

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/in residence
Fr. Dale Tornes, retired



Faith - Tradition - Family

Good News!

Sometimes it seems as if life is a laboratory of designed experiments on how to become human, all of them allotted ten-year blocks.

Have you noticed how nine- and ten-year-olds can be easy to be around? Then about the time we've gotten being a kid down to a science, life begins to move us into adolescence. We want to be independent and responsible, but we don't yet have all the skills. We have sexual feelings, but we're expected not to act on them. About the time we reach adulthood and move into our twenties, it seems we can finally do what we want, but then we might drink too much, spend too much, drive too fast, and party too long. Once we begin to settle down around year thirty, we have to learn how to live with another person. One likes it warm, the other cool. One seeks to save, the other spends. One is a homebody, the other enjoys going out on the town. By the time we've gotten to our sixties and seventies, we may have figured out life, but by then we've used up most of our energy.

What's going on?

Faith suggests it's the hand of God shaping us into the sort of persons we're meant to be. "Lord, you are our father; we are the clay and you our potter: we are all the work of your hand" (Isaiah 64:7). Advent may be a time to figure out how God is acting in your life now and look back to see that God was shaping you all along.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 3, 2023



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday	OLM	12/02	4:00	P.M.	+Msgr. Donal O'Carroll (Hibernian Mass) (Ed Schilling)
	SJB	12/02	6:00	P.M.	+Dave Erb (5th Anniv. 12/1) (Ken Gebhart Family)
Sunday	SJB	12/02	7:30	A.M.	+Alice Lang (Anniv.) (Bob and Peggy Byers)
	OLM	12/03	9:30	A.M.	+Wilford "Clare" Huck (Mark and Sandy Huck)
	SJB	12/03	11:00	A.M.	+Richard Pottmeyer (Bertha Pottmeyer and Family)
Monday	SJB	12/04	8:00	A.M.	+Mary Schwendeman (Family) *All Souls Intentions of Dave and Barb Huck
Tuesday	SJB	12/05	8:00	A.M.	No morning Mass
	OLM	12/05	5:00	P.M.	+Vivian Rinard (Larry and Linda Pottmeyer)
Wednesday	SJB	12/06	8:20	A.M.	+Rosemary Heiss (Bill and Alberta Wesel) *All Souls Intentions of Bertha Pottmeyer
Thursday	SJB	12/07	8:00	A.M.	No morning Mass
	SJB	12/07	6:00	P.M.	+Edith Brooker (Gary and Edna Arnold)
	OLM	12/07	6:00	P.M.	+Terry Arnold (Donna Wagner)
Friday	SJB	12/08	8:20	A.M.	+Terry Arnold (Family) School Mass
	OLM	12/08	9:00	A.M.	+Linda Huck (Doug Dye)
	SJB	12/08	12:00	P.M.	+Margaret Klinger (Alvin Arnold and Family)
	OLM	12/08	6:00	P.M.	Living and Deceased of OLM CWC (OLM CWC)
SJB	12/08	7:00	P.M.	+Peggy Schaad (Mike and Marilyn Schaad) *All Souls Intentions of Charlotte Lang	
Saturday	OLM	12/09	4:00	P.M.	+Bob Peters (Marilyn and Heather Peters)
	SJB	12/09	6:00	P.M.	+Rosemary Wagner (Richard and Brenda Arnold)
Sunday	SJB	12/10	7:30	A.M.	+Bob Pottmeyer (Birthday 12/11) (Erin and Sherri Pottmeyer)
	OLM	12/10	9:30	A.M.	+Bernard Brooker (Julia Brooker)
	SJB	12/10	11:00	A.M.	+Gladys Schilling (Birthday 12/11) (Jerry and Melinda Treadway)



The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
(Holy Day of Obligation)

*This mass has been sent to Fr. Heinz aid in Florida

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

MASS	ALTAR SERVERS	LECTOR	EUCHARISTIC MINISTER
Saturday 6:00 P.M.	Hudson and Sydney Lang	Rachel Klinger	Virginia Dyar
Sunday 7:30 A.M.	Grace and Mason Francis	Zandra Francis	Arnold Huck
Sunday 11:00 A.M.	Reese Lang, Callen Pottmeyer	Kristen Pottmeyer	Roxanne Heiss

<u>COLLECTION</u>	<u>D.P.S.C.</u>	<u>BINGO</u>
Total Collection last weekend \$3,717 Needed to meet parish needs \$4,750 Thank you for your generosity!	2023 Collected \$84,789 2023 Goal \$25,341 Thank you!	Nov. 19 Group 3 \$1,242 If you are unable to attend, please find a replacement.

<u>ST. JOHN BINGO WORK SCHEDULE</u>	<u>C.W.C. BINGO CAKES</u>	<u>PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY</u>
Dec 3 Group 5 with Kenley Schwendeman Dec 10 Group 6 with Jeff Canterbury Dec 17 Group 7 with Brandon Wheeler and Group 8 with Russ Lang (Super Bingo) No Bingo On December 24 or 31	December Group C—Veronica Bosner Meetings held the 2nd Monday of each month, 6:30 p.m. in the Sr. Center (Sept.-May)	Please pray for all of the men and women who are serving our country in the military. May God watch over them and keep them safe.

<u>READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND</u>	
Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 / 2 Peter 3:8-14 / Mark 1:1-8	Please have all bulletin information to the Rectory no later than 10:00 p.m. on Monday

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 17.

EUCHRE

Euchre will not be held during the month of December.

SENIOR CITIZEN MEETING

The Senior Citizens will meet at the Sr. Center on December 7, for their Christmas lunch at Noon. Steve and Beverly Pottmeyer will provide the entertainment. Lunch will be provided. Please contact Doris Brooker if you haven't already signed up for a meal and plan on attending.

SCRIP CARD ORDERS

Scrip card orders will be placed every Sunday beginning this weekend through December 17. Scrip cards are a great way to purchase gifts and earn tuition money at the same time.

CEMETERY PILLOWS AND BUCKEYES

Washington County 4H Exchange Club is selling pine cemetery pillows for \$25 each with delivery by December 8th. Also selling buckeyes, \$8/doz., delivery by December 15th. Orders can be called or texted to Michelle Schwendeman @ 740-525-7925, Alisha Schaad @ 740-350-5719, or Ellie Tullius @ 740-434-3064. Thank you in advance for your support!

OUTDOOR NATIVITY

Our church has a new outdoor nativity. The old, lighted blow mold statues are for sale. The set includes the holy family, kings, shepherd, an angel, and a few animals. If you are interested, please contact Marilyn Zoller 740-350-8141. Opening bid is \$100 and bids will close on December 15.

SUPER BINGO

There will be a Super Bingo held at the Shrine Center on December 17. Group 7 (Brandon Wheeler) and Group 8 (Russ Lang) are scheduled to work. There will be a \$5,000 payout, end of the month door prize, extra door prize and a meal of ham, potatoes, and green beans will be provided.

CWC CHRISTMAS DINNER

The CWC member and spouse Christmas dinner will be held on Sunday, December 10th from 12:00 to 2:00 P.M. at the Marietta Country Club dining room. Please call or text Marilyn Zoller at 740-350-8141 or Susan Arnold at 740-373-8083 no later than December 3rd if you plan to attend.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

If you would like to send a Christmas card to Fr. Tim Davison, Fr. Walter Heinz or Fr. Dale Tornes, their addresses are as follows: Fr. Tim Davison, 334 South Main Street, Woodsfield, OH 43793; Fr. Walter Heinz, 5700 Bayshore Road, Lot 244, Palmetto, FL 34221; Fr. Dale Tornes, 279 Muskingum Drive, Apt. 302, Marietta, OH 45750.

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 4th @ 6:30 PM 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!

K OF C MEMBER CHRISTMAS PARTY

Knights of Columbus 4617 will host our Annual Members Christmas Party, Saturday, December 9, 2023. 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 Taylor Pottmeyer @ 412-215-6470 with any questions.

K OF C CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

KofC 4617 Members are invited to bring their families for a festive afternoon on Sunday, December 10 at noon. 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 Taylor Pottmeyer @ 412-215-6470 with any questions.

FREE WEBINAR FOR PARENTS

Guiding Your Children through Cultural Chaos

Parenting is tough! And our culture is not making it any easier. Our children are facing challenges that many of us never dreamed about when we were younger. Please join us for a special online event designed to support parents and provide them with up to date information and resources from a Catholic perspective. The webinar will address the following topics: The Problem with Porn; Gender Identity Disorder and SSA; and Social Media: Dangers and Safeguards. Q & A will follow the presentations. The webinar will take place on Tuesday, December 5, from 7:00 – 8:30 PM. This event is **FREE but registration is required**. To register, go to www.familyhonor.org/chastity-programs-near-me. Questions? Please contact Joseph Schmidt (jschmidt@diosteub.org or 740-516-9270).

PENANCE SERVICES

All Penance Services will be held at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

December 13	St. Mary's Church in Marietta
December 18	St. John School (12:30 p.m.)
December 18	St. John the Baptist in Churchtown
December 19	Our Lady of Mercy Church in Lowell





Weddings: Please make arrangements at least six months in advance before any other plans are made.

Confession: one-half hour before Mass or upon request

Sick Calls: If you or any family member is ill and hospitalized please inform the Parish Offices.

Pastoral Musicians

Valerie Strahler,
Crystal Lang

Scrip Coordinator

Betina Lang

PSR Coordinator

Andrea Ralston

Prayer Chain:

Mary Brooker 740-896-2002
Elaine Wells 740-896-3112

Home Visitation

Marilyn Kern

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,
Howard Brooker, Dean Hart

Club of Catholic Women:

President Marilyn Zoller

St. John Central School

(740) 896-2697

Mrs. Karen Pottmeyer
Principal

Knights of Columbus

Council 4617

Grand Knight Taylor Pottmeyer

Diocesan Catholic Charities & Information

Referral Line:
1-800-339-7890

St. John School Foundation

Gary Arnold, President

SUPPORT OUR SEMINARIANS Please join us in praying for Seminarians of the Steubenville Diocese:

Monday: Peter Stetson,
Samuel Ivkovich

Tuesday:
Christopher McGurn
John Paul Gan

Wed.: Jonathan Rusco

Thurs: Riley Morris,

Friday: Aaron Pabin,

Saturday: Caleb Baker,

Sunday: For Vocations

Pray for your priests the week of December 3rd

Sunday Bishop Paul Bradley

Monday: Msgr. Mike Campbell

Tuesday: Fr. Thomas Nau

Wednesday: Msgr. George Coyne

Thursday: Fr. Dan Heusel

Friday: Fr. Robert Gallagher

Saturday: Fr. Jonas Schell

FREE! The following books are available for you.

Beautiful Eucharist,

The Rocking Chair Profit,

The Magnificat Advent Companion.

Legacy Giving: Please remember our St. John the Baptist Parish when having memorials donated for your loved ones, when doing your estate planning, and when making a charitable contribution.

Have you been attending our parish Masses but have not yet registered with the parish office? What is holding you back? Come, and be a part of our parish and be blessed with new friendships. Join today and take advantage of all that our parish has to offer to you and your family. You can register by picking up a form at the entrance of our church and returning it to the parish office.

Jesus Christ, Lord of all things! You see my heart, you know my desires. Possess all that I am—you alone. I am your sheep; make me worthy to overcome the devil.”- St. Agatha

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: If you borrowed a pyx from the sacristy at St. John the Baptist, please kindly return it if you are finished using it. Thank you.

Gluten Issues We have available at St. John’s and Our Lady of Mercy a limited supply of Low-Gluten (made in accordance with Canon Law) for those with Gluten Issues. We as if you are in need of a Low Gluten Host, please see the priest before the Mass you attend, to arrange this option.

PRE-CANA. A Pre-Cana Session is scheduled at the Basilica. For Saturday, March 9th, 2024. Couples planning marriage should register for this class by calling the Basilica Parish Office at 740-373-3643. Pre-Cana is a requirement for marriage in our Diocese of Steubenville.



“It is better to be a child of God than king of the whole world.” – St. Aloysius Gonzaga

Human Life

"Human life is sacred because from its beginning it involves the creative action of God and it remains forever in a special relationship with the Creator, who is its sole end. God alone is the Lord of life from its beginning until its end: no one can under any circumstance claim for himself the right directly to destroy an innocent human being." Catechism of the Catholic Church 2258.

It is discouraging when we see our hopes and values not put into action. Our recent elections show that the Sixth Commandment, Thou Shall Not Kill, is not honored for Ohio. As we see much of the world out of harmony with God, many feelings of despair and anger result. Understandable, but these feelings shall not prevent us from continuing our prayers and efforts to teach and convert others to see the gift and beauty of life, from conception to natural death. "The only way to overcome error is to keep the truth in front of it." Venerable Bishop Fulton J. Sheen said Satan will try to make us believe that there is no hope in trying to uphold good morals and values. DO NOT allow him to rule this type of thinking. That is an error! Ask Jesus and His Mother to guide us in our thinking and actions. They are the truth that we need to stand before... not the ways of the world. "A life is not an accident. It is a responsibility." Please continue to pray for God’s beautiful gift of life.

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December 19	Our Lady of Mercy Church in Lowell
December 21	St. Bernard in Beverly