

“And the  
*Word*  
became flesh and  
*dwelt*  
among us.”

- John 1:14

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CHRISTMAS 2024

**ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CHURCH**

201 N. Pierce Street, Delphos, OH 45833

419-695-4050 • [www.delphosstjohnparish.org](http://www.delphosstjohnparish.org)



## LITURGICAL UPDATES

## DELPHOS ST. JOHN PARISH

## Parish Secretary

Jill Hablitzel  
jhablitzel@delphosstjohns.org

## Business Manager

Dave Dyer  
ddyer@delphosstjohns.org

## Bookkeeper

Dawn Bowersock  
dbowersock@delphosstjohns.org

## Music Director

Lynn Bockey  
lbockey@delphosstjohns.org

## Director of Youth Evangelization

Wendy Gerstner  
wgerstner@delphosstjohns.org

## Director of Religious Education / PSR

Kathleen Wreede  
kwreede@delphosstjohns.org

## DELPHOS ST. JOHN SCHOOL

## Elementary Principal

Nathan Stant  
stant@delphosstjohns.org  
Elementary School 419-692-8561

## Preschool Director

Keersten Lindeman  
klindeman@delphosstjohns.org  
Preschool 419-692-9806

## Jr. High/High School Principal

Adam Lee | lee@delphosstjohns.org  
Office 419-692-5371

## MINISTRY CENTER HOURS

## School Year Hours:

Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

## Summer Hours:

Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
Friday 8:00 a.m.-Noon

## LITURGY READINGS

January 5, 2025

Isaiah 60:1-6

Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Matthew 2:1-12

## OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Not available at time of printing.

**ST. JOHN'S  
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Since 1977

None of us Can  
Live Forever...  
But ALL of us Can  
Give Forever.  
Create your "Eternal Envelope"  
**Ask How.**

## MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 30, 2024

8:00 a.m. Celebrant's Intention

Tuesday, December 31, 2024

8:00 a.m. Celebrant's Intention

4:30 p.m. People of the Parish

Wednesday, January 1, 2025

9:00 a.m. †Edgar &  
Helen Schwieterman

12:15 p.m. †Richard Recker

Thursday, January 2, 2025

8:00 a.m. Celebrant's Intention

Friday, January 3, 2025

8:00 a.m. † Bob &  
Connie Warniment

Saturday, January 4, 2025

8:00 a.m. Celebrant's Intention

4:30 p.m. † John Martin

Sunday, January 5, 2025

7:30 a.m. People of the Parish

9:15 a.m. † Marcia Miehl

11:30 a.m. † Alex Wehri

## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

**The Sick:** Sophia Becker, Lisa Davis Bemis, Daniel Bertling, Ken Blankemeyer, Tracey Boberg, James Bodnar, Gordon Brendle, Marcey Brickner, Teresa Burnett, Robert Etgen, Janice Etzkorn, Carolyn Fisher, Rosie Fortener, Mary Ann Franklin, Barry Friemoth, Jim Friemoth, John E. Friemoth, June Gable, David Gonyea, Dan "Beeze" Grothouse, Mary Grothouse, Don Heitz, Joann and Tom Hempfling, Tom Hickey, Sharon Hines, Angela Hoehn, Jackie, Madelyn Jones, Allan Kerns, Denny Kill, Shelly Klausing, Braden Knebel, Laura Krietemeyer, Sharon Lawrence, Dorothy Miller, Linda Miller, Mike Minnig, Millie Minnig, Minnie Moenter, Mary Mullen, Moon Nammour, John Phillips, Barb Recker, Sue Reddy-Bemis, Martha Reddy-Lehman, Alissa Rice, Becky Richardson, Sue Maas Ricker, Tracy Rowland, Amy Schulte, Mike Sherry Family, Winifred Siefker, Tina Vance, Donna Vogt, Mark Wannemacher, Chad Weber, Darrell Wiegand, Mel Williams, Michele Wittler, Jenna Ziegler

**Those in the Armed Forces:** Christine Bemis, Frances Bemis-Sigler, Jorden Boone, Alex Haunhorst, Mahlon Haunhorst, Brian Huysman, Michael Julicher, Troy Trombly, Samantha Wehri

## OUR SCHOOL/PARISH

The December Mission Society winner is Annita Flanagan.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for additional volunteers to assist with distributing Communion at the Meadows of Delphos on Sunday mornings. If you are interested in helping, please reach out to Mary Unterbrink at xxx-xxx-xxxx.

## FAITH, FAMILY, FOOTBALL

Men...mark your calendars! In an effort to promote men's faith formation, former Super Bowl, Pro-Bowl, and University of Michigan quarterback, Elvis Grbac, will be at St. John the Evangelist Church in Delphos on January 12 at 6:00 p.m. to talk about the role of fathers and men's faith on their families and the community. He will discuss the evolution of his faith through a football career that reached the peak of winning a Super Bowl and the importance of that faith in raising his own family through the highs and lows of serious illness and athletic journeys of their own. Adoration and Confession will be available following Mr. Grbac's remarks. There is no fee for this event. All are welcome.

## WOMEN OF WELCOME

**Save the Date** – The Women of Welcome will be having their Annual Retreat on April 5-6, 2025. This is a spiritual renewal weekend designed to help women grow in their personal relationship with Jesus Christ and others in their faith community. More details to follow. You do not want to miss this opportunity. Mark your calendar for April 5-6, 2025.



**THIS WEEK IN PARISH HISTORY** *By Jack Bockey*

This year of 2024 has been a historic year.

- Hired Wendy Gerstner as the first-ever Director of Youth & Young Adult Evangelization at our parish.
- On June 25, 2024, Fr. Dennis Walsh was appointed the 10th bishop of the Diocese of Davenport, Iowa. He was ordained on September 27 and celebrated Mass at our parish on November 17.
- The School Governing Board was created this summer to help lead our school.
- On July 20, Fr. Jeff Walker was appointed as the 16th pastor of our parish. He arrived August 30 and was installed on December 7.
- On October 21, 2024, an electrical fire started in the boiler room of the school causing smoke damage throughout the building.
- In November, a new version of the Blue Jay was revealed.
- The new tri-parish Pastoral Council met for the first time in December.
- Our parish celebrated its first annual Rorate Caeli Mass on December 14.

Happy New Year!

**PARISH CALENDAR: DECEMBER 29-JANUARY 5****Sunday, December 29, 2024**

*Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*

7:30 a.m. – Mass – Delphos Church  
 8:00 a.m. – Reconciliation – Landeck Church  
 8:30 a.m. – Mass – Landeck Church  
 8:45 a.m. – Rosary – Delphos Church  
 9:15 a.m. – Mass – Delphos Church  
 10:20 a.m. – PSR – Delphos School  
 10:30 a.m. – Mass – Spencerville Church  
 11:30 a.m. – Mass – Delphos Church  
 5:30 p.m. – Mass – Landeck Church

**Monday, December 30, 2024**

*The Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas*

No school – Christmas Break  
 8:00 a.m. – Mass (no students) – Delphos Church  
 8:30 a.m. – Rosary for the Respect for all Life – Delphos Church  
 4:00 p.m. – Eucharistic Adoration – Landeck Church  
 6:00 p.m. – Reconciliation – Landeck Church  
 6:50 p.m. – Benediction – Landeck Church  
 7:00 p.m. – Mass – Landeck Church  
 7:00 p.m. – Eucharistic Adoration – Delphos Church

**Tuesday, December 31, 2024**

*The Seventh Day in the Octave of Christmas*

No school – Christmas Break  
 4:30 p.m. – Mass – Delphos Church  
 7:00 p.m. – Mass – Landeck Church

**Wednesday, January 1, 2025**

*Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God*

*The Octave Day of Christmas*  
 No school – Christmas Break  
 9:00 a.m. – Mass – Delphos Church  
 9:00 a.m. – Mass – Spencerville Church

**Thursday, January 2, 2025**

*Memorial of Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church*

No school – Christmas Break  
 8:00 a.m. – Mass (no students) – Delphos Church

**Friday, January 3, 2025**

*Christmas Weekday*

No school – Christmas Break  
 7:30 a.m. – Reconciliation – Delphos Church  
 8:00 a.m. – Mass (no students) – Delphos Church  
 9:00 a.m. – First Friday Adoration – Delphos Church  
 4:00 p.m. Repose of the Blessed Sacrament

**Saturday, January 4, 2025**

*Memorial of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious*

8:00 a.m. – Mass – Delphos Church  
 8:30 a.m. – Rosary for the Respect for All Life – Delphos Church  
 8:30 a.m. – Catholic Men's Fellowship – Ministry Center  
 3:30 p.m. – Reconciliation – Delphos Church  
 4:30 p.m. – Mass – Delphos Church

**Sunday, January 5, 2025**

*The Epiphany of the Lord*

7:30 a.m. – Mass – Delphos Church  
 8:00 a.m. – Reconciliation – Landeck Church  
 8:30 a.m. – Mass – Landeck Church  
 8:45 a.m. – Rosary – Delphos Church  
 9:15 a.m. – Mass – Delphos Church  
 10:20 a.m. – PSR – Delphos School  
 10:30 a.m. – Mass – Spencerville Church  
 11:30 a.m. – Mass – Delphos Church  
 1:00 p.m. – Baptism – Delphos Church  
 5:30 p.m. – Mass – Landeck Church

**COMMUNITY****MEN OF THE PARISH**

The Immaculate Conception Church in Ottoville is hosting a Spring Semester of “**That Man is You**” weekly beginning Wednesday, January 15th from 6:30-7:30 p.m.; or a Saturday morning option beginning January 18th from 6:30-7:30 a.m. St. John the Baptist Church in Glandorf is hosting a **Men's Welcome Retreat** February 8th and 9th. Any questions, call or text Adam Schnipke at xxx-xxx-xxxx.

## COMMUNITY

## GRIEFSHARE

Are you searching for hope and healing after the death of a loved one? The GriefShare program, sponsored by Delphos St. John the Evangelist, Landeck St. John the Baptist and Spencerville St. Patrick, will offer a 12-week session beginning on Thursday evening, January 9, 2025 through March 27, 2025 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the Delphos St. John Annex. No matter what the circumstances, grief is a painful, confusing process. A GriefShare group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. At this support group program, you'll discover what to expect in the days ahead and what's "normal" in grief. Since there are no neat, orderly stages of grief, you'll learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability – and gain solid support each step of the way. Your bereavement experience may be recent or not so recent. No matter how long it's been, this is an opportunity to be around people who understand what you are feeling. If you have experienced the death of a family member or friend, you are invited to attend. You may attend all of the sessions, or come when you can; however, the more sessions you attend, the better your experience will be. This program will be facilitated by volunteers from our parish. To register or get more information on how GriefShare may be of benefit to you or someone close to you, contact the St. John's Ministry Center in Delphos at 419-695-4050, The Landeck Church office at 419-692-0636 or a CORE leader of our GriefShare team. Kathy Ulm xxx-xxx-xxxx • Christy Schwinnen xxx-xxx-xxxx • Tamie Reindel xxx-xxx-xxxx

## American Red Cross

*Give blood.* Help save lives.



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Delphos

**Monday, January 13**  
**8:15 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

To schedule an appointment please sign up in the high school office or call 1-800 REDCROSS or online at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) use sponsor code stjhs

Drive Sponsored by the SADD/FTA



Come give Jan. 1-26 to automatically be entered for a chance to win an exciting trip for you & a guest to Super Bowl LIX in New Orleans! Includes travel, hotel, \$1,000 gift card, pre-game activities & more! Terms apply; visit [RedCrossBlood.org/SuperBowl](http://RedCrossBlood.org/SuperBowl).



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## THE SERRA CLUB OF LIMA

The Serra Club of Lima Area, which exists to promote and support vocations to priesthood and religious life, will be meeting Thursday, January 9 at Lima Central Catholic High School. Mass will begin at 5:45 p.m. followed by dinner and a program. This month's speaker will be Matthew Etzkorn, VP of Mission for Mercy Health-Lima speaking on "Vocation in Health Care." Persons who have an interest in this topic or the mission of the Serra Club are welcome to attend as guests. If interested in attending, please respond to Kathy at 419-303-0339 no later than Tuesday, January 7.

## ECOLOGICAL MATTERS IN LIGHT OF FAITH

Do you see Earth as God's beloved creation? What would it take to expand our sense of community to include all human beings and all creatures as neighbors worthy of our loving care? These matters and more will be explored in a livestream presentation, *God and the Earth: A Conversation with Elizabeth Johnson, CSJ*, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. EST on Thursday, January 30, 2025. The presentation is drawn from Sister Elizabeth's latest book, *Come Have Breakfast*. A widely translated author, editor, and mentor, Sister Elizabeth is Professor Emerita of Theology at Fordham University in New York. She served as President of both the Catholic Theological Society and the ecumenical American Theological Society. She has lectured to church and academic groups at home and abroad. The cost is \$35.00 and registration is required to receive the livestream link. Visit [www.webercenter.org](http://www.webercenter.org) and click on "programs," call 517-266-4000, or email [webercenter@adriandominicans.org](mailto:webercenter@adriandominicans.org). Limited scholarships are available.

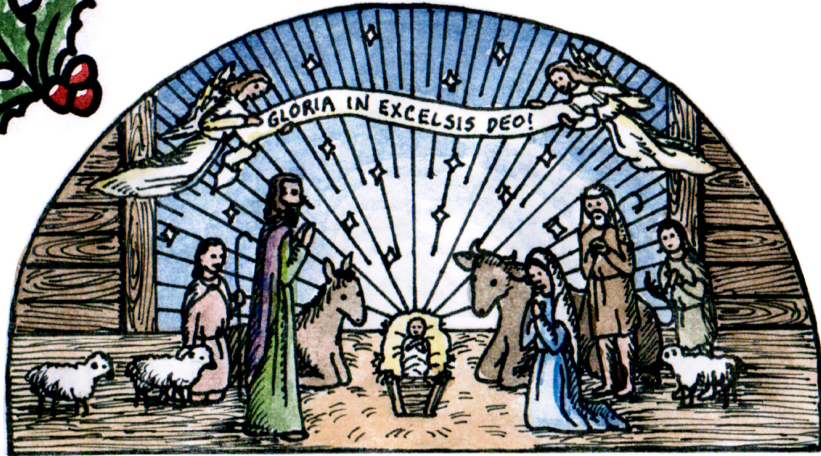
## DIOCESE

## DIOCESE OF TOLEDO COMPLIANCE

The Diocese of Toledo is in compliance with the articles of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People (Charter) of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). Every year, the Diocese dutifully submits the necessary documentation required by the USCCB for a diocese to be in compliance. Every three years an on-site audit is conducted, when not only all necessary documentation is dutifully submitted, but in addition, Pastoral Center, parish and diocesan school employees are interviewed concerning practices and protocols related to creating and maintaining a safe environment for our children and youth. The last 3-year audit was conducted in September 2024 and all audited Articles within the Charter were found to be compliant. The next on-site audit will be conducted in 2027. The Diocese of Toledo remains committed to ensuring the protection of children and providing a safe environment for all young people. If you have any knowledge of abuse that has been committed by a cleric, or any personnel of the Catholic Church, you are urged to report the abuse to your local police department, Children Services, and the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator at 419-214-4880 or by mail at 1933 Spielbusch Avenue, Toledo, Ohio 43604.

La Diócesis de Toledo está en cumplimiento con los artículos de la Carta para la Protección de Niños y Jóvenes de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos (USCCB). Cada año, la Diócesis presenta diligentemente la documentación necesaria requerida por la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos (USCCB, por sus siglas en inglés) para que una diócesis esté en cumplimiento. Cada tres años se lleva a cabo una auditoría en el sitio, en la que no solo se presenta debidamente toda la documentación necesaria, sino que, además, se entrevista a los empleados del Centro Pastoral, de las parroquias y de las escuelas diocesanas sobre las prácticas y protocolos relacionados con la creación y el mantenimiento de un entorno seguro para nuestros niños y jóvenes. La última auditoría de 3 años se realizó en septiembre de 2024. La próxima auditoría en el sitio se llevará a cabo en 2027. La Diócesis de Toledo mantiene su compromiso de garantizar la protección de los niños y proporcionar un entorno seguro para todos los jóvenes. Si tiene conocimiento de algún abuso que haya sido cometido por un clérigo o por cualquier personal de la Iglesia Católica, se le insta a denunciar con el abuso al departamento de policía de su localidad, Servicios para Niños y al Coordinador Diocesano de Asistencia a Víctimas al (419) 214-4880; o por correo a la siguiente dirección 1933 Spielbusch Avenue; Toledo, Ohio 43604.





# Happy Birthday, Jesus!

Today we celebrate Jesus' Birthday!

For many years people had been waiting for God to send them a Messiah who would save them from their sins. When the time was right God Himself became a Baby and was born of the beautiful and holy virgin Mary. His name was Jesus, and today is His birthday!

What do you do on Christmas? Is it a big celebration? Do you think about whose birthday it is? Jesus gave Himself to us because He loved us. What can you do to show your family that you love them?

Answers to Holy Family puzzle: parents, Passover, Jesus, festival, Temple, Mary, find, searched, third, know, FATHER'S HOUSE, Nazareth, wisdom

[www.thekidsbulletin.com](http://www.thekidsbulletin.com)

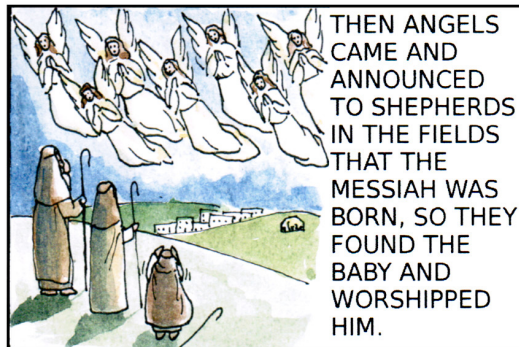
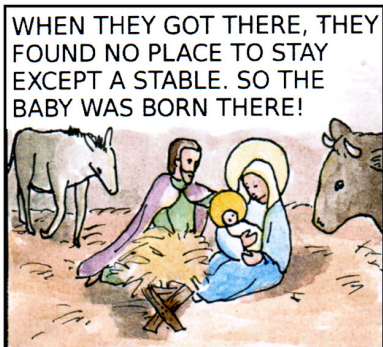
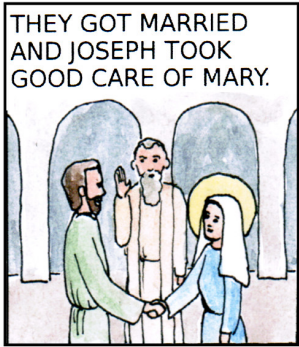
# The Kids' Bulletin

*Christmas Day and  
Feast of the Holy Family  
December 25 & 29, 2024*



*There wasn't any room for Mary and Joseph to stay in Bethlehem, so they had to go to a stable outside the town. Can you help them find their way?*





FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS THE PEOPLE HAD BEEN WAITING FOR GOD TO SEND THEM A MESSIAH WHO WOULD SAVE THEM FROM THEIR SINS. FINALLY HE CAME, A POOR BABY BORN ON A COLD NIGHT. SEE HOW MUCH GOD LOVES US, THAT HE WOULD COME TO US AS A TINY, INNOCENT BABY! HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JESUS!

## *The Holy Family Puzzle*

*Unscramble the letters to fill in the blanks.  
Use the letters in boxes to fill in the blanks with  
numbers part-way down.*

Every year Jesus and His \_\_\_\_\_<sup>12</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (NTSPRAE) went to Jerusalem for the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (SVOPSARE) festival. When \_\_\_\_\_<sup>10</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (SUJES) was twelve, they went to the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>3</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (LFSETVIA) as usual, but Jesus stayed in the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>5</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (MPELET) afterwards. \_\_\_\_\_<sup>6</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (RMYA) and Joseph thought He was with their relatives in the caravan, but when they couldn't \_\_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (DNIF) Him they went back and \_\_\_\_\_<sup>7</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (CHDEASRE) for Him. On the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>8</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (HDRIT) day they found him. When they asked Jesus why He had done this, He replied, "Did you not \_\_\_\_\_<sup>9</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (WNKO) that I must be in my

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
						'					?"

Then he went home with them to \_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup> (ZRNATHEA) and was obedient to them, and grew up in \_\_\_\_\_<sup>11</sup> (DSIWMO) and age and grace.





## MINISTRY SCHEDULE: JANUARY 4-5

	SATURDAY, JANUARY 4 – 4:30 p.m.	SUNDAY, JANUARY 5 – 7:30 a.m.
<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS</b>	Rosie Hoersten, Deacon Gene Honigford, Bonnie Merschman, Margie Ostendorf (sub req.), Marjorie Pohlman, Robert Weinandy, Dianne Will, Mandy Gerdeman – Back Paten	Kayla Hageman, Paula Hellman, Linda Martin, Kathy Miller, Jean Mueller, Steve Recker, Deacon John Sheeran
<b>SERVERS</b>	Isabelle Miller, Isaac Miller, Isaiah Miller	Addi Bockey, Eli Saint, Kennedy Sterling
<b>LECTOR</b>	Joyce Day	Dani Duncan
<b>GREETERS</b>	Barb Armstrong, Amber Gerdeman, Karen Martin, Irvin Moenter, Mike Schimmoeller, Tim Werts	Jason Bockey, Cady Donaldson, Art Klausing, Melaina Kroeger, Charlie Luersman, Paul Pohlman
<b>CANTOR</b>	Donna Pohlman	Maribeth Gable
<b>SACRISTAN</b>	Cory Werts	Archie Metcalfe
	SUNDAY, JANUARY 5 – 9:15 a.m.	SUNDAY, JANUARY 5 – 11:30 a.m.
<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS</b>	Austin Arnold, Amanda Arnold, Carson Feathers, Hopelyn Friedrich, Aubrey Friedrich, Doris Neumeier, Jackie Wrasman, Tricia Patton – Choir Chalice, Vickiann Rinker – Choir Paten	Annette Brown, Dave Clark, Marjorie Jacobs, Karen Kahny, Jim Knebel, Dawn Ledyard, Deacon John Sheeran
<b>SERVERS</b>	Alena Fuerst, Garion Fuerst, Madison Schnipke-Patton	Hank Walpole, Victoria Walpole, Cole Wilson
<b>LECTOR</b>	Rosie Hedrick	Clara Hanf
<b>GREETERS</b>	Eleanor Becker, Diane Friedrich, Bill Palte, Sandy Palte, Emma Wiltsie, Alayna Wrasman	Brooke Altenburger, Gracie Creque, Marilyn Sickels, Eli Swick, Evelyn Vonderwell, Callie Wiegung
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