ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

17784 St. Rt. 676, Marietta, Ohio 45750 Phone 740-896-3566
Email: stjohnchurchtown@yahoo.com webpage: www.stjohnchurchtown.com



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 29, 2026



Founded 1841—Completed 1867
A parish of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Steubenville

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.
Bulletin Information: Please have all bulletin information to the Rectory no later than Wednesday at 6 p.m.

Good News!

BY: ANN M. GARRIDO

Today marks the beginning of a new liturgical year, but you would not guess it by today's gospel passage, which speaks of the end of time. Time's "end" is an important theme throughout Scripture. Unlike other ancient peoples, the Hebrews intuited that time was not locked in an eternal cycle. Time was "going somewhere." God had a purpose for history; a dream yet to be realized. Commonly in Scripture, this "end" is described as "the Lord's Coming" or, in New Testament Greek, "the Parousia."

History exists that God might enter and fill time with the divine presence, making Earth God's home. In the verses immediately preceding today's gospel reading, the disciples have been asking Jesus what this Coming will look like and when it will occur. Are there clues they should look for so they might be ready when it happens? Today, we hear Jesus emphasize that there is no way to know. Rather, they should always be prepared for God to come home. They should live each day with the "end" in mind.

Advent is a time of preparation for the feast of Christmas—recalling how God came to make a home with us in the person of Jesus Christ two thousand years ago. But even more so, it is a time of preparation for the Parousia, when what took place in the person of Jesus will take place within all of creation. When, as Paul says, God will be "all in all" (1 Corinthians 15:28).

As the liturgical year begins anew, may we, too, enter this season with the "end" in mind. God is still at work in history, seeking a home within us and within our time.

MASS INTENTION SCHEDULE

Saturday	OLM	11/28	4:00	p.m.	+Tess Huck (Randolph Family)	
	SJB	**11/28**	**6:00**	**p.m.**	**Living and Deceased of +James and +Maglena Arnold (Family)**	
Sunday	**SJB**	**11/29**	**7:30**	**a.m.**	**+Herb Mason (Mason Siblings)**	
	OLM	11/29	9:30	a.m.	+Jeri Lang (Larry and Linda Pottmeyer)	
	SJB	**11/29**	**11:00**	**a.m.**	**+Alice Lang (Anniversary 12/5) (Bob and Peggy Byers)**	
Monday	**SJB**	**11/30**	**8:00**	**a.m.**	**+Ron Lang (Stan Lang Family)**	
Tuesday	**SJB**	**12/01**	**8:00**	**a.m.**	**No Mass Today**	
	OLM	12/01	5:00	p.m	+Martha Huck (Kay Offenberger)	
Wednesday	**SJB**	**12/02**	**8:30**	**a.m.**	**+Paul Schwendeman (Anniv.) (Family)**	**School Mass**
Thursday	**SJB**	**12/03**	**8:00**	**a.m.**	**No Mass Today**	
	OLM	12/03	5:00	p.m.	+Donnie Heiss (3yr. Annv.) (12/06) (Fay Heiss)	
First Friday	**SJB**	**12/04**	**6:00**	**p.m.**	**+Rosemary Heiss (Bill and Alberta Wesel)**	**5:00 p.m. Adoration**
Saturday	OLM	12/05	4:00	p.m.	Ancient Order of the Hibernians (AOH)	
	SJB	**12/05**	**6:00**	**p.m.**	**+Leroy Marshall (Donna Tornes and Family)**	
Sunday	**SJB**	**12/06**	**7:30**	**a.m.**	**+Mary Schwendeman (Anniv. 12/4) (Family)**	
	OLM	12/06	9:30	a.m.	+John and +Mary Lou Huck (The Family)	
	SJB	**12/06**	**11:00**	**a.m.**	**+Richard Pottmeyer (Anniv.) (Pottmeyer Children)**	

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

MASS	ALTAR SERVERS	LECTOR	EUCHARISTIC MINISTER
Saturday 6:00 p.m.	Tanner Crum, Abby Henke, Sierra Ewing	Kelly Miller	Jessica Henke
Sunday 7:30 a.m.	JD Alexander, Callen Pottmeyer	Zandra Francis	Connie Arnold
Sunday 11:00 a.m.	Hadleigh Pennock, Sophee Lang	Reese Lang	Roxanne Heiss

COLLECTION

Total Collection (last weekend) $4,095
Need to meet parish needs $4,750

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

DPSC

2026 Collected to date $64,000
DPSC Goal $36,584

THANK YOU!



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.

THE CHURCH WILL BE OPEN

The Church will be open after mass on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday each week until 5:00 p.m.

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec 3	Senior Citizens Meeting
Dec 3	St. John School Christmas Program
Dec 8	Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation)
Dec 13	CWC Christmas Party
Dec 14	School Penance 1:00 p.m., St. John Penance Service 7:00 p.m.
Dec 15	Our Lady of Mercy Penance Service 7:00 p.m.

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION)

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is Tuesday, December 8. This is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass will be held at St. John's on Monday, December 7 at 6:00 p.m. and December 8 at 8:30 a.m. (school mass). Mass at Lowell will be 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 8. Volunteers will be needed to Lector, Altar Servers and Eucharistic Minister. Thank you.

COLLECTION ENVELOPES 2027

Collection envelopes for 2027 are available this weekend. 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 unaddressed box. We ask that everyone please write your name down on the first envelope used and note any address changes.

CHRISTMAS EVE/DAY AND NEW YEAR'S EVE/DAY LITURGICAL MINISTER SIGN UP SHEET

A sign up sheet for Liturgical Ministers for Christmas Eve through New Year's Day Masses at St. John's is located in the vestibule. Please try to sign up before December 13. Volunteers will be needed Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Thank you.

CWC CHRISTMAS PARTY

CWC Christmas Party for the ladies of the parish and their spouses is scheduled for December 13th at 12:30 p.m. at the Marietta County Club. The choices are Bruschetta Chicken ($30.00), Grilled Salmon ($30.00) or Penne Alfresco ($24.00). Please contact Bonnie Flowers at 740-373-0390 by December 1st to make your reservations.

ST. VINCENT DEPAUL GIVING TREE

Giving tree gifts need to be returned by Sunday, December 6th. Thank you to all who are gifting to others this Christmas.

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 13.

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!

SCRIP CARD ORDERS

Scrip card orders will be placed on Sunday, December 6 and 13. There are so many stores to use scrip cards. You can view cards and order online at www.raiseright.com. Scrip cards are a great way to purchase gifts and earn tuition money at the same time.

SPAM EMAILS, TEXTS, ETC.

The scammers are at it again. Please disregard any email or text requesting gift cards etc. from Fr. David or any of our other priests.

CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Children in grade 1 and up are welcome to join the children's choir for the 6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass. Practice will be held on December 6th and 20th after the 11:00 a.m. Mass until 1:00 p.m. Please call or text Crystal Lang 740-516-4202) know if your child is interested

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 7th 2026 @ 7:00PM 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 KofC hall for the holiday season! All children Kindergarten - 8th Grade are encouraged to participate.

KOFC 4617 MEMBERS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Knights of Columbus 4617 will host our Annual Members Christmas Party, Saturday, December 12th, 2026. Members and a guest are invited to enjoy an adult-only evening out to get in 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.

KOFC CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

On Sunday, December 13th, 2026 at Noon, KofC 4617 members are invited to bring their families and children for a festive afternoon. Santa Claus will make a stop at the KofC 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.

ASSEMBLY 840 CHRISTMAS PARTY

Assembly 840 will have its annual Christmas dinner on Sunday, December 13th. This year it will be held at Christ the King Parish hall, in Athens, Ohio. We will begin at 3:00 p.m. and try to be finished up by 6:00 p.m. The Athens Council will be providing the entrée, with everybody encouraged to bring a side dish, to be enjoyed by everyone. There will be a $20.00 gift exchange for the Ladies. We will have a short meeting at the end of the dinner to set up meetings and goals for next year and go over our accomplishments from the past year. Please make every effort to attend.



Pastor's Message

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

Looking Ahead...

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIGIN MARY

Holy Day of Obligation

Monday, December 7

6:00 p.m. St. John the Baptist

Monday, December 8

8:30 a.m. School Mass

6:00 p.m. Our Lady of Mercy

PENANCE SERVICES

Monday, December 14

1:00 p.m. St. John School

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

Tuesday, December 15

7:.00 p.m. Our Lady of Mercy

Wednesday, December 16

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

Thursday, December 17

7:00 p.m. St. Bernard Church

ADDITIONAL CONFESSION TIMES

Monday, December 21

St. John Church

Noon-1:00 p.m. and 6-7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 22

Our Lady of Mercy

5:30-6:00 p.m.

MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS

Holy Day of Obligation

Thursday, December 24 (Christmas Eve)

4:00 p.m. St. John the Baptist

4:00 p.m. Our Lady of Mercy

6:00 p.m. St. John the Baptist

Friday, December 25 (Christmas Day)

9:00 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

Thursday, December 31

4:00 p.m. Our Lady of Mercy

4:00 p.m. St. John the Baptist

Friday, January 1, 2027

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

8:30 a.m. Our Lady of Mercy



Times are subject to change