



Saint Joseph Catholic Church

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

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday — 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

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

ADORATION & CONFESSIONS

Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays: 6:00 pm

Fridays: 7:00 am

Saturdays: 4:00 pm

Anytime by request

BAPTISMS

Baptisms will be celebrated anytime agreeable with Fr. Ron 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 meeting with Fr. Ron.

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. 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. 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.

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 419-236-0816

Sacristans

Ms. Mary Luersman 419-286-2306

Mr. Dave Luersman 419-286-2489

Youth Minister

Mrs. Julie Fischbach 419-905-8472

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

Laura Tenwalde

Michelle Menke

Scott Gerdeman

Todd Warnecke

Zach Liebrecht

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

CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE FOR MASS INTENTIONS.

One family per mass only. Do not put mass intentions requests in the offertory before speaking to the office.

Sat	9/20	5:00 pm	Paul & Mary Lou Menke
Sun	9/21	7:30 am	For Our Parish
		9:30 am	For Diseased Members of Our Parish
Mon	9/22		
Tue	9/23	6:00 pm	Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
		6:00 pm	Confessions
		7:00 pm	Dan Recker
Wed	9/24	7:00 pm	<u>NO MASS</u>
Thu	9/25	7:00 pm	<u>NO MASS</u>
Fri	9/26	7:55 am	For Religious Ed Students
Sat	9/27	5:00 pm	Alber & Mabel Berelsman, Jean Heitzman
Sun	9/28	7:30 am	For Our Parish
		9:30 am	Hubert & Helen Kaverman

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Mon	9/22	Ezr 1:1-6	Lk 8:16-18
Tue	9/23	St. Pius of Pietrelcina	
		Ezr 6:7-8	Lk 8:19-21
Wed	9/24	Ezr 9:5-9	Lk 9:1-6
Thu	9/25	Hg 1:1-8	Lk 9:7-9
Fri	9/26	St. Cosmas and Damian	
		Hg 2 :1-9	Lk 9:18-22
Sat	9/27	St. Vincent de Paul	
		Zec 2:5-9	Lk 9:43-45

BAPTISM

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.

Attend a Pre-Marriage Preparation Class before your marriage.

Find Marriage Prep Classes at <http://ToledoMarriagePrep.org>
 Bulletin submissions deadline: Wednesday at 10 a.m.

Mark your calendar

Fr. Sichko will be coming to our parish for weekend Masses on November 1 & 2 with evening talks November 3 through November 5.

WEEKDAY SERVERS

Tue, 9/23: Kinsley Farling, Alivia Wrasman, Weston Swick

Wed, 9/24: **NO MASS**

Thu, 9/25: **NO MASS**

Fri, 9/26: Savannah & Abby Gerdeman, Henery Brokamp

LITURGICAL MINISTERS: September 27 & 28:

SERVERS:

5:00 pm Ryan Abbie & Leah Kahle
 7:30 am Maddie, Josie & Jacob Anspach
 9:30 am Lucas Knippen, Ava Knippen, Maile Poole

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

5:00 pm Becky Uphaus, Nancy Wiechart, Karen Young, Evan Ellerbrock, Bailey Hile
 7:30 am Volunteers Needed
 9:30 am Denise Sukup, Teresa Wurst, Madie Anspach, Anita Aldrich, Sam Dube, Eva Hill, Julie Fischbach

LECTORS:

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

USHERS:

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



September 14, 2025

Envelopes	\$ 1,632.00
Loose	\$ 817.26
Maintenance	\$ 455.00
Catholic Univ of America	\$ 20.00
Children's Mass	\$ 44.72

YTD as of August 31, 2025 = \$ **46,577.52**

YTD Over Budget = \$ 2,557.52

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.

**New Email for bulletin submissions:
stjosephfbulletin@gmail.com**

Baptized as a new member of the Catholic Church: BRISTOL LIA KOPITSCH daughter of Kyle and Cassandra (Kaverman) Kopitsch. May the power of the Holy Spirit guide these parents as they share the faith with Hartley. Congratulations from the Fort Jennings Community.

Revelation Bible Study week two September 23 at 7:30pm in the church basement. The book we are using can be found on Amazon by searching "Revelation (Little Rock Scripture Study)." For info, contact Julie Fischbach at 419-905-8472.

Tim Luersman will be celebrating his 67th birthday today, September 21. Please shower him with birthday cards and bright wishes to brighten his day. Send card to: Tim Luersman, VanCrest Care Center, 1425 E Fifth St. Room 38C, Delphos OH, 45833.

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/questions, contact Laura Tenwalde at 419-303-5752 or lauratenwalde@gmail.com. Please take advantage of this wonderful opportunity for your child to learn about God's love & presence in their life!

Springs in the Desert, a Catholic infertility ministry, is hosting monthly meetings to accompany women struggling with infertility and loss. There will be a guest speaker on October 2nd during our regularly scheduled 7:30 pm meeting in the St. Joseph's church basement. Edward Luersman, MA, LPCC is the owner of "Blessed Are They" Grief Counseling and will be joining us to offer his unique perspective as a counselor on various topics related to the hidden grief of infertility. All women of the parish & surrounding parishes are invited to join us. New faces are welcome at any time. For more information, contact Laura Tenwalde (419)303-5752.

Join Fr. Charles on Pilgrimage to the Shrines of ITALY July 13 - 22, 2026 with 206 tours. Places of interest on this Pilgrimage: Rome: Papal Audience, Trevi Fountain, Pantheon, Basilicas of St. Peter, John, Paul Mary Holy Stairs, Vatican Museum/Garden, Sistine Chapel, Appian Way, Catacombs, Monte Cassino, San Giovanni Rotondo, Mont Sant' Angelo, Lanciano, Loreto, Assisi Orvieto, etc. Cost is \$6,474 per person from Cleveland/Detroit Airports.

Putnam County Council on Aging is offering bingo at Fort Haven Apartments in Fort Jennings on October 2 at 1:00 pm.

Catechetical Sunday, which is always celebrated on the third Sunday in September, to recognize and celebrate the gift that catechists give to their parish community by volunteering their time for the faith formation of children. We come together as a church community to acknowledge the dedication of those who serve as catechists in our parish family. Thank you all for all you do and give to our youth!

Kindergarten- Melissa Rau, Laurie Maag, Kelly Stant

1st grade- Meghann Myers

2nd grade- Lynn Anspach

3rd grade- Stacy Warnecke

4th grade- Erica Maenle

5th grade- Tony Recker

6th grade- Renee Neidert

Children's choir- Joyce Gasser

7th grade- Laurie Maag

8th grade- Heather Sarka

9th grade- Julie Fischbach, also our Youth Minister

10th grade- Doug Sickels

11th grade- Josh & Jenny McElroy

12th grade- Monica Bruskotter

Thirteen men were ordained to the permanent diaconate by Bishop Daniel E. Thomas, Saturday, September 13. Please keep Benjamin Schroeder (Columbus Grove, St. Anthony of Padua,) Gregory Zeller (Kalida, St. Michael,) and Michael Karhoff (Glandorf, St. John the Baptist) in your prayers.

Landeck St. John the Baptist Church: breakfast on Sunday, Sept 28 from 9:00 am to noon in the Landeck Church Basement. Meal: sausage, pancakes, eggs, burritos, toast, coffee, and juice. Free Will Offering.

Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 11 at 12:00 pm for an Outdoor Rosary Rally in Honor of our Lady of Fatima, at Continental, St. Joseph.

What are the sources of income for a retired priest?

As a Parish, we have an opportunity to say thank you to retired priests who have celebrated Mass, baptized our children, buried our loved ones, and helped us to grow in our faith. The Perpetuate The Gift appeals is an opportunity to support priest in retirement. Make your gift in the parish collection or send it to Perpetuate The Gift, PO BOX 954, Toledo OH 43697, or toledodiocese.org/perpetuate-the-gift.

Bible Trivia:

- 1. Who said, "Am I my brother's keeper?"**
- 2. On which number of the seven days of Creation did God create the sky (Heaven?)**

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

REFLECTIONS *of a Country Priest*

Dear Friends in Christ,

This Sunday's Gospel gives us the three parables of mercy: the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the prodigal son (Luke 15:1–32). Each story reveals the very heart of our God — a Father who never gives up, who searches tirelessly, and who rejoices when what was lost has been found. These parables remind us that no matter how far we stray, God's love is greater still. Heaven itself rejoices over one soul who returns!

That message of mercy is especially close to me as I prepare to leave on Monday, September 22, for my parish pilgrimage. I will be leading 36 people throughout our diocese and beyond. We will be traveling to Paris, Lourdes, Assisi, Norcia, and Rome. I will return late in the evening on Friday, October 3. While I am away, if there are any parish needs, please call the parish office. If someone should require anointing or the care of a priest, one of my brother priests in our neighboring parishes will be available.

I would also love to carry your prayer intentions with me to these holy sites. If you would like me to do so, please send your intention to me by text (my number is on the front of the bulletin), or message me through Facebook Messenger or Instagram. Know that I will hold you all close in my heart during this pilgrimage. Let's pray for one another, and may the Lord keep you safe, healthy, and blessed until I return.

I also want to share some exciting parish news! We have recently contracted with Diocesan Publications to help us create a new parish bulletin. This updated bulletin will be eight pages, full color, and much more reader-friendly, with plenty of visuals and parish information. Our new bulletin editor, Monica Bruskotter, will be working hard to make this a beautiful and informative resource for our parish family.

The advertisements in the bulletin will cover its cost. If you own a business or would like to personally support the bulletin, please contact the parish office. Representatives from Diocesan Publications will also be visiting our parish soon to invite advertisers to join in on the support of our new bulletin.

In addition, we are creating a new section on the back cover of the bulletin titled "In Memory Of." If you would like your loved ones remembered there, you may sponsor a line for \$75 per year. Please note, space is limited to listing a couple (for example, "Mr. and Mrs. John Smith"). This will be a beautiful way to honor the memory of your loved ones in a lasting way.

May this Sunday's Gospel remind us that each of us is precious in the eyes of God, and that His mercy is always greater than our sins.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Ron

"Don't forget you are a saint in the making."

Christ the King Center, Ottawa – On Sunday, September 28, Experience a Slice of Holy Land. At 2:00 pm activities include fishing derby bible bingo, face painting, chalk drawing, outdoor games, prizes, and drawings. Outdoor Mass at 4:00 pm under that tent, 5:00 pm dinner, 6:15 pm Family Rosary Walk, and at 7:00 pm sunset and campfire. For questions contact: contact@christthekingcenter.org. 620 E. Blake St., Ottawa.

Putnam County Habitat for Humanity is now accepting applications for Critical Home Repair (CHR). Applicants must be at or below 80% of the current low-income limits and repairs are limited to the home living space. No garage or outbuilding repairs will be considered. Interested Putnam County residents must complete the Critical Home Repair application located at www.putnamohhabitat.org and the proper documentation should be submitted.