CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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

Father Stephen Smith, Pastor frsmith@johnstownascension.org

Father Jesse Chick, CFIC Parochial Vicar jchick@johnstownascension.org

Deacon Byron Phillips bphillips@johnstownascension.org

> **WEEKEND MASSES** Saturday 4:00 p.m. Sunday 8:30 a.m. • 11:00 a.m.

> > HOLY DAYS Vigil 6:30 p.m. 8:00 a.m. • 7:00 p.m.

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

DAILY MASS Monday 8:00 a.m. Tuesday 6:30 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday 8:00 a.m.

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

MISSION STATEMENT

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

With the help of sacred scripture, tradition, and the sacraments, we strive to know, love and serve God in this world, while encouraging others to do the same, so we may live eternally in heaven with Christ, the angels, and the saints (Ephesians 2:4-8)

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

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CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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APRIL 14, 2024 • THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

8:00 a.m. For Living & Deceased

Members of the

Schaeufele Family

by Dr. Pat Scarpitti

8:30 a.m. Adoration & Confessions

4:00 p.m. The Eyerman Family
by Stephen &
Kathryn Eyerman

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

8:30 a.m. Parish Family 11:00 a.m. Virginia Howe by Virginia Ankrom

MONDAY, APRIL 15

8:00 a.m. Janet Hoying by Family & Friends

TUESDAY, APRIL 16

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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

8:00 a.m. For the Intention of Sharon McCollister by Maureen Keebaugh

THURSDAY, APRIL 18

8:00 a.m. For All Those Suffering from Anxiety

FRIDAY, APRIL 19

8:00 a.m. For the Intention of Phil & Sue Scherer by a Grateful Friend

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

8:00 a.m. For the Intention of Jake Arnett by Maureen Keebaugh 4:00 p.m. Les Zajac by Mike Haefs

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

8:30 a.m. Gordon Cromwell by Tom & Rhonda Thompson 11:00 a.m. Parish Family

Pastor's Corner

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This weekend, we celebrate the Third Sunday of Easter.

In this weekend's Gospel, Jesus appears before His disciples again with the same greeting we heard last week, "Peace be with you." In this encounter, Jesus asks His disciples for something to eat. Giving Him baked fish, He ate it. This reminds us of Jesus' previous miracle of the multiplication of the fish and loaves, which tells us of God's abundance in His gifts. Jesus' glorified body was no longer in need of food, but was still able, and willing, to partake of it for the sake of the brethren.

The Gospel is a reminder that the acceptance of the Resurrection of Jesus rests upon our faith and cannot be the result of any human proof, including divine apparitions. In John's Gospel, Jesus shows His hands and side. Ignatius of Antioch comments: "Immediately, they touched Him and, through this contact with His flesh and spirit, believed." The spirit must reveal what the flesh touches.

It is our faith that leads us to believe in the Resurrection of Christ, and as such, the opportunity for salvation. Although our human experiences can lead us to understand some things, our faith is really what moves us to trust and believe.

As we approach our Lord on this holy day, let us do so with hearts that are open to believe with faith and allow this belief to move us towards a deeper relationship with our glorified Lord.

God bless, Fr. Smith



BLOOD DRIVE

The Red Cross is experiencing an emergency blood shortage as the nation faces the lowest number of people giving blood in 20 years. Blood products are currently going to hospitals faster than blood donations are coming in, and in recent weeks, the Red Cross has had to limit distributions of Type O blood products – among the most transfused blood types – to hospitals.

Our next Blood Drive is scheduled for Monday, April 15, from 12:00 Noon-6:00 p.m. Spring into action: Come give blood for a \$10.00 e-gift card to a merchant of your choice. PLUS, automatically be entered for a chance to win a \$7,000.00 gift card; there will be two lucky winners! Terms apply.

Visit www.rcblood.org/spring.

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER APRIL 14, 2024

Third Sunday of Easter, APRIL 13-14, 2024

	SATURDAY • 4:00 P.M.	SUNDAY • 8:30 A.M.	SUNDAY • 11:00 A.M.
ALTAR SERVERS:	Isaac Dorsten	Austin Eckstein	Cole Fox
	Christian Dorsten	Luke Orsini	VOLUNTEER NEEDED
	Ethan Wnek	Ben Orsini	VOLUNTEER NEEDED
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS:	Mike Keebaugh – Host	Jerri Burgel – Chalice	Keith Ryan – Host
		VOLUNTEER NEEDED – Chalice	
		Michael Robbins – Host	
LECTORS:	Dennis Murnane	Adele Robbins	Chuck Bernthold
	Dave Bogner – Angelus	Rodney Tornes – Angelus	Kelly Bernthold – Angelus
GREETERS/USHERS:	Shelli Writesel	Mark Sheehan	Lora Dunfee
	Jan Orkis	Mary Sheehan	Mike Dunfee
LIVESTREAM OPERATOR:			Smithhisler Family

Fourth Sunday of Easter, APRIL 20-21 2024

			7
	SATURDAY • 4:00 P.M.	SUNDAY • 8:30 A.M.	SUNDAY • 11:00 A.M.
ALTAR SERVERS:	Shelli Writesel	Paul Cuthbert	Ryan Neal
	Jolene Bogner	Clair Barb	CC Zirille
	Ethan Wnek	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	Alex Rush
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS:	Gary Shivley – Host	Mark Holland – Chalice	Linda Droege – Host
		VOLUNTEER NEEDED – Chalice	
		Rachel Barb – Host	
LECTORS:	Dave Bogner	Aaron Locker	Mike Rush
	Theresa Shively – Angelus	Rodney Thomas – Angelus	Peter Luhrman – Angelus
GREETERS/USHERS:	Dennis Murnane	Bubby Eichner	Zirille Family
	Mary Ann Shaffer	Robbi Eichner	
LIVESTREAM OPERATOR:			VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Your Prayers are Requested

Your prayers this week are asked for Ernie Burnam, Bob & Sylvia Freed, Rick Potter & Family, Justin King, Virginia Ankrom, Maxine Nann, Letha Patton, Wesley Potts, Susan Welch, Joyce Curran, Gabrielle & Shawn, Dana Caswell, Suzanne Kubin, Sharon Freitag, Di Habash, Joe Lindsay, Ivan Booth, Donna Dellapina, Mark & Cathy Mann, Peggy Hall, Terry Baesmann, John & Helen Tomich, Barbara Penhorwood, Margie Easterday, John & Neva Stover, Jared Writesel, Don Vocca, Karen Reitz, Jeff Ankrom, JoAnn Wright, Bob Muench, Ron & Ann Mullins, Ron Gallo, and for those who have no one to pray for them. Are you or someone in your family on active duty in the military? Please let us know and we will add the names to our Prayer Requests.

RCIA CLASS TOPIC FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2024

Confessions for the Newly Baptized and Final Cookout

PLEASE NOTE:

We have a date conflict, so we will be changing the Ascension Festival to an October Fest. Please stay tuned for details later in the summer.

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION JOHNSTOWN, OHIO

Your Gifts to God

WEEKLY NEED \$7,115.00

430 REGISTERED FAMILIES

APRIL 6/7, 2024

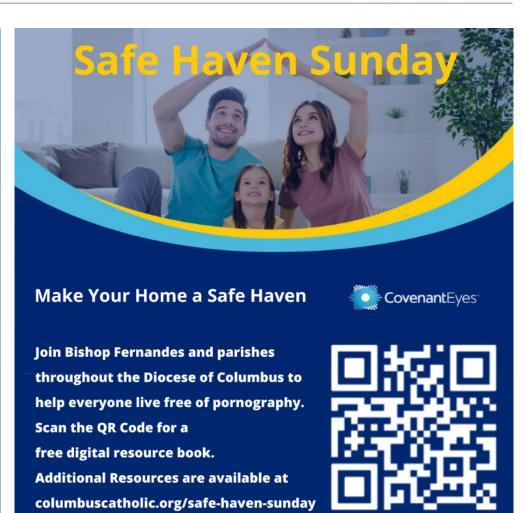
Total Offering	\$ 7,134.00
73 Envelopes	\$ 4,568.00
Loose Cash	\$ 503.00
Online	\$ 2,063.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 445.00
Central & Eastern Europe	\$ 5.00
Good Friday	\$ 20.00
SOLT	\$ 5.00

Do you return a portion of your time/skills/possessions to God in a spirit of gratitude? Looking for an easier way to give? Scan the QR code to open a link to the Church of the Ascension ParishSOFT Giving. Simply hold your phone's camera over the square and touch the link that appears at the top of your camera screen, or visit https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/ascensionjohnstown.



COME JOIN US FOR VBS 2024: SCUBA!

VBS will take place June 10-14 from 6:00-8:30 p.m. and is for kids entering Kindergarten to 5th grade. Please sign up by going to www.johnstownascension. org/register. It will be a fun week full of games, music, friendship and of course awesome Bible stories. We are always looking for volunteers. If you are in 6th grade to adult and would like to volunteer, please contact Kelly Pertee at kpertee@johnstownascension. org. Anyone 18 and over must have a background check on file with the Diocese and Protecting God's Children.



Safe Haven Sunday

APRIL 13/14, 2024

EQUIPPING THE FAMILY: HAVING CRITICAL CONVERSATIONS

Equipping the Family: Having Critical Conversations The most powerful tool we have when it comes to teaching our children about the beauty of their sexuality in the digital age is conversation. Real, honest, "look them in the eyes" conversations about their deep questions. In the digital age, passive parenting is not an option – the internet never rests. Safe Haven Sunday is celebrated through prayer and reflection within the context of the Mass. To learn more, please visit https://columbuscatholic.org/safe-haven-sunday.

SAFE HAVEN SUNDAY A PRAYER FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

Loving Father, Thank You for the gift of marriage and family life. We entrust to You our home, where our marriage and family lives and grows. We ask You to make it a safe haven for all who live and enter these walls. May our home truly be a holy place for both young and old to be formed in the truth regarding life, love, sex, and marriage. May each of our members be protected from and guided in seeking to avoid pornography, while embracing the freedom and purity of life in Christ. If there are past wounds that have occurred due to the availability of pornography on our family's devices, lack of awareness of parents, or because of indifference, we ask You to send forth Your Spirit to heal, bless, renew, and consecrate this home as a safe haven with Your son Jesus Christ at the center of our lives, today, tomorrow, and always. We ask this through the intercession of the Holy Family of Nazareth, Saints Joachim and Anne, the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Amen.

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER APRIL 14, 2024



SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY CONTEST

The Knights of Columbus, Council 4324, is holding their Annual Scholarship Essay Contest again this year.

Topic: How can the Church evangelize in the digital age?

Who can enter? Any graduating High School Senior who is a member of the Church of the Ascension

What could I win? One winner will be awarded a \$1,000.00 Scholarship, presented upon completion of the first grading period at the college they are attending. Must present grade card with average of C or better.

When is my entry due? All entries must be submitted by May 1, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. How do I enter? Entry forms and flyers are in the Gathering Space. Entries may be emailed to: kofc@johnstownascension.org

Subject: K of C Council 4324 Scholarship Contest

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEED YOU!

It's that time of year when the Knights of Columbus offer many charitable contributions, including our Keep Christ in Christmas program, Tree for Life, and more. Want to make a difference in the world and build friendships with like-minded men in the parish? Join us! Go to kofc.org/join and use 4324 when asked for your preferred local council. For more information, please contact Grand Knight Jeff Thomas at 614-580-6772 or jeffmthomas@protonmail.com.

FAMILY FULLY ALIVE:

The Knights of Columbus encourage each family to strengthen the Domestic Church by inviting God into our homes in the coming year. The Family Fully Alive program provides guidance on ways to establish and strengthen your Domestic Church in the form of themes, Scripture verses and activities. This is not simply a booklet and you are on your own, but a continuous program that will take feedback, offer support, and grow with our parishioners throughout the year and beyond.

To begin this program with your family, please pick up a booklet in the Gathering Space. If you have any questions, please contact Gus Smithhisler at 614-530-0160. And watch for additional opportunities and programs in coming months.

JOB OPPORTUNITY AT THE JOSEPHINUM

The Pontifical College Josephinum seminary seeks a fulltime Database Administrator for the Advancement Department. This position is responsible for maintaining accurate database records as well as providing support to the Advancement Office through the generation of lists, reports, and mailings. Secondary responsibilities include communications and event support. Applicants must have knowledge of fundraising fundamentals and Microsoft Word/Excel, as well as experience using a customer relationship managing database, preferably Raiser's Edge by Blackbaud. Visit pcj.edu/jobopportunity for a detailed description of this position and how to apply.

TOTUS TUUS

Our Lady of Peace 20 E. Dominion Boulevard Columbus, Ohio.

Totus Tuus is a summer Catholic youth program dedicated to sharing the Gospel and promoting the Catholic Faith through evangelization, catechesis, Christian witness, and Eucharistic worship. The weeklong Parish Summer Catechetical Program not only teaches the Catholic Faith, but also ignites the hearts of the young people who participate.

Grades 1-6:

Monday, June 17-Friday, June 21 (9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.)

Grades 7-12:

Sunday, June 16-Thursday, June 20 (7:00-9:00 p.m.)

Registration fee is \$45.00 per camper, with a \$100.00 family cap.

Registration is now LIVE at

Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church – Totus Tuus – Columbus, OH (olp-parish.org).

For more information, email arosselli@olp-parish.org.

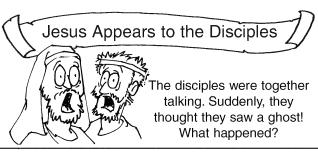
MASS INTENTIONS AVAILABLE

We have many open dates for Mass Intentions on our calendar. Please contact us in the office at 740-967-7871, office@johnstownascension.org or drop a note in the collection with the intention and your name. The Mass Stipend is \$10.00. We will do our best to accommodate any special date requests.

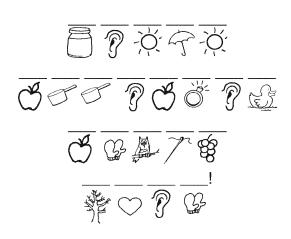
MINISTERS ARE NEEDED FOR ALL MASSES

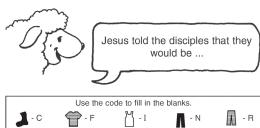
Please consider giving an hour of your time to be ministers to the Lord at Mass. We are in desperate need for all Mass times, especially the 4:00 p.m. Mass. We need Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers (5th Grade-Adult) and Greeters. Training provided. Contact Fr. Smith at frsmith@johnstownascension.org.

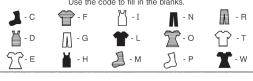
Activities for Children



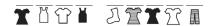
Write the first letter of each picture on the lines to spell the answer.









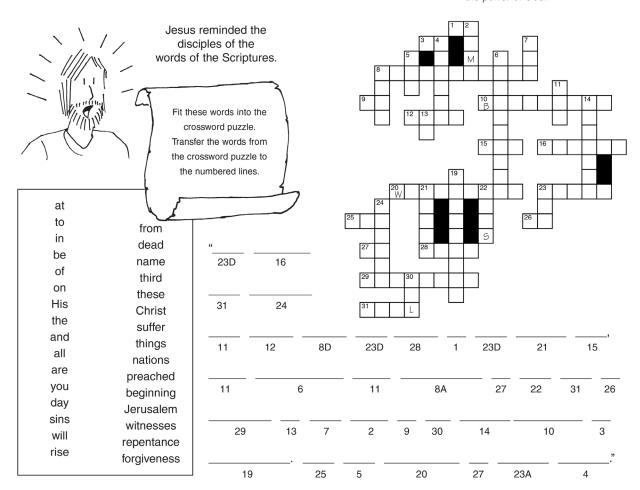




Did that mean God would give them special clothing?



It meant their hearts would be filled with the power of God!



THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER APRIL 14, 2024

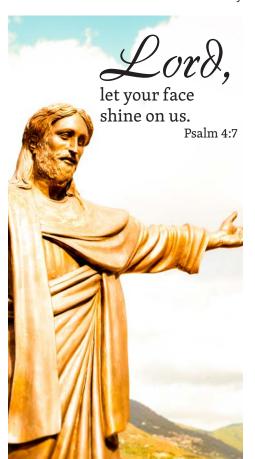
RESPONSE

Reflection on Luke 24:35-48

Throughout Scripture, hunger refers not only to the physical reality – our human need for nourishment – but also is used as a metaphor for our deeper human needs – for connection, understanding, acceptance, forgiveness, love. In Jesus, the Risen One, we are given the true satisfaction of all our hungers. He is the Bread of Life, sustaining us through His real presence in the Eucharist; He feeds us physically and spiritually!

As in other Resurrection appearances, this Gospel story portrays the disciples as "terrified" and "startled," as well as "amazed" and "incredulous for joy." Moving through these human responses to the remarkable truth that, indeed, Jesus is Risen, the disciples are then sent out as witnesses. So, too, with us. When the Scriptures are opened for us, when our hungers are fed by Christ, when we are startled by grace, amazed into mercy, incredulous for joy, even terrified by the largeness of God's love all of these encounters will impel us into mission, for what has been received as a gift must be given away as a gift.

~ Fr. Jay



WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

Sunday, April 14, 2024

Third Sunday of Easter Acts 3:13-15, 17-19 Ps 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9 1 Jn 2:1-5a Lk 24:35-48

Monday, April 15, 2024

Easter Weekday
Acts 6:8-15
Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30
Jn 6:22-29

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Easter Weekday
Acts 7:51–8:1a
Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 7b, 8a, 17 and 21ab
Jn 6:30-35

Wednesday, April 17, 2024

Easter Weekday Acts 8:1b-8 Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a Jn 6:35-40

Thursday, April 18, 2024

Easter Weekday Acts 8:26-40 Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20 Jn 6:44-51

Friday, April 19, 2024

Easter Weekday Acts 9:1-20 Ps 117:1bc, 2 Jn 6:52-59

Saturday, April 20, 2024

Easter Weekday
Acts 9:31-42
Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17
Jn 6:60-69

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

SAINT BERNADETTE SOUBIROUS

Saint of the Day: April 16 Patron Saint: against poverty

Bernadette Soubirous was born in 1844, the first child of an extremely poor miller in the town of Lourdes in southern France. The family was living in the basement of a dilapidated building when on February 11, 1858, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to Bernadette in a cave above the banks of the Gave River near Lourdes. Bernadette, 14 years old, was in poor health and had suffered from asthma.

There were 18 appearances in all, the final one occurring on the feast of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, July 16. Although Bernadette's initial reports provoked skepticism, her daily visions of "the Lady" brought great crowds of the curious. The Lady, Bernadette explained, had instructed her to have a chapel built on the spot of the visions. There, the people were to come to wash in and drink of the water of the spring that had welled up from the very spot where Bernadette had been instructed to dig.

According to Bernadette, the Lady of her visions was a girl of 16 or 17 who wore a white robe with a blue sash. Yellow roses covered her feet, a large rosary was on her right arm. In the vision on March 25, she told Bernadette, "I am the Immaculate Conception." It was only when the words were explained to her that Bernadette came to realize who the Lady was.

During her life, Bernadette suffered much. She was hounded by the public as well as by civic officials until at last she was protected in a convent of nuns. Five years later, she petitioned to enter the Sisters of Notre Dame of Nevers. After a period of illness, she was able to make the journey from Lourdes and enter the novitiate. But within four months of her arrival, she was given the last rites of the Church and allowed to profess her vows. She recovered enough to become infirmarian and then sacristan, but chronic health problems persisted. She died on April 16, 1879, at the age of 35. Bernadette Soubirous was canonized in 1933.

Read the full article: "Saint Bernadette Soubirous" Franciscan Media, Franciscan Friars, franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-bernadette-soubirous/ (Accessed April 2, 2024).





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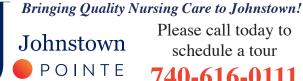
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