



# Saint Joseph Catholic Church

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

**Normal Mass Times:**

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

**Adoration & Confessions:**

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday  
 6:00 pm  
 Saturday: 4:00 pm  
 By request

**BAPTISMS**

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

**MARRIAGE**

Make marriage arrangements at least six months ahead of time by calling the parish office. Do not set wedding date prior to meeting with Fr. Ron.

**FAITH ENRICHMENT**

Religious Education Classes for the elementary students from August through May. Classes for the Junior High and High School students run September -- March.

**MINISTRY TO THE SICK AND**

**ELDERLY** Visitation and Eucharist will be provided by a Eucharistic Minister. 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.

- Father Ron Schock** ..... 419-722-6817  
 Email: fatherronschock@gmail.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, Business Manager** .....C: 419-235-2667  
 Email: stjoeeparishofc@bright.net
- Mrs. Monica Bruskotter, Bulletin Designer** .....419-286-2132  
 Email: stjosephfbulletin@gmail.com
- Safe Environment Compliance Coordinator**
- 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.....419-286-2489
- 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

**WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS** If you would like to join our St. Joseph Parish Family, please call or visit the parish office.



**ALL ARE WELCOME HERE**

# Intentions for Mass

## CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE FOR MASS INTENTIONS.

Sat	10/18	5:00 pm	Todd Bidlack, Tony Davis, Michael Klein
Sun	10/19	7:30 am	For Our Parish
		9:30 am	In Thanksgiving
Mon	10/20		
Tue	10/21	6:00 pm	Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
		6:00 pm	Confessions
		7:00 pm	Dan Recker
Wed	10/22	6:00 pm	Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
		6:00 pm	Confessions
		7:00 pm	Terry Maag
Thu	10/23	6:00 pm	Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
		6:00 pm	Confessions
		7:00 pm	Albert & Mabel Berelsman Jean Heitzman
Fri	10/24	7:55 am	For the Religious Ed Students
Sat	10/25	5:00 pm	Hubert & Helen Kaverman
Sun	10/26	7:30 am	For Our Parish
		9:30 am	Lawrence Schimmoeller Family

### THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Mon	10/20	Rom 4 :20-25	Lk 12 :13-21
Tue	10/21	Rom 5:12-15	Lk 12 :35-38
Wed	10/22	Rom 6:12-18	Lk 12:39-48
Thu	10/23	Rom 6:19-23	Lk 12:49-53
Fri	10/24	Rom 7:18-25	Lk 12:54-59
Sat	10/25	Rom 8:1-11	Lk 13:1-9

## WEEKDAY SERVERS

Tue, 10/21: Jordyn Buettner, Kinsley Farling, Rylen Hoersten  
 Wed, 10/22: Nash Miller, Mason Kohls, Henery Brokamp  
 Thu, 10/23: Savannah & Abby Gerdeman, Claire Mistisshen  
 Fri, 10/24: Logan Krietemeyer, Loryn Gasser, Anden Maenle

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS: October 25 & 26:

### SERVERS:

5:00 pm Ryan Aldrich, Evan Ellerbrock, Christopher Moening  
 7:30 am Austin Askins, Ava Knippen, Caleb Von Sossan  
 9:30 am Brody, Connor & Harper Leis

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

5:00 pm Connor Hoersten, Christina Hoersten, Alyssa Luersman, Dave Luersman, Kathy Luersman  
 7:30 am Volunteers Needed  
 9:30 am Anita Aldrich, Sam Dube, Eva Hill, Julie Fischbach, Alex Horstman, Ava Knippen

### LECTORS:

5:00 pm Lisa Kaverman  
 7:30 am Volunteer Needed  
 9:30 am Karen Maenle

### USHERS:

5:00 pm Rick Maag, Dan Krietemeyer  
 7:30 am Volunteer Needed  
 9:30 am Bryan Hoersten, Michelle Hoersten

**ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA)** OCIA 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. Contact the office to register.  
**Adult Enrichment:** Bible Study, Spiritual development, missions and retreats. Check the bulletin for details.

### Bible Trivia:

1. What piece of jewelry did Pharaoh give to Joseph when he made him ruler?
2. Who wrote the book of Exodus?
3. What do you call a person who predicts the future as told to him by God?
4. Which brother did Joseph keep as hostage when his brothers went home after buying grains from him in Egypt -- Benjamin, Reuben, Simeon or Bilhah?

Answers can be found on the back page of the bulletin.

## Church Bulletin Advertising

Julius Vichinsky, representing our Bulletin Publisher, Diocesan, is currently seeking new advertisers. Support our churches while you promote your business in print and digitally. If interested, please contact Julius directly or call the church offices. Only a third down payment is required to reserve an ad.

### Contact

**Julius Vichinsky**  
 jvichinsky@diocesan.com  
**614-671-7676**



**DIOCESAN**  
 Catholic Life Every Day

Thanks to you and Diocesan, the bulletin is published weekly at no cost to the churches.

**Remembering all those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith:** The crosses on the wall in the narthex, list the names of our parishioners who have died since last All Soul's Day. The crosses will remain on the wall until our annual **Mass for All Souls' at 9:30 am on Sunday, Nov. 2.** At that Mass, the crosses will be given to the family members. Our deceased loved ones are still part of our Communion of Saints, and they remain in our prayers as we do in theirs. Their life has not ended; it has only changed.

**Baptized as a new member of the Catholic Church: CHARLOTTE JEAN WURST** daughter of Nathan and Mindy (Merricle) Wurst. May the power of the Holy Spirit guide these parents as they share the faith with Charlotte. Congratulations from the Fort Jennings Community.

**Please help us in welcoming Erica Maenle to Our Parish Staff.** Erica will be the Safe Environment Compliance Coordinator: She will be responsible for ensuring that all personnel in the diocesan curia and certain ecclesiastical organizations meet the requirements stipulated in the Policy for the Protection of Minors and Young People. In addition, the Diocesan Safe Environment Compliance Coordinator assists local compliance officers successfully to accomplish their responsibilities and to coordinate the necessary reporting for diocesan and local compliance audits.

**Sunday School classes for 2025/26 will begin** on Sunday, Nov. 2 and run through Mar. 29. Classes are held during the 9:30 am Sunday Mass, and all children ages 3-PreK are welcome to attend. Enrollment forms are available at all church entrances. Forms are due Oct. 26. For more information contact Laura Tenwalde at 419-303-5752 or lauratenwalde@gmail.com.

**Fort Jennings American Legion Auxiliary Election night supper** will be held on Tuesday, November 4, from 4:00 – 6:00 pm. Drive-thru, carry-out only is available. The menu includes baked steak, mashed potatoes, corn, applesauce, roll and dessert. The cost is \$12. Call the American Legion (419-286-2100) to reserve your meal. Reservations must be made by October 31.

**The Village of Fort Jennings and the Fort Jennings Lions Club** are proud to announce a NEW PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE coming in 2025/2026!! This walk bridge will connect Freedom Square to our Community Park, with ADA-accessible passage for all residents and visitors. **Fundraising Status** The total estimated cost is \$850,000. **Total secured funds to date:** \$822,550. Scan the QR code for more information and ways to donate.



**2026 Men's Welcome Retreat:** We invite men in the parish and all surrounding parishes to come join us for the 2026 Men's Welcome retreat, to be held at Glandorf St. John's parish center. Jan. 31 through Feb.1, from 8:00 am Saturday morning until 3 pm Sunday. For more info or to sign up please contact: Travis Tenwalde (419) 236-0324.

**Ottoville Rosary Altar Society Craft Show** will be held on Saturday, Nov. 1 from 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. in the Immaculate Conception Parish Center. Please contact Marie Warnecke at (419) 453-3055 for additional information.

# #60MIN 4JESUS

Discover an hour of inspiration on how Jesus' teachings can guide our hearts through life.

Fr. Jim is a priest of the Diocese of Lexington, storyteller, and Papal Missionary of Mercy.

*You'll laugh, you'll cry,  
you'll sing, you'll be inspired!*



Join us at St. Joseph's Parish in Fort Jennings for Fr. Sichko  
135 N. Water St. Ft. Jennings, OH 45844

Missions will be celebrated November 2, 3 & 4, at 7:00 pm. Fr. Jim will also preach at all weekend Masses Nov. 1 & 2.



### Statement of Bishop Daniel E. Thomas:

"The Holy Father reminds us that for Christians, helping the poor is not optional—it is essential—because they are the very Body of Christ. While wealth and social success often create the illusion of happiness, they can lead to exclusion and discrimination against the oppressed. Christians also can let themselves be influenced by worldly ideologies, demonstrated by the fact that the exercise of charity is often scorned and ridiculed. This mindset must be transformed into one of solidarity: walking alongside those in need and meeting all as equals. Pope Leo emphasizes that the care of the poor is part of the Great Tradition of the Church, like a beacon of light..." To see the entire statement please visit:



# REFLECTIONS *of a Country Priest*

Dear Friends in Christ,

On our recent pilgrimage through France and Italy, one of the places that deeply struck me was the Grotto at Lourdes. Hour after hour, pilgrims from all over the world came before Our Lady, lighting candles, praying silently, sometimes with tears running down their faces. What amazed me wasn't just the faith—but the persistence of that faith. You could feel the Gospel come alive right there: "Pray always and do not lose heart."

This Sunday's Gospel tells the story of the persistent widow who keeps coming before the unjust judge until he finally grants her request. Jesus uses her determination to teach us something vital about prayer: not to give up. God isn't an unjust judge—but our perseverance in prayer changes us. It softens our hearts, deepens our trust, and aligns our will with His.

Sometimes, when we pray and don't see results, we can feel like that widow—tired, unheard, ready to quit. But God's timing is rarely ours. Lourdes reminded me that prayer isn't about persuading God to act; it's about allowing Him to act through us. The flicker of each candle reminded me of how persistent prayer keeps faith alive even in darkness.

Here are three concrete ways we can live this Gospel in our daily lives this week:

1. Set aside a "quiet corner" each day—even five minutes—to simply sit with the Lord, no phone, no noise, just presence.
2. Offer one prayer you've grown tired of praying—and ask the Lord to renew your trust in His timing.
3. Be the "persistent widow" for someone else—intercede for a person who may no longer pray for themselves.

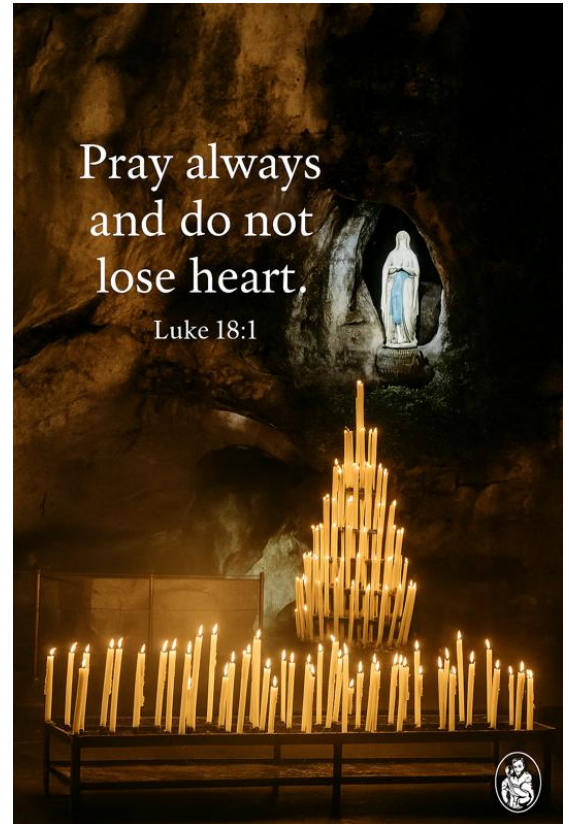
As Jesus asks at the end of the Gospel, "When the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on earth?"

May He find in us a faith that doesn't give up. I pray that this week, you and your family will be blessed in many ways!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Father Ron

*Don't Forget You Are a Saint in the Making.*



**KHS Blood Drive on Thursday, October 30.** The drive will be held at the Kalida High School gymnasium, from 12:00 – 6:00pm. Appointments are highly recommended. To schedule an appointment, go to [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) or call Mrs. Beth Grime at 419-532-3529.

**Annual Miscarriage and Infant Loss Memorial Mass to be held Sunday, October 26.** Mass will be held on Sunday, October 26 at 1:30 p.m. at Leipsic St. Mary's Catholic Church, 320 State Street, Leipsic. All are welcome at this special Mass. This will fulfill the regular Sunday obligation. For questions, call or text Mary Beth Weisenburger at (419)980-8065.



**KrautFest 2025** Immaculate Conception Church is hosting their annual Sauerkraut Fest on Sunday, November 9. The menu includes homemade kraut, whole hog sausage links, mashed potatoes, applesauce & pretzel roll.

Proceeds benefit the Immaculate Conception Campus Projects. Scan the QR code for tickets.

**Annual Walk for Life** will be held on Saturday, Oct. 18 at the Ottawa Rex Pavillion. Speeches begin at 10:00 am. Walk begins at 11:00 am. Come support the Pro-life Movement.