

### The Marion Catholic Community











### **JANUARY 2, 2022**

7428 St. Rt. 119 •
Maria Stein, OH 45860
www.marioncatholiccommunity.org

Phone: 419-925-4775 Office Hours: 9:00am-5:00pm (M-F)

### **MASS SCHEDULE**

### **WEEKDAYS**

St. Sebastian	5:30pm—Monday
St. Rose	7:15am—Tuesday
Precious Blood	7:15am—Wednesday
Nativity	7:15am—Thursday
	7:15am—Friday
	•

### **SATURDAY MASS**

St. John	.5:00pm
St. Rose	.7:30pm

### SUNDAY MASS

SUNDAY MASS	
Nativity	8:30am
Precious Blood	
St. John	
St. Sebastian	11:00am
<b>HOLY DAYS</b> Check bu	illetin for schedule

### **BAPTISM SCHEDULE:**

Nativity—1st Sunday at 12:15pm St. Sebastian—1st Sunday at 12:15pm St. Rose—2nd Sunday at 12:15pm Precious Blood—3rd Sunday at 12:15pm St. John—last Sunday after the 10:30am Mass at 11:45am

PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE TO SCHEDULE BAPTISM. 419-925-4775

**EUCHARISTIC ADORATION:** will be at St. Sebastian Mondays, beginning at 8am.

**RCIA:** For information or with questions, contact Carolyn Stucke at 419-268-8314.

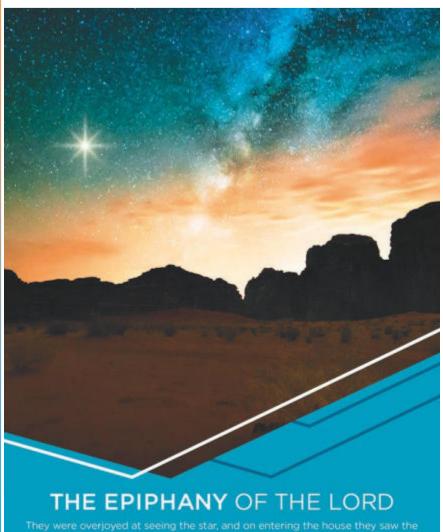
**WEDDINGS:** Notify Pastor six months prior to the wedding.

**CONFESSIONS:** are Saturday afternoon from 3 to 4pm at Precious Blood, after the 5:30pm Monday Mass at St. Sebastian, (except the 3rd Monday) and after daily morning Mass, at each parish.

### THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

### MISSION STATEMENT

The members of the Marion Catholic Community, given life through the Holy Spirit in Baptism, are called together as a community of faith to praise and worship God our Creator and to proclaim in word and deed the Gospel message of Jesus Christ. As members of the Body of Christ we strive to serve all to provide an atmosphere of hospitality which enables all to respond fully to the life-long challenge "to do right and to love goodness, and to walk humbly with your God." *Micah* 6:8



They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage.

Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold.

consists from the Lectionary for Hass 1/2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.



### **Pastor**

Rev. Matthew Jozefiak, C.PP.S. email:

<u>matthewjozefiak@hotmail.com</u> Pastor's Residence .... 419-925-2030

### Parochial Vicar

Rev. Kenneth Alt, C.PP.S. email: altkg5178@gmail.com

### Deacons

Steve Broering

email: stevnan7@frontier.com

Clif Perryman

email: deaconclif@gmail.com

### Parish Life Coordinator

Sharon Kremer

email: marioncathcom@gmail.com

### **Administrative Assistants**

Joan Heitkamp

email: <u>irheitkamp@gmail.com</u>

Sue Roeckner

email: sroeckner@hotmail.com

### Youth Minister

Chris Wibbenmeyer - <u>cwibbenmeyer</u> <u>@marioncatholiccommunity.org</u> 567-279-1430

### **RCIA**

Carolyn Stucke 419-268-8314

### Counseling

Robert Skipper, M.Div., LPCC, LICDC

937-299-9005 / 800-521-6419

### **Call for Prayer Contacts**

**Nativity BVM** 

Phyllis Thobe 419-852-5544

### **Precious Blood**

Carolyn Homan 419-852-1083

### St. John

Mary Eyink 419-733-0743 Shelly Bruns 419-305-8940

### St. Rose

Irene Bruns 419-925-4712

### St. Sebastian

Ruth Bruns 419-268-1948 Bertie Bruns 419-925-4679

### **BULLETIN DEADLINE**

Announcements **must** be submitted **in writing** by 9am on Monday of the week's bulletin. Changes to this schedule, due to holidays, will be indicated in the bulletin in the form of an announcement.

### **WORSHIP & SPIRITUAL LIFE**

### LITURGY OF THE WEEK

### **MONDAY, JANUARY 3**

5:30pm—Mass at St. Sebastian..... †David Moeller

### **TUESDAY, JANUARY 4**

7:15am—Mass at St. Rose ...... †Anthony Homan

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5

7:15am—Mass at Precious Blood .. †Aloys & †Cecilia Eyink

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 6

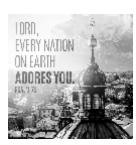
7:15am—Mass at Nativity ...... †Margie Griesdorn—Birthday

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 7

### **SATURDAY, JANUARY 8**

### **SUNDAY, JANUARY 9**

Anniversary



**NOTE:** The 5pm Mass on Saturday and 9am Mass on Sunday will be live-streamed.

### Readings for the week of January 2, 2022

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf.11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52

Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/Lk 4:14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b/Jn 3:22-30

Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-

16 21-22

or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

### **STEWARDSHIP**

### **CLUSTER PARISH POSITIONS**

### **NATIVITY BVM**

### ST. ROSE

Parish Council	
President	Randy Otte
Business Manager	Sue Fortkamp
	Tess Mescher
	.dtkka@reagan.com
Music Director	Katie Hartings
	Ron Stucke
	Ryan Schmackers
	. Carol Hemmelgarn
	419-925-4667

~ 1111	ODE
Parish Council	
President	Cory Ahrens
Business Manager	
CRE	
<u>c_har</u>	tings@yahoo.com
Music Director	Katie Hartings
Maintenance	
Maintenance	
Basement Rental	Kathy Buening
	419-925-4710

### PRECIOUS BLOOD

### ST. SEBASTIAN

Parish Council	
President	Kyle Huelsman
<b>Business Manager</b>	Sue Roeckner
	Missy Moeller
<u>mis</u>	s.moe@hotmail.com
Music Director	Marian Heitbrink
	Adam Kremer
Groundskeeper	.Rick "Buck" Bruns
Basement Rental	Joann Liette
	567-644-2354

Parish Council	
President	Jesse Rose
Business Manager.	Sue Roeckner
CRE	Judy Forsthoefel
jforstho	efel@hotmail.com
Music Director	Doris Wilker
Maintenance	Kyle Koesters
Maintenance	Tom Wilker
Basement Rental	Jenny Brunswick
	419-733-3663

### ST. JOHN

$\star$ .	
They were	
overjoyed at	
seeing the star.	1000
Matthew 2:10	

### **PRAY WITH US FROM HOME**

Weekday Masses Livestreamed: Wednesday 7:15am—Precious Blood

Friday 7:15am—St. John the Baptist

Weekend Masses Livestreamed: Saturday 5:00pm—St. John the Baptist

Sunday 9:00am—Precious Blood

Website: www.marioncatholiccommunity.org

Click on the Live Stream tab in the menu bar

MyParish App: Click on the Live Stream button

Facebook: Marion Catholic Community YouTube: Marion Catholic Community Roku: Marion Catholic Community

Channel is only live when we are streaming

### DECEMBER 19TH COLLECTION TOTALS

NATIVITY BV	M
16 Adult Envelopes	\$720.00
Loose Cash	
Christmas	
Immaculate Conception	
Flower Fund	
Retired Religious	
Candle Offerings	\$00.00
Total	•
PRECIOUS BLO	OD
37 Adult Envelopes	\$1,934.00
Loose Cash	\$100.00
Immaculate Conception	\$100.00
Christmas	\$175.00
Fuel	
Flower Fund	
Solemnity of Mary	
Retirement for Religious	\$100.00
Candle Offerings	ΦΛΕΛ1
Candle Offerings Total	\$43.41
ı otal	\$2,654.41
ST. JOHN	
89 Adult Envelopes	\$3,112.00
Loose Cash	
Maintenance	
Retired Religious	
Christmas	
Fuel Offerings	
Flower Fund	
Campaign for Human D	
Solemnity of Mary	
CCD Donation	
Immaculate Conception	\$20.00
Total	\$5,039.00
ST. ROSE	
32 Adult Envelopes	\$1,060.00
Loose Cash	•
Christmas	
Retired Religious	\$20.00
Maintenance	\$20.00
Candle Offerings	\$38.00
Candle Offerings Total	<u>φ30.00</u>
ST. SEBASTIA	
12 Adult Envelopes	
Loose	
Christmas	
Candle Offerings	
Total	.\$1,493.50
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### **THANK YOU!**

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### THE MARION CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

### ST. SEBASTIAN MINISTRIES

Sun. Jan. 9, 11:00amLydia Kuess, Natalie Kuess	Sun.	Jan. 9	, 11	1:00am	Lyd	ia l	Kuess,	Natalie	Kuess	
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### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Mon. Jan. 3, 5:30pm ......Fr. Matt, Fr. Ken 

### LECTOR AND COMMENTATOR

### **OFFERTORY**

Sun. Jan. 9, 11:00am .......Randy and Karen Kuess Family

### ROSARY

Sun. Jan. 9, 11:00am ...... Dennis and Elaine Bruns

### ST. ROSE MINISTRIES

### **SERVERS**

Sat. Jan. 8, 7:30pm ...... Brayden Mescher, Kyle Ungruhn

### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Tues. Jan. 4, 7:15am.....Fr. Matt, Fr. Ken Sat. Jan. 8, 7:30pm ...... Sarah Meier

### LECTOR AND COMMENTATOR

Tues. Jan. 4, 7:15am......Janie Luebke Sat. Jan. 8, 7:30pm ...... Treva Fortkamp

**USHERS** 

**OFFERTORY** 

### PRECIOUS BLOOD MINISTRIES

### **SERVERS**

Sun. Jan. 9, 9:00am ...... Evelyn Bills, Kalyn Thobe

### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Wed. Jan. 5, 7:15am ...... Fr. Matt, Fr. Ken, Karen Hoying

COMMUNION TO THE SHUT IN'S ......Lori Kemper 567-644-9644

### LECTORS AND COMMENTATOR

### **OFFERTORY**

Sun. Jan. 9, 9:00am ......Tom and Kathy Huelsman

### ROSARY LEADERS

Sun. Jan. 9, 9:00am .....Ladies Sodality

### NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY MINISTRIES

### **SERVERS**

### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Thurs. Jan. 6, 7:15am ......Fr. Matt, Fr. Ken

Sun. Jan. 9, 8:30am ...... Allison Dirksen

### LECTORS AND COMMENTATOR

Thurs. Jan. 6, 7:15am ......Bob Dippold

### **USHERS**

**OFFERTORY** 

Sun. Jan. 9, 8:30am ...... Tom and Carol Hemmelgarn Family

### ST. JOHN MINISTRIES

Sat. Jan. 8	3, 5:00pm	Max Ranly, I	Mason Utrup
	9, 10:30am		

### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Fri.	Jan.	7,	7:15am	F	r.	Matt,	Fr. 1	Ken	
~ .	•	^	<b>7</b> 00	•			~ .		

Sat. Jan. 8, 5:00pm ...... Lindsay Schroeder, Karen Tangeman, Linda Thobe
Sun. Jan. 9, 10:30am ...... Derek Ruhenkamp, Drew Ruhenkamp, Lauren Ruhenkamp

### LECTORS AND COMMENTATOR

Fri. Jan. 7, 7:15am	Cindy Moeder
Sat. Jan. 8, 5:00pm	Kevin Partington—Commentator, Alex Knapke—Lector
Sun. Jan. 9, 10:30am	Sarah Bergman—Commentator, Jenny Jones—Lector

### **USHERS**

### **OFFERTORY**

Sat. Jan. 8, 5:00pm ...... Brian and Brenda Kremer Family Sun. Jan. 9, 10:30am ...... Doug and Deb Ruhenkamp Family

### **ROSARY LEADERS**

### **CHILD CARE**

Sun. Jan. 9, 10:30am ...... Sarah Timmerman and Lynn Wolters

### **COMMUNION TO THE SHUT-IN'S**

### **CLUSTER NEWS**

<u>PARISH OFFICE CLOSED</u>—the parish office will be closed from 12noon to 3pm on January 4th.

<u>MINISTRY SCHEDULE</u>—If you want to be added or removed from the ministry schedule, please contact the parish office by January 10th at 419-925-4775 or email <u>marioncathcom@gmail.com</u>.

### NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN ROSARY MINISTRY-

Nativity parish is beginning a rosary ministry. This consists of leading the rosary before the weekend mass at our parish. This can be done by an individual, couple or a family. If you are interested in helping with this very important ministry, please call or text Katie Dippold at 419-305-0212.

NATIVITY LADIES SODALITY—Please mark your calendars for the Nativity Ladies Sodality Winter Party on Sunday, January 23rd from 3-7pm at the CFL Hall. Come join us to create a personalized wooden sign and enjoy delicious food and fellowship! Please RSVP and pick out your sign on the Cassella Nativity Ladies Sodality Facebook Page!

<u>KENTUCKY</u>—There will be a second collection the weekend of January 8 and 9. This collection is to help those in need and the Church that has been severely affected by the recent tornados that have devastated many especially in our neighboring dioceses in Kentucky. The funds will be used to support emergency needs such as water, food, shelter, medical care and other humanitarian needs.

### WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Abigail Fleck, daughter of Dale and Linda, and Aaron Homan, son of Timothy and Joan, united in marriage, January 1st.

NO CCD—There are no CCD classes in the cluster on Wednesday, January 5th. Classes will resume January 12th.

ROSARY AT PRECIOUS
BLOOD—is scheduled for
Wednesday, January 12th. The
rosary will start at 7:30pm.
Everyone is welcome.

**BAPTISMAL CLASS**—There will be a baptismal class on Monday, February 7 at 7pm at St. Rose basement. Please call the parish office to register for the class at 419-925-4775.

### **CLUSTER NEWS**

THANK YOU—The Doug Heitkamp family would like to thank everyone who helped with the funeral. Thank you to the Bereavement members of St. John who came to our homes, to Fr. Ken for celebrating the Mass, Marian Heitbrink and the Resurrection Choir for the beautiful music, and everyone else who participated in the liturgy. It was a wonderful tribute to Doug. We also want to thank Angie Homan and all who helped with the delicious lunch. Also thank you to all friends, neighbors, and members of the community who brought food to our homes and to the hall, sent cards, visited us in person at our homes and made phone calls to offer comfort and support. May God Bless all of you abundantly. Denise and Pat Heitkamp families.

**SUPPORT GRIEFSHARE GROUP**—The Marion Catholic Community will be offering Grief-Share Sessions to the local communities. The program consists of 13 weekly DVD sessions for people grieving the loss of someone close. It's a place where you can be around people who understand how you are feeling and are able to offer you encouragement. The DVD seminars are combined with support group discussion of the material presented during the DVD. The sessions will be held in the Precious Blood Church Basement, 35 S. Maple St., Chickasaw, every Tuesday, January 4th through March 29th from 7pm to 8:30pm. All materials are donated by Hogenkamp Funeral Homes. For more information or to register, con-Herb Wilker by email hiwilker@mercy.com or by phone at 419-953-5398.

"TREASURES OF THE ARCH-DIOCESE"—at a cost of \$30, there are also some "Seeking the Lord" available for \$15. They can be picked up at the parish office.

### FR. MATT'S LETTER

On Monday, December 20th, I got up just before dawn, took Jackie out to do her duty. The stars were visible in the cloud free sky. The sun has not yet risen, but I could see its dim light on the eastern horizon. Little by little the stars began to disappear. There was only one remaining to see and it was the Sun.

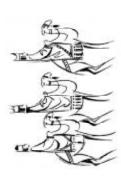
Something like this happens in today's Gospel. Wise Men, also called Magi or astrologers or The Three Kings come from the east because they have seen a "star." We don't know exactly what the star refers to. The Chicago Planetarium once had an exhibit titled "The Star of Bethlehem." They reconstructed the heavens around the time of Jesus' birth and speculated that the star may have referred to a comet, some configuration of planets or perhaps the Morning Star (Venus) itself. Whatever it was, the star led to Jesus. But when the Magi found Jesus, things changed. Jesus was like the sun rising at dawn. The Wise Men no longer need stars and planets. They now had the bright, lifegiving sun.

Today's Gospel tells what happened when the Magi Kings met Jesus. They gave him their greatest gifts. Gold represents wealth and power. Frankincense represented that this baby was divine. Myrrh was a burial spice and meant that this baby, this Divine King was born to die, die for our sins. The Magi placed all this at Jesus' feet. Then they returned to their land, not guided by stars but more directly by God. They had looked upon the sun and they knew that the stars, beautiful as they are, are dim by comparison.

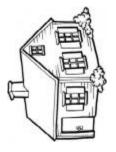
NATIVITY RAFFLE PRIZES—are being requested for the Annual Nativity Mission Lenten Raffle benefitting sponsored children in Haiti; Brother Jason's Ministry; SON Ministries. Prizes vary from monetary, wood crafted, gift cards, jewelry, tools, decorations, crafting kits, Easter baskets, etc. Please contact Tess at 419-305-0106 by February 14th, if you are interested in donating a prize.

SON MINISTRIES JANUARY 2022 BLAKELEY, GA MISSION TRIP—Mark your calendar for the Martin Luther King weekend of January 13 - 17. Br. Jason Muhlenkamp has a long list of needed building projects for us to tackle. We can't do it without the help of the able bodied members of the Marion Catholic Community. Please contact Dcn. Clif Perryman to join the crew by phone or text (419-377-7893) or email at deaconclif@gmail.com.

VIGIL OF THE TWO HEARTS—will be at St Sebastian Church on Friday, January 7th and Saturday, January 8th. Confessions with Fr. David Zink will start at 6:45pm along with the Rosary. At 8pm, Fr. David Zink will offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. An all-night vigil will follow with Rosary and prayers in reparation for our sins and those of the whole world. At 6:30am, Deacon Steve Broering will Process the Blessed Sacrament followed by prayers and Benediction. All are welcome to attend part or all of the Vigil. Make a New Years resolution that you will put God first in your life this year.



# **Epiphany Chalk Home Blessing**



On Epiphany you can bless your home. You can make this as simple or as intricate as you like; include (liturgical) greeting (eg. "The Lord be with you..."), song or carol, holy water (sprinkling door, each room), reading (eg. Epiphany Gospel, start of John's Gospel), more prayers, Lord's Prayer, incense, and assigning parts to different members of the household.

"Chalking the door" or the door step may be used as a way to celebrate and literally "mark" the occasion. In the Old Testament, the Israelites were told to mark their doors with the blood of the lamb on the night of the Passover to ensure that the angel of death would pass them by. Deuteronomy 6: 9 says that we shall "write [the words of God] on your heart; and you shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, ... and you shall write them on the door posts of your house and on your gates."

Chalk is made of the substance of the earth and is used by teachers to instruct and by children to play. As the image of the chalk fades, we will remember the sign we have made and transfer it to our hearts and our hab-

## CEREMONY/BLESSING:

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

. Who has made heaven and earth.

Take (blessed) chalk and mark on the lintel of your front door: 20+G+M+B+22 saying:

The three Wise Men,

G Gaspar,

M Melchior,

B and Balthasar followed the star of God's Son who became human two thousand and twenty years ago.

++ May Christ bless our home

++ and remain with us throughout the new year. Amen.

Let us pray: May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us; and may we seek and serve, in everyone we meet, that same Jesus who is your incarnate Word, now and forever. Amen.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Christ, God's incarnation, is present in the love and care we manifest to each other in our ordinary daily lives together. Amen.

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

### **MYM CALENDAR**

MYM Christmas Party Middle School & High School

Sunday, January 2nd 6:30-8:30pm St. Aloysius Youth Room

It's once again time to pass the junk! Please bring a new item that has little or no value to you or anyone in your household.

### **High School D-Group**

Sunday, January 9th 7:00-8:30 St. Aloysius Youth Room

Middle School Youth Night

Sunday, January 16th 6:30-8:30 St. Aloysius Youth Room

### SMALL GROUP LEADERS NEEDED

A Small Group Leader leads and forms the spiritual lives of a small group of teens within youth ministry. You are responsible for being a light of Christ to them and a source of strength, encouragement and prayer.

Our new groups will meet on a weekly or bi-weekly basis to break open scripture, pray, fellowship, and work through the week's content.

If you would like to learn more about this opportunity, please contact Chris Wibbenmeyer at cwibbenmey-

er@marioncatholiccommunity.org or 567- 279-1430.

All small group leaders will be mentored so no experience in leading small groups is needed. You must have a love for the Catholic faith.

### **CLUSTER NEWS**

### **YOUTH MINISTRY**

Instagram: marionyouthministries Facebook: Marion Youth Ministries



The youth conference consists of dynamic speakers, Mass, adoration, reconciliation and much more. If you are currently a 8th-12th grader, you are able to attend this summer.

For more information or to sign up, please visit: www.marioncatholiccommunity.org/steubenville.html

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS JANUARY 14, 2022** 

### **HIGH SCHOOL MYM**

EXPERIENCING GOD IN PRAYER

All are invited to join us starting January 9th as we learn to experience God in prayer

Sunday, January 9th

Encountering God: The Heart of Prayer

Sunday, January 20th

**Experiencing God: Vocal Prayer** 

Sunday, February 6th

Letting God Speak: Meditation & Contemplation

Sunday, February 20th

**Experiencing God: Meditating with Scripture** 

Sunday, March 13th

Needing God: Petition & Intercession

Sunday, March 20th

The Struggle: Overcoming Obstacles to Prayer



### **CLUSTER NEWS**

**POWER HOUR OF PRAYER**—Everyone is welcome to join in a Power Hour of Prayer and Adoration every Thursday night starting in January, 7pm to 8pm at St. Rose Church. The night will include prayers, music and private adoration. You may come and go as you please for all or a portion of the hour. Let's join together to pray for the needs of our country as well as our own personal intention. Also, if school is canceled Power Hour will be canceled.

CALLING ALL WOMEN WHO SOMETIMES FEEL OVER-WHELMED—Does your life feel overwhelming? Do you sometimes feel like you're facing the craziness alone? Welcome will change that! Welcome is an incredible experience which will help you make sense of life, help you develop lasting friendships with other women in the community, and fill you with newfound energy and purpose. Welcome will be held February 19th & 20th, at Precious Blood Church. All women 18 and over are invited to Welcome Weekend. To RSVP, text or call Joan Heitkamp at 567-644-3261.

<u>WELCOMING COMMITTEE</u>—we are looking for people interested in welcoming new people/families to our community. This would involve keeping the parish's and community information current. Mike Broering has volunteered to head up the committee. Please contact Mike at 419-925-4812 if you're willing to be of help.

<u>C.A.L.L. FOOD PANTRY</u>—is accepting donations of non-perishable food items and toiletries. Also, baby food and diapers are needed. There are barrels for donations in the entrances of all of our churches.

### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

2022 MARION COMMUNITY BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL SIGNUP—Sign up for the Marion Community Baseball and Softball programs (for boys currently in grades K-8 and girls currently in grades 1-8 living in or attending the Marion Local school district), will be open Please through January 31st. visit www.marioncommunitybaseball.com to sign up. There will be a \$25 additional charge for sign-ups after January 31st. On this website, students and adults will have the opportunity to sign up to play baseball or softball, umpire baseball or softball (\$30 per game for home plate and \$15 for bases, high school students or older preferred for Little League level games), become a committee member, be a coach and other volunteer opportunities involved with the program. More committee members are needed. Baseball players will be required to provide their own helmets starting this year. Please go to the website to get more details. Please contact marioncommunitybaseball@gmail.com, if you have questions.

MARION AG BOOSTERS PRESENT—Jordan Hoewischer, Director Water Quality & Research, Ohio Farm Bureau. Looking to learn about carbon credits and how to use them in your agricultural business? This will be held on Monday, January 10th at 7pm at CFL Hall, Maria Stein. Questions, call Matt Elsass at 419-925-4597 extension 2306.

### SHRINE, SPIRITUAL CENTER, AND AREA CHURCH NEWS

ANNUAL **NATIVITIES DISPLAY**—is now through January 9th during normal Shrine hours. This collection, donated by Tim and Katheleen Nealeigh, will feature over seventy-five nativities from around the world. It is a reminder of how the story of Christ has united people from across cultures over the years and of the peace that came to earth by the birth of Jesus. All families are invited to the Shrine to experience annual celebration Christmas. Open to the Public!

### **SYNODALITY**—Sounds

strange, doesn't it? Yet this is what the Holy Father has called. In its simplest form, synodality represents a collaborative approach by all the people of God to address a particular issue for which the Holy Father seeks input. For this synod, he wants to hear from everyone on how the whole Church (not only the bishops and priests) can journey together in bringing the gospel message to the world. To address this "synodal" approach, he has called for all dioceses in the world hold local consultative meetings to discuss this topic. The first meeting is scheduled for January 18th at the St. Charles Center (Gasper Room) from 7pm to 9pm for the St. Marys Deanery. Please prayerfully consider participating in your local deanery meeting.

### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

**COUNTY ESC** MERCER PRESCHOOL PROGRAM will be accepting applications for typical children through January After 31st. the January 31st application deadline, a lottery will be conducted to fill openings. Tuition is \$180 per month. (Children currently enrolled as a typical in the 2021-22 school year MUST submit an application to be automatically enrolled for the 2022-2023 school year.) Visit the Mercer County ESC webpage to find the application and additional information. Anv further questions, call the ESC at

REDISCOVER YOUR MARRIAGE—Retrouvaille

419-586-6628.

(pronounced retro-vi with a long i) simply means "rediscovery". The program offers the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse, and a loving relationship in your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending. Retrouvaille is not a spiritual retreat, not a sensitivity group, not a seminar, not a social gathering. For confidential information about or to register for the January program beginning with a weekend on January 7, 8, and 9th, call 513-486-6222 or visit the website at www.HelpOurMarriage.com.

FREE THROW SHOOTING CONTEST—The Knights of Columbus Council 2158 will be holding the Free throw shooting contest for boys and girls, ages 9 to 14, on Sunday, January 9th, at the Minster Elementary school. There will be 5 boys and 5 girls divisions. Doors open at 5:30pm for registration and shooting will begin at 6pm. All are welcome. The snow date is January 23rd if necessary.

SEWERS AND GROWERS 4-H GROUP—will be meeting Monday, January 3rd and February 7th at 7pm at the Knights of St. John hall basement in Maria Stein. New members welcome to join at this time. Youth must be 8 years old by January 1st and in the 3rd grade or older to join.

MCDO 301 RECREATION CLUB—will be hosting their Annual Member Appreciation Party on Friday, January 14th after the Ft. Recovery boys' basketball game at the Maria Stein Legion. Entertainment, food, and drinks are provided for all members and their families. Prizes will be awarded throughout the night.

<u>BLOODMOBILE</u>—The Maria Stein Legion and Auxiliary will be sponsoring a Blood Drive at the Maria Stein American Legion Hall on Monday, January 3rd from 12pm to 6pm. Please call 1-800-REDCROSS or visit <u>redcross.org</u>, sponsor code-"amlegms" to schedule your blood donation appointment. There is a great need for blood! Please schedule an appointment today!

NEWSPAPER SIGNATURE AD CAMPAIGN—To commemorate the 49th Anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision legalizing abortion, the Mercer County Right to Life Chapter will once again purchase a full-page ad in the Daily Standard. For a \$5.00 donation, your name, along with several hundred others, will be included in the Pro-Life Ad. If you wish to participate in this year's Ad Campaign, please send \$5.00 along with the name or names as you wish it to appear in the newspaper to Pat Pottkotter, 5158 State Route 119, Saint Henry, OH 45883 by Wednesday, January 5th. Make checks out to Mercer County Right to Life. Please don't wait until the last minute to turn in your name. This ad will appear in the newspaper, Wednesday, January 19th.

<u>CHICKASAW VFW CHICKEN FRY—</u>Sunday, January 2nd, dinein or carry-out from 4pm to 7pm.

REDISCOVERING JOY—A Support Group for Widows and Widowers will hold their next meeting on Monday, January 10th from 6:30–8pm. The group meets on the second Monday of every month at the R & R Fabrications, Inc., meeting room located at 601 E. Washington Street in St. Henry. The entrance is on the west side of the R & R Fabrications building, off of Linn St. The speaker for the January meeting will be Dr. Roseanne Scammahorn, discussing the topic "Cooking for One." In addition to monthly meetings, the group also offers a variety of social outings for members. In January, the group will be dining at the La Carreta Mexican Restaurant in Celina. For more information, please call or text Judy at 419-733-5629 or Mary at 419-678-8830. Email available is also at rediscoveringjov@vahoo.com. New members are always welcome.

"IT'S BACK" ST. SEBASTIAN 2022 FISH FRY—March 4th at Romer's Overdrive. Contact Jesse Rose for tickets at 419-305-6695.

ST. SEBASTIAN FISH FRY DONATIONS—AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED. We are looking for items and/or donations to be auctioned off. Please contact Jesse Rose at 419-305-6695.

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