

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
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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!

By: FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Pain is the body's alarm clock that something is broken or not working correctly. Suffering, on the other hand, is a marker of our identity and points to what we value. Suffering through the struggles of raising a family says, "I am a parent. That's what parents do." Mental suffering that accompanies committed love says to the world that "I am married. This is something to be valued." Suffering seems to accompany our commitments and consequently contributes to our identity. We don't suffer over what is unimportant in our lives. When Peter recognized that Jesus was the Christ, the Messiah, Jesus then pointed out what sort of commitment accompanied being the Christ—that he would suffer greatly, be killed, and then rise on the third day. It was all much to Peter's dismay, especially when Jesus noted that those who follow him can expect similar suffering.

The suffering that flows from our own commitments may not pin us to a physical cross, but it often reveals a faithfulness to live out the values of Jesus. For people of faith, those values become woven into our everyday living: of raising a difficult child, caring for aging parents, working at jobs that sap our energy, or tolerating those who are unkind. Many times, we may not display those values as a conscious expression of our faith, yet it does point to who we are—followers of Jesus

**24TH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
SEPTEMBER 15, 2024**

TAKE
↑ UP ↑
YOUR CROSS
&
FOLLOW
me
MARK 8:34

MASS SCHEDULE

| | | | | | | |
|------------------|-----|-------|-------|------|---|-------------|
| Saturday | OLM | 09/14 | 4:00 | P.M. | +Martha Huck (Martin and Pauline Knoch) | |
| | SJB | 09/14 | 6:00 | P.M. | +Clarence and +Hilda Arnold (Shelba Arnold and Family) | |
| Sunday | SJB | 09/15 | 7:30 | A.M. | +Mary E. Huck (Wedding Anniversary) (Regis Huck and Family) | |
| | OLM | 09/15 | 9:30 | A.M. | +Greg Schilling (Lisa Schwendeman) | |
| | SJB | 09/15 | 11:00 | A.M. | +Evelyn Neill (Norma Thieman and Family) | |
| Monday | SJB | 09/16 | 8:00 | A.M. | +Jay Pottmeyer (Randy and Jean Tornes) +Judy Britton (Bernard and Marilyn Schilling) | |
| Tuesday | SJB | 09/17 | 8:00 | A.M. | +Gertrude Arnold (Glen and Marcia Pawloski) | |
| | OLM | 09/17 | 5:00 | P.M. | +Deanna Lang (Raymond Lang) | |
| Wednesday | SJB | 09/18 | 8:20 | A.M. | +James M. Barrett (Mona Barrett and Family) | School Mass |
| Thursday | SJB | 09/19 | 8:00 | A.M. | +Ruth Mayo (Bernard and Marilyn Schilling) | |
| | OLM | 09/19 | 5:00 | P.M. | +Bryan Way (Richard and Brenda Arnold and Family) | |
| Friday | OLM | 09/19 | 5:00 | P.M. | +Tom Atkinson (Heather Peters) | |
| | SJB | 09/20 | 8:00 | A.M. | +Bertha Pottmeyer (Bernard and Marilyn Schilling) +Leo and Lucy Huck (Vincent Huck Family) | |
| Saturday | OLM | 09/21 | 4:00 | P.M. | +Josephine Medley (Rick and Shelly Medley) | |
| | SJB | 09/21 | 6:00 | P.M. | +Margaret Klinger (Dave and Veronica Bosner) | |
| Sunday | SJB | 09/22 | 7:30 | A.M. | +Leora Arnold (Gary and Edna Arnold) | |
| | OLM | 09/22 | 9:30 | A.M. | +Harold and +Evelyn Miller (Ron and Linda Miller) | |
| | SJB | 09/22 | 11:00 | A.M. | +Diane Arnold (Alvin Arnold 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. | Owen Henry, Connor McCartney | Kelly Miller | Veronica Bosner |
| Sunday 11:00 a.m. | Maycee and Brenlee Lang | Ashleigh Pennock | Roxanne Heiss |

| <u>COLLECTION</u> | <u>D.P.S.C.</u> | <u>BINGO</u> |
|--|--|--|
| Total Collection last weekend \$2,833 Needed to meet parish needs \$4,750 Thank you for your generosity! | 2024 Collected to date \$65,575 2024 Goal \$43,047 <small>This includes all monies sent directly to the Diocese.</small> Thank you for your generosity! | September 1 Group 4 \$3,212 If you are unable to work, please try to 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> |
|---|---|---|
| Sep 15 Group 6 with Jeff Canterbury Sep 22 Group 7 with Brandon Wheeler Sep 29 Group 8 with Russ Lang Oct 6 Group 1 with Jeff Brooker Oct 13 Group 2 with Jessica Henke | September-October Group C-Veronica Bosner The next CWC meeting will be held on Monday, September 9, 6:30 p.m. in the Sr. Center. All ladies of the parish are invited . | 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> | |
|--|--|
| Wisdom 2:12, 17-20 / James 3:16-4:3 / Mark 9:30-37 | Please have all bulletin information to the Rectory no later than 10:00 p.m. on Monday |

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION

Registration has begun for our Parish School of Religion. To register, please visit <https://forms.gle/9fMcMWVkykTzX9y9> to complete the form. For questions, please contact Andrea Ralston, Director, 740-350-4669.

ST. JOHN'S MEN'S GROUP

There will be a meeting of the St. John's Men's group on Monday, September 23 at 7:00 p.m. in the Senior Center. All men of the parish are encouraged to attend.

EUCHRE

Euchre will be held at 1:00 p.m. at the Sr. Center on September 25th. Euchre is held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month. All are welcome.

TRICK OR TREAT

Please mark your calendar now for Churchtown Trick or Treat which will be held on Wednesday, October 30, 6-7:30 p.m. The K of C will hold their Trunk or Treat on Friday, October 18. More information will follow.

K OF C PATIO PICNIC

The Knights of Columbus 4617 will have a Patio Picnic on Sunday, October 6, 2024 from 11:00 am until 3:00 pm. Events will start with Catholic mass at 11:00 am at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church. Afterwards, on the back patio at the hall in Churchtown, we will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, and drinks (BYOB). Guests should bring a salad or dessert to share! There will be games and prizes for the kids. Members, their families, and friends are welcome to attend. We will have applications for NEW MEMBERS to join! Come socialize with our community! As part of our FOOD FOR FAMILIES program, we will be collecting canned goods to be donated to St. Vincent de Paul Society. We hope to see you there! For Questions Contact: Derek Kern @ 740-516-7219 or Clay Miller @ 740-336-4229.

K OF C 4TH DEGREE MEETING

There will be a Fourth Degree meeting on September 22, 2024 at 4:00 pm in the Marietta Knights of Columbus hall. We have several items to discuss and this will take the place of the meeting on our boat trip on October 13, 2024. I hope everyone had a safe summer. Rod Strahler, FN .

THANK YOU!

Dave and Doris Brooker would like to thank Fr. David for the mass and wonderful blessing for our 50th wedding anniversary. Thank you to everyone who attended and for all the beautiful cards and gifts. We will always cherish the memories. God bless you all.

THANK YOU

The family of Bertha Pottmeyer would like to thank everyone for their thoughts, prayers, and cards during our difficult time. Mom and Dad spent a lot of wonderful times with many of you over the past years. We want to give a special thank you to Father Gaydosik for the beautiful funeral service but also for the many visits he made to Mom which she truly enjoyed. Also, a special thanks to Valerie and the rest of the choir who are always a true inspiration. The Pottmeyer Family.

K OF C THANK YOU

The Knights of Columbus Council 4617 in Churchtown, Ohio would like to thank everyone who came out to our 3rd Dueling Pianos fundraiser held on Saturday, August 24, 2024. We hope that everyone had a great time and look forward to having this again, next year. We especially want to thank our 2024 event sponsors. They include Shoshanna Brooker, Discount Signs & Awning & Trademark Solutions, The Citizens Bank Company, and Harmar Tavern. A very big thank you goes out to our Best of Churchtown Basket sponsors who donated items. They include: Ian & Lauren Alexander, Damian Brooker, Dan Brooker, Danni Brooker, Dean Brooker, Jeff Brooker, Brendan Dailey, Derek Kern, Bruce Lang, Lorinda Lang, Hannah & Brice Miller, Dean & Kaitlin Miller, Nate McNabb, Blake Pottmeyer, Chris Pottmeyer, Dennis Pottmeyer, Erin Pottmeyer, Heath Pottmeyer, Ken Pottmeyer, Tanner Pottmeyer, Taylor Pottmeyer, Ted Pottmeyer, and Scott Wells. We also want to thank those who donated prizes for our Roll The Dice game, they include: Justin Arthur, Jeff Brooker, EZG Manufacturing, Pottmeyer Property Management, LLC, Classic Brands, Erin & Sherri Pottmeyer, Ace Hardware, and Tracey Wright for County Recorder. Thank you to all the members and their families who sold tickets, set up, cleaned-up, announced, cooked the food, worked the bar, registration, and games. This was a huge success because of the support of our great community! We look forward to seeing everyone again next year!

LADIES RETREAT

The St. Ambrose Ladies Retreat will be held at St. Ambrose Church on Saturday, October 5, from 8:30 - 2:30 p.m. Forms are located in the church vestibule. There is a \$10 donation to help cover costs. For reservations (due before September 28) or more information: Rita Rodgers 740-423-5697 or rrodgers2417@gmail.com; Becky Hennen 740-629-1093 or rah1097@roadrunner.com. All ladies are welcome to attend!

MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

Are you grieving the loss a child or grandchild from any circumstances (miscarriage, trauma, abortion, illness, suicide, etc.)? Come join us for a Mass of Remembrance and pray for the soul of your beloved child or grandchild and have a chance to meet others who have suffered a similar loss. The Masses will be celebrated at 7pm, Oct. 9 at Blessed Sacrament Church, Wintersville, and at 9am, Oct. 26, at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta. For additional information, contact Joseph A. Schmidt, Director of the diocesan Office of Marriage, Family and Respect Life, by emailing jschmidt@diosteub.org or telephoning (740) 516-9270. Light refreshments will be offered after each Mass.



WHO do You
Say that I am?



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 CALLED TO SERVE THE LORD? Are you being called to serve the Lord? Now is a good time to begin encouraging young men and women to serve Jesus and His Church. If you or someone you know is interested in ordained ministry or the life of a Consecrated/Religious community, please contact Fr. Nicholas Ginnetti at 740-432-7609.

A special thank you for the birthday wishes, thoughts, and prayers -- Fr. David and Fr. Walter

It's hard to believe in our hearts that He can be trusted because we have been hurt when we trusted others."

Happy the one who trusts in the Lord... It's a phrase repeated throughout the Scriptures- in Psalms and Proverbs and Jeremiah. But perhaps at times it's hard to believe and practice. Can I really trust God? When asked out loud, it seems like a ridiculous, faithless question. But in our everyday life, lived out... do I trust Him? Actually, while the question spoken out loud seems to have an obvious answer – *of course you can trust God!* – I think our struggle goes hand and hand with our fallen human nature. From the very beginning, our first parents doubted that they could trust Him. A priest once pointed out to me that the entire story of Sacred Scripture is God the Father trying to convince us that He loves us, cares for us, and can be trusted. Patiently and lovingly, He continues to try to convince us. It's not just the story of the Old Testament. It's the story of our lives! Do we really believe He is a Father who loves us? We so often live our lives with guards up, not wanting to be duped. But we can let our guard down with our Lord. Primarily I think it's because we make God in our own image. We have a hard time imagining Someone so other than ourselves. When we imagine how He acts, we frame it in our human experience. How can we believe He loves us after we sin? Can we honestly think He loves us in the midst of sin? How can we trust Him? Yes, it's hard for us to trust that we can trust Him! This is especially true when we have been hurt. In our brokenness, we have seen what fallen human nature is capable of, and we are fooled into thinking God is like us. It's hard to believe in our hearts that He can be trusted because we have been hurt when we trusted others. But He is not like the others It's hard to imagine He love. s us after we sin because we have a hard time loving those who hurt us. We struggle to love those who betray us. How can He possibly love us when we hurt Him or betray Him? But He does. Again and again. Really trusting in His mercy is not an easy task. We limit His mercy because it's easier to wrap our minds around it that way. But He is the prodigal Father who is willing to take the repentant son back at all costs. We must trust in that, even in the darkness.

Continued next column.

Trusting in His plan for us can be just as difficult as trusting in His mercy. Do we honestly believe that He wants what is best for us? Sometimes it's tempting to doubt that. When life takes turns we don't expect, when we find ourselves in situations we never imagined – do we trust that He is there? Our fallen human nature wants to take matters into our own hands. Again, we are back in the Garden, grasping at what we think is best for us. We know ourselves and know what is best. We can't trust anyone else to look out for us. We've got this. He knows us better than we know ourselves. (And frankly, He knows we *don't* "got this" at all!) Who knows what is not only going to happen tomorrow, but in five and ten and fifty years? Who is already there, in that moment that we can't imagine, around that corner in life we don't even know will come? He is.

Despite our lack of trust, God remains patient. Looking back at the times I was afraid to trust, I can see that He was there all along. He had me in His hands, even when I felt so alone. He was in control, even when I felt like nothing was right. I can picture Him laughing at me – not a belittling laugh of someone who has proven me wrong, but the gentle laugh of a Father who finds my childish ways amusing. He knows me. And He is in control the entire time. After this life, we will see our lives in their entirety. We will see the Father's careful hand, always there to guide us, to support us, to discipline us, to hold us. We will see the times we ignored the hand and tried to do things our own way. We will see the times we didn't trust He was there.

You and I both know that it's easy to write these things. It's hard to live them. It's hard not to make God in our own image. In our brokenness, how can we believe that God is any different from that person that hurt us? How can we believe that He is any different from us? What are ways we can increase our trust?

- Jog your memory. Even in the dark memories, there were blessings, right? The more we recognize – with the benefit of that 20/20 hindsight – the gifts He has given us in the past, the more we will be able to recognize them in the present, even when darkness and doubt threaten our trust.
- Immerse your prayer life with reminders. We need to be reminded we can trust God. Spiritual reading is key. When our emotions and heart are telling us one thing, the saints, spiritual writers, and Scripture can bring us back to reality.
- Lastly, but most importantly, we can make an act of faith each day. Even when our heart feels weak and unable, our lips can repeat a simple act of faith. Ask Him to increase your faith and trust in Him. He will happily answer that prayer.

Lord, I know I need to trust you more. Even when Your plans are confusing, the road seems dark, or I want to be in control, I can have faith that you are my Father. Even when I sin, You are waiting for me. If only I allow myself to be loved...Lord, I do trust. Help my lack of trust.