

MMANUEL

THE SEASON OF ADVENT + HOPE + LOVE + JOY + PEACE +

Saint John Neumann Catholic Church

9633 E. OH-37, SUNBURY, OHIO 43074 • WWW.SAINTJOHNSUNBURY.ORG • 740-965-1358 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT | DECEMBER 1, 2024

PARISH OFFICE

(740) 965-1358 E-mail email@stjohnsunbury.org

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday: 9:00 am-4:00 pm Friday: Closed Closed Monday & Wednesday: 11:00-11:30 a.m. for Daily Mass

BULLETIN DEADLINE: MONDAY AT NOON

Please send requests to kciacchi@stjohnsunbury.org.

Mass Schedule

Saturdays: 4:00 pm

Sundays: 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:00 pm

Weekdays: Tuesday & Thursday, 6:00 pm Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 11:00 am

First Saturday of the Month: 9:00 am

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Perpetual Adoration is located in the Chapel, unlocked hours are 7:00 am-7:00 pm

RECONCILIATION

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 5:15-5:45 pm First Fridays: 10:00-10:45 am Saturdays: 3:00-3:45 pm.or by appointment During the Season of Advent: 30 Minutes before Sunday Masses

BAPTISMS

Please contact Father Fox at frfox@stjohnsunbury.org.

WEDDINGS

Please call the Parish Office at least six months before the proposed wedding date.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Call the Parish Office at (740) 965-1358. If after hours, select the Emergency Line by pressing ext. 1.

Mission Statement St. John Neumann exists to lead people to a transformative encounter with Jesus Christ.

THE BELLS OF ST. JOHN NEUMANN



DECEMBER 4, 2024

10:30 AM – BLESSING OF THE BELLS

Join us for the Blessing of the Bells with Bishop Earl K. Fernandes at 10:30 am followed by a Mass of Thanksgiving at our usual 11:00 am Mass time.

When will we hear the bells? It will take about a week to program and activate the bells. We plan to begin ringing them on December 12th in celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The bell schedule will be: 9:00 am, 12:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 6:00 pm and 9:00 pm.





SIGNIFICANCE OF THE BELLS

The rite for the blessing of bells illuminates their sacramental power. Sacramentals are anything set apart or blessed by the Church for the intention of guiding us to the sacraments and sanctifying our lives. Bells lead us to the Sacrament of the Most Holy Eucharist by calling us to worship at Mass. In addition, the solemn blessing of bells indicates their role in casting away evil spirits and even protecting the faithful from deadly storms. This is a gift to God and a sacramental leading people to greater holiness.



A SEASON OF INVITATION

DECEMBER 4, 6:30 PM ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Please note, to avoid long waiting periods, we encourage you to consider attending Confession before the weekend Masses. Confessions will be heard during the Season of Advent 30 minutes before all Sunday Mass times.

DECEMBER 8 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Regular weekend Mass times. Advent is a time of preparation for Christmas and the coming of the Lord. It's also the start of the Catholic Church's liturgical year. Consider arriving 30 minutes before Sunday Mass to receive the Sacrament of Confession.

DECEMBER 9

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Mass times: 11:00 am, 6:30 pm

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is a **Holy Day of Obligation** for Catholics in the United States on Monday, December 9, 2024. This is because the feast day is moved from December 8, to Monday, December 9, as December 8 falls on the Second Sunday of Advent.

ADVENT ANTIPHON MASS ENTRANCE

This Advent at the 4:00 pm and 9:00 am Masses, we will begin by chanting the Entrance Antiphon. These weekly texts follow the themes of the Mass like the weekly readings. They are a tool to better understand the readings for that liturgy and are sung like our psalms. A cantor will sing the verses while we reflect on the theme and the lighting of the Advent wreath. Please join in the refrain printed in our hymnals by date. Come, Emmanuel!

Reduce your Ohio taxes with one click

...and help make an authentic Catholic education affordable and accessible for all!

If you do not have a student at a parochial school but would like to designate your tax dollars to support a school attended by parishioner families, here are the schools our parish families are enrolled in:

- St. Paul
- St. Michael
- St. Mary
- St. Francis de Sales (Newark)
- For high school, parishioners attend:
- Bishop Watterson
- St. Francis DeSales

Your support helps provide a Catholic education to our parish community!







The deadline for Christmas flower donations is Wednesday, December 11. You are invited to make a donation in honor or memory of a loved one. The flowers will adorn the church for the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses.

There are several ways to make a donation: 1.Use the envelope provided in your offertory packet and mail it in or place it in the collection basket.

2.Mark a plain white envelope with "Christmas Flower Donation" and place it in the collection basket.

3.Drop your donation off at the Parish Office.

The names of those honored or remembered will be listed in the Fourth Sunday of Advent bulletin. Thank you for helping beautify our church for this holy season!



Thank you, Christina Weber!

After much consideration, Christina Weber has made the difficult decision to retire from her role here at St. John Neumann to focus on her health and family. We are deeply grateful for all she has contributed to our community, and we will miss her greatly. Please keep Christina in your prayers as she transitions into this new chapter of her life.





We are also happy to announce that Kate Giddens has stepped into the role of Family of Faith Director. We look forward to the continued blessings she will bring to our parish and all those we serve.



WE ARE



JOIN OUR STAFF

- Confirmation Coordinator
- Youth Ministry Coordinator
- Maintenance Support
- Marriage and Family Life Coordinator

Visit the St. John Neumann website or scan the QR code to apply.



Family of Faith

Visit the Family of Faith website by scanning the QR code.



REMINDER, THERE IS NO MERCY COMMUNITY NIGHT IN DECEMBER .

The Month Ahead: December

- 12/3/24 SEEK A Attend Tuesday SEEK Session 4 with Child 6:30 - 7:30 PM (Pizza at 6:15 PM)
- 12/8/24 MEND A Attend Sunday MEND Session 4 with Child 10:30 – 11:30 AM
- 12/10/24 MEND B Attend Tuesday MEND Session 4 with Child 6:30 - 7:30 PM (pizza at 6:15 PM)

LIFE GROUPS at St. John Neumann

Life Groups are invitations to a relationship with God through friendship with others.



These small communities do life together intentionally with the common goal of friendship with Christ. Mark 4:30-32

saintjohnsunbury.org/life-group



ESOURCE CHRISTMAS PARTY

≝SU∧∕∖I† CHRISTMAS PARTY

Join us Sunday, December 8 3:30-4:45 pm Join us Sunday, December 8 6:00-8:00 pm

For any questions, please contact Kate Giddens, at kgiddens@stjohnsunbury.org

SJN OUTREACH



CHRISTMAS ANGELS

The Annual Christmas Angel Project, sponsored by the Good Samaritan Ministry, offers our parishioners a meaningful way to support families and individuals in need during the holiday season. This is a wonderful opportunity for our parish family to lend a helping hand.

Becoming a Christmas Angel

If you would like to become a "Christmas Angel" and provide gift cards, please fill out the form titled "I Want to be a Christmas Angel," available now in the walkway. Once completed, place it in the envelope provided and drop it in the white drop box outside the Parish Office.

All gift cards must be submitted by December 3, 2024, so we can ensure timely delivery to the individuals and families.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to:

- Jacci Asbury: 614-395-6735 or Jacciasbury@gmail.com
- Linda Stoverock: 614-306-4612 or lstoverock@gmail.com

Thank you for your generosity and support!

BIG WALNUT FRIENDS WHO SHARE



Because of your generous support of Outreach, **Good Samaritan Ministry** Grants were awarded to **Big Walnut Friends Who Share** to help fund the rental of their facility, and to Damascus Missionaries and parishioners **Jack and Olivia Parker** to support their efforts in fostering transformative encounters with Jesus.

As we prepare for the winter months, we ask for your continued support in stocking the shelves at the BWFWS Food Pantry. Thank you for your generosity!

Most-needed items include:

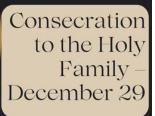
- Canned meat (chicken, pork, chili, beef stew)
- Pancake mix & syrup
- Canned potatoes & carrots
- Pasta sauce & all types of pasta
- Canned oranges & pineapple
- Soups
- Peanut butter (18 & 24 oz) & jelly
- Cake & brownie mixes

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: HUGS (HANDS UNITING GOD'S SPIRIT)

Since 2010, the Prayer Shawl Ministry, HUGS, has been a source of comfort and healing, distributing over 849 blessed prayer shawls and blankets. These handcrafted items, made with love and prayer by dedicated volunteers, offer solace and peace during times of illness, loss, surgery, or other challenges. Each shawl or lap blanket is a tangible "HUG" from God, providing hope and comfort when it's needed most. If you or someone you know could benefit from a "HUG" from God,

please join us in the Hall of Saints Walkway after Mass on December 7 & 8 to select a shawl or lap blanket. For more information, please contact Rebecca at 740-972-8920 or REBPRITCHARD2@GMAIL.COM. We also provide free yarn, knitting needles, and crochet hooks for those interested in joining our ministry.





SUPPORT THE MAGNIFY THE LORD CAMPAIGN: HELP US BRING THE SACRED HEART STATUE TO OUR PARISH

Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus are pleased to once again host the Consecration to the Holy Family this year, continuing this meaningful tradition. In preparation, we will be distributing prayer cards and brochures before Christmas to help guide parishioners in their spiritual preparation for the Consecration.

The Consecration will culminate with the final prayer at the conclusion of the 11:00 am Mass on Sunday, December 29, coinciding with the Feast of the Holy Family.

We invite you to join us in this special devotion as we dedicate our families to the care and protection of the Holy Family.



If you would like to contribute, please visit saintjohnsunbury.org/give or scan the QR code.



Please consider contributing to the Magnify the Lord Campaign. Your generosity will help us acquire a statue of the Sacred Heart.

We encourage you to donate directly to the campaign.

No gift is too small (or too large)! Thank you for your support!



THE MISSION OF THE 72

Reconnect with Your Loved Ones This Advent!

Do you dream of sharing eternity in heaven with your family? How can that happen if they aren't attending Mass?

Consider This:

- How can I love God if my son, daughter, brother, or sister doesn't share that love?
- Shouldn't I be a keeper of my family's faith?
- How can I truly worship God when my loved ones aren't by my side at Mass?

Would you like to reach out and invite your family members back to God's Church, but aren't sure how? Are you hesitant to take that step, worried you might alienate them, or have you tried before without success? This Advent and Christmas season, take the opportunity to reconnect with family members who may be away from the Church. Imagine the priceless gift of guiding them back to faith and the path to salvation.

To start your journey, visit the St. John Neumann website and look under the Mission of the Seventy-Two. Let Deacon Carl know you're interested in becoming a disciple.





"Keep Christ in Christmas" Magnet Sale

The Knights of Columbus will be selling "Keep Christ in Christmas" magnets for \$5.00. Sales will take place after weekend Masses on December 7th & 8th.

These beautiful magnets make a perfect addition to your car or refrigerator, and every purchase supports the Knights' charitable initiatives.





Winter Session Registration is NOW OPEN! Don't miss out - there are limited spots available, so sign up today!

The six-week session will take place on Thursday nights at 6:30 pm, starting on January 16th, and will culminate in a final retreat on Saturday, February 22nd.

Registration by visiting, saintjohnsunbury.org or scan the QR code





Have Questions about the Church?

Many in our parish-spouses, adult children, and relativesjoin us in worship but have not yet been fully initiated into the **Church. Others are Catholics** seeking to deepen their faith beyond their younger years.

On Sunday afternoons, we gather to discuss various topics related to our faith and provide resources to help you make a decision for Christ and the Church. Check our online schedule and join us for an upcoming meeting; we would love to welcome you!







CONTACT

AUL STOKELL, EVANGELIZATION DIRECTOR AT PSTOKELL@SAINTJOHNSUNBURY.ORG



DISCIPLESHIP RETREAT

Saturday, December 7th from 9:00 am-noon (beginning with Mass at 9:00)

Come and Be Filled up!

Join us for a morning of renewal and inspiration.

Are you a leader in our parish, community, or household? Do you facilitate a Life Group or serve on a ministry team? Are you involved in our parish music ministry or council?

If you're feeling drained—leading or parenting from an empty cup-this gathering is for you.

Come and be filled with the grace of Jesus, who will empower you to lead others with purpose and joy. Let's come together to be enriched and revitalized!

REGISTRATION

Please note registration will be capped at 200! Childcare will be available.

Visit saintjohnsunbury.org to register or scan the QR code.

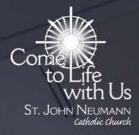




QUESTIONS?

If you need help registering or if you have any questions, please contact Kate Giddens at Kgiddens@stjohnsunbury.org.



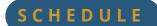


SAINT JOHN NEUMANN

WE BELONG TOGETHER.

God wants us at Mass. That includes our neighbors and friends, and those who are new to us.

Pray for those who are not there. Come back during the week.



Sunday, December 1 Blessed Sacrament Reposed Keep Christ in Christmas Magnet Sale Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit First Sunday of Advent 8:30 am Confessions 9:00 am Mass (Paul DiBlasi †) 10:30 am Confessions 11:00 am Mass (Chuck Westerviller †) 12:15 pm OCI - FFC Room C Sign Language Class - Parish Office Rooms 4&5 4:30 pm Confessions 5:00 pm Mass (People of the Parish)

Monday, December 2 10:00 am Donut Meeting 10:30 am Rosary 11:00 am Mass (M. Dru Lehmann †) 6:00 pm Women of SJN Christmas Dinner- FFC

Tuesday, December 3 9:45 am Mommy & Me - FFC Nursery 5:15 pm Confessions 5:30 pm Rosary 6:00 pm Mass (Rick Shumaker †) 6:30 pm SEEK A - FFC

Wednesday, December 4 10:30 am Blessing of the Bells 11:00 am Mass (Carl & Clara Grothe ††) 6:30 pm Advent Reconciliation Service

Thursday, December 5 5:15 pm Confessions 5:30 pm Rosary 6:00 pm Mass (Rodney Cole †)

Friday, December 6 10:00 am Confessions 10:30 am Rosary 11:00 am Mass (Italo Santilli †)

Saturday, December 7 Keep Christ in Christmas Magnet Sale HUGS Prayer Shawl Distribution SCRIP

Bountiful Backpacks Snack Drive 9:00 am Mass (Broneslava Bogushevski †) Discipleship Retreat 3:00 pm Confessions 4:00 pm Mass (Mickey Geslak, Sr. †)

Sunday, December 8 Keep Christ in Christmas Magnet Sale **HUGS Prayer Shawl Distribution** Second Sunday of Advent SCRIP **Bountiful Backpacks Snack Drive** 8:30 am Confessions 9:00 am Mass (Bob Breen †) 10:30 am Confessions MEND A - FFC Room B 11:00 am Mass (Daniel Miller †) 12:15 pm OCI - FFC Room C 3:30 pm The Source Middle School YG - FFC 4:30 pm Confessions 5:00 pm Mass (People of the Parish) 6:00 pm The Summit Youth Group HS -Youth Room and Chapel





Nursery Help Needed

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Are you passionate about faith and family? Do you enjoy working with children ages 6 months and older?

Our Nursery is seeking enthusiastic individuals to join our team and help with Mass times and special events as they resume.

To be considered, candidates must be at least 18 years old and either have completed or be willing to complete the Protecting God's Children program and have a background check on file with the Columbus Diocese.

Nursery staff typically work 3-4 shifts of 2 hours each per month. Responsibilities include light cleaning and sanitization, lifting children, changing diapers, and assisting with toileting as needed. We play a crucial role in providing families with a much-needed hour of prayer each week.

If you have a heart for children and want to support this important ministry, please contact Jennifer Porter at childcare@stjohnsunbury.org.

CONDOLENCES

We offer our condolences to, and our prayers for, the Stokell and Vielhaber families. Joseph Lorenzo Bailey Stokell, father of SJN staff team member Paul Stokell, passed away November 19th. Edward Vielhaber, brother of parishioner Larry Vielhaber, passed away November 14th. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

OFFERTORY

Thank you for supporting St. John Neumann's mission. Your generosity is vital to the success of our community. To donate online, please scan the QR code below. We truly appreciate your continued contributions. The offertory for November 24, 2024 was \$57,623. Thank you for your ongoing commitment!





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