

APPOINTMENTS

ACOLYTES:

Sat. Sept. 30 - 4:00 PM - Claire Nackley, Keaton Swope
Sun. Oct. 1 - 8:00 AM - Sarah Geishauer, Nate Rudolph
Sun. Oct. 1 - 11:00 AM - David Auerbeck, Kaelab Ruggles

LECTORS:

Sat. Sept. 30 - 4:00 PM - Heather Nackley, Jack Donoughe
Sun. Oct. 1 - 8:00 AM - Fran Semelsberger, Joyce Cunningham
Sun. Oct. 1 - 11:00 AM - Bob Olson, Jim Campbell

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Sat. Sept. 30 - 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, John Lloyd
Sun. Oct. 1 - 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci, Mary Truesdale
Sun. Oct. 1 - 11:00 AM - Lou Ann Clark, Mary Dennis,
Paul Dennis, Joseph Klobuka, Pam Klobuka, Donna Moyer

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY:

Sat. Sept. 30 - 4:00 PM - Barb Aubrey, Coleen Langguth,
David Langguth, Betsy Lloyd
Sun. Oct. 1 - 8:00 AM - Ray Kennedy, Mike O'Neill,
Daniel Turcovsky, Diane Turcovsky
Sun. Oct. 1 - 11:00 AM - Walter Bloom, Wendy Campbell,
Dolores Capriotti, Peg Madden

SACRISTAN:

Sat. Sept. 30 - 4:00 PM - Billy Sweet
Sun. Oct. 1 - 8:00 AM - Michele DeFrancisco
Sun. Oct. 1 - 11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan

SCRIP:

Sat. Sept. 30 - 4:00 PM - Dawn & Frank Steinbugl
Sun. Oct. 1 - 8:00 AM - Amber & Heather Yasolsky
Sun. Oct. 1 - 11:00 AM - Jane Byrne, Carolyn English

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY • TUESDAY • THURSDAY • FRIDAY - 8:30AM
WEDNESDAY - 6:00 PM
SATURDAY - 4:00PM • SUNDAY - 8:00AM & 11:00AM

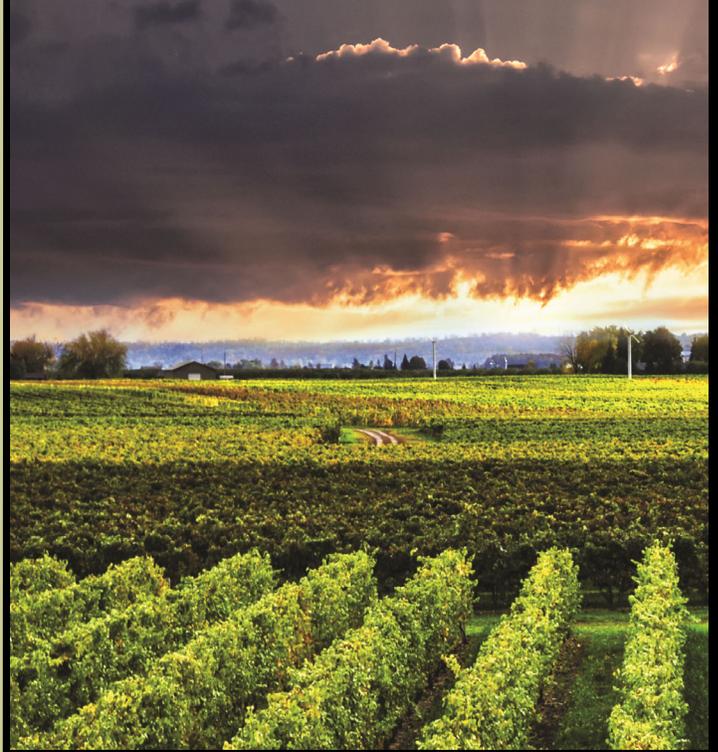
PASTORAL STAFF:

- Msgr. Michael Becker *mbecker253@aol.com*
- Deacon Gene Neral *gene@lifeinfofocus.net*
- Mr. Mark Krepich
RCIA
mark.krepich@gmail.com
- Mr. Patrick Podoletz
Parish Council President
ppodoletz@atlanticbb.net
- 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

THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

IS LIKE A LANDOWNER WHO WENT OUT AT DAWN
TO HIRE LABORERS FOR HIS VINEYARD.

- Matthew 20:1



SEPTEMBER 24, 2017
25TH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
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www.stjohnsaltoona.org

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

October 1 - Blessing of Pets at 1:00PM
October 8 - Second Sunday Food Collection
October 9 - Parish Office Closed
October 14 - Hollidaysburg Pumpkinfest Soup Sale
October 15 - Pancake Breakfast

A Few Words from the Pastor:

Our Family Tree – We are most grateful to our DRE Mary Haenig and her husband Chuck for “growing” a tree in our Gathering Space! We look forward to the many ways it will be decorated throughout the year.

A New Amplifier – You may recall a couple weeks ago we had to “go it alone” at Mass without the help of our PA system, which was making loud and obnoxious sounds. We have learned that one of our amplifiers has gone kaput! A replacement has been ordered. Thanks to Bettwy Sound Systems for their prompt response!

Blessing of Pets: All are familiar with the affection which St. Francis of Assisi had for animals. In anticipation of his Feast on Wednesday, October 4th, we will continue our annual tradition of having our blessing of pets next Sunday, October 1nd, at 1 PM in the front circle of the church!

Two Doctors of the Church - On Saturday we celebrate the life and teachings of **St. Jerome**, a noted 4th century priest and scripture scholar who is largely responsible for the Latin Vulgate (“commonly used”) translation of the bible, translating the books of the Bible from Greek and Hebrew into Latin. Next Sunday we remember the life of the Little Flower, **St. Therese of the Child Jesus**, the 24 year old Carmelite whose autobiography Story of a Soul is a must-read in Christian literature. She died in 1897 at the age of 24, and was canonized in 1925. She was declared a Doctor of the Church by Pope John Paul II in 1997, only the third woman to have been given that honor!

To Walk in Jesus’ Footsteps – Our pilgrimage to the Holy Land is beginning to take shape. The tentative dates are May 16 to May 26, 2018. This is an opportunity for us to grow in our discipleship of Christ Jesus. We will have the blessing to walk where Jesus walked and to celebrate liturgy at the holiest places in Christianity. More information will be forthcoming! Please give serious consideration to joining this pilgrimage. I myself have never been to the Holy Land, and see this as a grace to strengthen my own commitment as a disciple of the Lord Jesus.

Our Angel Tree Project - For 35 years St. John’s parishioners have very generously participated in the Angel Tree Project to ensure families in need have a beautiful Christmas. We want to ensure the continuation of this parish project, but because this project is very labor intensive, and because our volunteers are fewer and older, the Parish Council has decided to partner with Catholic Charities in Altoona. Catholic Charities will assign us families and the tags will hang from our new Family Tree in the Sanctuary by November 18th, just in time for Black Friday! You can wrap your gift at home or you can buy wrapping paper and put it in with your gift and Catholic Charities will do the wrapping. Each gift will have a \$25.00 limit. Each family will receive food cards and gas cards which you may purchase through Scrip. All gifts will be brought back to the Gathering Space by December 9, and Catholic Charities will pick them up. Families will receive them by December 15th. With this revised project everything is the same but less labor intensive for our parishioners. Food collected during November and December will continue to be sent directly to the various food banks. We are excited to work with Jean Johnstone and Catholic Charities and continue our ministry to reach out to those in need. If you have a family that needs help, tell them to call Catholic Charities at (814)944-9388 by November 15 to sign up. If you have questions you can call Susanna at (814)317-7531.

Adult Ed - Untold Blessings! - God calls each of us to become a saint, and he’s ready to support us along the way by providing abundant blessings. Join us as we seek these blessings by participating in Bishop Robert Barron’s DVD-based program: “Untold Blessing: Three Paths to Holiness.” The first path is “Finding the Center in Christ;” the second is “Knowing You Are a Sinner” and then the third, “Realizing Your Life is Not About You.” **Join us after the 8:00 Mass in the Cafeteria!**

Liturgical Ministries – if you would like to serve the parish as a Lector, Eucharistic Minister, or Minister of Hospitality, please see Deacon Gene, Debbie Johnson or myself.

OUR PARISH FAMILY ... Dave & Connie McManuels just re-joined St John’s three years ago, but Connie has a very long history here. Connie’s parents, Leo & Cecelia Long, belonged to our parish from 1940 until they passed away. Her sister, Dee Schmerbeck, and her niece, Melissa Ringkamp, are also long-time members here. Connie was baptized here and graduated from St John’s School. Dave is also originally from Altoona, but growing up moved around to other parts of Pennsylvania due to his father’s job. Dave is retired from the Department of Defense, and Connie is a retired high school math teacher. Dave has two daughters and four grandchildren who live near York, PA. Connie’s son, Alex, and his wife live in Bloomington, IN. Due to Dave’s job, Dave & Connie lived in Alabama before retiring and moving back to Altoona three years ago where they now live in the home where Connie grew up. Connie said that rejoining St John’s was also “like coming home”.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

You can find our yearly calendar at

www.stjohnsaltoona.org

September 24th Regular class from 9:15-10:45

October 1st - NO CLASS

October 8th - Regular class from 9:15-10:45

October 8th - 11th grade Confirmation session

October 15th - NO CLASS

ST. JOHN'S FAMILY TREE



Our gathering space has been filled with St. John's "family tree". This tree is here to represent the faith filled family of St John's. It will be here through April and change monthly. This month it is representing many of the wonderful ministries that we have at St John's!

If you're not already involved, I hope this inspires you to get involved in one of the many opportunities we offer.

BENEFIT FOR BRYSON SPAGHETTI DINNER: Sunday, October 15, from 11:30AM to 2:30PM at St. Patrick School Hall in Newry. All proceeds will go to help with ongoing medical expenses as Bryson recuperates from a serious car accident. Donation: Adults \$7.00 and Children \$4.00. For any questions or to make a donation, please contact the Lonero family (814)693-3489 or St. Patrick Rectory (814) 695-3413 or St. Patrick School (814) 695-3819. Any and all donations will be greatly appreciated.

PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES: Since Parish Council did not meet in July & August, the minutes from the June meeting were just approved on September 11th. These minutes are now available on our parish website, and there are also paper copies on the kiosk in the gathering space. The minutes from the Sept 11th meeting will be made available after they are approved at our next meeting, which is scheduled for October 9th.

WOMEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP: Our next meeting will be on Monday, September 25, at 6:30 PM in the Parish Center. This time our theme will be ways to become our best version of ourselves. Mary Lee Davis will share ideas from Carl Jung, and Joyce Cunningham will share ideas from Richard Rohr. Anyone is welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served.

GIVE US THIS DAY: Please note that new or renewed subscriptions to this monthly publication are due by the end of September. There are envelopes in the gathering space that you can use to make your \$20 payment before the end of the month.



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 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:*

**Baby Adam • Bernie Beiswenger • Millie Bilski
Vicky Buda • Yolanda Bumann • Vincent Cannizzaro
Robert Cole • Millie Grace Capon • Mary Lee DeStefano
Michael DeStefano • Michelle Fasline • Carol Field
JoAnne Gerardine • Brian Kopp • Bryson Miller
June Miller • Ron Peschock • Dave Petrak
Bob & Mary Rajnish • Olga Romerowicz
Justine Wareham Smith • Patty Teufel • Lois Werfel
Noah Wills • Our Lady Of Lourdes Parish**

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

**Robert Leidy, father of Coleen Langguth
Everest Saad, grandson of Bonnie Saad
Carolyn Ward**

LOVE FEAST: You will notice that we have the strips for food items and sign-up lists on the kiosk for our next Love Feast on Saturday, October 28. Please consider participating in this ministry to our neighbors in need who are always so thankful.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: The vineyard owner in today's Gospel asks, "Am I not free to do as I wish with my own money?" We are likewise free. Is a generous return to the Lord, in thanksgiving for his many blessings, among the choices we have made?

Stewardship at St. John's

OFFERTORY for September 17, 2017

Envelopes	\$ 4,533.00
Loose	\$ 460.00
Parish Development	\$ 76.00
Catholic University	\$ 50.00
Catholic Education	\$ 50.00
Retired/Priest Medical	\$ 80.00
SubTotal	\$ 5,249.00
Online Giving	\$ 1,868.00
Total Offertory	\$ 7,117.00

Hurricane Harvey collection \$20.00

CATHOLIC LIFE DAY 2017 : The Virtue of Magnanimity
 Saturday, September 30 from 8:30AM to 12:00PM in the Bertschi Center of Mt. Aloysius College, Cresson. *Living and Loving: Are You Giving Without Expectation?* In an ever challenging world, where selfishness has replaced selflessness, it can sometime be hard to live a virtuous life. The Keynote Speaker is Bishop Mark L. Barchak and the day will include a time of Spiritual Reflection facilitated by Monsignor Robert Mazur. For more information or a registration brochure, visit the diocesan website at www.dioceseaj.org or call Francine Swope at (814)317-2646.

SCRIP CONTEST: You still have time to sign up as a new ScripNow user and place 2 orders between Sept 1 and Oct 31 to be entered into the contest to win \$50 of Scrip. Those already using ScripNow who order \$2500 in Scrip between Nov 10 and December 24 will be given an entry for a contest to win \$100 of Scrip. Winners will be selected during 11:00AM mass. The winner need not be present to win. This Scrip contest is sponsored by the Fit3 team forming in Altoona with Heather Yasolsky as coach.

HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH?

If you've been coming to Mass for a while, but are not Catholic, we invite you to look deeper into our faith tradition. We will be gathering to share the truths of the Catholic faith and the fellowship of our church family. We invite you to learn what Catholics believe in an open and welcoming setting. These gatherings also are opportunities for you to ask any questions you may have about the Church and our parish community. We meet in the day chapel at 9:15 Sunday morning. If you have any questions please ask Msgr. Becker or Deacon Gene or call Mark Krepich at 932-2223 or email at mark.krepich@gmail.com.



THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL will hold its Annual Dinner and Liturgy Sunday, October 15, 2017 at St. Francis University in Loretto. This year the Society celebrates 400 years of Vincentian Charism. For information concerning the event or reservations, contact the Society at 814-943-1981. The Liturgy and Dinner is open to all Vincentians, volunteers and friends of the Society.

BASKET BINGO to support St. Leonard's Personal Care Home charity care fund will be held on Saturday, October 14 from 1:00 -3:30 pm at St. Catherine Church Hall in Duncansville. Beautiful themed baskets for 20 bingo prizes and silent auction. Lunch available at noon. For more information or tickets (\$25), please call 695-9581 or stop in during business hours.

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

Sunday September 24- 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00AM-Mass for *People of the Parish*
 11:00AM-Mass for *Matt Geishouser* requested by Lois Dullinger

Monday September 25 - Weekday

8:10AM-Morning Prayer
 8:30AM-Mass for *Bud Bloom* requested by Bob & Rose Rieg

Tuesday September 26 - Weekday

8:10AM-Morning Prayer
 8:30AM-Mass for *Edward & Madeline Feathers* requested by Dr. & Mrs. David Lee

Wednesday September 27 - St. Vincent de Paul, Priest

5:00PM-Eucharistic Adoration/Confessions
 6:00PM-Mass for *Leo & Cecelia Long* requested by John & Carol Bismark

Thursday September 28 - Weekday

8:10AM-Morning Prayer
 8:30AM-Mass for *Eileen Becker* requested by Clarence Becker

Friday September 29 - St. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels

8:10AM-Morning Prayer
 8:30AM-Mass for *Jeanne McDowell* requested by Tom & Nancy Weimer

Saturday September 30 - Vigil of the 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

3:00PM-Confessions
 4:00PM- Mass for *Carolyn Ward* requested by Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Klobuka

Sunday October 1- 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00AM-Mass for *People of the Parish*
 11:00AM-Mass for *Grady Weyandt* requested by Linda Weyandt

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Ezr 1:1-6; Lk 8:16-18
 Tuesday: Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Lk 8:19-21
 Wednesday: Ezr 9:5-9; Lk 9:1-6
 Thursday: Hg 1:1-8; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Lk 9:7-9
 Friday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a; Jn 1:47-51

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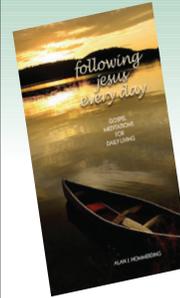
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 please call the Parish Office.

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