

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.

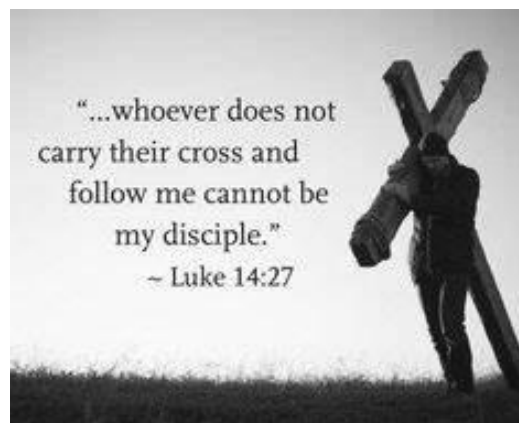
Anointing of the Sick: Celebrated upon request. Call the Parish Office.

Prayer line: Offering our prayerful support for your intentions. Mary Brooker 740-896-2002 or Mrs. Elaine Wells 740-896-3112.

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.

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 7, 2025



Good News!

By: FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

There is so often a cost to being a follower of Jesus, to doing the right thing. During our country's Civil War, southern plantation owners came face to face with the gospel's imperative to accept slaves as human beings who have the right to be free, though that would then bring about the collapse of the cotton economy. For them, it was live the gospel or save the economy. Sometimes, the gospel seems to put us in a lose-lose situation.

President Lyndon B. Johnson was confronted by the Vietnam War. By continuing a war he knew was unwinnable, it would cost human lives. If he ended the war, he would be labeled as the president who lost a war. For him, it was lose-lose. Do the right thing or save face. A person may be confronted by a job that demands unjust and immoral decisions when the refusal to make such decisions would cost that person the job necessary to support his or her family. A student may be faced with the prospect of either cheating or receiving a poor grade. Living the gospel is fraught with costs.

Today, our nation faces the difficulties of immigration. On the one hand, there is the gospel's command to love the poor and so to accept immigrants seeking to escape violence and terror and drought, conditions that make it impossible to live. On the other hand, there is the need for our nation to deal with uncontrolled migration. The question of "What would Jesus do?" is never without consequences.

MASS INTENTION SCHEDULE

Saturday	OLM	09/06	4:00	p.m.	+Gary Pottmeyer (Jim and Cindy Schwendeman)
	SJB	09/06	6:00	p.m.	+Ed Brooker (Anniversary) (Family)
Sunday	SJB	09/07	7:30	a.m.	Living and Deceased of +Leo and +Lucy Huck Family (Family)
	OLM	09/07	9:30	a.m.	Living and Deceased of +William Lang Family (Martha Stevens)
	SJB	09/07	11:00	a.m.	+Gladys Schilling (Patti Finkel)
Monday	SJB	09/08	8:00	a.m.	+Faye Treadway (CWC) +Carl Lang (Ron and Monica Lang)
Tuesday	SJB	09/09	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today
	OLM	09/09	5:00	p.m.	TBA
Wednesday	SJB	09/10	8:30	a.m.	+Richard and +Bertha Pottmeyer (Children) School Mass +Robert Heiss (Ted Brooker Family) (note-new starting time)
Thursday	SJB	09/11	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today
	OLM	09/11	5:00	p.m.	TBA
Friday	SJB	09/12	8:00	a.m.	+Anna Mae Brooker (Patricia Henke Family) +Veronica Way (Mona Barrett)
Saturday	OLM	09/13	4:00	p.m.	TBA
	SJB	09/13	6:00	p.m.	+Ben Sauer (Birthday) (Family)
Sunday	SJB	09/14	7:30	a.m.	+Leo Huck (Doug and Mary Parks)
	OLM	09/14	9:30	a.m.	TBA
	SJB	09/14	11:00	a.m.	+Frank and +Ruth Lang (Donna Tornes and Family)

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

ALTER SERVERS		LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER	
Saturday	6:00 p.m.	Tanner Crum, Weston Hennes	Jerry Smith	Theresa Sauer
Sunday	7:30 a.m.	Dalton and Dane Schott	Kelly Miller	Arnold Huck
Sunday	11:00 a.m.	Hudson Lang, Weston Burt	Maycee Lang	Amanda Walters

COLLECTION

Total Collection last weekend \$ 2,814
 Needed to meet parish needs \$ 4,750

Thank you for your generosity!

DPSC

2025 Collected to Date \$ 57,790
 2025 DPSC Goal \$ 41,330

This includes money sent directly to the Diocese. Thank you for your contributions!



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.



Fr. David
September 7

What's Happening

September 6-7 Special Collection
 September 7 Fr. Gaydosik's Birthday
 September 8 CWC Meeting
 September 19 Pre-K Lemonade stand at the Sr. Center

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

Numbers 21:4-9 /Philippians 2:6-11 /John 3:13-17

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

SPECIAL COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

The USCCB has asked dioceses in the United States to take up a special collection to aid the Church's humanitarian and pastoral efforts in Gaza and the surrounding areas in the Middle East in the midst of the ongoing humanitarian crisis there. Bishop Lohse is directing that this special collection that will be taken up in the Diocese of Steubenville on the weekend of September 6 and 7.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Parish Council will meet on Wednesday, September 10, 7:00 p.m. in the Sr. Center.

HOSPICE INFORMATION AND CWC MEETING

Please join us for a Hospice 101 Session. This informational is about hospice services, what hospice is, and what it can do for you and/or your loved ones. Open to anyone who is interested in this service or learning more about the above. The session will be held on Monday September 8, at 6:30 p.m. at the Senior Center in Churchtown. This session is open to everyone. The Churchtown CWC meeting will follow (those not attending the CWC meeting are free to leave after the Hospice session). For any questions please call Kourtney Thieman-Director-Marietta Amedisys Hospice-740-525-6503.

ST. JOHN SCHOOL PRE-K LEMONADE STAND

September 19th the pre-k class will be inviting the grade school classes to the preschool to enjoy a cup of lemonade at their lemonade stand. The children will charge a quarter for each cup. This will help them to learn about money, how to pour and make lemonade and much more. Parish members are welcome! We plan to serve lemonade throughout the day.

CASINO NIGHT

St. John Central School's Annual Fundraising Event "Casino Night" is scheduled for November 15th with doors opening at 4:30 PM. If you or your business is wanting to be a sponsor of the event, please email Allie Lang with your business logo and contact information to stjohncentralgala@gmail.com or to purchase a \$50 ticket to the event, call or text Allie Lang 407-920- 1565.

TOOL DRIVE TO HELP CAREER CENTER STUDENTS

The Ohio Valley Employment Resource Now, in conjunction with Ohio Means Jobs are sponsoring "Donate New or Used Tools" to help support local students attending the Career Center as they prepare for their future careers. You can also Sponsor-a-Student's Tool List by emailing Meredith.kramer@jfs.ohio.gov. Every donation, big, small, new, or used will help set the students up for success. Thank you for investing in their future. Tools can be dropped off or shipped directly to 311 Third Street, Marietta.

BAKED STEAK BENEFIT DINNER

Mary's House is having a Baked Steak Benefit Dinner on Saturday, September 13th, from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at St. Bernard Catholic Church Hall, Beverly. Cost is \$15 per person. Take out is available by calling 740-960- 9944. Proceeds benefit Mary's House, serving expectant mothers as they learn to care for themselves and their newborn children.

MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

You are invited to a Mass of Remembrance for those who have suffered the loss of a child. The Mass will be held on October 4, 9:00 a.m. at Saint Mary Basilica in Marietta. Light refreshments will be served.



DUELING PIANOS

The Knights of Columbus 4617 will host DUELING PIANOS on Saturday, October 11, 2025. \$1,000 in CASH Prizes! Tickets: \$40/each, only 250 Tickets Sold! Doors Open at 5:00 p.m. for games and raffles. A New York Strip Steak or Grilled Chicken Dinner will be held at 6:00 p.m.. The Dueling Pianos Show will begin at 8:00 p.m. by Shake Rattle & Roll Pianos! Your ticket includes the dinner, show, beer/wine, and water/drinks! In addition to dinner and the show, there will be 50/50, raffles, and more games of chance. For tickets or information contact Jeff Brooker @ 740-749-3538 or Taylor Pottmeyer @ 412-215-6470.

JUBILEE OF MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

This celebration will take place on Sunday, November 9, at 12:00 noon Mass at the Basilica of St. Mary in Marietta. A reception will follow Mass. The Mass will honor those couples whose 10th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th, 55th, 60th and 60+ (every year thereafter) anniversary of marriage is (or was) in 2023 or 2024. To register, please contact the Rectory by October 10, 2024.

DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP FOR P.S.R. CLASSES

St. John the Baptist PSR

2025-2026 Registration

It is time to register your student(s) for PSR!!

Use the link below or simply scan the QR code to register your student(S).

****REGISTER BY SEPTEMBER 7, 2025**

<https://forms.gle/hiaaQoNKrXSTpzv4A>



IMPORTANT.....PLEASE READ

CHANGE TO CEMETERY MEMBERSHIP RATE

The St. John Cemetery membership rates will remain the same cost, but the opening and closing of the graves will no longer be part of the fee starting October 1st, 2025. Anyone who has the fee paid in full before October 1st will have the opening and closing included. If not paid in full by October 1st, the opening and closing of the grave will need to be paid at the time of that service.

This change is being made due to the uncertainty of who will be handling the grave opening and closing in the future and the cost associated with this service.

We have asked many times if someone would be interested in taking charge of the opening and closing of the graves and no one has stepped up or shown interest, so we have no choice but to look for other options. If someone is interested, please let us know.

For more information or to inquire about your balance due, contact Kevin Brooker (740-538-1887) or Pam at the parish office (740-896-3566) with 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

Eucharistic Rosary Congress

October 4 – 10, 2025

“My Soul Magnifies the Lord”



Triumph of the Cross/Holy Rosary
208 Rosemont Avenue
Steubenville, OH 43952

SCHEDULE

Saturday, October 4

8:30 AM Opening Mass

Followed by:

Eucharistic/Marian Procession

And

Perpetual Adoration And
Hourly Rosary for One Week

Friday, October 10

5:15 PM Closing Mass

SIGN UP FOR AN HOUR AT: <https://signup.com/go/BrxjeiF>

OR SCAN THE QR CODE:



OR JUST SHOW UP!

For complete schedule, see <https://diosteub.org/rosary-congress>.

For more information text Peggy at 410-596-1936

INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?

The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) is the process by which those who are unbaptized or baptized in another Christian denomination come into the Roman Catholic Church. Now is the perfect time to learn more for yourself or invite those you love to take the next step! For more information about the OCIA program or the Catholic faith, call Father Dave, 740-391-1093.

What's Happening at St. John Central School From Mrs. Becky Hilverding, Principal

The 2025–2026 school year is off to a fantastic start at St. John's! We are blessed with 81 students this year—54 in grades K–6, 12 in Early Learning, and 15 in Pre-K.

Our new teachers are already making a difference: Riley Schweikert, 1st grade, and Rachel Klinger, 4th–6th grade, are off to a wonderful start. Ken Huck is doing a fantastic job as our religion instructor and has been kept busy with IT needs. Ms. Betty is once again spoiling us with hot lunches five days a week, and Heather Schaad is preparing our students for Tressel's Challenge beginning September 8th.

We are also proud to share that St. John's has been officially designated a Project Lead the Way (PLTW) School, one of only 12,200 schools nationwide. This year, we begin our STEM program with students in grades 4–6—a major step in preparing them for the future.

Thank you for your prayers and support as we continue to grow in faith, knowledge, and service!

Please see the attached list of all the updates to St. John's School



ST. JOHN PRESCHOOL AND EARLY LEARNING CLASSES From Mrs. Sandy Day, Director

The preschool is off to a great start, the children are learning the class routine and are enjoying the classroom activities. We are working on fine/gross motor skills, listening skills and much more.

September will be very busy for both classes. I have a new curriculum and several new ideas to keep the children engaged.

September 10-11 will be picture day.

September 19th the pre-k class will be inviting the grade school classes to the preschool to enjoy a cup of lemonade at their lemonade stand. The children will charge a quarter for each cup. This will help them to learn about money, how to pour and make lemonade and much more. Parish members are welcome! We plan to serve lemonade throughout the day.

September 24/25 - Mrs. Klinger will have her classes come to both pre-k and Early Learning to read to the children and help them with an art activity.

September 29th The Watering Can Art Studio will be coming to the pre-k class to guide the children in making pottery on the pottery wheel.

Miss Neihart and I are very excited for all the activities we have planned this year for the children.



2025 -2026 St. John Central School

Welcome Back!

Taking a look back to a year ago, let's reflect on what has happened at St. John's.

New signage was built at the entrance to the school as well as a new sign on the building itself.

New lighting was upgraded for the front of the building and also by the cafeteria and the two classrooms.

New landscaping done by the road sign and in front of the entrance way to the building.

Storage boxes have been placed in front of the building and in the back of the building for the students to easily get balls, jump ropes, etc.

Mason Strahler has mowed the grounds, trimmed hedges and weeded since last fall. He has also done the snow removal for the school.

New cameras and more have been added to the building for the safety of the students.

A second set of doors added at the entrance to secure the safety of the students.

A pass-through window was made so papers or items could have a quick drop off without entering the building.

Pam Keeney's office was moved to the front of the building.

Teachers' workroom and Michelle's Office were moved so everyone would have better access to mailboxes and Michelle could have some privacy with parents, customers, etc.

Library was moved and a Conference Room was made by dividing one classroom.

Principal's Office was moved and all offices were repainted and air conditioning was put in each office.

New flooring was put in new conference room, all classrooms upstairs and all classrooms were painted as well as the hallway and entrance way to the building. An abatement was conducted to make sure no asbestos tile was broken and everything passed the test.

A music room was created and moved out of the cafeteria.

New curtains and blinds for the gym were installed as well as the stage floor being redone and the stage being painted.

New storage cabinets were placed in the hallway between gym and kindergarten classroom adding more storage for teachers and staff.

Cafeteria was repainted.

A sink was added to the new first grade classroom and the original sink for the science room was moved to the old 4th grade classroom.

Sleep green Inc. was added as our custodial service and the building is cleaned on a daily basis.

Gym was repainted as well as going down steps to cafeteria.

All "No Smoking Signs" were placed in the building as well as "No Concealed Weapons" allowed signage.

After almost 70 years the building has been rekeyed with digital locks and swipe keys only.

We are now managing our own Auxiliary Funds for at least the next two years.

Replaced all phones in building as we needed to upgrade before Nov. 2024.

None of the above would have been possible without our Foundation, Pioneer Pipe, Bosner Electric, AARK Communications, Eric Pottmeyer, Howard Brooker, Randy Schilling, Bernard Schilling, Crooked Tree Construction, Nathan Heiner, Nate Walters, Matt and Ashley Strahler, WCCC Welding Class, WCCC Auto Body Class, Graphic Design Class and Digital Marketing Class. Danny Jo Huck has made sure there is new mulch placed.

Last and certainly not least is Ken Huck, along with Alison Duvall, who keeps our internet, printers, chrome books and over all running of the building up-to-date so our teachers and staff can give our students the best education possible.

Without our **Home and School Association** many of the upgrades that were done would not have been possible without the generous contributions not only in monetary value but in giving of your time. Crystal Lang has kept our building always looking great with her decorations and any of the social activities for students and staff have been top notch.

St. John's will be spending the next 5 years going through accreditation and we will be needing all the help we can get to make sure that at the end of the 5-year cycle we are still an accredited school. Adding STEM classes this year will look good on our part as well as stepping up the student's education.