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
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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: stjoeparishофc@bright.net

NORMAL MASS TIMES
Saturday: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 7:30 am and 9:30 am
Monday: 7:00 pm
Tuesday: 7:00 pm
Wednesday: 8:00 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
**Intentions**

Sat 22 5:00 pm  In Thanksgiving to God
23 7:30 am Urban & Marguerite Wieging
9:30 am For Souls in Purgatory

Mon 24 6:30 pm Rosary for Good Weather
7:00 pm Mass for Good Weather for the Crops and for All Businesses Dependent on the Weather.

Tues 25 7:00 pm For Bishop Daniel Thomas
Wed 26 8:00 am For Our Homebound Parishioners and those in Nursing Homes

Thurs 27 7:00 pm Hilda & John Pohl
Fri 28 7:55 am For the Sick and Dying
Sat 29 5:00 pm For Souls in Purgatory
Sun 30 7:30 am For Pope Francis
9:30 am Dick German

**THIS WEEK’S READINGS**

Mon 06/24 The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist

Tues 06/25 Gn 13:2, 5-18  Mt 7:6, 12-14

Wed 06/26 Gn 15:1-12, 17-18  Mt 7:15-20

Thu 06/27 Saint Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop
Gn 16:1-12, 15-18  Mt 7:21-29

Fri 06/28 The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
Ez 34:11-16  Rom 5:5b-11  Lk 15:3-7

Sat 06/29 Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles
Acts 12:1-11  2 Tim 4:6-8,17-18
9:30 am Dick German

**CREW LEADERS NEEDED FOR VBS!!**

We are in need of about 7 more crew leaders – please, if you can possible volunteer for this wonderful ministry, do so. We need your help to make this week possible! Fill out the bottom of a registration form to be a crew leader or call Ashley Siefker 419.236.8992, Sarah Schroeder 419.236.2206

**VBS - July 22nd – 25th.** Forms are on the parish website, www.stjosephfortjennings.org at the bottom of the home page and in the Narthex. Bring or mail your form and payment to the parish office, drop in the collection (please mark envelope VBS) info - Ashley Siefker 419.236.8992, Sarah Schroeder 419.236.2206.

**WEEKDAY SERVERS**

Brandt Menke, Maggie Pothast, Morgan Siefker

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS - June 29 & 30:**

**SERVERS:**

5:00 pm  Tyler Kahle, Brad Eickholt, Carson Kazee
7:30 am  Kristen Luersman, Kyle Norbeck, Blake Schram
9:30 am  Anna Wisner, Noah Wittler, Emilee Calvelage

**OFFERTORY GIFTS:**

5:00 pm  Volunteers Needed
7:30 am  Volunteers Needed
9:30 am  Family of Dick German

**EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:**

5:00 pm  Derek Weyrauch, Nancy Wiechart, Jessica Young, Karen Young, Don Bonifas, Amy Eickholt
7:30 am  Volunteers Needed
9:30 am  Justin Liebrecht, Rhonda Liebrecht, Lisa Wisner, Teresa Wurst, Anita Aldrich, Gilbert Burgei

**LECTORS:**

5:00 pm  Penney Gerdeman
7:30 am  Volunteers Needed
9:30 am  Andrea Recker

**USHERS:**

5:00 pm  Kevin & Amanda Kahle
7:30 am  Volunteers Needed
9:30 am  Pat & Tom Liebrecht

**Please Pray for the Sick:**

Mary Klausing, Penney Gerdeman, Tom Warnement, Tom Grubenhoff, Tracey Lucke, Cheryl Maziers,

**MASS for the Good Weather for the Crops & All Businesses Dependent on the Weather.**
This Monday and EVERY Monday in July.
Rosary at 6:30 p.m. - Mass following at 7:00 p.m.

**June 16, 2019**

| Envelopes | 3,941.00 |
| Loose     | 720.00  |
| Maintenance | 85.00  |
| Ascension | 1.00   |

YTD as of June 16, 2019 = $197,977.19
YTD Over Budget = $1,977.19

Thank you for your continued generosity!

**Going on Vacation soon?**
Visit www.masstimes.org for Mass near your location. Jesus doesn’t vacation from you!
**NOTICE** There has been a SCAM; parishioners have received text messages and emails claiming to be Father Charles. The message usually starts out, “Hello (your name) I need a favor from you, please text me back as soon as possible” signed, “Fr. Charles Obinwa”. These are NOT from Father Charles. If you reply, you will be asked to get gift cards or send money. Father Charles will NEVER ask for gift cards or money via text or email. If he wishes to speak with you about such matters, he will call or do so face to face. If you get a text and are unsure about it, call Father and speak to him directly. It’s better to question the legitimacy of a text than to be scammed.

OUR SYMPATHY goes out to the family and friends of SHIRLEY MESKER, to her husband Joe, her two sons David and Kevin, her daughter Sarah; her grandchildren Drew, Adam, Marissa and Lydia; her brothers Dennis (Sandy) Luebrecht, Donald (Nancy) Luebrecht and her sister-in-law Dianne Heitmeyer. She died June 12th at the age of 83. May God grant Shirley eternal rest and life in the Kingdom.

United in HOLY MATRIMONY at our parish on Saturday, June 15th:

DREW MESKER, son of Kevin Mesker and Amy Recker Mesker & ELLERY NEWKIRK, daughter of Karl and Karen Newkirk. We pray that God will grant them many happy, holy years together. Best wishes from the Catholic Community in Fort Jennings.

The family of Shirley Mesker would like to Thank, Fr. Charles, Deacon Larry, Joyce & the Funeral Choir, the Friends of Hope Funeral Planners, The Funeral Luncheon Committee and all the family, friends and community members who said prayers, sent cards, flowers and gifts during this very difficult time. Your support means very much to us. ~ Joe, Dave, Kevin & Sarah Mesker

**SAVE THE DATE**: 2019 Diocesan Celebration of Wedding Anniversaries at Our Lady, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral on October 27, 2019 | 3:00 p.m.

If you are celebrating a milestone wedding anniversary in 2019 – 25, 40, 50, 60, or 60+ years – plan to join Bishop Daniel Thomas for the Order of Blessing Married Couples within Holy Mass. Registered couples receive a commemorative certificate and are invited to a reception following mass. To register go to: www.toledoanniversarymass.org or call Alice Jacobs at 419-214-4978, or contact your parish secretary for more information.

We are currently at $13,865, 99.04% of our $14,000 Annual Catholic Appeal Goal. Will you be the one to help us top our goal?

Corn hole tournament at Whiskey Wine and Roses on June 29. They are need help from kids as line judges, runners, etc. This would be a great opportunity for community hours for confirmation students. If interested, please contact Rose Stechschulte at 419-296-4980

2019 FJ Park Giveaway Winners:
Week 12 - Doug Watters - Week 11 - Dan, Sharon, Alex & Aaron Sealts. - Week 10 - Larry Hammond

The 2019 Senior Expo will be held on Friday, August 2, 2019, 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon at Ottawa Elementary. The event is free and offers exhibits, screenings, speakers, entertainment and FREE lunch! Disposal of unused medications is also available at the event. Shuttle service provided.

Putnam County Right to Life will have a booth in the Merchant’s Building at the Putnam County Fair from June 24 to June 29. Please stop by and visit.

Ottoville Rosary Alter Society bus trip to the heart of Amish country Wednesday, Oct. 16. Stops will include Guggisberg cheese factory, shopping & lunch at an Amish restaurant, Lehman’s hardware & Troutman winery. $20 to hold your seat balance due, August 20. $80 For more info call 419-453-3789, 815-451-0454 or 419-453-3509.
“Exercising Spiritual Fatherhood”

For any Catholic father who loves and cares for his children, among the many virtues he exercises for their well-being, three stand out: a good father protects them, prays for them, and pursues them when they stray.

Just last week, gathered together for the annual USCCB Spring meeting in Baltimore with all my brother bishops from the United States, among the many topics we treated, the most crucial of course was to vote on measures to address the accountability of bishops in the sexual abuse scandal. In addition, there were two others worthy of mention here: one was the approval of the new text for the Rite of Ordination of a Bishop, of Priests and of Deacons; the other was a report and discussion on reaching out to those who are religiously unaffiliated.

Now, at first glance, one might be hard pressed to see the connection between the three. But as the meeting concluded, it struck me that these three topics, seemingly unrelated, were in fact intertwined in a way that highlights the virtues bishops are called to exercise as spiritual fathers.

In order to best protect our flocks, the bishops seriously debated, voted on and approved three significant measures to hold themselves accountable for instances of sexual abuse of children or vulnerable persons, sexual misconduct, or the intentional mishandling of such cases (http://bit.ly/DOTaccountability). These are: a Protocol Regarding Available Non-Penal Restrictions on Bishops; a statement “Affirming Our Episcopal Commitments”; and Directives for the Implementation of the Provisions of the Holy Father’s most recent Apostolic letter “Vos estis lux mundi” (http://bit.ly/DOTletter) Concerning Bishops and their Equivalents. In addition, the bishops established a new third-party reporting system and committed to involving and utilizing lay professional experts in the entire process. These commitments and safeguards will, please God, help all to move forward together and will bring an unprecedented accountability throughout the hierarchy in the Church in the United States.

In order to best pray for the flock, the bishops approved the new text for the Rite of Ordination of a Bishop, of Priests and of Deacons. The text is significant because it includes the ceremony of ordination during which the priest candidate who is to become a bishop makes the promises of his office, which include lifelong prayer for the people of God, obedience, chaste celibacy and the sacrifice of one’s life for the sake of the flock. This new formulation of the ritual once again highlights the sacred ministry being entrusted and underscores the integrity of life to which the bishop, priest or deacon is called. The very prayer texts that were approved are a reminder of who the bishop is in relation to his flock. During the ceremony of ordination the flock prays fervently for him, especially during the Litany of the Saints when he prostrates on the floor in a posture of abandonment to the Lord. From the new ritual text it is once again made clear that the bishop’s teaching, governing and sanctifying roles are supported by the prayers of his people, and the focus of his own prayer for the sake of the flock.

In order to best pursue those who stray from or are not members of the flock, the bishops heard a sobering report from Bishop Robert Barron, Chair of the Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis, who highlighted concerning statistics about the number of young people who abandon the practice of their Catholic faith at a young age, who no longer affiliate with the Church or who have never been part of any Church. It was striking to feel the enthusiasm and zeal of the bishops for engaging in efforts to reach out to our youth, millennials, “nones” and others, and to turn attention vigorously to accompany and invite them to an encounter with Jesus Christ and his Church. While the sexual abuse scandal has certainly attributed to such straying from religious faith and practice, it is incumbent upon us to continue strenuously to work to evangelize our young people in the Joy of the Gospel.

For any Catholic bishop who loves and cares for his children, among the many virtues he exercises for their well-being, three stand out: a good spiritual father protects them, prays for them, and pursues them when they stray. As a further local initiative in responding forthrightly to the sexual abuse scandal, the Diocese has created a prayer card for victims-survivors, copies of which will be sent to every parish, and made available upon request from the Pastoral Center (http://bit.ly/DOThealing). I invite you to distribute these widely and to invite me in praying this “Prayer for Healing Victims of Abuse.”

Please also pray with and for me, the spiritual father of the family of faith of the Diocese of Toledo, that I may do everything in my power and continue to dedicate myself completely to exercising spiritual fatherhood for your well-being: protecting the flock, praying for the flock and pursuing those who stray from or are not members of the flock.

Most Rev. Daniel E. Thomas
Bishop of Toledo
June 17, 2019