

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

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 15, 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	03/14	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)
Monday	SJB	03/16	8:00	a.m.	+Jay Pottmeyer (Charlotte Lang and Family)
Tuesday	SJB	03/17	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today
	OLM	03/17	5:00	p.m.	+Leorna Arnold (Nick and Pam Huck)
Wednesday	SJB	03/18	8:30	a.m.	+James Arnold (Anniv. 3/19) (Family)
Thursday	SJB	03/19	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today
	OLM	03/19	5:00	p.m.	+Martha Huck (Pat and Patricia Tornes) Stations of the Cross to follow Mass
Friday	SJB	03/20	6:00	p.m.	+Alecia Fouss (Jeff and Lorinda Lang) Stations of the Cross to follow Mass

School Mass



Saturday	OLM	03/21	4:00	p.m.	+Richard and +Leona Rohrer (Rob and Sue Huck)
	SJB	03/21	6:00	p.m.	+Chris Tesi (Debbie Huck)
Sunday	SJB	03/22	7:30	a.m.	+Dave Bowen (Alan and Charlene Kern)
	OLM	03/22	9:30	a.m.	+Richard and + Bryan Stevens (Martha Stevens)
	SJB	03/22	11:00	a.m.	Mary E. Huck (Ferris and Susan Arnold)

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	Jerry Smith	Virginia Dyar
Sunday 7:30 a.m.	Keegan Pottmeyer, Connor McCartney	Hugh Arnold	Veronica Bosner
Sunday 11:00 a.m.	Brenlee Lang, Weston Burt	Reese Lang	Amanda Walters

<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 \$4,011	2026 Collected to date \$11,245	
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!

<p><u>LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES</u></p> <p>Monday, March 23 1:00 pm St. John School 7:00 pm St. John the Baptist Church</p> <p>Tuesday, March 24 7:00 pm Our Lady of Mercy Church</p> <p>Wednesday, March 25 7:00 pm Basilica of St. Mary's Church</p> <p>Thursday, March 26 7:00 pm St. Bernards Church</p> <p>Sunday, March 29 7:00 pm St. Ambrose Church</p>	<p>March 20 School Stations of the Cross 8:30 a.m. Boys SEARCH Weekend</p> <p>March 22 Easter Flower requests due to Rectory</p> <p>March 23 St. Johns School Penance 1:00 p.m. St. Johns Penance Service 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>March 27 Girls SEARCH Weekend School Stations of the Cross 8:59 a.m.</p> <p>March 30 Chrism Mass, St. Mary's Marietta</p>		
	READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND		
	Ezekiel 37:12-14 / Romans 8:8-11 / John 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45		
Please have all bulletin information to the Rectory by Wednesday at 6 p.m.			

HOLY WEEK LITURGICAL MINISTER SIGN-UP

There is a sheet in the vestibule for volunteers to sign up for Holy Week and Easter Weekend services. This is for servers, lectors, and eucharistic ministers. Please sign up by March 20. Thank you.

MASS AND STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Mass and Stations of the Cross will be held at St. John the Baptist every Friday during Lent at 6:00 p.m. Mass and Stations of the Cross at Our Lady of Mercy will be held every Thursday at 5:00 p.m. during Lent.

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.

CEMETERY MEETING

There will be a Cemetery meeting held at the Sr. Center on March 17, at 6:30 p.m. All are invited to attend.

CEMETERY CLEAN-UP NOTICE

In order to maintain the appearance of our parish cemetery properties and ensure the safety of visitors and employees, the Catholic Parish Cemeteries Association will be conducting our annual cemetery clean-up during the month of March. Please note that all Christmas items will be removed from all graves during the clean-up. If there are any items that you wish to keep, please remove them as soon as possible. Thank you for your cooperation! It is greatly appreciated.

"SEARCH" FOR CHRISTIAN MATURITY

"SEARCH" for Christian Maturity weekend retreats for youth ages sophomore-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 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.

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.

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.

SACRAMENTAL SPONSORS

If you've been asked to be a godparent or sponsor, you must obtain a letter of eligibility from your parish. By requesting this, you confirm that you are a fully initiated Catholic (baptized, received Holy Communion, and confirmed), at least 16 years old, a registered parishioner, actively practicing your faith, contributing to the parish, living a Catholic life (not cohabitating or married outside the Church), and have not joined another faith. Adults over 21 must re-register if listed under their parents. If you've moved away, contact your new parish for the letter.



THE ANNUAL K OF C 4617 EASTER EGG HUNT

The Annual K of C 4617 Easter Egg Hunts will be held on Easter Sunday, April 5th, for children 0-12 years old, at the following times: St. John: after 10:00 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 Tan-





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

Priestly Ordination of Deacon Ryan Budd and Deacon Peter Stetson will be Saturday, May 30, 2026 at 11am in the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption in Marietta. Please pray for these young men, who offer their lives in service.

Pray for the living and deceased priests of the Diocese of Steubenville.

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

March 16, Fr. Fred Kihm, + Fr. Balthasser Mattes

March 17, Fr. Emmanuel Nwosu, + Fr. Stephen Pekalla

March 18, Fr. David Huffman, + Msgr. Lawrence Luciano

March 19, Pope Leo XIV, All deceased Priests

March 20, Msgr. George Coyne, + Fr. Alexander Raab

March 21, Fr. Walter Heinz, + Fr. Ralph Salciccia

March 22, Msgr. Donald Horak, + Fr. Donald Schwendeman

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.

DPSC 2026. The DPSC is more than just a campaign—it is the lifeblood of our diocese ministries and programs. You 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.

Lenten Penance Services

March 23rd 1pm St. John Central School

7pm St. John the Baptist

March 24th 7pm Our Lady of Mercy

March 25th 7pm St. Mary's Marietta

March 26th 7pm St. Bernard Beverly

March 29th 7pm St. Ambrose Little Hocking

Additional Confession Times:

Tuesday March 31st at Our Lady of Mercy Lowell

5:30 pm to 6:30 pm

Wednesday April 1st at St. John the Baptist Church-

town 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Chrism Mass

Monday March 30. Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption 2:00 pm. All are welcome.

Easter Triduum



PASCHAL TRIDUUM SCHEDULE

Thursday, April 2 Holy Thursday of the Lord's Supper

Our Lady of Mercy Lowell 6:00 pm

St. John the Baptist Churchtown 7:00 pm

Adoration of the Eucharist until 10:00 pm in each parish

Friday, April 3 Good Friday of the Passion of the Lord

Our Lady of Mercy Lowell

12:00 pm Way of the Cross

6:00 pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion

St. John the Baptist Churchtown

3:00 pm Way of the Cross

7:00 pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday, April 4 Easter Vigil

Our Lady of Mercy Lowell 8:30pm

St. John the Baptist Churchtown 8:30 pm

Easter Sunday April 5

St. John the Baptist 7:30am and 10:00 am

Our Lady of Mercy 9:30am

The essence of evangelization is to tell everybody, "Jesus loves you." - Mother Angelica

April 2nd is the Anniversary of the Death of Saint Pope John Paul II.