



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](http://www.monroecountycatholic.org)

334 South Main Street

Woodsfield, Ohio 43793-1027

Phone: 740-472-0187

Fr. David Gaydosik, Pastor  
dgaydosik@diosteub.org

Fr. Walter E. Heinz, retired  
wheinz@diosteub.org

### March 5, 2017

### *First Sunday of Lent (A)*

Gn 2:7–9; 3:1–7

Rom 5:12–19

Mt 4:1–11

“But the snake said to the woman: ‘You certainly will not die! God knows well that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, who know good and evil’” (Genesis 3:4–5).

One thing today’s readings—and really all of Scripture—make abundantly clear is that the devil exists. He is a liar and a deceiver, just as he was for our first parents and for Jesus as well. This is good to keep in mind at the beginning of Lent. We need a conversion of heart because the devil tempts us. We are sinners. Sin is real. The story of original sin illuminates the failure of Adam and Eve, and the reading from Romans explains that that sin has reached us. In this fresco, Michelangelo paints the devil as a serpent with a human upper body to accent that the devil is a person. All humanity is wounded and weakened by sin.

Yet even if sin and the devil are realities, the good news is that they are not the strongest realities. Jesus, as he shows us in the Gospel, is stronger than the enemy, and he shares that strength with us. We can be new creations through the salvation and forgiveness Jesus offers. His obedience can make us righteous. During Lent, we try to purify our heart with God’s grace so that we freely choose righteousness. Our actions reveal another reality of the good news: our choices make a difference. God trusts us so much that he gives us free will and allows us to play a part in our own salvation. Accepting his grace is the first step toward victory over sin. That is why your Lenten fasts and promises are such game changers—they strengthen your will, purify your heart, and make you more like Jesus.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

## First Sunday of Lent

<b>Saturday</b> St. Sylvester, Woodsfield + Danny Betts by Mary & Russ Betts	March 4 <sup>th</sup> 5:00 pm
<b>Sunday</b> St. Sylvester, Woodsfield + Gladys Pfeffer by Carla	March 5 <sup>th</sup> 8:30 am
<b>St. John the Baptist</b> , Miltonsburg + Darrell Cline by Shelby & Cathy	10:30am
<b>St. John Bosco</b> , Sardis + Matthew Singleton by Becky Baldwin	12:30pm
<b>Monday</b> St. Sylvester Woodsfield + Matt Singleton by Ann Hinderlong	March 6 <sup>th</sup> 8:30am
<b>Tuesday</b> <i>Sts. Perpetua and Felicity</i> St. John the Baptist, Miltonsburg + Roman Schumacher by Mike & Yvette Nau	March 7 <sup>th</sup> 9:00pm
<b>Wednesday</b> <i>St. John of the Cross</i> St. Sylvester, Woodsfield + Rita Yontz by Teresa & Ken Turchik	March 8 <sup>th</sup> 8:30am
<b>Thursday</b> <i>St. Francis of Rome</i> St. John the Baptist, Miltonsburg + Edna Burkhardt by family	March 9 <sup>th</sup> 6:30pm
<b>Friday</b> St. Sylvester, Woodsfield + Jim Scott by Mary Scott and family St. Sylvester, Woodsfield + George & Gladys Demchak by Phyllis & George Demchak	March 10 <sup>rd</sup> 8:30am 6:30pm
<b>Saturday</b> St. Sylvester, Woodsfield Living & Deceased of Monroe Catholic Parishes	March 11 <sup>th</sup> 8:30am

## Second Sunday of Lent

<b>Saturday</b> St. Sylvester, Woodsfield + Helen Crum by David Gerst	March 11 <sup>th</sup> 5:00 pm
<b>Sunday</b> St. Sylvester, Woodsfield + Matt Singleton by Joan Schneider	March 12 <sup>th</sup> 8:30 am
<b>St. John the Baptist</b> , Miltonsburg + Thomas McCleary by Cyril Burkhardt Family	10:30 am
<b>St. John Bosco Mission</b> , Sardis + James Morris by Ada Morris Family	12:30 pm

**Fasting and Abstinence Regulations** Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the penitential season of Lent. Ash Wednesday (March 1<sup>st</sup>) and Good Friday (April 14<sup>th</sup>) are days of complete abstinence from meat as well as days of fast. All other Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat. The law of abstinence binds all Catholics 14 years and older. The law of fasting binds all Catholics from their 18th birthday until their 59<sup>th</sup> birthday (Canons 97 and 1252).



**Our Prayerful Condolences** are extended to the family of **Francis L. "Hank" Zwick** and **Jim Jefferis** May their souls rest in peace!

**St. Sylvester's Cub Scouts** are selling peanuts until March 14<sup>th</sup>. If interested contact Cub Scout Master Melissa Smithberger at 740-213-4037. There is also some popcorn still available.

**Wanted!** We are in search of someone to start a Boy Scout Troop and be the Scout Master. We have several cub scouts that are ready to transition to the Boy Scouts but no local scout troop exist at this time for them. If interested contact Melissa Perkins Smithberger (740-213-4037) she will connect the scout council with you. Thank you.

**The Fifth annual Night at the Races Adult fundraiser** to benefit St. Sylvester Central School will be Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup>. A fun time for all. For information contact the School office at (740) 472-0321.

**St. John the Baptist Spring raffle and dance** will be Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup> Raffle tickets are now being sold.

**Time is flying by.** We are looking for a reliable individuals for the following: St. Joseph Cemeteries—mowing crew for both Burkhardt and Chapel Hill Cemeteries. [Contact Russ Betts if interested]

**New Walking Exercise Class** will start Thursday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> in the basement of St. Sylvester Church at 6:00pm. Everyone welcome.

**Visitation Deanery Council of Catholic Women** will meet Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption in Marietta. Prayer Service begins at 2:00pm with the meeting to follow. The meeting is open to unit officers as well as any other interested ladies.

**College Seminary Live-in** March 23 to 25 for men in high school or college. This is a great opportunity to participate in the daily seminarian schedule. Checkout: [www.pcj.edu](http://www.pcj.edu). Or register at by email to [mgossett@diosteub.org](mailto:mgossett@diosteub.org).

Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup> 1:00pm to 5:00pm *Westwood Place* will **Go beyond the Green and Embrace the Gold** with an Open House. RSVP to Brittany & Renee by March 13th at 740-472-2200.

## This Week

### Sunday

4:00pm Confirmation Session

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

### Monday

6:30pm Cub Scouts

### Tuesday

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

### Wednesday

Eucharistic Adoration  
till Noon

### Thursday

6:00pm SS CWC Walk Club

6:30pm Stations of the Cross following Mass at Miltonsburg

### Friday

8:30am School Mass

6:30pm Stations of the Cross following Mass in Woodsfield

### Saturday

SSC Night at the Races

### Sunday

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

## Your Sacrificial Offering

February 26, 2017

### St. John Bosco Mission

Adult Collection \$ 72.00  
Loose Collection \$ 14.00

### St. John the Baptist

Adult Collection \$ 996.00  
Loose \$ 20.00  
Votive Candles \$ 40.00  
School Collection \$ 86.20  
Prop of Faith \$ 6.00  
Capital Fund \$ 5.00

### St. Sylvester

Adult Collection \$ 2,198.00  
Loose Collection \$ 30.50  
Votive Candles \$ 55.00  
School Collection \$ 393.00  
Prop of Faith \$ 118.00  
Capital Fund \$ 5.00  
Eastern Europe \$ 40.00

*Thank you for your generosity.*

### **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 Monday at 6:00pm September through May. Pack Leader is Melissa Smithberger

**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 Burkhardt St. John the Baptist: Mrs. Eileen Ackerman and or Mrs. Eileen Miller.

### **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.

### **Catholic Cemetery Contacts:**

**St. Sylvester**, Woodsfield:  
Donald & Rita Biedenbach 740-472-1849  
**St. John the Baptist**, Miltonsburg & **Immaculate Conception**, Ozark:  
Tony Schumacher 740-827-3626  
**St. Joseph**, & **Chapel Hill**, Burkhardt Station:  
Russell Betts 740-567-3286  
**St. Patrick's**, New Matamoras:  
St. Sylvester 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.**

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

**Praying the Rosary: Witness to Faith.** At St. Sylvester and St. John the Baptist Parishes, we recite the rosary before each of the weekend Masses praying together through the intercession of the Blessed Mother for our church, our county, and the world.

**Mass Intentions.** To remember a loved one (Catholic or not) or a special occasion with a Mass intention. Suggested donation is \$10.00 per Mass. Dates are scheduled on a first come basis.

**St. Joseph of Monroe County, Council 5009** meets the first and third Wednesdays at 7:00pm in the basement of St. Sylvester Church.

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

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

**Diocesan Child Protection and Reporting:** Msgr. Kurt Kemo V.G., 1-740-282-3631

### **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

Mrs. Kim Leonard, principal  
[www.stjohncentralhs.org](http://www.stjohncentralhs.org)

**Monroe County Suicide prevention hotline**  
1-800-354-4357

### **Scripture Reading of the Week**

**Sunday**  
March 5

*First Sunday of Lent*  
Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7  
Rom 5:12-19  
Mt 4:1-11

**Monday**  
March 6

*Lenten Weekday*  
Lv 19:1-2, 11-18  
Mt 25:31-46

**Tuesday**  
March 7

*Lenten Weekday*  
Is 55:10-11  
Mt 6:7-15

**Wednesday**  
March 8

*Lenten Weekday*  
Jon 3:1-10  
Lk 11:29-32

**Thursday**  
March 9

*Lenten Weekday*  
Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25  
Mt 7:7-12

**Friday**  
March 10

*Lenten Weekday*  
Ez 18:21-28  
Mt 5:20-26

**Saturday**  
March 11

*Lenten Weekday*  
Dt 26:16-19  
Mt 5:43-48

**Sunday**  
March 12

*Second Sunday of Lent*  
Gn 12:1-4a  
2 Tm 1:8b-10  
Mt 17:1-9

**A Word From Pope Francis:** *"With its invitation to conversion, Lent comes providentially to awaken us, to rouse us from torpor, from the risk of moving forward by inertia."* —Homily, Basilica of Santa Sabina, March 5, 2014

**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  
Joe & Eunice Gallagher  
Monica Long

**Why is it OK to eat fish during Lent? What if I'm a vegetarian?**

The other day I was grocery shopping. I bought chicken on sale for \$1 per pound and salmon for \$8.99 per pound. If penance were about being economical, I would be eating chicken. If penance were the same as living simply, I might give up both proteins for an egg or bean alternative. (If you asked my fellow priests, they might say all food is penance when I cook.) The *Catechism* teaches, "The interior penance of the Christian can be expressed in many and various ways. Scripture and the Fathers insist above all on three forms, fasting, prayer, and almsgiving, which express conversion in relation to oneself, to God, and to others" (CCC 1434). Notice the last word: others. Fasting and abstaining from meat during Lent are shared sacrifices and part of our Catholic identity and duty (Canons 1249–53). The pope in Rome, your grandmother in Milwaukee, Catholics in India, and our fellow Christians (if and when they participate) are all united by this common penance. You express that unity by eating fish on Fridays. If you are a vegetarian or vegan, I encourage you to do something additional during the Fridays of Lent to reflect the spirit of discipline and self-denial. However you observe Lent, remember: All Catholics are united to each other and to God in our prayer, penance, and worship.

Patrick Keyes, CSsR

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***St. Sylvester Central School News***

**School Website:** [www.monroecountycatholic.org](http://www.monroecountycatholic.org) then click on the school tab.

April 5<sup>th</sup> **Vocation Tour 2017** will be at St. Sylvester Church at 6:00pm Bishop Monforton will be present. All are invited.

**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.

**The Fifth annual Night at the Races** Adult fundraiser to benefit St. Sylvester Central School will be Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup> At 7:00pm. A fun time for all.

**Immaculate Heart Fund** Applications deadline April 22nd. This fund established by the Diocese of Steubenville to offer tuition assistance to those Catholics in need.

**2017-2018 Registration** for returning students is underway. Open enrollment for new students will occur in March.

**Trojan Alumni**—SSC Home & School Subcommittee is collecting names, year of graduation & current contact information of former students. We are also looking for class representative for the various years to help with this project. You are invited to join the St. Sylvester Central School Alumni Facebook page and submit information. It is our hope to host a gathering during the Woodfield/Monroe Central alumni weekend in June

**Tuesday Bingo**

**March 7**  
Monica Habig  
Richard Schenk  
Brooke Yontz  
Denny or Jessica  
Knowlton  
Jason Baldwin  
Andrea Hall  
Sara Yonak

**March 14**  
Monica Habig  
Adam Dick  
Ed or Mary McLaughlin  
Terry or Ruthie Valkovic  
Shelley Young  
John or Jessica Ischy

**Sunday Bingo**

**March 5**  
Amanda Schumacher  
Sam Schumacher  
Jonathan or Nicole  
Wilson  
Bill or Becky Bolon  
Heather Robbins  
Jr. or Barb Burkhart

**March 12**  
Monica Habig  
Adam Dick  
Dugan or Cassie  
Demchak  
Ashley Armann  
Ted Babcock  
Chad or Marissa Cole

**BINGO KITCHEN**

**March 5**  
Barbara Burkhart  
Debbie Archer

**March 7**  
Sandy Barnes  
Lisa Chambers

**March 12**  
Chris Hoff  
Dawn Kuhn

**March 14**  
Joan Swallow  
Jaynee Vinskovich

**Don't give up Chocolate, or Pizza either, for lent.**  
 Join Dynamic Catholic for the Best Lent ever, a free email program designed to help you have a life-changing Lent.  
 Free Sign up at [BestLentEver.com](http://BestLentEver.com).

**In the words of Pope Francis :**

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from bitterness and fill you heart with joy. Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

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**The Franciscan Sisters, T.O.R.** invite you to be immersed in the Holy Spirit at our Lenten Retreat on Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, from 8:30am to 4:00pm. The retreat includes Mass, Adoration, lunch, talks, testimonies, and more. The retreat will be held at Our Lady of Sorrows Monastery in Toronto, Ohio. Registration (740-544-5542 x112) is required by Monday March 13<sup>th</sup>. Suggested donation is \$25.00.



**Knights of Columbus Council 50009**

**Lenten Fish Fry** at St. Sylvester Central School: Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>; March 17<sup>th</sup> (with Special St. Patrick's day Menu); and Friday March 31<sup>st</sup> 4pm to 7pm or until sold out.

**Council 5009** will be sponsoring a non-perishable food drive throughout Lent. The council will also collect money to purchase SCRIPT cards from St. Sylvester Central to purchase food for this drive. Food items collected will be given to Soma Food Pantry in Woodsfield.

**Men's Day of Renewal** March 18th in Caldwell.

**Family Movie night** following the 5:00pm Mass on Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup>. More info to follow.

**Fourth Degree meeting** Sunday March 12th at 7pm Barnesville in the basement of Assumption Church.

Next **Fourth Degree Exemplification** is June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2017

**DPSC 2017**

As we embark on the 2017 Diocesan/Parish Share Campaign, we begin with a *sense of hope*. In the past our parishioners have responded with generosity and for this I am extremely grateful and thankful. As you can see below, in the recent past we have risen to the task not only of achieving the goal but exceeding it; to have a refund to be used to operate our parish and school. These refunds are not subjected to diocesan assessment and provide an excellent funding source for projects and efforts beyond the scope our annual parish budgets. I hope that each family in our parish will consider making and fulfilling a pledge or donation to the 2017 DPSC.

**St. John Bosco Mission**

	DPSC goals	refund to parish
In 2014	\$ 1,872.00	\$ 2,275.00
In 2015	\$ 1,860.00	\$ 3,675.00
In 2016	\$ 1,984.00	\$ 741.00
In 2017	\$ 2,010.00	

**St. John the Baptist**

	DPSC goals	refund to parish
In 2014	\$ 4,563.00	\$ 3,707.00
In 2015	\$ 5,332.00	\$ 2,623.00
In 2016	\$ 2,728.00	\$ 6,382.00
In 2017	\$ 5,628.00	

**St. Sylvester**

	DPSC goals	refund to Parish
In 2014	\$ 12,168.00	\$ 7,172.00
In 2015	\$ 14,888.00	\$ 2,979.00
In 2016	\$ 15,748.00	\$ —
In 2017	\$ 20,100.00	

**For Reflection:** *Have I prayed about what God wants me to give up or take on in Lent? What resolutions will help me love God more while distancing me from obstacles to his love?*

**A Lenten Day of Spirituality** for all women of the diocese will be held on Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00am at St. Mary Church, St. Clairsville. The program titled "*Lessons from Catholic Tradition and Neuroscience and The Grateful Life: Living in Awareness of God's daily Gifts*" will be presented by Anne Kertz of Wexford, Pa. She will explore lessons from our Catholic contemplative tradition, as well as the latest in neuroscience research that confirms how healthy it is to be grateful and attentive in our lives. To make reservations contact our CWC presidents. The fee of \$25.00 is payable upon making your reservation.

**Diocesan Men's Day of Renewal: Mercy & Forgiveness, Faith & Trust.** Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at St. Stephen Church, Caldwell from 9:00am to 4:00pm With guest speaker Guy Gruters. Fee is \$25.00 Our contact person for the day is Tony Schumacher. Flyers are available at each church. Registration no later than March 10<sup>th</sup>.