



# Saint Joseph Catholic Church

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

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**Father Ron Schock, Pastor:** C: 419-722-6817

Email—fatherronschock@gmail.com

**Larry Schimmoeller, Deacon:** C: 419-302-2532~H: 419-286-2170

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**Mrs. Rhonda Liebrecht, CRE**—419-286-2019

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## 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**

## 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.

## 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	9/06	5:00 pm	<b>Father Ron Installation Mass</b> Joe & Shirley Mesker
Sun	9/07	7:30 am	For Our Parish
		9:30 am	Jack Berelsman
Mon	9/08		
Tue	9/09	6:00 pm	Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
		6:00 pm	Confessions
		7:00 pm	Terry Maag
Wed	9/10	6:00 pm	Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
		6:00 pm	Confessions
		7:00 pm	Dan Stechschulte
Thu	9/11	6:00 pm	Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
		6:00 pm	Confessions
		7:00 pm	For Vocations
Fri	9/12	7:55 am	For Religious Ed Students
Sat	9/13	5:00 pm	Jerry Meyer
Sun	9/14	7:30 am	For Our Parish
		9:30 am	Toby Fields

**THIS WEEK'S READINGS**

Mon	9/08	Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
		Mi 5:1-4a	Mi 1:1-16, 18-23
Tue	9/09	Saint Peter Claver, Priest	
		Col 2:6-15	Lk 6:12-19
Wed	9/10	Col 3:1-11	Lk 6:20-26
Thu	9/11	Col 3:12-17	Lk 6:27-38
Fri	9/12	The Most Holy Name of Mary	
		1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14	Lk 6:39-42
Sat	9/13	Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop	
		1 Tm 1:15-17	Lk 6:43-49

**Please pray for the sick of the Parish:**

Contact the parish office to be added.

**Jr. high & HS religious Ed, big KICK OFF**

event will be Sept. 17, 7:30- 8:30PM in Fathers driveway. This is to kick off our religious Ed classes for the 25'-26' school year. We will have pizza and games and of course prayer and fellowship with our classmates! See you there, if you have not yet turned in your enrollment form, please do so that evening, if you have misplaced or lost yours contact Rhonda Liebrecht, 419-796-9044, for a new one. If it is raining, we will meet in the church basement.

**WEEKDAY SERVERS**

Tue, Sept 9: Loryn Gasser & Kinsley Farling  
 Wed, Sept 10: Nash Miller & Aiden Hoersten  
 Thu, Sept 11: Adelyn Moening & Cece Schroeder  
 Fri, Sept 12: Mason Kohls, Jacob Meyer, Abby Gerdeman

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS: September 13 & 14:**

**SERVERS:**

5:00 pm Evan Ellerbrock, Ryan Aldrich,  
 Caleb Von Sossan  
 7:30 am Jeremy & Hudson Maag, Wyatt Gasser  
 9:30 am Derek Hark, Tenley & Addison Sarka

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:**

5:00 pm Connor Hoersten, Christina Hoersten,  
 Alyssa Luersman, Kathy Luersman, Kathy  
 Luersman, Dave Luersman  
 7:30 am Volunteers Needed  
 9:30 am Hudson Maag, Calvin Menke, Marilyn  
 Metzger, Karen Maenle, Trisha Moening,  
 Jamie Saum, Doug Sickels

**LECTORS:**

5:00 pm Dave Luersman  
 7:30 am Volunteer Needed  
 9:30 am Mike Knippen

**USHERS:**

5:00 pm Ralph Knippen, Rick Horstman  
 7:30 am Volunteer Needed  
 9:30 am Darren Beining, Charlie Gerdeman



**August 31, 2025**

Envelopes	\$ 1,951.00
Loose	\$ 722.26
August EFT Offertory	\$ 4,515.46
August EFT Maintenance	\$ 1,115.00
Maintenance	\$ 170.00
Assumption	\$ 25.00
Children's Mass	\$ 34.24

YTD as of August 31, 2025 = **\$ 41,820.26**

YTD Over Budget = \$ 5,820.26

**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.

**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.

**New Email for bulletin submissions:**  
[stjosephfbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephfbulletin@gmail.com)

**OCIA will begin in September. If interested, please call Karan Maenle at 419-286-2877.**

There are many myths and misunderstandings in our society about the Catholic Church. Many people of good will, Catholic and non-Catholic alike, believe outrageous (sometimes even ridiculous) things about the Catholic Church. Rest assured, the Catholic Church is first and foremost about being disciples of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior – and in faithfully living and handing on the truth of His teachings from generation to generation. We live in uncertain times, and everything seems to be changing. Even traditional morality seems to be up for grabs. Times may change, but the Truth, Jesus Christ, is always the same – yesterday, today, and forever.

If you have ever thought about becoming Catholic but were unsure of some of the things you've heard the Catholic Church teaches, perhaps it's time to learn what Catholicism is all about from the inside.

**Baptized as a new member of the Catholic Church: HARTLEY JAY VON SOSSAN** daughter of Nicholes and Lydia (Mesker) 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** starting September 16 at 7:30pm in the church basement. This study will take 9 weeks to complete and is 100% Catholic teaching. This study is open to both adults and high school teens. 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.

**FT JENNINGS LIONS CLUB CHARITY GOLF SCRAMBLE:** Saturday, Sept. 13 at Delphos Country Club. Shotgun start at 10 a.m. (registration at 9:30) 4-person scramble, \$240 per team. Proceeds go toward community projects. Info: Simon at 419-230-1538.

**Mark your calendars - MOVIE NIGHT at the Park!** September 13@ FJ Park. Freedom Square is hosting Flick on the Field. Free movie, donations appreciated. There will be concessions. Join us for a fun, family event. Gates will open at 6:30pm, movie will start at dusk.

**3rd Annual Putnam County Suicide Awareness Event: 5k race/walk** on September 14th. To register go to: [runsignup.com](http://runsignup.com) and search "Putnam County Suicide Awareness Prevention" Register by September 1st to receive a t shirt.

**Cloverdale Cascade Park Benefit** – Saturday, September 13th enjoy a day of family fun at Cascade Park. BBQ Chicken Dinners served at 11:00 am until sold out. Live Music, Raffles, & 50/50. Registration for the Canoe Poker Run is 11-11:45 am. throughout the year.

**She Shall Be Called Woman** is a transformative journey designed to meet the deepest longings of the feminine heart. Our program is a sanctuary for women seeking to be truly seen, known, and loved, as they grow in their relationship with the Lord. Through authentic conversations, vibrant speakers, and enriching prayer experiences, we equip you with the tools to embark on a profound spiritual journey. Join us for food, fellowship, and faith beginning weekly on Wednesday evenings or Saturday mornings at the Ottoville Parish Center. Our Fall session starts Wednesday 9/24@6:30pm in the Chamber room or Saturday 9/27@8am in the K of C room. Sessions are not progressive, come when you can. Babysitting available upon request, contact Beth at 419-230-5740. All women are welcome! Learn more at [www.SheShallBeCalledWoman.com](http://www.SheShallBeCalledWoman.com).



**Layla's Cancer Care Club first annual 5k color run** September 20, 2025 at Fort Jennings Park. Registration begins at 9 a.m. Kids fun run (age 9 & under) begins at 9:30 – no cost. 5k color fun run ages 10-17 \$10. Ages 18 & up \$15. Walkers begin at 9:30. Runners begin at 10. Day of registration is \$20. All paid runners will receive raffle entry ticket. All proceeds benefit Layla's cancer care club a nonprofit created by Layla Korte, who was diagnosed with cancer at 7 years old. Register with the QR code.

**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](mailto:contact@christthekingcenter.org). 620 E. Blake St., Ottawa.



Hello friends in Christ,

This Sunday's Gospel (Mark 7:31–37) tells us of Jesus healing a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment. With just a touch and the word “Ephphatha!”—“Be opened”—his ears were opened, and his tongue was loosed. What a powerful reminder that Jesus desires to open our ears so we can hear His Word clearly and loosen our tongues so we can proclaim His truth with joy. Each of us is invited to let Christ heal what keeps us closed off—whether it is fear, doubt, or sin—so that we may live as bold witnesses of His love.

This Gospel speaks beautifully to what we celebrated on Saturday evening at the 5:00 p.m. Mass: my installation as Pastor of St. Joseph Parish, presided by Bishop Daniel E. Thomas. I am deeply grateful to Bishop Thomas for joining us and for his prayerful guidance and encouragement. His presence reminded us that our parish is united to the wider Church and her mission.

On a personal note, I was humbled and blessed to have my family present, especially my mom. For this occasion, she sewed the vestments that both Bishop Thomas and I wore during the Mass of Installation. These vestments are not just cloth and thread, but a living reminder of faith, love, and sacrifice. They will remain for me a treasure always close to my heart.

I would also like to express my gratitude to all those who took part in the Installation Mass: to our organist, Joyce Gasser, and the angelic-sounding choir, to the servers, ushers, and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, and to everyone who helped make the liturgy a beautiful celebration. A special thank-you goes to the Parish Council for providing the cookies and punch afterwards in the narthex—it was a true moment of fellowship and joy.

I can honestly say I am already feeling right at home here at St. Joseph. Your warmth, your welcome, and your shared faith are helping me feel truly part of this parish family. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

As Christ calls us to “be opened,” may our parish community continue to grow in openness to His grace and in faithfulness to the mission entrusted to us. Together, let us walk forward as disciples of Jesus, proclaiming His love in word and deed.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Father Ron

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

P.S. After consulting with the Parish Finance Council, I have determined the necessity to have our parish office hours open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. until noon. At this time, I would like to announce that Monica Bruskotter has been hired as our part-time Administrative Assistant on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Monica's main duty will be serving as our bulletin editor and assisting with office activities, as well as being available to assist with any special projects. Join me in welcoming Monica!

**Mark your calendar** for Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup>; 12:00 pm for an Outdoor Rosary Rally in Honor of our Lady of Fatima, at Continental, St. Joseph.

**Landeck St. John the Baptist Church: breakfast** on Sunday, Sept 28th 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!**  
Fr. Sichko will be coming to our parish for weekend Masses on November 1 & 2 with evening talks November 3rd through 5th