



Jesus is the “face” of the Father’s mercy. Jesus of Nazareth, Pope Francis tells us, is the “face” of the Father’s mercy—he reveals the mercy of God by his words, actions, and person. We follow Jesus’ example when we open ourselves to the Father’s mercy by looking “sincerely” into the eyes of our brothers and sisters, including those “who are denied their dignity.” How have you experienced the Father’s mercy in your own life? How might Jesus be calling you to look “sincerely” into the eyes of those who are denied their dignity?

PASTORAL STAFF:

- Msgr. Michael Becker- mbecker253@aol.com
- Deacon Gene Neral- gene@lifeinfocus.net
- Ms. Tabatha Griffin- stjohncatholicbb.net
- Mr. Mark Krepich-RCIA & Parish Council President- mark.krepich@gmail.com
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- Mrs. Lindsay Reffner– Admin. Assistant- stjohncatholicbb.net
- Mrs. Mary Ann Mirobelli– Business Manager- stjohncatholicbb.net
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- Mrs. Mary Petrak– Confirmation- mfpetrak@hotmail.com
- Mr. Ken Dunmire, Maintenance

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

- Dec. 13th– Advent Christmas Concert
- Dec. 27th– Brunch for feast of St. John the Evangelist
- February 6– Mardi Gras Party
- May 14th– Love Feast

APPOINTMENTS

ACOLYTES:

- Sat. Dec. 19- 4:00PM– Claire Nackley, Dustin Smith
- Sun. Dec. 20- 8:00AM– AJ Abraham, Drew Abraham
- Sun. Dec. 20- 11:00AM– Nate Rudolph, Matthew Woolridge
- Thurs. Dec. 24– 4:00PM– Tyler Conigy, Caitlin Conigy, Zoey Landeck, Danielle Miller, Ethan Miller
- Thurs. Dec. 24– 12:00AM– Not Filled, Not Filled, Not Filled, Nate Rudolph, Matthew Woolridge
- Fri. Dec. 25– 10:00AM– Cassandra Crevecoeur, Keaton Swope

LECTORS:

- Sat. Dec. 19- 4:00PM– David Petrak, Mary Petrak
- Sun. Dec. 20- 8:00AM– Dan Turcovsky, Diane Turcovsky
- Sun. Dec. 20- 11:00AM– Joe Klobuka, Jo-Ann Semko
- Thurs. Dec. 24– 4:00PM– Kathleen Heller, Maria Spayd
- Thurs. Dec. 24– 12:00AM– Bill Foose, Norma Foose
- Fri. Dec. 25– 10:00AM– Francene Boland, David Langguth

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

- Sat. Dec. 19- 4:00PM– Barb Aubrey, Connie Baker, Kathleen Heller, John Lloyd
- Sun. Dec. 20- 8:00AM– Joyce Cunningham, Melissa McHugh
- Sun. Dec. 20- 11:00AM– Marilyn Bevan, Barb Bundy, Ken Gorman, Not Filled, Bob Olson, Steve Wilson
- Thurs. Dec. 24– 4:00PM– Barb Bundy, Ann Mingyar, Jo-Ann Semko, Not Filled, Dan Turcovsky, Diane Turcovsky
- Thurs. Dec. 24– 12:00AM– Marilyn Bevan, Not Filled, Not Filled, Bob Olson, Debbie Smith, Steve Wilson
- Fri. Dec. 25– 10:00AM– Fran Semelsberger, Susanna Tomlinson

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY:

- Sat. Dec. 19- 4:00PM– Lori Ginter, Judy Sneath, Dorothy Yingling, Hedy Zumsteg
- Sun. Dec. 20- 8:00AM– Ginny Reeder, Fran Semelsberger, Larry VanSickel, Paula VanSickel
- Sun. Dec. 20- 11:00AM– Walter Bloom, Wendy Campbell, Lou Ann Clark, Not Filled
- Thurs. Dec. 24– 4:00PM– Connie Baker, Dennis Moughemer, Karen Moughemer, Mary Petrak, David Petrak, Darlene Scarpaci, Ed Stoltz, Wally Wargo
- Thurs. Dec. 24– 12:00AM– Not Filled, Ginny Reeder, Not Filled, Not Filled
- Fri. Dec. 25– 10:00AM– Walter Bloom, Coleen Langguth, Judy Sneath, Dorothy Yingling

Sacristan:

- Sat. Dec. 19- 4:00PM– Kathleen Heller
- Sun. Dec. 20- 8:00AM– Michele DeFrancisco
- Sun. Dec. 20- 11:00AM– Marilyn Bevan
- Thurs. Dec. 24– 4:00PM– Kathleen Heller
- Thurs. Dec. 24– 12:00AM– Not Filled
- Fri. Dec. 25– 10:00AM– Michele DeFrancisco

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CHURCH
DECEMBER 13, 2015

A Few Words from the Pastor:

Moments of Mercy – The Feast of the Immaculate Conception marked the opening of the Jubilee Year of Mercy. Throughout this year, each week there will be special “Moment of Mercy” on the front of our bulletin. You are encouraged to prayerfully read this “moment” and consider the place of Mercy in your daily life.

Family Life Calendars for 2015 – We are blessed to have such an active Family Life Office in our diocese, which has for many years made available a beautiful calendar. These are available now in the Gathering Space.

Our Next Bus Trip: The Pennsylvania Farm Show – We’ve all seen it on TV, but there is nothing like an actual visit to the PA Farm Show! Mark your calendars for **Thursday, January 14**. Pennsylvania hosts the largest indoor agricultural exposition in the nation, with nearly 6,000 animals, 10,000 competitive exhibits and 300 commercial exhibits. This will be the 100th annual Farm Show! There is no cost for admission, with an amazing food court to satisfy all your culinary desires! The cost for transportation is only \$40 for adults, and our school children will travel free. Sign up now in the Gathering Space!

Matching Grant of \$15,000 – Our parish has received a generous matching grant of \$15,000! To receive this grant, we must match it. All in the parish will receive a letter to this effect, inviting your response. Because this grant is earmarked for the 2015 Annual Catholic Appeal, all donations will be exempt from the usual diocesan tax on income. Please be generous! When we reach \$15,000, our gifts double in value! This End of the Year Appeal will be most helpful in enabling us to keep a balanced budget! Our heartfelt gratitude for all that you are able to do! In this first week, we have received 7 gifts totaling \$765.00 We are on our way!

Apostleship of Prayer – We make available again this year the calendar of Papal Intentions for the Apostleship of Prayer for 2016. With a vision of the church which is much broader than our own, Pope Francis invites us each month to pray for a General Intention and also for a Missionary Intention. We ask that you keep these special needs of our world in your daily prayer!

Second Sunday Food Collection – Remember that this Sunday is the second Sunday of the month. Your continuing generosity for the needy of our community is a beautiful testimony to your faithful discipleship of Jesus.

Confessions – For those who missed our Advent Penance Service, you are reminded that there is a Penance Service at St. Mary’s in Holidaysburg this Sunday, December 13th, at 4:00 PM.

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December

Prayer Intentions of Pope Francis

Experiencing God’s Mercy

That all may experience the mercy of God, who never tires of forgiving.

Families

That families, especially those who suffer, may find in the birth of Jesus a sign of certain hope.

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Parish Pastoral Council Minutes--

Please note that the minutes from each parish council meeting are published for all parishioners to review. These are posted on the **STJOHNSWEB.NET** church website under Committees > Parish Council Minutes. Printed copies are available under the parish council member photos on the left kiosk in the gathering space. The minutes publication is delayed one month so that they may be approved by the council at the following meeting before general distribution.

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LOST KEYS: THERE WERE KETYS FOUND IN THE CAFETERIA TWO WEEKENDS AGO. THEY ARE BMW KEYS WITH A SHEETZ CARD AND THREE OTHER KEYS. PLEASE STOP BY THE OFFICE.

On **Sunday, December 27th** there will be a brunch served between the morning Masses in honor of our patron saint, St. John the Evangelist. Since the feast falls on a Sunday this year, the liturgy will reflect the Sunday worship. Watch for a sign-up sheet on a kiosk in the gathering space. Thank you

Advent of Christmas Concert: Mark your calendars now and plan on attending the Advent of Christmas Concert here on Sunday, December 13 at 7:00. This year, the Adult, Handbell and Children's choirs have prepared a wonderful performance that includes some new music as well as some of the traditional songs and carols. Take a break from your busy preparations for the holidays to attend this annual event. After the concert, refreshments will be served next door in Fr. Bailey Hall.

Ministry Scheduling: It is time to begin scheduling our liturgical ministries for January through March. (This may seem early but many of us will be quite busy at Christmas.)

There are forms available in the gathering space for the next three months for those of you **who do not have access to the internet.** (If you have internet access please update your profile online.)

Please fill out one and return it by **Sunday, December 13th.**

Family members can fill out one card front and back.

For those who have access to the internet and are not quite sure about how to login, instructions are included in the email recently sent to you.

Remember that we need you to tell us **when you are not available.**

CONFIRMATION:

All Confirmation Candidates:

Sunday, Dec. 20th, 5:00-8:00

We will meet in the cafeteria for our group service project followed by a Christmas party. At 5:00 we will deliver cookies and fruit baskets, followed by food and fun in the cafeteria.

Saturday, Jan. 9th: 9th grade students and a parent will meet in the cafeteria from 9:00 - 1:00 for a Baptism Retreat.

Sunday, Jan. 10th: 10th grade students have a Confirmation session, 10:45 - 2:15

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Take a Break from Winter: If you would like to enjoy Caribbean warmth for a week this winter, join us on a trip to Sts. Peter and Paul in Haiti. Approximate dates are January 27 to February 3, 2016. Accommodations are comfortable and the food is very good. No special skills are required; just a willingness to be present to our Haitian brothers and sisters, but if you have some sewing, knitting, crocheting knowledge we can use your help.

Students in grades 1 through 8 that are attending the 4:00 Mass on Christmas Eve are invited to come sing in the choir. We are starting the music prelude at 3:30 and singing several of the songs we sang at the concert. I can provide a practice cd with these songs. The music for the liturgy will be familiar Christmas carols: O Come All Ye Faithful, Night of Silence/Silent Night, The First Noel and Joy To The World. **There will be no extra rehearsals for this.** If your child would like to sing in the choir, please have them at the church at 3:15 on Christmas Eve. We will have to get organized and arrange seating and that mass is always very crowded, so you need to get there early to obtain a seat in the main body of the church. Students may wear whatever they would normally wear to Christmas Eve Mass. If you have any questions, please call 696-2683 and my cell phone number is 931-2867. Thank you!

FAMILY ADVENT WREATH MAKING

What a fun filled morning learning about the symbolism in the advent wreath and making live wreaths. Thank you to all who came!



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
SCHEDULE

Dec 13th ...regular class for grades K-11

Dec 20th ..regular class for grades K-8 only

Dec 27 & Jan 3 ..NO CLASS- Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL

Poinsettia & Wreath Sale- St. John's School will be selling poinsettias & wreaths before & after all masses the weekend of Dec. 12 & 13 in the school gym. Rozick's Greenhouse in Tyrone will once again be providing these beauties and will generously give a percentage of all sales to the school. Please support this St. John's School fundraiser and decorate your home or gift a loved one with a poinsettia or evergreen wreath.

Christmas Pageant: Everyone is welcome to come to our annual children's Christmas Pageant in the church on Thursday, December 17th at 6:00pm.

- December 18th: **Early Dismissal at 11:00am/**

**Christmas Parties/wear your pjs to
school**

- December 19th-Jan. 3rd: **NO SCHOOL**

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!!!!

HONOR ROLLS

The principal and staff of St. John the Evangelist School proudly announce the honor rolls for the 1st quarter.

HIGH HONORS:

Grade 8 - Mary Shanoudy
Grade 7 - Jadie Litzinger
Grade 6 - Danielle Mueller
Grade 5 -

HONORS:

Grade 8 - Anna Dick, Gianna Marcelli, Annie Markel,
Samantha Peterson
Grade 7 - Piper Brunhuber, Julie Resick,
Amber Yasolsky
Grade 6 - Alexis Starr
Grade 5 - Drew Abraham

Sunday, December 13, 2015

SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

Sun. Dec. 13th- 3rd Sunday in Advent

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

11:00AM-Mass for *Fr. Joseph Strittmatter* requested
by Paul & Kathy Vincent

6:30PM - Lectionary Based Faith Sharing

Mon. Dec. 14th- Saint John of the Cross

7:30AM- Eucharistic Adoration

8:15AM- Morning Prayer

8:30AM- Mass for *Karl Steinbrunner* requested by
Wife, Rita

Tues. Dec. 15th- Advent Weekday

7:30AM- Eucharistic Adoration

8:15AM- Morning Prayer

8:30AM- Mass for *Laurie Kalan*

Wed. Dec 16th- Advent Weekday

5:00PM- Confessions

6:00PM- Mass for *Jeff Sefchok* requested by Connie &
Alan Magzar

Thurs. Dec. 17th- Late Advent Weekday

7:30AM- Eucharistic Adoration

8:30AM- Mass for *Karen Brooks* requested by Deana
Fanale

Friday Dec. 18th- Late Advent Weekday

7:30AM- Eucharistic Adoration

8:15AM- Morning Prayer

8:30AM- Mass for *Robert Nemcek* requested by Rich
& Joyce Lowe

Sat. Dec. 19th- Vigil of 4th Sunday in Advent

3:00PM- Confessions

4:00PM- Mass for *Marie Therese* requested by The
Crevecoeur Family

Sun. Dec. 20th- 4th Sunday in Advent

8:00AM- Mass for *Ida Prospero* requested by John
Prosperi

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

6:30PM - Lectionary Based Faith Sharing

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Weekday Readings

Mon. Dec. 14- Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Mt 21:23-27

Tues. Dec. 15-Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Mt 21:28-32

Wed. Dec. 16- Is 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25; Lk 7:18b-23

Thurs. Dec. 17- Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17

Fri. Dec. 18- Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25

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CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

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