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 <u>at least six months</u> 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.

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 24, 2025



Good News!

By: FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Some people find love in their lives; others complain of loneliness. Some find peace, while others seem to be perpetually angry. Some live comfortably amid human diversity, yet others insist that the rest of the world be like them. There are those who are able to forgive and compromise and offer compassion and those who cannot. The difference seems to be the ability to forgo one's own desires for the sake of a greater good or the common good. Such may be the narrow gate through which some may not be strong enough to enter.

Phrases like the kingdom of God or the kingdom of heaven are not just references to places to which we go but also ways of being or states of existence. They all refer to God's presence, to life with God. You've heard people say they were so happy that they felt it was like heaven on earth. It wasn't a place they went but an experience of being filled with joy and peace. It's pure gift. No one ever finds it by focusing on oneself. It is the narrow gate by which we find our way into such a life. It is the doorway of caring for others.

MASS INTENTION SCHEDULE

•	OLM SJB	08/31 08/31	9:30 11:00	a.m. a.m.	+Martha Huck (John and Sharon Pottmeyer) +Robert Heiss (Bob and Peggy Byers)		
Sunday	SJB	08/31	7:30	a.m.	+Ben and +Edith Brooker (Wed. Anniversary) (Family)		
	SJB	08/30	6:00	p.m.	+Msgr. Lucino (Birthday) (Dr. Lisa Cain)		
Saturday	OLM	08/30	4:00	p.m.	+Deanna Lang (08/29) (4 yr. Anniv.) (Kathy Reed)		
Friday	SJB	08/29	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today		
	OLM	08/28	5:00	p.m.	No Mass Today		
Thursday	SJB	08/28	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today		
Wednesday	SJB	08/27	8:20	a.m.	People of the Parish	School Mass	
	OLM	08/26	5:00	p.m.	No Mass Today		
Tuesday	SJB	08/26	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today		
Monday	SJB	08/25	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today		
	SJB	08/24	11:00	a.m.	+Richard and +Bertha Pottmeyer (Childi	en)	
	OLM	08/24	9:30	a.m.	+Linda Huck (6yr. Ann.) (Paul and Thersea Warren)		
Sunday	SJB	08/24	7:30	a.m.	+Herb Mason (Mason Family/Siblings)		
	SJB	08/23	6:00	p.m.	+Cheryl Brooker (Mary Brooker and Family)		
Saturday	OLM	08/23	4:00	p.m.	+Tess Huck (08/25) (2 yr Ann.) (Tammy Offenberger)		

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

		ALTER SERVERS	LECTOR	EUCHARISTIC MINISTER
Saturday	6:00 p.m.	Coletyn Dyar, Abby Henke	Eugene Huck	Jessica Henke
Sunday	7:30 a.m.	Grace Francis, Chase Arteaga	Hugh Arnold	Veronica Bosner
Sunday	11:00 a.m.	Hadleigh Pennock, Callen Pottmeyer	Ashleigh Pennock	Tonia Skinner

COLLECTION

Total Collection Aug. 9-10 \$ 3,373 Total Collection last weekend \$ 3,100 Needed to meet parish needs \$ 4,750

Thank you for your generosity!

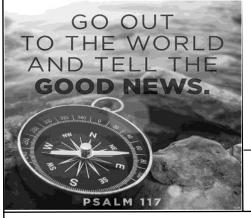
DPSC

2025 Collected to Date \$ 57,175 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.



What's Happening

August 25-Sept. 2 Fr. Gaydosik and Fr. Heinz will be out of town

August 29 Fr. Heinz's Birthday

September 1 Labor Day

September 4 Senior Citizen Meeting September 7 Fr. Gaydosik's Birthday

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

Sirach 3:17–18, 20, 28–29 / Hebrews 12:18–19, 22–24a / Luke 14:1, 7–14

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

MASS INFORMATION

Fr. Dave and Fr. Walter will be out of town August 24-September 2. Mass will <u>not</u> be held at St. John's or Our Lady of Mercy August 25 through September 1. However, there will be school mass on August 27 and the weekend Masses will be covered by Fr. Thomas Nau. If you are in need of a priest, please call one of the area churches.

PARISH DIRECTORY

The Parish Directory is complete and looks amazing. We thank Emma Brooker for all of her hard work. If you had your picture taken, your will receive an 8 1/2 x 11 book and a 5 1/2 x 8 1/2 book. Please know that many eyes reviewed the book but we realize mistakes can happen. If we made a mistake we truly apologize.



PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION

It's time to register for Parish School of Religion classes. There is a flyer enclosed with the QR code to sign up. Amanda Warner is the new PSR Director. She would like to get a head count so that we may order books etc. for classes to begin in October.

LITURGICAL MINISTER SCHEDULE

We will soon begin creating the Liturgical Minister schedule for October through January. If you would like to serve as a lector or eucharistic minister or if your child would like to serve on the altar, please let Pam know. If you would like to be removed from the list, please let her know as soon as possible.

SENIOR CITIZEN MEETING

The monthly Senior Citizen Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 4, 11:00 a.m. at the Sr. Center. Mr. Jeffrey James will give a presentation on phone scams. All are welcome to attend.

BAPTISM

We welcome into our parish family through Baptism: Carlie Rose Wesel, daughter of Jeff and Courtney (Parks) Wesel. May God bless this family now and always.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

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.

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.

Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

"Strive to enter through the narrow gate," Jesus tells us. "Many will attempt...but will not be strong enough." So let us never be so foolish that we rely on our own strength. Narrow does not mean unpassable — not if we ask for help.

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.



RAISE RIGHT/SCRIP (GIFT CARDS)

Raise Right/Scrip (gift cards) will benefit our Catholic School Students. It's a great way to help a Catholic student with tuition and no extra cost to you. There are hundreds of stores that participate in this program. You can access the various stores at www.shopwithscrip.com. Scrip cards can be purchased at the school anytime during school hours or you can place an order online and we will release it on the first and third Sunday of each month. Cards typically come in on Thursdays. You also have the option to purchase an "E-Card" on the scrip website. This allows you to order online and have instant access to your card. Our school code is 9FA39DBF1723L. Order forms are located on our school website or by contacting the school office.

SAVE THE DATE

Renew Your Spirit Ladies Retreat Day will be held on Saturday, October 4 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at St. Ambrose Church in Little Hocking, Ohio. There will be uplifting music, life changing speakers, confessions, group discussion, lunch, and the Rosary. More information will follow.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The 2025 Eucharistic Rosary Congress will be held October 4-10 throughout the Diocese of Steubenville. This is part of a nation-wide movement of prayer, taking place concurrently in 32 diocese throughout the country. The Eucharist Rosary Congress promotes the mission of the current National Eucharistic Revival: to renew our worship of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Eucharist and to encounter His healing grace. This will be an opportunity for our diocese to come together to pray in union with others through the country in adoration, reparation, and intercession for all of the needs of our community and Church.

FALL "COME AND SEE" LIVE IN

For those interested in the priesthood or religious life, there is an upcoming weekend designed to answer questions and help give a feel for what it is like in the seminary environment. The event is in Steubenville, OH on Thursday, November 6th thru Sunday, November 9th with more information to follow. Let us pray that the Lord may open the hearts and minds of more young people to receive his call to religious life and the courage to explore that call.





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 AssociationAndy 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: August 24, Fr. Walter Heinz, August 25, All Priests, August 26 Fr. Jack McCoy, August 27, Msgr. Don Horak, August 28, Fr. David Huffman, August 29, Fr. Edward Maxfield, August 30, Fr, Chester Pabin, August 31, Fr. Daniel Heusel. Eternal God, please bless our priests, who represent you on this earth. Heavenly Father, grant that our priests be strengthened by the power of the Eucharist they celebrate.

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

Prayer for Vocations

God Our Father, we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son's Kingdom as priests, deacons, religious, and consecrated persons. Send your Holy Spirit to help us respond generously and courageously to your call. May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth. We ask this through Our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

We are looking for individuals who are willing to serving our parish family as Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Ushers, Greeters, Servers. Lay participation is a vital part of the life of our parish community. Whether you're a lifetime member or new to our parish family, your service can make a real difference. Training will be provided. If interested contact the parish office.

Natural Family Planning (NFP) Teachers Needed. The Diocese has grant money to help towards the cost of training. Please join in praying that we may serve our married people well in this area! "Ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest" (Mt 9:38). Please contact Heather at: hkeimig@diosteub.org

My Morning Offering

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer you my prayers, works, joys, and sufferings of this day for all the intentions of your Sacred Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, for the salvation of souls, the reparation of sins, the reunion of all Christians, and in particular for the intentions of the Holy Father this month. Amen.

God Bless our students, teachers and staff as they return to school May God bless, guide, and protect those in our community returning to school this season. May He grant students peaceful spaces to study, learn, and grow. May He grant teachers joy, patience, and inspiration. May He grant all who support education grace, peace, and blessing. In Your name we pray, Amen.

Faith is the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen. Hebrew 11:1

SENIOR CITIZEN LUNCHEON

Calling All Seniors! We're excited for our Monthly Senior Citizen Luncheons—don't miss out on the fun, food, and fellowship! September 4th at 11:00am at Churchtown Senior Center, and it's the perfect opportunity to reconnect with old friends and make some new ones. Open to all area seniors 55+. Bring a side-dish to share and let the fun begin.

What Is Mercy? "Jesus Christ is the face of the Father's mercy." Through His words, actions, and entire person, Jesus reveals the mercy of God.

Mercy is...

- The mystery of the Most Holy Trinity revealed.
- The supreme act by which God meets us.
- A law written in every human heart.
- The bridge between God and humanity, opening us to hope and love despite our sinfulness.

"God's mercy, along with His love and goodness, is the foundation of every vocation." — Pope Leo XIV

Gregorian Chant, Explained!

Gregorian chant is an ancient form of sacred music used in liturgical worship and prayer. Defined by a monophonic (meaning a single melody without harmony or chords), unaccompanied song, this type of chant focuses the singer's mind on the content of the prayer being sung, which makes it uniquely suited for use in the Mass. Dating to the first millennium, it derives its name from Pope St. Gregory the Great, though scholarship is unclear on when exactly this type of chant originated. Prior to the Second Vatican Council, it was standard to use Gregorian chant in the Roman Rite Mass. Sacrosanctum Concilium, the Constitution on Divine Worship promulgated by Pope Paul VI in 1963, asserts that Gregorian chant is "specially suited to the Roman liturgy...(and) should be given pride of place in liturgical services." ©LPi

Did you know that the Sign of Peace isn't just a friendly gesture? Originally called the "kiss of peace," it was a powerful sign of unity before receiving the Eucharist. In the early Church, it was often exchanged as a kiss on the cheek. And speaking of kisses, have you ever noticed the priest kissing the altar? This happens at both the beginning and end of Mass. The kiss is a sign of reverence, as the altar represents Christ himself and may also contain relics of saints. These small gestures carry deep meaning and connect us to centuries of tradition in the Church.

Up, up and away in my beautiful jet plane. From August 24th to September 2nd Fr. Heinz and Fr. Gaydosik will be away for a time of prayer and relaxation. Canon Law (Church Law) requires a priest to make a yearly retreat. We welcome Fr. Thomas Nau, retired rector of the Cathedral Parish in Steubenville (and Noble county native) who will cover the weekend of August 30th and 31st.

