

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



Faith - Tradition - Family

Good News!

By: FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Adolescence can bring family life into an upheaval for both parents and adolescents alike. At its heart, adolescence is an urge for independence, a silent instinct to be part of the larger world. It is a calling sewn by God's Spirit into the very fabric of being human. At its best, family life can be the staging ground for that movement outward.

Hannah recognized this when she believed that her young son Samuel was chosen for a specific role in life. It moved her to bring Samuel to the temple to be raised there in growing service to the community. Ultimately Samuel became a charismatic leader of the Hebrew people who would anoint both Saul and David as king. That same calling seemed to take time to unfold in the awareness of Joseph and Mary who wondered why Jesus stayed behind in the temple. "Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" asked Jesus of them (Luke 2:49). All of us are meant to live more than a life of satisfaction for ourselves or even the fulfillment of our parents' dreams.

We may find ourselves asking a young person what they want to be when they grow up. A more valuable question might be what they think God wants them to be. While the Spirit of God does not usually ask us to be something contrary to our inclinations, the call of service to the needs of the human family is an added piece to the puzzle of what someone's life might look like.

**THE HOLY FAMILY OF
JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH
DECEMBER 29, 2024**

AND

**EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
JANUARY 5, 2025**

MAY GOD
BLESS YOU
and
SEND YOU
a happy
NEW YEAR


THIS IS A TWO-WEEK BULLETIN

MASS SCHEDULE

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------|-----|-------|-------|------|--|------------------------------|
| Saturday | OLM | 12/28 | 4:00 | P.M. | +Deanna Lang (Raymond Lang) | |
| | SJB | 12/28 | 6:00 | P.M. | +Betty Schott (Charlotte Lang and Family) | |
| Sunday | SJB | 12/29 | 7:30 | A.M. | +Charles Schilling (Bernard and Marilyn Schilling) | |
| | OLM | 12/29 | 9:30 | A.M. | +Bernard "Buzzard" Brooker (Julia Brooker) | |
| | SJB | 12/29 | 11:00 | A.M. | +Richard and +Bertha Pottmeyer (Pottmeyer Family Children) | |
| Monday | SJB | 12/30 | 8:00 | A.M. | +William Heiss (Ron and Monica Lang) | |
| Tuesday | OLM | 12/31 | 4:00 | P.M. | +Bernard and +Dorothy Huck (Nancy Huck) | New Year's Eve |
| | SJB | 12/31 | 6:00 | P.M. | +Mary Huck (Regis Huck and Family) | |
| Wednesday | SJB | 01/01 | 7:30 | A.M. | People of the Parish | New Year's Day |
| | OLM | 01/01 | 9:30 | A.M. | +Martha Huck (1 yr. Anniversary) (Meade and Tana Huck) | |
| | SJB | 01/01 | 11:00 | A.M. | +Ella Mae Young (Parish) | |
| Thursday | SJB | 01/02 | 8:00 | A.M. | No Mass Today | |
| | OLM | 01/02 | 5:00 | P.M. | +Ron and Minnie Smith (Peg Huck) | |
| First Friday | SJB | 01/03 | 6:00 | P.M. | +Evelyn Neill (Jeff and Lorinda Lang) | Adoration 5-6:00 p.m. |
| Saturday | OLM | 01/04 | 4:00 | P.M. | +Jerry Huck (Lisa Schwendeman) | |
| | SJB | 01/04 | 6:00 | P.M. | +Martha Huck (Virgil Huck and Family) | |
| Sunday | SJB | 01/05 | 7:30 | A.M. | +Edith Brooker (Terry and Patti Miller) | |
| | OLM | 01/05 | 9:30 | A.M. | +Ken Stehly (01/06 - 1 yr. Annv.) (Mike and Denise Stehly) | |
| | SJB | 01/05 | 11:00 | A.M. | +Ted DeWitt (Charlotte Lang and Family) | |
| Monday | SJB | 01/06 | 8:00 | A.M. | +Margaret Klinger (Alvin Arnold and Family) | |
| Tuesday | SJB | 01/07 | 8:00 | A.M. | No Mass Today | |
| | OLM | 01/07 | 5:00 | P.M. | +Stephaine Jackson (Unknown) | |
| Wednesday | SJB | 01/08 | 8:20 | A.M. | +Bertha Pottmeyer (Philamena Pottmeyer) | School Mass |
| Thursday | SJB | 01/09 | 8:00 | A.M. | No Mass Today | |
| | OLM | 01/09 | 5:00 | P.M. | +Linda Huck (Hugh and Kelly Arnold) | |
| Friday | SJB | 01/10 | 8:00 | A.M. | +Jay Pottmeyer (Shelly Romine) | |
| Saturday | OLM | 01/11 | 4:00 | P.M. | +David Schilling (Ed Schilling) | |
| | SJB | 01/11 | 6:00 | P.M. | +Emmett Brooker (Mary Brooker and Family) | |
| Sunday | SJB | 01/12 | 7:30 | A.M. | +Gladys Schilling (Steve and Pam Brooker) | |
| | OLM | 01/12 | 9:30 | A.M. | +Ron Smith (Paul Smith) | |
| | SJB | 01/12 | 11:00 | A.M. | +Alecia Fouss (Ted and Trina Miller) | |

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEW YEARS EVE AND NEW YEARS DAY AND WEEKEND OF JANUARY 4-5, 2025

| MASS | | ALTAR SERVERS | LECTOR | EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER |
|-----------|------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Tuesday | 6:00 p.m. 12/31 | Baylee and Morgan Warner | Virginia Dyar | Veronica Bosner |
| Wednesday | 7:30 a.m. 01/01 | Volunteers | Volunteer | Volunteer |
| Wednesday | 11:00 a.m. 01/01 | Volunteers | Volunteer | Volunteer |
| Saturday | 6:00 p.m. 01/04 | C. Dyar, C. Arteaga, W.Hennes | Virginia Dyar | Theresa Sauer |
| Sunday | 7:30 a.m. 01/05 | Dalton and Dane Schott | Hugh Arnold | Veronica Bosner |
| Sunday | 11:00 a.m. 01/05 | Hudson and Sydney Lang | Janelle Sprague | Marilyn Zoller |
| Saturday | 6:00 p.m. 01/11 | Baylee and Morgan Warner | Eugene Huck | Melinda Treadway |
| Sunday | 7:30 a.m. 01/12 | Adalyn and Eli Eichmiller | Robin Eichmiller | Connie Arnold |
| Sunday | 11:00 a.m. 01/12 | Callen Pottmeyer, Emi Lauchard | Kristen Pottmeyer | Amanda Walters |

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|--|---|--|
| <u>COLLECTION</u> | <u>DPSC</u> | <u>BINGO</u> |
| Total Collection last weekend \$3,679 Needed to meet parish needs \$4,750 Thank you for your generosity! | 2024 Collected to date \$80,355 2024 Goal \$43,047 Thank you for your generosity! | December 15 Group 3 \$1,945 |
| <u>ST. JOHN BINGO WORK SCHEDULE</u> | <u>C.W.C.</u> |  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. |
| Dec 29 Group 5 with Robin Eichmiller THE END | January-February Group E - Susan Arnold | |

MASSES FOR NEW YEAR'S

Wednesday, January 1, 2025, is the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. It is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses are at 6:00 p.m. New Year's Eve and at 7:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. on New Year's Day. Mass at Our Lady of Mercy Church will be at 4:00 p.m. on New Year's Eve and 9:30 a.m. on New Year's Day.

CHURCH DONATIONS

Please have all donations you want included on this year's church collection statement turned in to the Rectory no later than December 31. This year's DPSC will end on December 31 and any collections after that date will be put towards next year's goal. Thank You to everyone for your generosity!

CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIAM

Terry, Anthony C. and Johanna Arnold, Anthony and Leora Arnold, Charles and Jean Gribble Tewanger, James Gribble, Patty Huck, Clarence and Emma Huck Family, John and Virginia Huck Family from the Connie Arnold Family.

ALTAR SERVERS GIFTS

Altar servers, please see Fr. David after Mass for your Christmas gift. We would like to thank you for serving our parish.

SENIOR CITIZENS MEETING

The next Senior Citizen meeting will be held on January 2, 2025 at Senior Center at 11:00 AM. Doris Brooker mentioned having soup so bring something to share along with this idea. All are welcome.

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who helped to decorate the church for the Christmas Season. Everything looks absolutely beautiful!

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.

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU FOR 56 INCREDIBLE YEARS OF BINGO

As we announce the conclusion of our Bingo program, we want to extend our deepest gratitude to each of you who has contributed to making it such a tremendous success over the past 56 years. From the dedicated volunteers who worked tirelessly to the participants who faithfully came to play, each of you played an essential role in creating something that was so beneficial to our church and school. Your time and energy is greatly appreciated.

While it is bittersweet to see this chapter come to a close, we can reflect with pride on all the community support of our Bingo. Thank you again for your dedication and for making Churchtown Bingo successful for over five decades!

Thank You

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.

CHRIST THE TEACHER-DIOCESAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND "TURNING TAXES INTO TUITION"

By making a charitable donation to the Christ the Teacher Scholarship Fund you can turn Tax Dollars into Tuition assistance for children to attend St. John Central Catholic School. Donate before filing your Ohio Tax return and you receive a dollar-for-dollar Ohio income tax credit of up to \$750 (\$1,500 if married filing jointly). Designate your gift to help provide financial assistance to any diocesan Catholic school of your choice. For more information and to make a donation, go to: www.diosteub.org/ctdsf. Act now for your 2024 Tax Credit.

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.

In conjunction with this event, the US Bishops will be organizing a Nationwide Pro-Life Novena from January 16 - 24, 2025. 9 Days for Life is a novena for the protection of human life. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. Learn more at www.respectlife.org/9-days-signup.

ATHENS K OF C FREE THROW COMPETITION

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

*MAY GOD
BLESS YOU
and
SEND YOU
a happy
NEW YEAR*



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

ARE YOU REGISTERED? Are you new to the Parish? Have you notified the Parish Offices of any changes in your address, phone number, etc.? If you are out of college and still living at home, you need to register as an adult member of St. John the Baptist. Please call the Parish Offices for any changes or to register. Your cooperation in helping us to keep our records up-to-date is greatly appreciated.

OUR SEMINARIANS

Pray for Seminarians studying at: Sacred Heart Major Seminary 2701 Chicago Blvd., Detroit, MI 48206 Peter Stetson. St. Vincent Seminary 300 Fraser Purchase Rd., Latrobe Pa,15650., Christopher McGurn and Samuel Ivkovich. Pontifical College Josephinum 7625 North High Street, Columbus, Ohio, 43235-1499, Maximilian Kolbe Gan, Jonathan Ruscoe, Riley Morris, Aaron Pabin, Caleb Baker. On a pastoral year at Christ the Light Parish 9704 Gomber Ave. Cambridge, Ohio 43728) Ryan Budd and John Paul Gan

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.

Thank you! For the many kindnesses shown to us this Christmas Season. They are appreciated. Know of our prayers and best wishes for a Blessed New Year. Fr. Heinz, Fr. Tornes and Fr. Gaydosik

Thank you! For your continual support and faithfulness to our parish and Catholic school. Without your sharing of your gifts, talents, and treasure there is no future.

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 their 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.

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.

Puts Prayer at the Forefront of Catholic Life

Bishop Edward Malesic of the Diocese of Cleveland, Ohio released the pastoral letter 'A Flourishing Apostolic Church' on Dec. 15,2024. Drawing on prayer and reflection as key elements in the spiritual renewal of his Catholic flock. Bishop Malesic said his intent is "that we might recommit ourselves to a daily entry into the Paschal Mystery of Jesus Christ so that the Church may truly flourish." Bishop Malesic is asking all Catholics, whether practicing or lapsed, to set aside 15 minutes each day for simple reflection. While daily prayer is quite basic to all baptized Catholics, it can be easily overlooked in a society prioritizing "getting on with things" over quiet moments of introspection.

"For many of us involved in parish life, implementing a program, publishing a policy, or promulgating a pastoral plan seems like a better use of our time and energy than deepening our friendship with God. Outside of parish life, the secular workday, school schedules, and the challenges of raising a family can be all-encompassing, leaving us feeling pressed for time. ... As a bishop, I am convinced that none of those things will matter or be effective if we are not serious about deepening our friendship with God," Bishop Malesic writes in the pastoral letter. "I invite you, if it is not already part of your daily routine, to make time for God — at least fifteen minutes of prayer a day. Consider putting down your phone and rest in the Lord. Read some Scripture. Give thanks for the blessings you have received. Review your day with him. Share your dreams and your joys. Share your fears, sorrows, and worries. Then listen for his response, which will usually be heard in the silence of your heart as Jesus speaks to you."

SEEN: A Catholic Infertility Ministry Retreat

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, February 8, 2025, from 2:00-8:00pm EST. 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. We will also have vendors available for you to peruse during breaks. A more detailed schedule will be provided as we get closer to the retreat. Registration is now open at <https://diosteub.givecloud.co/infertility-retreat>. Please contact Bernadette at bmrjuliano@gmail.com and Meg at mreister@franciscan.edu with any questions.

