

**St. Sylvester, Woodsfield**  
founded 1866

**St. John The Baptist, Miltonsburg**  
founded 1841

Parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Steubenville

# The Monroe County Catholic Churches

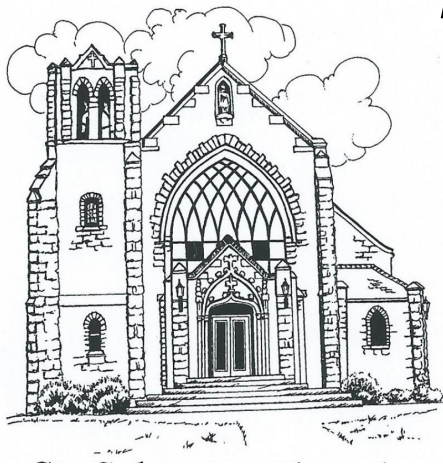
[www.monroecountycatholic.org](http://www.monroecountycatholic.org)

334 South Main Street  
Woodsfield, Ohio 43793-1027

**DECEMBER 15, 2024**  
**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**ZEP 3:14-18a PHIL 4:4-7 LK 3:10-18**

Word of the Lord - Page 471

**Fr. Nicholas Ward**  
**Administrator**



## Parish Contacts

New Parishioners are always welcome! Please contact the office.

**Fr. Nicholas Ward** (740) 457-7098

nward@diosteub.org

Jennifer Winkler (740) 472-0187

Office Hours Mon-Thurs. 9-2

## Holy Matrimony, Baptism & Funeral

Contact the parish office (740) 472-0187

## Confessions

St. Sylvester: Saturday 4:00pm to 4:45pm.

Sunday 7:45am to 8:15am.

St. John The Baptist: Sunday 9:45am to 10:15am

## Pastoral Care of the Sick and Infirm

Call Fr. Ward 1(740) 457-7098 Hospitals and Care facilities

**regularly do not notify** the parish unless specific request is made.

## Catholic Woman's Club

Meet on Second Wednesday of each month at Generation's

Building @ 7:00 p.m. **St. Sylvester:** Diane Burkhart (740) 391-0391

**St. John the Baptist:** Eileen Ackerman (740) 757-2481 or

Eileen Miller (740) 472-0279

## Knights of Columbus St. Joseph of Monroe County Council 5009

Meet on First Wednesday of each month at St. Sylvester Church,  
following the 6:30 p.m. Mass

Grand Knight: Anthony Schumacher (740) 827-3626

## Purgatorial Society & Prayer Chain

To join & information contact: Jackie Kirkland at (740) 472-0338.

## Catholic Youth Group

Leader: Regina Knox

## Diocesan Vocation Director

Fr. Nicholas Ginnetti

740-432-7609

## Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA):

RCIA is an adult preparation for Baptism, Confirmation & Eucharist.

Contact Church Office 740-472-0187

## Parish School of Religion (PSR aka. CCD)

The Parish Religion Classes children 1st – 8th grade

St. Sylvester School & Public Schools

**St. Sylvester:** Jill Schumacher (740) 213-4665

**St. John the Baptist:** Eileen Ackerman (740) 757-2481 **Call to Register**

## St. John The Baptist Hall

Schedule to Rent Hall for Any Occasion

Contact Jennifer Winkler 740-472-0187 or 740-213-2430

## St. Sylvester Central Elementary

(PreK-8) 119 Wayne Street, Woodsfield, Ohio.

Mrs. Robyn Guiler: Principal (740) 472-0321 ~ Preschool (740) 472-0420

## Catholic Cemeteries

**St. Sylvester** Woodsfield: Tony Schumacher (740) 827-3626

**St. John the Baptist, & Immaculate Conception Ozark;**

Tony Schumacher (740) 827-3626

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

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

## DOS Office of Family & Social Concerns & Referral

(i.e. Catholic Charities), 1-800-339-7890.

## Diocesan Child Protection and Reporting of Abuse

Victim Assistance Team: email: [victimassistance43952@gmail.com](mailto:victimassistance43952@gmail.com)

Phone: 740-278-3455

## Emergency Contact "When Fr. Ward is out of town"

Assumption Church, Barnesville, Ohio, Fr. David Cornett

Rectory Office:(740) 425-2181 Cell: (740) 381-4415 or St. Stephen Church,

Caldwell, Ohio, Fr. Tom Nelson ~ Rectory Office: (740) 732-4129

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**SUNDAY** Page 471 **DEC 15<sup>TH</sup>**  
**St. Sylvester**, Woodsfield 8:30 a.m.  
 +Meri Welsh by *Mary Stephen*

**St. John The Baptist**, Miltonsburg 10:30 a.m.  
 Living & Deceased of our Parishes

**MONDAY** **DEC 16<sup>TH</sup>**  
**St. Sylvester**, Woodsfield 12:00 noon  
 +Don Biedenbach by *Bernie & Linda Dick*

**St. Sylvester**, Woodsfield 6:30 p.m.  
 Penance Service

**TUESDAY** **DEC 17<sup>TH</sup>**  
**St. John The Baptist**, Miltonsburg 9:00 a.m.  
 8:00 a.m. Holy Hour  
 +Ed Vargo by *Tony & Cindy Schumacher*

**WEDNESDAY** **DEC 18<sup>TH</sup>**  
**St. Sylvester**, Woodsfield 6:30 p.m.  
 +Don Biedenbach by *Rita Wilson*

**THURSDAY** **DEC 19<sup>TH</sup>**  
**St. John The Baptist**, Miltonsburg 9:00 a.m.  
 8:00 a.m. Holy Hour  
 +Francis & Edith Block by *Sony Block Family*

**FRIDAY** (School Mass) **DEC 20<sup>TH</sup>**  
**St. Sylvester**, Woodsfield 8:30 a.m.  
 +Norma Koval by *Lance & Angie LaFollette*

**West Wood Place**, Woodsfield 10:00 a.m.  
 +Connie Kavalieros by *Rich & Marsha Saul*

**SATURDAY** **DEC 21<sup>ST</sup>**  
**St. Sylvester**, Woodsfield 6:30 a.m.  
 Greg Schaad Family

**St. Sylvester**, Woodsfield 5:00 p.m.  
 +Jimmy Partridge by *Margie Partridge*

**SUNDAY** **DEC 22<sup>ND</sup>**  
**St. Sylvester**, Woodsfield 8:30 a.m.  
 Living & Deceased of our Parishes

**St. John The Baptist**, Miltonsburg 10:30 a.m.  
 +Ty Burkhart by *Don & Marlene Burkhart*

**School Cancellations  
 or Delayed because of  
 Snow ~ A.M. Mass  
 will be reschedule  
 to 12 noon  
 St. Sylvester Church**



**SCHOOL NEWS...**

School Christmas Program  
**DECEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup> 7P.M.**  
**ST. SYLVESTER CHURCH**  
 Everyone Invited



Catholic Pilgrimage Trip to France

Anyone planning on attending the trip  
 meeting information  
 December 17th @ 7 p.m.  
 St. Sylvester Church Rectory

**CHRISTMAS MASS  
 SCHEDULE**

Dec. 24th 5:00 p.m.  
 Christmas Eve St. Sylvester  
 Dec 25th 12:00 a.m.  
 Midnight St. John The Baptist  
 Dec. 25th 8:30 a.m.  
 Christmas Day St. Sylvester  
 Dec. 25th 10:30 a.m.  
 Christmas St. John The Baptist

**PARISH  
 PENANCE SERVICE**

Monday, December 16th  
 St. Sylvester Church  
 6:30 p.m.

In Loving Memory of 2025

For the Bulletin...  
 Anyone that wants to  
 insert a deceased family or friend on the  
 memory list for the entire year of 2025  
 beginning in January. \$15 each donation  
 Mark memo as: "In memory 2025"

**2024 DPSC Share Campaign**

Thanks again for your participation. If you have not pledged, please do so. You can place a  
 pledge in the collection basket or mail it directly to DPSC envelope or go online at  
[www.give.diosteub.org](http://www.give.diosteub.org). Your sacrificial gifts enable the dioceses to educate our seminarians,  
 future priests, care for retired priests, oversee education of our youth through Catholic Schools,  
 religious programs and youth ministry, assist poor and other local efforts, Please keep this in  
 mind as you graciously consider your contribution.

**St. Sylvester Goal: \$ 28,308**  
**St. John The Baptist Goal: \$ 15,799**

**Goal Received \$ 13,385**  
**Goal Received \$ 7,825**

**Our Sunday Offering  
 DEC 7 - DEC 8**

St. John The Baptist

Adult Collection \$ 840.00  
 Loose Collection \$ 117.00  
 Education Fund \$ 50.00  
 Christmas Flowers \$ 50.00  
 In Memory 2025 \$ 180.00  
 Imm Conception \$ 110.00  
 Religious Retire \$ 370.00  
 Mass Request \$ 100.00

St. Sylvester

Adult Collection \$ 2,355.00  
 Loose Collection \$ 84.00  
 School Fund \$ 225.00  
 Imm Conception \$ 325.00  
 Religious Retire \$ 265.00  
 Christmas Flowers \$ 150.00  
 In Memory 2025 \$ 15.00  
 CWC Dues \$ 10.00  
 1st Offering \$ 5.00  
 Mass Request \$ 30.00

*Thank You for your  
 continued support to  
 our Parishes and  
 School!*

**This Week  
 Wednesday Adoration**  
 St. Sylvester Church  
 8:00 a.m. -- 6:00 p.m.  
 Rosary 6:00 p.m.  
 Mass 6:30 p.m.

***In Loving Memory of:***

Emma Schumacher  
Paul Ditto  
Deb Schumacher  
Francis (Fritz) Schumacher  
Katy Madison  
Paul Madison  
Paul Madison Jr.  
Edward Rensi  
Herman Burkhart  
Hilda Burkhart  
Madeline Mellinger  
Billie Jean Elliott  
Harry & Lucille Elliott  
David Baker  
Lowell Baker  
William Bolon  
Cinderella Butler  
Vernon Butler  
Meri C Welsh  
Michael Burkhart  
Bertha Burkhart  
Rebeca Burkhart  
Raymond Baldwin  
Alice & Ralph Buckalew  
Grace Ann Joyce  
Joe Fillippi  
Darrell Cline  
Clara Rush  
Virgil Rush  
Wes & Clara Hossman  
Cindy Miller Stevens  
Donald Miller  
Joy Taylor  
Larry Krone  
Carol Moore  
Francis Stephen  
Walter & Alberta Ackerman  
Wayne Forshey  
Cyril Burkhart  
Eunice Gallagher  
Joe Gallagher  
Hugh & Marie Bott  
Norbert Burkhart  
Agnes Burkhart  
Francis Reischman  
Hazel Reischman  
Robert M Miller Sr.  
Walter Knox  
Josephine Jack  
Ty A. Burkhart  
Francis & Freeda Paulus  
Mary Paulus  
Hilda Paulus  
Francis & Edith Block  
Virgil Block  
Joe & Debbie Block  
Gladys (babe) Burkhart  
Jimmy Norris  
Mary Ellen Barber Norris  
Leander & Genevieve Kuhn  
Kenny & Shirley Kuhn  
Joe & Martha Kuhn  
Mark Kuhn  
Jimmy Kuhn  
Paul Kuhn  
Danny Betts  
Joe Kuhn  
Kenneth Kuhn  
Deloris Knowlton  
Roman Schumacher  
Clara Schumacher  
Rick Schumacher  
Susan Schumacher Thomas  
Donald Biedenbach  
Thelma Scott  
Harmon Scott  
Jim Scott  
Richard Scott  
Imelda Scott  
William B. Schumacher  
Clara Hossman

***Eternal rest grant unto  
them, O Lord.***

Dear Parishioners,

It sure got cold in a hurry!

The third week of Advent is upon us, and along with that, things will continue to get busier and busier for us as we prepare for Christmas. In the hustle and bustle of things though, don't forget the essential preparations. And I speak not only of increased prayers and penances (though these are essential!).

Almsgiving is a critical part of any penitential season, and Advent especially not just because of the holiday, but also the cold. The poor suffer, and the homeless suffer the most. Please make a point of giving, not only to the Church or the school, but also to those in need, if you can help it (and I know many of you can spare at least something). The food pantry at St. Paul's can always use more food items, as well as warm winter clothing.

Giving is a guaranteed source of joy. When we give, we unburden ourselves of selfishness and undue desire, the source of so much human misery. Giving makes us more like God, whose nature is to bestow good things upon mankind, and helps us to grow in our relationship with God as well. As Saint Paul says, "God loves a cheerful giver (2 Corinthians 9:7)."

And of course, being openhanded to the needy with regard to our temporal goods does not just make us joyful, but helps us to appreciate and enjoy those good which are eternal. From a homily of the late beloved Pope Benedict XVI: "Advent is the season of the presence and *expectation of the eternal*. For this very reason, it is in a particular way a period of joy, an interiorized joy that no suffering can diminish. It is joy in the fact that God made himself a Child. This joy, invisibly present within us, encourages us to journey on with confidence."

Our greatest joys are found in eternal treasures, not earthly goods. I hope that those of you with the spiritual maturity to understand this will act upon it, as our holy patron St. John the Baptist urges us to do in our Gospel reading: "Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise (Luke 3:11)."

May Christ, who came to preach the Good News to the poor, make you rich and joyful in true Christian charity on this Gaudete Sunday, the Sunday of Joy.

God bless you all,

In Christ,

Fr. Nick

**TUESDAY BINGO**

**December 17th**

Donna Robinson  
Brenda Fisher  
Courtney Collmar  
Phillip Masters  
Jenna Rosnick

**January 7th**

Missy Knowlton  
Randall Sefert  
Jessica McKelvey

**SUNDAY BINGO**

**December 15th**

Missy Knowlton  
Robyn Guiler  
April Parden

**January 5th**

Robyn Guiler  
Sam Schumacher  
Gina Ball  
Shannon Pirl  
Lori Pirl

**TUESDAY KITCHEN**

**December 17th**

Marcia Shipp  
Julie Selmon

**SUNDAY KITCHEN**

**December 15th**

Jill Schumacher  
Louise Kress

**LECTORS MASS SCHEDULE**

- Dec 14.....Steve Burkhart
- Dec 15.....Becky Baldwin
- Dec 21.....Catherine Paulus
- Dec 22.....Jill Schumacher

**Scripture Reading of the Week**

**Sunday  
DEC 15<sup>TH</sup>  
THIRD SUNDAY  
OF ADVENT**

ZEP 3:14-18a  
PHIL 4:4-7  
LK 3:10-18

**Monday  
DEC 16<sup>TH</sup>  
NM 24:2-7, 15-17a  
MT 21:23-27**

**Tuesday  
DEC 17<sup>TH</sup>  
GN 49:2, 8-10  
MT 1:1-17**

**Wednesday  
DEC 18<sup>TH</sup>  
JER 23:5-8  
MT 1:18-25**

**Thursday  
DEC 19<sup>TH</sup>  
JGS 13:2-7, 24-25a  
LK 1:5-25**

**Friday  
DEC 20<sup>TH</sup>  
IS 7:10-14  
LK 1:26-38**

**Saturday  
DEC 21<sup>ST</sup>  
SG 2:8-14  
LK 1:39-45**

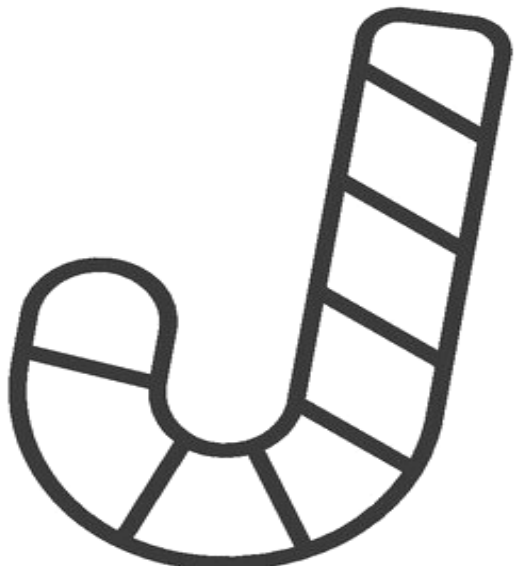
**Sunday  
DEC 22<sup>ND</sup>  
FOURTH SUNDAY  
OF ADVENT  
MI 5:1-4a  
HEB 10:5-10  
LK 1:39-45**

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS IN MEMORY**

Don & Bessie Ann Freeman  
Deb Schumacher  
Deloris Knowlton  
Rosemary Schumacher  
Brian Ellis  
Vernon Butler  
Kenneth & Ruthann Knox  
Luzelda Stephen  
Francis & Helen Burkhart  
Betty Doty  
Leander & Genevieve Kuhn  
Kenny Kuhn  
Chauncey & Ida Coss  
Judy Garteu  
George Demchak  
Mary & Hilda Paulus  
Joseph & Margaret Paulus

Helen & Clarence Hoff  
George & Martha Kress  
Roman & Clara Schumacher  
Jim Partridge  
John Guiler  
Earl & Dessie Okey  
Clara & Albert Garfold  
Cinderella Butler  
Hazel May  
Bob Crock  
Elbert & Zelda Betts  
Shirley Kuhn  
Jimmy Kuhn  
Elsie Wood  
Bob Wallace  
Dave Rodgers  
Mary Malanowski

Gerald & Goldie Weiss  
Floyd Griffin  
Susan Schumacher Thomas  
Walter J. Knox  
Teresa (Guiler) Morrison  
Alden & Betty Husk  
Theresa & Frank Zwolinski  
Mary Louise Wells  
Lawrence Crock  
Delmas & Lucy Betts  
Carol C Kuhn  
Danny Betts  
Joe & Martha Kuhn  
Park Wood  
Michael Demchak  
Archibald Griffith  
Enola & Buzz Riggs  
Fred, Clem & George Jr Kress  
Janet Richard Radon  
Rick Schumacher  
Era (Ellis) Riggenbach  
Jason Vannoy  
Robert M Miller Sr.  
Clarence Stephen  
Eugene Wells  
Wilma Burkhart  
Gary Betts  
Paul Kuhn  
Tom Dierkes  
Michael Garteu  
Robert Miller Sr.  
Francis & Freeda Paulus  
Learrena Griffith



**Look at the candy cane,  
What do you see?  
Stripes that are RED  
like the blood shed for me  
White is for my Savior  
Who's Sinless and pure!  
"J" is for Jesus,  
my Lord, that's for sure!  
Turn it around  
and a Staff you will see  
Jesus my shepherd  
is coming for me!**



**St. Joseph of Monroe County,  
Council 5009 of the Knights of Columbus  
Anthony Schumacher, Grand Knight**



**Leading by Example**—Our council seeks to develop a culture of charity, unity, and fraternity in faithful service to the Church and community. New members are welcome to join us!

**Next Meetings**- \*Knight's of Columbus Meeting will be on Wednesday, January 1st. Adoration at 6:00 p.m. Rosary at 6:15 p.m. Mass at 6:30 p.m. Meeting to follow in the Church Basement.

\*Catholic Women's Club Meeting Wednesday, January 8th @ 7:00 p.m. @ Generations