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—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
stjoereled@bright.net
Mrs. Kelly Stant, Secretary—C: 419-235-2667
www.stjosephfortjennings.org

OFFICE HOURS
Monday, Wednesday, Friday—9:00 until Noon
E-mail address: stjoeparishofc@bright.net

NORMAL MASS TIMES
Saturday: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 7:30 am and 9:30 am
Monday:
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 will be 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
**Intentions**

Sat  24  5:00 pm  Elwood & Rita Broecker  
Sun  25  7:30 am  Eugene & Patricia Schroeder  
      George Krietemeyer  
      Dennis Gasser  
      9:30 am  Walt Hoersten  
      Mary Lou Menke  
Mon  26  
Tues 27  7:00 pm  For Souls in Purgatory  
Wed 28  **NO MASS**  
Thurs 29  7:00 pm  Pete Vetter  
Fri 30  7:55 am  Communion Service  
Sat 31  5:00 pm  Carol Meyer  
Sun 01  7:30 am  For a Safe and Fair Election  
      9:30 am  For Our Beloved Deceased  
      Leonard Bruskotter  

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS - Oct. 31 & Nov. 1:**

**SERVERS:**
- 5:00 pm  Elizabeth Meyer  
- 7:30 am  Hannah Grote  
- 9:30 am  Brandt Menke  

**EUCARISTIC MINISTERS:**
- 5:00 pm  Becky Uphaus, Jodi Von Sossan, Eva Von Sossan  
- 7:30 am  **Volunteers Needed**  
- 9:30 am  Jennifer McElroy, Karan Maenle, Trish Moening  

**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  **Volunteers Needed**  
- 9:30 am  Darren Beining, Charlie Gerdeman, Adam Luersman  

**Pray for the sick:** Joyce Gasser & Cherie Luersman  

**THIS WEEK’S READINGS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Reading 1</th>
<th>Reading 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Eph 4:32-5:8</td>
<td>Lk 13:10-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>Eph 5:21-33</td>
<td>Lk 13:18-21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Wed   | Saints Simon & Jude, Apostles  
      | Eph 2:19-22             | Lk 6:12-16              |
| Thu   | Eph 6:10-20             | Lk 13:31-35             |
| Fri   | Phil 1:1-11             | Lk 14:1-6               |
| Sat   | Phil 1:18b-26           | Lk 14:1, 7-11           |

**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 Souls’ Day. The crosses will remain on the wall until our annual **Mass for All Souls at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, November 1**. The crosses will be given to the family at that Mass. Our deceased loved ones are still part of our Communion of Saints and they remain in our prayers as we do in theirs. Their live has not ended, it has changes.

**THANK YOU for the overwhelming response to our plea for food!** Due to the extreme generosity of our parishioners, we currently do not need any food. The only things needed are toiletries, paper towels and toilet paper. No toothpaste or toothbrushes. We cannot thank you enough for being the hands and feet of Christ to those in need!!

**October 18, 2020:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Envelopes</td>
<td>$2,181.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loose</td>
<td>$338.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>$55.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priest Retirement</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easter</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

YTD as of October 18 = $62,998.60  

**YTD Under Budget = $-1,001.40**

Thank you for your continued generosity.

Unfortunately, we are once again under budget. Last weekend the total collection was $2,519.00. Our budgeted amount for each weekend collection is $4,000, which we previously met on a regular basis. If you are not currently coming to Mass due to Covid, we ask you mail or drop off your offertory donation to the parish office or at the FJ Bank (FJ Location) to keep our parish going strong.

A huge thank you to those of you who have continued to donate throughout this difficult time.
Ft Jennings American Legion Election Day Dinner. Nov. 3rd from 4-6 pm. Drive Thru Carry-out only. $9, includes: Swiss Steak, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Corn, Applesauce & Dessert. Call the Legion 419-286-2100 to reserve your meals, by Wednesday October 28th. If no one answers, let your name & meal count on the answering machine. Limited number of meals available at the door.

There are a limited number of “Vote Pro-Life” Signs in the Narthex of Church. If you would like to take a sign, please do so. You are welcome to make a donation for the sign, which will be forwarded to Putnam County Right to Life. Put an envelope in the collection marked, “Pro-Life Sign”.

KHS Blood Drive – Monday, November 2nd at Kalida High School’s gym, from Noon – 6:00pm. Appointments are highly recommended. All blood donations will be tested for COVID-19 antibodies and masks are required to donate. To schedule an appointment, go to redcrossblood.org, call 1-800-REDCROSS, or call Mrs. Beth Grime at 419-532-3529.

ELECTION NOVENA - For nine consecutive days, Monday, October 26th through Tuesday, November 3rd, the faithful are encouraged to pray one Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be for the day’s intention. A closing prayer for elected leaders will be offered on day 10, Wednesday, November 4. The daily intentions are on the bulletin insert below. To sign up for daily emails & closing prayer go to https://www.usccb.org/2020-election-novena#tab-day-nine-tuesday-november-3-.

The Catholic Vote Video Series with Peter Range, Director of the Office of Life and Justice in the Diocese of Toledo. This is an 8-part mini-series navigating some of the most challenging topics we face in 2020, what the Catholic Church has to say about them, and comparing the Church’s teachings to the Democrat and Republican party platforms. Watch this series at: https://www.awakencatholic.org/election

Support Our Retired Priests! Envelopes at the exits of church for the Perpetuate the Gift appeal. Your gift assists our retired diocesan priests. After a priest retires, typically in his 70’s, he is responsible for all his personal expenses: medical, housing, car, clothing and food. All funds contributed between September 19 and December 31; reduces the amount the parish has to pay. Send donations to Perpetuate the Gift, PO Box 954, Toledo, OH 43697 or place in the collection or online by selecting the Give tab at www.toledodiocese.org.

Because the opposition to abortion is an essential aspect of the Catholic faith, Catholics cannot support politicians who advocate for abortion or ‘abortion rights.’ While this does not mean Catholics should only care about the abortion issue, it does mean Catholics cannot excuse or dismiss this grave error in judgment concerning politicians political positioning on this issue. Spiritually adopt an unborn child & pray this for 9 months:

Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
I love you very much.
I beg you to spare the life of the unborn baby that I have spiritually adopted who is in danger of abortion.

~ Venerable Fulton J. Sheen
Available for ALL St. Joseph parishioners to use and watch. The Toledo Diocese has purchased this program for 2 years, as a way to help families stay connected to and nourish their faith. This is a Netflix type format, with Catholic content and teachings. To sign up you can use your computer, iPad/phone. Go to FORMED.ORG Click “sign up”. Click “I belong to Parish or Organization”. Create an new account. Search our parish by typing in our zip code 45844 - click “St Joseph OH 45844”. Click “next” then type in your name and email address and click “sign up”. It is that easy and from there you watch, learn and listen to whatever you like. There is so much on here from kids shows, movies, pod cast and much more. If you have any questions you can reach out to Rhonda Liebrecht.

Did you know you can give donations to our parish through the Diocesan website? At toledodiocese.org/help-your-parish-now you can make a donation to our parish using your credit or debit card! Parish receives 100% of your donation amount! After you select the donation amount, designate Fort Jennings, St. Joseph from the drop-down menu.

Landeck St. John the Baptist Church will have their annual “Sausage & Sauerkraut” dinner on Sunday, November 8, 2020. This year, due to COVID 19, we will have drive-thru carry outs only. Cars will line up, heading north on Kill Rd, from 3-7 pm. Volunteers will direct traffic, keeping the flow moving. Dinner includes Homemade Sauerkraut & Sausage, Mashed Potatoes, Pancakes, Applesauce and Pie. Adult tickets are $10.00, and Children (8 and under) are $5.00. Tickets can be purchased either pre-sale at the parish office or on the day.

Glandorf St. John’s St. Bonifest October 31st, 2020. Reverse Raffle tickets are available @ $60 each. $7,000, $2,000, 2- 1/8 beef prizes & every 50 drawn $300. Chicken BBQ meal carry out only, tickets for Saturday, October 31 @ $8 per meal. Drive thru at our Glandorf Fire station on October 31 from 5- p.m. BBQ tickets on sale from Fr. Tony, at Your Place, Manufacturer’s Plumbing Supply, Brooky’s, Bombshelter and at the rectory. We will be raffling off 7 quarters of Beef 6 tickets for $20 and 50/50 tickets 6 for $5. If you would like tickets please send a check to St. John’s, Box 48, Glandorf, OH 45848. We will fill out your tickets for you. Everything else will be cancelled for this year. Call rectory 419-538-6928. Thank you all!

Weber Center Offers Live Stream Talk by Dead Man Walking Author
Sister Helen Prejean, CSJ, author of Dead Man Walking, offers a live stream presentation on the death penalty. “Dead Man Walking: The Journey Continues” is from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. EST Tuesday, November 10, 2020.
Sister Helen’s 1993 book, Dead Man Walking, tells of her experience of journeying with a man on death row. An advocate for the end of the death penalty, she has been instrumental in sparking national dialogue on capital punishment and on shaping the Catholic Church’s opposition to all executions.
The cost of the presentation is $15. Register to receive a live stream link. Visit www.webercenter.org and click on “programs.” Registrations may also be made by calling 517-266-4000 or emailing webercenter@adriandominicans.org.

October is a month of fasting for holy families in the Diocese of Toledo.
We invited you to join in the diocesan-wide initiative to reconnect with our faith and one another during the months of September, October and November. Each month focuses on a pillar of the Christian life with a specific intention from our diocesan prayer.

In October, we will fast for the intention of holy families. More information can be found by visiting ReconnectToledo.org/October on the internet and by scrolling below and reading the insert.

Conscience & the Catholic Voter Series articles are posted on our church website at www.stjosephfortjennings.org at the bottom of the homepage. Please, if you have not already read these articles, go to our website and do so. It is important to educate yourself on the moral teachings of the church on issues that will influence your choice of political candidate.

Pray for Priests Calendar is on our parish website at www.stjosephfortjennings.org. This calendar lists a current or past Diocese of Toledo priest that should be prayed for each day. The calendar is on the bottom right of the website homepage.

Please pray for those from Fort Jennings currently serving in the Military:
Jeremy Neidert, Justin Tumlinson, Alan Fischbach, Austin Weyrauch, Ryan Kraner, Michael Boehmer, Austin Kehres, Matt Schramm, Andy and Adam Kleman
THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

CONSCIENCE AND THE CATHOLIC VOTER – 2ND OF 8

“In the Catholic tradition, responsible citizenship is a virtue, and participation in political life is a moral obligation.”
- Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, 13

Since participation in political life is a moral obligation, Catholics need to form their conscience with the mind and heart of the Church on issues of consequence. This outline is the second of eight, which will examine important moral and political issues. This second outline will provide an overview of the issue of abortion.

Abortion

Every single human life is valuable and possesses a dignity beyond our imagination. As 4th century Church Father St. Gregory of Nyssa wrote:

God did not make the heavens in his image, nor the moon, the sun, the beauty of the stars, nor anything else which you can see... You alone are made in the image and likeness of that nature which surpasses all understanding... Nothing in all creation can equal your grandeur. (Kyiaki FitzGerald, Persons in Communion, p. 72)

This is why the Church has unequivocally taught that abortion is an intrinsic evil, which must be opposed. It violates the fifth commandment of ‘thou shalt not kill’ as it destroys an innocent human life. No circumstance warrants any person, let alone a mother of a child, to end the life of another human person. This is why Archbishop Jose Gomez, President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) once remarked,

Abortion is not a “Catholic” issue. It is a matter of fundamental human rights. In fact, I believe it is the foundational issue of our time. Because it is so important, the church has spoken clearly about it and believes it is an essential aspect of the Catholic faith. (Today’s Catholic, Newspaper of the Archdiocese of San Antonio, 10 October 2008)

Because the opposition to abortion is an essential aspect of the Catholic faith, Catholics cannot support politicians who advocate for abortion or ‘abortion rights.’ While this does not mean Catholics should only care about the abortion issue, it does mean Catholics cannot excuse or dismiss this grave error in judgment concerning politicians political positioning on this issue. As the USCCB has written:

Any politics of human dignity must seriously address issues of racism, poverty, hunger, employment, education, housing, and health care... But being ‘right’ in such matters can never excuse a wrong choice regarding direct attacks on innocent human life. Indeed, the failure to protect and defend life in its most vulnerable stages renders suspect any claims to the ‘rightness’ of positions in other matters affecting the poorest and least powerful of the human community. If we understand the human person as the ‘temple of the Holy Spirit’ — the living house of God — then these latter issues fall logically into place as the crossbeams and walls of that house. All direct attacks on innocent human life, such as abortion and euthanasia, strike at the house’s foundation. These directly and immediately violate the human person’s most fundamental right — the right to life. Neglect of these issues is the equivalent of building our house on sand. Such attacks cannot help but hurl the social conscience in ways ultimately destructive of other human rights. (1998 Pastoral Letter of the USCCB, Living the Gospel of Life, 22)

In summation, abortion is not just one issue among many. It is the human rights issue of our time and the preeminent issue of life and importance in this election. As Catholics, it is our duty to protect the most fundamental right of the human person: the right to life. The intentional destruction of innocent human life is intrinsically evil. It must always be opposed.

Peter Range, Director, Office for Life and Justice, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Toledo, prange@toledodiocese.org.
Election Novena Prayer Intentions
Monday, October 26 through Wednesday, November 4

Each day’s intention is followed by one Our Father, one Hail Mary, and one Glory Be.

Day One: Monday, October 26
As we prepare for the national & local elections, in the midst of a global pandemic, may our political engagement be guided by our Catholic faith.

Day Two: Tuesday, October 27
In this month of the Holy Rosary, may Our Blessed Mother guide us in confronting racial inequalities and restoring peace in our communities.

Day Three: Wednesday, October 28
May all Americans recall the necessity of dialogue, civility, and humility in this election season.

Day Four: Thursday, October 29
May all people understand the moral and ethical dimensions of political decisions and decide accordingly.

Day Five: Friday, October 30
May voters & elected leaders uphold the dignity of every human life in their political engagement.

Day Six: Saturday, October 31
May Catholics recall all aspects of Catholic social teaching as they consider their votes.

Day Seven: Sunday, November 1
May there be a transformation of politics to focus on the dignity of the human person and the common good.

Day Eight: Monday, November 2
May we keep in mind the gift of religious freedom and our duty to defend and exercise it as faithful citizens.

Day Nine: Tuesday, November 3
Today, as we approach the polls, may we understand & embrace the principles of our faith that guide our political engagement.

Closing: Wednesday, November 4
May the leaders elected this week be guided by the Holy Spirit as they fulfill their positions.