

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

**FIFTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**
February 8, 2026

*you are
the
light
of
the world*
MATTHEW 5:14

Good News!

By: FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

The Mass is celebrated in two major parts: the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. These parts complement each other in a balance of word and sacrament. In his 2004 apostolic letter *Mane Nobiscum Domine* (Stay With Us Lord), Pope St. John Paul II described these complementary elements. Using the story of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus on the night of Easter Sunday, the Pope likened the two parts of the revised liturgy to these disciples' journey. First, Christ breaks open the word for them, preparing their hearts with an interpretation of the Scriptures. Then, they recognize Christ as they break bread.

The Liturgy of the Word, proclaimed and preached well, allows time for silence and reflection on the wisdom offered. It becomes the necessary overture for the celebration of thanks and praise and the gift of the sign and sacrament to follow. Parishes are called to take the Liturgy of the Word most seriously and to bring it to a new level of proclamation. Pope St. John Paul II admonished all involved, but especially preachers, to cherish the word and preach it so the depths of the mysteries celebrated may be recognized and received into the burning hearts of Christians. In this context, the Scripture readings are given a prominence they didn't have in the older Roman rite.

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.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday will be held on February 18. Masses at St. John's will be held at 8:30 a.m. (School Mass), Noon, and 8:00 p.m. Volunteer liturgical ministers will be needed for the 8:00 p.m. Mass. Mass at Our Lady of Mercy will be at 6:00 p.m. 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.



CHURCHTOWN TEE BALL/BASEBALL/SOFTBALL SIGN-UP

There is an insert in this weekend's bulletin to sign up your child/children for Tee Ball, Baseball and Softball. Forms must be returned to St. John School or left in the manila envelope marked "Tee Ball/Baseball/Softball in the Church Vestibule Sign Up" no later than February 13.

CWC BREAKFAST

The CWC is having a Breakfast February 22nd from 8:00 - 10:00 at the K of C Hall in Churchtown. There will be a country store and bake sale available. Dine in or drive thru available. Cost is \$10 for an adult meal of Biscuit and Sausage gravy, bacon, eggs, hash browns and a drink. Cost for a child's meal is \$5 and includes pancakes, bacon, eggs and a drink. All are welcome to attend.



BAKE SALE

Churchtown Busy Bunch 4-H Club will hold a bake sale at the Catholic Women's Club Breakfast. We are also taking orders for homemade noodles. All proceeds from the sale will support community service projects and club activities. Noodles are \$7 for a one-gallon bag. To order, call or text Melinda Treadway 740-629-1452, Alberta Wesel 740-525-4429, Tisa Medlin 740-525-1949 or Tracie Roush 740-350-7916. Noodles will be available for pickup at the breakfast.

CWC MEETING

The CWC will not meet for a monthly meeting in February. They will see everyone at the Breakfast at the K of C Hall on February 22.

CHURCH PROPERTY AND CEMETERY MOWING BIDS

Bids for mowing, trimming, and weeding landscaping on all of the church properties are now being accepted. Please have bids to Fr. Gaydosik by March 2. Call Fr. Gaydosik for more information 740-896-3566.



K OF C 2026 MOWING BIDS

K of C 2026 mowing bids are being accepted now through March 2. Bids should include weed eating, mowing horseshoe pits, mowing stretch of grass between gravel parking lot and SR 676, and pulling weeds from landscaping. Any further questions, call Derek Kern 740-516-7219.

BAG AND BASKET BINGO

Mary's House will sponsor a Bag and Basket Bingo on February 22, 2026, at 2:00 pm (doors open at 1:00 pm) at the St Bernard Social Hall located at 309 7th St., Beverly, Ohio. 20 Games for \$25.00. Tickets sold at door only. 50/50 drawing, concession stand & raffle. For questions about these upcoming events call: 740-960-9944. Follow us at: maryshouseoh.org or <https://www.facebook.com/maryshousesoutheastern>.

K OF C SCHOLARSHIP

Knights of Columbus Council #4617 is happy to announce that our 2026 Scholarship Application is now open! Any senior who is currently attending a local high school may apply for the Knights of Columbus Council #4617 Scholarship. One boy and one girl will be selected from this area. The scholarship recipients will receive a \$500.00 check. The application must be submitted by the end of the day on March 14, 2026. Please apply at the link below: <https://forms.gle/9dEuaKinPDh8oSX27>. Tanner Pottmeyer, Grand Knight, Knights of Columbus 4617.

PRE-CANA

A Pre-Canan Session has been scheduled for Saturday, March 7th, 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-Canan is a requirement for marriage in the Diocese of Steubenville.



EMPTY BOWLS OF THE MOV

To help combat hunger in the local community, Empty Bowls of the MOV will host its luncheon on Sat., Feb. 28 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 304 W. Fifth St., Williamstown, WV. All ticket donations will benefit local food pantries. Guests will enjoy a meal of homemade soups, breads, cookies, and beverages. For a \$15 donation (\$10 for children and free for children under 5) attendees receive lunch along with a handcrafted bowl. Advance tickets are available through committee member Lori Smith at las001@marietta.edu. Tickets will also be sold at the door.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

Couple to Couple League (CCL) is holding in-person full instruction sessions at the Franciscan University, Steubenville on Wednesday evenings at 5 PM on February 11th, March 25th, and April 15th. Each session is 2-3 hours long and all sessions should be attended. To register visit <https://learnnfp.org/find-live-onsite-class/> or Intro to Natural Family Planning (Creighton Model) sessions available on-line on February 12, March 9, April 7 and May 7. To register for online session visit www.mountcarmelhealth.com/fertilitycare-intro.

ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS

Please join the Ancient Order of Hibernians for an evening of music, food and fun with Steve and Bev Pottmeyer on March 7th from 6 to 8 pm at the Knights of Columbus #478, located at 312 Franklin St., Marietta. Come and enjoy BYOB along with J's Hotdog House food truck, and Waterford Crystal raffle. Admission will be \$10 ten dollars at the door. For more information contact Tom Binegar (740-706-3004).

CONDOLENCES

Please keep in your prayers Barbara Thieman, who passed away on January 29. We extend our heartfelt sympathies to Barbara's family and friends. May she rest in peace and light with our Lord.

**ST. JOHN SCHOOL
SUPERBOWL SUBS WILL BE SOLD THIS
WEEKEND AFTER EACH MASS \$5.00 EACH**





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 Home-bound:

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,

living and deceased:

Feb. 7 Fr. Bradley Greer, + Msgr. Joseph Pollack

Feb. 8 Fr. Nicholas Ward, + Fr. Frank Rothbauer

Feb. 9 Fr. Timothy Kozak + Fr. Clair Dinger

Feb. 10 Fr. Thomas Chillog, + Fr. James Dirker

Feb. 11 Fr. David Gaydosik, + Fr. Richard Maciejewski

Feb. 12 Fr. Bradley Greer, + Fr. Charles Mascolino

Feb. 13 Fr. Thomas Marut, + Msgr. William Myers

Feb. 14 Msgr. J. Michael Campbell, + Fr. Donal O'Carroll

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

A "Come and See" seminary live-in weekend will take place at the Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus, Ohio, from 4 p.m., March 20, until noon, March 22. Young men will get to "experience seminary firsthand" and will be able "attend classes, join in prayer," and "enjoy community recreation." For additional information about the "Come and See" seminary live-in weekend at the Pontifical College Josephinum, or if you are interested in discerning the priesthood, contact Father Nicholas V. Ginnetti, Diocese of Steubenville director of vocations, by emailing nginnetti@diosteub.org.

Catholic Men's Day of Renewal 2026 - Conversion:

A Lenten retreat for the men of the Dioceses of Steubenville will be held on Saturday, March 7th from 8:00am-3:00pm (doors open at 7:30am) at St. Stephen Catholic Church, 1036 Belford Street, Caldwell, Ohio. The 2026 Diocesan Men's Day of Renewal will focus on the lifelong call to conversion — our discovery of Jesus Christ, His Church, and the ongoing transformation of our hearts as we journey toward eternity. This year, men will hear the personal conversion testimonies of two Diocesan priests — Fr. Bradley Greer and Fr. Tim Shannon — who will offer practical guidance for spiritual growth and for living and sharing the Faith in our families, parishes, communities, and daily work. Register online at athenscatholic.org/Steubenville-mens-day. Cost is \$25.00 per registration plus a \$3.00 online surcharge; lunch is included.

Diocesan Priests Retirement Fund Collection –

This collection, which is distinct from the collection for retired religious, from which our diocesan priests derive no benefit, will be taken up on the weekend of February 7th & 8th. Your continued generosity is a blessing and much appreciated in caring for those who have served our diocese. Thank you!

NFP (in-person, full) instruction through Couple to Couple League (CCL):

Wed, February 11, 2026 5:00 p.m.

Wed, March 25, 2026 5:00 p.m.

Wed, April 15, 2026 5:00 p.m.

Each session will be 2 - 3 hours in length.

Held at Franciscan University (Steubenville) in Saints Cosmas and Damian Hall - Room 109, Register here: <https://learnnfp.org/find-live-onsite-class/>

Many online learning opportunities exist with CCL, too: <https://learnnfp.org/find-live-online-class/>

Include in weekends preceding the dates by 1-2 weekends: **NFP Intro sessions available** (Creighton model, not full method instruction):

Feb 12, 7 PM - 8:30 PM online

March 9, 6PM - 7:30 PM online

April 7, 6:30PM - 8 PM at Mount Carmel St. Ann's Hospital IN Westerville

May 7, 7PM - 8:30 PM online

To register for any of these go to:

www.mountcarmelhealth.com/fertilitycare-intro

Full instruction available through Mount Carmel, as well.

Shroud Encounter. The highly acclaimed Shroud Encounter will be coming to St. Stephen Church (Caldwell) on Sunday Feb. 22 at 7pm. Admission is free. Could this ancient Jewish linen cloth be the ancient burial shroud of Jesus? Could the Shroud of Turin be a document of the crucifixion? This linen cloth etched with the faint image of a crucified image has mystified millions.

This presentation is a fast moving, big screen experience using over 200 images. The program will be presented by international expert and author Russ Breault. Mr. Breault has been featured in several national documentaries. As president and founder of Should of Torin Education Project Inc. with a simple mission statement: *"to advance the knowledge of the Shroud to a new generation."*

Bless Us, Lord You are good and gracious, every moment of every day. You invite us to be meek, merciful, clean of heart, peace-makers. Give us the grace to seek these virtues, and to seek you. May your blessing accompany us on our way. Amen.

©LPi

Super Bowl Sub Sale: St. John Central School in Churchtown will have its Super Bowl sub sale the weekend of February 8th. The cost is \$5 and they will be available after each of the weekend Masses



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 13th. 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 first 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”.