

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE:
MONDAY•TUESDAY•THURSDAY•FRIDAY: 8:30AM
WEDNESDAY: 6:00PM
SATURDAY: 4:00PM
SUNDAY: 8:00AM•11:00AM

APPOINTMENTS

ACOLYTES:

Sat. Feb. 18 - 4:00 PM - Ryan Donoughe, Jack Donoughe
Sun. Feb. 19 - 8:00 AM - Emily Miller, Ethan Miller
Sun. Feb. 19 - 11:00 AM - Amelia Partner, Amber Yasolsky

LECTORS:

Sat. Feb. 18 - 4:00 PM - David Andrews, David Langguth
Sun. Feb. 19 - 8:00 AM - Tim Rea, Francene Boland
Sun. Feb. 19 - 11:00 AM - Gary Johnson, Wally Wargo

EUCARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. Feb. 18 - 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, Jenna Jenkins
Sun. Feb. 19 - 8:00 AM - Daniel Turcovsky, Diane Turcovsky
Sun. Feb. 19 - 11:00 AM - Walter Bloom, Cecelia Bloom,
Lou Ann Clark, Bill Foose, Norma Foose, Bob Olson

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY:

Sat. Feb. 18 - 4:00 PM - Barb Aubrey, Heather Nackley,
Judy Sneath, Billy Sweet
Sun. Feb. 19 - 8:00 AM - Helen Rentz, Jerry Rentz, Ed Stoltz,
Darlene Scarpaci
Sun. Feb. 19 - 11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Dolores Capriotti,
David Petrak, Mary Petrak

SACRISTAN:

Sat. Feb. 18 - 4:00 PM - Joyce & Ron Cunningham
Sun. Feb. 19 - 8:00 AM - Michele DeFrancisco
Sun. Feb. 19 - 11:00 AM - Barbara Bundy

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

February 20 - Parish Office closed
March 1 - Ash Wednesday Masses - 8:30AM & 6:00 PM
March 1 - Lenten Soup Supper
March 11 - Love Feast
April 23 - New Parishioners Luncheon
April 30 - First Communion
May 6 - Spring Fling
July 23 - Parish Picnic

If you **TRUST IN GOD**

you too shall live;
God has set before you fire and water;
to whichever you choose, stretch forth your hand.

- Sirach 15:15-16



FEBRUARY 12, 2017
SIXTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
ST. JOHN THE
EVANGELIST CHURCH
309 LOTZ AVENUE
814-942-5503
www.stjohnsaltoona.org

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:

Additional Pastoral Responsibilities – Because of the extended medical leave of the pastor, I have been assigned to serve as temporary pastoral administrator of Our Lady of Lourdes parish. As administrator I will be responsible for presiding at funerals and weddings, and the general oversight of parish finances and activities. There are retired priests who are assisting there with the weekend Masses, though I will occasionally be offering Mass there. Thank you for your prayers for their pastor, Father Rizzo, and for our Lady of Lourdes parish.

What Happened to St. Valentine? - In the Church calendar, February 14 is the commemoration of Saints Cyril and Methodius, the apostles to the Slavic nations. What about Saint Valentine, you ask? Saint Valentine, officially known as Saint Valentine of Rome, is a third-century Roman saint widely celebrated on February 14 and commonly associated with "courtly love." Although not much of St. Valentine's life is reliably known, it is highly agreed that St. Valentine was martyred and then buried on the Via Flaminia to the north of Rome. In 1969, however, the Roman Catholic Church removed St. Valentine from the General Roman Calendar, because so little is known about him. However, the church still recognizes him as a saint. The romantic nature of Valentine's Day may have derived during the Middle Ages, when it was believed that birds paired couples in mid-February. It is thought that Valentine's Day was most likely created to overpower the pagan holiday, Lupercalia, a very ancient pastoral festival, held on February 15 to honor Faunus, the pagan god of fertility and forests.

Someone in the Hospital? – Because parishes are not notified by the hospital when a parishioner has been admitted, it is important that family members contact the parish office with that information. This will give us an opportunity for a pastoral visit, as well as inclusion in our prayers!

Annual Catholic Appeal Success! – Now that all the receipts are in for the 2016 ACA, we are proud to report that we have received \$14,892 ABOVE our goal of 49,405. Many, many thanks to all who have made such success possible!

Children's' Liturgy of the Word – We have begun the beautiful practice at our 11AM Mass of providing a special "Liturgy of the Word for Children." Before the readings, our little ones are called to the altar for a blessing, and then led by one of our catechists to the Day Chapel, where they will hear the word of God in a way that they can better understand. They then return at the time of the creed. If you would like to help with this ministry, don't hesitate to give a call or email to Mary Haenig, our Director of Religious Formation.

NHS Playground – If you drive down Lotz Avenue, you will notice a white fence behind the church. This has been installed by our NHS school as an enclosure for a playground for their children. When not in use by the school, it will remain locked so as not to be a temptation to the neighbors! An open-to-everyone would be a liability for the parish.

Ash Wednesday in a Month! – Lent comes late this year, beginning with Ash Wednesday on March 1st. This year, we would like to place a greater focus on the Stations of the Cross, a venerated tradition in the Catholic Faith in which we journey with Christ to Calvary. Stations are observed each Friday of Lent. Following Stations, there will be an adult bible study of the Passion narratives from the four gospels. Mark your calendar, make a mental note to walk in the steps of Jesus this Lent.

Adult Ed – Our Sunday sessions continue with the Robert Barron series, *Pivotal Players*, which highlights some of the great figures in Christian history. We continue this week with the life of the great artist Michelangelo, and next week we look at St. Thomas Aquinas.

OUR PARISH FAMILY ... Mary Lee Madigan-Davis spoke to us recently about our twin parish in Haiti, so we thought it an appropriate time to learn a little more about her. She is a retired teacher, has 2 adult sons and two adult daughters, and one grandson. Her husband, Paul, worked many years for Conrail and then for Norfolk Southern before retiring. She has been a member at St John's for 32 years and usually attends the 11:00 Mass. She made her first trip to Haiti in 2009, has made 8 more trips since then, and said considers it "an honor" to have been able to serve in this long-time mission of our parish. Besides chairing the Haiti Group, she is a member of our Women's Group, joined the bowling league this year, and is currently serving on Parish Council. She is also a Tribunal Advocate for the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese. (Tribunal Advocates are trained to counsel persons seeking marriage annulments and help them through the process.) About 4 years ago, she authored the book "Know... the Divine Invitation", which she told me is semi-autobiographical with its main theme being that God invites us to "move beyond believing in Him to knowing Him" in a personal way. She appreciates that St John's has always been a "parishioner-driven parish" and a "strong community in worship, prayer, and charity".



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SCHEDULE

February 12 Regular Class 9:15-10:45

February 19th NO CLASS Presidents Day weekend

February 26th... Family Lent event..parents and students attend 9:15-10:45

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD DURING LENT

We will be having Children's Liturgy weekly at the 11 AM Mass during Lent.

If you have a love of children, we have the tools for you to deliver the Word to them on a child's level. Please contact Mary

Haenig mshaenig@gmail.com for more information. High school students are welcome to volunteer too!



CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Will be held every Sunday in Lent at the 11 AM Mass

THANK YOU from Citizens Concerned for Human Life. Your contributions to the March for Life collection totaled \$600.

STEWARSHIP CORNER "For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." Matthew

5:20 The scribes and Pharisees lived according to the letter of the law and they used this to elevate themselves above the other people. Jesus is clear – it's the love that you have in your heart that will get you to heaven. Simply following church rules out of obligation, not love, does not put you on the path to heaven. Attending Mass on Sunday and then gossiping about a fellow parishioner on the parking lot is an example of a modern day Pharisee.

Stewardship at St. John's

OFFERTORY for February 5, 2017

Envelopes:	\$ 6,878.00
Loose:	\$ 1,094.00
Children's:	\$ 1.00
Parish Development	\$ 101.00
Catholic Education	\$ 71.00
Total:	\$ 8,145.00
Online Giving:	\$ 3,125.00
TOTAL:	\$ 11,270.00

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

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 ginny.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 • Bob Broadwater • Debbie & Ed Ergler
Michelle Fasline • Carol Field • Wayne Flanagan
JoAnne Gerardine • Ron Hord • Judy Hurm
Brian Kopp • Bill Loth • June Miller • Ron Peschock
Bob & Mary Rajnish • Bob Reeder • Judy Roberts
Olga Romerowicz • Fran Semelsberger • Madison Shura
Patty Teufel • Noah Wills

Comfort for the afflicted

HOME WITH THE LORD: Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of:

Elizabeth Baumgartner

Pauline H. Casciotti - mother of Donna Harpster

Mary Jane Horton - mother of Dennis Horton

Don Vogel - father of Linda Mueller

May they rest in the peace and joy of the Lord.

CONTACT ALTOONA: To recognize our 35th anniversary, CONTACT Altoona would like to have 35 individuals attend our Spring 2017 Volunteer Training Classes which begin March 27, 2017. Volunteers at CONTACT Altoona make reassurance calls to Blair County residents who are in need of medication reminders, safety checks or a social call. They can also handle telephone calls from people who need a listening ear. Please attend our OPEN HOUSE on Monday, March 13, 2017 from 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM to learn more about CONTACT Altoona and our volunteer opportunities. Flyers in the gathering space contain more information.

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

CASH BASH Saturday, March 11th 5:30 in the Maria Parish Center. This wonderful event benefits Holy Trinity Catholic School. Tickets are on sale now. \$100 admits 2 adults and includes dinner and chances to win cash prizes. Tickets are also on sale for an Emerald Isle Vacation Getaway (\$20.00). Contact the school office to order your tickets now.

COMING SOON: REGISTRATIONS FOR HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

ASH WEDNESDAY SOUP SUPPER: This year our 11th Grade Confirmation Candidates will host the annual Soup Supper. Please join us in the cafeteria for a delicious meal of homemade soup and fresh bread, following 6:00 Mass on March 1st. As we begin our Lenten journey, we remember our less fortunate brothers and sisters for whom this simple meal would be a feast. Donations will be accepted for Saints Peter and Paul parish in Haiti. If you would like to make soup or bread please sign up on the kiosk or contact Mary Petrak, 201-2982, 502-6076, mfpetrak@hotmail.com.

CCW SUNDAY SABBATH SERIES: Carmelite Community of the Word offers Opportunities for Spiritual Enrichment CCW Sunday Sabbath Series: Spend a Sunday afternoon enriching yourself spiritually! Sunday February 26, 2017 Based on her true story, THE LETTERS explores the life's work of Nobel Peace Prize recipient Mother Teresa, one of the greatest humanitarians of all time. Told through a series of personal letters, this powerful film is an unforgettable journey of faith, courage and compassion. Sunday Sabbath gatherings begin at 1:30 PM and end at 4:30 PM. It includes the DVD presentation and time for prayer and reflection. There is no charge for the session but a free will donation will be welcomed. *Pre-registration is required the Friday before each session.*

OVERNIGHT SILENT RETREAT: February 24-25, 2017 Living in the Present Moment Retreat begins on Friday evening at 7 PM; ends on Saturday at 3 PM. and will include presentations on the theme, guided prayer opportunities and time for quiet personal reflection. An opportunity for personal Spiritual direction will be made available. Cost for the overnight retreat: \$40/person or \$50/ married couple which includes overnight accommodations, meals and all materials. *Pre-registration with fee is required by the Tuesday before each retreat.*

THE 2ND ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF ST. JOSEPH'S TABLE sponsored by St. Leonard's Home will be held on Saturday, March 18 from 5:00 – 8:00 pm at the American Legion Post 516 Social Hall at Legion Park in Hollidaysburg. The tradition of this event goes back to the middle ages, when Italy was devastated by a famine. In several countries and churches, the St. Joseph Table is still celebrated, encouraging those with means to assist those with less. The event includes a meal, cheese bar, desserts, wine tasting, auction, prizes for bidding and entertainment. Tickets are \$30, and are available at St. Leonard's Home or by calling 695-9581 during business hours.

CAREGIVER(S): A parishioner is looking for a caregiver for an elderly lady near St. John's Church. It would be during the day for about 4-6 hours. If interested, please contact Ann at 942-9361.

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

Sunday February 12 - Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00AM-Mass for *Elizabeth Baumgartner*
11:00AM-Mass for *Annie Johnston* requested by
Bob & Ginny Reeder

Monday February 13 - Weekday

7:30AM-Eucharistic Adoration
8:10AM-Morning Prayer
8:30AM-Mass for the *Jim Farrell* requested by
Cecelia Bloom

Tuesday February 14 - Sts. Cyril, Monk and Methodius, Bishop

7:30AM-Eucharistic Adoration
8:10AM-Morning Prayer
8:30AM-Mass for *Ida Prosperi* requested by
John Prosperi

Wednesday February 15 - Weekday

5:00PM- Confession
6:00PM- Mass for *Frank & Elizabeth Schmerbeck*
requested by Bill & Dee Schmerbeck

Thursday February 16 - Weekday

7:30AM-Eucharistic Adoration
8:10AM-Morning Prayer
8:30AM- Mass for *Joseph Dullinger* requested by
Lois Dullinger

Friday February 17 - Weekday

7:30AM-Eucharistic Adoration
8:10AM-Morning Prayer
8:30AM-Mass for the Faithful

Saturday February 18 - Vigil of the Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

3:00PM- Confession
4:00PM-Mass for *Jerry Bowmaster* requested by
Sharon Bowmaster

Sunday February 19 - Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00AM-Mass for *People of the Parish*
11:00AM-Mass for *Ronald Hildebrand* requested by
Eric & Jody Petrunak & family

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Gn 4:1-15, 25; Mk 8:11-13

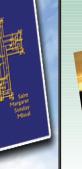
Tuesday: Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10; Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday: Gn 8:6-13, 20-22; Mk 8:22-26

Thursday: Gn 9:1-13; Mk 8:27-33

Friday: Gn 11:1-9; Mk 8:34 -- 9:1



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