



# Saint Joseph Catholic Church

Parish Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Pastor: Father Ron Schock 419-722-6817

Deacon Larry Schimmoeller 419-302-2532



**Normal Mass Times**

Saturday	5:00 pm
Sunday	7:30am & 9:30 am
Tuesday	7:00pm
Wednesday	7:00pm
Thursday	7:00pm
Friday	7:55am

**Scripture Readings**

Monday	1 Jn 3:22-4:6 Mt 4:12-17
Tuesday	1 Jn 4:7-10 Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday	1 Jn 4:11-18 Mk 6:45-52
Thursday	1 Jn 4:19-5:4 Lk 4:14-252
Friday	1 Jn 5:5-13 Lk 5:12-22
Saturday	1 Jn 5:14-21 Jn 3:22-30

**Bible Trivia:**

1. What is the first sin recorded in the Bible?
2. What was the name of Martha's sister?
3. Which book in the Bible follows Exodus?

Answers can be found on page 7 of the bulletin.

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 Email: fatherronschock@gmail.com  
**Rev. Mr. Larry Schimmoeller, Deacon:** .....C: 419-302-2532  
 H: 419-286-2170 Email: larry@fjsb.com  
**Mrs. Rhonda Liebrecht, CRE**.....419-286-2019  
 Email: stjoeered@bright.net  
**Mrs. Kelly Stant, Business Manager** .....C: 419-235-2667  
 Email: stjoeeparishofc@bright.net  
**Mrs. Monica Bruskotter, Bulletin Designer** .....419-286-2132  
 Email: stjosephfjbulletin@gmail.com  
**Safe Environment Compliance Coordinator**  
 Mrs. Erica Maenle.....419-979-9892  
**Director of Music & Liturgy Chairperson**  
 Mrs. Joyce Gasser .....419-236-0816  
**Sacristans**  
 Ms. Mary Luersman..... 419-286-2306  
 Mr. Dave Luersman.....419-286-4641  
**Youth Minister**  
 Mrs. Julie Fischbach.....419-905-8472  
**Maintenance Chairman**  
 Mr. Ted Verhoff.....419-286-2480  
**Friends of Hope and Communion to Homebound**  
 Mrs. Norma Maag.....419-286-2265  
**Cemetery**  
 Mr. Alan Calvelage.....419-303-0560  
**Prayer Line**  
 Mrs. Laurie Maag.....419-234-6518  
**Maintenance & Hall Manager**  
 Mr. Tony Recker .....419-286-5100  
**Funeral Luncheon Committee**  
 Mrs. Sue Knippen.....419-236-9564  
**Finance Council**  
 Adam Anspach, Chair.....419-771-1747  
 Mandi Kahle, Vice Chair  
 Allison Gerdeman, Secretary Jenny Smith  
**Parish Council**  
 Chad Recker, President ..... 419-231-1428  
 Adam Krietemeyer, Vice President  
 Lynn Anspach, Secretary  
 Jenn Gasser Scott Gerdeman  
 Laura Tenwalde Todd Warnecke  
 Michelle Menke Zach Liebrecht

**Watch for Scams:** The Parish Office would like to remind you that if you receive an email from "Fr. Ron, asking for gift cards or favors, this is a scam. If Father needs help, he will contact you directly to ask for help.

# Intentions for Mass

## CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE FOR MASS INTENTIONS.

Sat, 01/03	5:00 pm	Alan & Brian Schroeder
Sun, 01/04	7:30 am	For Our Parish
	9:30 am	Joe Gasser Family
Tues, 01/06	7:00 pm	Alan "Doc" Wittler
Wed, 01/07	7:00 pm	Fr. Joseph Weigman
Thu, 01/08	7:00 pm	Linda Meyer
Fri, 01/09	7:55 am	
Sat, 01/10	5:00 pm	Elwood & Rita Broecker
Sun, 01/11	7:30 am	For Our Parish
	9:30 am	Joe & Shirley Mesker

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS: Jan. 3 & Jan. 4

### SERVERS:

5:00 pm	Amelia Orwick, Ryan Aldrich, Iris Tenwalde
7:30 am	Tenley & Addison Sarka, Austin Askins
9:30 am	Brody, Connor & Harper Leis

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

5:00 pm	Alyssa Luersman, Kathy Luersman, Dave Luersman, Connor Hoersten, Christina Hoersten
7:30 am	Volunteers Needed
9:30 am	Marilyn Metzger, Jamie Saum, Chad Recker, Tony Recker, Addison Sarka, Doug Sickels

### LECTORS:

5:00 pm	Dave Luersman
7:30 am	Volunteer Needed
9:30 am	Denise Sukup

### USHERS:

5:00 pm	Jerry Vetter, Adam Luersman
7:30 am	Volunteer Needed
9:30 am	Brain Hoersten, Micelle Hoersten

## WEEKDAY SERVERS

Tue, 1/06:	Henry Brokamp, Claire Mistisshen, Anden Maenle
Wed, 1/07:	Oliva Amstutz, Logan Krietemeyer, Loryn Gasser
Thurs, 1/08:	Madelyn Neidert, Bishop Bruskotter, Aiden Hoersten
Fri, 1/09:	Ava Maag, Rylen Hoersten, Mason Osting

**BAPTISMS** will be celebrated anytime agreeable with Fr. Ron or Deacon Larry. Contact the office to register.

**MARRIAGE** arrangements should be made at least six months ahead of time by calling the parish office. Do not set your wedding date prior to meeting with Fr. Ron.

**FAITH ENRICHMENT** Classes for the elementary students from August – May. Classes for the Junior High and High School students run September – March.

**MINISTRY TO THE SICK AND ELDERLY** Fr. Ron will visit the Homebound monthly. Notify the parish office about people in the hospital or shut-ins. If you are or will be hospitalized because of a surgery or serious illness, contact the pastor to receive the Sacrament of Healing. Visitation and Eucharist will be provided by a Eucharistic Minister.

**ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA)** classes run from Sept. to May. These classes are for anyone interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith or who wish to join the Church. Contact the office to register.

## December 21, 2025

Envelopes	\$ 2,099.00
Loose	\$ 1,562.00
Maintenance	\$ 810.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 65.00
Christmas	\$ 1,025.00
Initial Offering	\$ 3.00
Religious Retirement	\$ 60.00
Children's Mass	\$ 26.37

YTD (2025) = \$ **102,131.61**  
 YTD Over Budget = \$ 2,131.61

**THANK YOU** for you for your continued support.

**Sign up for Electronic Funds Transfer** to have your contributions deducted directly from your bank account. Forms on our parish website or contact the parish office.

**Parish reminders:****Normal Bulletin submission deadline:****Monday at 10:00 am**

Father Ron will be gone Jan. 5 through Jan. 12

**OUR SYMPATHY** goes out to the family and friends of James 'Jim' McKowen. Especially to his brother Michael (Barbara) McKowen, Dan (Audry) McKowen, and Tim (Nancy) McKowen. Jim was an Army veteran of the Korean Conflict serving in Germany. He had taught school in the Ft. Jennings school district. He was 94.

**The 4th grade religion class will be hosting** our annual fundraiser to help support local organizations in need. Each student will be selling little Mother Mary figurines for \$2 pc. This fundraiser will end Jan 12. Thank you in advance for your support. For information on who's selling, please text or call Erica at 419-979-9892.

**FJ Women's Club and JMA is hosting Handbag Hoedown**, with designer purses and fine jewelry on Friday, Feb 6, at Delphos Eagles. Cost is \$30 a ticket. Contact Stacy Warnecke or Katie Gerdeman for tickets. Tickets are also available at Reflections Family Hair.

**Fr. Ron's European River Cruise Pilgrimage** combines the leisurely and scenic experience of a river cruise with visits to sacred locations and historic churches. The cruise will be April 22-30, 2026. Several cabin options are available. Cost will vary. Please see flyers at the back of church.

**Ft Jennings Showmen 4-H club** will have their first meeting and election of officers on Sun, Jan. 4, at 1:00pm at Ft Haven. This is open to youth in grades 3-12. If you have questions, contact Amy Jo Schumaker 419-302-7795.

**Ft Jennings Showmen Cloverbuds** will have their first meeting Sun, Jan. 4, at 1:00pm at Ft Haven. This is open to youth in K-2nd grade. The club focuses on science, crafts, and learning through hands on opportunities. If you have questions, contact Makayla Unterbrink 419- 890-5924.

**If you have not already picked up your gift** from Fr. Ron, there are books titled, "*The Forgotten Way*," by Matthew Kelly in the back of church. Please kindly take one per family. Father will be doing an in-person study over this book starting Jan 18, at 2:00 pm. for three weeks. Start reading the week of Jan 10.

**Student of the Week**

Evan Ellerbrock was nominated as this week's student of the week by his religion teacher, Monica Bruskotter.

"Evan is always willing to volunteer in my classroom. He has a passion for his faith and is always very transparent with his classmates." stated Monica.

**Evan Ellerbrock**

Ellerbrock is a senior at Fort Jennings High School. He plays soccer and baseball. After high school he plans to attend the University of Akron, majoring in Criminology and Criminal Justice. His favorite hobbies are fishing and hanging out with his friends.

"My favorite part about my faith is getting the opportunity to live and spread the word of God." mentioned Evan.

Evan enjoys spending time with his family. "I enjoy going on vacation with my family, but its also fun to just stay in and play cards."

Evan's favorite bible verse is Jeremiah 29:11, and his favorite way to pray is one-on-one at the end of his day.

"My biggest '*faith flex*' is just knowing God is with me through everything I do and knowing my departed sister is with me as well," he said.

"A special moment I knew God was with me was around a year ago. I lost some things and was really struggling. As I prayed, I could almost feel the Lord with me, helping me get through it," finished Ellerbrock.

**Teachers, if you have a student you would like to nominate, please email [stjosephfbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephfbulletin@gmail.com)**

**Youth Safety Is Our Top Priority**

To report any sexual abuse of a minor by Diocesan personnel (priest, deacon, consecrated religious brother/sister, or lay person), immediate contact should be made with local civil authorities, and with the Diocese of Toledo's Victim Assistance Coordinator who can be reached at 419-244-6711, ext. 4880 in the Toledo calling area, or 1-419-214-4880. To report any sexual abuse of a minor by a bishop, or a bishop's interference in an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor, immediate contact should be made with local civil authorities and by going to [ReportBishopAbuse.org](http://ReportBishopAbuse.org) or calling (800) 276-1562.

**GriefShare is a biblically based**, nationally recognized, locally presented non-denominational program created to assist those who are grieving the loss of a loved one, regardless of the cause of that loss, or when it occurred. GriefShare offers compassion and understanding and help in finding a path forward as a grief survivor. Our third annual GriefShare series sessions will begin Thursday evening, Jan. 8, at the St. John's Annex on South Jefferson St. in Delphos from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. These sessions will be held each Thursday evening through Mar. 26 and are free to attend. Everyone involved in presenting these programs has navigated the grief journey you may be walking. For more information, please contact Kathy Ulm 419-516-3994.

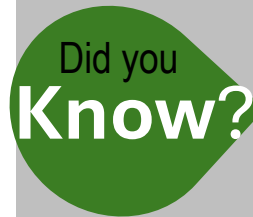
**The Serra Club of Lima Area**, which exists to promote and support vocations to priesthood and religious life, will be meeting Thur, Jan. 8 at LCC High School. Mass will begin at 5:45 pm followed by dinner and a program. This month's speaker will be Fr. Jeff Walker, pastor of Delphos St. John, Spencerville St. Patrick and Landeck St. John. His topic is "College Campus Ministry - Helping our Young Adults Grow in Faith." Persons who have an interest in this topic or the mission of the Serra Club are welcome to attend as guests. If interested in attending, please respond to Kathy at 419-303-0339 no later than Tues, Jan. 6.

**The 23rd Msgr. Jerome E. Schmit Youth Foundation** Dinner on Thurs. Feb. 19, featuring Tim Berta, survivor of the 2007 Bluffton University baseball bus crash and author of *Fielder's Choice: Honoring Fallen Teammates from Bluffton University* - will be held at the Pinnacle in Maumee. Tickets are \$60 and may be ordered on the Catholic Club website, [www.CatholicClub.org](http://www.CatholicClub.org).

**Putnam County Right to Life** will be meeting on January 6, 2026, at 7:30 pm in St. Michael's Church basement. All are welcome to attend.

**The Mustard Seed at St. John's** appreciates your continued patience and prayers as God allows us time to develop the ministry and mission of the gift shop. We're moving ahead with our preparations. Please follow *The Mustard Seed at St. John's* on Facebook and Instagram for information and updates.

**Kidney donor is needed.** Steve Hoersten of Ottoville is looking for a kidney donor. Steve has a rare autoimmune disease that attacked his kidneys and is now on home dialysis. If you have questions, please contact Stephanie 419-233-0273. Survey takes 15 minutes to determine if you qualify. Thank you! Steve and Carol Hoersten & Family



## Feast of the Epiphany

The feast of Epiphany celebrates the arrival of the Three Kings, and is celebrated on January 6, or on the Sunday between January 2 and 8, on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas.

This ritual, known as "chalking the door" is a way to invite Christ's light and blessing into the home for the coming year. It stems from the Old Testament where Israelites marked their doors for protection. (Exodus 12:7)

The Catholic tradition is marking 20+C+M+B+26 with chalk above your door to the outside of your home.

The number signifying the year 2026. The '+' or crosses symbolizing Jesus and His protection over your home. The C, M, B are the initials of Magi (Caspar, Melchior, Balthazar, the wise men who visited Jesus,) or the Latin blessing *Christus Mansionem Benedicat, which means, May Christ bless this house.*

Please take a piece of blessed Chalk curtesy of Fr. Ron from the back of church! Mark your doors and share the blessing of God's protection with a friend.



Care Access |

Learn your health risks, so you can take action.

Free Heart and Kidney Health Screening at Doc's Dance Hall

This blood test can give you critical insights into your risk of heart attack, heart disease, diabetes, kidney disease, and more. It's especially helpful if you have a family history of health problems.

Note: Participants must be 18 years of age or older. Please bring a government-issued photo ID card and an email address.

January 14, 2026  
9:00 am - 5:00 pm

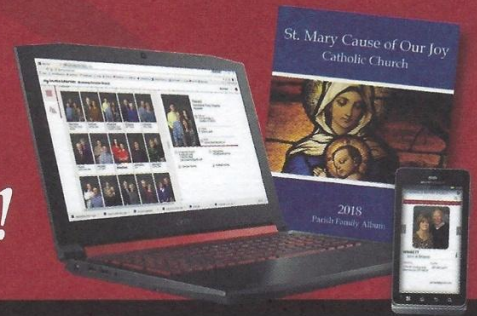


Doc's Dance Hall  
311 N Main St.  
Delphos, Ohio 45833

[a.ellerbrock@careaccess.com](mailto:a.ellerbrock@careaccess.com)

SIGN UP

*Dear Church family,  
It's time for a New Directory!*



*Celebrating faith.  
Connecting families.  
Sharing hope.*

When people enter the doors of our church they are looking for a place to belong. Our directory brings us together to develop new relationships, connect with our own families, and reconnect with those we haven't seen in a while. Join us for this "Connections Event" and be part of what God is doing right here at our church!

*Directory Committee*

## Connections Event

**Our church directory will not be complete without you. Join us to celebrate faith and family with our new church family album.**

- **Schedule your professional photography session when you stop by the sign-up table at the church or simply go online and follow the instructions below.** If we don't see your name on our list of appointments, you will receive a phone call inviting you to participate.
- **Everyone who is photographed by Universal will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait and a directory!**
- **Universal provides a complete professional portrait studio right here at our church!** You'll enjoy a variety of poses, backgrounds, portrait sizes, finish and framing options AND have the opportunity to purchase portraits to give to family and friends.

**Set your appointment with Universal today!**



*Gathering families,  
Connecting generations.*



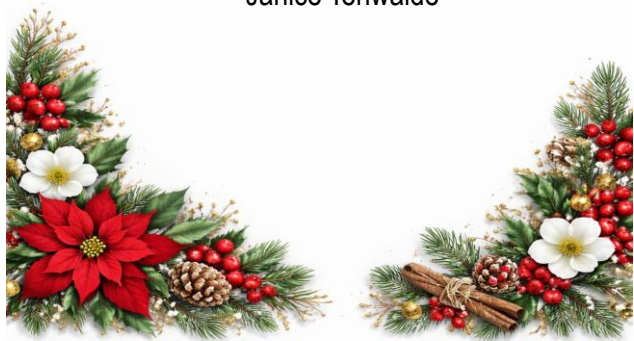
Church Directory Pictures will be **April 14-18 & April 21-25**  
Scan the QR code above to book your times!

Enter Code: oh2930  
Enter Church password: photos2



*In Loving Memory*

Norman Schimmoeller  
Janice Tenwalde



CHALLENGED CHAMPIONS

*Volunteer in the winter session*

- CLASSES HELD MONDAY - FRIDAY MORNING, AFTERNOON, & EVENING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
- NO HORSE EXPERIENCE REQUIRED!
- MUST BE AT LEAST 14 YEARS OLD TO PARTICIPATE

LOCATION: 11913 ROAD 6, OTTAWA, OH  
CONTACT OUR VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR FOR MORE INFO: (419)235-0626

*“Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies.”*  
- Mother Teresa



Dear Friends in Christ,

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. The word epiphany means manifestation, a revealing. On this day, we remember how Jesus was made known not only to His own people, but to the whole world. The Magi, strangers from a distant land, followed a star that led them to Bethlehem. When they arrived, they did not find a palace or a throne. They found a child, poor and small, yet they recognized Him for who He truly was. They knelt, offered gifts, and praised Him.



That same Jesus continues to be revealed to us today, often in ways just as quiet and unexpected.

We encounter Him in the Word of God proclaimed at Mass, where Scripture is not simply read but made alive for us here and now. We encounter Him most powerfully in the Eucharist, humble in appearance, yet truly present, Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. Just as the Magi saw more than what appeared before their eyes, we are invited to see with faith.

Jesus is also manifested in the people around us. He is present in the poor, the sick, the lonely, the struggling farmer, the tired parent, the grieving family, and the neighbor who quietly carries a heavy cross. In our everyday lives, Christ continues to reveal Himself, if we are willing to look and listen.

The Magi did not keep moving once they reached the Child. They stopped. They worshiped. Then, changed by the encounter, they returned home by a different way. Epiphany reminds us that an encounter with Christ is meant to change us as well. Faith is not simply about knowing about Jesus, but about recognizing Him, worshiping Him, and allowing Him to guide our path forward.

As we begin this new year, may we ask for the eyes of faith, eyes like those of the Magi, so that we may recognize Christ as He is revealed in our world today, and respond with hearts ready to adore and to serve.

May the light of Christ guide us, now and always.  
Sincerely yours in Christ,  
Fr. Ron

“Don’t Forget You are a Saint in the Making!”  
PS...Happy 12th Day of Christmas!

