CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

555 S. Main Street, Johnstown, Ohio 43031 • 740-967-7871 • www.johnstownascension.org

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Bubby Eichner | 740-973-4256

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Molly & Bob Orsini | 614-446-5622

Social Committee

Daryl Wernette | 217-721-0802

St. Vincent de Paul Society

24-hour Hotline | 740-349-0989

Home School Contact

Christie Thomas | 614-937-9066 christie311@proton.me

MISSION STATEMENT

Church of the Ascension is a Catholic community in Johnstown, Ohio that keeps Christ at the center of our hearts, families, homes and parish, so we can live the truth and share it with others (John 14:6; 1 Peter 3:15).

With the help of sacred scripture, tradition, and the sacraments, we strive to know, love and serve God in this world, while encouraging others to do the same, so we may live eternally in heaven with Christ, the angels, and the saints

(Ephesians 2:4-8).

Ascension of Christ, Gebhard Fugel (c. 1893)

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 4:00 p.m. Sunday 8:30 a.m. • 11:00 a.m.

> **HOLY DAYS** Vigil 6:30 p.m.

8:00 a.m. • 7:00 p.m.

ADORATION

Tuesday 5:00-6:00 p.m. Saturday 8:30-9:30 a.m.

DAILY MASS

Monday 8:00 am Tuesday 6:30 pm Wednesday-Saturday 8:00 am

CONFESSIONS

Tuesday 5:00-6:00 p.m. Saturday 8:30-9:30 a.m.

WELCOME TO OUR FAITH COMMUNITY AT CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION. TO REGISTER IN THE PARISH, PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE AT 740-967-7871.





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AUGUST 4, 2024 • EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3

8:00 a.m. Intentions and Needs of Beau Bateson by the Kim Family 8:30 a.m. Adoration & Confessions 4:00 p.m. Deceased Members of the William &

> Helen Mooney Family by Regina Pasini

SUNDAY, AUGUST 4

8:30 a.m. Parish Family 11:00 a.m. Gordon Cromwell by the Cromwell Family

MONDAY, AUGUST 5

8:00 a.m. Joseph Dury by a friend

TUESDAY, AUGUST 6

5:00 p.m. Adoration & Confessions 6:30 p.m. Deacon Mickey Hawkins by Deacon Byron & Nancy Phillips

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7

8:00 a.m. John & Donna Lauless by Amanda Mahle

THURSDAY, AUGUST 8

8:00 a.m. Fredrick & Betty Mahle by Amanda Mahle

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9

8:00 a.m. For those suffering with heartache

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10

8:30 a.m. Camillo J. Lee
by the Kim Family
8:30 a.m. Adoration & Confession
4:00 p.m. Les Zajac
by Mike Haefs

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11

8:30 a.m. Parish Family 11:00 a.m. Cas Buzenski by Mark & Joanne Hawkins

Shepherd's Column

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is an honor to begin serving as your parish administrator this weekend. I know that we will come to know each other better over the future weeks and months, but I wanted to begin our time together by reflecting on the great gift of the Holy Eucharist.

We have just concluded a time of national focus by the American Church on the beautiful gift. That is the Blessed Sacrament. Thousands upon thousands of people participated in this Eucharistic Congress in Indiana, and millions of our brothers and sisters participated in celebrations throughout the country. More than anything, we have come to a beautiful moment of national spiritual reflection on the great gift of the Eucharist.

Last weekend, we began a break from our normal cycle of legendary readings through the Gospel of Mark. We began the sixth chapter of the Gospel of John, which focuses on the Eucharist as the source and summit of our Catholic life and our Christian identity. As we continue to delve into these beautiful mysteries in the coming weeks, I encourage you to make the Eucharist your focus during this beautiful time. I encourage you to join us for Adoration, and enter more intently and prayerfully into the celebration of the Mass. I encourage you to pray about how you receive communion, and to reflect on how you prepare yourself both before and during Mass to receive our Lord. I encourage you to go to confession, especially if you've not been there for some time. Most of all, I encourage you to continue to read, reflect, and pray on what the Eucharist personally means in your life. We will continue to grow in our love of the Eucharist, the holy church, and each other in our time together. Please know if there is anything that I can do to assist you in your continued development and love of our Lord; do not hesitate to reach out. I look forward to serving you and know of my prayers for you and our community always. May God richly bless you!

Yours in our Eucharistic Lord,

Fr. PJ Brandimarti



Dear Parishioners,

I wanted to thank you for your best wishes and many gifts for my sending-off. I also very much appreciated the parish breakfast on Sunday. Many thanks to the Social Committee for coordinating that effort. It was good to be with you all. I am settling into my new assignment as pastor of St. John Paul II Scioto Catholic Parish. My new mailing address is 514 Market Street, Portsmouth, OH 45662.

God bless,

Fr. Stephen Smith

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, August 3-4, 2024

	SATURDAY • 4:00 P.M.	SUNDAY • 8:30 A.M.	SUNDAY • 11:00 A.M.
ALTAR SERVERS:	Gary Shively	Austin Eckstein	Jack Smithhisler
	Ethan Wnek	VOLUNTEERS NEEDED	Alex Smithhisler
	Mike Keebaugh		CC Zirille
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS:	Mike Haefs – Host	Michael Robbins – Chalice	Joanne Hawkins – Host
		Jerri Burgel – Chalice	
		Mary Sheehan – Host	
LECTORS:	Theresa Shively	Adele Robbins	Kelly Bernthold
	Dennis Murnane – Angelus	Carrie Suess – Angelus	Chuck Berthold – Angelus
GREETERS/USHERS:	Jan Orkis	Mark Sheehan	Zirille Family
	Mary Ann Shaffer	Mary Sheehan	
LIVESTREAM OPERATOR:			Smithhisler Family

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, August 10-11, 2024

	SATURDAY • 4:00 P.M.	SUNDAY • 8:30 A.M.	SUNDAY • 11:00 A.M.
ALTAR SERVERS:	Isaac Dorsten	Billy Staneart	Ryan Neal
	Christian Dorsten	Claire Barb	Gabi Cervantes
	Ethan Wnek	Joey Barb	VOLUNTEER NEEDED
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS:	Shelli Writesel – Host	Rachel Barb – Chalice	Danielle Wetzel – Host
		Mary Sheehan – Chalice	
		Tom Staneart – Host	
LECTORS:	Tom Nann	Nadia Staneart	Mike Dunfee
	Barbara VanHoose – Angelus	Ali Staneart – Angelus	Volunteer Needed – Angelus
GREETERS/USHERS:	Shelli Writesel	Robbi Eichner	Lora Dunfee
	Mary Ann Shaffer	Bubby Eichner	Mike Dunfee
LIVESTREAM OPERATOR:			Misiunas Family

Your Prayers are Requested

Your prayers this week are asked for Jennifer Ankrom, Angela Taylor, baby Carmen, Sally Blubaugh, Ernie Burnam, Bob & Sylvia Freed, Rick Potter & Family, Justin King, Maxine Nann, Letha Patton, Wesley Potts, Susan Welch, Joyce Curran, Gabrielle & Shawn, Dana Caswell, Suzanne Kubin, Sharon Freitag, Di Habash, Joe Lindsay, Ivan Booth, Donna Dellapina, Cathy Mann, Peggy Hall, Terry Baesmann, John & Helen Tomich, Barbara Penhorwood, Margie Easterday, John & Neva Stover, Jared Writesel, Don Vocca, Karen Reitz, Jeff Ankrom, JoAnn Wright, Ron & Ann Mullins, Ron Gallo, and for those who have no one to pray for them.

Are you or someone in your family on active duty in the military? Please let us know and we will add the names to our Prayer Requests.

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION JOHNSTOWN, OHIO

Your Gifts to God

WEEKLY NEED \$7,115.00

430 REGISTERED FAMILIES

IULY 27/28 2024

Total Offering	\$ 5,152.00
60 Envelopes	\$ 2,445.00
Loose Cash	\$ 619.00
Online	\$ 2,088.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 10.00
SOLT	\$ 50.00

Do you return a portion of your time/skills/possessions to God in a spirit of gratitude?

Looking for an easier way to give?

Scan the QR Code below.



https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/ giving/ascensionjohnstown

This weekend is the *COLLECTION* FOR THE CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA. Please use the envelopes in your packet to support this collection.

Just a reminder the *ST. VINCENT DE PAUL COLLECTION* will take place next weekend, August 10/11. Your generous donations go to help the lessfortunate in our community during these trying times.

SOSSUPPORT OUR SEMINARIANS

The Knights of Columbus invite you to join them in their mission to Support Our Seminarians. Knights will be collecting donations in the Gathering Space this weekend, August 3/4, and on November 2/3, 2024. The money raised supports our seminarians and promotes vocations. Thank you for your help.

CHRIST, COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Join us for fellowship on Friday mornings after Mass. We will have continuous conversations on various topics on Catholicism. Any questions, please contact Carrie Suess at 302-377-1755 or carriesuess@yahoo.com.

REGISTRATION IS AVAILABLE FOR THE 2024-2025 PYC YEAR.

Please go to the parish website, johnstownascension.org to register. There will be a parent meeting on August 18 after the 11:00 a.m. Mass for those seeking to have their student Confirmed. You must be in at least 8th grade to be considered for Confirmation and have completed 7th grade PYC. If you have any questions about PYC, First Communion, or Confirmation, please email kpertee@johnstownascension.org or mnelson@johnstownascension.org.

PANERA SCHEDULE UPDATE

All time slots for Saturday and Sunday night Panera pickups are filled for 2024. The schedules are posted on the bulletin board just inside the front doors of the church. There was some overlap, so please check the schedule. Thank you for your generous response. Any questions, please call or text Diane Green at 859-380-1944. God is good all the time.

WOMEN BLESSING WOMEN

The Women of Ascension have moved the date of the ladies' tea for all women of the parish to Saturday, September 14 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Refreshments and tea will be served, as well as a time for fellowship. Special guest speaker, Darcey McCampbell of Kingdom Pillars Strong Tower, will share her mission of leading a local ministry that serves the young women of our area who are coming out of human trafficking or are at great risk. Please contact Adele Robins at 614-406-7023 or adelerobins6@gmail.com.



Let's Be Healthy Together!



TIME IS RUNNING OUT... SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY!

Stroke is the #5 cause of death and a leading cause of disability in the U.S. Often, the stroke itself is the only warning sign. On average, every minute that a stroke goes untreated 1.9 million brain cells die.

There is a simple, convenient and affordable way for you to get preventive health screenings and learn your risk for stroke, heart disease and other chronic conditions. On Monday, August 26, Life Line Screening will be at Church of the Ascension, offering painless screenings that go beyond your regular checkup to identify dangerous plaque buildup or blockage, a major risk factor for stroke and heart disease. The screenings are accurate, affordable and will give you valuable information about your health that you can share with your doctor. You can't take care of a health issue if you don't know that one exists.

This four-screening package is offered for only \$159.00 and takes 60-90 minutes to complete. Register by calling toll free 888-814-0466 or visit https://llsa.social/HSCA and receive a FREE hypertension screening. Or text the word "circle" to 216-279-1607.

NOW HIRING FOR VARIOUS POSITIONS AT ST. FRANCIS PARISH & SCHOOL

The blessing of our growing parish and school necessitates the addition of new staff members in a variety of roles including:

- K-8th Grade Music Teacher
- School Enrollment Director
- Intervention Aide
- Classroom Aide
- Substitute Teachers
- Childcare Providers
- Assistant Childcare Coordinator
- Middle School Youth Ministry Co-leader

Ideal candidates will be mission-driven, on-fire for their faith, and long to help more and more people to discover the beauty of the Catholic Church. Get details and apply by visiting www.stfrancisparish.net/hiring.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Our next RED CROSS Blood Drive will take place on Monday, September 16 from 12:00-6:00 p.m. Just as a reminder, the American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides comfort to victims of disasters; supplies about 40% of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; distributes international humanitarian aid; and supports veterans, military members and their families. The Red Cross is a nonprofit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to deliver its mission.



IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO SIGN UP!

Living a faith-filled life and raising a family in America is more challenging than ever. You strive to deepen your relationship with God, nurture a Christ-centered marriage, raise faithful children, uphold the sanctity of life, exercise your religious freedoms, and foster positive change in your community. But let's be honest ... it's getting harder every single day. It feels overwhelming — like the whole culture is arrayed against your values, leaving you powerless to make a difference.

You're not alone. A recent national survey reveals that 98.3% of weekly churchgoers are deeply distressed about America's future.

Ready to turn around the state of our union? Join other believers at the REVIVING AMERICA SUMMIT. More than 25 Christ-centered leaders reveal a five-week Roadmap for Renewing Faith, Family, Life, Liberty, and Leadership

FREE Online Summit Starting July 29. Go to www.davidbereit.com or register through our Facebook page.

Week 1: Awakening Faith

Week 2: Strengthening Family

Week 3: Protecting Life

Week 4: Advancing Liberty

Week 5: Leading Change

STATEWIDE EUCHARISTIC PILGRIMAGE TO CAREY

The Catholic Bishops of Ohio invite all the faithful to make a pilgrimage to the Basilica and National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation in Carey on Wednesday, August 14, 2024. Bishop Fernandes will be leading a Novena at Carey, starting on August 6, every night at 9:00 p.m., except for Sunday, August 11, which will be at 2:00 p.m. Find the daily Novena prayers and reflections from Bishop Earl K. Fernandes of Columbus as well as details on the pilgrimage at www.ohiocathconf. org/pilgrimage.

ST. CATHARINE PARISH IS HIRING A SECRETARY

St. Catharine of Siena Church (Columbus) is hiring a mission-oriented and highly organized Secretary to coordinate and facilitate the day-to-day operations and activities of the Parish. This position offers the flexibility and opportunity to make use of a wide variety of skills, and works hand-in-hand with the pastor in order to make disciples for Jesus Christ. For a detailed description of this position, visit www.stcatharine.com/employment or email Beth Sission at bsisson@stcatharine.com.



EARLY FALL RETREAT!

Spend time this fall enriching your relationship. Experience a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend where married couples can get away from jobs, kids, chores, and phones and focus only on each other. Make 2024 the best year of your marriage by applying today! The next weekend in the Central Ohio area is September 6-8, 2024. For more information or to apply, visit our website at WWMEcolumbus.org or contact Kim and Don Downs at 614-893-1935. Early registration is highly recommended.

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION JOHNSTOWN, OHIO

Activities for Children

Grumbling Israelites

The Israelites were grumbling to Moses and Aaron: "If only we had died by the LORD's hand in Egypt!

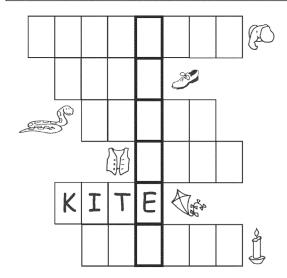
Circle) the hidden letters. STARVE



There we sat around pots of meat and ate all the food we wanted, but you have brought us out into this desert to starve."

Then the LORD said to Moses. ...

Write the name of each item. Then read the letters in the darker boxes from top to bottom, and write the word on the blank below.



"I will rain down bread from

__ _ _ _ _ _ for you. The people

are to go out each day

and gather enough for that day."

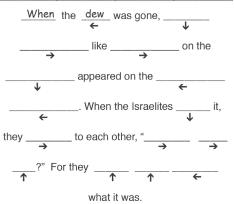




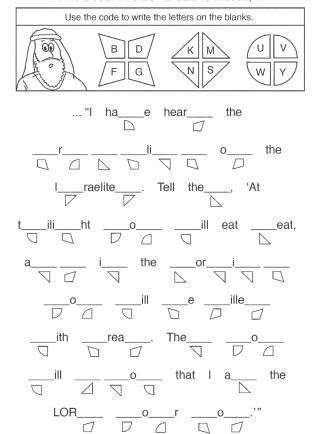
In the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp.

Follow the arrows to write the words on the blanks.

	BEGIN ↓	↑ END	
dew	When	know	not
thin	flakes	frost	did
floor	desert	ground	it
saw	said	What	is



The whole Israelite community looked toward the desert, and there was the glory of the LORD appearing in the cloud. The LORD said to Moses, ...



BREAD OF LIFE

Reflection on John 6:24-35

The Gospel of John contains a host of signs and symbols, of which many have multiple layers of meaning. Bread is one of those.

At its most basic meaning, bread is a symbol for physical sustenance. People need food to stay alive and to grow. So bread is a sign of the very life of God, and God's care for His people.

But we are also fed spiritually by God's revelation to us, by His Word, and so bread is also a sign of the divine wisdom that comes to us in God's Word. Jesus is the Living Word of God, and so He can proclaim that He is the Bread of Life. Finally, because Jesus gave us Himself in the Eucharist, this gift of His Body and Blood is the "bread that came down from heaven" that alone can feed our deepest hungers. Through our celebration of the Eucharist, we taste and see the goodness of the Lord, as the bread that was once only a symbol now becomes the Real Presence of the Lord.

We need to keep coming back to the Eucharist because we yearn to become one with God. The Eucharist is God's gift and invitation to eternal life, to encounter the one who feeds us and says, "Go and do likewise."

~ Fr. Jay



WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

Sunday, August 4, 2024

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time Ex 16:2-4, 12-15 Ps 78:3-4, 23-24, 25, 54 Eph 4:17, 20-24 Jn 6:24-35

Monday, August 5, 2024

Weekday Jer 28:1-17 Ps 119:29, 43, 79, 80, 95, 102 Mt 14:13-21

Tuesday, August 6, 2024

Transfiguration of the Lord Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9 2 Pt 1:16-19 Mk 9:2-10

Wednesday, August 7, 2024

Weekday Jer 31:1-7 Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13 Mt 15:21-28

Thursday, August 8, 2024

Saint Dominic, Priest Jer 31:31-34 Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19 Mt 16:13-23

Friday, August 9, 2024

Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross Na 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7 Dt 32:35cd-36ab, 39abcd, 41 Mt 16:24-28

Saturday, August 10, 2024

Saint Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr 2 Cor 9:6-10 Ps 112:1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9 Jn 12:24-26

> Access Daily Readings from the New American Bible, Revised Edition (NABRE) online at https://bible.usccb.org

SAINT TERESA BENEDICTA OF THE CROSS

Saint of the Day: August 9
Patron Saint of: Christian Converts

A brilliant philosopher who stopped believing in God when she was 14, Edith Stein was so captivated by reading the autobiography of Teresa of Avila that she began a spiritual journey that led to her baptism in 1922. Twelve years later she imitated Saint Teresa by becoming a Carmelite, taking the name Teresa Benedicta of the Cross.

Born into a prominent Jewish family in Breslau, Germany – now Wroclaw, Poland – Edith abandoned Judaism in her teens. As a student at the University of Göttingen, she became fascinated by phenomenology – an approach to philosophy. Excelling as a protégé of Edmund Husserl, one of the leading phenomenologists, Edith earned a doctorate in philosophy in 1916. She continued as a university teacher until 1922, when she moved to a Dominican school in Speyer; her appointment as lecturer at the Educational Institute of Munich ended under pressure from the Nazis.

After living for four years in the Cologne Carmel, Sister Teresa Benedicta moved to the Carmelite monastery in Echt, Netherlands, in 1938. The Nazis occupied that country in 1940. In retaliation for being denounced by the Dutch bishops, the Nazis arrested all Dutch Jews who had become Christians. Teresa Benedicta and her sister Rosa, also a Catholic, died in a gas chamber in Auschwitz on August 9, 1942.

Pope John Paul II beatified Teresa Benedicta of the Cross in 1987 and canonized her 12 years later.

The writings of Edith Stein fill 17 volumes, many of which have been translated into English. A woman of integrity, she followed the truth wherever it led her. Sister Josephine Koeppel, O.C.D., translator of several of Edith's books, sums up this saint with the phrase, "Learn to live at God's hands."

Read the full article: "Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross" Franciscan Media, Franciscan Friars, https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-teresa-benedicta-of-the-cross/ (Accessed July 22, 2024).





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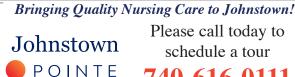
Private Parties 103 Recreation Dr. Johnstown, Ohio 43031

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Josh Fraley, General Manager 225 N. Main, Johnstown

740-967-6085



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