

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

March 24 - Stations of the Cross/Bible Study - 7:00 PM
April 9 - Second Sunday Food Collection
April 9 - Easter Egg Hunt
April 23 - New Parishioners Luncheon
April 30 - First Communion
May 6 - Spring Fling
June 11 - Chicken Barbecue
June 19 - 23 - Vacation Bible School - 9 AM - 12 noon
July 23 - Parish Picnic

MARCH 19, 2017
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
ST. JOHN THE
EVANGELIST CHURCH
309 LOTZ AVENUE
814-942-5503
www.stjohnsaltoona.org

THIRD SUNDAY OF

Lent

MARCH 19, 2017

*Jesus said,
“Whoever drinks the
water I shall give
will never thirst;
the water I shall give
will become in them a
spring of water welling
up to eternal life.”*

John 4:14

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APPOINTMENTS

ACOLYTES:

Sat. Mar. 25 - 4:00 PM - David & Alexandria Auerbeck
Sun. Mar. 26 - 8:00 AM - Sarah Geishauser, not filled
Sun. Mar. 26 - 11:00 AM - Cherie & Makayla Langenbacher

LECTORS:

Sat. Mar. 25 - 4:00 PM - Jenna Jenkins, Joyce Cunningham
Sun. Mar. 26 - 8:00 AM - Ronan Adams, Cora Bacon
Sun. Mar. 26 - 11:00 AM - Barbara Bundy, Patrick Schurr

EUCARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. Mar. 25 - 4:00 PM - Barb Aubrey, John Lloyd
Sun. Mar. 26 - 8:00 AM - Daniel Turcovsky, Diane Turcovsky
Sun. Mar. 26 - 11:00 AM - Walter Bloom, Cecelia Bloom

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY:

Sat. Mar. 25 - 4:00 PM - Christine Stachmus, Denny Stachmus,
Dennis Moughemer, Karen Moughemer
Sun. Mar. 26 - 8:00 AM - Ginny Reeder, Darlene Scarpaci,
Fran Semelsberger, Mary Truesdale
Sun. Mar. 26 - 11:00 AM - Paula Adams, Wendy Campbell,
Anna Podoletz, Patrick Podoletz

SACRISTAN:

Sat. Mar. 25 - 4:00 PM - Mary & Ray King
Sun. Mar. 26 - 8:00 AM - Michele DeFrancisco
Sun. Mar. 26 - 11:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE:

MONDAY•TUESDAY•THURSDAY•FRIDAY: 8:30AM

WEDNESDAY: 6:00PM

SATURDAY: 4:00PM • **SUNDAY:** 8:00AM•11:00AM

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:

Praying before the Crucifix – Throughout Lent we have been invited to keep our attention fixed upon the Crucified Christ. Placing a crucifix upon your kitchen or dining room table can be an inspiring way to remain focused upon God's infinite Love, revealed on Calvary. Pray this prayer of St. Francis of Assisi each day before the Crucifix.

Most High, glorious God, enlighten the darkness of my heart, and give me true faith, certain hope, and perfect charity, sense and knowledge, Lord, that I may carry out Your holy and true command. Amen.

Celebrating the Feast of Saint Joseph – Because the feast of St. Joseph (March 19) falls on a Sunday this year, it is to be celebrated the following day, Monday, March 20th. Be sure to wish the “Joe’s” in your life a happy feast day, and join us for Mass that day.

The Feast of the Annunciation – We will celebrate this great feast of Mary on Saturday, March 25th, with Mass in the day chapel at 9:00 AM. You are invited to join us, as we rejoice in the Incarnation of Jesus in the womb of Mary, and the generous “Yes” which she spoke to the angel.

Stations & Bible Study this Lent - 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 at 7:00 PM. Following Stations, there will be an adult bible study of the Passion narratives, to be held in the parish center.

Making a Good Confession – When was the last time you went to confession? Consider doing so this Lent. Confessions each Wednesday evening at 5:00PM, and on Saturdays at 3:00PM. Ask God for the Holy Spirit’s help to examine your conscience well by prayerfully reviewing your conduct in light of the commandments and the example of Christ. Don’t let this Lent pass without making a good confession!

OUR PARISH FAMILY... Meet Dick & Claudia Anderson, members of St John’s for about 2 years. Claudia converted to Catholicism in 2008 and was previously a member here, but was then away for a time before rejoining our parish. They were married in 2011, and together they have four sons and one daughter, and are expecting their 11th grandchild in July. Fellow parishioners Rick & Patsy Fownes, who were just featured in “Our Parish Family” several weeks ago, introduced Dick & Claudia to each other. And Claudia introduced the Fownes’s to the Catholic Church! Dick is retired from Norfolk Southern where he held a position in Sales & Marketing. Claudia is an Administrative Assistant and a Receptionist at Garvey Manor. Claudia serves our parish as a lector, and is also a Cursillista (a participant in the Cursillo movement). They regularly attend the 11:00 Mass and enjoy the choir, as Claudia feels that the music “adds such a dimension to worship”. They also enjoy the “environment” here, filled with “warm and friendly people”.

Children’s’ Liturgy of the Word – We have begun the beautiful practice at our 11:00 AM 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 call or email to Mary Haenig, our Director of Religious Formation.

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 19th. 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 call the office to make reservations.

Catholicism – During the season of Lent, on Tuesday evenings, I will be conducting the Catholicism Series at Our Lady of Lourdes, from 6:00 – 7:30 PM. It will be held in the parish hall, and all are most welcome. This series features Bishop Robert Barron, our country’s most noted Catholic teacher.

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.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SCHEDULE

March 19: Family Lent Event: LIVING STATIONS

All families, parents and students are to attend. It will be held in the gym.

March 26: regular class 9:15-10:45

April 2: regular class 9:15-10:45

April 2nd - 11th grade Rite of Sending at the 11:00 Mass and Confirmation/Sponsor Meeting directly after Mass in the school gym



Notice that the first pew at the 11:00 AM Mass is filled with our students preparing to make their First Holy Communion. Please pray for them as they continue their journey thru Lent.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Will be held every Sunday in Lent at the 11:00 AM Mass



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
SAVE THE DATE!!!**
**June 19-23 daily
9AM to 12 noon**



EASTER FLOWERS All memorial donations for Easter flowers should be submitted by April 9 in order to be acknowledged in the Easter Sunday bulletin.



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.

HAITI MATCHING DONATION: In June 2016, Jim Krug visited our sister parish, Sts. Peter and Paul, in Haiti. He was of great service to the parish and school with gardening and repairs. As usually happens, the Haitian people found a place in Jim's heart so he and his wife, Stephanie, have offered a challenge of matching your donation up to \$1,250. Since Jim is an educator in Altoona, at his request, this money will be used to supplement the salaries of the nine teachers. This is a very generous offer from one of our own young families and it would be wonderful to honor their giving. 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 ginnylee.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 • Robert Cole • Michelle Fasline
Carol Field • Wayne Flanagan • Bob George
JoAnne Gerardine • Judy Hurm • Brian Kopp
Bill Loth • Jim McLaren • June Miller
Deacon Gene Neral • Anne-Marie Norris • Bob Olson
Ron Peschock • Bob & Mary Rajnish
Olga Romerowicz • Madison Shura • Patty Teufel
Noah Wills • Support for persecuted Christians

EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINES The deadline to submit information for the April 9 Palm Sunday bulletin is Thursday, March 30. The deadline to submit information to be included in the April 16 Easter Sunday bulletin is Thursday, April 6.

STEWARSHIP CORNER "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again." John 4:13 Jesus reminds us that material things, even something as basic as water, can never satisfy us for long. When we build our lives around material possessions we always want more. True Joy and Peace only comes when we follow Jesus; when we become more "God-centered" and less "self-centered".

Stewardship at St. John's OFFERTORY for March 12 2017

Envelopes	\$	4,638.00
Loose	\$	632.00
Children's:	\$	6.00
Parish Development	\$	70.00
Catholic Education	\$	20.00
Easter Flowerss	\$	30.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$	50.00
Black & Indian Mission	\$	75.00
SubTotal	\$	5551.00
Online Giving	\$	1935.00
Total Offertory	\$	7,486.00

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

THE TEEN SHELTER needs new (teen-age sizes) girls pajamas (sizes small-xl- misses/women's) and unisex sweat pants and sweatshirts or hoodies. St. John's Women's Group is collecting these items and invites the parish to join us. Starting Sunday, March 12 there will be a box in the gathering space for the donated items. Thank you!

CARMELITE COMMUNITY OF THE WORD OVERNIGHT RETREAT:

April 7-8, 2017: Silence as Gift

The retreat, which begins on Friday evening at 7 PM and ends on Saturday at 3 PM, 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. Includes overnight accommodations, meals and all materials. **Pre-registration with fee is required by the Tuesday before each retreat.** Sessions will be held at Carmelite Community of the Word Incarnation Center, 394 Bem Rd., Gallitzin, PA. To register, get directions, or for more information, call 814-886-4098.

THANK YOU for a successful Ash Wednesday Soup Supper! Delicious soup and bread was provided by: Ginny Reeder, Darlene Scarpaci, Karen Horton, Barbara McLaren, Rose Wargo, Mary Haenig, Steph Krug, Joyce Cunningham, David Auerbeck, Jane Becker and Carolyn English. Thank you to the 11th Graders who helped to set up, serve, and clean up. Of course a special thanks to everyone who came to enjoy soup and fellowship. Your donations totaled over \$700. Your generosity makes a difference – thank you!

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 Country residents who are in need of medication reminders, safety checks or a social call. They can also handle telephones calls from people who need a listening ear. Flyers in the gathering space contain more information.

BISHOP GUILFOYLE'S 1ST ANNUAL MARCH MADNESS EVENT, benefitting the Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School Angel Fund, which provides tuition assistance for students/families with financial restraints, will be held on April 1st, 2017 from 5:30PM to 11:30PM in the Bavarian Ballroom. \$25.00 tickets are available from any BG student or in the main office at Bishop Guilfoyle. Please contact Jackie Lund in the development office at Bishop Guilfoyle for reservations & sponsorships.(944-3987) development@bguilfoyle.org

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

Sunday March 19 - Third Sunday in Lent

8:00AM-Mass for *Bob Cooney & Marie Daup* requested by
Ginger Cooney & Family
11:00AM-Mass for *Serena Stevens* requested by
Bernie & Julie Beiswenger

Monday March 20 - St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:30AM-Eucharistic Adoration
8:10AM-Morning Prayer
8:30AM-Mass for the *Janet & Andrew Szarwark*

Tuesday March 21 - Lenten Weekday

7:30AM-Eucharistic Adoration
8:10AM-Morning Prayer
8:30AM-Mass for *Ruth Lusco* requested by
John & Betsy Lloyd

Wednesday March 22 - Lenten Weekday

5:00PM- Confession
6:00PM- Mass for *James Scott*

Thursday March 23 - Lenten Weekday

7:30AM-Eucharistic Adoration
8:10AM-Morning Prayer
8:30AM- Mass for *Bud Bloom* requested by
Adam Lee

Friday March 24 - Lenten Weekday

7:30AM-Eucharistic Adoration
8:10AM-Morning Prayer
8:30AM-Mass for *Sister Melaney* requested by
Barb Bundy
7:00PM-Stations of the Cross/Bible Study

Saturday March 25 - The Annunciation of the Lord

9:00AM - Mass for *People of the Parish*
Vigil of the Fourth Sunday in Lent
3:00PM- Confession
4:00PM-Mass for *Frances Bean* requested by
Bob & Ginny Reeder

Sunday March 26 - Fourth Sunday in Lent

8:00AM-Mass for *People of the Parish*
11:00AM-Mass for *Gary Bevan* requested by
Rick & Donna Kelly

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22;
Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43; Mt 18:21-35
Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9; Mt 5:17-19
Thursday: Jer 7:23-28; Lk 11:14-23
Friday: Hos 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34



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