

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



Faith - Tradition - Family

Good News!

By: FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

For all of us, at one time or another, life seems to run out of wine. We look at our relationships and find ourselves saying, “There’s no more wine.” It may be a friendship of five years or a marriage of twenty-five years, but, for some, the wine runs out. For others, it is the job that loses its challenge. Or, one day, the foreman gathers everyone to announce that the plant is closing. In a moment, all has turned into vinegar; there is no more wine. For others still, it is when retirement suffocates the future, choking all that once gave meaning.

However, there are also those times when hope is reborn, when we feel “espoused” not only by life but also by God, when the ordinary turns extraordinary—and the water becomes wine. It is the phone call offering a new job after we have collected unemployment checks for months. It is falling in love when we have given up on the notion. It is conceiving a child after years of barren waiting. It is someone who listens, finally, when no one else would. It is at times like these—and many others as well—when we are caught off-balance and trip into God unwittingly, saved from drudgery and redeemed to live a life enriched, when water is turned into wine. It is a deeply felt joy that reveals God’s presence.

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 19, 2025

The Wedding at Cana




MASS INTENTION SCHEDULE

Saturday	OLM	01/18	4:00	P.M.	+Gary Pottmeyer (Tracy and Angela Lang)
	SJB	01/18	6:00	P.M.	+Lorraine Henke (Mary Brooker and Family)
Sunday	SJB	01/19	7:30	A.M.	Fr. Dale Tornes (Birthday 1/21) (Randy and Jean Tornes and Family)
	OLM	01/19	9:30	A.M.	+Tristan Sine (Jason and Jennifer Morris)
	SJB	01/19	11:00	A.M.	+Richard and +Bertha Pottmeyer (Pottmeyer Family Children)
Monday	SJB	01/20	8:00	A.M.	+Ben Sauer (CWC)
Tuesday	SJB	01/21	8:00	A.M.	No Mass Today
	OLM	01/21	5:00	P.M.	+Bob Peters (Marilyn Peters)
Wednesday	SJB	01/22	8:20	A.M.	+David Bowen (Parish) School Mass Adoration after Mass until Noon
Thursday	SJB	01/23	8:00	A.M.	No Mass Today
	OLM	01/23	5:00	P.M.	+Don Holmes (Debbie Misel)
Friday	SJB	01/24	8:00	A.M.	+Richard C. Arnold (Connie Arnold)
Saturday	OLM	01/25	4:00	P.M.	+Joe and +Ida Huck (Jim and Peggy Huck)
	SJB	01/25	6:00	P.M.	+Larry Schaad (1st Anniversary) (Janet Schaad and Family)
Sunday	SJB	01/26	7:30	A.M.	+Mary Emge (CWC)
	OLM	01/26	9:30	A.M.	+Earl Tornes (Richard and Melissa Tornes)
	SJB	01/26	11:00	A.M.	+Tony Tornes (Donna Tornes and Family)

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

MASS	ALTAR SERVERS	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER
Saturday 6:00 p.m.	Raegan and Orion Flinn	Virginia Dyar	Jessica Henke
Sunday 7:30 a.m.	Connor McCartney, Keegan Pottmeyer	Kelly Miller	Veronica Bosner
Sunday 11:00 a.m.	Maycee and Brenlee Lang	Janelle Sprague	Roxanne Heiss

<u>COLLECTION</u>	<u>DPSC</u>	
Total Collection last weekend \$ 3,070 Needed to meet parish needs \$ 4,750 Thank you for your generosity!	2024 Total Collected \$80,615 Thank you so much for your generosity! 2025 Collected to Date \$3,125	 <p>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.</p>

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

<p align="center">SNOW REMINDER</p> <p>We are entering that time of year again when road conditions may not always be safe for travel. Please remember that if a Level 2 or 3 road emergency is issued by the Sheriff's Department, Masses will be cancelled for that day. When St. John School is closed due to weather, Mass and Adoration that day is cancelled. Our Parish office will also be closed. This policy is for both St. John the Baptist and Our Lady of Mercy. Masses scheduled for that day will be rescheduled. Also, please keep in mind, if there is a funeral scheduled at St. John's, the Mass for that day is cancelled and will be rescheduled.</p>	<p><i>what's happening this week ...</i></p> <p>January 16-24 K of C Novena for Life January 19 Legacy Sunday January 21 Fr. Tornes Birthday....Happy Birthday Fr. Tornes!!! January 22 Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children Eucharistic Adoration after the 8:20 a.m. Mass until Noon Daily Bread Kitchen January 24 March for Life, Washington DC</p>
	<p>READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND</p> <p>Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10 / 1 Corinthians 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27 / Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21</p>

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Eucharistic Adoration will be held on Wednesday, January 22 after the 8:20 a.m. Mass until Noon. All are invited to come and pray for the protection of human life in all its stages.

2024 COLLECTION STATEMENTS

If you need a copy of your collections for 2024, please call the Rectory 896-3566. Please note that if you contributed to the DPSC, the Diocese will send you a separate statement

COLLECTION ENVELOPES

Collection Envelopes will be available until January 31. If you have not picked up your envelopes please try to do so before the 31st. If you do not have envelopes and would like a box, please take one of the boxes without a label and put your name and address on the first envelope used.

NEW LITURGICAL MINISTER SCHEDULES

Liturgical Minister schedules for February through May are available. Please make sure to pick up a copy.

SICK & SHUT-INS OF THE PARISH

Please call Father Gaydosik at 740-391-1093 or the Parish Office at 740-896-3566, when someone is homebound, sick, or hospitalized.

COMMUNION FOR HOMEBOUND

If you or someone you know cannot attend mass due to being confined to home and would like to receive communion, please contact the Rectory 740-896-3566.

DAILY BREAD KITCHEN

As we've come to the end of another year, I want to personally thank those who help to prepare the lunch for Daily Bread Kitchen, those who donate items, your monetary donations and for your prayers. We are forever grateful for the St. John's parishioners! We are feeding around 300 a week and you are definitely helping to make a difference! Hoping you Have a Blessed Happy New Year! Sheila Lovett

The St. Johns group for the Daily Bread Kitchen will be cooking and handing out Takeout Lunches, at the Marietta KofC hall on Gilman Ave. in Marietta, on Wednesday, **January 22, 2025**. At this time we are in need of packaged cookies, snack cakes, or doughnuts, pastries or muffins and fruit cups (to put in the Takeouts). If you would like to make a donation of any of these items, you can leave them in the box in the entry of the church by 8am on Wednesday, **January 22, 2025**. If you would like to make a monetary donation there will also be a collection can in the entry of the church. Thank you for all your past and present donations. You are helping to make a difference!

MARY'S HOUSE BINGO FUNDRAISER

A bingo fundraiser for Mary's House will be held on Sunday, February 9 at 2:00 p.m. (doors open at 1:00 p.m.) at the St. Bernard Social Hall. 20 games for \$20. Tickets will be sold at the door only. There will be a 50/50 raffle, concession stand and raffle.

Catholic Schools Week

**Catholic Schools Week will be celebrated
Sunday, January 26 – Saturday, February 1**

LEGACY SUNDAY

A new initiative by our Diocese to inspire parishioners to reflect on their blessings and consider how they can leave a lasting impact through legacy giving. Please think about our parish when planning out your estate. As St. Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 12:4-11, our gifts come from the same Spirit and are meant for the common good. Legacy giving allows us to continue sharing those blessings beyond our lifetime, ensuring the vibrancy and growth of our faith family.

CABIN FEVER BUSTER DINNER

Our Lady of Mercy CWC is holding a Cabin Fever Buster Dinner on February 1, 2025 from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Mercy social hall. Menu includes baked steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, homemade noodles, green beans, coleslaw, and dessert. Dine in or carry out is available. Cost is \$15 for adults and \$8 for children under 10. Tickets will be sold until Monday, January 27th and can be purchased by calling Kathy Reed at 740-350-3496. Tickets will NOT be sold at the door.

MARCH FOR LIFE

Even though Roe v. Wade has been overturned, the need to witness the sacredness of human life is greater than ever. The March for Life is the largest pro-life rally in the world. It's an opportunity to give public testimony to the value of every human life, and to be inspired by the dedication of the tens of thousands of people who participate – especially the enormous numbers of young people. The March for Life will take place in Washington, DC, on Friday, January 24, 2025. Learn more at www.marchforlife.org.

K OF C SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Knights of Columbus Council #4617 is happy to announce that our 2025 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 15, 2025.

Please apply at <https://forms.gle/9dEuaKinPDh8oSX27>

Information and a link to the application can also be found on our Facebook Page: "Knights of Columbus 4617 - Churchtown, OH". Any questions text/call Taylor Pottmeyer at 412-215-6470. Good luck to all applicants!

K OF C NOVENA FOR LIFE

A Novena for Life sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 4617 will be held from January 16th – January 24th 2025 to pray for a culture of life and civilization of love in our community, nation, and world. We will also post these prayer sheets each morning on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/churchtownkofc>

More information can be found at:

<https://www.respectlife.org/9-days-signup> Call/text Taylor Pottmeyer @ 412-215-6470 with any questions or for more information!

FREE THROW CONTEST

Athens K of C Council will be sponsoring a free throw contest for all students aged 9 to 14 on January 25th at Athens High School. The event will run from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM. They have requested a Color Guard to post the colors and led the Pledge of Allegiance to start the event. Any Fourth-Degree member that is interested in participating, please contact Josh Kocher at joshburn@protomail.com If you have any questions contact Rod Strahler. Thanks for all you do for the Knights.



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

Scrip Coordinator

Betina Lang

PSR Coordinator

Andrea Ralston

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

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 Taylor Pottmeyer

St. John School Foundation

Gary Arnold, President

Diocesan Catholic Charities & Information

Referral Line:

1-800-339-7890

Ancient Order of Hibernians

James Farly, President

NEW ADDRESS OR PHONE NUMBER

If you have recently moved, please call the parish office and give us your new address. Also, if you have dropped your land line and are just using your cell phone number, please give us that information as we want to keep our census current.

A note from a Seminarian- "I would like to thank you for your support. Even with 10 seminarians discerning for the Diocese of Steubenville, there is no shortage of love and support by the good people of our diocese. God has provided abundantly. It seem that if I am willing to give everything to God, then He is willing to give me all that is necessary to love and serve Him. I want to be a good priest. Please pray for me and know of my daily prayers for you."—Sam Ivkoich, *Seminarian of the Diocese of Steubenville.*

Pray for our priests: January 19—Fr. Michel Gossett; Jan 20—Fr. Thomas Magary; Jan.21—Msgr. J. Micheal Campbell; Jan 22—Msgr. George Coyne; Jan 23—Fr. Leonard Cencula; Jan 24—Fr. Thomas Vennitti; Jan 25—Fr. James Dunfee; Jan. 26—Fr. Timothy Kozak.

Weather ... If it Looks too Dangerous to Go Outside, Don't Go Outside. The Church does not ask you to do anything to harm your health or put yourself at risk. When the weather is bad, please use common sense. Don't do anything dangerous. Better safe than sorry.

Introducing Legacy Sunday: A New Initiative by the Diocese

We are excited to announce **Legacy Sunday**, a new initiative by our Diocese to inspire parishioners to reflect on eir blessings and consider how they can leave a lasting impact through legacy giving. The first **Legacy Sunday** will take place on the weekend of **Sunday, January 19th**, and will focus on our Parish, Catholic School, and Diocese for generations supporting the mission of to come. As St. Paul reminds us in *1 Corinthians 12:4-11*, our gifts come from the same Spirit and are meant for the common good. Legacy giving allows us to continue sharing those blessings beyond our lifetime, ensuring the vibrancy and growth of our faith family.

2025 RELIGIOUS CALENDARS

Our 2025 Religious Calendars are a gift from Cawley & Peoples Funeral Home. We thank them for this very generous gift.

K of C Scholarship We are happy to announce that our 2025 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. Two winners will be selected from this area. The scholarship recipients will receive a \$500.00 check. The application must be submitted by March 15, 2025. Please apply at the link below:

<https://forms.gle/9dEuaKinPDh8oSX27>.

Any questions text/call Taylor Pottmeyer at 412-215-6470.

January 22, 2025 has been designated by the **US Bishops as a Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children.** Masses will be offered for this intention. Parishioners are invited to attend Mass on this day, and to consider participation in additional prayer opportunities, such as a Holy Hour, Rosary, Chaplet of the Divine Mercy, etc. Learn more at www.respectlife.org/january-22.

The Arise Catholic Infertility Ministry, along with the Office of Marriage, Family, and Respect Life of the Diocese of Steubenville, are partnering with Springs in the Desert to support couples carrying the cross of infertility with a half-day retreat on Saturday, Feb. 8, from 2-8 p.m. Come with your spouse or on your own to be supported, hear inspiring reflections, have opportunities for group sharing, and experience friendship with others on this same path. In addition to talks, our retreat will include time for prayer in adoration, as well as praise and worship, an optional art walk, and dinner. A more detailed schedule will be provided as we get closer to the retreat. Registration is open at <https://diosteub.givecloud.co/infertility-retreat>. Please contact Bernadette at bmrjuliano@gmail.com and Meg at mreister@franciscan.edu with any questions.

FYI. "Bishop Edward Lohse will host a **St. Andrew Dinner** for young men, 10th grade and older, at Triumph of the Cross Parish on Saturday, February 1st. Bishop Lohse will share insights about priesthood and discernment. Dinner is free! Gluten and dairy free options will be provided. The evening will start at 5:15 p.m. in the Holy Rosary Marian Room and will conclude at 7:15 p.m. No RSVP needed."

Condolences and Prayers are extended to Pam (Steve) Brooker, Caden Brooker, Kelsey (Brett) Wharff, and Brooks Wharff, on the death of Barbara J. Wallis (Pam's Mother). May she rest in peace and her good deeds go with her.

Catholic Schools Week will be celebrated Sunday, January 26 – Saturday, February 1

St. John the Baptist Parish Council Meeting – December 4, 2024 @ 7:00 PM

The Parish Council met in the Senior Center. Father Gaydosik opened with a prayer.

Attendees:

Father Gaydosik, Maria Huffman, Clay Miller, Arnie Huck, Elaine Wells, Lauren Alexander, Zandra and Mike Francis.

Review Mass attendance/needs of the Parish:

Father reviewed the counts from October for all 3 Masses from 2020 – 2024:

	6 PM	7:30 AM	11:00 AM	Total
2020	59	76	66	201
2021	81	94	93	268
2022	82	159	113	354
2023	78	116	99	293
2024	81	107	109	297

The question of whether our Mass times are meeting the parishioners was raised, as well as a comment that more servers, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, and music/choir members are needed. It was decided that music at the 7:30 AM Mass should continue. Father asked if there was interest in adding another Eucharistic Adoration in addition to the one held on the First Friday of the month.

Bingo:

Each Parish that feeds into St. John Central Grade School is responsible for sending an assessment/financially contributing to the school each year. Out of the 47 students currently attending the school, approximately 33 of them are from our Parish. Each year, we contribute \$102,000/year (\$8,500/month) to the school, largely funded by the profits made from Bingo.

As of January 1, 2025, we will no longer hold a Bingo fundraiser. Some of the factors contributing to this decision were that no one has currently volunteered to lead Bingo, increase of cost (supplies/rent), lack of volunteers and volunteer burnout, as well as decrease in Bingo players.

The question raised is how we will continue to maintain our financial contribution to the school without having Bingo. Father mentioned that he was made aware of an investment account opened by Msgr. Highland that has approximately \$10,000 in it that he is trying to secure on behalf of the Parish. Approximately \$32,787.00 was returned from the DPSC contributions this year.

Building/Grounds Updates:

Property - The Parish purchased 10 acres of land that includes the major center of the parking lot. There are 2 smaller sections that we are looking to secure. The parking lot will need sealed in Spring 2025.

Lighting – At a previous meeting, adding a dusk to dawn light on the cemetery side of the church was discussed.

Building – The front doors of the church are rusting and at times, won't latch. Discussed potentially making the doors to the church shorter and adding a skylight above them to add more light in the vestibule.

Sidewalks – The concrete leading to the front door of the church needs repaired due to it being a tripping hazard. It was also discussed that the large step on the right of the church door should be corrected, however this could require the church bell/sign to be raised/relocated. Discussed making an alternate handicap entrance in case of emergencies if the front door is blocked/inaccessible.

Church sign – Discussed relocating the church sign and possible replacing with a digital sign that is more easily visible from the road. Consider discussing with Discount Signs & Awning.

Gas well – The gas well in front of the school is declining.

Evangelization/Activities:

We will be looking into updating the Church Directory this year.

Father mentioned hosting an appreciation dinner for those in our Church who are servers, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, choir/music members.

Holding a dinner or event for the graduates of our Parish after Mass was also discussed.