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

OCTOBER 25, 2026

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
EX 22:20-26 **1THES** 1:5c-10 **MT** 22:34-40
Word of the Lord - Page 255

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: Saturday 12:00pm to 12:30pm
Sunday 9:45am to 10:15am

Pastoral Care of the Sick and Infirmed
Call Fr. Ward 1(740) 457-7701 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

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-CALL TO REGISTER
St. Sylvester: Jill Schumacher (740) 213-4665
St. John the Baptist: Eileen Ackerman (740) 757-2481

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

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Word of the Lord—Page 255

SUNDAY **OCT 25TH**
St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 8:30 a.m.
+Helen Miller *by Dayle Miller*

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

MONDAY **OCT 26TH**
St. Sylvester, Woodsfield NO MASS

TUESDAY **OCT 27TH**
St. John The Baptist, Miltonsburg NO MASS

WEDNESDAY **OCT 28TH**
St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 6:30 p.m.
+Fred Ulrich *by Cherye & Girls*

THURSDAY **OCT 29TH**
St. John The Baptist, Miltonsburg 8:00 a.m.
Holy Hour 7:00 a.m.
Lowell Thomas Family Living & Deceased

FRIDAY **OCT 30TH**
St. Sylvester, Woodsfield *School Mass* 8:30 a.m.
+George & Phyllis Demchak *by Denise Kachel*

SATURDAY **OCT 31ST**
St. John The Baptist, Miltonsburg 12:30 p.m.
+Ty Burkhart *by Arla & Caden Potts*

St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 5:00 p.m.
+Monica Habig *by CWC*

SUNDAY SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS NOV 1ST
St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 8:30 a.m.
+Phyllis Demchak *by CWC*

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

SCHOOL NEWS...

No School Monday, October 26th

Don't forget to order your
St. Sylvester Central School Apparel
to show your support.



2026 Cemetery Lawn Care

St. Sylvester Cost .....$ 16,200.00
Lawn Care Donations .....$ 7,839.00

St. John The Baptist Cost.....$ 8,400.00
Donations .....$ 6,347.00

Imm Conception Cemetery Cost.....$ 4,200.00
Donations .....$ 3,600.00

St. Joseph/Chapel Hill Cost.....$ 8,620.00
Donations .....$ 2,450.00

St. Patrick Cemetery Cost.....$ 2,800.00
Donations .....$ 850.00

Our Sunday Offering
October 17 - October 18

St. John The Baptist

Adult Collection	$	985.00
Loose Collection	$	132.00
Candle Fund	$	95.00
Education Fund	$	60.00
World Mission	$	200.00
Oil Royalties	$	79.87
Building Fund	$	10.00
Cemetery Fund	$	90.00

St. Sylvester

Adult Collection	$	2,263.00
Loose Collection	$	299.00
Candle Fund	$	58.00
Education Fund	$	135.00
World Mission	$	438.00
Mass Request	$	10.00
Cemetery Fund	$	50.00
Building Fund	$	110.00
In Memory 2027	$	150.00

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.

In Loving Memory of:

For the Bulletin....
Anyone that wants to insert a deceased family or friend on the memory list for the entire year of 2027 beginning in January.
$15 each - donation
Mark memo as:
"In memory of 2027"

THANK YOU ! !
For all the donations toward the Care of our Cemeteries
KEEP IT GROWING!

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 **Goal Received $ 18,760.00**
St. John The Baptist Goal: $ 17,726.00 **Goal Received $ 8,905.00**

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
Bill & Carol Schumacher

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

Dear parishioners,

It is that time of year again when we consider Halloween. Like Christmas, it is a holiday which is celebrated in diverse ways throughout the world and whose observance has become extraordinarily secular in this country in particular. Originally, "All-Hallow's Eve" was the commemorated as the vigil for the Solemnity of All Saints, and so the night was filled with prayers and remembrances of all the holy men and women throughout history; their heroic deeds and witness, their words of grace, and how they made their way from the pains of this world to the joys of the next. The vigil was also originally a day of fasting (the real festive day of course, and a day of feasting and solemnities, is the following day: **All Saint's Day,** which is still celebrated with due festivity throughout the world).

I don't want to shame anyone into not celebrating Halloween (least of all, I don't want to discourage kids from getting their annual sugar fix). It is, after all, a Christian holiday. I'm also not saying that you shouldn't watch your favorite Halloween movies, or enjoy the "spookiness" which has become a hallmark of modern Halloween observances. The macabre can, in fact, serve a few purposes: First, to remind us that life is short. "Memento mori" or "Remember your death" is an old Christian saying. Life is fleeting: remember the judgement of Christ! Death and the tomb and judgement await us all! "No man can avoid coming to the grave (Psalm 49)." But another purpose of the spookiness might be to remind us that we life in a fallen, spiritual world. The world is not just filled with natural dangers, like earthquakes and diseases. The world is also filled with spiritual evils, wicked men and demons and witches and death itself, which is itself a spiritual reality. These things are real, and the danger in them is real as well.

I think we have to be very careful though how we treat these realities. We can be very flippant about things we should be very serious about in the spiritual life. Witches may look silly, but we forget that there are people who worship the devil in this world and purposefully act as his servants. It might seem fun to dress as a demon, until we take time to consider what demons are, and how they think about us, what wretched things they entice people to do, and the agonies they intend for us in hell. Still, these things *can be* an object of fun for us providing we understand that the things we make light of on Halloween are **heavy realities for us the rest of the year**. A mature and holy Christian can laugh and poke fun at the devil on Halloween provided he knows how dangerous his adversary really is. If you can laugh in the devil's face on Halloween, good for you! Just don't be seduced by him. ***Then the devil's joke will be on you!***

A well-known saying goes that the Devil's greatest trick was to convince humanity he doesn't exist. I don't think the most satanic aspects of modern Halloween are necessarily the ones that remind us of the evil spirits, if we can become all the wiser to their perils by the annual remembrance of them. The worst aspects, I think, of Halloween are the ones that teach us that evil is worthy of imitation.

I think Satan's nastiest Halloween trick was actually done back in 1517, when on October 31st he seduced Martin Luther into dividing the body of Christ by starting the Protestant Reformation.

This Halloween let us pray for the unity of the Church, not just between believers throughout the world, but especially between the Church on earth and the Church in Heaven. The Church in Heaven is made up of the Saints. May they intercede for us!

In Christ,

Fr. Nick

TUESDAY BINGO

October 27th
Susie Cunion
Brenda Fisher
Black
Russell

November 3rd
Robyn Guiler
Randall Sefert
Hines
M/A Schumacher
Blackstone
Steele
Merideth

SUNDAY BINGO

October 25th
Ace Guiler
Mary Atkinson
Block
Hogue

November 1st
Shaun Steed
Missy Knowlton
Missy Dean
Dixon

TUESDAY KITCHEN

October 27th
Diane Burkhart
Missy Knowlton

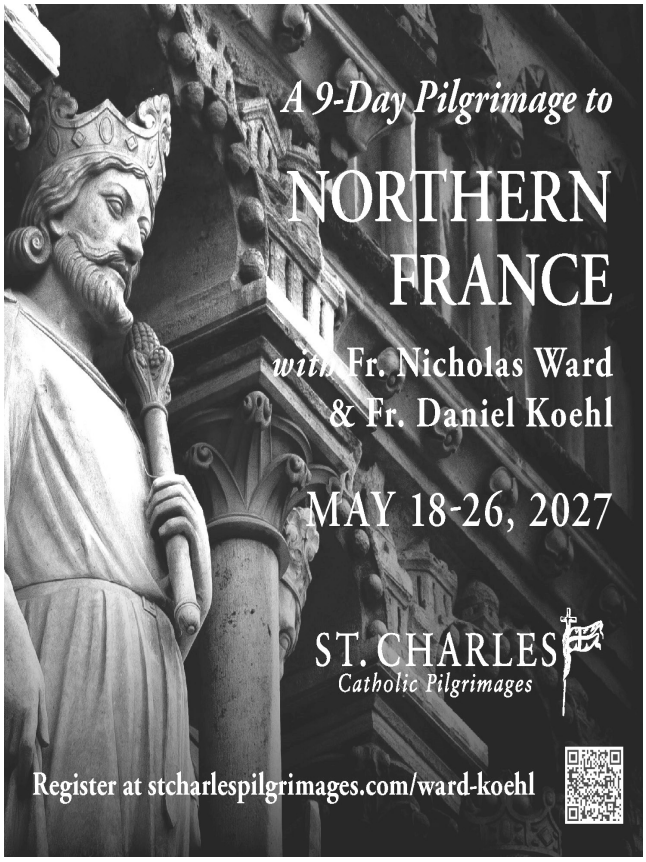
November 3rd

SUNDAY KITCHEN

October 25th
Louise Kress
Ace Guiler

November 1st

LECTOR READERS
October 24….Bill Long
October 25….Jill Schumacher
November 7….Tammy Jones
November 8….Tom Dick



Scripture Reading of the Week

Sunday
OCTOBER 25TH
THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
EX 22:20-26
1THES 1:5c-10
MT 22:34-40
Monday
OCTOBER 26TH
EPH 4:32-5:8
LK 13:10-17
Tuesday
OCTOBER 27TH
EPH 5:21-33
LK 13:18-21
Wednesday
OCTOBER 28TH
EPH 2:19-22
LK 6:12-16
Thursday
OCTOBER 29TH
EPH 6:10-20
LK 13:31-35
Friday
OCTOBER 30TH
PHIL 1:1-11
LK 14:1-6
Saturday
OCTOBER 31ST
PHIL 1-18b-26
LK 14:1, 7-11
Sunday
NOVEMBER 1ST
ALL SAINTS
RV 7:2-4, 9-14
1JN 3:1-3
MT 5:1-12a



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

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, November 4th. 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, November 11th - 7:00 p.m. @ Generations