



St. Sylvester, Woodsfield
founded 1866



St. John Bosco, Sardis
dedicated 1976



St. John the Baptist, Miltonsburg
founded 1841

Parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Steubenville

The Monroe County Catholic Churches

www.monroecountycatholic.org
334 South Main Street
Woodsfield, Ohio 43793-1027
Phone: 740-472-0187
Fr. David Gaydosik

Fr. Walter E. Heinz, retired

Fr. Virgil Reischman, retired

December 10, 2017

Second Sunday of Advent (B)

Is 40:1–5, 9–11

2 Pt 3:8–14

Mk 1:1-8

The Lord...is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. (2 Peter 3:9)

Most of us are not good at waiting. We want things right away and would rather arrive just on time than stand around us fearlessly. Few things are as annoying as waiting in a doctor's office, a government office, or being stuck in traffic.

Yet waiting can also be an exciting and busy time, like a bride and groom preparing for their wedding. There is no time to waste, since the date is approaching and there is so much to do in order for everything to be prepared perfectly. Advent waiting should be more like this expectant waiting. John the Baptist was sent to point toward Christ and invite the people to their wedding with God. The divine spouse was coming back to his beloved and sent the groom ahead to let everyone know he was coming.

Thus John preached preparation, conversion, and setting aside everything that would distract people from getting the heart ready for Jesus. Loving, active planning was as necessary for those who listened to John the Baptist as it is for us. This means going up the mountain and into the desert. Set aside normal distractions and dedicate more time to think about Christ, preparing our hearts and minds for the big day of his arrival. Advent isn't a nervous time of sitting around and hoping the line goes quickly. It is an active, engaged, and hopeful anticipation of one we eagerly await.

Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday December 9th
St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 5:00pm
+Francis Paulus (Anniversary of death) by his family

Sunday December 10th
St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 8:30am
+ George & Lil Calvert by William Calvert

St. John the Baptist, Miltonsburg 10:30am
+ Pat Gibson by Donna & Karl Robinson

St. John Bosco, Sardis 12:30pm
Dominic & Ricci Cecil by Larry & Connie Richter

Monday December 11th
St. Sylvester, Woodsfield **Noon**
+Kenneth Burkhardt by Pam Briggs

Tuesday December 12th
Our Lady of Guadalupe
St. John the Baptist, Miltonsburg **6:00pm**
+ Francis "Hank" Zwick by Hazel Fogle

Wednesday December 13th
St. Lucy, Virgin & Martyr
St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 8:30am
+ Jerry Huffman by Thelma Zwick

Thursday December 14th
St. John of the Cross, Priest
St. John the Baptist, Miltonsburg 9:00am
+ David Baker by M/M Robert Miller Jr.

Friday December 15th
St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 8:30am
+ Imelda Scott by Eugene & Christine

The Third Sunday of Advent [Gaudete Sunday]

Saturday December 16th
St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 5:00 pm
+Francis Paulus (birthday) by his family

Sunday December 17th
St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 8:30 am
+Monica Long by Ann Hinderlong

St. John the Baptist, Miltonsburg 10:30 am
+Joseph N Gallagher by Ron & Cathy Gallagher

St. John Bosco Mission, Sardis 12:30 pm
+John & Mary "Cuppi" Chaplin by Connie & Larry Richter

Addresses that some have requested:

Rev. Virgil Reischman, 50300 SR 145, Woodsfield, Ohio 43793
Rev. Walter Heinz, 5700 Bayshore Road Lot 244, Palmetto, Fla. 34221
Msgr. Thomas Petronek, 1810 National Road B3-109, Wheeling, WV 26003
Rev. Leonard Censula, 1127 Euclid Ave. # 1405, Cleveland, Ohio 44115
Msgr. Mark Froehlich, 67261 Lakeview Ave, Belmont, Ohio 43718

Advent Penance Services (An excellent opportunity to access the Sacrament of Confession):

St. Sylvester Central, Woodsfield, December 11th at 8:30am
St. Sylvester, Woodsfield, Monday December 11th at 7:00pm
St. Mary Basilica, Marietta, Wednesday, December 13th at 7pm
Assumption, Barnesville Thursday, December 14th at 7pm
St. Stephen, Caldwell, Tuesday, December 19th at 7:00pm

The Weekend of December 9th an 10th, we will again collect for *the Retirement Fund for Religious Collection*. We are asked to help those religious women and men who served for so many years for little or no "pay" in our schools, hospitals and parishes. We are now being asked to help care for them in their old age.

Decorating the Churches will occur on December 17th after the Sunday Mass. Many hands make for light work. Please help us!

For Reflection: *What distractions am I setting aside to make this Advent time like my little wedding preparation? The Church invites me to a special time of repentance, fasting, an almsgiving. How is it going?*

Christmas, DECEMBER 25th is on a Monday this year. **I remind you that you are obligated to attend Mass on the weekend to fulfill that obligation and attend again to fulfill the Christmas obligation. We will offer the usual Sunday schedule of Masses.** And then Sunday Evening, have Masses to fulfill the *Christmas Obligation*. Our Christmas Mass Schedule will be:
St. Sylvester on Christmas Eve at 3pm (Children Mass) and 10:00pm, and Christmas Day at 8:30am.
St. John Bosco Christmas Eve 4:30pm;
St. John the Baptist on Christmas Eve at 7:00pm.

At it again! Fr. Heinz presents a *Pilgrimage to Illinois and Wisconsin*, September 17-20, 2018. Sites to be visited are Shrine of Maximilian Kolbe, Holocaust Exhibit & Shrine, Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help (the only church approved Marian Apparition Site in the United States) and St. Theresa Shrine. Cost \$520/person (double room) or \$610/ person (single room). To register send \$200.00 with registration form as soon as possible. For registration forms contact parish office.

Pilgrimage to Germany—Join Fr. Tom Nelson of the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta on a Pilgrimage to Germany April 2 to April 13. Cost for double occupancy, airfare, tour guide, entrance fees, two meals a day, and transportation is \$4,169 per person. For full itinerary visit: www.catholicfaithjourneys.com. For info or to register, contact Maggie McDaniel at Maggie@catholicfaithjourneys.com or call 419-290-8782. Registration deadline is January 2nd.

Join Bishop Monforton & the TOR Sisters in Washington, D.C. October 24-26, 2018. Visit the Shrine of St. John Paul II, the National Basilica of the Immaculate Conception and much more! Includes Roundtrip motor coach, all tours, 2 nights hotel, daily Mass, several meals and more! Starting cost \$525. Book by February 1st.

This Week

Sunday

St. Sylvester Central Bingo at Brown Community Center
Doors open at 5:00pm
Bingo begins at 6:30pm

Monday

8:30am School Confessions
Noon Mass SS
7:00pm Penance Service in Woodsfield

Tuesday

9am-2pm Mandatory Diocesan Workshop

Confessions

St. John the Baptist
5:00pm to 5:45pm

St. Sylvester Central Bingo at Brown Community Center
Doors open at 5:00pm
Bingo begins at 6:30pm

Friday

8:30am School Mass

Sunday

St. Sylvester Central Bingo at Brown Community Center
Doors open at 5:00pm
Bingo begins at 6:30pm

Your Sacrificial Offering for
December 3, 2017

St. John Bosco Mission

Adult Collection	\$ 117.00
Loose Collection	\$ 65.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 120.00
Capital Fund	\$ 50.00

St. John the Baptist

Adult Collection	\$ 989.00
Loose	\$ 26.00
School Collection	\$ 93.00
CHD	\$ 3.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 137.00
Capital Fund	\$ 22.00
Cemetery Care	\$ 5.00
Seminarians	\$ 20.00

St. Sylvester

Adult Collection	\$ 2,152.00
Loose Collection	\$ 86.00
School Collection	\$ 305.00
Thanksgiving	\$ 30.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 228.00

Thank you for your generosity

Pastoral Mission Statement for the Catholic Parishes serving greater Monroe County, Ohio

They remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the community, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. (Acts. 2;42ff)

In the sacred tradition, as parishes of the Roman Catholic Church and the Diocese of Steubenville, we the Catholic Communities of Monroe County remain dedicated to our patron saints, united under our diocesan bishop and committed to:

Worship— Celebrating the Eucharist, the other sacraments and sacred rites with noble simplicity, as the summit and source of our faith, always keeping with the norms of the Church, and promoting appropriate prayer and Catholic devotions, retreats and times of recollection and spiritual growth.

Christian Formation—Fully supporting St. Sylvester Central Elementary and all parish religious education programs for youth and adults, we are on the journey of discovery, deepening and living our faith.

Pastoral Care—Ministering to the sick, the home-bound, the bereaved, those who feel alienated, excluded, wounded or unworthy of the active practice of their religion, the poor and all who have special need of the Church's care and attention.

Outreach / Evangelization—inviting those who have no other church home to join our church communities; cooperating with other churches in community endeavors, such as the SOMA thrift store and the SOMA food pantry, and joining with them for times of community prayer and service.

Diocesan Vocation Director

Fr. Michael Gossett:
mgossett@diosteub.org

Retrouvaille (help for troubled marriages), 740-749-3335

Diocesan Child Protection and Reporting:

Msgr. Kurt Kemo V.G.,
1-740-282-3631

Manna Food Pantry (located at St. Paul's UCC) is seeking canned vegetables (green beans, peas or corn) or soups. Donations are always welcome. St. Sylvester Central collects can goods on Friday before the school Mass to be donated to the food pantry.

Diocese of Steubenville Office of Family and Social Concerns & Referral (i.e. Catholic Charities), 1-800-339-7890.

Parish Membership: *New Parishioners* are always welcome. Please contact the parish office (740-472-0187) to register.

Infant Baptism: contact the parish office (740-472-0187) to schedule.

Weddings: No date may be reserved for a wedding until the couple meet with the priest to fill out proper paperwork. A **pre-Cana program is required** as mandated by Diocesan Policy.

Confessions: **St. Sylvester:** Saturday 4:15pm to 4:45pm & Sunday 7:45am to 8:15am

St. John the Baptist: Sunday 10:00am to 10:25am

St. John Bosco: Sunday 12:10pm to 12:25pm or upon request.



Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, (RCIA): RCIA is an adult preparation for Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.

Contact the parish office at 740-472-0187.

Pastoral Care of the Sick and Infirm: If you or someone you love wishes to receive the Eucharist or have a priest visit, call 740-472-0187. Hospitals and Care facilities **regularly do not notify** the parish unless specific request is made.

Parish Prayer Chain: to add or remove a name from the prayer network please call: Jackie Kirkland 740-472-0338

Purgatorial Society: An organization founded in the 1890's, to pray for each other and the repose of the Souls in Purgatory. Contact Fr. David 740-472-0187

St. Sylvester's Cub Scout Pack 17, Woodsfield, meet the first and third Tuesday at 5:00pm September through May. Pack Leader is Melissa Smithberger (740) 213-4037. (orvc-bsa.org)

Catholic Woman's Club: CWC is an organization of all the Catholic women in a parish and is devoted to fostering spiritual, social and moral values within its members and their parish.

St. Sylvester: Mrs. Diane Burkhart 740-391-0391

St. John the Baptist: Mrs. Eileen Ackerman 740-757-2481 and/or Mrs. Eileen Miller 740-472-0279

Catholic Cemetery Contacts:

St. Sylvester, Woodsfield: Donald & Rita Biedenbach 740-472-1849

St. John the Baptist, Miltonsburg & **Immaculate Conception,** Ozark: Jason Weiss or St. Sylvester Parish Office 740-472-0187

St. Joseph, & Chapel Hill, Burkhart Station: Russell Betts 740-567-3286

St. Patrick's, New Matamoras: Parish office: 740-472-0187

Parish School of Religion (PSR): [aka. CCD] The Parish Religion Classes for children (not enrolled in a Catholic School) in grades 1 through 8.

St. Sylvester: Jill Schumacher 740-472-5483

St. John the Baptist: Eileen Ackerman 740-757-2481

Call to register your children.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION

St. Sylvester Central Elementary: (PK-8) 119 Wayne Street, Woodsfield, Ohio. Mrs. Robyn Guiler, principal. 740-472-0321

St. John Central High School, 3625 Guernsey Street, Bellaire, Ohio. 740-676-4932 Mr. Jarrett T. Kuhns www.stjohncentralhs.org

St. Joseph of Monroe County Council 5009 of the Knights of Columbus will meet on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm at Sylvester Church, Woodsfield.



Scripture Reading of the Week

Sunday

December 10
Second Sunday of Advent

Is 40:1-5, 9-11
2 Pt 3:8-14
Mk 1:1-8

Monday

December 11
Advent Weekday
Is 35:1-10
Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday

December 12
Our Lady of Guadalupe
Zec 2:14-17
Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday

December 13
St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr
Is 40:25-31
Mt 11:28-30

Thursday

December 14
St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Is 41:13-20
Mt 11:11-15

Friday

December 15
Advent Weekday
Is 48:17-19
Mt 11:16-19

Saturday

December 16
Advent Weekday
Sir 48:1-4, 9-11
Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday

December 17
Third Sunday of Advent
Is 61:1-2a, 10-11
1 Thes 5:16-24
Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

True Wealth is measured not by the things you have, but by the things you have for which you would not take money.

**In Loving
Memory of:**

Emma Schumacher
Sr. Joanna Burkhart
Sr. Evelyn Ann
Schumacher
Msgr. Joseph G Mehler
Fr. Joseph Finan
Imelda D Scott
Walter & Alma Heinz
Vernon Butler
Brandon Butler
Francis & Freda Paulus
Mary Paulus
Hilda Paulus
Hilda & Herman
Burkhart
Michael & Bertha
Burkhart
Paul & Barbara Conner
James Scott
Paul & Katy Madison
The Ulrich Family
David Baker
Lowell Baker
William H. Bolon
Meri Welsh
Joseph Fetty
Robert M. Miller Sr.
Cyril T. Burkhart
Thomas Dierkes
John Dierkes
Joe & Eunice Gallagher
Monica Long
Danny Betts

**Monroe County
Suicide prevention**

hotline

1-800-354-4357

Bingo Kitchen

Dec 10
Rita Biedenbach
Lisa Chambers

Dec 12
Becky Baldwin
Louise Kress

Dec 17
Mary Ann Yontz
Amanda Yontz

Dec 19
St. John's CWC

December 26
Rose Mary Dick
Diane Burkhart

Especially before Christmas, I appreciate times of silence at Mass but seldom find them. Priests ask the congregation to open their missalettes after Communion to recite the daily antiphon, which seems more trouble to locate and say than to simply remain silent. Please advise.

Before Mass, it's commendable that silence be observed in the church, sacristy, vesting room, and adjacent areas so that all may "carry out the sacred celebration in a devout and fitting manner" (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 45). During Mass, "Let us pray" is an invitation to observe a moment of silence for the congregation to "place themselves in God's presence and make their personal petitions" (*Introduction to the Order of Mass*, 35). Communal silence is also observed within the penitential act for people to recollect themselves, at the end of a reading or the homily for all to meditate briefly on what they've heard, then after Communion to praise and pray to God in their hearts (*GIRM* 45). In other words, there's a silence that reflects shame before God for our sins, a silence that reflects our need to ponder his word, and a deep silence before God that reflects awe and incapacity for words after receiving the Body of Christ!

If there's no singing after Communion, the antiphon "may be recited either by the faithful, or by some of them, or by a reader; otherwise, it is recited by the priest himself after he has received Communion and before he distributes Communion to the faithful" (*GIRM* 87). Without liturgical silence, "the celebration can become perfunctory in its haste or burdensome in its unrelieved sound and song" (*Introduction* 48).

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR

© 2017 Liguori Publications • Liguori, MO 63057-9999

Sunday Bingo

Dec 10
Monica Habig
Richard Schenk
Matt/Nicole McGuire
Adam Chambers
Jeff Dean
Michaela/Nick Murdy

December 17
Missy Knowlton
Amanda Schumacher
Juli Harper
Erika Barnhardt
Andrew Harper
Ryan Kinzy

Dec 24
No Bingo

Dec 31
No Bingo

January 7
Amanda Schumacher
Sam Schumacher
Heather Robbins
Chrissy/Ryan Ferguson
Bill/Becky Bolon
Tom/Lydia Brodegard

Tuesday Bingo

Dec 12
Monica Habig
Brooke Yontz
John/Schelly Blackstone
Linda Piatt
Keisha West
Howard/Kathleen Thomas
Sam Schumacher

December 19
Monica Habig
Anna Lang
Tiffany/Sean Zeakes
Crystal Cunningham
Pam Christy
Sara Yonak
Lance LaFollette

Dec 26
Monica Habig
Richard Schenk
Jessica Amos
Chuck Dye
Desiree Peters
Deb Blackstone

Jan 2
Monica Habig
Richard Schenk
David Schnegg
Jason Weiss
Jeff Yontz
Joella Urbanek



Knights of Columbus Council 5009
St. Joseph of Monroe County

The K of c will again sell religious themed Christmas cards, magnets and yard signs (while supplies last.)

St. Sylvester Central School News

St. Sylvester Central Script Program is an excellent way to support Catholic Education and St. Sylvester Central without costing you money out of your pocket. Gift cards are available for many stores and restaurants in several dominations and make great Christmas gifts. Deadline for Christmas orders will be December 15th. Contact the school office. (Money is required at the placing of the order.)

Calendar Change—There will be **NO School** on Tuesday, December 12th due to a teacher's professional development workshop in Columbus.

School Christmas Program will be Monday, December 18th.

Christmas Service project—We will be partnering with *Christmas for the little Ones* to help children have a better Christmas. We will be assisting seven different children by providing cloths and gifts.

School Penance Service Monday, December 11th at 8:30am

A Word From Pope Francis: *Isaiah's invitation must resound in our hearts: "Comfort, comfort my people" (40:1) and this must lead to mission. We must find the Lord who consoles us, and go to console the people of God.... People today need words, but most of all they need us to bear witness to the mercy and tenderness of the Lord, which...attracts people toward the good.* —Mass with seminarians, novices, and those discerning their vocation, July 7, 2013