

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

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.

THE SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

NOVEMBER 23, 2025



Good News!

By: FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Some think of a myth as something once presumed to be true but discovered to be false. For example, we say it's a myth that Christopher Columbus discovered America. There is, however, another quite different meaning to "myth," as in a story that helps us understand life and how to negotiate it. Such myths are often centered around heroes who overcome great odds for the sake of the greater good. *Star Wars* and *Luke Skywalker* is one such myth. *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy and Frodo Baggins is another. These are myths capturing the need for courage and commitment to the good at the hero's own expense. We often find ourselves wishing we could be like these heroes.

The biblical story of the Hebrew people can be thought of as such a myth, culminating in the story of Jesus. It differs from those other myths in that this story is not fiction. It is a saga that helps us understand and negotiate life as we live it. It culminates with the sacrificial death of the one we call King of the Universe. This King is a servant-king, one who gives his life for us so that we might live. Despite being urged by religious leaders and soldiers and the thief on the cross to save himself, he resists. Saving himself is not what he is about. Jesus is the King whose true myth we tell whenever we come together.

MASS INTENTION SCHEDULE

Saturday	OLM	11/22	4:00	p.m.	+Msgr. Lawrence Luciana (Ed Schilling)
	SJB	11/22	6:00	p.m.	+Bill Wesel Sr. (Bill and Alberta Wesel)
Sunday	SJB	11/23	7:30	a.m.	+Robert Heiss (Dave and Dottie Schaad)
	OLM	11/23	9:30	a.m.	L & D Members of John Bauerbach Family (Cecil Bauerbach)
	SJB	11/23	11:00	a.m.	+Larry Schaad (Steve and Rachel Klinger)
Monday	SJB	11/24	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today
Tuesday	SJB	11/25	<u>11:00</u>	a.m.	Mass (at the Church) and St. John School Thanksgiving Feast (at the School)
	OLM	11/25	5:00	p.m.	+Tess Huck (Leroy and Sophia Rauch)
	OLM	11/25	<u>7:00</u>	p.m.	Lowell Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service
Wednesday	SJB	11/26	8:30	a.m.	No Morning Mass Today
	OLM	11/26	5:00	p.m.	TBA
	SJB	11/26	6:00	p.m.	+Ron Lang (Ed and Lois Arnold)
Thursday	SJB	11/27	<u>8:30</u>	a.m.	+Richard C. Arnold (Shelba Arnold and Family) <i>Happy Thanksgiving!</i>
Friday	SJB	11/28	8:00	a.m.	+Howard and +Mae Lang (Tony Lang and Christy Nicholas)
Saturday	OLM	11/29	4:00	p.m.	+Linda Huck (Earl and Justine Tornes)
	SJB	11/29	6:00	p.m.	Living and Deceased of +Leo and +Lucy Huck Family (Family)
Sunday	SJB	11/30	7:30	a.m.	+Hilda Gebhart (Family)
	OLM	11/30	9:30	a.m.	+Frank and Sylvia Yeomans (David and Joanie Yeomans)
	SJB	11/30	11:00	a.m.	+Richard Pottmeyer (Anniv. 12/3) (Pottmeyer Family Children)

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

<u>MASS</u>	<u>ALTER SERVERS</u>	<u>LECTOR</u>	<u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER</u>
Saturday 6:00 p.m.	Tanner Crum, Abby Henke	Rachel Klinger	Jessica Henke
Sunday 7:30 a.m.	Grace Francis, Chase Arteaga	Zandra Francis	Connie Arnold
Sunday 11:00 a.m.	Hadleigh Pennock, Emma Schaad	Ashleigh Pennock	Roxanne Heiss

<u>COLLECTION</u>	<u>DPSC</u>	
Total Collection last week \$2,928	2025 Collected to date \$70,785	 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.
Need to meet parish needs \$4,750	2025 DPSC Goal \$41,330	
Thank you for your generosity!	This includes money sent directly to the Diocese. Thank you for your contributions!	

	November 25 School Thanksgiving Feast, Mass at 11:00 a.m. November 26-Dec. 1 No School December 4 Senior Citizen Meeting 11:00 a.m. December 4 St. John's School Christmas Play 6:30 p.m. December 7 Children's Christmas Choir practice after 11 a.m. Mass December 8 Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, (Holy Day of Obligation) School Mass at 8:30 a.m., OLM 6:00 p.m., SJB 7:00 p.m. December 8 Blessing of the Trees, K of C Hall—7:45 p.m. December 9 CWC Christmas Party at the Marietta Country Club December 15 St. John the Baptist Penance Service 7:00 p.m. (School Penance 1:00 p.m.) December 16 Our Lady of Mercy Penance Service 7:00 p.m. December 17 St. Mary's Marietta Penance Service 7:00 p.m. December 18 St. Bernards Church Penance Service 7:00 p.m. December 21 St. Ambrose Church Penance Service 7:00 p.m. December 21 Children's Christmas Choir practice after 11 a.m. Mass	
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READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND:

Isaiah 2:1-5 / Romans 13:11-14 / Matthew 24:37-44



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

ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The Lowell Ecumenical Thanksgiving service will be held at Our Lady of Mercy on **Tuesday, November 25th, at 7:00 p.m.** All parishioners, as well as the public, are invited to attend. This is a great opportunity for the Christian community of Lowell to join together in prayer to offer thankfulness and gratitude for the blessings we have and share.

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (HOLY DAY)

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is Monday, December 8. This is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass will be held at 8:30 a.m. (school mass), 6:00 p.m. in Lowell, and 7:00 p.m. at St. John's.

CWC CHRISTMAS DINNER

The CWC Christmas Dinner will be held on Tuesday, December 9, 5:30 p.m. at the Marietta Country Club. There will be 3 options for an entrée: 1) Chicken Alfredo, 2) Grilled Salmon, 3) Penne Alfredo. Prices range from \$20-\$24 depending on which entree you choose. This will include salad, entrée, two sides, rolls, dessert, coffee and water. Entertainment will be provided by "Two For the Road" (Nic Hart and Emma Clark). Please RSVP to Marilyn Pottmeyer by November 30 at 740-516-6248. There will also be door prizes available. Spouse or significant other are welcome to attend.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

If you would like to donate in memory of a loved one, 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 try to write the names so they are easily read and have your list in to the Rectory by December 15.

HATS AND MITTS FOR KIDS

Keeley Thieman is a second grader at St. John School and is collecting new hats and mittens for school age kids in the community from November 17 through December 5. Drop off locations are St. John's School, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. or St. John the Baptist Church after any of the weekend masses. Let's help Keeley with her kindness to help other kids.



SCRIP CARD ORDERS

Scrip card orders will be placed on Sunday, December 7 and 14. There are so many stores to use scrip cards. You can view cards and order online at www.raiseright.com. Scrip cards are a great way to purchase gifts and earn tuition money at the same time.

CALENDARS AVAILABLE

Once again, Cawley Peoples Funeral Home has provided our parishioners with a yearly calendar. The calendars are located in the vestibule so make sure you stop by and pick one up. Thank you Cawley Peoples Funeral Home!

CEMETERY PINE PILLOWS AND BUCKEYES

Washington County Exchange 4H Club is selling CEMETERY PINE PILLOWS for \$25 and BUCKEYES for \$10/doz. Contact advisor Ellie Tullius at 740-434-3064 for more information and to place an order.

CHRISTMAS EVE/DAY AND NEW YEAR'S EVE/DAY LITURGICAL MINISTER SIGN UP SHEET

A sign up sheet for Christmas Eve Masses and New Year's Eve Mass at St. John's is located in the vestibule. Please try to sign up before December 7. Volunteers will be needed Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The 6:00 p.m. Mass on Christmas eve at 6:00 p.m. will feature the children's choir. If you are interested in participating in the choir, please contact Crystal Lang at (740)516-4202 or sign up in the vestibule. The first practice will be held after the 11:00 am mass on December 7th until 1:00 p.m.



SPREAD THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

Knights of Columbus 4617 will kick off the Christmas Season with a Spread the Light of Christ event on Monday, December 8th @ 7:45PM at 17472 OH-676, Marietta, OH 45750. If weather permits, there will be an outdoor light up ceremony for our building and nativity scene. Father Gaydosik will join us for a blessing of the upcoming season. Refreshments will follow. Members, parents, grandparents, and community members are welcome to attend this family event! Also, at this time, we will present the winners of the Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest. Children from St. John School and our area churches CCD students will create posters to promote Keep Christ In Christmas. These will be displayed at the K of C hall for the holiday season! All children in Kindergarten - 8th Grade are encouraged to participate.

K OF C 4617 MEMBERS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Knights of Columbus 4617 will host our Annual Members Christmas Party, Saturday, December 13th, 2025. Members and a guest are invited to enjoy an adult-only evening out to get into the Christmas spirit! *Cocktail Hour: 6:00 - 7:00 PM; Heavy Hors d'oeuvres: 7:00 - 8:00 PM; Music by Sunset Lane: 8:00 - 11:00 PM.* All members are welcome and encouraged to attend this FREE event! Call/text Tanner Pottmeyer @ 740-516-4749 with any questions.

K OF C CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

On Sunday, December 14, 2025 at Noon, K of C 4617 members are invited to bring their families and children for a festive afternoon. Santa Claus will make a stop at the K of C Hall to visit individually with each child and distribute gifts! There will also be inflatables! Pizza and drinks will be provided. Parents/Grandparents/Guardians, please discreetly bring a wrapped gift to the kitchen area upon arrival (you will be reimbursed \$5.00/kid). Call/text Tanner Pottmeyer @ 740-516-4749 with any questions.





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

Pray for the priests of the Diocese of Steubenville: Nov. 22, Fr. Robert Gallagher, + Fr. Francis Brown. Nov. 23, Fr. David Gaydosik, + Fr. Bernard Bober. Nov. 24, Fr. Nicholas Ginnetti, + Msgr. James Nugent. Nov. 25, Fr. Mathew Gossett, + Msgr. HB O'Donnell. Nov. 26 All Priests. Nov. 27, Bishop Lohse. Nov. 28, Fr. Michael Gossett, + Fr. Anthoy Pandolfo. Nov. 29, Fr. Bradley Greer, + Fr. CC Superfisky. Nov. 30, Fr. Thomas Hamm + Fr. Andrew Beros.

Pray for our seminarians (the future of our Diocese). Deacon Peter Stetson—Blessed Sacrament Parish Wintersville, Ohio; Deacon Ryan Budd and Caleb Baker—Christ the Light Parish Cambridge, Ohio; Christopher McGurn and Samuel Ivkovich— St. Vincent Seminary Latrobe, Pa. John Paul Gan, Maximilian Gan, Johnathan Ruscoe, Rily Morris, Arron Pabin, and William Gugala.— Pontifical College Josephinum, Columbus Ohio.

Diocese of Steubenville Vocations:

Father Nicholas Ginnetti, Director of Vocations (740) 432-7609 OR nginnetti@diosteub.org

X: @dsvocations

Facebook: www.facebook.com/dsvocations

Diocesan Website: steubenvillevocations.com.

On the weekend of December 13-14, we will have the opportunity to support more than 21,000 elderly sisters, brothers and religious order priests. The annual collection taken up by our diocese helps provide critical financial assistance to eligible religious institutes caring for their retired members. For decades, women and men religious have devoted their lives to service through countless Church ministries, often for little to no pay. Today, their communities face a severe gap between the rising cost of care and the limited resources available. In 2024, religious past the age of 70 outnumbered younger religious by nearly three to one, and only 4% of communities reporting to the NRRO said they were adequately funded for retirement. "Through your generosity, we can help ensure they are cared for with the dignity they so rightly deserve while also living out the values of compassion and solidarity that unite us as disciples of Jesus."

Prayer in Seasons of Trust

O Lord, Be with me now, I feel so alone. Bring Your blessings to me, like the light of a candle in darkness. Wrap me in Your mercy, give me strength to face every hardship. Amen. ©LPi

While the holiday season is often a time of joy and celebration with friends and family, there are those who may feel lonely or would deeply appreciate a kind phone call or greeting card. Our reaching out to these individuals with words of encouragement and companionship are deeply appreciated.



This novena prayer, which has also been called the Efficacious Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, was written by St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, St. Pio of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio) prayed it daily for all those who asked for his prayers, and the Sacred Heart blessed his simple prayers with thousands of miracles! We mustn't view this prayer (or any other prayer) as a "candy dispenser," but pray with sincerity and with trust that God will answer our prayers according to His will. (Another name for this novena is Padre Pio's "Secret Weapon Prayer"!)

Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

I. O my Jesus, You have said, "Truly I say to you, ask and you will receive, seek and you will find, knock and it will be opened to you." Behold, I knock, I seek, and I ask for the grace of (here name your request). Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be... Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in You.

II. O my Jesus, You have said, "Truly I say to you, if you ask anything of the Father in My Name, He will give it to you." Behold, in Your Name, I ask the Father for the grace of (here name your request). Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be... Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in You.

III. O my Jesus, You have said, "Truly I say to you, heaven and earth will pass away but My words will not pass away." Encouraged by Your infallible words, I now ask for the grace of (here name your request). Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be... Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in You.

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, for whom it is impossible not to have compassion on the afflicted, have pity on us miserable sinners and grant us the grace which we ask of you through the Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, your tender Mother and ours. Hail, Holy Queen... St. Joseph, pray for us.

PRAYING THE DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

Begin with the Our Father, Hail Mary, and the Apostles Creed. Using regular rosary beads, work your way around the five decades with the prayers below. On the "Our Father" beads, pray: Eternal Father, I offer you the body, blood, soul, and divinity of your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world. On the "Hail Mary" beads, pray: For the sake of his sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

At the end, pray the following three times: Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

It is typical to conclude the Divine Mercy Chaplet with the words: Jesus, I trust in you.

Attention Parishioners: Stay Safe Before and After Mass. For your safety and the security of our parish community, please remain alert when arriving and leaving Mass. We strongly recommend that you do not give money to individuals asking for assistance. While we care for those in need, your safety comes first. Thank you for helping us keep our parish a safe and welcoming place for all.