

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 4, 2026

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

IS 5:1-7 PHIL 4:6-9 MT 21:33-43

Word of the Lord - Page 247

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 Infirm

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

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

**TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

Word of the Lord—Page 247

SUNDAY **OCT 4TH**
St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 8:30 a.m.
 +Deb Schumacher *by Perry Schumacher*

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

Woodsfield Courthouse 12 noon
 Life Chain

MONDAY **OCT 5TH**
St. Sylvester, Woodsfield NO MASS

TUESDAY **OCT 6TH**
St. John The Baptist, Miltonsburg 8:00 a.m.
 Holy Hour 7:00 a.m.
 +Stella Crum *by Mary A Crum*

WEDNESDAY **OCT 7TH**
St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 6:30 p.m.
 +Jack Brown

THURSDAY **OCT 8TH**
St. John The Baptist, Miltonsburg 8:00 a.m.
 Holy Hour 7:00 a.m.
 Thanksgiving of the Holy Trinity *by Hartwell's*

FRIDAY **OCT 9TH**
St. Sylvester, Woodsfield *School Mass* 8:30 a.m.
 +Phyllis Krone *by Catherine Paulus*

SATURDAY **OCT 10TH**
St. John The Baptist, Miltonsburg 12:30 p.m.
 Salvation of our Souls

St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 5:00 p.m.
 +Dar Zwick *by Donnie & Janet Zwick*

SUNDAY **OCT 11TH**
St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 8:30 a.m.
 +Norb & Ada Schumacher
by Tom & Cindy Schumacher

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

LIFE CHAIN



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4TH
NOON—1PM
MONROE COUNTY
COURT HOUSE

ST. STEPHEN CATHOLIC CHURCH
BELFORD STREET, CALDWELL

Parish Social

Sunday, October 11th
 Church Hall
 5-8p.m.

Homemade Shredded Chicken Sandwiches,
 Chicken & Noodles by bowl, Sloppy Joe's, Hot
 Dogs & Coney Dogs, Pie, Cake, Soda & Coffee

Raffle Tickets, Bingo, Country
 Store & Door Prizes

EVERYONE INVITED!

2026 Cemetery Lawn Care

St. Sylvester Cost\$ 16,200.00
 Lawn Care Donations\$ 7,529.00

St. John The Baptist Cost.....\$ 8,400.00
 Donations\$ 5,762.00

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
 September 26 - September 27

St. John The Baptist

Adult Collection \$ 910.00
 Loose Collection \$ 193.00
 Education Fund \$ 10.00
 St. John Cemetery \$ 90.00

St. Sylvester

Adult Collection \$ 2,340.00
 Loose Collection \$ 156.00
 Candle Fund \$ 62.00
 Education Fund \$ 135.00
 Mass Request \$ 50.00
 Cemetery Fund \$ 50.00
 Building Fund \$ 840.00

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.

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

Goal Received \$ 18,750.00
Goal Received \$ 8,895.00

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,

Today is the 800th Anniversary of what the Franciscan Order calls the “transitus” of St. Francis, his death and acceptance into the arms of Jesus. In this Holy Year of St. Francis, it is fitting for us to reflect a little on the life of this great saint. Of course, we ought to make a regular practice of meditating upon the lives of the saints; this is a sure method for growing in holiness. We have so many thousands of good examples set before us: no one can claim to be ignorant of how to follow Christ when we have such a “cloud of witnesses” to the life of grace.

Born into wealth, he chose instead poverty. Aspiring at first to become a knight, he lived as a preacher of peace. Once a *bon vivant* who pursued above all else worldly pleasure and comfort, he became one of the most enthusiastic penitents and ascetics the world has known.

All this is to say that Francis was a radical. He rejected so many of the norms and customs of his day to be a radical student of the Gospel. Why? What motivated him to leave father and mother behind, rank and title, clothing and shelter and even food to become poorer than the poorest beggar in Italy? Was he insane? Was he motivated by philosophical, or political goals?

Francis was so radical not so much because of his ideas but because of his love of God. He was a radical lover of God. And to say that Francis was a radical lover of God is no bad thing at all. The word “radical” comes from the Latin *radix* or “root.” I think a root is a very fitting image for Francis, the humble Friar, clothed in brown rags as a root clothes itself in soil. But more importantly he was *rooted* in Christ. His faith was strong, like the roots of a great tree, strong and deep in trust. He trusted Christ and loved Christ enough not to care what others thought of Him. He trusted Christ enough to know that Christ would take care him if he became a beggar. He trusted Christ enough to risk being martyred for the faith in Egypt when he went there as a missionary to the Muslim Sultan. He was able to do such extraordinary things in his short life precisely because of how deeply rooted he was in Christ.

I think there is generally a profound fear among the faithful today to appear to be too radical or fervent in their faith. We want to be “normal” so we can “fit in” with everyone else. We don’t want to “stand out” or appear “weird” because of our faith. Signing ourselves in restaurants, praying the rosary on a street corner, refraining from gossip or vulgar speech, not consuming blasphemous media, giving our children a Catholic education... this may seem radical and counter intuitive if we’re going to “keep up with the Joneses” (no offense to *our* Joneses) and be “well adjusted” in the culture around us. But I think the Church today is in need of more radicals. Not radical philosophers, politicians, soldiers or celebrities; we need more radical Christians. You cannot be a Saint if you are not a radical lover of God. ***There are no mediocre saints***, and the Church of today has far too many tepid, nominal, and rootless Catholics.

Saint Francis was not mediocre. Of all the things we can say about this great and saintly friar, he was certainly not mediocre. And even if we are not called to the extremes of penance, poverty, celibacy and missionary activity, we are all called to love God with all of our hearts, minds and souls. In 2026, that is a very radical thought. But it was a pretty radical in 1226 too, so what’s our excuse?

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Nick

TUESDAY BINGO**October 6th**

Missy Knowlton
Randall Sefert
Friday Family
Mandi
Blackstone

October 13th

Missy Knowlton
Kitty Lowler
Wilson

SUNDAY BINGO**October 4th**

Robyn Guiler
Missy Knowlton
Dick

October 11th

Missy Knowlton
Terry Schumacher
Hogue
Murphy
Miller
Ward

TUESDAY KITCHEN**October 6th**

Julie Selmon
Sharon Kilburn

October 13th

St. John CWC

SUNDAY KITCHEN**October 4th**

Louise Kress
Jill Schumacher

October 11th

Louise Kress
Robyn Guiler

Scripture
Reading
of the Week

**Sunday
OCTOBER 4TH
TWENTY-SEVENTH
SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

IS 5:1-7

PHIL 4:6-9

MT 21:33-43

Monday**OCTOBER 5TH**

GAL 1:6-12

LK 10:25-37

Tuesday**OCTOBER 6TH**

GAL 1:13-24

LK 10:38-42

Wednesday**OCTOBER 7TH**

GAL 2:1-2, 7-14

LK 11:1-4

Thursday**OCTOBER 8TH**

GAL 3:1-5

LK 11:5-13

Friday**OCTOBER 9TH**

GAL 3:7-14

LK 11:15-26

Saturday**OCTOBER 10TH**

GAL 3:22-29

LK 11:27-28

Sunday**OCTOBER 11TH****TWENTY-EIGHTH****SUNDAY IN****ORDINARY TIME**

IS 25:6-10a

PHIL 4:12-14, 19-20

MT 22:1-14

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

**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



**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, October 7th. 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, October 14th - 7:00 p.m. @ Generations