

Saint Ann 310 3rd Avenue Chesapeake, OH 45619 740-867-4434



Saint Joseph 501 Chestnut St Ironton, OH 45638 740-532-0712



By this sign you will be saved!



Saint Lawrence O'Toole 611 Center St Ironton, OH 45638 740-532-0712



Saint Mary of Pine Grove 1059 Co Rd 26 Ironton, OH 45638 740-532-0712

Lawrence County Catholic Community PO Box 499 Ironton, OH 45638 740-532-0712 www.lawcocatholic.org

Ascension of our Lord into Heaven

May 12, 2024





SPIRITUAL ADOPTION 9th Month Baby is Born

"Here I am!" - Your spiritually adopted baby was born this month - - nine months after his/her mother conceived him/her.

The only change at birth is a change in the external life support system of the baby. He/she is no different now than he/she before birth except that he breathes and eats differently. He/she is truly a miracle. He began as a 46chromosome cell and has developed over the past nine months into this unique human baby. Never before in history, nor ever again, will anyone exist that is just like your spiritually adopted baby. Your prayers saved his/her life. Thank you on behalf of all of the little babies that you cared enough to pray for him/her

and his/her mother. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY BABY!**

For our Mothers Living...

Loving creator, you called upon your servant Mary to bring your Son into the world. We give thanks for her, and for all mothers who bear witness to your love. Their generosity and strength have blessed generations. Please bless our mothers. Ease their worry for the families you entrust to them, guide them in times of doubt, and hold them close when they are overwhelmed by both joy and sorrow. May they know our deep gratitude for giving us life and love. In union with Mary, we ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son. AMEN

For our Mothers who have passed away...

Dear Lord, I turn to you in trust that my mother is with you and that she is enjoying your loving embrace. You alone know how she loved the best she could and how she faithfully endured the struggles that she faced. You know the graces you gave her and you know the grace she was for me and for so many. Lord, I know my mother still loves us who are still here on earth. I ask you that you might listen to her fervent prayers for us. Help me to grow in a new and deeper relationship with my mother now, as I long for the day when we will both meet in your embrace - freed from all that might have hindered our relationship on earth, knowing and understanding everything we did not know or understand on this earth. AMEN



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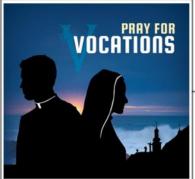
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OUR SICK: Heidi Adams, Jerry Adams, Priscilla & Rodney Adkins, Donnie Aloi, Jennifer (Whaley) Baker, Bill & Marsha Bollinger, Cory Brown, Greg Bryant, Anna Burke, Josie Butcher, Kenneth Carmen, Helen Cavanaugh, Fern Cielec, Jim Colegrove, Owen Conway, Danielle Cooper, Nancy & Mike Corn, Gigi de la Cruz, Brandon Cumbee, Linda DeWitz, Greatgrandchild of Linda DeWitz, Dennis Dickess, Kris Dixon Alicia Edwards, Fr Chapin Engler, Linda Fraley, Charles Francis, Vanessa Fuller, Andy Gagai, Thomas Gait, Anita Gardner, Steven Gardner, John Gibbons, Addy Grace, Melinda Griffith, George Gross, Corey Gurnow, Pat Hackworth, AJ Harris, Jim & Lillian Hart, Katey Hardesty, Matt Hearn, Bridget Heighton, Deacon Al Heiles, Tally Herrmann, Peggy Hixon, Larry & Rick Holtzapfel, Barb Jarrett, Sue Jenkins, Dulcy Jimenez, Tationa Johnson, Waylon Jones, Cindy Jordan, Vincent Keairns, Sue Keeney, Cassie Kelley, John Kelley, Chris Kimble, Chris Kimbler, Bernadette Kinney, Rick Kinney, Martha Kirk, Sarah Klaiber, Janice Knoop, Rose Knotek, Justin Lane, Betty (Hacker) Lefvbre, Amanda Lewis, Nancy Lewis, Ginger Logan, Chris Lunsford, Jim & Wanda Mahlmeister, Marie Majadalany, Chloe Marcum, Jessica Mazurek, Mark McKee, Nathan Medina, Johnny Meyers, Ginny Miller, Monica

Montallana, Tommy Mountain, Jeff & Shawn Nance, David Napalo, Mark Nixon, Paul Peterman, Bill Porter, Diane Pratt, Susie Prichard, Cathy Pusey, Brent Pyles, Kenny Pyles, Roberta Ramsey, James Reinhardt, Ronald "Jr" Riggs, Debra Roach, Bob Roberts, Helen Robinson, Jarin Robinson, Kathy Robinson, Tim Rockwell, Tom Sarka, David Schaffer, Katie Schwab, David Sheets, Troy Sheffield, Cathy Shine, Rosie Sinnott, Piper Smoot, Mark van Steenberg, Mary Stuntebeck, Shawn Summers, Chris & Lori Thomas, Mike Tonkovich, Don Trentel, Regina Vanderhoof, Michelle Webb, Laura Willis, Marianne Wissman, Tommy Woods, Rose Yates, Gary Zuccarelli, and all recovering from illness/surgery. New this week:

NOTE: Some have asked for Father Chapin address, it is: St. Dominic Villages • Archbishop Fiorenza Priest Home #2 • 2407 Holcombe Blvd • Houston, TX. 77021

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Vision Statement: Our Brothers stand united and dedicated to do work in service of God and our neighbors.

CWC News:

CHESAPEAKE

- St. Ann Rummage Sale— Friday, May 31 and Saturday, June 1 - Drop off and set up at Parish Hall from 5/27-30
- Canasta Club (3rd Monday of the month, 1-3pm at Fat Patty's). Everyone welcome. 5/20.
- 3rd Thursday Book Club at 1pm Chesapeake library

IRONTON

CWC Brooms & Greeting Cards are still FOR SALE at Unger's Shoes.

(614) 224-7147, Fax (614) 224-7150

June 2024

St. Joseph Central Jr/Sr High School 912 South Sixth Street

Ironton, OH 45638

Dear Chris:

During a recent meeting of the OCSAA Commission your school was granted

in the Ohio Catholic School Accrediting Association

Congratulations to you, your faculty, and all members of the community who participated in the OCSAA

OCSAA looks forwad in the coming years to receiving reports on the implementation of your two goals.

Thank you for your work with regard to accreditation and thank you for your service to Catholic education.

contact me. Your (Arch) Diocesan Advisory member will be given the updated certificate indicating the If my office can be of assistance as you work to implement your goals over the next four years, please school's full accreditation status with OCSAA

Once again, congratulations and thank you for your participation.

Theresa J. Bowser

Bible Study @ SA Monday's @ 6pm in the upstairs Hall. Everyone is welcome so grab your bible and join us!"

Religious Goods are available after every Sunday Mass at SJ. Questions or a desire to browse the catalog contact Christie Moore 740-579-2984.

Wednesday Adoration is a great time to slow down and pray in the presence of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Adorations held: at SJ from 2-5:15 & SA from 5:15-6:15.

St. Ann Parish Council elections are soon. We are seeking prospective members for the upcoming 2-year period. If you would like to serve please let Theresa Miller or Joanelle Swann know.

OPEN TO ALL PEOPLES & PARISHES — The IRONTON CWC & KofC will have a meet & greet for our seminarian, Riley on Wednesday, May 15 at 6:30 at the Knights, we are asking for potluck dishes, meat will be provided along with Birthday cake since his b'day is near.

MINISTERS NEEDED AT SAINT ANN — feeling the call to serve. (EM) Extra-Ordinary Ministers and Lectors are needed at St. Ann's, please let Father Morris know if you are interested. We need additional parishioners for these special ministries, and will ensure that new volunteers feel comfortable before beginning service.

IRONTON Parish Council Results: Below are the winners of the election for both churches. Saint Joseph needs to fill three vacancies and Saint Lawrence needs one. I included one alternate for each church in the event we have anybody leave council.

Saint Lawrence:

• Kelli Beaumont

• Alternate: Diane McFann

Saint Joseph:

• JC Medinger

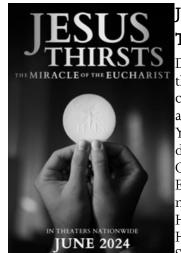
• Chris Monte

• Maddie Heighton

• Alternate: Dru Canter

Special Thanks to all who helped with the VIRTUAL BABY SHOWER. The gifts will truly help out many mothers in our area. As before, we will be participating in the 2 Hearts Baby Bottle Campaign. This loose change campaign runs through Father's day

change campaign runs through Father's day. All are encouraged to pickup bottle and drop in their loose change.



Jesus Thirsts:

The Miracle of the Eucharist

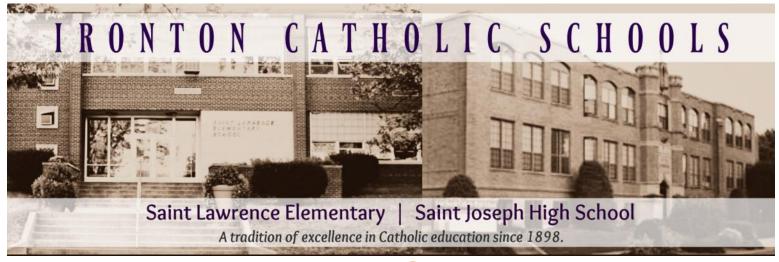
Deep within each human soul, there exists an intense craving for connection, purpose, and love — a thirst that only God can satisfy. Yet, the question remains: How does one fulfill this yearning? The Catholic Church teaches that the Eucharist is the most profound means by which God shares Himself with humanity. However, a 2019 Pew Research Study unveiled a concerning

reality: only one-third of practicing U.S. Catholics believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. In Jesus Thirsts: The Miracle of the Eucharist, we embark on a global journey to rediscover and revive the transformative power of the Eucharist. Engaging in dialogue with notable Catholic figures, the film explores the biblical origins of the Eucharist and shares personal stories of individuals whose lives have been transformed by the Blessed Sacrament. This exploration makes it unmistakably clear that the Eucharist is not merely a symbol, but is indeed Jesus Christ Himself — fervently desiring to quench our spiritual thirst with His boundless love. • 4 & 7pm showings on June 4-6 at both Cinemark Huntington Mall & Ashland. •

CALVARY CEMETERY MAINTENANCE is looking for a riding lawnmower to supplement and replace mowers currently being used that are reaching their end of life. If anyone has a riding mower that they would like to donate, please call Tom Fuller 740-302-7828. The unit can be broken or abandoned, Tom will come and evaluate repairing it for service. Thank you for helping.

DPSC UPDATE:	Goal	Pledged	% paid
St Ann	21,854	18,760	70%
St Joseph	37,074	52,276	98%
St Lawrence	22,365	59,697	174%
St Mary	4,591	6,150	108%

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 5, 2024					Prayer for Priest
CHURCH COLLECTIONS	St. Ann	ST. JOSEPH	ST. LAWRENCE	St. Mary	Without the priest, there is no
Adult	\$1645	\$3397	\$2092	\$595	Eucharist; without the Eucharist, there is
Loose	\$232	\$230	\$205	\$85	no Church. Let us pray for Vocations to
Votive Lights	\$15	\$138			the priesthood and all in it.
Restoration/Bldg Fund	\$406	\$285	\$130		5/12 Fr Walter Heinz
Cath. Home Missions	\$5				5/13 Fr Marty Holler
Mother's Day	\$10				5/14 Msgr Don Horak
Ascension	\$25	\$51	\$150	\$20	5/15 Fr Vince Huber
Cath Communications	\$20		\$50		5/16 Msgr John Kolesar 5/17 Fr Tom Magary
Father's Day	\$20				5/17 If fold Magary 5/18 Fr Joseph Massucci





Congratulations to Ava Weber! She was awarded one of the Members Choice Credit Union \$1000 Scholarships for 2024. Seniors from 33 counties in the tri-state area can apply for 14 awarded scholarships. Ava was one of two students in Lawrence County who won. Students had to be a

member of the Credit Union; complete an application; send two letters of recommendation; and write an essay answering the question, "During high school, how have you helped with the needs you've observed in your community?" Great job, Ava!

CONGRATULATIONS BRADY MEDINGER

Brady Medinger was chosen for the Holzer Health System Science Award for St. Joe. One student is chosen from each high school in Lawrence, Scioto, Meigs, and Galia counties. Students are given this honor based upon their aptitude and interest in the field of science. Brady has received this award due to his high achievement in St. Joe science classes and his pursuit of a career in the medical field. He will be attending Ohio University, majoring Biological Sciences/Pre-Professional. Students were honored at a banquet held at the Holzer Leadership and Innovation Institute in Gallipolis on April 16th, where they received a \$500.00 scholarship from the Holzer Health System. Congratulations to Brady on this honor!



Senior Edition



Congratulations to our 2024 valedictorians: Ava Weber, Brady Medinger, Bryson Burcham, and Evan Balestra!





Trey Artis

Thomas Andrew Artis III is the son of Drew and Alison Artis. Trey has participated in golf and bowling and is the current editor of the yearbook. He was also the yearbook editor and Class President his junior year. Trey plans to attend Ashland Community and Technical College and major in Electrical Technology.

Evan Balestra

Evan Matthew Balestra is the son of Brenden and Rachel Balestra. While at St. Joe, he has maintained a 4.0 GPA. He served as team captain on the soccer, basketball, and baseball teams and earned various awards. Evan also participated in quiz bowl. In addition, he is a member of the National Honor Society.



Evan plans to attend Shawnee State University, where he will major in accounting.

Bryson Burcham

Bryson Michael Burcham is the son of Michael and April Burcham. While at St. Joseph Central High School, Bryson participated in Soccer and Bowling. Bryson is a member of the National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta as treasurer, Impact team, cocoordinator of the American Red Cross Blood drive, and was a volunteer for Project MORE. Bryson was a four-year starter on the Varsity Soccer team and was 1st team all SOC and 1st team alldistrict his senior year. His senior year of soccer he was named Defensive Player of the Year in the SOC. He also served the bowling and soccer teams as team captain. Bryson maintained 4.0 GPA throughout his time at St. Joe. He was honored with Best of the Class from WSAZ and will serve as one of the four Valedictorians of his class. Bryson was

one of the Heisman award winners and received the Govenor's Merit Scholarship. He plans on attending Shawnee State University focusing on accounting and business classes. Bryson wants to thank all of his classmates, family members, coaches, teachers and friends for all the encouragement throughout high school career which have shaped the person he is today.

Drew Brown

Drew Brown is the son of Cathy Brown and Adam Brown. While at St. Joe, he participated in 4 years of basketball, baseball, and yearbook. In 2023, his junior year, he received First Team All- District and was awarded Player of the Year for baseball. In 2024, his senior year, he received First Team All Conference and All

District Honorable Mention for basketball. He was also awarded SOC Defensive Player of the Year for basketball 2024.



Eric James Dutey is the son of Jim and Denise Dutey. Eric came to St. Joseph High School his sophomore year to participate in Soccer from Ironton High where he participated in Track. He won the Freshie Award and is a member of the National Honor Society, Project MORE Volunteer, Soccer team captain and was

awarded the 2nd Team All-SOC Men's Soccer Award and participated 2 years with the Marshall University SCORES Festival. Eric will be attending ACTC in Greenup Kentucky majoring in Industrial Electricity.

Darryn Harvey

Darryn Craig Harvey (DHarv) is the son of Craig and Beth Harvey. He is a member of Sharon Baptist Church and is active in the youth group at First Baptist Church. Darryn played football at Ironton in the fall for 4 years, and basketball and baseball for the St. Joe Flyers. His best memories from his high school years were made in the dugouts and on the fields with his teammates.



Darryn is still undecided on his plans for the future, though he is strongly considering the military. His dream job is to work field maintenance for the Cincinnati Reds.



Brady Medinger Brady Joseph Medinger is the son of Dr. Nick and Mandy Medinger. While at St. Joe, he has played soccer, baseball, basketball and golf. He is a member of the National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, and Quiz Bowl Team, Senior Class Representative, Project MORE volunteer, Co-Coordinator of the American Red Cross Blood Drive. A-Team alter server, soccer team captain, and was

awarded soccer SOC 1st Team 3x, District 1st Team 2x, SOSA All-Area Team, and 2023 SOC Player of the Year. Brady will attend Ohio University Athens, where he will be majoring in Biological Sciences/Pre-Professional.

Ava Oates Ava Oates, daughter of Kent and Brandi Coleman and Fredrick Oates. Ava is the class of 2024 vice president. Throughout her time at St. Joe, she has participated in scores, cheer, Impact prevention, sources of strength and Mu Alpha Theta. Ava will be attending

Collins Career Center to



become a certified diagnostic medical sonographer.

Addison Philabaun

Addison Lynn Philabaun is the daughter of Stacey Philabaun. While at St. Joe, she has participated in soccer, basketball, cheer, track, the school choir, various volunteer programs, and the Annual Variety Show. She is a member of the National Honor Society and President of Mu Alpha Theta, and a member of the Impact Prevention Team and Spanish Club. Addison was awarded 2nd Team All-SOC/ Honorable Mention All-District in soccer, and 2nd Team All-Conference in track, and was



Jacob Stephens,
son of Brian and Amanda
Stephens. While at St. Joe,
Jake has been a member of
the basketball and baseball
teams, and a member of the
Spanish Club. He enjoys
working at the Freezette in
his spare time, and is a
member of the Zoar Baptist
Church Youth Group. Jake
will be attending Shawnee

Jake Stevens

State University, where he will major in Criminal Justice

named one of the Wendy's High School Heisman Recipients. Addison will be attending THE Ohio State University, where she will be majoring in environmental science.



Ava Elizabeth Weber is the daughter of Nick & Mary Beth Weber. She is graduating with a 4.0 as a co-valedictorian. Ava is a lifelong member of Saint Joseph Church, receiving all of her four Sacraments there. She has attended SL/SJ schools for 13 straight years, being a frequent lector at school Mass. While at Saint Joseph, Ava has been a member of the Lady Flyers basketball, soccer, and track teams. She is also a member of the National Honor Society, Quiz Bowl, Spanish Club, Impact Prevention Team, and is Vice President of MuAlphaTheta. Ava was one of the

coordinators of the American Red Cross blood drive, past class president, weekly Project MORE volunteer, Variety Show participant, is on the yearbook staff, and has competed each year in the SCORES competition. Ava will be attending Marshall University where she was awarded the John Laidley scholarship, and she will be majoring in Education.

Olivia Woods

Olivia Grace Woods
is the daughter of Scott and
Amy Woods. During her time
at Saint Joe she has
participated in cheer, soccer,
and track. Olivia is a member
of Impact Prevention,
National Honor Society, and
Mu Alpha Theta where she is
currently serving as
President. She has served as
Class Vice President for



three years and is currently Senior Class President. Olivia will be attending Coastal Carolina University in Conway, South Carolina where she will be majoring in Marine Science.



In Memory/ 🕻 Honor of...

Mahel Shaffer, Mary Roman, Betty LeClaire, Mary McComas, Pat Blair,

Donna Kurucz, Mildred Tonkovich, Agatha Compton, Mary Menas Rosalie Menas, Leonida Jimenez, Ramona Cansino, Helen Cowles, Chystalee Bias, Jennifer Menjivar, all mothers living and deceased



We have so much to be thankful for in this life. This Mother's Day, let us truly consider all the good that we have because of our mother choosing us. We as children (young or old) have been a pain in our mother's side. We complained when we didn't have things our way, and we caused trouble for her mental stability the rest of the time, even after we left home. We are the reason that she worried and still does worry about us, and yet, she choose us. We were not a zit to be popped or a burden to be hidden, but a child to be loved. Our mother loved us to the best of her ability. Was she perfect? no, but neither are we. She offer(s/ed) her

> life that we may have a better life. Her desire is to be a loving person in the image of our spiritual mother Mary. Mary loves us too. She calls us to perfect love in her son our Lord Jesus Christ. Christ adored his mother and was obedient to her and his stepfather Joseph. May we this Mother's Day cherish the choice she made years ago and support all mothers on this day. Mom, we love you. Thank you for being there for us in all that you do, physical or spiritual.



Earlier this week, Mr. Cox's senior students conducted a demonstration for our elementary students, presenting the knowledge they acquired throughout the academic year in chemistry and physics. Each student delivered several demonstrations, providing an engaging showcase of their learning.

St Joe Flyers Baseball Team pays a surprise visit after their game to see Coach Bryant.

Coach said, "This is the best medicine a coach could ask for. I hope these young men know how much them coming to see me meant to me."



EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION

In just a few months, our diocese will celebrate with the National Eucharistic Revival Pilgrimage beginning on Friday, June 21 with a "Sing-Spiration" at Fort Steuben followed by a procession from the Fort to St. Peter's Church, concluding with a prayer meditation and Benediction. All Parishes, Catholic Schools, and Catholic organizations are invited to participate in the procession, with His Excellency Bishop

Paul Bradley. We hope that your parishes will participate in the procession by sending parishioners who will carry a banner displaying your parishes' names and will include additional parishioners to process with the banner bearers. We ask that one representative from each group "check-in" at 6 pm at the Large Metal Fort Steuben gate; then all participants will begin lining up for the procession at 6:30pm. If you would like to represent the 4 Parishes and process. **Please let Fr Morris know by May 13.**

GENERAL INFORMATION ON . . .

How to Donate?—There's been some confusion about how to donate money for different collections, especially how to make out checks.

First of all, we can't accept DPSC donations. Checks made out to one of our churches but with "DPSC" in the memo line will be returned to you. We can't do anything with them. These are the current rules set by the Diocese of Steubenville. Please disregard any earlier instructions to the contrary.

Make DPSC donation checks out to **Diocese of Steubenville DPSC** or **DPSC** and mail them to the diocese, or donate online at https://diosteub.givecloud.co/dpsc

If you got a mailing from the diocese saying to put your pledge card in the collection, **that only applies to pledge** <u>cards</u>, not actual donations.

Other donations are counted according to what you write on the check. If you're registered at St. Mary, you write a check to St. Lawrence, put it in a St. Joseph envelope, and drop it in the St. Ann collection, The money goes to St. Lawrence.

Loose collection: Place in the collection basket. Cash donations go to the parish where they were collected. Loose checks go to the parish they're made out to. If you're registered and have an envelope number, your loose check will be counted as regular (adult) as if it were in an envelope. Otherwise it will be counted as part of the Loose collection.

Regular (Adult) collection: Put cash or checks in your envelope and drop in the collection basket. They'll be given to the parish on the envelope and counted toward the collection on the envelope.

Holy day collections: We count these separately, but otherwise they're treated the same as the regular adult collection. Make checks payable to the parish.

Multiple donations: If giving by check, **write a separate check for each collection**. Ideally, each donation should be in its own envelope. If this is not possible, indicate all donations on the envelope and on the memo line**s** of your check**s**.

Special collections: These are counted separately so we can ensure the money goes to the correct place. Place in the designated envelope, or a plain envelope marked with the

name of the collection, and drop in the collection basket. For most collections not listed below, make checks out to the parish and write the collection on the memo line.

Cemetery fund: Make payable to the church responsible for the cemetery: **St. Joseph** for Calvary, **St. Lawrence** for Sacred Heart, or **St. Mary** for St. Mary. Write **cemetery fund** on the memo line.

Second collection for the poor: Make payable to **St. Vincent de Paul** or **SVDP**. Money from the St. Vincent de Paul (SVDP) fund is used for our regular donations to Harvest for the hungry Food Pantry (SJ/SL/SM). Beginning in 2025 this second collection will be expanded to St Ann. A set amount will then be determined, based upon the income from SA's portion of the 2nd collection, that we will send to the **Community M**ission **O**utreach (CMO) and the rest will be used for the financial assistance requests we receive from all over the county.

Catholic Women's Club: Make payable to **CWC**. This applies both to donations and to dues payments.

Lenten Penny Bag: Make payable to CWC.

Catholic Schools: Make payable to St. Joseph High School or St. Lawrence Elementary School or Ironton Catholic Schools.

Our Lady of Fatima Shrine: Make payable to Our Lady of Fatima Shrine.

Support our Seminarians: Make payable to Knights of Columbus or KofC.

A Note on superstition: As Catholics, we don't believe in luck, curses, jynxes, etc. We do, however, acknowledge the high likelihood of inconvenient coincidences. In that light: When (or, optimistically, *if*) we discover exceptions to the above guidelines, we will print updates in future issues of the bulletin.

Diocesan Van Policy—Vans with seating to accommodate 11-15 passengers are strictly prohibited for use in the Diocese of Steubenville. Parishes and Schools are not allowed to own or rent these types of vehicles. Passenger vans with 11 or more seats when involved in an accident are a very high rollover risk and injuries to the passengers are significant. Catholic Mutual, our diocesan insurer, will not cover any accident involving these vehicles. In addition, federal law prohibits students being transported in an 11 or more-passenger van.

5/19	5:15 SL	5:30 SA	9am SJ	9:30 SA	Noon SL	4pm SM
Lector:	B. Davis	Scholl	Christie Moore	Miller	N. Kline	D. Haney
EM:	D. Vermilyea P. Webb M. Anderson M. Blackstock	Sullivan Swann	A. Miller B/C Moore T. Neal	Blair Kurucz	V. Mathis J./K. Beaumont S. Brown	
Servers:	Volunteers		L./A. Fetty M. Holtzapfel R. Weber		B. McGinnis T. Erlenwein	

ACTS 1:1-11

Reading closely

- I. How does this prologue (vv. I-5) transition us from Luke's Gospel to his Acts of the Apostles?
- 2. Who is present in the story?
- 3. What are these people expecting?
- 4. Does the holy Spirit seem significant to Luke?
- 5. What does Jesus want from and for his followers?
- 6. What might be running through everyone's mind as the risen Jesus leaves?
- 7. How do you imagine the scene?
- 8. What would you expect to happen next?

Living the word

- What themes does this passage share with Mark 16:15-20?
- 10. How is Jesus present to you despite being physically absent?

THE FIRST READING

The prologue

Luke begins his second book according to literary custom. He briefly sums up what happened in his first book (the Gospel). Then he prepares his hearers for what will happen in his second book.

Theological geography

Luke also connects his two works geographically. Jesus goes up to Jerusalem, then up to heaven. The holy Spirit comes down from heaven upon the disciples, who then go from Jerusalem to the rest of the known world. Jesus' mission ends in Book One. The church's mission begins in Book Two.

Restoring Israel

When the disciples ask if Jesus is going to restore Israel (v.6), they seem to expect a physical change like the end of Roman rule. This isn't the kingdom that Jesus came to establish, however.

Throughout Acts Luke notes the peace, unity, and joy that prevails in the church as it grows. Exactly how the church spreads and when everyone will become believers isn't for the disciples to know. They must focus instead on following the Spirit, for the Spirit is bringing about the kingdom they seek.

Ascension

In both Jewish and Gentile writings people who were revered were sometimes portrayed as having been taken up into heaven. Their ascension was a metaphor for divine approval.

Luke draws on this imagery to show not only that God approves of Jesus but also that Jesus shares God's power.

- In the Book of the Prophet Daniel one like a Son of Man comes on the clouds of heaven to exercise judgment (Daniel 7:13-14)
- The prophet Elijah is caught up to heaven in a whirlwind, after which his successor, Elisha, shares his power to speak in God's name (2 Kings 2:9f). Jesus is like Elijah, and his disciples are like Elisha.

Empowerment

The disciples are witnesses of Jesus' ascension, just as there were witnesses of his empty tomb. In both cases two men appeared to confirm what happened to Jesus and to redirect his followers.

Once Jesus ascends he is no longer physically constrained, so he can be spiritually and sacramentally present everywhere. He now empowers his disciples to continue his mission. Just as the holy Spirit guided Jesus during his ministry (Luke 4:14), so now the Spirit leads Jesus' followers in theirs.

PRAYER

adapted from a prayer by St. Bernard of Clairvaux

Lord Jesus Christ,

to complete your seamless robe, and so to complete our faith,

you ascended through the air into the heavens before the very eyes of the apostles.

In this way you showed that you are the Lord of all and the fulfillment of all creation.

May every human being and every living creature bow down at your name.

Give us the eyes of faith to see that all creation proclaims your greatness.

In your holy name we pray. Amen.

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The Ironton Child Welfare Club has announced the winners of the 2024 Eddy Awards. The Eddy Test is given to the top 25% of the sixth grade students from Ironton Middle School and St. Lawrence Catholic School. The Eddy Test is the club's longest continuous project; it was established 64 years ago to identify students who attain superior academic achievement in the sixth grade. The 2024 honorees & parishioners from their respective schools are as follows:

Ironton Middle School

- Ellen Rudmann, daughter of Jim and Beth Rudmann St. Lawrence Catholic School
- Cohan Dressel, son of Joe and Sarah Dressel
- Tray Erlenwein, son of Nick and Natalie Erlenwein
- Ella VanHoose, daughter of Trey and Ally VanHoose.

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By Helen Robinson

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KATIE DALTON

For More information Contact:

7	Sat. 5/11	SL—5:15 pm SA—5:30 pm	Sally Cannon (Susan/Wayne Kellogg) People of the 4 Parishes
lo other pul	Sunday 5/12	SJ—9:00 am SA—9:30 am SL—NOON SM—4:00 pm	Carol Waller (1st Anniv.) (Family) Int. of David/Kara Stapleton & children Tom Sutton (Bob, Mary Jo, Andy, M'Lissa & family) Will Washburn (Kathy Conway)
Offic olished	Mon. 5/13	SJ—8:00 am	Willa Wilson & All Mothers (Iris Miller)
Official Mass Calendar for the week No other published Mass times in the bulletin are	Tues. 5/14	SJ—8:00 am SL – 10:30am	Liv/Dec of Linda Minnick Family (Connie Heighton) Sally Cannon (Mary Ann Dufore)
	Wed. 5/15	SJ—8:00 am SJ—5:30 pm SA—6:30 pm	Fr. Charlie Moran (Donor) Mickey Akers (Kevin/Sue Keeney) NO CONFESSIONS AFTER MASS Intentions of Sr. Miryam Taranee, Daus of Holy Mary (Family)
	Thur. 5/16	SJ—8:00 am SA—8:15 am	George Arrington (Jim/Diana Parker) Healing of Jeane
e week tin are	Fri. 5/17	SJ—8:00 am SA—8:15 am	Rosie Swarts (Kevin/Sue Keeney) Vera Rovini (Vince/Eileen Marchese)
for the week bulletin are to be believed.	Sat. 5/18	SJ—9:00 am SL—5:15 pm SA—5:30 pm	Patty Roadcup (Diana/Jim Parker) Rodney Young (Leigh Jordan) Fr. Charlie Moran (Cheryl L. Johnson)
	Sunday 5/19	SJ—9:00 am SA—9:30 am SL—NOON SM—4:00 pm	Fr. Joseph Huong (Thuy Nguyen) People of the 4 Parishes Tom Sutton (Lisa Johnson) Sarah Young (The Pinkerton Family)

Daily Readings

5/12—Ascension of the Lord—Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3 6-7 8-9; Eph 4:1-13 Mk 16:15-20

5/13—Our Lady of Fatima—Acts 19:1-8; Ps 68:2-3ab 4-5acd 6-7ab; Jn 16:29-33

5/14—Matthias—Acts 1:15-17 20-26 Ps 113:1-2 3-4 5-6 7-8; Jn 15:9-17

5/15—Acts 20:28-38; Ps 68:29-30 33-35a 35bc-36ab; Jn 17:11b-19

5/16—Acts 22:30-23:6-11; Ps 16:1-2a 5 7-8 9-10 11; Jn 17:20-26

5/17—Acts 25:13b-21; Ps 103:1-2 11-12 19-20ab; Jn 21:15-19

5/18—Acts 28:16-20 30-31; Ps 11:4 5 7; Jn 21: 20-25

5/19—PENTECOST

Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a 16-20b or Ez 37:1-4 or Jl 3:1-5 Ps 104:1-2 24 35 27-28 29 30 Rom 8: 22-27; Jn 7:37-39.

Day: Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104:1 24 29-30 31 34; 1 Cor 12:3b-7 12-13 *or* Gal 5:16-25; Sequence Veni Creator Spiritus Jn 20:19-23 *or* Jn 15:26-27-16:12-15

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

5/11~12—Blessing of Mothers & May Crowning 11 am Funeral of Thomas Kinney—SL 5/13 4:30 School Board Meeting 7pm Rosary at the Shrine May Crowning by PSR Students—SHRINE 5/14 10:30 SLES/SJHS @ SL May Crowning NO MASS @ SA due to schedule conflicts 6pm Parish Council Meeting—PLC 5/15 NO CONFESSIONS in Ironton 6:30 Meet & Greet Potluck at KofC 5/16 2pm Prayer Service at River Run Nursing Hm 6pm Ironton CWC Meeting—SJ CH 6:30 4th Degree KofC—Hall 7pm KofC Meeting—Hall 5/17 9am 6th Grade mulching Calvary Cemetery 5/18 SA Hall Rented 5/19 2nd Collection for Poor 1pm Baptism @ SL 5/21 SLES Field Day @ SM 5/22 7:15pm SA Parish Council Meeting 5/24 10:30 SLES/SJHS Last Mass/Day of Year

5/24~27 CHARITY FAIR
5/26 SA Hall Rented
5/17~6/3—SA Rummage Sale
5/27 SM Hall Rented

5/28 7pm JOINT Finance Councils Meeting – PLC

> Send a rose to Mary this May.

We want to send Mary a million roses this May in the form of a million rosaries. Please join in this movement

