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MASTER, IT IS GOOD THAT WE ARE HERE

MARCH 17, 2019
SECOND SUNDAY
OF LENT

St. John the Evangelist Church
309 Lotz Avenue, Altoona, PA
814-942-5503

www.stjohnsaltoona.org

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

- March 17 - Penance Service - 4:00 PM
- March 22 - Stations of the Cross - 7:00 PM
- March 29 - Stations of the Cross - 7:00 PM
- April 5 - Stations of the Cross - 7:00 PM
- April 13 - Love Feast
- April 14 - Second Sunday Food Collection

March Prayer Intention of Pope Francis *Christian Communities*

That Christian communities, especially those who are persecuted, feel that they are close to Christ and have their rights respected.



APPOINTMENTS

ACOLYTES

- Sat. Mar. 23 - 4:00 PM - Brody Partner-Gore, Keaton Swope
- Sun. Mar. 24 - 8:00 AM - Ethan & Emily Miller
- Sun. Mar. 24 - 11:00 AM - Nevaeh & Makayla Langenbacher

LECTORS

- Sat. Mar. 23 - 4:00 PM - Matt Michelone, heather Nackley
- Sun. Mar. 24 - 8:00 AM - James Krug, Russell O'Reilly
- Sun. Mar. 24 - 11:00 AM - David Petrak, Mary Petrak

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

- Sat. Mar. 23 - 4:00 PM - Joseph Klobuka*
 - Sun. Mar. 24 - 8:00 AM - Fran Semelsberger*
 - Sun. Mar. 24 - 11:00 AM - Norma Foose, Bill Foose, Kenneth Gorman*
- *needed only if Deacon Gene is not at Mass

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

- Sat. Mar. 23 - 4:00 PM - Barb Aubrey, Connie Baker, Judy Sneath, Betsy Lloyd
- Sun. Mar. 24 - 8:00 AM - Carolyn English, Charlie Moore, Mike O'Neill, Darlene Scapaci
- Sun. Mar. 24 - 11:00 AM - Walter Bloom, Wndy Campbell, Lou Ann Clark, Mary Grace Horton

SACRISTAN

- Sat. Mar. 23 - 4:00 PM - Dorothy Yingling
- Sun. Mar. 24 - 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci
- Sun. Mar. 24 - 11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan

SCRIP

- Sat. Mar. 23 - 4:00 PM - Julie Beiswenger, Becky Merilli
- Sun. Mar. 24 - 8:00 AM - Marge Rudolph, NOT FILLED
- Sun. Mar. 24 - 11:00 AM - Chris Palazzi, NOT FILLED

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. Patrick Podolitz** Parish Council President ppodoletz@atlanticbb.net
- Mrs. Mary Ann Mirobelli** Business Manager stjohnchurch@atlanticbb.net
- Mrs. Deborah Johnson** Director of Music/Pastoral Associate dj219@msn.com
- Mr. & Mrs. Bill & Norma Foose** Stephen Ministry norma.foose@yahoo.com
- Religious Education Director mswope726@gmail.com
- Mr. Mark Krepich** Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults mark.krepich@gmail.com
- Mr. Ken Dunmire** Maintenance

A Few Words from the Pastor:

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE – Our parish Penance Service is set for this Sunday at 4:00 PM. When was the last time that you went to confession, when you acknowledge to almighty God that you have sinned and are in need of his healing and forgiveness? A number of local priests will be present to assist with individual confessions!

OUR LENTEN DISPLAY – You will see in the Gathering Space a moving display of the Cross of Christ, with the smaller crosses of those crucified with him. Take a nail from the basket nearby and place it in one of the crosses, indicating an effort that you are making in prayer, fasting or almsgiving for the Lenten Season. You may wish to place one each time you come to Mass during this Lent. Perhaps you may wish to carry a nail in your pocket for a week as a reminder of this sacred time of penance.

MINISTRIES APPEAL -- Looking for a positive way to observe Arise Together with Christ, putting your renewed commitment to Christ into practice? Consider serving in the various liturgical ministries here at St. John's. There will be special training in Lent for Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, Lectors, and Ministers of Hospitality. Of course, Debbie Johnson is always looking for singers and musicians to join our music ministry. Stay tuned!!

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 make a mental note to walk in the steps of Jesus this Lent.

FASTING AND ABSTINENCE IN LENT – Remember that the Friday's of Lent are days of Abstinence. All are encouraged as well to make some personal decisions about the manner of fasting which you wish to take up this season, whether it be food, social media, or TV. Remember as well that the Lord is pleased even more by the good that we do for others.

RESTORE! REPAIR! REJOICE! – We are most grateful for the generous response we have gotten thus far to our 100th Anniversary capital campaign. We have received 60 gifts/pledges, and we are still early in our campaign. Brochures and pledge cards are still available in the Gathering Space. A visible result of this campaign will be the replacement of the padding on our kneelers, which has been worn thin over the years and about which many have expressed concern. We have been in contact with the company which installed them, and are proceeding.

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!

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 are available in the Gathering Space of the church.

TRIP TO LONGWOOD GARDENS – Take a leap into spring by coming on a bus trip to Longwood Gardens on Saturday, April 27. Longwood Gardens is the living legacy of Pierre S. du Pont, inspiring people through excellence in garden design, horticulture, education, and the arts. It consists of over 1,077 acres of gardens, woodlands, and meadows in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, in the Brandywine Creek Valley. It is one of the premier horticultural display gardens in the United States. Our chartered bus will leave the St. John's parking lot at 7:00AM, returning by 11:00PM. The cost per person is \$90. You may sign up on the kiosk in the Gathering Space.

TWO GREAT SAINTS – This week we honor the Godly lives of two great saints. On Sunday we celebrate the life of St. Patrick, whose life is a witness to the power of the gospel in converting the people of Ireland to the Christian Faith in the 4th century. On Tuesday, an even more prominent saint is honored, St. Joseph, the Husband of Mary. Though sacred scripture records only his silence, the witness of his fidelity to Mary and Jesus speaks volumes, calling each of us to aspire to a similar holiness of life!

Be A Good Shepherd. Give Help. Build hope. Change Lives. Our Catholic Ministries Drive launches today throughout our Diocese. This drive focuses on a select group of ministries with emphasis on the poor, families, youth, seminarians and leadership development of clergy and laity. Please reflect on Bishop Mark's invitation when it arrives this week and return your pledge card in next weekend's offertory. All contributions received beyond our parish target will be returned to the parish. Thank you for support in these vital ministries with sacrificial gifts of prayer and treasure. 100% of your gift goes directly to these ministries!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Religious Education Schedule

March 17: Living Stations - 9:15 All students must attend with an adult and all are welcome to attend

March 24: Class in session - 9:15 AM - 10:45 AM
ALL 10th grade confirmation candidates, including BG students, required class with Rite of Commitment to follow at 11AM mass

March 31: No class

April 7: Class in session - 9:15 AM - 10:45 AM

April 7: ALL 11th grade confirmation students, including BG students - Rite of Sending Forth at 11AM mass with candidate/sponsor mandatory meeting to follow immediately

Any questions regarding Religious Education classes or schedule, please contact Megan Swope at mswope726@gmail.com or (814)631-8273

THANK YOU for braving a very cold evening to help us have another successful Ash Wednesday Soup Supper. Donations this year totaled over \$500.00! Your generosity makes a big difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters in Haiti. The funds go directly to Saints Peter and Paul parish. A big thanks to those who make the Soup Supper possible: our soup makers, our 11th grade servers, and our kitchen crew. A special thanks to Longhorn Steak House for the delicious bread.

LOVE FEAST: Thanks to everyone who has volunteered to help with our April 13 Love Feast. For those who have taken slips for non-perishables, we will need them returned to the gathering space under the identified coat rack by Monday, April 8. Our final committee meeting will be Tuesday, April 9 at 6 PM in the church gathering space.

STEWARSHIP CORNER: By placing our trust in God instead of earthly things, and allowing Jesus Christ to transform our lives, we as Christian stewards and disciples recognize that our ultimate "citizenship is in heaven" (Phil 3:20).

Stewardship at St. John's

Offertory for March 10

Envelopes	\$ 4,131.00
Loose	\$ 539.00
Black & Indian	\$ 436.00
Ash Wednesday	\$ 967.00
<i>SubTotal</i>	<i>\$ 6,073.00</i>
Online Giving	\$ 1,984.00
Total Offertory	\$ 8,057.00

Second Sunday Collection - \$787

2018 giving statements are available by calling the Parish Office at 814-942-5503. You can also download your statement by logging in to My Own Church.

ST JOHN'S PRAYER LIST

Please call Ginny Reeder (695-7671) or email her at ginny.reeder@gmail.com to add or remove someone from 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 • Baby Aiden • Cari Ann • Judy Baird Jen Buda • Robert Cole • Millie Grace Capon

Mary Lee DeStefano • Michael DeStefano • Jim Duffy Helen Fornwalt • Leann Frazier • Fran Fulare Dianna Green • Ken Hartman • Karen Horton

Boni Javier • Brian Kopp • Lisa • Sherri Maffettone Bryson Miller • June Miller • Barbara Moore Patricia Olson • Mary Oricko • Karen Price Ron Peschock • Mary Rajnish • Allison Recker

Olga Romerowicz • Mike Rudolph • Anne Showalter Dianne Stultz • Patti Sweet • Tim & Dina Temofonte Patty Teufel • Lois Werfel • Noah Wills Amber Yasolsky • Milan & Family

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

Daniel J. Sclafani, brother of Mary (Ray) King Richard Zelnosky, father of Karen (Mark) Lynn & Christine (Richard) McKeon

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



Weekly when you come to Mass, take a nail and put it on one of the crosses in the gathering space of the church.

The nail represents one of your sins... leave that sin on the cross and pray about that sin. Use that nail as a form of penance and pray about your sin all week. Pray all week that God will help you defeat this sin. Continue this weekly or daily when you come to Mass and through prayer and focusing on leaving our sins at the Cross you will grow closer to Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

CARMELITE COMMUNITY OF THE WORD OFFERS SUNDAY SABBATH

SUNDAY SABBATH: Spend a Sunday afternoon enriching yourself spiritually! Sunday March 24 - *I Can Only Imagine*.

This movie will encourage people in a whole new way.

The inspiring, incredible and unknown true story behind the group MercyMe's beloved song is the basis for this movie. 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 by March 21. 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.

ST. PATRICK'S ALL-YOU-CARE-TO-EAT LENTEN SEAFOOD

BUFFET: 731 Patrick Lane, Newry. Every Friday in Lent 4PM-7PM. Baked haddock, fried fish, shrimp, and clams, 7 sides, 2 soups, beverage and dessert! Adults \$13, Seniors \$12, Children (5-12) \$8. Ages 4 and under FREE. Take Outs \$13.50

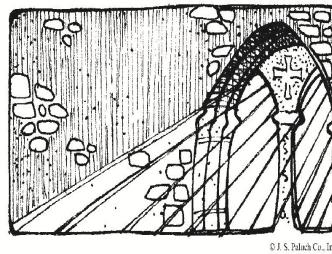
OUR LADY OF LOURDES LENTEN FISH DINNERS- BEST IN TOWN!

Our Lady of Lourdes will be having their famous Lenten Fish Dinners every Friday during Lent, including Good Friday, April 19. Baked or hand dipped fried haddock, fresh cut FF or homemade mac & cheese, homemade stewed tomatoes, coleslaw or applesauce, homemade dessert and drink/coffee. Adults \$10.50 and children twelve and under \$7.50. Take out begin at 3:30 and eat in 4:30-7:00PM. We are known for having the BEST FISH DINNER IN TOWN!

SAINT MARK'S 2019 FISH FRIES: 6th Ave. & 4th Street, Altoona. March 22 & April 5 from 4-6:30 PM (while supplies last). The cost will be \$11 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. Take outs will be available.

INSPIRATIONAL SPEAKER DR. JOHN BERGSMA: St. Benedict Parish, 2310 Bedford St. Johnstown, will be hosting Dr. John Bergsma March 31, April 1-2 from 7:00-8:30 PM each evening. **This event is open to all in the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese.** A Full Professor of Theology at the Franciscan University of Steubenville, Dr. Bergsma has a PH.D. in Theology from the University of Notre Dame, specializing in the Old Testament and the Dead Sea Scrolls. In his presentations, Dr. Bergsma will be exploring how Sacred Scripture supports Catholic teaching, how the Bible leads us to the Eucharist and how as Catholics we can better understand the New Testament. Tickets are not required. A love offering will be taken. For more information please contact Deacon Michael Russo at 814-288-3036 or by email at michael.russo@atlanticbb.net.

Liturgical Reflection... Plan to spend quality time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament this Lent. Pope Saint Paul VI said the faithful "should not omit making visits during the day to the Most Holy Sacrament, as a proof of gratitude, a pledge of love, and a debt of the adoration due Christ the Lord who is present in it." The contemplation of Jesus present in the Most Holy Sacrament, as a communion of desire, powerfully joins the faithful to Christ, as is splendidly evident in the example of so many saints. Unless there is serious reason to the contrary, a church in which the Most Holy Eucharist is reserved should be open to the faithful for at least some hours each day, so that they can spend time in prayer before the Most Holy Sacrament. *Instruction on the Eucharist, Chapter VI, Number 135.* 2019, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 South Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648



Second Sunday of Lent
March 17, 2019

The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom should I fear?

— Psalm 27:1

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

Sunday March 17 - Second Sunday of Lent

8:00AM-Mass for *People of the Parish*
11:00AM-Mass for *Georgia & Murray Dolphin*
requested by The Dolphin Family
4:00PM - Parish Penance Service

Monday March 18 - Lenten Weekday

7:30AM-Eucharistic Adoration
8:10AM-Morning Prayer
8:30AM-Mass for *Jimmy Nguyen Family*

Tuesday March 19 - St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:30AM-Eucharistic Adoration
8:10AM-Morning Prayer
8:30AM- Mass for *Joe Robeson*

Wednesday March 20 - Lenten Weekday

5:00PM-Eucharistic Adoration/Confessions
6:00PM-Mass for *Janet & Andrew Szarwark* requested by Rich & Joyce Lowe
6:45PM-Rosary

Thursday March 21 - Lenten Weekday

7:30AM-Eucharistic Adoration
8:10AM-Morning Prayer
8:30AM- Mass for *Marjorie Jackson & Richard* requested by Tom & Patricia Foor

Friday March 22 - Lenten Weekday

7:30AM-Eucharistic Adoration
8:10AM-Morning Prayer
8:30AM- Mass for *James Scott*
7:00PM - Stations of the Cross

Saturday March 23 - Vigil of Third Sunday of Lent

3:00 PM - Confessions
4:00PM-Mass for *Keith DeMasters* requested by Ray & Mary King

Sunday March 24 - Third Sunday of Lent

8:00AM-Mass for *People of the Parish*
11:00AM-Mass for *Teresa Geishauer* requested by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Chverchko

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- | | |
|------------|---|
| Monday: | Dn 9:4b-10; Lk 6:36-38 |
| Tuesday: | 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 |
| Wednesday: | Jer 18:18-20;; Mt 20:17-28 |
| Thursday: | Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31 |
| Friday: | Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a; 17b-28a; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46 |



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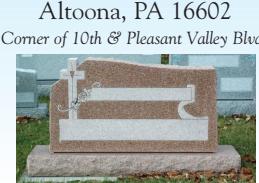


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