

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

Missionaries of the Precious Blood
St. George Deanery



Pastor: Rev. Matthew Keller C.P.P.S.

Email: frmatt@glandorfstjohns.com

Deacon: Don Inkrott
Mike Karhoff

PARISH OFFICE BUSINESS HOURS

Monday-Friday, 9:00am - 5:00pm
Closed for Lunch from 12:30pm—1:30pm

Phone: 419-538-6928

Sacramental Emergencies :
419-778-9339
Fax: 419-538-6147

Website: www.stjohnnglandorf.org

Address: PO Box 48, Glandorf, OH 45848

Business Manager: Ashley Duling
Email: bmanager@glandorfstjohns.com

Administrative Assistant: Michelle Horstman
Email: admin@glandorfstjohns.com

Pastoral Associate: Mindy Recker
Email: passociate@glandorfstjohns.com

Music: Dan Ellerbrock

Maintenance: Joe Schroeder

Janitors: Mark Klausing (Church),
Mark Kaufman (Parish Center)

Cemetery Caretaker-Manager: Jeff Gerding

Preschool Administrator: Lori Rump
Email: preschool@glandorfstjohns.com
Phone: 419-538-6264

K-4th Religious Education: Tammy Schmitz
Email: k4ccd@glandorfstjohns.com
Phone: 419-538-6335

5th-8th Religious Education:
Nichole Schroeder
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Email: hscdd@glandorfstjohns.com
Phone: 419-538-6897

Youth Director: Nichole Schroeder
Email: jrhghccd@glandorfstjohns.com
419-538-6897

Parish Council President: Mary Ellen Klear

Finance Committee Chairperson:
Lynette Schroeder

Altar Rosary Society President:
Sharon Mayhew

Men's Society President: Derek Maag

July the Month dedicated to the
Precious Blood of Jesus

St. Gaspar's reflection

Pray without pause, and
always be courageous
through the merits of
the most Precious
Blood of Jesus Christ

St. Gaspar's letter
#223

OUR MISSION

Founded by Jesus Christ, St. John the Baptist Catholic Church is the heart of Glandorf. At the heart of our faith are the Sacraments which St. John's is here to evangelize, catechize, and celebrate all of God's people to set their hearts on fire in passionate love of God and neighbor.

The parable that we hear in our scriptures today puzzles me. We hear of a sower going out to seed and as this sower goes out to sow seed, the sower seems to be rather careless, reckless, and wasteful with seed. We hear of seeds landing on a walking path, on rocky ground, and among thorns. Landing in a lot of places not where it was impossible for seed to grow, I mean there was potential for seed to grow in each of these places, but highly unlikely for seed to grow. It is only the seed that fell on rich soil that produced a bountiful fruit hundred, sixty, or thirty-fold. An important detail for us to remember about this story in scriptures today with the sower is that it is a parable. A parable meaning is this event of the sower 'going out carelessly, recklessly, and wastefully' letting seed land in these unlikely places of growth may not have happened. Now whether this story really happened is not the point, the point of this story is Jesus uses a story like this, a parable to teach a lesson. A lesson of about God and the kingdom of heaven. For Jesus to directly teach about the kingdom of heaven, the crowd nor we would not understand. So, Jesus in his teaching about the kingdom of heaven in scriptures today uses a story/parable about sowing seed to help us better understand the kingdom of heaven. As you hear Jesus teach about the kingdom of heaven, what insight do gain that helps you to better understand the kingdom of heaven?

There are two insights that stand out to me from Jesus's teaching in our scriptures today. The first insight that stands out at me that we have a God that is willing to take a chance. It is easy to see the sower as being wasteful, careless, or reckless for just letting seed land in places where it was not likely to grow. But I also see a God that is willing to take a chance. If God is the sower in this parable and we are the soil or the seed. We like to picture ourselves being that rich soil the produces or seed that lands in rich soul that produces bountifully but we can also be that soil or seed that lands in places of unlikely growth. And when we are that soil or seed that is not likely to produce our God still gives us a chance.

The second insight is seed falls in four different places on the path, on rocky soil, among thorns, and on rich soil. Only the seed that falls on rich soil produces abundant fruit. Only 25% success rate. As we hear Jesus teach this parable, we can see ourselves being co-workers with God in sowing seeds of faith. We work with God and sow seed in unlikely places of producing fruit and we get nothing and this can be discouraging. We get discouraged and do not see those places where the seed landed in rich soil that produced abundant fruit. Sometimes when work with God we are not always successful, like sower in this parable. But when we are successful, even when it might seem not very often, when we produce fruit a hundred, sixty, or thirty-fold we are called to celebrate. As co-work with God in sowing seed of faith, may we see the abundant fruit that is produced and celebrate it.



www.stjohnnglandorf.org

SACRAMENTS BAPTISM

We want to warmly invite all parents to join us for our upcoming Baptism Class! Whether this is your first child, second, third, or beyond, there is always something new to learn about this beautiful sacrament. We also encourage parents to invite their chosen godparents to attend the class. This class is only required for parents for their first child.

PARENTAL BAPTISM CLASS (by Deacon Mike and Becky Karhoff)

Parish Center Room 15 11:45am - 1:15pm

Upcoming classes:

September 27, 2026

MARRIAGES

Please contact the Parish Office six months in advance to start planning your wedding. A marriage preparation class is required.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION CLASS (REQUIRED)

1-DAY CLASS organized by Dr. Craig and Wendy Imm in the Parish Center Cafeteria
Sunday, November 1, 2026 at 8:00am

RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

Wednesday 7:15am - 7:45am, 7:00pm - 7:30pm

Friday 7:15am - 7:45am

Saturday 8:30am, 4:00pm - 4:15pm

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the Parish Office if you need a Priest for Anointing of the Sick or Last Rites. If a Sacramental Emergency call 419-778-9339.

HOLY ORDERS AND RELIGIOUS LIFE

Contact the vocation office at the Toledo Diocese at 419-214-4945 or e-mail dkidd@toledodiocese.org or contact the vocation office at the Missionaries of the Precious Blood 937-228-9263 or e-mail vocation@cpps-preciousblood.org.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Wednesday 6:30pm - 7:30pm

1st Friday 1:00pm - 4:00pm concluding with Benediction

1st Saturday 5:30pm - 8:00am

THE ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA)

is a journey through which interested adults and older children are welcomed and gradually introduced to the Roman Catholic faith, sacraments, worship, and way of life. In response to their inquiries, participants receive instruction and formation so they may discern, through reflection and prayer, whether they are being called to enter the Catholic Church.

If you would like more information or would like to register, please contact Mindy Recker at 419-538-6928 or email

passociate@glandorfstjohns.com.

MONDAY, JULY 13

7:35am Rosary

8:00am Communion Service— Deacon Mike Karhoff

TUESDAY, JULY 14~St. Kateri Tekakwitha

7:35am Rosary

8:00am Don & Alice Siefker,

Fr, Tony Anniversary in the Priesthood, Judy Schroeder,

Beth Schroeder, Fred Schroeder

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15~St. Bonaventure

7:15am-7:45am Confession

7:35am Rosary

8:00am Walter & Eugenia Weskiel

6:30pm-7:30pm Adoration

7:00-7:30pm Confessions

7:30pm - 8:30pm Night of Worship

THURSDAY, JULY 16~Our Lady of Mount Carmel

7:35am Rosary

8:00am Leonard & Rosemary Kuhlman,

L/D Urban & Frances Meyer Family

FRIDAY, July 17

7:15am-7:45am Confessions

7:35am Rosary

8:00am Norm Wiechart

12:00pm Rosary

SATURDAY, JULY 18~St. Camillus de Lellis

7:35am Rosary

8:00am Celebrant's Intention

8:30am Confessions

4:00pm Confessions

4:30pm L/D Richard & Jeanette Heckman Family, Joyce Smith,

L/D Gilbert & Marcella Morman Family,

L/D Mel Hedrick Family, Jacob M. Schroeder,

Vicki Verhoff

5:30pm Baptism

SUNDAY, JULY 19~16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:35am Rosary

8:00am Karl Buerger, Samantha Nienberg

10:30am L/D Victor (AN) and Ceicilia Schroeder Family,

Cayla Fortman-Ross, L/D Bill & Jeannie Luttfing Family,

Bill Campbell

11:30am Baptism

4:00pm Baptism

SERVERS

Mon	8:00am	No Mass
Tue	8:00am	Bella Bockrath, Levi Hanneman, Bronson Stechschulte, Bennett Stechschulte
Wed	8:00am	Drew Lehman, Kayden Trombley, Aidrik Vennekotter, Jace Vennekotter
Thurs	8:00am	Addison Klear, Maya Vorst, Kassie Wrasman, Landry Wrasman
Fri	8:00am	Alexis Bockrath, Austin Bockrath, Luke Bockrath, Nolan Gerding
Sat	8:00am	Hunter Blankemeyer, Luke Leopold, Konnor Stechschulte, Ashton Stechschulte
Sat	4:30pm	Emmit Miller, Will Faber, Addyson Faber
Sun	8:00am	Ethan Weis, Ty Wrasman, Mylie Bockrath
Sun	10:30am	Lyla Walker, Will Siefker, Asher Rump

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**LECTORS**

Sat	4:30pm	Doug Deitering	Clint Salisbury
		Diane Deitering	Kelsie Salisbury
Sun	8:00am	Deb Leopold	Andy Gray
		Deb Schroeder	Deb Schroeder
Sun	10:30am	Tara Gerding	Paula Siebeneck
		Jane Moening	Andrea Niese

GIFT BEARERS - To sign up for a Mass click link below<https://tinyurl.com/3uzy8vvj> or scan QR code

Sat	4:30pm	Ask a family or Ushers
Sun	8:00am	Ask a family or Ushers
Sun	10:30am	Ask a family or Ushers

**JULY USHERS**

Sat	4:30pm	Roger Koch, Logan Koch, Connor Koch
Sun	8:00am	Bryan Kaufman, Amy Kaufman
Sun	10:30am	Mike Siefker, Greg Nussbaum

COMMUNION TO MEADOWS: Suzie Brinkman, Paula Elchinger**COUNTERS FOR SUNDAY: 7****ROSARY NEXT SUNDAY:** Henry & Jane Kaufman, Sharon Meyer**JULY FUNERAL ROSARY LEADERS:** Janet & Cliff Schroeder, Marilyn & Richard Siefker, Laura & Tom Hageman, Fran Roof, Jeanette & Elton Schroeder, Annette & Steve McKee


Thank You

My heartfelt gratitude for the incredible support and love you extended to me during these last six months and with the passing of our Beloved Mike.

Your kindness will never be forgotten.

I am so very blessed to be part of such a caring congregation here at St. John the Baptist.

May God Bless You All!

Judy Niese



thank you

WE WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO EACH OF YOU FOR YOUR EXTRAORDINARY GENEROSITY IN SUPPORTING THIS YEAR'S ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL.

YOUR RESPONSE HAS BEEN TRULY INSPIRING! BY REACHING 174% OF OUR PARISH GOAL, YOU HAVE DEMONSTRATED THE INCREDIBLE FAITH AND GENEROSITY OF OUR PARISH FAMILY. YOUR SACRIFICIAL GIFTS WILL MAKE A LASTING DIFFERENCE IN THE MANY MINISTRIES AND MISSIONS SUPPORTED THROUGH THE ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL.

THANK YOU FOR PUTTING HOPE IN ACTION THROUGH YOUR PRAYERS, GENEROSITY, AND COMMITMENT TO THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH. YOUR KINDNESS IS A BLESSING, AND I AM DEEPLY GRATEFUL FOR ALL YOU DO FOR OUR PARISH AND FOR OUR DIOCESAN FAMILY.

MAY GOD BLESS YOU ABUNDANTLY FOR YOUR GENEROSITY.

NIKKI MOREY
ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL MANAGER
MISSION ADVANCEMENT OFFICE




4 PRAYER AND STEWARDSHIP

STEWARDSHIP

July 5, 2026

Offering

Loose	\$	687.00
Adult Envelope	\$	9132.00
Children	\$	86.00
Maintenance	\$	3460.00
Online Offering	\$	2,098.75
Online Maintenance	\$	226.25
Peter's Pence	\$	50.00
Patronal Feast	\$	60.00
Catholic Relief	\$	300.00
Total Collection	\$	16,100 .00

Thank you to all of you who have been continuing to make your Weekly/monthly contributions to your St. John's parish family and for sharing your treasure, time, & talent with your St. John's parish family!

Give Online Today!

Visit our website to get the E-Giving Form to fill out and return to the Parish Office. It is located in the left side above the Menu options.
www.stjohnsglandorf.org

NEED YOUR HELP

HEARTBEAT: Boys and Girls: Diapers – Preemies, Pullup (Boys & Girls) – 2T/3T and 3T/4T, Summer sleepers, Boys – 18 mos, 3T/4T, Girls – 6-9 mos, 9-12 mos, 12-18 mos, 24 mos, 2T, 4T, Baby wash, Baby shampoo, Baby powder, Baby lotion, Diaper rash ointment, Children's toothbrushes, Sippy cups, Teether toys, Toddler socks

There is a box in the south entrance of the Church for Heartbeat donations which will be picked up and taken to the Lima office periodically.

Heartbeat Hours: Monday through Thursday
9:00am—5:00pm at
421 S. Cable Rd, Lima, OH 45805.

OTTAWA FOOD PANTRY: ITEMS NEEDED: Cream style corn, ketchup(24oz preferred), graham crackers, boxed potatoes (au gratin, scalloped, etc), pancake mix, pineapple all kinds (crushed rings or tibets), poptarts and granola bars, mandarins oranges, salty snacks, hamburger helper type dinners, canned potatoes. Please keep in mind that most of the families we serve are just 1-3 people.

Please no more boxed Mac and Cheese for awhile. We have plenty to last probably to the end of the year. Thank you for your generosity!

We can always use more volunteers! Glandorf Parish supplies workers for **October and April** - only 8 partial days for the entire year! Questions or you plan on helping call or text Marlene 419-303-6531.

Please Include them in your prayers

OUR FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Please remember in your Masses and prayers the soul of our faithful departed. Our sincere sympathy is extended to their families, relatives, friends & neighbors of

Donald Nienberg

Velma Luttfing

Delores Annesser

WEDDING BANN

II Camryn Weis, of this parish, daughter of Nathan & Lisa Weis & **Drew Kuhlman**, of Sts. Peter & Paul, son of Steve & Kelly Kuhlman



**CONGRATULATIONS
ON YOUR 50th WEDDING
ANNIVERSARY!**

Mike & Sandy Bellman

Pray For Those Who Have Gone Before Us

The past 20 years

Frances A Schroeder 7/12/06	Mary Ann Wurth 7/14/10
Rita A Verhoff 7/12/07	Blanche M Hovest 7/15/10
Verena F Mullett 7/13/14	Monica R Uphaus 7/15/19
Donald S Recker 7/13/17	Cletus A Gerdeman 7/18/13
Ronald H Schmenk 7/14/09	Teresa C Warnecke 7/18/14

CONFIRMATION MASS

Mark your Calendars

SCHEDULED FOR
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2026 AT 2:00 PM

AT ST. JOHN'S
OFFICIATING WILL BE
MOST REVEREND DANIEL E. THOMAS

VENESUELA EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

You may donate on our secure website: www.catholiccharitiesnwo.org, selecting Venezuela Earthquake Relief as your donation designation. Please make checks out to Catholic Charities Diocese of Toledo, noting Venezuela Earthquake Relief.

Please mail checks to Catholic Charities Diocese of Toledo, One SeaGate, Suite 2300, Toledo, OH 43604.

Thank you for generously supporting those in need.



2026 GRAND-orf Club

Drawing will be this Sunday, **July 12th** along with **Coffee and Donuts** hosted by **Craig and Kristen Duling**. Extra tickets are in the racks in the Church Vestibules.

Searching in the Dark? Let Him show You the Light.

If you are searching:

For security in this world...

For understanding of what you were made for...

To find true love...

To know who Christ is...

To enter into a community of believers...

To learn about the teachings and Truths of the Catholic Faith...

... then your path has been lit!

Contact

Mindy Recker at 419-538-6928 to learn about how you can FIND the LIGHT through our process of seeking Christ called...

OCIA - Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN OUR PARISH?

NEED YOUR HELP!

- ♦ We are looking for someone to bring Holy Communion to the Ottawa Meadows on the 3rd Sunday of February, April, October and December.
- ♦ We are looking for someone to be a Lector on the 1st and 3rd Monday's of each Month at the 8:00am Communion Service
- ♦ First Saturday, Praying the Rosary. To keep this going at our Parish. We have some open spots. The times are 11:30am to 12:00pm, 2:30pm to 3:00pm, and 3:30pm—4:00pm

BECOME A EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER OR LECTOR!

We are looking for new volunteers to serve in these meaningful ministries.

Not ready for a regular schedule? Consider joining our substitute list—especially for the 4:30 PM Mass, where help is greatly needed. If you feel called to one of these ministries or would like more information, please contact the parish office by the end of July by phone or email. We will have training sometime in late August.

Let God lead you—your parish needs you!

Call the office, if you are interested in helping with any of these ministries!

Catechism Corner

The Source and Summit of our Faith:

Eucharistic Worship, Part 5, Rituals & Symbols

These past weeks we have looked briefly at each part of the liturgy of the Mass. Each part of the Mass brings us into encounter with the Living God. As humans, our encounters become 'real' to us through how we experience them. For example, looking at pictures of someone's trip to Germany is a different experience than a person taking a trip to Germany themselves. Humans are sensual beings and experience both the material and spiritual world with our senses. Therefore, the Mass rituals and symbols used help us to experience both the material and spiritual realities of what is happening in the liturgy. The ritual actions and gestures of the liturgy convey and express a rich theology: raised hands, hand in the *orans* position (praying hands), processions, kneeling, bowing, standing, or sitting. Every gesture and action of the liturgy expresses what we believe about God and about our relationship with God. Here are a few rituals and symbols used in liturgy.

Standing: In the early Church, standing was interpreted in light of the resurrection. The early Church Fathers, Tertullian, Jerome and Justin were all in agreement that standing was a sign of joy. They forbade the early Christians to fast or kneel on Sundays during Easter time. "It is a time of joy and of victory when we do not kneel or bow to the earth, but risen with Christ, we are raised to the heavens."

Kneeling: In the early Church, kneeling was reserved for special, more intensely focused forms of supplication. In time, Christians began kneeling in communion to show reverence, humility and homage for Christ as our King.

Bowing: Used as a sign of reverence and humility, bowing happens at Mass when a person passes in front of the altar and tabernacle – showing reverence for the sacrifice that happens at the altar and to show humility and honor to Christ dwelling within, and during the profession of the Creed when the following words are spoken, "By the Holy Spirit, was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man," to show reverence to the Incarnation of Christ becoming Man.

Music: Music is ritual language. St. Paul exhorted Christians to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. Music conveys in melody and song the deepest emotions of the heart and the truths of our faith that reaches the depths of the soul. Music captures our longing for God in ways words cannot. It expresses joy, praise, lamentation, and sorrow. St. Augustine said, "The one who sings, prays twice!"

Candles: Light evokes and makes present the reality that God brings us out of darkness. God lights our path, and God warms our heart with the light of His presence. The flame of the light is a symbol of the Holy Spirit's presence within us, just as the fire of the Holy Spirit came down upon the Apostles at Pentecost. The flame of a fire is memorizing and can be caught. A flicker can grow into an inferno. This is what the Holy Spirit does.

Incense: In the Old Testament, God often followed the people of Israel in the form of a cloud. He traveled with them, showing His presence and guiding them. Later, God commanded Aaron (Israel's first high priest) to create a cloud of incense within their sacred space every morning and night. There are many more references to God being surrounded by a cloud. (Ps 97:2, Is 6:4, Acts 1:9, and Rev. 5:8) The cloud of smoke created by the incense reminds us of God's presence and it is used as a sign of our prayers being lifted up to the heavens.

These are but a few rituals and symbols of our worship. There are many more, especially with each Sacrament. Through bodily posture and mental discipline, we intentionally remind ourselves we are with God. In prayer and during Mass, body postures assist us to move from our daily routines and awareness of life to a more intentional focus on where and how God is already always moving in our lives.

6 AROUND THE PARISH

HELP US

prepare our students Bibles!

WE'RE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO JOIN US FOR A FUN MORNING OF FELLOWSHIP AS WE PREPARE BIBLES FOR OUR FAITH FORMATION STUDENTS BY ADDING BIBLE TABS.

WHETHER YOU'VE DONE IT BEFORE OR IT'S YOUR FIRST TIME, WE'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU! THIS IS A SIMPLE BUT MEANINGFUL WAY TO SUPPORT OUR YOUNG PEOPLE AS THEY GROW IN THEIR FAITH AND BECOME MORE FAMILIAR WITH GOD'S WORD.

Wednesday, July 15th

9:00am

Parish Center Cafeteria

Come enjoy good company while helping us make these Bibles a special gift for our students. Many hands make light work, and we'd love for you to be part of this ministry! Light snack provided.

We hope to see you there!

Our Lady of Fatima

traveling parish statue will be in church on the 13th of each month May thru October to commemorate the apparitions which occurred in Fatima, Portugal in 1917.

Our Lady's main message on July 13 was ... a vision of hell shown to the three shepherd children and a call for devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, emphasizing the need for prayer and penance to save souls and achieve peace.

Please stop in church and pray a rosary on July 13th.



Ladies of Leisure Social Club

Third Wednesday each month.
Two Event Times: 1:00-4:00 or 6:00-9:00

@ The Parish Center, Cafeteria in Gandorf

Play cards, Games, or Crafts
(Please Bring your own supplies.)
BYOB and snacks.



Casual, FREE Event
Come alone or with friends.
Enjoy a few hours of laughs & friendship.

Questions call: Jill Gerding 419-538-6942
Sponsored by St. John's Alter Rosary Society



WE WOULD LIKE TO RAFFLE OFF
4 HALVES OF PORK THIS YEAR.
WE ARE LOOKING FOR
MONETARY DONATIONS OR 2
HOGS. THANK YOU!

GLANDORF PARISH
INVITES YOU TO A WEEKLY:

AN EVENING OF
EUCCHARISTIC
ADORATION AND
WORSHIP MUSIC

NIGHT OF Worship

STARTING ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10TH,

• THEN CONTINUING WEEKLY ON
WEDNESDAYS

WORSHIP STARTS @7:30 AND ENDS @8:30 PM

• Confession offered as Father's availability
allows

AT GLANDORF SAINT JOHN'S THE BAPTIST
CHURCH

• Enter through the center doors at the back of
the church

Attention All High School Age Students!

Join us for a retreat day entitled:

Listening for God's Voice

Saturday, July 25, 2026

From 9:00 AM until 2:00 PM

**At the Spiritual Center of Maria Stein
Lake Campus, Montezuma, Ohio**

This retreat day
will offer you an
opportunity to
listen for God's
voice in your life
as you discern



God's call, learn tools for discernment, and
provide a space for youth to ask questions of
faith.

The retreat is hosted by the Missionaries of
the Precious Blood and the Sisters of the
Precious Blood and is free of charge for those
who participate. Lunch, snacks, and drinks
will be provided.

High School age boys and girls or newly
graduated youth are invited to the retreat.
To register please contact Fr. Angelo Anthony
at: aanthony@preciousbloodus.org or
Teri Iverson at: tiverson@cppsadmin.org.

Registration deadline is July 19th.

Chairman's Statement on *Dobbs* Anniversary

USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities

Four years ago, on June 24, 2022, the Supreme Court changed history with the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* decision, overturning *Roe v. Wade* and ending the status quo of virtually unlimited abortion at the Federal level.

While the *Dobbs* decision gave states the freedom to pass pro-life laws and protect preborn children, these laws are now being undermined by a proliferation of abortion pills. The Food and Drug Administration, a government agency responsible for protecting public health, has enabled a nationwide mail-order abortion industry by allowing abortion pills to be prescribed in telemed appointments and sold both at neighborhood pharmacies and online, circumventing state laws that protect life in the womb. This leaves women vulnerable to suffering an abortion alone at home, without any medical supervision. It also sets up opportunities for further exploitation by their violent partners or human traffickers.

Every abortion involves the death of a child and harm to the mother. Now with easier access to abortion pills, the abortion rate is tragically climbing. The victory of the *Dobbs* decision risks being undone by the massive influx of abortion pills.

What can we do to help protect women and babies from the evil of abortion pills? First, pray for women who are deceived by the abortion industry. Second, share the facts about abortion pills with your friends. (See our [one-pager](#).) Third, take action to help protect women and babies from these dangerous drugs by sending a message to your pharmacy or to



pharmaceutical companies that produce these drugs. From mid-August through the end of October, Respect Life Month, the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities will be inviting Catholics to unite in prayer and action. Please sign up and join us at www.respectlife.org.

On this Anniversary of the *Dobbs* decision, we praise God for the historic overturning of *Roe v. Wade*, and we beg the intercession of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in building a culture of life.

Most Reverend Daniel E. Thomas
Bishop of Toledo
Chairman, USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities



United States
 Conference of
 Catholic Bishops

What are Abortion Pills?

Most abortions are no longer done by surgery in clinics, but by taking pills. //

The rate of women taking abortion pills is increasing (and is at hundreds of thousands per year).

The first pill (mifepristone) kills preborn babies by cutting them off from blood and oxygen. A second pill (misoprostol) then helps push the babies' remains out. While these drugs can have other uses, they are a deadly combination for preborn children.

In addition to ending the lives of babies, abortion pills are dangerous for the mothers who take them. //

They have been found to cause four times as many complications as surgical abortions. A 2025 study found that 10 percent of women who take abortion pills need to get urgent treatment for problems afterward like infections, hemorrhages, or remains of the baby not having come out.

But the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has taken shortcuts over the years and removed guardrails around the pills. This allows the abortion industry to push the abortion pill more and more.

In 2021, the FDA made the abortion pill available even without an in-person doctor visit. //

That means a woman might be taking the pill dangerously late in her pregnancy, or during a complicated pregnancy where it would be unsafe, and a doctor wouldn't know.

Being able to get abortion pills by a "telehealth" video appointment and mailed to your home, or at your local pharmacy, also means abortions are now

happening everywhere and anywhere, often with women suffering through the trauma of delivering their dead baby alone.

This easier access to abortion pills also increases the chances of their being used by abusive partners or sex trafficking criminals against a woman's will. //

Because abortion pills can be sent through the mail, they are also often being sent from states with pro-abortion laws to women in states with pro-life laws. That means the pro-life states don't have the ability to protect life and women in need like they were supposed to after the Supreme Court finally overturned *Roe v. Wade* in 2022.

Some women who take the first abortion pill may have time to change their mind with an "abortion pill reversal" process, but some states are trying to block access to this last chance for life.

What can you do to help protect women and babies from abortion pills? //

1. Pray for women who are deceived by the abortion industry.
2. Share the risks of the abortion pill with your friends.
3. Sign up for Respect Life Prayer and Action to help protect women and babies from these dangerous drugs at respectlife.org/prayer-and-action.

If you or someone you know has participated in abortion, know that mercy, hope, and healing are available through diocesan Project Rachel Ministry. Learn more at HopeAfterAbortion.com.

For sources of data, see https://www.usccb.org/resources/What_Are_Abortion_Pills_Sources.pdf.
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United States
Conference of
Catholic Bishops

Secretariat of
Pro-Life Activities

usccb.org/prolife