



Image © Copyright Thinkstock.com

FEBRUARY 18, 2018  
1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT  
ST. JOHN THE  
EVANGELIST CHURCH  
309 LOTZ AVENUE  
814-942-5503  
[www.stjohnsaltoona.org](http://www.stjohnsaltoona.org)

#### UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

- February 19 - Parish Office Closed/Presidents' Day
- February 23 - Stations of the Cross: 7:00 PM
- February 24 - Discover The Church after 4:00 PM Mass
- February 25 - Penance Service: 4:00 PM
- March 2 - Stations of the Cross: 7:00 PM
- March 9 - Stations of the Cross: 7:00 PM
- March 10 - Love Feast
- March 16 - Stations of the Cross: 7:00 PM
- March 18 - Living Stations in Fr. Bailey Hall: 9:30 AM

#### APPOINTMENTS

##### ACOLYTES:

- Sat. Feb. 24 - 4:00 PM - Alycia Auerbeck, Keaton Swope
- Sun. Feb. 25 - 8:00 AM - Emily & Ethan Miller
- Sun. Feb. 25 - 11:00 AM - Caitlin & Tyler Conigy

##### LECTORS:

- Sat. Feb. 24 - 4:00 PM - Mark Sloan, Wally Wargo
- Sun. Feb. 25 - 8:00 AM - Daniel Turcovsky, Diane Turcovsky
- Sun. Feb. 25 - 11:00 AM - Richard Karcher, James Merrick

##### EUCARISTIC MINISTERS

- Sat. Feb. 24 - 4:00 PM - Barb Aubrey, Connie Baker
- Sun. Feb. 25 - 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci, Fran Semelsberger
- Sun. Feb. 25 - 11:00 AM - Cecelia Bloom, Walter Bloom

##### MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY:

- Sat. Feb. 24 - 4:00 PM - Heather Nackley, Judy Sneath, Billy Sweet, Dorothy Yingling
- Sun. Feb. 25 - 8:00 AM - Jane Becker, John Becker, Ray Kennedy, Mary Truesdale
- Sun. Feb. 25 - 11:00 AM - Lou Ann Clark, Peg Madden, Patrick Podoletz, NOT FILLED

##### SACRISTAN:

- Sat. Feb. 24 - 4:00 PM - Mary & Ray King
- Sun. Feb. 25 - 8:00 AM - Michele DeFrancisco
- Sun. Feb. 25 - 11:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti

##### SCRIP:

- Sat. Feb. 24 - 4:00 PM - Julie Beiswenger, Becky Merilli
- Sun. Feb. 25 - 8:00 AM - Chris Palazzi, Heather Yasolsky
- Sun. Feb. 25 - 11:00 AM - Jane Byrne, Carolyn English

#### PASTORAL STAFF:

- Msgr. Michael Becker      [mbecker253@aol.com](mailto:mbecker253@aol.com)
- Deacon Gene Neral      [gene@lifeinfocus.net](mailto:gene@lifeinfocus.net)
- Mr. Mark Krepich      RCIA  
[mark.krepich@gmail.com](mailto:mark.krepich@gmail.com)
- Mr. Patrick Podoletz      Parish Council President  
[ppodoletz@atlanticbb.net](mailto:ppodoletz@atlanticbb.net)
- Mrs. Deborah Johnson Director of Music/Pastoral Associate  
[dj219@msn.com](mailto:dj219@msn.com)
- Mr. & Mrs. Bill & Norma Foose Stephen Ministry  
[norma.foose@yahoo.com](mailto:norma.foose@yahoo.com)
- Mrs. Mary Ann Mirobelli Business Manager  
[stjohnchurch@atlanticbb.net](mailto:stjohnchurch@atlanticbb.net)
- Mrs. Mary Haenig Religious Education Director  
[mshaenig@gmail.com](mailto:mshaenig@gmail.com)
- Mr. Ken Dunmire Maintenance

## A Few Words from the Pastor:

**Communal Penance Service** – Please mark the date for our annual Penance Service, which will be on Sunday afternoon, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 4:00PM. There is no better season than Lent to experience the Mercy of God in the Sacrament of Penance. A number of visiting priests will be present to assist with individual confessions! Do join us!

**Stations of the Cross** - 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. Mark your calendar, and plan to walk in the steps of Jesus this Lent.

**Friday Evening Bible Study**– Following Stations of the Fridays of Lent, there will be a bible study in the Parish Center, which will focus on the Sunday readings. This is Year B in the lectionary, with the evangelist Saint Mark taking the lead. Please consider joining us. Our study will conclude by 9:00. Enrich your Sunday Mass experience by a careful study of the readings!

**Making a Good Confession** – When was the last time you went to confession? Consider doing so this Lent, either at our Communal Penance Service on Sunday February 25<sup>th</sup>, or on 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!

**The Chair of St. Peter** – Thursday the Church Universal celebrates the feast of the Chair of St. Peter. This feast brings to mind the mission of teacher and pastor conferred by Christ on Peter, and continued in an unbroken line down to the present Pope. We celebrate the unity of the Church, founded upon the Apostle. The feast of the Chair of Saint Peter at Rome has been celebrated from the early days of the Christian era. In both Rome and Antioch a chair (cathedra) was venerated which the Apostle had used while presiding at the Eucharist.

**Operation Rice Bowl**– This Lent we will again be participating in Operation Rice Bowl. Your generosity for those most in need is so very much appreciated. Rice Bowls will be distributed in the Gathering Space.

**Fasting And Abstinence In Lent** - Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal. Two smaller meals may also be taken, but not to equal a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily his Resurrection.

**Arise! Together in Christ!** – As our diocese is embarking on an exciting adventure in parish renewal, each parish has been asked to form an "Arise" parish team. *Arise Together in Christ* is a three-year, parish-centered process of evangelization and spiritual renewal, designed to help people develop a closer relationship with Christ, grow in community, and reach out in service to others. Should you be interested in serving on this team, or simply want to learn more about "Arise," please contact Msgr. Becker or Debbie Johnson. For more information, follow the *Catholic Register*, or go online to: <https://www.dioceseaj.org/arise>.

**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!

**Sincerest Thanks** - I would like to express my appreciation to the St. John's community for the heartfelt condolences expressed to me and to my family at the death of our father, Clarence. The support and prayers of this wonderful parish are a source of strength for us in our loss. You are truly a blessing to us!

**MY OWN CHURCH:** Thanks to all who have already logged in and updated their information using My Own Church. We hope everyone will take a few minutes to login and update their information to help us maintain accurate parish records. Those who would prefer not to enroll online can give us the information by placing it in an envelope addressed to the staff and dropping it in the collection basket, by calling the office at 942-5503 or by emailing us at [stjohnchurch@atlanticbb.net](mailto:stjohnchurch@atlanticbb.net).

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS**

Sunday February 18 - Regular class 9:15-10:45

Sunday February 25 - No Class

Sunday March 4 - Regular class 9:15-10:45

**PARISH PRAYER DURING LENT:** Pull out your cell phones and set a reminder alarm every day for 3 PM. Every day at 3 PM when our alarms sound, we will all pray an Our Father, a Hail Mary and a Glory Be. How fantastic will it be that the whole parish is praying together at 3 PM during Lent?



**DISCOVER THE CHURCH:** Saturday, February 24, 2018 after the 4:00 PM Mass. Come and explore our Church. Find the answers to the questions you've always wanted to ask. Our resident artist, Allen Capriotti, will be here to discuss some of his artwork in the church. All ages are welcome to come learn more about our church. Pizza and refreshments will be served in the Parish Center following the church tour. Please sign up on the kiosk so we know how much pizza we need!

### **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](mailto: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:*

**Baby Adam • Millie Bilski • Jen Buda • Robert Cole**

**Millie Grace Capon • Mary Lee DeStefano**

**Michael DeStefano • Keith DeMastens • Carol Field**

**JoAnne Gerardine • Dianna Green • Brian Kopp**

**Adam Leiden • Bryson Miller • June Miller**

**Karan Pasquariello • Ron Peschock • Dave Petrak**

**Bob & Mary Rajnish • Allison Recker**

**Dorothy Roberto • Olga Romerowicz**

**Maureen Smithe • Dianne Stultz • Patty Teufel**

**Lois Werfel • Noah Wills**

**That those who have material, political or spiritual power may resist any lure of corruption.**

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

**Clarence Becker**

**Margaret Dzimiera, sister of Marian Monios and aunt of Michele DeFrancisco & Meg Clevestine**  
*May they rest in the peace and joy of the Lord.*

### **LENTEN FISH DINNERS IN THE AREA:**

**Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament** - Fish Sandwich

Lenten Lunches from 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM Ash Wednesday and Fridays of Lent. Eat in or take out. \$7.00.

**Our Lady of Lourdes** - Every Friday during Lent. Take out starts 3:30 PM. Eat in from 4-7 PM. \$9.50 Adults & \$7.00 Children

**Saint Mark** - 6th Ave. & 4th St., Altoona - Mark your calendar for the following three Fridays: February 23, March 9, and March 23 from 4-6:30 PM (while supplies last). \$11 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. Take out available.

**St. Therese of the Child Jesus** - 25th Ave. & 5th St.- Fridays during Lent, 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Take out available.

\$10.00 Adults \$7.00 Children under 12.

**St. Patrick, Newry** - Every Friday during Lent (beginning February 16, 2018), including Good Friday from 4:00 to 7:00 PM. All-you-care-to-eat seafood buffet! Adults \$13.00, Seniors 60+ \$12.00, Children 5-12 \$8.00, Children under 5 free. Take out available for \$13.50.

**Unter Uns Club** - Van Buren Ave. & 14th Street - Each Friday during Lent, including Good Friday, March 30. 4:30 to 7:00 PM. \$9.00 for adults, \$5 Children 4-10, under 3 free.

**BASKET BINGO:** Sunday March 18, 2018 at Garvey Manor, 1037 So. Logan Blvd. Hollidaysburg, from 2:00 - 5:00 PM. Doors open at 1:15. Proceeds benefit programs for Residents of Garvey Manor/Our Lady of the Alleghenies Space is limited so pre-registration recommended. Call 695-5571 for information.

**MARDI GRAS:** Thank you to all who helped to make our annual Mardi Gras such a wonderful success! Special thanks to Mike & Ashley Greslick and the members of the Social Committee for organizing this year's Pre-Lenten celebration! Again, many thanks!

**STEWARSHIP CORNER:** Today's readings remind us that "baptism is God's most beautiful and magnificent gift" *Catechism of the Catholic Church*; 1216). In your Lenten Journey, may you re-commit yourself to living as Jesus' disciple and passionate steward of all God's gifts in the kingdom of God.

### **Stewardship at St. John's**

**OFFERTORY for February 11, 2018**

Envelopes	\$ 4,296.00
Loose	\$ 696.00
Children's	\$ 5.00
Candles	\$ 40.00
Ash Wednesday	\$ 21.00
Religious Retirement	\$ 10.00
<i>SubTotal</i>	\$ 5,068.00
Online Giving	\$ 2,658.00
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$ 7,726.00</b>

**Second Sunday Food Collection - \$517.00**



**OUR PARISH FAMILY:** Bill & Patty Teufel have been members here for about 10 years. They are both originally from Altoona, but moved multiple times due to Bill's work, and lived in Texas for 15 years

before returning to this area. He retired in 2006 as Director of Human Resources for a petro-chemical company in Houston. They have 2 adult children and 4 grandchildren. Their son, Bill, lives in Phoenixville PA with his wife and 2 children. And their daughter, Christy, lives in Fairfax VA with her husband and 2 children. Bill, Bill Jr, and Christy are all Penn State grads. Patty grew up in St Mark's parish here; Bill was raised Methodist but Patty said he has attended Mass with her for 43 years. They "shopped around" for a parish here, but said St John's "just felt right" and "most like home". They've both been involved in activities here – they've wrapped and delivered Angel Tree gifts, helped at the Lakemont festival, Patty is a scrip volunteer, and they attended our recent Mardi Gras where this picture was taken. And perhaps you've noticed Patty's name on our prayer list – unfortunately she was diagnosed about 2 years ago with a rare autoimmune disease that can affect the lungs, kidneys, and bones. She currently undergoes dialysis 3 times per week and is awaiting a kidney transplant. And you know the cards we're asked to sign in the gathering space? Patty said they've truly appreciated receiving the cards (and the cookies!), and it shows that St John's is a "loving and caring parish".

*Whether you are a new or longtime parishioner, we'd love to feature you in a future bulletin. We'll only include information that you provide and only what you want us to share. If you're willing, please contact: Cecelia Bloom, at 695-2806 or ceceb13@verizon.net.*

**LITURGICAL REFLECTION:** Lent has us reflect on our sinfulness and invites us to call upon God's mercy. We cannot be forgiven without the mercy of our God. Upon death Catholics have a Funeral Mass for the deceased believer. At this Mass we call upon God's mercy for the dearly departed. We place our dead in the merciful hands of God. Are the faithful departed in heaven, hell or purgatory? Only God knows; the Lord is judge. We gather to call upon the loving mercy of our Redeemer that our dead be at peace in the love and forgiveness of God *Order of Christian Funerals, 1998-1989, Number 129.*

## SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

### Sunday February 18 - First Sunday Of Lent

8:00AM-Mass for *Anna T. Partenheimer* requested by Bob & Ginny Reeder

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

### Monday February 19 - Lenten Weekday

7:30AM-Eucharistic Adoration

8:10AM-Morning Prayer

8:30AM-Mass for *Joe Robeson*

### Tuesday February 20 - Lenten Weekday

7:30AM-Eucharistic Adoration

8:10AM-Morning Prayer

8:30AM-Mass for *John Lloyd* requested by Ed & Dale Ann Williams

### Wednesday February 21 - Lenten Weekday

5:00PM-Eucharistic Adoration/Confessions

6:00PM-Mass for *Alma Reismeier* requested by Dolores Reismeier & Family

### Thursday February 22 - The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

7:30AM-Eucharistic Adoration

8:30AM-Morning Prayer & Communion Service

### Friday February 23 - Lenten Weekday

7:30AM-Eucharistic Adoration

8:10AM-Morning Prayer

8:30AM-Mass for *Jeni Tokar* requested by Rich & Joyce Lowe

### Saturday February 24 - Vigil of the Second Sunday Of Lent

3:00PM-Confessions

4:00PM-Mass for *People of the Parish*

### Sunday February 25 - Second Sunday Of Lent

8:00AM-Mass for *Bob Cooney*

11:00AM-Mass for *John Lloyd* requested by Trish & Joe Antesberger

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Mt 16:13-19

Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Mt 5:20-26





Promote Your Business  
365 Days a Year With  
Custom Promotional Calendars!

Makes a Great Gift For Clients  
Call for brochure and pricing!  
**800.566.6170**  
customercare@jspaluch.com

**COM PROS**  
INCORPORATED

814-946-8100  
Telephone Systems  
Two-Way Communications  
400 Highland Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602  
www.comprosinc.com



FRANK'S AUTO SERVICE CENTER  
FRANCIS GIVLER, JR., Owner  
Certified Auto Technician 400 S. Logan Blvd.  
814-943-4942 Altoona, PA 16602-4102

**FINDaPARISH.com**

Check It Out Today!

The Most Complete  
Online National  
Directory of  
Catholic Parishes

## 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**

Please Cut Out This "Thank You Ad"  
and Present It The Next Time You  
Patronize One of Our Advertisers

# Thank You

Thank you for advertising in  
our church bulletin.  
I am patronizing your business  
because of it!



Consider  
Remembering  
Your Parish in  
Your Will.  
For further information,  
please call the Parish Office.



WORKERS' COMPENSATION • CIVIL LITIGATION  
EMPLOYMENT/BUSINESS LAW  
ESTATES • WILLS • REAL ESTATE

Roland Crevecoeur Jr. M.D. FAAP, MACP  
Pediatric Cardiology and other  
Medical Consultations, LLC  
"Specializing in Pediatrics, Pediatric Heart and  
Hypertension Disease for nearly a decade in Central PA"  
1800 North Juniata Street, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648  
(814) 695-0632 • Accepting New Patients Again



## Catholic Cruises and Tours

Brian or Sally, coordinators

**860.399.1785**

an Official Travel  
Agency of  
Apostleship of  
the Sea-USA  
CST 2117990-70  
[www.CatholicCruisesAndTours.com](http://www.CatholicCruisesAndTours.com)

## If You Live Alone You Need LIFEWatch!

24 Hour Protection at HOME and AWAY!

- ✓ Ambulance
- ✓ Police
- ✓ Fire
- ✓ Friends/Family

Solutions as Low as **\$19.95** a month

FREE Shipping  
FREE Activation  
NO Long Term Contracts



CALL  
NOW! **800.809.3352**

No Landline? No Problem!

\* Real Time GPS Tracking \* Fall Detection



## Standing on the Rock CD by James Wahl

### FUN AND FAITH-FILLED MUSIC

for little ones, with 10 songs based on Bible  
stories and the teachings of Jesus.  
This is a new music collection for  
preschool children and those who are  
in early grade school.

\$17.00 + S&H



**WORLD LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS**  
the music and liturgy division of J.S. Paluch Company, Inc.

800-566-6150 • [www.wlp.jspaluch.com/14028.htm](http://www.wlp.jspaluch.com/14028.htm)



**The Stevens Mortuary, Inc.**  
Joseph J. Stevens, Supervisor  
Altoona 944-9365  
**Plank, Stitt & Stevens Funeral Home**  
David J. Mason, Supervisor  
Hollidaysburg 695-1551

# Life Matters

For more information go to  
[www.usccb.org/respectlife](http://www.usccb.org/respectlife)



**Saint Margaret  
Sunday Missal**



An ideal companion  
for personal prayer.

In Stock & Ready to Order Today.  
CALL OR ORDER ONLINE. \$39.95



800-566-6150 • [www.wlpmusic.com](http://www.wlpmusic.com)

**Altoona  
MEMORIAL STUDIO**  
When Only The  
Best Will Do  
814-942-0101  
1006 Pleasant Valley Blvd.  
Altoona, PA 16602  
Corner of 10th & Pleasant Valley Blvd.



378660 St John the Evangelist Church



Your Catholic Credit Union

all St. John parishioners are eligible to join

[www.arcfcu.org](http://www.arcfcu.org) • 814-946-0857

**McAleer's**  
Since 1886

Plumbing,  
Heating,  
Air Conditioning

24 HOUR  
EMERGENCY  
SERVICE

- Registered Master Plumbers • Residential & Commercial
- Free Estimates • Neat & Clean Is Our Trademark • Quality Work
- Non-Smoking Employees • An Altoona Tradition

1008 Chestnut Ave. • Altoona

**942-7153**

[www.jspaluch.com](http://www.jspaluch.com)

Protecting Seniors  
Nationwide



Medical Alert System

**\$29.95/Mo. billed quarterly**

- One Free Month
- No Long-Term Contract
- Price Guarantee
- Easy Self Installation



Call Today! Toll Free 1.877.801.8608

For Ads: J.S. Paluch Co., Inc. 1-800-945-6629