

OUR LADY OF MERCY ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



A Parish of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Steubenville

Fr. David Gaydosik, Pastor

Cell: 740-391-1093

Fr. Walter E. Heinz, Retired

Fr. Dale Tornes, Retired

Mrs. Kristin Offenberger, Secretary

Mr. Eric Fliehman, PSR Coordinator

Mrs. Martha Fliehman, Prayer Chain

Pastoral Musicians:

Evan and Heather Schaad

Confessions: Saturdays-

3 PM to 4 PM

Rosary: Before each-Weekend Mass



Mailing Address

5001 Lowell Hill Road

Lowell, Ohio 45744

740-896-2207

olm.churchlowell@gmail.com

Website: olmlowell.com

Find us on Facebook: [olmchurch.lowell](https://www.facebook.com/olmchurch.lowell)

Office Hours: Wed. & Thur. 10:00 AM-3:00 PM

Social Hall and Rental: 740-896-2207

January 11, 2026

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Baptisms: Parents are to schedule the baptism of their child at least 2 weeks in advance of the desired date arrangements.

Confirmation: To be confirmed, you must attend either the Parish School of Religion, Catholic School, or the OCIA.

Marriages: Couples intending to be married at OLM must contact Fr. David at least 6 months in advance of the intended wedding date.

Sponsor at Baptism or Confirmation: Must be at least 16 years old; be an active Catholic who has been confirmed, and lead a life that is in harmony with the faith. Sunday

Visitation of Sick or Homebound: Please call Father Gaydosik at 740-391-1093, or the Parish Office at 740-896-2207, when someone is hospitalized, homebound, sick.

St. John Central Elementary School – (740) 896-2697:
Mrs. Rebecca Hilverding, Principal. The Central Catholic Grade School is a combination of the parishes of: St. John the Baptist, Churchtown; Our Lady of Mercy, Lowell, St. Ambrose, Little Hocking; and St. Bernard, Beverly.

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Sat. Jan. 10	OLM Jim Huck (Charlie Huck) St. John Helen Miller (Patricia Henke Family)	4:00 PM 6:00 PM
Sun. Jan. 11	OLM Jeri Lang (Bernard & Marilyn Schilling) St. John Anna Mae Brooker (Charlie Tornes) St. John L & D of Lawrence & Margret Schaad Family (Mike & Marilyn Schaad)	9:30 AM 7:30 AM 11:00 AM
Mon. Jan. 12	OLM No Mass St. John Alecia Fouss (STJ CWC)	No Mass 8:00 AM
Tue. Jan. 13	OLM Allen Gierda (Unknown) St. John No Mass	5:00PM No Mass
Wed. Jan. 14	OLM No Mass St. John Rita Schwendeman (Family)	No Mass 8:30 AM
Thurs. Jan. 15	OLM Bernard "Buzzard" Brooker (Julia Brooker) St. John No Mass	5:00 PM No Mass
Fri. Jan. 16	OLM No Mass St. John Maglena Arnold (Family)	No Mass 8:00 AM
Sat. Jan. 17	OLM Gary Pottmeyer (Ed Schilling) St. John Robert Heiss (Chris Pottmeyer)	4:00 PM 6:00 PM
Sun. Jan. 18	OLM Allene Huck (Ben & Lisa Berendts) St. John Kendrick Schwendeman (Leroy & Sophia Rauch) St. John Frank Schilling (Children)	9:30 AM 7:30 AM 11:00 AM

God Bless those who support our Parishes!

OLM: \$2,461.00 (66); Offertory \$439.00; Improvement Fund \$20.00 (1); Legacy Fund \$10.00 (1);
Solemnity of Mary \$110.00 (7); Initial Offering \$158.00 (13); OLM Cemetery \$5.00 (1)

OLM 50/50 Winner: Fr. Tim Shannon- Congratulations!

Liturgical Ministries Schedule

Lectors

OLM: 01/17 (4 PM) Tony Offenberger
OLM: 01/18 (9:30 AM) Linda Miller

Altar Servers

OLM: 01/17 (4 PM) Jackson Long, Tim Snyder
OLM: 01/18 (9:30 AM) Declan, Joel, & Vivian Schaad; Grace & Faith Johnson

Eucharistic Ministers

OLM: 01/17 (4 PM) Kristin Offenberger
OLM: 01/18 (9:30 AM) Martha Fiehman

USHERS (Month of January)

SAT: Dan Schwendeman, Melvin Schwendeman
SUN: Adrian Morris, **Volunteer needed**

As We Reflect on Christ's Baptism, we are reminded of our own baptism.

“Baptism is communion with the One who conquered death and holds in his hand the keys of life. Belonging to this circle, to God’s family, means being in communion with Christ, who is life and gives eternal love beyond death. Thanks be to God, who has redeemed us from our sins and given us eternal life through Jesus Christ.”

~ Pope Benedict XVI

OLM CWC

All women of the parish are members of the Catholic Woman's Club.

JANUARY COMMITTEE

Rose Beebe (Chair)	Sandy Huck
Rhonda Huck	Heather Schaad
Jennifer Anderson	Kristin Offenberger

SUPPORT ENVELOPES

Support envelopes are available for pick up in the back of the church. Please check and make sure everything is correct. If corrections are needed, please immediately notify the Parish Office at 740-896-2207.

2025 CHURCH CONTRIBUTIONS

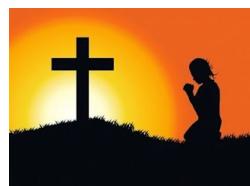
If you need a copy of your church contributions for 2025, please notify Kristin at the Parish Office and we will be happy to mail them to you. Or if you would like to pick up your copy, please call ahead to 740-896-2207 so they will be ready for you. Thank you.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL HELP

Turn your Taxes into Tuition—Make a charitable donation to Christ the Teacher Diocesan Scholarship Fund and turn your tax dollars into tuition. Now is the time to donate, before filing your 2025 Ohio tax return and you can receive a dollar-for-dollar Ohio income tax credit of up to \$750 for an individual (or \$1500 if married—filing jointly). Donations via credit card are now available. Designate your gift to help provide financial assistance to any diocesan Catholic School of your choice! For more information or to make a donation, go to: www.diosteub.org/ctdsf.

MEN'S DAY OF RENEWAL

The 2026 Diocesan Men's Day of Renewal will be held on Saturday, March 7, 2026, at St. Stephen Catholic Church, Caldwell. This Lenten retreat invites men of the Diocese of Steubenville to reflect on the ongoing call to conversion and spiritual growth in our journey with Christ. The day will feature personal testimonies from Fr. Bradley Greer and Fr. Tim Shannon, who will share how the Eucharist has been central to their own conversions and priestly lives, offering practical insights for living and spreading the Faith in our families, parishes, workplaces, and communities.



BORN TO LOVE AGAIN

Why did Jesus submit to John's baptism? This cleansing in the waters of the Jordan River was a baptism of repentance (Matthew 3:11). But Jesus was the Son of God—he didn't need to repent! That's why John said to Jesus, "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?" (3:14). John did not live long enough to witness Jesus' death and resurrection. But if he had heard Jesus pray, "Father, forgive them," from the cross, John would have witnessed firsthand the full significance of Jesus' baptism. Jesus was baptized, not for his own sins, but for ours and those of the whole world. On the cross, Jesus, the sinless One, would take on the sin of all humanity. As Pope Benedict XVI wrote, when Jesus was baptized, he "loaded the burden of all mankind's guilt upon his shoulders: he bore it down into the depths of the Jordan. He inaugurated his public activity by stepping into the place of sinners. . . . The Baptism is an acceptance of death for the sins of humanity" (*Jesus of Nazareth*, p. 18). That's why Jesus told John that his baptism would "fulfill all righteousness" (Matthew 3:15). Through Jesus' death and resurrection, we sinners would be made righteous. Jesus stood with sinners like us along the banks of the Jordan and descended into the waters, just as they had. Then, on the cross, he took on every one of our sins—and put them to death, once and for all. Today, then, is a day to thank the Lord for your own Baptism. Through this great sacrament, you were joined to Jesus in his death and resurrection. You were freed from the burden of guilt that Jesus loaded on his own shoulders. You were cleansed of sin and made righteous. And just as the Father said to Jesus, so he says to you: "You are my beloved child" (see Matthew 3:17). May he forever be praised!

~The Word Among Us

POPE INTENTIONS

Prayer Intentions for January

For Prayer with the Word of God

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**64 Is 49: 3-6 Ps 40: 2-4, 7-10
1 Cor 1: 1-3 Jn 1: 29-34**

A VOCATION VIEW

In baptism we have become children of God. We are called to live a life of holiness. Am I being called to live that life as a priest or religious?

(Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7)

STEUBENVILLE SEMINARIANS

The following men are in formation for ordination to the sacred Priesthood for service in the Diocese of Steubenville. Please remember them in your prayers.

Studying at the Pontifical College Josephinum
(7625 N. High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43235-1499)

Maximilian Kolbe Gan, Jonathan Ruscoe, Riley Morris, John Paul Gan, William Gugala, and Aaron Pabin

Studying at the Saint Vincent Seminary
(300 Fraser Purchase Rd., Latrobe, PA 15650)

Christopher McGurn and Sam Ivkovich

Keep in your prayers:

Deacon Peter Stetson, Deacon Ryan Budd, and Caleb Baker

Diocese of Steubenville Office of Vocations
Fr. Nicholas V. Ginnetti, Vocation Director
Vocation links: Twitter @ [dsvocations](#)
Facebook: www.facebook.com/dsvocations or
Diocesan Vocation Website: <http://steubenvillevocations.com>.

MARCH OF LIFE

The March for Life continues to be the largest pro-life rally in the world. It's an opportunity to give public testimony to the value of every human life, and to be inspired by the dedication of the thousands of people who participate in the capital. The March For Life will take place in Washington, DC, on Friday, January 23, 2026. To learn more, visit www.marchforlife.org.

K OF C NEWS

NOVENA FOR LIFE -A Novena for Life sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 4617 will be held from January 16th – January 24th to pray for a culture of life and civilization of love in our community, nation, and world. A novena is a period of sustained prayer over nine days for a particular intention. Community members and fellow Knights, with their families, are encouraged to pray in their homes on each of the nine days of the novena. This particular intention of the novena is LIFE. We will pray along with the USCCB's 9 Days for Life. We will also post these prayer sheets each morning on our Facebook page:www.facebook.com/churchtownkofc. For more information or to get daily text, visit www.respectlife.org/9-days-signup. The protection of life is a sustained prayer intention of the Catholic Church and of the Knights of Columbus. Contact Tanner Pottmeyer @ 740-516-4749 with any questions.



ANNUAL FREE THROW

COMPETITION – For next Sunday, January 18th at the K of C Hall, Churchtown. Sign-up begins at Noon, shooting starts at 1 PM. Boys and girls ages 9-14 years old as of

January 1, 2026 can participate. Parent or guardian must be present for sign in. You do not have to be a K of C Member to sign your child up to participate. Entry is FREE. Contact Tanner Pottmeyer @ 740-516-4749 with any questions.

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Your gift of time and blood is a selfless act of caring. Help to assure that life-giving blood will be available when needed. The next area Blood Drive will be held at St. Bernard Catholic Church Parish Hall, Beverly on Thursday, January 29, from noon to 6 PM. Please sign up online at www.RedCrossBlood.org to set up an appointment time for your donation.

POST 750 STEAK FRY

American Legion Post 750 will hold a public steak fry on Saturday, January 17, from 5 to 8 PM at the Post in Lowell. Costs are: grilled steak -\$15.00, baked steak - \$10.00, grilled chicken -\$10.00, and no meat - \$5.00. Dinners include meat, baked potato, salad, and a roll. For take-out orders, please call 740-896-3326. Come support your local American Legion.

"I can't do big things. But I want all I do, even the smallest thing, to be for the greater glory of God.". ~[St. Dominic Savio](#)