

# CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

555 S. Main Street, Johnstown, Ohio 43031 • 740-967-7871 • [www.johnstownascension.org](http://www.johnstownascension.org)

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**Social Committee**

Rodney Tornes | 740-817-0137

**St. Vincent de Paul Society**

24-hour Hotline | 740-349-0989

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## 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).*

Ascension of Christ, Gebhard Fugel (c. 1893)

### 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 am  
Tuesday 6:30 pm  
Wednesday-Saturday 8:00 am

### CONFESSIONS

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

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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[youtube.com/johnstownascension](https://youtube.com/johnstownascension)

# CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

555 S. Main Street, Johnstown, OH 43031 • 740-967-7871 • [www.johnstownascension.org](http://www.johnstownascension.org)

MARCH 3, 2024 • THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

## Mass Intentions

### SATURDAY, MARCH 2

8:00 a.m. Nancy Linnabary  
by a friend

8:30 a.m. Adoration & Confessions

4:00 p.m. Les Zajac  
by Mike Haefs

### SUNDAY, MARCH 3

8:30 a.m. Parish Family

11:00 a.m. Richard Scott  
by Janet Johnson

### MONDAY, MARCH 4

8:00 a.m. Andrea Medrono  
by Jeanne Falter

### TUESDAY, MARCH 5

5:00 p.m. Adoration & Confessions

6:30 p.m. Emily Gasiorek  
by Jeanne Falter

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

8:00 a.m. Mary Held  
by Deacon Joe &  
Maureen Meyer

### THURSDAY, MARCH 7

8:00 a.m. For the Intention of  
Michael & Rachael Rainer  
by Stan &  
Elizabeth Hawbaker

### FRIDAY, MARCH 8

8:00 a.m. For the Living & Deceased  
Members of the Noblet  
Family by Stan &  
Elizabeth Hawbaker

7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

### SATURDAY, MARCH 9

8:00 a.m. For the Intention of  
Aaron Andersen  
by Jennifer Fortner

8:30 a.m. Adoration & Confessions

4:00 p.m. Parish Family

### SUNDAY, MARCH 10

8:30 a.m. Smitty & Catherine Williams  
by the Williams Family

11:00 a.m. Andrea Esselstein  
by Janet Flood

## Pastor's Corner

*Dear Brothers and Sisters,*

On the evening of March 12, our parish will be hosting several local priests for our annual Lenten Penance Service. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to come together in our own weakness to seek out the mercy of God. I invite you to join us on March 12 beginning at 7:00 p.m. Bring your sin, your sorrow and fears and lay them before the wonderful mercy of God!

In this weekend's Gospel, we hear the story of Jesus expressing His righteous anger by casting out the money changers and those who were only in the temple area for personal profit. Jesus makes clear that the temple is the house of God and should be treated as such.

What is important in this story, is that we must understand what sort of "anger" Jesus had. Normally when we speak of anger, we mean a passion that is out of control and, in fact, controlling us. It's the loss of control and is a sin. But this is not the anger Jesus had. Obviously, Jesus was perfect in every way, so we must be very careful not to equate His anger with our normal experience of anger. Yes, it was a passion for Him, but it was different from what we normally experience. His anger was an anger that resulted from His perfect love.

In Jesus' case, it was love for the sinner and His desire for their repentance that drove His passion. His anger was directed at the sin they were engrossed in and He willfully and intentionally attacked the evil He saw. Yes, this may have been shocking to those who witnessed it, but it was, in that situation, the most effective way for Him to call them to repentance.

At times, we will find that we also must be angered by sin. But be careful! It's very easy for us to use this example of Jesus to justify losing control of ourselves and entering into the sin of anger.

Righteous anger, as Jesus manifested, will always leave one with a sense of peace and love for those who are rebuked. There will also be an immediate willingness to forgive when true contrition is perceived.

Perhaps in this Lenten Season, we can reflect upon the righteous anger God may want to put into our hearts at times. Again, be careful to discern it correctly. Do not allow yourself to be deceived by this passion. Rather, allow the love of God for others to be the driving force and allow a holy hatred for sin to direct you to act in a holy and just way.

It is through this emulation of Christ that we can call the sinner to repentance and seek the loving mercy of God. God seeks the salvation of souls; may we be His conduit of grace in the world.

*God bless,*  
Fr. Smith



### NEW! ONLINE BOOKING

Fr. Smith is using a new, easier online booking system to meet with parishioners. If you'd like to schedule a meeting with Fr. Smith, please scan the QR code or visit his calendar at <https://calendly.com/frstephensmith>.

## *Third Sunday of Lent* MARCH 3-4, 2024

	<i>SATURDAY • 4:00 P.M.</i>	<i>SUNDAY • 8:30 A.M.</i>	<i>SUNDAY • 11:00 A.M.</i>
ALTAR SERVERS:	Shelli Writesel	Billy Staneart	C.C. Zirille
	Mike Keebaugh	Annie Muntz	Jack Smithhisler
	Christian Dorsten	Veronica Botts	Alex Smithhisler
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS:	Linda Droege – Host	Jerri Burgel – Chalice	Joanne Hawkins – Host
		Karla Fox Somar– Chalice	
		Tom Staneart – Host	
LECTORS:	Tom Nann	Diana Lewis	Dave Bogner
	Aaron Locker – Angelus	Adele Robbins – Angelus	Carrie Sues – Angelus
GREETERS/USHERS:	Maureen Keebaugh	Ali Staneart	Zirille Family
	Dennis Murnane	Tom Staneart	Mary Ann Shaffer
LIVESTREAM OPERATOR:			Smithhisler Family

## *Fourth Sunday of Lent* MARCH 9-10, 2024

	<i>SATURDAY • 4:00 P.M.</i>	<i>SUNDAY • 8:30 A.M.</i>	<i>SUNDAY • 11:00 A.M.</i>
ALTAR SERVERS:	Ethan Wnek	Brendan Sheehan	Bode Cherry
	Christian Dorsten	Billy Staneart	Mathew Cherry
	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS:	<b>Volunteer Needed – Host</b>	Tom Staneart – Chalice	Keith Ryan – Host
		Rachel Barb – Chalice	
		Dale Anne Davidson – Host	
LECTORS:	Diana Lewis	Nadia Staneart	Peter Luhrman
	Aaron Locker – Angelus	Ali Staneart – Angelus	Sally Blubaugh- Angelus
GREETERS/USHERS:	Shelli Writesel	Mark Sheehan	Anna & Olivia Ryan
	Mary Ann Shaffer	Mary Sheehan	Mike Dunfee
LIVESTREAM OPERATOR:			Misiunas Family

## *Your Prayers are Requested*

Your prayers this week are asked for 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, Gordon Cromwell, 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.**

## Your Gifts to God

**WEEKLY NEED \$7,115.00**

430 REGISTERED FAMILIES

*FEBRUARY 24/25, 2024*

<b>Total Offering</b>	\$	<b>6,053.11</b>
62 Envelopes	\$	4,880.11
Loose Cash	\$	430.00
Online	\$	743.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$	121.00
SOS	\$	10.00
B & I Missions	\$	10.00
Easter Flowers	\$	250.95
<i>The Catholic Times</i>	\$	147.00

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>.



Thank you for your generous donations of \$1,421.77 to the Second Collection last weekend to The Diocese of Columbus **GOOD AND GROWING NEED CAMPAIGN**. Your donations will be used to fund 16 ADDITIONAL young men interested in the priesthood.

#vocations #seminarians  
#goodandgrowingneed #priests  
#ColumbusCatholic

If you would like a **STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2023**, please email the church office at [office@johnstowncatholic.org](mailto:office@johnstowncatholic.org), drop a note in the collection basket, or call the Parish Office at 740-967-7871. Please let us know if you would like to receive it via email or snail mail.

### RCIA

Wednesday, March 6, 2024, 7:00 p.m.  
*The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick/ Suffering.*

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Commemorate Jesus' Passion and death on the Cross Fridays during Lent at 7:00 p.m. after the Fish Fry.

### 40 CANS FOR LENT

Donate a can for every day of Lent to benefit the Johnstown-Northridge Food Pantry. Just bring your cans to the Church. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

Our **ANNUAL LENTEN FISH FRY** will take place every Friday in Lent, running through March 22 from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Dinners include fish, baked potatoes or fries, coleslaw, bun, dessert and drink.

Cost: Adults, \$12.00; Children 6-12 and Senior Citizens, \$8.00; Children 5 and under eat free! Carry-out is available! If you would like to donate a dessert, please drop it off on Thursday or Friday. Any questions, call Bill Paider at 614-348-4216.

### NO GREATER LOVE – A BIBLICAL WALK THROUGH CHRIST'S PASSION

Video Series is continuing every Monday night at 7:00 p.m. through Lent. You're welcome to join us!



### 40 DAYS OF ADORATION

Columbus Diocesan parishes will again be hosting a day of Adoration as part of the Diocesan 40 Days of Adoration Program. On **Friday, March 8, from 8:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.**, Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed at **Church of the Ascension** for the faithful to come and adore. Consider setting aside some time this day to spend a few minutes in silent meditation with Jesus.

### 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@johnstowncatholic.org](mailto:frsmith@johnstowncatholic.org).

### 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, March 18, from 12:00 noon-6:00 pm.

### JOB OPPORTUNITY

Jones-Schlatter Flooring located in Reynoldsburg is looking to hire an Office/Project Administrator. Join a great team! Grab a flyer off the bulletin board in the hallway for further information.



## Altar Server Training

Sunday, March 3rd 9:45am

### **CALLING ALL YOUTH!**

Altar Server training for new and seasoned Altar Servers will be held during PYC on Sunday, March 3 at 9:45 a.m. in the church. Anyone who has received (or will be receiving this year) the Sacrament of First Communion is eligible to be trained as an Altar Server. For more information, please contact Fr. Smith at [frsmith@johnstownascension.org](mailto:frsmith@johnstownascension.org).

### **BECOME A SERRAN!**

Serrans ensure the future of the Catholic Church by creating a culture of vocations in our Columbus Diocese. Serrans affirm and encourage our priests and supporting vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Serrans assist and encourage one another to respond to God's call to holiness. Check out our website at [SERRACOLUMBUS.ORG](http://SERRACOLUMBUS.ORG) for more information and scheduled events.

### **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](mailto: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.

### **"COME AND SEE" WEEKEND AT THE PONTIFICAL COLLEGE JOSEPHINUM**

The Pontifical College Josephinum, in Columbus, Ohio, has scheduled a "Come and See" Live-in Weekend for March 7-10, 2024. The Weekend has been set aside to allow young men (high school juniors, seniors, and college-aged students) to visit the seminary for a few days. Live-in participants will experience seminary prayer life, classes, communal worship, and interaction with current seminarians, faculty, and staff. Live-in Weekends include introductory presentations on discernment, student life, and the college seminary formation program. The Weekend begins with arrival at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 7, and concludes with departure at noon on Sunday, March 10. All meals and recreation are included. There is no charge to participate. For more information, contact the Vocations Office at 614-221-5565, or email [vocations@columbuscatholic.org](mailto:vocations@columbuscatholic.org) or contact your parish priest.

### **CHECK OUT OUR BACK COVER!**

Please take some time to look at the ads on the back of our bulletin. We have some new ones this year and there are some coupons on there. These advertisers provide us the opportunity to have such a nice bulletin from Dee Printing. Please patronize them as often as possible.

## Allow Him to lead

Let this Lent be the start of an enriched faith journey. Join the Knights of Columbus.



**Knights of Columbus**

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[kofc.org/join](http://kofc.org/join)



### **BECOME A KNIGHT!**

Men – this Lent, are you looking for a way to enrich your faith, make a difference in the world and build friendships with like-minded men in your parish? Become a Knight at [kofc.org/join](http://kofc.org/join) or scan the QR code. Use 4324 as your local council.

### **HOMESCHOOL GATHERING**

The homeschooling families of the Church of the Ascension will be gathering on Tuesday, March 5 at 2:00 p.m. We will meet in the large classrooms to socialize. If you are currently homeschooling or are considering it, please join us! We will be discussing various topics including homeschooling special needs/IEP children and liturgical living. This would be a great time to meet other families and ask questions! Contact Christie Thomas at [christie311@proton.me](mailto:christie311@proton.me) with any questions.

### **CATHOLIC SCHOOL HOUSE HOMESCHOOL CO-OP**

Church of the Ascension is hosting a Catholic School House Homeschool Co-op that focuses on Pre-K through 3rd grade students. Along with the CSH curriculum, the group focuses on Catholic liturgical living. We are currently on a break but will be meeting on Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. with the opportunity to attend the 8:00 a.m. Mass. If you would like to join us or would like more details, please contact Jessica Santareilli at 614-330-2903 or Erin Young at 614-329-3107.

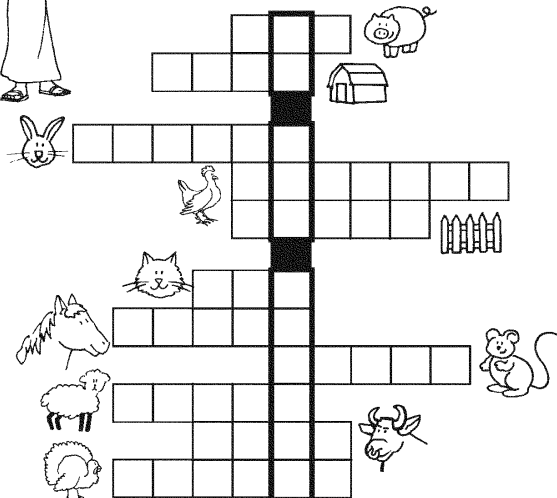
Activities for Children

Jesus Clears the Temple

It was almost time for the Passover. Jesus was in Jerusalem. He went to a place where He found men selling cattle, sheep and doves. Others were exchanging money at tables. Where was Jesus?



Write out the name of each picture in the boxes. The darker ones will spell out the answer.

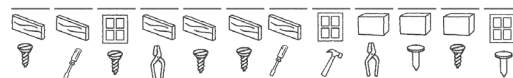
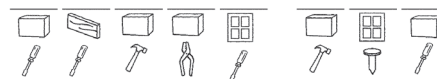
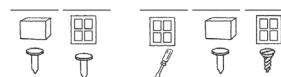
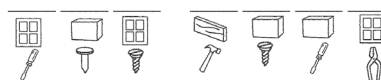


Some leaders wanted proof of Jesus' authority. He said, "Destroy this temple and I will raise it again in 3 days." They said it took 46 years to build! What temple was Jesus talking about?

Use the graph to find the answer.

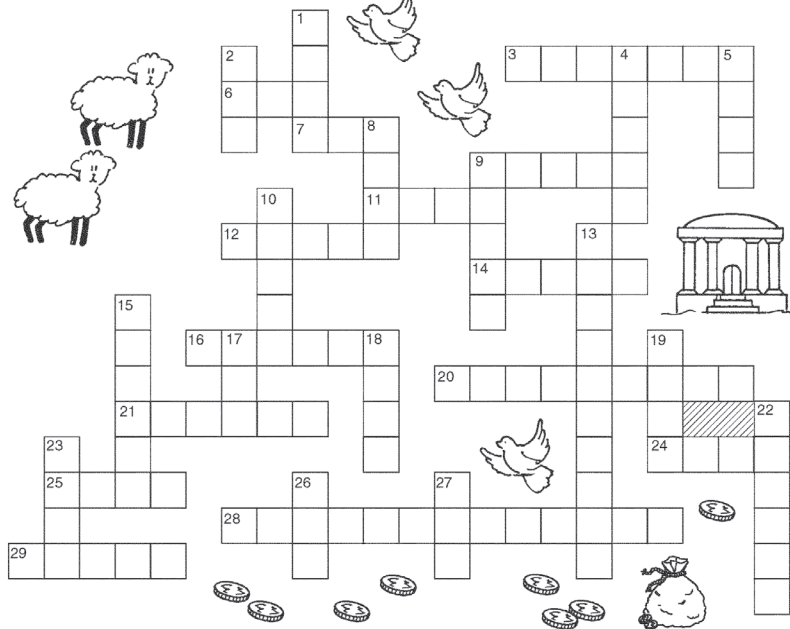


	A	D	I	O	T
	B	E	M	R	U
	C	H	N	S	Y



Fit the words below into the puzzle. (Suggestion: start with the longest word.) Write the words on the lines below. Read the story!

- out
- all
- the
- and
- how
- you
- made
- whip
- from
- area
- both
- said
- dare
- turn
- into
- Jesus
- cords
- drove
- sheep
- coins
- their
- house
- temple
- cattle
- market
- tables
- Father's
- scattered
- overturned
- moneychangers



" \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_; He \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_  
 ... He \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ my \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_!"

**BELOVED***Reflection on Mark 9:2-10*

The transfiguration of Jesus in today's Gospel is closely linked to His Baptism by John in the Jordan. On both occasions the sky speaks those words of generative love: "This is my beloved Son..."

At Jesus' Baptism, Mark reports that the proclamation, "This is my beloved Son," is followed by "with you I am well pleased." Each of us hear those same words spoken to us personally at Baptism, when we begin our lifelong journey of faith. At every stage of that journey, in every moment, we are embraced as daughters and sons who are beloved by God, and with whom God is pleased. This reality, this status of belonging in a royal, holy household, is not earned, but pure gift. God delights in you, His son, His daughter.

Whenever I hear this transfiguration story, where God follows those words of generative love with the command, "Listen to him," I am reminded of the last recorded words of Mary, the beloved Mother of Jesus, in the Gospel: "Do whatever he tells you." (from the wedding feast at Cana)

Listen to Him, and Do whatever He tells you. This journey of faith is a story that is the Word of God told throughout human history. It is told in the lives of our ancestors, and written by God with our lives as well. Listening to His Word, and doing what He instructs us to do, involves a daily and sometimes hourly choice to act in this world as if it were true that God is love, despite any evidence to the contrary.

~ Fr. Jay

**LENT**

*"I will walk before the Lord,  
in the land of the living."*

PSALM 116:9

**WEEKLY SCRIPTURE****Sunday, February 25, 2024**

*Second Sunday of Lent*

Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19

Rom 8:31b-34

Mk 9:2-10

**Monday, February 26, 2024**

*Lenten Weekday*

Dn 9:4b-10

Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13

Lk 6:36-38

**Tuesday, February 27, 2024**

*Lenten Weekday*

Is 1:10, 16-20

Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23

Mt 23:1-12

**Wednesday, February 28, 2024**

*Lenten Weekday*

Jer 18:18-20

Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16

Mt 20:17-28

**Thursday, February 29, 2024**

*Lenten Weekday*

Jer 17:5-10

Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6

Lk 16:19-31

**Friday, March 1, 2024**

*Lenten Weekday*

Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a

Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21

Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

**Saturday, March 2, 2024**

*Lenten Weekday*

Mi 7:14-15, 18-20

Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12

Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

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

*God of Love,  
Through this Lenten  
journey, purify my desires  
to serve You.*

*Free me from any  
temptations to judge others,  
to place myself above others.*

*Please let me surrender  
even my impatience with  
others, that with Your love  
and Your grace, I might  
be less and less absorbed  
with myself, and more  
and more full of the desire  
to follow You, in laying  
down my life according to  
Your example.*

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