

Father Abraham,
HAVE PITY ON ME.
SEND LAZARUS
TO DIP THE TIP
OF HIS FINGER
IN WATER
AND COOL
MY TONGUE.

— Luke 16:24

SEPTEMBER 25, 2016
TWENTY 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 Music Director/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

APPOINTMENTS

ACOLYTES:

- Sat. Oct.. 1- 4:00 PM - Piper Brunhuber, Rylee Hershey
- Sun. Oct.. 2 - 8:00 AM - Sarah Geishouser, Ethan Miller
- Sun. Oct.. 2 - 10:00 AM - Matthew Woolridge, Dalton Davis

LECTORS:

- Sat. Oct.. 1 - 4:00 PM - Suzanne Caldwell, John Lloyd
- Sun. Oct.. 2 - 8:00 AM - Fran Semelsberger, Mark Krepich
- Sun. Oct.. 2 - 10:00 AM - Bill Foose, Norma Foose

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

- Sat. Oct.. 1 - 4:00 PM - Barb Aubrey, Jenna Jenkins
- Sun. Oct.. 2 - 8:00 AM - Melissa McHugh, Joyce Cunningham
- Sun. Oct.. 2 - 10:00 AM - Susanna Tomlinson, Kenneth Gorman, Paul Dennis, Mary Dennis, Dolores Capriotti, Lou Ann Clark

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY:

- Sat. Oct.. 1 - 4:00 PM - Bill Stokan, Mary Frances Stokan, Heather Nackley, Betsy Lloyd
- Sun. Oct.. 2 - 8:00 AM - Mary Truesdale, Darlene Scarpaci, Mary Grace Horton, Helen Miller
- Sun. Oct.. 2 - 10:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Anna Podoletz, Patrick Podoletz, Wally Wargo

SACRISTAN:

- Sat. Oct.. 1 - 4:00 PM - Billy Sweet
- Sun. Oct.. 2 - 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci
- Sun. Oct.. 2 - 10:00 AM - Barbara Bundy

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

Sept. 30 through Oct. 8 - Parish Directory Portrait Sessions in Parish Center

Oct. 2 at 1:00: Blessing of Pets

Oct. 15 - Hollidaysburg Pumpkin Festival Soup Sale

Oct. 15 to 18 - Year of Mercy Retreat with Fr. Dennis

Oct. 22 - Love Feast

Pope Francis on Mercy -- *The time has come for the Church to take up the joyful call to mercy once more. It is time to return to the basics and to bear the weaknesses and struggles of our brothers and sisters. Mercy is the force that reawakens us to new life and instills in us the courage to look to the future with hope.*



A Few Words from the Pastor:

Being a SCRIP Parish! – There is no simpler way to assist your parish financially than by participating in our SCRIP program. Using the gift cards that are available for sale after Mass, every purchase you make, whether at the mall or the market or Sheetz, brings a financial benefit to the parish. It's that simple!

Desks for our Children in Haiti – Many thanks to all who have contributed to our appeal for desks for our children in Marmont, Haiti! We have achieved our goal, raising close to \$15,000! Awesome! Continued support is needed as we seek to help meet the salaries of the teachers. Father Benive indicated that his weekly collection is \$4.00! Yes, that is FOUR DOLLARS! Your weekly contribution to the Common Cents jug is vital. Thanks for all you have done and all you are doing!

Are You Living Your Strengths? – For four consecutive Thursdays I will be conducting this workshop in the parish center from 6:30 to 8:30. The only expense is the cost of the book (\$15.00). Living Your Strengths is a program developed by the Gallup Organization to assist in enabling individuals to name and claim their God-given talents, utilizing an on-line survey that names your top five strengths and talents. If you have missed the first session, please stop at the parish office and get the Living Your Strengths book, so that you can take the on-line survey in preparation for this coming week! This exciting workshop will give you confidence in yourself and in the knowledge that your talents are appreciated by the community. You will not be disappointed, I promise!

Blessing of Pets: All are familiar with the affection which St. Francis of Assisi had for animals. In anticipation of his Feast on Tuesday, October 4th, we will continue our annual tradition of having our blessing of pets on Sunday, October 2nd, at 1 PM in the front circle of the church!

Liturgical Ministries – For those who would like to serve the parish as Lectors, Sacristans, Eucharistic Ministers, or Ministers of Hospitality, there is a sign-up sheet on the kiosk. Training for each ministry will be scheduled soon.

What is a “Doctor of the Church”? This is a very special title accorded by the Church to certain saints. This title indicates that the writings and preaching of such a person are useful to Christians "in any age of the Church." Such men and women are also particularly known for the depth of understanding and the orthodoxy of their theological teachings. This week we honor two such saints! Friday 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. On Saturday 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!

Wedding Bells! - Congratulations to parishioner Devon McNelis, daughter of Charles and Kim McNelis, who was joined in the sacred bond of marriage to Matthew Singer on Saturday at the Eve Chapel on the Penn State Altoona Campus. Our prayers and best wishes for a blessed union in Christ!

Retreat on the “Year of Mercy” – Father Dennis, our priest friend from Wisconsin, will be coming in the middle of October, and will be conducting a retreat for us on the Year of Mercy. He arrives on Friday the 14th, and will celebrate and preach at all Masses that weekend. For the next few evenings he will lead us in a prayerful reflection of the power and grace of the Year of Mercy. Stay tuned for details!

Give Us This Day – This is the last week to subscribe to Give Us this Day. If you would like to subscribe or renew a subscription to this monthly missal, place your payment of \$20 in the envelope provided in the Gathering Space and drop it in the collection or in the parish office.



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Portrait sessions for the new parish directory begin this Friday, September 30 and will continue through Saturday, October 8. You can still make an appointment online at stjohnsaltoona.org or by calling the parish office at 942-5503. All portrait sessions will be held in our Parish Center in the basement of the church. **In conjunction with the directory photography, we are conducting a food drive. When you come to get your picture taken, you are invited to bring a food donation and in return, you will receive a coupon for \$5 off your portrait order.** We are also looking for volunteers to serve as hosts during the photography sessions. If you are willing to greet people and complete their check-in paperwork, contact Debbie Johnson at 814-931-2867.

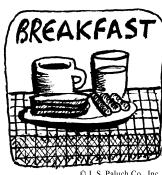
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

STEWARDSHIP FOR CHILDREN Children's envelopes coming to St John's - Children benefit greatly when they learn that we all have a need and obligation to give back to God. In this materialistic, and sometimes self-centered culture, if a child does not learn the joy and responsibility of giving when he or she is young, that child could spend his or her whole life never realizing that the secret to real joy is sharing our gifts with God and one another. Children also experience an increase in their own self-esteem when they realize they have gifts to give and their gifts can make a difference. This week at religious education the students will receive giving envelopes. There is one envelope for each Sunday of the year. Our hope is that you will encourage the children to put aside some of "THEIR OWN" money for a weekly offering to God. Five cents from your child's own money is far more meaningful than \$1.00 that comes from you, the adult. God has given us so many blessings. It's important for the children to give back to God and feel the JOY of giving. If your child does not attend religious education classes and you are interested in a box of children's envelopes, you can find a basket with boxes of envelopes in the gathering space.

Today's special collection benefits our diocesan priests' medical care and retirement needs. Please consider a generous gift as an expression of gratitude to our senior priests who are no longer supported by a parish yet who continue to serve us in many pastoral ministries. If you forgot to bring the special collection envelope, please bring it with you next weekend or consider donating online at www.dioceseaj.org. Thank you!

The **Catholic Life Conference Day of Prayer** will be held on October 22, 2016, at Mount Aloysius College in Creson. The theme will be "Enfleshing Mercy in our Lives – A Circle of Giving and Receiving." Sister Janet Ruffing, RSM, a professor at Yale Divinity School in Connecticut, will deliver the keynote addresses. To register, please contact the Diocesan Parish Life Office at (814) 693-9605.

Free Senior Breakfast! Sunday, October 16



All parishioners 65 and older are invited to attend a free breakfast, served by the 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students on Sunday, October 16 after the 8:00 am Mass and continuing until 10:30 am. Please sign up on the kiosk in the gathering space, or call Stephanie at 934-6752 for more information.



11th ANNUAL HOLLIDAYSBURG PUMPKIN FESTIVAL

 will be held SATURDAY, OCT 15, 2016, from 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Once again, our parish will be selling soup. Please sign up on the kiosk to make soup and/or work at our booth to help with this fund raiser, which benefits our Twin Parish in Haiti. Containers & instructions for those who sign up will be available for pick up in the Gathering Space the weekend of Oct 8 & 9. If you have any questions, call Ginny at 695-7671 or email: ginny.reeder@gmail.com. Thank you.

Gift Shop Opening and Pet Blessing The Franciscan Friars, TOR at St. Bernardine Monastery will be holding the grand opening of The Friar's Nook Gift Shop and a blessing of pets on Saturday, October 1, 2016. The blessing will begin at 10:00 am. The Friar's Nook Gift Shop is located across from the Monastery at 793 Monastery Road, Hollidaysburg. Refreshments will be provided.

Love Feast update: You might have missed that our sign-up list for the October 22 Love Feast includes sign-up for cupcake bakers. **We need 5 more people to bake 2 dozen cupcakes**. The cupcakes may be delivered either to the gathering space of the Church on Friday, Oct. 21, or to Simpson Temple (2212 Sixth Ave.) on Saturday, the 22nd., by 10 a.m.

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 • JoAnne Gerardine
Judy Hurm • Brian Kopp • Joel Myers
Ron Peschock • Bob & Mary Rajnish
Olga Romerowicz • Madison Shura

Patty Teufel

For all students, parents, teachers and administrators during the new
2016-2017 school year

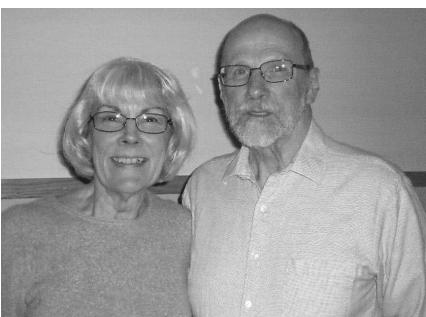
For an end to violence and unrest in our country

Stewardship at St. John's

OFFERTORY for September 18, 2016

Envelopes:	\$ 4,484.50
Loose:	\$ 655.00
Children's:	\$ 3.00
Parish Development	\$ 80.00
Catholic Education	\$ 10.00
Catholic Register	\$ 18.00
Catholic University	\$ 20.00
Priest's Retirement/Med.	\$ 50.00
Total:	\$ 5,320.50
Online Giving:	\$ 1,375.00
TOTAL:	\$ 6,695.50

OUR PARISH FAMILY... Ron & Joyce Cunningham have



belonged to St John's since 1967 and were married here in 1968. They are both retired now, after long careers as Clinical Social Workers. They attend either the 4:00 pm

Saturday or 8:00 am Sunday Mass, depending on the ministry schedule. Joyce is a Lector and a Eucharistic Minister, and she also is very active on the Grounds Committee and the Samaritan Committee. Both Ron & Joyce are currently serving as Sacristans and both are past Parish Council members. Joyce said that their original reason for choosing St John's was that our parish "has always been oriented to social justice and ecumenism". She said that this dates back to one of our former pastors, Msgr. Saylor, who was very active in the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference. (This organization is involved in issues such as health care, religious liberty, marriage and family, and social justice.) Joyce also pointed out that Msgr. Becker is continuing this tradition through his involvement with the local Ecumenical Council. Joyce summarized their feelings about our parish by stating that "St John's is our spiritual home and family". /

If you're willing to be included in this weekly feature, designed to help us learn more about our St John's family, contact: Cecelia Bloom, at 695-2806 or ceceb13@verizon.net.

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

Sunday September 25th - 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Time

8:00AM-Mass for *People of the Parish*
11:00AM-Mass for *Lena Colyer* requested by
Mr. & Mrs. John Cuzzolina

Monday September 26th – Weekday

7:30AM-Eucharistic Adoration
8:10AM-Morning Prayer
8:30AM-Mass for *Eleanore Trimarco* requested by
Rick And Cammy Pulvino

Tuesday September 27th - St. Vincent de Paul, Priest

7:30AM-Eucharistic Adoration
8:10AM-Morning Prayer
8:30AM-Mass for *Ken Burkett*

Wednesday September 28th - Weekday

5:00PM-Confessions
6:00PM-Mass for *Lance Cpl. Ralph Fabbri*

Thursday September 29th - Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels

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

Friday September 30th - St. Jerome, Priest and doctor of the Church

7:30AM-Eucharistic Adoration
8:10AM-Morning Prayer
8:30AM-Mass for John A. Schmidt

Saturday October 1st – Vigil of the 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

3:00PM-Confessions
4:00PM-Mass for *Ward Huntley* requested by
Marian Monios and daughter Michele

Sunday October 2nd - 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00AM-Mass for *People of the Parish*
11:00AM-Mass for *Judy Weaver* requested by
Barb Bundy

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Jb 1:6-22; Lk 9:46-50
Tuesday: Jb 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23; Lk 9:51-56
Wednesday: Jb 9:1-12, 14-16; Lk 9:57-62
Thursday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a; Jn 1:47-51
Friday: Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5; 13-14ab; Lk 10:13-16

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HEALTHSOUTH Rehabilitation Center Regency Square ASK FOR US BY NAME! Pat Leamer, MPT Physical Therapist Clinic Manager 2900 Plank Road, Suite 2 Altoona, PA 16602 (814) 941-0916	 Stephanie Varljen, DDS, PhD ORTHODONTICS Dental Care Associates 712 Logan Blvd. 946-1950	 <p>If You Live Alone You Need LIFEWatch! 24 Hour Protection at HOME and AWAY! ✓ Ambulance ✓ Solutions as Low as \$1 a Day! ✓ Police ✓ FREE Shipping ✓ Fire ✓ FREE Activation ✓ Friends/Family ✓ NO Long Term Contracts AS SEEN ON TV Fall Detectors Also Available Ask about our AARP discounts CALL NOW! 800.393.9954 MADE AND MONITORED IN THE USA LIFEWatchUSA PERSONAL CARING SERVICE SINCE 1980 </p>	
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