

### APPOINTMENTS

#### ACOLYTES:

Thurs. April 13 - 7:00 PM- Jack Donoughe, Kelsey Donoughe,  
Ryan Donoughe, Kaelab Ruggles  
Fri. April 14 - 7:00PM- Claire Resick, Keaton Swope, not filled  
Sat. Apr. 15 - 8:30 PM - Caitlin Conigy, Tyler Conigy, Mai Linh Do,  
Claire Nackley, Keaton Swope  
Sun. Apr. 16- 8:00 AM - Sarah Geishouser, not filled  
Sun. Apr. 16 - 11:00 AM - Amelia Partner, Nate Rudolph,  
Amber Yasolsky

#### LECTORS:

Thurs. April 13 - 7:00 PM- Bill Foose, Norma Foose  
Fri. April 14 - 7:00PM-David Petrak, Mary Petrak, Patrick Schurr  
Sat. Apr. 15 - 8:30 PM - John Lloyd, Matt Michelone,  
Gary Johnson, Tim Rea, Bob Olson  
Sun. Apr. 16- 8:00 AM - Daniel Turcovsky, Diane Turcovsky  
Sun. Apr. 16 - 11:00 AM - Wally Wargo, Richard Karcher

#### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Thurs. April 13 - 7:00 PM- Debbie Dougherty, Barbara Bundy,  
Darlene Scarpaci, Fran Semelsberger, Daniel Turcovsky,  
Diane Turcovsky  
Sat. Apr. 15 - 8:30 PM - Cora Bacon, Connie Baker, Marilyn  
Bevan, Barbara Bundy, Joyce Cunningham, Melissa McHugh  
Sun. Apr. 16- 8:00 AM - Danielle Miller, Darlene Scarpaci  
Sun. Apr. 16 - 11:00 AM - Paula Adams, Walter Bloom, Cecelia  
Bloom, Dolores Capriotti, Lou Ann Clark, Susanna Tomlinson

#### MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY:

Thurs. April 13 - 7:00 PM- Helen Miller, Charlie Moore, Heather  
Nackley, Ed Stoltz  
Fri. April 14 - 7:00PM- Dolores Capriotti, Darlene Scapaci, Chris-  
tine Stachmus, Denny Stachmus  
Sat. Apr. 15 - 8:30 PM - Colleen Langguth, David Langguth, Den-  
nis Moughemer, Karen Moughemer  
Sun. Apr. 16- 8:00 AM - Carolyn English, Mary Grace Horton,  
Mike O'Neill, Ginny Reeder  
Sun. Apr. 16 - 11:00 AM - Peg Madden, Anna Podoletz, Patrick  
Podoletz, not filled

#### SACRISTAN:

Sat. Apr. 15 - 8:30 PM - Dolores Capriotti  
Sun. Apr. 16- 8:00 AM - Billy Sweet  
Sun. Apr. 16 - 11:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti

### UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

April 12 - Tenebrae - 7:45 PM  
April 23 - New Parishioners Luncheon  
April 30 - First Communion  
May 6 - Spring Fling  
May 7 - Mass of Anointing - 2:00PM  
May 14 - May Crowning at 11:00 Mass

### HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:

MONDAY: MASS 8:30AM  
TUESDAY: MASS 8:30AM  
WEDNESDAY: MASS 7:00PM  
TENEBRAE 7:45PM  
HOLY THURSDAY: MORNING PRAYER 8:30AM  
MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER 7:00PM  
FRIDAY: MORNING PRAYER 8:30AM  
STATIONS OF THE CROSS 12:00PM  
THE PASSION OF THE LORD 7:00PM  
HOLY SATURDAY: MORNING PRAYER 8:30AM  
BLESSING OF EASTER BASKETS 12 NOON  
EASTER VIGIL 8:30PM  
EASTER SUNDAY MASSES: 8:00AM & 11:00AM



APRIL 9, 2017  
*PALM SUNDAY OF THE  
PASSION OF THE LORD*  
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#### PASTORAL STAFF:

- Msgr. Michael Becker *mbecker253@aol.com*
- Deacon Gene Neral *gene@lifeinfocus.net*
- Mr. Mark Krepich RCIA & Parish Council President  
*mark.krepich@gmail.com*
- Mrs. Deborah Johnson Director of Music /Pastoral Associate  
*dj219@msn.com*
- Mr. & Mrs. Bill & Norma Foose Stephen Ministry  
*norma.foose@yahoo.com*
- Mrs. Mary Ann Mirobelli Business Manager  
*stjohnchurch@atlanticbb.net*
- Mrs. Mary Haenig Religious Education Director  
*mshaenig@gmail.com*
- Mr. Ken Dunmire Maintenance

## A Few Words from the Pastor:

**Holy Week Begins** – We have reached the highpoint of the Church Year, as we enter Holy Week. Plan now to participate fully in this Paschal Mystery, as we will begin the Triduum this Wednesday, April 12, with the ancient observance of Tenebrae, which will be followed by our Solemn Liturgies of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil.

**Tenebrae** – Please join us for the prayerful observance of “Tenebrae” this Holy Week. The word itself is Latin for “shadows” or “darkness.” The service is unique among our religious practices, because of its focus upon the gradual darkening of the church. Candles are extinguished, one by one, while a series of readings and psalms are chanted or recited. The church is left in only the darkest of shadows. It is meant to capture the looming darkness which comes upon the world at the death of Christ. Mass will be celebrated at 7:00PM on Wednesday evening, with Tenebrae following.

**Holy Thursday Mass and Adoration** – The Mass of the Lord’s Supper begins at 700PM and is a beautiful time to renew our love for the Eucharist. Following mass, there is adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the Day Chapel until 10:00PM. This time of adoration coincides with the time that Jesus spent in the Garden of Olives after the Last Supper. “Could you not watch with me one hour?”

**Good Friday** – Stations of the Cross will be prayed at noon on Good Friday, with a time of prayer before the cross throughout the day. The Solemn Commemoration of the Passion will be observed at 7:00 on Good Friday evening.

**The Easter Vigil** – Considered the “Mother of all Liturgies,” our Easter Vigil will be celebrated at 8:30PM on Saturday, April 15. This celebration begins with the lighting of the Easter fire, the procession with the Easter candle, and includes as well the blessing of the Easter baptismal waters.

**Easter Masses** - The Glories of the risen Christ will be celebrated at our Easter liturgies on Sunday morning at 8 and 11 o’clock. He is Risen! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Confessions this week** – I will be available for Confessions this Holy Week on Wednesday at 6:00 PM. Have you made your Lenten confession?

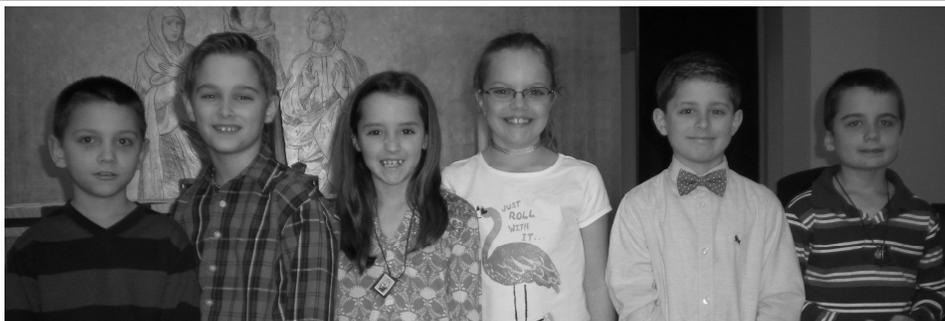
**Remember your Rice Bowls** – Throughout the Lenten Season families have been participating in Operation Rice Bowl as a way of supporting our sister parish in Haiti. Thank you for your kindness. We ask that these rice bowls be returned to the church at your earliest convenience.

**Sight and Sound** – We are planning a day trip to Sight and Sound in Lancaster to see their terrific production of “Jonah” on Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. The trip would include travel, ticket and dinner. We will be leaving from the parish parking lot mid-morning, and returning in the evening. The cost per person will be \$125. Don’t miss this wonderful spring get-away! You can sign up on the kiosk in the gathering space or call the office to make reservations.



**The Blessing of Easter Baskets: A Cherished Catholic Easter Tradition** - The blessing of the Easter Basket has been a cherished Catholic ritual for centuries among families of Eastern

European origin and adopted by people of all ethnic backgrounds who enjoy this richly symbolic custom. Traditional foods included in the basket were lamb or ham, kielbasa, boiled eggs (dye or plain) Pascha (a special Easter bread), butter, cheese, salt. Often a candle is included to be lit during the blessing at church. After Easter Sunday’s Resurrection Mass, the family and guests would share this blessed fare and exchange good wishes. Our Easter Basket Blessing here at St. John’s will take place on Holy Saturday at noon. Please come and bring your baskets of food!



### OUR PARISH FAMILY...

This week and next, we’re featuring some very special members of our parish family – the children who will soon be receiving their First Communion here at St John’s. These six children are just part of this year’s First Communion class, so check here next week for more.

From left to right, the children (and their parent’s names) are: **Landen Petrunak** (Eric & Jody), **Conner Ryan** (Jason & Diane), **Emma Moritz** (Greg & Heidi), **Sadie Swope** (Ken & Megan), **Aiden Cooney** (Steve & Michelle), and **Luke Geishauser** (Greg & Regina). *First Communion will be celebrated at the 11:00 Mass on Sunday April 30<sup>th</sup>.* Please pray for these children and their families, and let’s all congratulate them!

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS**

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SCHEDULE**

April 9<sup>th</sup>: NO CLASS Palm Sunday/Easter Egg Hunt

April 16<sup>th</sup>: NO CLASS Easter Sunday

April 23<sup>rd</sup>: Last class of the year 9:15:10:45

### **First Eucharist Retreat**

Saturday April 22 1-2:30 meet in church



**Religious Education Parent Meeting April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:15 in gym. Important information about changes in religious education next year.**



*Please pray for our 17 Confirmation students who will be sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit on April 19<sup>th</sup> at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament.*

### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

**June 19-23 daily**

**9AM to 12 noon**

Registration forms on our website:

[www.stjohnsaltoona.org](http://www.stjohnsaltoona.org)



**CHILDREN'S MASS BOOKS** are now available in the gathering space. Young children can use them to help follow the Mass. Please return them to the basket after Mass so they are always kept at Church for everyone's use. The basket of books is kept under a small table close to the coat racks.

**CALLIGRAPHER NEEDED** Have you seen the "St John the Evangelist Parish Album" in the gathering space? This beautiful book was a gift from a parishioner, and is a place to record and commemorate special events that occur in our parish such as baptisms, weddings, anniversaries, etc. Many parishioners have asked about it, and we would like to begin using it again. But we need a talented, willing person to make the entries. If this is something that you could do, please let us know by calling Cecelia Bloom at 695-2806.

**HOLY TRINITY SCHOOL NEWS:** Registration is now open for all campus locations. Forms are available at each site. Call for more information. Altoona: 381-7011, Middle School: 942-7837, Hollidaysburg: 695- 6112

**HAITI COLLECTION UPDATE:** So far we have collected \$5,360 to supplement the salaries of the nine teachers of our sister parish, Sts. Peter and Paul, in Haiti. There are special envelopes in the gathering space for your donation. Please place your contribution envelope in the Common Cents Jar or the offertory collection.

## **St. John's Prayer List**

It is a Spiritual Work of Mercy to pray for the sick. If you know of someone in the parish who is ill or has passed away and in need of prayers, please call Ginny Reeder (695-7671) or email her at [gabby.reeder@gmail.com](mailto:gabby.reeder@gmail.com) to add their name to the prayer list.

\*\*\*\*\*

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING and their caregivers and give thanks for those who have recovered. *Lord we ask for your blessings and care for these and all people in need:*

**Millie Bilski • Vicky Buda • Yolanda Buda • Robert Cole  
Michelle Fasline • Carol Field • Wayne Flanagan  
Bob George • JoAnne Gerardine • Judy Hurm  
Brian Kopp • Bill Loth • Jim McLarren • June Miller  
Anne-Marie Norris • Ron Peschock • Dave Petrak  
Bob & Mary Rajnish • Olga Romerowicz  
Madison Shura • Justine Wareham Smith • Patty Teufel  
Noah Wills • Young people**

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER** *"As they were marching out, they came upon a man of Cyrene, Simon by name; this man they pressed into service to carry his cross.*

**MATTHEW 27:32**

The Lord calls us to love God and to love our neighbor. Every day we are presented with opportunities to love our neighbor and help him "carry his cross". These opportunities aren't usually big events, they are usually ordinary occurrences like helping someone carry their groceries or holding the door open for them. The key is putting the other person's needs before our own and not expecting anything in return.

### **Stewardship at St. John's**

***Because of the early bulletin deadline this week, the weekly offertory report is not available.***

**ONLINE GIVING:** You now have the option to use Online Giving for contributions to our parish. The application provides you a convenient option that you may access at any time. Your gift will be transferred from your preferred method of payment directly to our parish. There's no need to share any sensitive account information with parish staff. We have implemented Online Giving because it is convenient, safe and secure, and simple. You can start, stop and change your contributions at any time. Sign up by visiting our parish website: [stjohnsaltoona.org](http://stjohnsaltoona.org). Click on the Online Giving link under Parish Information on the left side of the page. Complete the online registration form.

**2016 Contribution Statements are available upon request. Please call the Parish Office at 814-942-5503.**

**Chrism Mass:** The Local Church of Altoona-Johnstown will assemble on Monday of Holy Week, April 10, at 11:00 AM in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament for the annual Chrism Mass. Bishop Mark Barchak will gather with his college of priests assisted by his deacons with the assembled faithful from throughout the Diocese and he will bless the Oil of the Catechumens, the Oil of the Sick, and Sacred Chrism. These consecrated oils will be used for the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Orders and Anointing of the Sick. Each parish community will take a portion of the three oils back to the parish for use in the appropriate liturgical celebrations. The entire diocesan family is invited to participate in this annual Liturgy.

**HANDS & HEART HAITI FÊT:** The Carmelite Community of the Word invites you to our 15th Annual Hands & Hearts Haiti Fêt (formerly known as the Paschal Festival), on Sunday, April 30, 2017, at Our Lady of Loretto Hall, 279 St. Elizabeth St., Loretto, PA 15940. The afternoon includes a buffet dinner, silent auction, and a program featuring Francois Victor. Mr. Victor grew up in Haiti and his sister is Sr. Emmanuelle, the foundress and superior of the Little Sisters of the Incarnation in Haiti. He will share stories of growing up in Haiti as well as shedding light on Haitian family values. Doors open at 1:45PM.; Dinner will be served at 2:30PM and the program will begin at 3:30PM. Tickets are \$30 for adults and \$15 for children under 13. Participants are asked to contribute a new item of children's and/or teen's underwear or socks. Contact the CCW Incarnation Center at 814-886-4098 for tickets or for more information. Ticket deadline is April 21, 2017. All proceeds will help us continue our ministry in Haiti.

**PRAYING WITH ICONS CLASS:** Icons are not simply art; they are a way into contemplative prayer, and therefore one way to let God speak to us. The class, *Praying With Icons*, focuses on the Festal Icons (the major events in the life of Christ and the Theotokos) and the Sacred Scripture that speaks to us through the sacred images. Deacon Michael Russo will be presenting this eight week course Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:30PM at St. Rose of Lima Parish, Altoona, beginning May 16<sup>th</sup>. The cost of the course is \$35. For the complete schedule of class dates and registration, please contact Marybeth at the Office of Adult Enrichment and Lay Ecclesial Ministries at (814) 361-2000 or by email at [mheinze@dioceseaj.org](mailto:mheinze@dioceseaj.org). All are welcome!

**April Prayer Intention of Pope Francis**  
**YOUNG PEOPLE**

That young people may respond generously to their vocations and seriously consider offering themselves to God in the priesthood or consecrated life.

## **SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK**

### **Sunday April 9 - Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**

8:00AM-Mass for *People of the Parish*  
11:00AM-Mass for *Annie Johnston* requested by  
Brenda, Steve & Alex Fix

### **Monday April 10 - Monday of Holy Week**

7:30AM-Eucharistic Adoration  
8:10AM-Morning Prayer  
8:30AM-Mass for *Curly & Josie Bednarski* requested  
by Richard & Joyce Lowe

### **Tuesday April 11 - Tuesday of Holy Week**

7:30AM-Eucharistic Adoration  
8:10AM-Morning Prayer  
8:30AM-Mass for *Carlos Gungon* requested by  
Martha Gungon

### **Wednesday April 12 - Wednesday of Holy Week**

6:00PM- Confession  
7:00PM- Mass for *Kathy Mika* requested by  
Cecelia Bloom  
7:45PM - Tenebrae

### **Thursday April 13 - Holy Thursday**

8:30AM-Morning Prayer  
7:00PM - Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by  
Adoration until 10:00 PM

### **Friday April 14 - Good Friday**

8:30AM-Morning Prayer  
12:00PM - Stations of the Cross with Meditations  
7:00PM- Observance of the Lord's Passion

### **Saturday April 15 - Holy Saturday**

8:30AM-Morning Prayer  
12:00PM- Blessing of the Easter Baskets  
8:30PM-Mass for *People of the Parish*

### **Sunday April 16 - Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord**

8:00AM-Mass for *People of the Parish*  
11:00AM-Mass for *People of the Parish*

### **READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday: Is 42:1-7; Jn 12:1-11  
Tuesday: Is 49:1-6; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38  
Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a; Mt 26:14-25  
Thursday: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15  
Friday: Is 52:13 -- 53:12; Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9;  
Jn 18:1 -- 19:42



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