

January 11/12, 2025
The Baptism of the Lord

OUR LADY OF THE LAKES PARISH

A Roman Catholic Community in the Diocese of Youngstown

The Most Reverend David J. Bonnar, Bishop

Very Reverend David W. Merzweiler, V.F. Pastor

Residence: 1254 Grandview Road

Lake Milton, Ohio 44429

Phone: 330-654-4001

St. Catherine Church and Family Center

1254 Grandview Road

Lake Milton, Ohio 44429

St. James Church and Social Hall

50 Rosemont Road

North Jackson, Ohio 44451

Combined parish offices located at St. James - phone 330-538-2602 fax 330-538-9580

Office hours – Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Secretary – Patricia Pauscher

Website – www.ourladyotl.org

Email – ourladyofthelakes@att.net

ST. MARY & ST. JOSEPH PARISH

A Roman Catholic Community in the Diocese of Youngstown

The Most Reverend David J. Bonnar, Bishop

Very Reverend David W. Merzweiler, V.F. Pastor

Church Address: 131 West Quarry Street
Newton Falls, Ohio 44444

Office Address: 120 Maple Drive
Newton Falls, Ohio 44444

Office Phone 330-872-5742 Office Fax 330-872-0038

Office hours – Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Secretary – Mrs. Tina Thompson

Website – www.stmarystjosephparish.com

Email – parishssmaryjoseph@yahoo.com

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Saturday, January 11th, 2025

4:00 pm at St. James

Baptism of the Lord

Parish Families

Sunday, January 12th

9:00 am at St. Catherine

Allen Mitchel Blazek

Joan Blazek

11:00 am at St. Mary & St. Joseph

Delores Prelac

Sue & Tony Sabo

Monday, January 13th

9:00 am at St. Mary & St. Joseph

Saint Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Danny Price

Richard & Mary Price

Tuesday, January 14th

9:00 am at St. James

Tom DePiere

Ann DePiere

9:45 am at St. James

Scripture Study

Wednesday, January 15th

6:30 pm at St. Catherine

Barbara A. Seli

Lisa Carder

Thursday, January 16th

9:00 am at St. Mary & St. Joseph

Parish Families

Friday, January 17th

No Mass

Saturday, January 18th

4:00 pm at St. James

Margaret & Gerald Sonnenlitter

Dave & Lyn Sonnenlitter

Sunday, January 19th

9:00 am at St. Catherine

Debbie Garrity

Barb Hilliard

11:00 am at St. Mary & St. Joseph

Paul & Marion Bobbey

Jim & Linda Bobbey

Liturgical Ministers for January 18th & 19th The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 pm St. James

9:00 am St. Catherine

11:00 am SSMJ

Lectors: Dave Bailey

Tommy Janik

Rachel Hrbolich

Lyn Sonnenlitter

Rich Patnode

Charlene Brandt

EM: Lorraine Confoey

Nancy Patnode

Sandy Mason

Server: Joe Thiry

Gary Lippert

Logan Clonch

Readings for The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Isaiah 62: 1-5 (66C)

Response Psalm: 96: 1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12: 4-11

Gospel: John 2: 1-11

Our Lady of the Lakes

Prayer of Saint Hilary (Jan. 13th): O Lord our God, you raised up your servant Hilary to be a champion of the Catholic faith. Keep us steadfast in that true faith which we professed at our baptism, that we may rejoice in having you for our Father, and may abide in your Son, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, who live and reign forever and ever. Amen.

Church support record for the weekend of Jan 4/5, 2024: Offertory: \$1,436.00, Christmas: \$102.00, Solemnity of Mary: \$1,641.00, Initial Offering: \$173.00, Fuel: \$100.00, Immaculate Conception: \$10.00

Offertory goal needed each week to meet operating costs: \$3,760.00

ITEMS OF INTEREST TO BOTH PARISHES

Stewardship Reflection

“John answered them all, “I baptize you with water; but he who is mightier than I is coming...He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit...” – Luke 3:16

The Catholic Catechism states that *“Jesus’ immersion in the water is a sign for all human beings of the need to die to themselves to do God’s will.”* In other words, as baptized Catholics there is only one gift that we need to give to Jesus – the gift of ourselves. Surrender yourself to God, place your trust in Him and allow the Holy Spirit to work through you for the greater glory of God.

The Catholic Echo: Our second collection today is for *The Catholic Echo*, supporting coverage of local Catholic life in the six-county Diocese of Youngstown. You see their photography and reporting in the print magazine, catholicecho.org website, and diocesan social media. This includes popular guides for Catholic Education, Lenten Fish Fries, Parish Festivals, and much more. If you are not receiving the magazine but want to, please contact our parish office to update your contact information. You can support *The Catholic Echo* in the second collection today or give online at catholicecho.org.

Diocesan Mass for Life: The annual Mass for Life will be held on Sunday, January 19th at 4 p.m., at Saint Columba Cathedral. Bishop David J. Bonnar, Bishop of Youngstown, will preside. All are invited to pray for greater respect for human life at every stage and in all circumstances. At the Mass, expectant mothers, fathers and their families will be invited to receive a blessing for their preborn babies. The “Blessing of a Child in the Womb” was created to encourage prayer and recognition of the precious gift of the child in the womb, and to foster respect for human life within society. In addition, there will be a “Blessing of Pilgrims” who attend the National March for Life which will take place on Friday, January 24th in Washington, D.C.

The Mass for Life will be followed by a reception including displays of information on respect for life and Walking with Moms in Need. All are welcome to attend. No reservations are necessary. Donations are accepted and appreciated.

St. Mary & St. Joseph

Prayer to St. Anthony the Abbot (Jan. 17th): “O God, who brought the Abbot Saint Anthony to serve you by a wondrous way of life in the desert, grant, through his intercession, that, denying ourselves, we may always love you above all things. May we learn to love you better; with all our hearts, all our souls, all our minds, all our strength and to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. Help us Lord, to likewise dedicate our lives to Christ. May we make that commitment a way of life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

Church Support Record: Sunday, January 5, 2024 Weekly: \$1,909.00 Candles: \$57.00
Cemetery Perpetual Fund: \$281.00 Christmas:\$225.00 Christmas Wafers:\$35.00
Initial Offering: \$124.00 Solemnity of Mary:\$665.00 Winter Utilities:\$100.00

Parish Registration: If you have been attending Mass with us here at St. Mary & St. Joseph Parish and are not registered but would like to be an official member of our parish family, please call or stop in the office so we can fill out a registration form. Office times are on the front of the bulletin. We don't want you to be left out!

ITEMS OF INTEREST FOR BOTH PARISHES

January is Poverty Awareness Month. Across the United States, more than 37.9 million people live in poverty. In Ohio, 1.5 million individuals face daily struggles to meet basic needs, with poverty rates disproportionately affecting certain regions. In the Mahoning Valley alone, the poverty rate is 18.8%, significantly higher than the national average of 12.5%. This means approximately 78,000 individuals in this region are experiencing the effects of living in poverty every day. ([Census.gov](https://www.census.gov))

Dear Friends, it doesn't take a special month for Catholic Charities to be aware of poverty in our communities. Our compassionate and caring staff witness the effects of poverty every day as they work to provide help and create hope for individuals and families living at or below the poverty line. Nearly 12% of people in the United States live in poverty. A significantly greater percentage are barely making it paycheck to paycheck. The cost of such things as housing, childcare, food, transportation and health care far outpaces the rate of inflation, making it doubly difficult for poor and working poor families to make ends meet. During this **Poverty Awareness Month**, consider one or more of the following:

Pray for those struggling to provide for themselves and their families

Learn more about the challenges that people in poverty face

Advocate for just policies that benefit those striving for greater financial self-sufficiency

Forego the purchase of something you don't really need in order to stand in solidarity with those who must always do without

Thank you for all that you do to support Catholic Charities' important ministry of service to God's people.

Rachel A. Hrbolich, *Diocesan Director Catholic Charities, Diocese of Youngstown*