

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



Faith - Tradition - Family

Fr. David Gaydosik, Pastor
Cell number 740-391-1093
Fr. Walter E Heinz, retired/in residence
Fr. Dale Tornes, retired

Good News!

By: FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

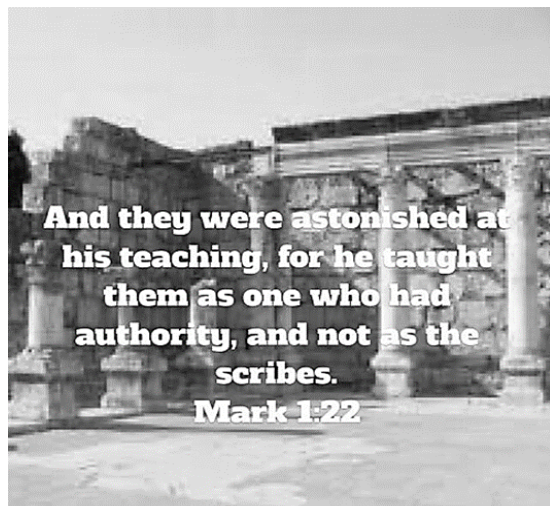
If you believed your own natural death was imminent, would that affect the decisions you make? When St. Paul wrote to the church in Corinth, that was his expectation—that the Lord's return was going to take place quickly, that the Second Coming was just about to occur and could happen at any time.

While St. Paul writes to the Corinthians that it is better to be unmarried than married, the purpose of this advice is to keep life simple and focused on what is important. Don't make any long-term commitments like buying a field, or starting a business, or even getting married. Be ready and prepared because the end of the world could literally be tomorrow. "I should like you to be free of anxieties," he wrote. Much later, St. Paul realized the end was not going to happen as soon as originally expected.

Saint Paul was not against marriage. He would be the first to say that, ideally, marriage can and often does reveal the depths of human love, but he would also say that it takes work; it doesn't happen all by itself. Just as readily, St. Paul would also note that, ideally, celibacy can and often does reveal the breadth of love given in service to others, whether the celibate person is lay, a priest, or a religious. It can seem, however, that the unclean spirit that Jesus cast out continues to roam human lives. All of us struggle to live out love as best we can, wherever we find ourselves in life.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 28, 2024



**And they were astonished at
his teaching, for he taught
them as one who had
authority, and not as the
scribes.
Mark 1:22**

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday	OLM	01/27	4:00	P.M.	+Stephen Kuchyt (Todd and Katheryn Arnold)	
	SJB	01/27	6:00	P.M.	+ Betty Becker (Anniv.) (Mona Barrett and Family)	
Sunday	SJB	01/28	7:30	A.M.	+ Lorraine Henke (Mary Brooker and Family)	
	OLM	01/28	9:30	A.M.	+James W. Healy (Jim and Peggy Huck)	
	SJB	01/28	11:00	A.M.	+ Richard Pottmeyer (Don and Cheryl Miller)	
Monday	SJB	01/29	8:00	A.M.	+ Herb Mason (Eldon and Nancy Miller)	
Tuesday	SJB	01/30	8:00	A.M.	No Mass Today	
	OLM	01/30	5:00	P.M.	+Patricia Huck (2yr Annv. 01/31) (Beverly Michel)	
Wednesday	SJB	01/31	8:20	A.M.	+ Bill Seyler (Mona Barrett and Family)	School Mass
Thursday	SJB	02/01	8:00	A.M.	No Mass Today	
	OLM	02/01	5:00	P.M.	+Cheryl Brooker (Brian Brooker)	
First Friday	SJB	02/02	6:00	P.M.	+ Frank Schilling (Jerry and Melinda Treadway)	
Saturday	OLM	02/03	4:00	P.M.	+Linda Huck (max and Tess Huck)	
	SJB	02/03	6:00	P.M.	+ Jim Thieman (Anniv.) (Norma Thieman and Family)	
Sunday	SJB	02/04	7:30	A.M.	+ Martha Huck (Connie Arnold)	
	OLM	02/04	9:30	A.M.	+Kelton and Helen Fliehm (Dan and Elanda Fliehm)	
	SJB	02/04	11:00	A.M.	+ Lewis J. and Theresa Audrey Lang (Family)	

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

MASS	ALTAR SERVERS	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER
Saturday 6:00 p.m.	Hudson and Sydney Lang	Rachel Klinger	Melinda Treadway
Sunday 7:30 a.m.	Adalyn and Eli Eichmiller	Robin Eichmiller	Arnold Huck
Sunday 11:00 a.m.	Hadleigh Pennock, Taryn Kern	Angie Henninger	Lori Hart

"All the flowers of all the tomorrows are in the seeds of today."

Indian Proverb

<u>COLLECTION</u>	<u>D.P.S.C.</u>	<u>BINGO</u>
Total Collection for weekend \$2,997 Needed to meet parish needs \$4,750 Thank you for your generosity!	2024 Goal is not available yet 2024 Collected \$3,510 Total DPSC Collected for 2023 was \$141,360. We met 558% of our goal. Thank you so much for your contributions.	January 14 Group 3 \$ 1,244 If you are unable to work, please try to find a replacement

<u>ST. JOHN BINGO WORK SCHEDULE</u>	<u>C.W.C. BINGO CAKES</u>	<u>PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY</u>
Jan 28 Group 5 with Kenley Schwendeman Feb 4 Group 6 with Jeff Canterbury Feb 11 Group 7 with Brandon Wheeler Feb 18 Group 8 with Russ Lang Feb 25 Group 1 with Jeff Brooker	January and February Group D with Elaine Wells Meetings held the 2nd Monday of each month, 6:30 p.m. in the Sr. Center	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.

<u>READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND</u>	
Job 7:1-4, 6-7 / 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23 / Mark 1:29-39	Please have all bulletin information to the Rectory no later than 10:00 p.m. on Monday

SNOW REMINDER

We are entering that time of year again when road conditions may not always be safe for travel. Please remember that if a Level 2 or 3 road emergency is issued by the Sheriff's Department, Masses will be cancelled for that day. When St. John School is closed due to weather, Mass and Adoration that day is cancelled. Our Parish office will also be closed. This policy is for both St. John the Baptist and Our Lady of Mercy. Masses scheduled for that day will be rescheduled. Also, please keep in mind, if there is a funeral scheduled at St. John's, the Mass for that day is cancelled and will be rescheduled.

2024 COLLECTION ENVELOPES

Collection envelopes for 2024 are located in the vestibule. Envelopes will remain in the vestibule until the end of January.

2023 COLLECTION STATEMENT

If you need a copy of your church donations for 2023, please call Pam at the Rectory (896-3566). If you donated to the DPSC, the Diocese will mail you a statement.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

A Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday, February 12, 6:30 p.m. in the Senior Center.

SENIOR CITIZEN MEETING

The next Sr. Citizen meeting will be held at the Sr. Center at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 1, 2024.

EUCHRE

Euchre will be held at 1:00 p.m. at the Sr. Center on February 14 and February 28. All are welcome.

CWC MONTHLY MEETING

The CWC monthly meeting will be held at the Sr. Center on Monday, February 12. The Rosary will be prayed at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting will follow.

LITURGICAL MINISTER SCHEDULES

Liturgical Minister schedules for February through May are located in the vestibule. Please stop by and pick up a copy. If you are unable to attend your scheduled mass, please try to find a replacement. Thank you.

ST. BLAISE AND THE BLESSING OF THROATS

February 3rd is the memorial of St. Blaise and the custom is to bless the throat of the faithful. Our Blessing of the Throats will be held the weekend of February 3-4 after each weekend mass.

PRIESTS RETIREMENT FUND COLLECTION

Firstly, thank you for your generous response to last year's first annual collection for this purpose! It was a great start toward reaching a fully-funded status for the Plan. As we move forward now in a continued effort, envelopes for this purpose are in your contribution packets. The collection, from which our diocesan priests derive no benefit, will be taken up on the weekend of February 3-4. Your continued generosity is a blessing and much appreciated. Thank you!

NEW ADDRESS OR PHONE NUMBER

If you have recently moved or dropped your land line and are using a cell phone number, please let the parish office know 840-896-3566 or email stjohnchurch-town@yahoo.com. We want to keep our parish roster current.

LOW GLUTEN HOST

We have available at St. Johns and Our Lady of Mercy Church, a limited supply of Low-Gluten (made in accordance with Canon Law) for those with Gluten issues. If you are in need of a Low Gluten Host, please see the priest before the Mass you attend, to arrange for this option.

SUPER BOWL SUB SALE

St. John Central School Super Bowl Sunday Sub Sale - February 10-11 after Saturday and Sunday Masses. Cost is \$4.75 per sub. All proceeds from the sub sale will go towards the St. John Central School field trips. Subs will be available to purchase after all Masses (or until sold out). To ensure you get subs, it is recommended that you pre-order by calling the school at (740) 896-2697. We will have the subs you order at whatever mass you request. Thank you for your support!



"CABIN FEVER BUSTER DINNER"

Our Lady of Mercy CWC is holding a Cabin Fever Buster Dinner on February 3, 2024, from 4:30 to 6:30 PM at the Our Lady of Mercy social hall. The menu includes baked steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, homemade noodles, green beans, coleslaw, and dessert. Dine in or carry out is available. **Ticket purchase needed for a meal.** Tickets will be sold until Monday, January 29th and can be purchased by calling Kathy Reed at 740-350-3496.

PRE-CANA

A Pre-Canan Session is scheduled at the Basilica on Saturday, March 9th. Couples planning to register for this class can by calling the Basilica Parish Office at 740-373-3643. Pre-Canan is a requirement for marriage in our Diocese.



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. Karen Pottmeyer

Principal

Knights of Columbus

Council 4617

Grand Knight Taylor Pottmeyer

Diocesan Catholic Charities & Information

Referral Line:

1-800-339-7890

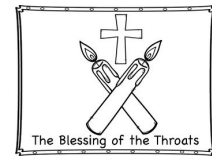
St. John School Foundation

Gary Arnold, President

ST. BLAISE AND THE BLESSING OF THROATS

February 3 is the memorial of St. Blaise.

The custom is to bless the throats of the faithful after Mass.



For the blessing the priest uses the following words:

"Through the intercession of St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness. In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen."

St. Blaise was probably born to a noble and wealthy family who provided him with a Christian education. He went on to become a physician, but eventually was chosen and consecrated a bishop. During one of the last persecutions of the Church by the Romans - a persecution conducted by Licinius, who at one point was an ally of Constantine - Blaise went to live as a hermit in a cave outside of town, where he was known to heal the sick. Ultimately, he was discovered and he was taken to the governor of Cappadocia, and thrown into jail. St. Blaise was asked to renounce his faith and when he wouldn't, the governor had him beaten, tortured and beheaded in 316 AD.

In time, the custom of blessing the throats of the faithful developed, with priests holding two candles- blessed the day before on Candlemas, Feb 2 - over the head or the throat while invoking the intercession of St. Blaise against any ailment of the throat and body.

St. Blaise is invoked at the blessing of throats, because when he was in prison he miraculously cured a young boy who was choking to death on a fishbone stuck in his throat.

In this season where many of us have ailments related to the throat because of colds and such, let us ask the intercession of St. Blaise and please join us after all Masses the weekend of February 3-4 to have your throats blessed.



ASH WEDNESDAY MASS TIMES

Mass will be held at St. John's on Ash Wednesday, February 14 at 8:20 a.m. (School Mass) and 7:00 p.m. Volunteers (altar servers, lector and a eucharistic minister) will be needed for the 7:00 p.m. mass at St. Johns. Mass at Our Lady of Mercy in Lowell will be at 6:00 p.m. on the 14th. This is not a Holy Day of Obligation.

MASS AND STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Mass and Stations of the Cross will be held during Lent at 6:00 p.m. every Friday at St. Johns (morning mass will be cancelled that day) and every Thursday at 6:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Mercy.

LENTEN REGULATIONS

All Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence (no meat). The law of abstinence binds all Catholics 14 years and older. The law of fasting binds all Catholics from their 18th birthday until their 59th birthday. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting and abstinence.