

**St. Sylvester, Woodfield**  
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  
Woodfield, Ohio 43793-1027

**MAY 17, 2026**

**THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD**  
**ACTS 1:1-11 EPH 1:17-23 MT 28:16-20**

Word of the Lord - Page 156

**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, Woodfield, Ohio.

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

## Catholic Cemeteries

**St. Sylvester** Woodfield: 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

**THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD**

*Word of the Lord—Page 156*

**SUNDAY** **MAY 17<sup>TH</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 Todd & Nicki Burkhart*

**MONDAY** **MAY 18<sup>TH</sup>**  
**St. Sylvester, Woodsfield** 5:30 p.m.  
 +Stanley Davis *by 5 Surviving Spouses*

**TUESDAY** **MAY 19<sup>TH</sup>**  
**St. John The Baptist, Miltonsburg** 9:00 a.m.  
 Holy Hour 8:00 a.m.  
 +Cyril Burkhart *by Ron & Cathy Gallagher*

**WEDNESDAY** **MAY 20<sup>TH</sup>**  
**St. Sylvester, Woodsfield** 6:30 p.m.  
 Knights of Columbus Members

**THURSDAY** **MAY 21<sup>ST</sup>**  
**St. John The Baptist, Miltonsburg** 9:00 a.m.  
 Holy Hour 8:00 a.m.  
 Thanksgiving of St. Joseph, Protector Holy Church  
*by Hartwells*

**FRIDAY** **MAY 22<sup>ND</sup>**  
**St. Sylvester, Woodsfield (School Mass)** 8:30 a.m.  
 Phyllis Demchak *by CWC*

**SATURDAY** **MAY 23<sup>RD</sup>**  
**St. Sylvester, Woodsfield** 8:30 a.m.  
 Donald Dick *by Catherine Paulus*

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

**SUNDAY** **MAY 24<sup>TH</sup>**  
**Sylvester, Woodsfield** 8:30 a.m.  
 +Carol Schumacher *by Dan & Barb Schumacher*

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

**PALESTINIAN OLIVE  
 WOODCARVERS**

Selling Crafts  
 May 23rd after 5:00 mass  
 St. Sylvester Church Basement

May 24th after 10:30 mass  
 St John The Baptist Hall

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



**SCHOOL NEWS...**

**Secretary Position**

**2026-2027 School Year**

St. Sylvester Central School is seeking a friendly and efficient secretary to join our school family. Duties include managing daily administrative tasks with strong organizational skills, greeting and assisting visitors, student, staff and parents with a positive attitude, maintaining student files, attendance, tuition, and lunch records.  
 School office 740-472-0321

**Religion Teacher Position**

**2026-2027 School Year**

1st, 2nd, and 4th grade

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

*Hosted by: Knights of Columbus*

**Sunday, May 31, 2026**

after St. Sylvester 8:30a.m. Mass  
 Church Basement  
 Everyone Invited — Donations Only  
 Proceeds Benefit St. Sylvester Church Projects...  
 Repairing Basement Steps/Drainage  
 Repair Gutters  
 Seal Sandstone  
 New Parking Lot

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PICNIC**

Sunday, August 2, 2026

**RAFFLE PRIZES NEEDED**

Call Eileen Ackerman 740-757-2481

**2026 Cemetery Lawn Care**

St. Sylvester Cost .....	\$ 21,000.00
Lawn Care Donations .....	\$ 2,902.00
St. John The Baptist Cost.....	\$ 8,400.00
Donations .....	\$ 1,549.00
Imm Conception Cemetery Cost.....	\$ 4,200.00
Donations .....	\$ 3,500.00
St. Joseph/Chapel Hill Cost.....	\$ 9,000.00
Donations .....	\$ 2,000.00
St. Patrick Cemetery Cost.....	\$ 2,800.00
Donations .....	\$ 850.00

**Our Sunday Offering**  
 May 2 - May 3

**St. John The Baptist**

Adult Collection	\$ 1,209.00
Loose Collection	\$ 41.00
Education Fund	\$ 95.00
Home Mission	\$ 90.00
Ascension	\$ 61.00
Mother's Day	\$ 213.00
Cemetery Fund	\$ 5.00
Oil Royalties	\$ 160.03

**St. Sylvester**

Adult Collection	\$ 2,592.00
Loose Collection	\$ 346.00
Education Fund	\$ 145.00
Building Fund	\$ 700.00
Cemetery Fund	\$ 350.00
Mother's Day	\$ 95.00
Imm Conception	\$ 100.00
Mass Request	\$ 10.00

**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.

**Catholic Communication**

Your support helps CCC fulfill its mission of love to share the gospel message of hope with people in the US using internet, television, radio, and print media. Half of the funds remain here to support local efforts and the other half abroad. Please support this collection.

**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 \$ 11,000.00**  
**Goal Received \$ 3,445.00**

***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

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

Dear Parishioners,

With the Ascension of Our Lord into heaven, all of our hopes now lie in heaven.

If Jesus is there, shouldn't our hearts desire to be there as well? Listen to the words of the great St. Augustine, the great Doctor of the Church and patron Saint of our own Pope Leo:

"Today our Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven; let our hearts ascend with him. Listen to the words of the Apostle: *If you have risen with Christ, set your hearts on the things that are above where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God; seek the things that are above, not the things that are on earth.* For just as he remained with us even after his ascension, so we too are already in heaven with him, even though what is promised us has not yet been fulfilled in our bodies.

Christ is now exalted above the heavens, but he still suffers on earth all the pain that we, the members of his body, have to bear. He showed this when he cried out from above: *Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?* and when he said: *I was hungry and you gave me food.*

Why do we on earth not strive to find rest with him in heaven even now, through the faith, hope and love that unites us to him? While in heaven he is also with us; and we while on earth are with him. He is here with us by his divinity, his power and his love. We cannot be in heaven, as he is on earth, by divinity, but in him, we can be there by love.

He did not leave heaven when he came down to us; nor did he withdraw from us when he went up again into heaven. The fact that he was in heaven even while he was on earth is borne out by his own statement: *No one has ever ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man, who is in heaven.*

These words are explained by our oneness with Christ, for he is our head and we are his body. No one ascended into heaven except Christ because we also are Christ: he is the Son of Man by his union with us, and we by our union with him are the sons of God. So the Apostle says: *Just as the human body, which has many members, is a unity, because all the different members make one body, so is it also with Christ.* He too has many members, but one body.

Out of compassion for us he descended from heaven, and although he ascended alone, we also ascend, because we are in him by grace. Thus, no one but Christ descended and no one but Christ ascended; not because there is no distinction between the head and the body, but because the body as a unity cannot be separated from the head."

Our lives are now a game of "follow the leader." Jesus goes to heaven, and we want to follow Him to get where He is going. But our success in "winning" this game depends on our ability to imitate Him as He guides us to where He has gone before. God help us! May we be so blessed to rise and join him, and be counted among His Saints in paradise.

God bless you all,

In Christ,

Fr. Nick

**TUESDAY BINGO**

**May 19th**

Donna Robinson  
Brenda Fisher  
Phillip/Chelsea Masters  
Missy Dean  
Carey Bott  
John Kemp

**May 26th**

Susie Cunion  
Brenda Fisher  
Becky Russell  
Ashley Murphy  
Missy Dean

**SUNDAY BINGO**

**May 17th**

Missy Knowlton  
Robyn Guiler  
Gina Ball  
Heather Monroe  
David/Jess Murphy  
Missy Dean

**June 7th**

Justin Hogue  
Missy Dean  
Robyn Guiler  
David/Kasey Block  
Holly Merideth

**TUESDAY KITCHEN**

**May 19th**

Julie Selmon  
Marcia Shipp

**May 26th**

Diane Burkhart  
Missy Knowlton

**SUNDAY KITCHEN**

**May 17th**

Louise Kress  
Becky Bott

**June 7th**

**LECTOR READERS**

May 16....Catherine Paulus

May 17...Tom Dick

May 23....Bill Frank

May 24....Becky Baldwin

**Scripture Reading  
of the Week**

**Sunday**

**MAY 17<sup>TH</sup>  
THE ASCENSION OF  
THE LORD**

ACTS 1:1-11  
EPH 1:17-23  
MT 28:16-20

**Monday**

**MAY 18<sup>TH</sup>  
ACTS 19:1-8  
JN 16:29-33**

**Tuesday**  
**MAY 19<sup>TH</sup>**  
ACTS 20:17-27  
JN 17:1-11a

**Wednesday**  
**MAY 20<sup>TH</sup>**  
ACTS 20:28-38  
JN 17:11b-19

**Thursday**  
**MAY 21<sup>ST</sup>**  
ACTS 22:30; 23:6-11  
JN 17:20-26

**Friday**  
**MAY 22<sup>ND</sup>**  
ACTS 25:13b-21  
JN 21:15-19

**Saturday**  
**MAY 23<sup>RD</sup>**  
ACTS 28:16-20, 30-31  
JN 21:20-25

**Sunday**  
**MAY 24<sup>TH</sup>**  
**PENTECOST SUNDAY**  
ACTS 2:1-11  
1COR 12:3b-7, 12-13  
JN 20:19-23



**MOTHER'S DAY...**

**IN MEMORY OF:**

DEB SCHUMACHER  
LUZELDA STEPHEN  
FREEDA PAULUS  
RUTHANN KNOX  
CLARA GARFOLD  
THERESA GARFOLD  
IDA COSS  
ZELDA BETTS  
MADELINE MELLINGER  
DOROTHY DAVIDSON  
ETHEL PIATT  
COLLEEN KACHEL  
GOLDIE A WEISS  
CINDERELLA BUTLER  
BILLIE JEAN ELLIOTT  
EUNICE GALLAGHER  
MARGARET MEYER  
AGNES BURKHART  
SHIRLEY ARLENE WEBER  
JUDITH ANN GRAVES  
JUDY GARTEN  
ZELDA BETTS  
DELORIS KNOWLTON  
CLARA HALL

**IN HONOR OF:**

EDYTHE SCHUMACHER  
CAROLYN MILLER  
ANASTASIA JACK  
CECELIA PIATT  
EMILY KNOX  
SHIRLEY CLOUSE  
LUCY BETTS  
EILEEN PASSIO  
ROSEMARY BURKHART  
CINDY J. SCHUMACHER  
DANIELLE SCHUMACHER  
CAROL KUHN  
JILL SCHUMACHER

REGINA GARFOLD  
ROBIN YARNALL  
KRIS MILLER  
RENA MCCLAIN  
IRENE OKEL  
MARY ROSMON  
BRITTANI CHRISTMAN  
PAM PIRL  
SUSAN YONAK  
MARISSA COLE  
CAROLYN MILLER  
BARBARA STEPHEN

*Happy Mother's Day*

**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, June 3rd. 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, June 10th - 7:00 p.m. @ Generations