

St. Joseph Catholic Church

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

Father Ron Schock 419-722-6817 | Deacon Larry Schimmoeller 419-302-2532



135 N. Water St. PO Box 68 Fort Jennings, OH 45844 Phone: 419-286-2132 Fax: 419-286-3132

Church Directory

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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
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 Mrs. Monica Bruskotter, **Bulletin Designer**419-286-2132
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Safe Environment Compliance Coordinator
 Mrs. Erica Maenle.....419-979-9892

Director of Music & Liturgy Chairperson
 Mrs. Joyce Gasser419-236-0816

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 Recker419-286-5100

Funeral Luncheon Committee
 Mrs. Sue Knippen.....419-236-9564

Finance Council
 Mr. Adam Anspach, Chair.....419-771-1747
 Mrs. Mandi Kahle, Vice Chair
 Mrs. Allison Gerdeman, Secretary Mrs. Jenny Smith

Pastoral Council
 Mr. Chad Recker, President..... 419-231-1428
 Mr. Adam Krietemeyer, Vice President
 Mrs. Lynn Anspach, Secretary
 Mrs. Jenn Gasser Mr. Scott Gerdeman
 Mrs. Laura Tenwalde Mr. Todd Warnecke
 Mrs. Michelle Menke Mr. Zach Liebrecht

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

BAPTISMS will be celebrated anytime agreeable with Fr. Ron or Deacon Larry. If you are a parent wanting a baptism, contact the parish office as soon as possible to start the Godparent paperwork. No baptisms will be scheduled until the Godparent eligibility paperwork is submitted. 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. Attend a Pre-Marriage Preparation Class before your marriage. Find Marriage Prep Classes at ToledoMarriagePrep.org.

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

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

Scripture Readings

Monday	Acts 11:1-18 Jn 10:11-18
Tuesday	Acts 11:19-26 Jn 10:22-30
Wednesday	Acts 12:24-13:5 Jn 12:44-50
Thursday	Acts 13:13-25 Jn 13:16-20
Friday	Acts 13:26-33 Jn 14:1-6
Saturday	Acts 13:44-52 Jn 14:7-14

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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.

Spring Cleaning

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean. Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
(Psalm 51:7)



Intentions for Mass

CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE FOR MASS INTENTIONS.

Sat 04/25	5:00 pm	Art Gasser & Ben and Mary Sergeant
Sun 04/26	7:30 am	For Our Parish
	9:30 am	Bockrath & Meyer Families
Tue 04/28		NO MASS
Wed 04/29	7:00 pm	Vorst Family
Thu 04/30	7:00 pm	For Those with Autism
Fri 05/01	7:55 am	For Our Religious Ed Students
Sat 05/02	5:00 pm	For the Boy Scouts
Sun 05/03	7:30 am	For Our Parish
	9:30 am	Bockrath & Meyer Families

Liturgical Ministers: May 2 & 3

Servers:

5:00 pm	Tessa, Waylon & Lacey Meyer
7:30 am	Jase Metzger, Caleb Von Sossan, Ava Knippen
9:30 am	Iris Tenwalde, Carly & Levi Schroeder

Eucharistic Ministers:

5:00 pm	Alyssa Luersman, Kathy & Dave Luersman Carla Norbeck, Becky Uphaus
7:30 am	Volunteers needed
9:30 am	Addison Sarka, Tenley Sarka, Layla Schroeder, James Schroeder, Diane Stennett, Renee Neidert, Kim McCracken

Lectors:

5:00 pm	Agnes Krietemeyer
7:30 am	Volunteer needed
9:30 am	1st Communicants

Ushers:

5:00 pm	Alex Horstman, Kevin Leis
7:30 am	Volunteer needed
9:30 am	Zach & Rhonda Liebrecht

Weekday Servers:

Tue 4/28 - No Mass

Wed 4/29 - Savannah & Abby Gerdeman, Emma Hedrick

Thu 4/30 - Liam & Levi Van Bibber, Mason Kohls

Fri 5/01 - Jacob Myers, Henry Brokamp, Anden Maenle

Thank-you to N.R. Lee Restoration in Delphos for allowing us to use their equipment to help with church repairs!

Youth Elect Service (Y.E.S) Project Would like to thank all Parishioners who donated to make this service possible!

The 2026 Y.E.S. Project is looking for volunteers!! will be held at Ft. Jennings High School beginning Thurs., June 4 at 5:30 pm. Students entering 7th grade - graduating seniors are encouraged to join this weekend service retreat. This is a wonderful opportunity, have fun, grow in faith, and be the hands and feet of Christ in your community. This meaningful 3-day experience will conclude with 5:00 p.m. Mass on Sat., Jun. 6 at our Church. Registration forms are available from Julie Fischbach or on the tables at the church entrance and are due by May 22. Bring your friends—the opportunities are endless! We are also seeking adult team leaders and assistant leaders (college freshmen through retirees) to help guide and support our youth throughout the weekend. If you enjoy helping those in need and sharing your faith with the young Church, we would love to have you join us. For questions or to register as a participant or team leader, please contact Julie Fischbach at 419-905-8472 (evenings or weekends). Answer His call today—the opportunities are endless, and the reward is eternal!

The St Joseph's Youth Group would like to extend heartfelt thanks to a generous parish family for completely sponsoring their opportunity to attend the Steubenville Youth Conference this year. Your kindness and support will make it possible for these 7 young ladies (and their chaperone) to grow in faith, deepen their relationship with Christ, and experience the beauty of our faith in a powerful way. Please know of our sincere gratitude and our prayers for you and your family.

Putnam County Right to Life's next meeting will be Wed. May 6 at 7:30 in Kalida St. Michael's Church basement. All are welcome.

AMEN
Amen I say to you



A look ahead:

Tues. Apr. 28 - NO MASS

Wed. Apr. 29 - 6:00 pm Adoration & Confession

Thurs. Apr. 30 - 6:00 pm Adoration & Confession

Fri. May 1 - 7:55 am **First Friday**
Children's Mass

Tues. May 5 - NO MASS

Sun. May 3 - 9:30 am First Communion Mass

Sat. May 9 - 5:00 pm
Baccalaureate Mass

Bulletin Submission deadline:

Monday 10:00 am

**Week 3 Fort Fest Winner
is Angie Gasser.**

Congrats to the week
4/13 winner!

Offertory March 2026

Envelopes	\$1,828.00
Loose	\$1,184.00
Maintenance	\$245.00
Catholic Home Min.	\$10.00
YTD Total:	\$180,908.74
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YTD over Budget:	\$20,908.74

THANK YOU for your continued support.

Sign up Electronic Funds Transfer to have your contribution's deducted directly from your bank account. Forms are on our parish website or contact the parish office.

Springs in the Desert, is hosting monthly meetings to accompany women struggling with infertility and loss. Our next meeting will be held Thursday, May 7 at 7:30 pm. in the St. Joseph, church basement. All women of the parish & surrounding parishes are invited to join us. *You do not need to have attended any previous meetings- new faces are welcome at any time!* For more information, contact Laura Tenwalde at (419)303-5752. It is our honor to walk with you!

Legion Is hosting a Mother's Day Breakfast Buffet on Sun. May 10, from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm. The Breakfast includes: bacon, sausage, ham, home fries, sausage gravy & biscuits, French toast, scrambled eggs, fruit, & breakfast rolls. Cost is \$13 for adults and children under 10 are \$7. Call 419-286-2100 for reservations by May 8.

Local Mass:

Ottoville: Tues. 12:00 pm. & Wed. Thurs. & Fri. 8:00 am.

Delphos: Mon-Fri 8:00 am & Wed 12:15 pm

Kalida: Thurs 7:30 pm, Tues, Wed, & Fri 8:00 am

Student OF THE WEEK

Owen Goins was nominated as student of the week by his religion teacher Stacy Warnecke. "Owen always says hello to me every morning with an occasional hug. He always smiles, is eager to participate in class and willing to help if he sees I'm doing something before or after class. He likes to tidy the room up as he leaves." said Stacy.

Owen loves to play sports and help others. His favorite part of religion class is learning about Jesus and the apostles. Owen's most recent "God sighting" is when he lost his hearing aid, but his dad found it! His favorite prayer is St. Michael, and his family always prays together before eating dinner together.



World Day of Prayer

FOR VOCATIONS

“Change your hearts and lives. Each of you must be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins.”
ACTS 38

“For you had gone astray like sheep, but you have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of your soul.”
1 PETER 2:25

FATHER, THANK YOU FOR THE GENEROSITY OF OUR SEMINARIANS. SAFEGUARD THEM AS THEY PREPARE FOR THE PRIESTHOOD.

KEEP ALL EVIL FAR FROM THEM, SO THEY MAY BECOME STRONG CHRISTIAN MEN WHO ARE FAITHFUL TO PRAYER, DILIGENT IN THEIR STUDIES, OPEN TO SPIRITUAL DIRECTION, AND DOCILE TO ALL

ASPECTS OF SEMINARY FORMATION.

ABOVE ALL, ENFLAME THEIR HEARTS WITH LOVE SO THEY WILL BE ARDENT AND GENTLE SHEPHERDS FOR YOUR CHURCH. WE MAKE THIS PRAYER THROUGH THE GREAT HIGH PRIEST, JESUS

CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN.

ST. CHARLES BORROMEO, PATRON OF SEMINARIANS, PRAY FOR US.

UPCOMING DATES FROM THE VOCATIONS OFFICE:

APRIL 26: WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS (GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY)

MAY 16: EVAN SEKERAK'S DIACONATE ORDINATION (HOLY ROSARY CATHEDRAL)

JUNE 27: DEACON ANDREW MESSER'S PRIESTHOOD ORDINATION (ST. JOAN OF ARC)

JULY 31-AUGUST 2: QUO VADIS HIGH SCHOOL DISCERNMENT RETREAT

AUGUST 2-3: QUO VADIS JUNIOR HIGH DISCERNMENT RETREAT

Please keep our seminarians in prayer as they finish up their spring semester in seminary and prepare for their summer assignments!





Reflections of a country Priest

Hello Friends in Christ,

This Fourth Sunday of Easter is traditionally known as Good Shepherd Sunday. In the Gospel, Jesus says, “My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me.” There is something deeply comforting in that image. Jesus is not distant. He is the Good Shepherd... one who knows His sheep, calls them by name, and walks with them, even through uncertainty.

And it is with great joy that I share that Father Anthony Vera has been appointed by Bishop Daniel E. Thomas as our next pastor, beginning July 1, 2026. Father Tony comes to us as a neighbor, having served at Delphos St. John’s, Landeck St. John’s, and Spencerville St. Patrick’s. He is already familiar with St. Joseph, having celebrated daily Mass here, and many know him from his ministry in the nursing homes in Delphos and at St. Rita’s Hospital.

Father Tony will be visiting this week to tour the parish, so you may see us around town... possibly even on the golf cart he will be inheriting. Please join me in warmly welcoming him and keeping him in your prayers.

We have also reached and exceeded our Annual Catholic Appeal goal. Our goal was \$14,149.39, and we have reached \$15,795.42...111.63% of our goal. Ninety families made this possible. Thank you for your generosity. If you would still like to contribute, envelopes are available in the back of the church. Remember, 25% of what is raised over the goal returns to our parish.

Next weekend, we celebrate First Holy Communion at the 9:30 a.m. Mass. If you prefer a less crowded Mass, you may wish to attend Saturday at 5:00 p.m. or Sunday at 7:30 a.m.

Thank you for your continued prayers for me. I hope to have an update this weekend regarding my recent neurological testing. If not, feel free to ask me personally.

As we reflect on the Good Shepherd, take comfort in this truth: you are known, you are loved, and you are being led.



Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Ron Schock

“Don’t forget you are a saint in the making.”