

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

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Fr. David Gaydosik, Pastor

Cell number 740-391-1093

Fr. Walter E Heinz, retired

Fr. Dale Tornes, retired

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 30, 2025



Good News!

By: FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

This is the first Sunday of Advent, and the excitement is palpable. Writing 800 years before Christ, the prophet Isaiah sounds like breaking news: “They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks.” The psalmist announces we are already there: “And now we have set foot within your gates, O Jerusalem.” Saint Paul tickles our fancy with another whole round of “revelation” yet to come “on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Only Jesus himself seems a little cautious: “Be watchful! Be alert!” The Lord “is coming,” but he’s not here yet. Leave it to Jesus to force the paradox for which Advent seems to have been created: Jesus is present, but we dare not “sleep,” lest we miss him!

How do we wait for Christmas? After Halloween, the Christmas lights go up, the carols start, the “Merry Christmas!” / “Happy Holidays!” debate begins. Lent is a time for repentance, alms, and fasting. But there’s no fasting in Advent: we fill bags with gifts and stockings with goodies. The Church tries to slow us down and encourage a little reflecting to prepare the way, led by John the Baptist. So let’s keep waiting; let’s hold on to our peace. Christmas Eve will be here soon enough. But let’s not be too austere. A full menu of holiday parties and concerts and family feasts can legitimately “anticipate” Christmas. Let’s cheer each other: Merry Advent!

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.

MASS INTENTION SCHEDULE

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)
Monday	SJB	12/01	8:00	a.m.	+Paul Schwendeman (Family)
Tuesday	SJB	12/02	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today
	OLM	12/02	5:00	p.m.	+Benard "Buzzard" Brooker (Julia Brooker)
Wednesday	SJB	12/03	8:30	a.m.	+Mary Schwendeman (Anniv. 12/5) (Family) School Mass
Thursday	SJB	12/04	8:00	a.m.	No Mass Today
	OLM	12/04	5:00	p.m.	No Mass Today (St. John School Christmas Program 6:30 p.m.)
First Friday	SJB	12/05	6:00	p.m.	+Alice Lang (Anniversary) (Bob and Peggy Byers) Adoration 5-6:00 p.m.
Saturday	OLM	12/06	4:00	p.m.	+Msgr. Donal O'Carrol and Hibernian Order (Hibernian Order)
	SJB	12/06	6:00	p.m.	+Rosemary Heiss (Bill and Alberta Wesel)
Sunday	SJB	12/06	7:30	a.m.	+Gladys Schilling (Birthday) (Family)
	OLM	12/07	9:30	a.m.	+Donnie Heiss (12/06) (2nd yr. Anniv.) (The Family)
	SJB	12/07	11:00	a.m.	+Leroy Marshall (Donna Tornes and Family)
<u>LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND</u>					
<u>MASS</u>		<u>ALTER SERVERS</u>		<u>LECTOR</u>	<u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER</u>
Saturday	6:00 p.m.	Alyssa Dyar, Alaina Wells, Emma Schaad		Virginia Dyar	Theresa Sauer
Sunday	7:30 a.m.	Dalton and Dane Schott		Adalyn Eichmiller	Veronica Bosner
Sunday	11:00 a.m.	Emi Lauchard, Callen Pottmeyer		Brynlee Pottmeyer	Tonia Skinner
<u>COLLECTION</u> Total Collection last week \$4,669 Need to meet parish needs \$4,750 Thank you for your generosity!			<u>DPSC</u> 2025 Collected to date \$71,025 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.
 1st Sunday of Advent			<u>UPCOMING EVENTS</u> 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		
READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND: Isaiah 11:1–10 / Romans 15:4–9 / Matthew 3:1–12			 Please have all bulletin information to the Rectory no later than 10:00 p.m. on Monday		

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.

GIVING TREE GIFTS

Giving tree gifts need to be returned by Sunday, December 7th. Thank you to all who are gifting to others this Christmas.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

If you would like to send a Christmas card to Fr. Walter Heinz or Fr. Dale Tornes, their addresses are as follows: Fr. Walter Heinz, 5700 Bayshore Road, Lot 801, Palmetto, FL 34221; Fr. Dale Tornes, 279 Muskingum Drive, Apt. 302, Marietta, OH 45750.

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.

COLLECTION ENVELOPES 2026

Collection envelopes for 2026 will be available the first weekend of December. In order to keep costs down, if you used an envelope this past year there will be a box with your name on it. If you do not have a box and would like one, please pick up a non-addressed box. We ask that everyone please write your name down on the first envelope used and note any address changes.

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.

PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will be closed December 22 through January 2. There will be a two week bulletin for the weekends of December 27-28 and January 3-4. Please have all bulletin information in to the Rectory by December 17.

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.



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!

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.

ADVENT

Advent season is an invitation to set your mind off the stresses of the year. We can take our focus off the crazy hustle that can be associated with the Christmas season that often threatens to produce more hassle than delight. Advent is a chance to focus our thoughts on the gift God has given us in his son Jesus who stepped down from Heaven and took the form of a man so that we might believe.

Looking Ahead...

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church and Our Lady of Mercy Church

THANKSGIVING MASSES

Wednesday, November 26

6:00 p.m. Our Lady of Mercy
6:00 p.m. St. John the Baptist

Thursday, November 27

8:30 a.m. St. John the Baptist



ANTICIPATED MASSES FOR THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Monday, December 8

8:30 a.m. St. John the Baptist (School Mass)
6:00 p.m. Our Lady of Mercy
7:00 p.m. St. John the Baptist



PENANCE SERVICES

Monday, December 15

1:00 p.m. St. John School
7:00 p.m. St. John the Baptist

Tuesday, December 16

7:00 p.m. Our Lady of Mercy

Wednesday, December 17

7:00 p.m. Basilica of St. Mary

Thursday, December 18

7:00 p.m. St. Bernard Church

Sunday, December 21

7:00 p.m. St. Ambrose



Mark Your
CALENDAR



ANTICIPATED MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS

Holy Day of Obligation

Wednesday, December 24 (Christmas Eve)

4:00 p.m. St. John the Baptist
5:00 p.m. Our Lady of Mercy
6:00 p.m. St. John the Baptist

Thursday, December 25 (Christmas Day)

7:30 a.m. St. John the Baptist
9:00 a.m. Our Lady of Mercy



THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Holy Day of Obligation

Wednesday, December 31

4:00 p.m. Our Lady of Mercy
4:00 p.m. St. John the Baptist

Thursday, January 1, 2025

8:30 a.m. St. John the Baptist
8:30 a.m. Our Lady of Mercy



OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

December 4	School Christmas Program
December 8	K of C Spread the Light
December 9	CWC Christmas Dinner
Jan 31-Feb 1	Blessing of Throats
February 18	Ash Wednesday
March 29	Palm Sunday
April 5	Easter Sunday
April 26	First Communion