

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

334 South Main Street
Woodsfield, Ohio 43793-1027

AUGUST 2, 2026

**EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
IS 55:1-3 ROM 8:35, 37-39 MT 14:13-21**

Word of the Lord - Page 225

Fr. Nicholas Ward
Administrator



Parish Contacts

New Parishioners are always welcome! Please contact the office.

Fr. Nicholas Ward (740) 457-7701

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

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

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

**EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

Word of the Lord—Page 225

SUNDAY **AUG 2ND**
St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 8:30 a.m.
Living & Deceased of Our Parishes

St. John The Baptist, Miltonsburg 10:30 a.m.
+Michael, Bertha & Rebecca Burkhart
by Steve Burkhart

MONDAY **AUG 3RD**
St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 5:30 p.m.
+Hilda & Mary Paulus *by Paulus & Rodgers*

TUESDAY **AUG 4TH**
St. John The Baptist, Miltonsburg 9:00 a.m.
Holy Hour 8:00 a.m.
+Pat Shoemaker *by Hartwell Family*

WEDNESDAY **AUG 5TH**
St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 6:30 p.m.
Knights of Columbus members 5009

THURSDAY **AUG 6TH**
St. John The Baptist, Miltonsburg 9:00 a.m.
Holy Hour 8:00 a.m.
+Robin & Mary R Crum *by Joanne Swearman*

FIRST FRIDAY **AUG 7TH**
St. Sylvester, Woodsfield NO MASS

SATURDAY **AUG 8TH**
St. Sylvester, Woodsfield NO MASS

St. John The Baptist, Miltonsburg 5:00 p.m.
+Katy Madison *by Susan Yonak*

SUNDAY **AUG 9TH**
Sylvester, Woodsfield 8:30 a.m.
Living & Deceased of our Parishes

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

Pilgrimage

Info Meeting
Thursday, August 13th
7:00 p.m.
St. Sylvester Rectory

THANK YOU !!

For all the donations toward the
Care of our Cemeteries

KEEP IT GROWING!

St. John The Baptist Picnic

Miltonsburg, Ohio

Sunday, August 2nd

10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

EAT IN or CARRY OUT
DINNERS

Country Style Chicken & Beef Dinners
Homemade Mashed Potatoes & Gravy,
Noodles, Green Beans, Dressing, Roll &
Dessert

Raffle Tickets with \$1,500+ in prizes
available now through the day of dinner.
Everyone Welcome!

ST STEPHEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Caldwell, Ohio

Parish Social Hall

Sunday, August 2nd - 5pm-8pm

Homemade shredded chicken
sandwiches, Noodles by the bowl, Sloppy
Joe's, Hot Dogs, Coney Dog's, Pie, Cake,
Soda & Coffee
Prizes & Bingo

ST MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Caldwell, Ohio

Annual Picnic Sunday, August 9th

10:30am-1:30pm

Chicken & Ham Dinners
Adults \$15 Child \$7
Drive thru available

BINGO-RAFFLE TICKETS
EVERYONE COME ON OVER!

Our Sunday Offering
July 25 - July 26

St. John The Baptist

Adult Collection	\$ 1,000.00
Loose Collection	\$ 170.00
Education Fund	\$ 30.00
Cemetery Fund	\$ 100.00
Building Fund	\$ 90.00

St. Sylvester

Adult Collection	\$ 2,508.00
Loose Collection	\$ 215.00
Education Fund	\$ 140.00
Candle Fund	\$ 71.00
Building Fund	\$ 150.00
Cemetery Fund	\$ 50.00

THANK YOU!!

*for your continued
support of our
Parishes & School*

This Week

Wednesday

St. Sylvester Church

ADORATION

8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Rosary 6:00 p.m.
Mass 6:30 p.m.

2026 DPSC Share Campaign—Final Balance

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. You can also donate online @ Give.DioSteub.Org

St. Sylvester Goal: \$ 26,883.00
St. John The Baptist Goal: \$ 17,726.00

Goal Received \$ 16,980.00
Goal Received \$ 7,845.00

In Loving Memory Of:

Emma Schumacher
Paul Ditto
Deb Schumacher
Francis (Fritz) Schumacher
Katy Madison
Paul Madison
Paul Madison Jr.
Shirley Pfalzgraf
Donald & Lois Stephen
Charles & Mary Hunkler
Fr. Samuel Saprano
Cyril Burkhart
Eunice Gallagher
Joe Gallagher
Billie Jean Elliott
Harry & Lucille Elliott
Danny Betts
David Baker
Lowell Baker
William Bolon
Michael Koval
Norma H Koval
Seiford & Yolanda Popkie
Herman Burkhart
Hilda Burkhart
Ty A Burkhart
Madeline Mellinger
Francis & Freeda Paulus
Mary Paulus
Hilda Paulus
Robert M Miller Sr.
Walter Knox
Josephina Jack
Paul Connor
Barbara Connor
Michael Burkhart
Bertha Burkhart
Rebecca Burkhart
Francis & Edith Block
Virgil Block
Joe & Deb Block
Mary Ellen Barber
Gladys (Babe) Burkhart
James Norris
Judith Marie Weisend
Donny Weisend
Richard Weisend
Vernon & Cinderella Butler
Raymond Baldwin
Jenny Crum
Ralph & Alice Buckalew
Grace Ann Joyce
Joseph Fillippi
Norbert Burkhart
Agnes Burkhart
Tina Burkhart Muffet
Harold Robinson
Ellen Robinson
Francis Reischman
Hazel Reischman
Carlos & Doris Headley
Walter & Alberta Ackerman
Francis Stephen
Carol Moore
Meri C. Welsh
Jimmy Scott
Thelma Scott
Harmon Scott
Richard Scott
Phyllis Krone
Wes & Clara Hossman
Donald Miller
Joy Taylor
Cindy Miller Stevens
Jim & Jimmy Partridge
Barb Sobocinski

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

Dear Parishioners,

I can't believe how quickly this summer has flown by. August already! Soon it will be time for school... not to depress our younger parishioners (or teachers, I should say!) with news of the impending cataclysmic end of summer fun! Speaking of fun, it is good to be able to be with each other in the joyful occasions this season brings; parish picnics, family reunions, county fairs... all opportunities for us to rejoice in the good things God has given us to enjoy in this life as signs of His generosity and love.

Our Gospel reading today begins on a sad note. Saint John the Baptist has been killed! Martyred for his share in spreading the good news. This isn't news for us, but it must have been sad news for Our Lord some 2,000 year ago. In His Sacred Humanity, Jesus feels the grief we all feel in our very human experiences of pain and loss. Perhaps Jesus was able to experience something similar to a "twinge of guilt" (not that he had any sin); Jesus knew that St. John died proclaiming the Kingdom Jesus was to establish. Jesus was (and is) close to His holy cousin, not just by blood, but in their united purpose to serve God the Father and announce His plan for human redemption through baptism, penance, and the forgiveness of sins.

Even if Jesus was not completely overwhelmed by the loss of his greatest collaborator (besides His Mother) in the establishment of God's Kingdom on earth, he still was hurt enough to retreat into the wilderness, "a deserted place." But he wasn't to go alone: the people follow him, bringing their sick and lame. I'd like to think that they were driven by the Holy Spirit, the same Spirit who drove Jesus in to the desert at the beginning of His ministry (Mark 1:12)."

Perhaps the people wanted to comfort Jesus. Perhaps (likely enough) they are seeking comfort for themselves, since they loved St. John too, and first heard the Kingdom proclaimed by Him. Perhaps they just understood how badly they needed Jesus, that they would seek Him even in the wilderness. But it is beautiful to see what God was (and is!) able to bring out of grief: St. John's death brought people together in a wonderful way, and lead to one of Jesus' greatest miracles; the multiplication of the loaves and fishes.

Jesus' own death, though also a great occasion of sadness, would bring about a greater miracle still: the miracle of the Holy Eucharist, whereby Jesus would feed not just 5,000 men for a day, but the whole Church for all eternity.

What beautiful things are brought about by sacrifice. "Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit (John 12:24)." God can do much with one single grain, let alone five loaves and two fish. And God can do a lot with just one person, like St. John, willing to spend themselves for others.

As we gather this Sunday at the hall in Miltonsburg (feasting on more than just bread and fish), remembering friends and family from years past, let's also remember the example of St. John the Baptist, and what wonderful things that God can do through selfless love and self-sacrifice.

God bless you all,

In Christ,

Fr. Nick

TUESDAY BINGO**August 4th****August 11th****SUNDAY BINGO****August 2nd****August 9th****TUESDAY KITCHEN****August 4th**Julie Selmon
Sharon Kilburn**August 11th**

St. John CWC

SUNDAY KITCHEN**August 2nd**Louise Kress
Jill Schumacher**August 9th**Louise Kress
Becky Bott**Scripture
Reading
of the Week****Sunday
AUGUST 2ND
EIGHTEENTH
SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

IS 55:1-3

ROM 8:35, 37-39

MT 14:13-21

Monday**AUGUST 3RD**

JER 28:1-17

MT 14:22-36

Tuesday**AUGUST 4TH**JER 30:1-2, 12-15,
18-22

MT 14:22-36

MT 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday**AUGUST 5TH**

JER 31:1-7

MT 15:21-28

Thursday**AUGUST 6TH**

DN 7:9-10, 13-14

2PT 1:16-19

MT 17:1-9

Friday**AUGUST 7TH**

NA 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7

MT 16:24-28

Saturday**AUGUST 8TH**

HB 1:12-2:4

MT 17:14-20

Sunday**AUGUST 9TH****NINETEENTH****SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

1KGS 19:9a, 11-13a

ROM 9:1-5

MT 14:22-33

**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, Aug. 5th. 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 is Wednesday, Aug 12th - 7:00 p.m. @ Generations

A 9-Day Pilgrimage to
NORTHERN FRANCE
*with Fr. Nicholas Ward
& Fr. Daniel Koehl*
MAY 18-26, 2027
ST. CHARLES
Catholic Pilgrimages
Register at stcharlespilgrimages.com/ward-koehl

LECTOR READERS

August 1....Bill Long

August 2....Jill Schumacher

August 8....Tammy Jones

August 9....Tom Dick

2026 Cemetery Lawn Care

St. Sylvester Cost\$ 21,000.00

Lawn Care Donations\$ 5,247.00

St. John The Baptist Cost.....\$ 8,400.00

Donations\$ 4,379.00

Imm Conception Cemetery Cost.....\$ 4,200.00

Donations\$ 3,500.00

St. Joseph/Chapel Hill Cost.....\$ 9,000.00

Donations\$ 2,300.00

St. Patrick Cemetery Cost.....\$ 2,800.00

Donations\$ 850.00

PURGATORY SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

Registered to be a member of our Purgatory Society. Just send in \$30 with your name and memo "Purgatory Society List" and you will be added to our membership of 3 masses in your name, after you have passed.

SPECIAL INTENTIONS MASS REQUEST...

If interested in requesting mass for a loved one send in \$10 each with name of deceased and name of person requesting the mass. On envelope write "Mass Request". If wanting a specific date, write the date on request and I will schedule it unless someone else requested the same date first. Thanks