



# Saint Joseph Catholic Church

“Like us on Facebook—St. Joseph Catholic Church—Fort Jennings”

A member of the St. George Deanery

135 N. Water St. P.O. Box 68 Fort Jennings, OH 45844

Telephone: 419-286-2132 - FAX: 419-286-3132

**Father Charles Obinwa, Pastor:** C: 419-203-7656

Email—obinwacm@yahoo.com

**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, Secretary**—C: 419-235-2667

Email: stjoeeparishofc@bright.net

www.stjosephfortjennings.org

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Wednesday, Friday—9:00 until Noon

## NORMAL MASS TIMES

**Saturday: 5:00 pm**

**Sunday: 7:30 am and 9:30 am**

**Tuesday: 7:00 pm**

**Wednesday: 7:00 pm**

**Thursday: 7:00 pm**

**Friday: 7:55 am**

## CONFESSIONS

Tuesdays 6:30 pm

Saturdays 4:30 pm

Anytime by request

## BAPTISMS

Baptisms will be celebrated anytime agreeable with Fr. Charles or Deacon Larry. For BAPTISM INSTRUCTION date and time check the bulletin. Please call the parish office to register.

## MARRIAGE

Make arrangements at least six months ahead of time by calling the parish office. Do not set wedding date prior to contacting the parish office.

## RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

RCIA classes run from September to May. These classes are for anyone interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith or who wish to join the Church. Call the parish office to register.

## FAITH ENRICHMENT

Religious Education Classes for the elementary students from August through May. Classes for the Junior High and High School students run September through March. Adult Enrichment: Bible Study, Spiritual development, missions and retreats. Check the bulletin for details.

## MINISTRY TO THE SICK AND ELDERLY

Visitation and Eucharist will be provided by a Eucharistic Minister. A priest is available if needed. 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.

## WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS

If you are new to our St. Joseph Parish Family, please call or visit the parish office to register.

**ALL ARE WELCOME HERE**

## Director of Music & Liturgy Chairperson

Mrs. Joyce Gasser 419-286-2989

## Sacristans

Ms. Mary Luersman 419-286-2306

Mr. Dave Luersman 419-286-2489

## Youth Minister

Mrs. Julie Fischbach 419-905-8472

## Finance Council Chairman

Mr. Larry Schimmoeller 419-286-2170

## 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

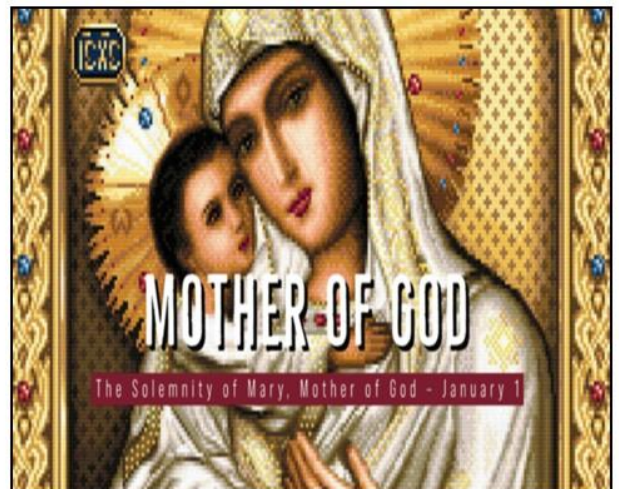
Mrs. Laurie Maag 419-234-6518

## Maintenance & Hall Manager

Mr. Tony Recker 419-286-5100

## Funeral Luncheon Committee

Mrs. Sue Knippen 419-236-9564





# Intentions

Sat 31 5:00 pm Ida & Lawrence Schimmoeller  
 Sun 01 7:30 am Bob Heitmeyer  
 9:30 am Special Intention  
 10:30 am **PRAY FOR PEACE DAY**  
**Eucharistic Adoration and**  
**Rosary every hour beginning at**  
**10:30 a.m. Closing at 5 p.m.**

Mon 02  
 Tues 03 7:00 pm Gary Knott  
 Wed 04 7:00 pm Souls in Purgatory  
 Thurs 05 7:00 pm Boston & Layla Korte  
 Fri 06 7:55 am **FIRST FRIDAY**

~ **Exposition after Mass with Closing at Noon** ~

Sign-up sheet in the Narthex for Exposition, Blessed Sacrament is never to be left alone. Please, sign-up to spend time with Jesus!

Sat 07 5:00 pm Isadore & Rose Siefker Family  
 Sun 08 7:30 am Jeanette Broecker  
 9:30 am John Gerker

## THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Mon 01/02 Jgs 13:-2-7, 24-25a Lk 1:5-25  
 Tues 01/03 Is 7:10-14 Lk 1:26-38  
 Wed 01/04 Saint Peter Canisius, Priest  
 Sg 2:8-14 Lk 1:39-45  
 Thu 01/05 1 Sm 1:24-28 Lk 1:46-56  
 Fri 01/06 Saint John of Kanty, Priest  
 Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 Lk 1:57-66  
 Sat 01/07 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Lk 1:67-79

## New Year's Day, January 1, 2023, is

**Pray for Peace Day!** There will be Exposition of the Blessed Eucharist with Rosary being recited every hour starting at 10:30 a.m., (10:30, 11:30, 12:30 . . .) Closing will be at 5 p.m. Please, come and spend time with Jesus as we pray for peace throughout the world.

### FIRST FRIDAY MASS, BENEDICTION, & EXPOSITION

The Church recommends that on the first Friday of the month we as Catholics, go to Confession, attend Mass and receive the Eucharist worthily. First Friday Mass is for the Sacred Heart of Jesus that bleeds each time we sin. On first Friday we pray for the healing of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, our own sins and the sins of the world. First Friday Mass is at 8 a.m. followed by Benediction and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with closing at Noon.

## WEEKDAY SERVERS

Tues, Jan 10 – 7 pm Nolan Dube & Zach Wagoner  
 Wed, Jan 11 – 7 pm Josie Anspach & Stella Menke  
 Thurs, Jan 12 – 7 pm Kaylee Zimmerman & Alyza Pothast

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS: January 7 & 8 SERVERS:

5:00 pm Lexi & Ryan Kahle, Brayden Calvelage  
 7:30 am Trent & Morgan Siefker, Elizabeth Meyer  
 9:30 am Brandt & Cal Menke, Isabella Heitman

## EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

5:00 pm Carla Norbeck, Becky Uphaus,  
 Rose Ann Vetter, Jodi Von Sossan,  
 Eva Von Sossan  
 7:30 am Volunteers Needed  
 9:30 am Mike Knippen, Roger Luersman,  
 Marilyn Metzger, Jennifer McElroy,  
 Karan Maenle, Trish Moening,  
 Chad Recker

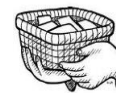
## LECTORS:

5:00 pm Dave Luersman  
 7:30 am Volunteer Needed  
 9:30 am Cheryl Hellman

## USHERS:

5:00 pm Ralph Knippen & Rick Horstman  
 7:30 am Volunteers Needed  
 9:30 am Darren Beining, Charlie Gerdeman,  
 Adam Luersman

**Please, Pray for the Sick of our Parish**  
**Cherie Luersman, Boston & Layla Korte**



## December 25, 2022

Envelopes	\$ 1,765.00
Loose	\$ 1,901.00
Christmas Envelopes	\$ 10,044.00
Maintenance	\$ 400.00
Initial Offering	\$ 10.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 20.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 30.00

YTD as of December 18, 2022 = \$ 89,498.63

YTD **Under** budget = \$ - 6,501.37

**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.

**THANK YOU for your continued support.**



**BAPTISMS:** To arrange a baptism please  
Call the Parish Office or Deacon Larry (cell)  
(419) 302-2532 or by email [larry@fjsb.com](mailto:larry@fjsb.com).

**BAPTISM CLASSES**

Contact the Parish Office

**Attend a Pre-Marriage Preparation Class  
before your marriage.**

Find Marriage Prep Classes at  
<http://ToledoMarriagePrep.org>

**Bulletin submissions deadline:**  
Wednesdays at 10 a.m.

**PRAY for POPE EMERITUS BENEDICT XVI.** It was announced that Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, 95 years old, health is in decline. You can use the following prayer for him.

*Let us pray.  
Almighty and Eternal God,  
you are the everlasting health  
of those who believe in you.  
Hear our prayers for your sick  
servant Benedict for whom we  
implore the aid of your tender mercy.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**NIGHT of HEALING –** Worship – Word – Healing on  
Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at St. Mary, Bluffton from  
6:30 to 8 p.m. Adoration, Witness, Reconciliation. For  
more information call the Ministry to Catholic  
Charismatic Renewal at 734-888-8197 or visit  
[www.mccrholyspirit.org](http://www.mccrholyspirit.org)

**Engaged Couples Conference ~** St. Anthony's  
Engaged Couples Conference will be held **Saturday,  
March 4th** from 8:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Cost of the  
day is \$40.00 per couple. Any couples interested,  
please call the parish office at 419-659-2263.  
Payment can be dropped off or mailed to the parish  
office or can be made the morning of the conference.

**Solemnity of Mary** is to honor the role of Mary in the  
mystery of salvation and at the same time to sing the  
praises of the unique dignity thus coming to "the Holy  
Mother through whom we have been given the gift of  
the Author of Life." This also offers an excellent  
opportunity to renew the adoration to be shown to the  
newborn Prince of Peace. Pray to God, through the  
intercession of the Queen of Peace, for the priceless  
gift of peace.

**The Fort Jennings Showmen 4-H Club will be  
having their first meeting on Sunday, January  
8th, 2023,** at Fort Haven, beginning at 1:00pm. 4-H  
is open to all kids 3rd through 12th grade. We are  
also looking for an advisor to take over the 4-H  
cloverbuds group which meets at the same time and  
is open to kids Kindergarten through 2nd grade. If you  
have any questions, please call Amy Jo Schumaker  
419-302-7795.

**Delphos Knights of Columbus to Sponsor  
Basketball Free Throw Championship**

The Delphos Knights of Columbus Council 1362 will  
sponsor its annual Free Throw Championship on Monday  
January 16, 2023 at the Delphos St. John All Saints Gym  
at 2 pm. Registration begins at 1:30 pm at the gym for all  
boys and girls from the ages of 9 to 14 as of January 1,  
2023. Written parental consent is required. Boys and girls  
from their respective age divisions will compete to win the  
local competition, where winners will advance to the  
district competition. Contact Tom Jettinghoff at 419-235-  
2302 for more information.

**BIG BROTHERS/BIG SISTERS** of West Central Ohio is  
looking for volunteers in Putnam County. This  
organization matches children with mentors in life. In  
a community-based match, Bigs and Littles meet  
wherever they wish at a mutually convenient times,  
doing things they enjoy. In a school-based match,  
Bigs & Littles meet at the child's school during the  
day or after school.

Who are the kids? Our children "Littles" are boys and  
girls ages 6 to 17. Each child has a different story or  
struggles.

Who are the mentors? Our mentors "Bigs" are men  
and women of all ages and walks of life who desire  
to make a difference. We ask you to commit, for one  
year, to spend an hour (or more) each week with a  
child-to be a good listener and offer encouragement  
and support while engaging in activities you both  
enjoy.

How do I become a Big? Complete a short application  
and attend an interview. We check your references  
and police record. It's that simple! We keep in touch  
to make sure all is going well. We also offer quarterly  
activities for our Bigs and Littles, like the county fair,  
horseback riding and our annual Christmas party.

For more information contact Kay Black of Big  
Brothers Big Sisters of Putnam County at 419-523-  
4016 or by email at [KBlack@bbbswco.com](mailto:KBlack@bbbswco.com).

**2023 March for Life** - Interested in attending the 2023 National March for Life in Washington, D.C.? The trip is only \$275 per person, and partial scholarships are available upon request! Our pilgrimage includes two nights in the Residence Inn by Marriott in Downtown Washington, D.C., and free time to tour the city. Depart from St. Thomas More University Parish, Bowling Green on Thursday, January 19th, at 11 a.m. & stop in Norwalk pick up eastern region of the Diocese on our five charter buses. We will attend Holy Mass celebrated by Fr. David Kidd in the Crypt Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on Friday morning, then attend the Rally & March for Life! On Saturday morning, we will attend the National Pro-Life Summit hosted by Students for Life of America. This is the largest pro-life conference in the world, and for the first time, the Diocese of Toledo has been awarded a national grant to allow everyone in our pilgrimage to attend COMPLETELY FREE (\$150 value per person). To learn more, go to [www.prolifesummit.com](http://www.prolifesummit.com). Register: [www.tinyurl.com/DCMarch2023](http://www.tinyurl.com/DCMarch2023) or email Students for Life Coordinator, Allison Stump, at [astump@toledodiocese.org](mailto:astump@toledodiocese.org). Registration is now open to anyone in the Diocese! All minors must be accompanied at all times by a parent or legal guardian. For questions, call **Allison Stump at 419-214-4973**.

**St. Catherine’s Embrace Keepsake Boxes Available**  
 We offer prayers, resources and an engraved keepsake box filled with helpful books, artwork and handmade memorial items crafted by parishioners from across the county. **There are now trained volunteers in this parish who can respond to families directly.** If you or someone you love experiences a miscarriage or stillbirth, we are here to help. Simply call the parish office at 419-286-2132 and we will take care of the rest.

**Diocese of Toledo Snow Emergency Policy**

"Whenever a county/city within the Diocese of Toledo is placed under a Level 3 Snow Emergency, during which all roadways are closed to non-emergency personnel, the Catholic Churches within that geographic region will cancel the scheduled Saturday Vigil, Sunday, or Holy Day Masses. Roman Catholics in that region, therefore, are dispensed from the obligation to attend Mass. If Masses are cancelled, Catholics are encouraged to participate in Holy Mass via television, radio, or internet, making a spiritual Communion. When Mass is cancelled, all other diocesan, parish, or school events in that geographic region are also cancelled."

People should always use prudential judgment when traveling. Stay safe and warm this winter season!

**Diocese Wide Special Collections Remitted in Calendar Year 2022**

<b>Collection</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Church in Latin America	\$17,371.81
Church in Central and Eastern Europe	\$26,812.99
Black and Indian Missions	\$20,771.04
<b>Catholic Relief Services</b>	\$45,489.70
Holy Land	\$76,798.72
Catholic Home Missions Appeal	\$25,970.25
Catholic Communication Campaign	\$14,366.22
Peter’s Pence Collection	\$31,633.21
Catholic University of America	\$12,611.67
<b>World Mission Sunday</b>	\$310,524.55
Catholic Campaign for Human Development	\$30,686.10
Retirement for the Religious	\$115,101.71
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$728,137.97</b>