



The Monroe County Catholic Churches

www.monroecountycatholic.org

334 South Main Street

Woodsfield, Ohio 43793-1027

DECEMBER 28, 2025

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

SIR 3:2-6, 12-14 COL 3:12-21 MT 2:13-15, 19-23

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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

St. Sylvester: Diane Burkhardt (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

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

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SUNDAY DEC 28TH
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

MONDAY DEC 29TH
St. Sylvester, Woodsfield NO MASS

TUESDAY DEC 30TH
St. John The Baptist, Miltonsburg 9:00 a.m.
Holy Hour 8:00 a.m.
+Ty Burkhardt by Aunt Chris & Norma

WEDNESDAY DEC 31ST
St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 12:00 noon
Feast of St. Sylvester
+David Gossett by Fr. Nick Ward

St. Sylvester, Woodsfield
Mary The Mother of God 5:30 p.m.
Adoration 4:00 p.m.
Living & Deceased of our Parishes

THURSDAY JAN 1ST
St. John The Baptist, Miltonsburg 12:00 noon
+Lois Stephen by Georgina Gallagher

St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 3:00 p.m.
+Judith Weisend by Catherine Paulus

FRIDAY JAN 2ND
St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 8:30 a.m.
+Betty Gdovin

SATURDAY JAN 3RD
St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 8:30 a.m.
Deacon Gary Paul & Theresa Beam

St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 5:00 p.m.
+Liz Schumacher by Tom & Becky Stephen

SUNDAY JAN 4TH
St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 8:30 a.m.
Living & Deceased of our Parishes

St. John The Baptist, Miltonsburg 10:30 a.m.
+Irene Okel & Mary Rossman by Carol Miller

**School Cancelation or
Delayed for Snow Days**
Morning Mass
to be rescheduled
12 noon @ St. Sylvester Church

OCIA
Every Thursday at 7:00p.m.
CANCELLED
**Adult Catechesis Class,
Documents of Vatican II**
Every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
Both locations at
St. Sylvester Church Basement

New Year's Prayer

Surely your goodness and love will
follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house
of the LORD forever.

Psalm 23:6

Forgiveness and Hope After Abortion Did fear and
shame lead you or someone you know to have an
abortion? Or you felt as if you had no other
choice? Are you seeking comfort from welcoming,
non-judgmental people to help you through your
sadness and guilt? We invite you to make a confi-
dential call to Project Rachel Ministry where you
can connect with others who understand and can
help. You're not alone anymore. Peace starts here
at Project Rachel Ministry. Call 740-275-7038 or visit
www.diosteub.org/project-rachel

This Week
Wednesday
St. Sylvester Church
NO ALL DAY
ADORATION

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 2026 beginning in January.
\$15 each - donation
Mark memo as: "In memory of 2026"

2025 DPSC Share Campaign

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: \$29,390
St. John The Baptist Goal: \$17,806

Goal Received \$20,759
Goal Received \$10,773

Our Sunday Offering
December 20 - December 21

St. John The Baptist

Adult Collection	\$	3,720.00
Loose Collection	\$	120.00
Education Fund	\$	100.00
Candle Fund	\$	104.00
DPSC	\$	250.00
Starter Set	\$	10.00
Christmas Flowers	\$	80.00
Religious Retire	\$	240.00
Christmas Offer	\$	255.00
Sol of Mary	\$	20.00
Mass Request	\$	40.00
Immaculate Concep	\$	65.00
Building Fund	\$	60.00
Cemetery Fund	\$	170.00

St. Sylvester

Adult Collection	\$	2,657.00
Loose Collection	\$	124.00
Education Fund	\$	210.00
Christmas Offer	\$	70.00
Christmas Flowers	\$	80.00
1st Offering	\$	5.00
Religious Retire	\$	80.00
Immaculate Concep	\$	235.00
Cemetery Fund	\$	50.00
Building Fund	\$	11,078.75
Mass Request	\$	100.00

*Thank You for your
continued support of
our Parishes &
School*

In Loving Memory Of:

Emma Schumacher
Paul Ditto
Deb Schumacher
Francis (Fritz) Schumacher
Katy Madison
Paul Madison
Paul Madison Jr.
Shirley Pfalzgraf
Lois Stephen
Cyril Burkhart
Eunice Gallagher
Joe Gallagher

Dear Parishioners,

I hope you have all been enjoying your Christmas. Of course, the Christmas season is not over yet: The octave, or 8-day celebration of Christmas itself, doesn't end until the New Year. The Christmas season doesn't end until the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. So, we still have a bit of Christmas to go. Which is fine: As our guests leave, the radio stations stop playing secular Christmas music, the pressure to get gifts subsides, we can focus a bit more perhaps on the spiritual "reason for the season," the mystery of the incarnation, what that says about who God is, and what that means for us who are invited to adore the Lord at His coming.

God has entered into our human family. That is essentially the meaning of the long Christmas Eve reading we have from the genealogy of St. Matthew's Gospel. None of those people listed were perfect: Judah sold his brother into slavery. Rahab was a prostitute. Solomon was an idolator. Don't get me started on Ahaz.

Yet this is the family God chooses to enter into. A family, a tribe, a humanity that is wounded and sinful, that needs a redeemer.

God somehow makes it right, though. St. Matthew says that Jesus was born 42 generations after Abraham: the number 7 (symbolizing fulfillment and perfection) doubled, and then each of those doublings tripled (14x3). God's timing is not only doubly good: it is doubly good, and then triple that. We can take the given number of generations in a literal sense, that this was the actual number of generations from Abraham to Jesus. Or, we can choose to see this as the Evangelist's way of telling us something more important: Jesus came at the perfect time to heal an imperfect family, the human family, from their own wretchedness (Perhaps this is best, because St. Luke counts more than 50 generations from Jesus to Abraham in his genealogy).

The human family, like the holy family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, is called to be a holy family as well. We are all called to holiness. This cannot be achieved without Jesus. Until Jesus entered human history, all was hopeless. All will be hopeless for us as well unless we let Jesus into our lives, our families.

Jesus entered into a broken human family and healed it, giving it meaning, a purpose, and a destiny: If man can live with God in his heart on earth, he may yet be able to live with Him forever in heaven.

Each of us come from families with wounds and hurts. Our ancestors were not perfect. We are not perfect. But the one who makes all things new invites us to see how he, by his coming into the world, is able to transform and heal all things. Let us invite Jesus, then, to heal the brokenness that he was sent by His Father to heal, the brokenness and evils which exist in our lives. Let us bring this brokenness before him, the generational curse of sin, laying it by his manger bed. Let us bring to him our sins, our brokenness, and allow Him to make whole what was broken. Let us ask for his healing mercy, his forgiveness which is powerful to save.

Help us baby Jesus, to heal and forgive and have hope for the good things to come in Heaven.

God bless you,

In Christ, Fr. Nick

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

TUESDAY BINGO**January 6th**

Missy Knowlton
Randall Sefert
Eric/Kendra Billiter

January 13th

Missy Knowlton
Mary Atkinson
Courtney Collmar
Jake/Krysten Schuerman
Jenna Rosnick
Missy Dean
Safreed/Piatt

SUNDAY BINGO**January 4th**

Robyn Guiler
Brooke Yontz

January 11th

Missy Knowlton
Terry Schumacher
Jess McKelvey

TUESDAY KITCHEN**January 6th**

Julie Selmon
Becky Baldwin

January 13th

St. John Baptist
CWC

SUNDAY KITCHEN**January 4th**

Louise Kress
Robyn Guiler

January 11th

Louise Kress
Becky Bott

Scripture Reading of the Week**Sunday****DECEMBER 28TH
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH**

SIR 3:2-6, 12-14
COL 3:12-21

MT 2:13-15, 19-23

Monday**DECEMBER 29TH**

1JN 2:3-11
MT 2:22-35

Tuesday**DECEMBER 30TH**

1JN 2:12-17
LK 2:36-40

Wednesday**DECEMBER 31ST**

1JN 2:18-21
JN 1:1-18

Thursday**JANUARY 1ST**

NM 6:22-27
GAL 4:4-7
LK 2:16-21

Friday**JANUARY 2ND**

1JN 2:22-28
JN 1:19-28

Saturday**JANUARY 3RD**

1JN 2:29-3:6
JN 1:29-34

Sunday**JANUARY 4TH
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

IS 60:1-6
EPH 3:2-3 5-6
MT 2:1-12

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS IN MEMORY OF**

Arthur Miller
Ruth Miller
David Miller
Susan Thomas
Richard Schumacher
Teresa Lucas
Pandora Neuhart
Vernon & Cinderella Butler
Gene & Mary Louise Wells
Clarence E. Stephen
Luzelda E. Stephen
Lonnies T. Stephen
Kirkland & Mehler Family
George Mehler
James & Marie Kirkland
Kenny & Shirley Kuhn
Mark Kuhn
Don & Ruth Lafferre
Eva (Ellis) Rigganbach
Brian Ellis
John Guiler
Teresa (Guiler) Morrison
Roman & Clara Schumacher
Deloris Knowlton
Francis L Block
Virgil Block
Donald Miller
Lois Stephen
Paul Ring
Francis (Fritz) Schumacher
Fred & Betty Neuhart
Ralph & Maxine Keevert
Walter J Knox
Robert Miller Sr.
Albert & Clara Garfield
Glenn Dierkes
Tom Dierkes
Ed Rensi
Segundo Baguio
Mildred Baguio
Cyril Gallagher

Susan Schumacher Thomas
Rosemary Schumacher
Anna Hinderlong
Joe Brooks
Mary Malanowski
Buzz & Enola Riggs
Don & Bessie Ann Freeman
Gerald & Goldie Weiss
Raymond Baldwin
Alice & Ralph Buckalew
Grace Ann Joyce
George & Martha Kress
Clarence & Helen Hoff
Fred, Clem, & George Jr. Kress
Jane & Richard Radon
Floyd Griffin
Larry Okey
Myrna Minder
Sally Hall
Leona Hoskinson
Joseph Pirl Sr.
Richard Passio Sr.
Hilda Burkhart
Madeline Mellinger
Edith Block
Joe & Debbie Block
Wes & Clara Hossman
Candy & Joy
Teresa Baguio
Francis, Edith & Virgil Block
Donald & Lois Stephen
Charles & Mary Hunkler
Theresa Garfield
Kenny & Ruthann Knox
Dorothy Stungis
Dorothy Dierkes
John Dierkes
Stephen E. Hooper
Joe Gallagher
Billie Jean Elliott
Eunice Gallagher

Katy & Paul Madison
Kathy Hannahs
Louis & Estelle Schumacher Family

Jim Partridge
Jimmy Partridge
Ruth Hall
Clara Hall

Kathy Hannahs
George Demchak
Ernest & Colleen Kachel

Meri C. Welsh

Michael & Judy Garten

Robert T. Miller SR.

Mary Rosmon

Irene Okel

Delmas & Irene Finnicum

Delmas Jr. Finnicum

Billy Gary Finnicum

Clara & Lawrence, Velma, Tom, Jan, George, Fred, Carolyn Miller

Walter Knox

Mary & Arba Lucas

Josephina Jack

Ray & Inez Kemp

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS IN HONOR:

Andy Vinskovich
Barbara Stephen
Helen Marie Ring
Clarence Clouse Family
Robert Miller Family

**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 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, January 14th - 5:30p.m. @ Generations