ 4,129 Needed to meet parish needs \$ 4,750 Thank you for your generosity!	2025 Collected to Date \$7,105 Thank you so much for your generosity!	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.

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

<p>Our Lady of Lourdes-February 11</p> <p>Divine Jesus, you sent Our Lady of Lourdes, the Blessed Mother Mary, to Saint Bernadette to show the world that God is real. Just like Mary asked the girl to dig for a spring of healing water to appear, show me how to be cleansed of my sinful tendencies. Give to me Your dear Mother when I need her tender love and holy inspiration. As I go through difficulties, cover me with her prayers. When I have important decisions to make, ask her to intercede for me until I understand and follow the Holy Spirit's guidance. When it's time for me to die, send her to carry me peacefully into the arms of our heavenly Father. Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for me. Amen.</p>	<p><i>what's happening this week ...</i></p> <p>February 8-9 Sub sale after all weekend masses February 9 PSR at the School February 10 CWC Meeting, 6:30.—Sr. Center February 14 Happy Valentine's Day February 16 Sign-ups due for Churchtown T-Ball, Softball and Baseball PSR at the School</p>
	<p>READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND</p> <p>Jeremiah 17:5–8 / 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16–20 / Luke 6:17, 20–26</p>

CWC MEETING

The CWC meeting for February has been cancelled. See at the breakfast.

CWC BREAKFAST

The Churchtown CWC is having a breakfast on Sunday, February 23rd at the Churchtown K of C Hall. Serving time is 8:00 am to 10:00 am. Dine in or Drive-thru. Adult meal includes bacon, eggs, home fries, biscuit/sausage gravy, and drink for \$10. Kids meal includes pancakes, bacon, eggs, and drink for \$5. All are invited to attend.



PARISH DIRECTORY

We will be starting a new Parish Directory. This year we will be working with Emma Brooker from the Graphic Design program at the Washington County Career Center to create our book. Emma will be contacting each family to schedule a time for picture taking. More information will follow.

SEARCH FOR CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

"SEARCH" for Christian Ministry weekend retreats for youth sophomore - age 21 is up coming. SEARCH weekends will be held at St. John Central Grade School. Boy's weekend will be held March, 7th-9th. Girl's weekend will be held March, 28th-30th. Deadline for applications will be by March 3rd for boys, and March 24th for girls. You can find applications on St. John's Parish website at <https://www.stjohnchurchtown.com/>. Please contact Alana Henry for more information at 440-539-3763

CHURCHTOWN TEE BALL/BASEBALL/SOFTBALL

SIGN-UP

If you have children that are interested in playing tee ball, baseball, or softball at Churchtown, please fill out the form inserted in this weekend's bulletin and return it to St. John Central School by February 14th. If you have a child that wants to play but does not attend the school, please contact Derrick Pottmeyer at 740-885-9251.

PRE-CANA

A Pre-Cana Session has been scheduled for Saturday, March 8th, at the Basilica in Marietta. Couples planning to be married any time this year should register for this class by calling the parish office, 740-373-3643. Pre-Cana is a requirement for marriage in the Diocese of Steubenville.

CHURCHTOWN COMMUNITY CREW 4-H CLUB

The Churchtown Community Crew 4-H Club is actively seeking new members from Kindergarten through age 18. Participation in 4-H is a wonderful opportunity for youth to develop leadership and communication skills. Meetings are typically held one Sunday a month from December through August at the St. John Senior Center or school pavilion. Advisors are Elaine Wells, Sarah Poulton, and Haley Carpenter. Please contact advisor Elaine Wells at 740-896-3112 for more information. We welcome those interested to attend a meeting and learn what 4-H is all about!

DIOCESAN RETIREMENT COLLECTION

FEBRUARY 8TH AND 9TH

Throughout their lives, our priests have dedicated themselves to guiding us in faith, serving our parishes, and attending to our spiritual needs. They have been there for us in our moments of joy, sorrow, and growth. Now, it is our turn to support them in their time of retirement. Your generosity helps to ensure that our retired priests receive the care and support they deserve after a lifetime of service to God and His people. Please prayerfully consider giving generously to the Priest Retirement Collection on the weekend of February 8th and 9th. Thank you for your support of those who have given so much for us.

SENIOR CITIZEN PROM

You're invited to the Fort Frye High School Senior Citizen Prom on February 14, 1:00-2:30 p.m. in the high school gym. Please join us for some holiday cheer, fun dancing, bingo games with prizes, yummy snacks, and lots more!



MARY'S HOUSE BINGO FUNDRAISER

A bingo fundraiser for Mary's House will be held on Sunday, February 23 (please note date change) at 2:00 p.m. (doors open at 1:00 p.m.) at the St. Bernard Social Hall. 20 games for \$20. Tickets will be sold at the door only. There will be a 50/50 raffle, concession stand and raffle.

EMPTY BOWLS

To help stop hunger, the Empty Bowls of the Mid-Ohio Valley will host its 25th Annual Empty Bowls Luncheon. Ticket donations will be distributed among local food pantries. The event will be held on Saturday, March 1, from 11 AM until 1 PM, at the First United Church in Williamstown. Guests will enjoy a variety of delicious homemade soups, bread, freshly baked cookies and beverages. For only a \$15 donation and \$10 for a child 12 and under, each attendee will receive lunch and a one-of-a-kind bowl made by area student, artist, or hobbyist. Advance tickets are available by texting Lori Smith at 740-434-8317.

2025 LENTEN FISH FRIES

Our Lady of Mercy Church Fish Fries will be held on the following dates: March 14, March 28, and April 11. Mark your calendars now to attend.

PILGRIMS OF HOPE 2025

Pilgrims of Hope 2025 is the Jubilee Holy Year, the 2,025th anniversary of the Incarnation of our Lord, an "event of great spiritual, ecclesial, and social significance in the life of the Church." The concept of "Jubilee" has its origins in the Book of Leviticus (chapter 25) as a special year of reconciliation, pilgrimage, and coming home. Pope Francis has designated the 2025 Holy Year as a time to renew ourselves as "Pilgrims of Hope."





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:

1-800-339-7890

Ancient Order of Hibernians

James Farly, President

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: Feb.9– Bishop Edward Lohse; Feb.10–Fr. Thomas Nau; Feb. 11– Msgr. James Boehm; Feb. 12– Fr. Sam Saprano1; Feb. 13– Msgr. Thomas Petronek; Feb 14– Fr. Edward Maxfield; Feb 15–Fr. Robert Gallagher; Feb. 16–Fr. Martin Hollar.

Diocesan Priest Retirement Collection –

Thank you for your our generosity support to ensures that our 30 retired priests of our Diocese receive the care and support they deserve after a lifetime of service to God and His people. If you have not yet contributed, you may put it in a plain envelope marked Diocesan Priests Retirement Fund and drop it in the regular collection, bring it, or mail it to the parish office. Thank you!

Christ the Teacher Diocesan Scholarship Fund. This is just an update on where things stand as far as donations received for CTDSF, designated to your school: This year (for 2025-2026 school year): **\$3,000** Last year was \$9,125 Instead of giving all of your money to the state of Ohio, you can help someone get a Catholic education who can't afford it. This is not just a deduction, but a credit that is taken directly from the tax that you owe Ohio. By donating to the Christ the Teacher Diocesan Scholarship Fund (CTDSF) you can make a donation to the Catholic school of your choice at no net cost to you. If you file individually you can donate up to \$750, or up to \$1,500 if you file a joint return. If you do this by April 15 th , 2025, you will receive a tax receipt from the diocese that qualifies you to subtract that amount from the money that you owe the state of Ohio. Download the form at www.diosteub.org/ctdsf, make a check out to Christ the Teacher Diocesan Scholarship Fund Inc. and the diocese will send you a receipt.

Legacy Sunday

A new initiative by our Diocese to inspire parishioners to reflect on their blessings and consider how they can leave a lasting impact through legacy giving. Please think about our parish when planning out your estate. As St. Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 12:4–11, our gifts come from the same Spirit and are meant for the common good. Legacy giving allows us to continue sharing those blessings beyond our lifetime, ensuring the vibrancy and growth of our faith family.

Engaged couples are invited to attend a Marriage Preparation Workshop on Saturday, March 8th from 9:00am–3:00pm St. Mary Church, St. Clairsville Ohio in Marian Hall. This workshop will cover many marriage-related topics including: Communication, Marriage as a Sacrament, Finances, Sexuality and Natural Family Planning. At the close of the workshop, the couple's engagement will be blessed, and they will receive a certificate of completion. The workshop fulfills the diocesan requirements for Marriage Preparation. Please call 740-695-9993 for more information or to register.

PRE-CANA in Marietta

A Pre-Canas Session has been scheduled for Saturday, March 8th, at the Basilica. Couples planning to be married any time this year should register for this class by calling the parish office, 740-373-3643. Pre-Canas is a requirement for marriage in the Diocese of Steubenville.

Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs)

are a Tax-Saving Way for Retirees To Donate to Charity If you are age at least age 70 ½, IRS rules for 2025 state you can transfer up to \$108,000 directly from your Traditional IRA to a Section 501(c)(3) organization charity. The amount transferred directly to the charity, by your trustee, will not be taxable to you, so it will reduce your total income and tax liability for the year. If you are age 73 or above, the amount transferred may be considered part of your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) for the year. Contact your tax advisor or your financial advisor for information on how you might use this ruling to benefit your personal financial situation, while supporting a charity you value such as St. John the Baptist Church and/or St. John Central School.

As we reflect on **Catholic Schools Week** and the importance of Catholic education in our community and in our world, we remember all of the people who are so supportive of St. John Central School. We thank our three Priests (Frs. Huffman, Kozak and Gaydosik) for their commitment to Catholic education at St. John Central. We thank our extraordinary faculty and staff who work tirelessly to provide a Catholic education to our students. We thank our parents and school families for their sacrifice and support of our school. We thank our parishioners for all they do for St. John Central. It takes this strong community to make our school the success that it is. We're proud to offer an excellent education with God as our focus and guide. It is best explained by one of our first grade students. A family was touring our school, and the father of the new prospective student asked first graders what they liked best about St. John Central. One first grader responded, "We get to learn about God and Jesus." This is what sets us apart. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve the Lord by sharing His good news with our St. John Central students



CHURCHTOWN TEE BALL/BASEBALL/SOFTBALL SIGN-UP

If you have children that are interested in playing tee ball, baseball, or softball at Churchtown, please fill out the form below and return it to St. John Central School by February 14th. If you have a child that wants to play but does not attend the school, please contact Derrick Pottmeyer at 740-885-9251. We are sending forms home early, so that if you have a child that would like to play at Churchtown, but there are not enough players to make a team, there will still be enough time for them to go to other schools and play. When the teams are formed the coaches will be contacting you for practice. Practice typically begins around April 1st.

Name of parent/guardian: _____ Phone No. _____

Please check if parent is interested in coaching: _____ Parent Name: _____

Please list all children who would like to play tee ball, baseball, or softball for the Churchtown teams:

<u>Child's Name</u> (Please Print)	<u>Shirt Size</u>	<u>Birth Date</u>	<u>Desired Team</u>
1. _____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____

Available Teams:

Tee Ball – 5 & 6 year old boys and girls (Cannot turn 7 before May 1st)
(Any parents/volunteers to help are greatly appreciated)

Boys:

1. Coach Pitch Baseball – 7 & 8 year old boys (cannot turn 9 before May 1st)
2. Little League Baseball Minor – 9 & 10 year old boys (cannot turn 11 before May 1st)
3. Little League Baseball Major – 11 & 12 year old boys (cannot turn 13 before May 1st)

Girls:

1. Coach Pitch Softball – 8 years old and under girls (cannot turn 9 before September 1st)
2. Kid Pitch Softball – 9 & 10 year old girls (cannot turn 11 before September 1st)
3. Kid Pitch Softball – 11 & 12 year old girls (cannot turn 13 before September 1st)

Season starts the second week of May and will finish up by the end of June. Cost is \$25 per player and can be paid at the first practice. Checks made payable to “Churchtown Youth League Baseball”.