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—obinwaem@yahoo.com
Larry Schimmoeiller, Deacon: C: 419-302-2532—H: 419-286-2170
Email—larry@fsjmb.com
Mrs. Rhonda Liebrecht, CRE—419-286-2019
stjoeered@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: No Mass
Tuesday: 7:00 pm
Wednesday: 7:30 am
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

Director of Music & Liturgy Chairperson:
Mrs. Joyce Gasser 419-286-2989

Sacristan:
Mrs. Kathy Fischer 419-286-2003

Youth Minister:
Mrs. Rhonda Liebrecht 419-286-2019

Finance Council Chairman:
Mr. Larry Schimmoeiller 419-286-2170

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. Mary Menke 419-286-2504
Mrs. Sue Knippen 419-286-2429

Joy
Today's Advent Prayer
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Healing God, soften our hearts to make room for you. Detach us from our brokenness. Give us the courage to participate in your healing work wherever we are hurting. Having been set free from even the smallest of our sins, turn our hearts outward to be agents of your healing and new life in our homes and communities. Amen.
Intentions

Sat  15  5:00 pm  Rita & Elwood Broecker
Sun  16  7:30 am  For Souls in Purgatory
         9:30 am  Gerald & Leona Youngpeter
                  Frank & Mary Wehri
                  Ralph & Frances Youngpeter
Mon  17  6:30 pm  Precious Blood Chaplet
                  7:00 pm  Precious Blood Mass
Tues 18  7:00 pm  Bob & Ruth Wegesin
                  Don Horstman
                  Amy Gerdeman Bardall
Wed  19  7:30 am  Madonna Wildenhaus
Thur 20  7:00 pm  Bob Calvelage Family
                  Bob & Alma Good
Fri  21  7:55 am  For Souls in Purgatory
Sat  22  5:00 pm  Donald Ostendorf
                  Charles Landwehr
Sun  23  7:30 am  Urban & Marguerite Wieging
                  Joyce Holden
                  Jim Grothause
                  9:30 am  Bockrath & Meyer Families
                  Michelle “Mikey” Metzger

THIS WEEK’S READINGS

Mon 12/17  Gn 49:2, 8-10  Mt 1:1-17
Tues 12/18  Jer 23:5-8  Mt 1:18-25
Wed 12/19  Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a  Lk 1:5-25
Thu 12/20  Is 7:10-14  Lk 1:26-38
Fri 12/21  Saint Peter Canisius, Priest
                  Sg 2:8-14  Lk 1:39-45
Sat 12/22  1 Sm 1:24-28  Lk 1:46-56

WEEKEND SERVICES:

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NEW items now available on the Narthex bookstand

Religious give thanks. “This money is pure gift,” writes a religious sister of the support made possible by the Retirement Fund for Religious. “It enables us to continue providing care for our elderly sisters.” Your gift to last week’s collection helps hundreds of religious communities meet pressing retirement needs while continuing to serve the People of God. Thank you for your generosity!

WEEKDAY SERVERS:

Tues Dec 18, Thurs. Dec 20, Fri. Dec 21
Sam Dube, Kyle Britton, Ian Howbert

LITURGICAL MINISTERS - December 22 & 23:

SERVERS:

5:00 pm  Carley Von Sossan, Rachel Von Sossan,
          Madison Tumlinson
7:30 am  Andrew Aldrich, Kevin Schumaker,
         Mason German
9:30 am  Bryce Gasser, Hannah Grote, Leah Kazee

OFFERTORY GIFTS:

5:00 pm  Donald Ostendorf Family
7:30 am  Dean & Diane Wittler
9:30 am  Carol Meyer Family

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

5:00 pm  Nick Fields, Deena Walsh,
          Christina Gerdeman, Sharon Kleman,
          Doreen Knippen, Hannah Knippen
7:30 am  Volunteers Needed
9:30 am  Lisa Wisner, Teresa Wurst, Anita Aldrich,
         Gilbert Burgei, Matt Dube, Deb Dulle

LECTORS:

5:00 pm  John Michel
7:30 am  Volunteers Needed
9:30 am  Shirley Hammond

USHERS:

5:00 pm  Dan & Alice Stechschulte
7:30 am  Volunteers Needed
9:30 am  Karl Schimmoeller, Colin Sickels

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Precious Blood Chaplet and Mass
Monday, December 17th at 6:30 and & 7:00 p.m.
Come prepare your hearts for the Christ child.
BAPTISMS: To arrange a baptism please call the Parish Office or Deacon Larry (cell) (419) 302-2532 or by email larry@fjsb.com.

**BAPTISM CLASSES**
Baptismal Class will be Tuesday, January 8th.
Please attend instructions before the birth of the child.
**Call the Parish Office to register for class**

Attend a Pre-Marriage Preparation Class before your marriage.
Find Marriage Prep Classes at http://ToledoMarriagePrep.org

**Bulletin submissions deadline:** Wednesdays at Noon.

**NIGERIAN MISSION** – During this season of Advent, if you have any monetary donation to assist the poor of my homeland, please do so. If you would like to make a donation to be sent to the poorest of the poor in Nigeria, please feel free to put an envelope in the collection marked, “Nigerian Mission” or give it to me personally and I will make sure it gets to those in the most need. Thank you for your generosity and may you remain blessed at Christmas and always. - Father Charles

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**Christmas Masses**

**Liturgical Ministers**

**Servers Christmas Eve:**
- 4:00 p.m. – Adam Hoersten, Ian Howbert, Isaac Heitman, Owen Calvelage
- 10:30 p.m. – Ethan Koester, Adam Luersman, Owen Dube

**Christmas Day:**
- 9:30 a.m. – Christina Gerdeman, Abby Grone, Conner Hoersten

**Eucharistic Ministers Christmas Eve:**
- 4:00 p.m. – Shelly Knippen, Sue Knippen, Kathy Luersman, Alaina Maag, Mary Maag, Becky Uphaus
- 10:30 p.m. - Carla Norbeck, Alice Swick, Eileen Schimmoeller, Lexie Stant, John Michel, Rose Ann Vetter

**Christmas Day:**
- 9:30 a.m. - Brad Eickholt, Julie Fischbach, Norm & Kathy Fischer, Don & Christy Good

**Lectors Christmas Eve:**
- 4:00 p.m. -
- 10:30 p.m. – Marge Von Sossan

**Christmas Day:**
- 9:30 a.m. – Cheryl Hellman

**Ushers Christmas Eve:**
- 4:00 p.m. – Jerry & Jackie Siefker
- 10:30 p.m. – Need Volunteers

**Christmas Day:**
- 9:30 a.m. – Rob & Laurie Weber

Schedule posted in bulletin early so you can find a replacement if this does not meet your needs.

**CHRISTMAS SHARING** – There are still tags left on the Christmas “Sharing Tree” in the Narthex to help those in need for Christmas.

If you want to help, take a tag from the tree and purchase the item. Remember, the tags are ideas, you do not need to get the exact item. Larger items could be purchased by an extended family going together for example. This is their “Wish List” not their demand list. They are told to put what they really want. Pick a tag that fits YOUR budget. For example, if your children have a gaming system they do not use, that could be donated.

Return the item to the parish office or under the tree in the narthex. Gift wrapping the present would be greatly appreciated but not necessary. Please attach the tag securely on the gift. If you would like to make a cash donation, we would gladly do the shopping for you. You can drop your donation in the collection basket, please mark your envelope “Christmas Sharing” or drop off at the Parish Office. We need all presents or donations back by December 19th. Thank you for being the hands and feet of Christ and sharing His love.

“I never thought it was such a bad little tree.
It's not bad at all, really.
Maybe it just needs a little love.”
– Linus Van Pelt
Travel with Fr. Charles  
To Mexico  
May 11 -17, 2019  
Cost $2,500  
Register before Christmas with a $500 deposit.

Destinations include: Our Lady of Guadalupe, Tlaxcala, Ocotlan, Puebla, San Juan Teotihuacan, Acolman  

Trip Includes: Daily Mass, Round-Trip Airfare from your local airport, Airport Taxes, Security Fees, and Fuel Surcharges. Exclusively 4- or 5-star hotels, all breakfasts & dinners. Transportation with luxury buss. All entrance fees to sites. All tips to everyone involved in the tour, tour guide fees. Groups limited to 24 persons. (Cost does not include lunches, luggage and insurance.) For more information call 769-220-2702 or visit www.procatholiccourts.com and click on “Clergy Trips” tab. To register call 612-730-2890.

THANK YOU to Deacon Larry, Fr. Mark, Friends of Hope, Funeral Luncheon Committee, Joyce Gasser and the Funeral Choir, the Mass servers and all of those of you that sent cards, gifts, said prayers and reached out to us in any way after the loss of our mother. Your kindness is greatly appreciated. May you be greatly blessed for comforting us as we mourn.

- The Family of Mary Jane Landwehr

MARCH FOR LIFE IN WASHINGTON D.C. – Bus trips available for those interested in attending the March for Life in Washington D.C. on January 18, 2019? Join the College and Young Adult bus trip sponsored by Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Toledo! The trip is only $192, but for college students there is a special discounted price of $132! If you have any questions, contact Peter Range, Director of the Office for Life and Justice, at prange@toledodiocese.org or call 419-214-4933. Deadline to register is Friday, December 14.

TRIPS FOR MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOLERS (and their chaperones) info at www.toledomarches.com.

The Enduring Call to Love - A pastoral letter against racism: The U.S. Catholic Bishops published a pastoral letter on racism in November. In it, they invite conversion of hearts, minds, and institutions in order to address the evil of racism that still exists in our communities today. Please consider reading the 32-page letter. It is available on the USCCB web site (uscob.org) at this link: Pastoral letter on racism.

The Glenmary Home Missioners on their Thanksgiving Card had these words:

CONVERSATION STARTERS FOR AROUND THE TABLE at any time of year:
1. Name two things you are thankful for this year.
2. Who are you thankful for, and why?
3. What part of nature is inspiring and beautiful to you?
4. What is something that makes you laugh out loud?
5. What is an unexpected blessing you’ve received this year?
6. Choose someone you are with and share three things you admire and appreciate about that person.
7. What is something you love about your family?
8. How are you going to practice gratitude this year?

If you don’t like something, change it.
If you can’t change it, change your attitude.

Don’t complain.

- Maya Angelou

FJ School News

FJ Kindergarten Registration for the 2019-2020 school year will be on school days from December 10th thru December 21st. To register your child, please come to the Elementary office between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. Parents are asked to bring their child’s birth certificate, social security number, and immunization record at the time of registration. Children must be 5 years of age on or before September 30, 2019 to be eligible for Kindergarten. Please feel free to call the elementary office at 419-286-2762 with any questions.

THE ENCOUNTER CONFERENCE will be held at the Seagate Convention Center in Toledo January 3 – 5. There is an encounter kids track from ages 6-12 and teen track for ages 13-18. To learn more visit www.encounter2019.com. Conference participants can expect an atmosphere of spirit-filled worship in the presence of God, Mass, inspiring and transforming keynote speakers, breakout sessions, Eucharistic Adoration, a healing service, fellowship and many opportunities for prayer ministry and growth in the gifts of the Holy Spirit.