

THE PLACE WHERE YOU STAND IS

HOLY GROUND

MARCH 24, 2019
THIRD SUNDAY
OF LENT

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

www.stjohnsaltoona.org

Office hours: Monday - Friday 9:00-3:00

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

- 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 8 - Parish Council Meeting - 7:00 PM
- April 9 - Eucharistic Minister Training - 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. 30 - 4:00 PM - Jack & Ryan Donoughe
- Sun. Mar. 31 - 8:00 AM - Mai Linh Do, Nicholas Helsley
- Sun. Mar. 31 - 11:00 AM - Savannah & Makayla Langenbacher

LECTORS

- Sat. Mar. 23 - 4:00 PM - Betsy Slat, David Langguth
- Sun. Mar. 31 - 8:00 AM - Daniel Turcovsky, Diane Turcovsky
- Sun. Mar. 31 - 11:00 AM - Norma Foose, Bill Foose

EUCARISTIC MINISTERS

- Sat. Mar. 30 - 4:00 PM - Barb Aubrey*
- Sun. Mar. 31 - 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci*
- Sun. Mar. 31 - 11:00 AM - Walter Bloom, Cecelia Bloom, Barb Bundy*

*needed only if Deacon Gene is not at Mass

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

- Sat. Mar. 30 - 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, Betsy Lloyd, Billy Sweet, NOT FILLED
- Sun. Mar. 31 - 8:00 AM - Carolyn English, Larry VanSickel, Paula VanSickel, Fran Semelsberger
- Sun. Mar. 31 - 11:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti, Wendy Campbell, Patrick Podoletz, Marilyn Bevan

SACRISTAN

- Sat. Mar. 30 - 4:00 PM - Jane Byrne
- Sun. Mar. 31 - 8:00 AM - Michele DeFrancisco
- Sun. Mar. 31 - 11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan

SCRIP

- Sat. Mar. 30 - 4:00 PM - Mary Haenig, Anna Rasmussen
- Sun. Mar. 31 - 8:00 AM - Christopher Palazzi, Judy Sneath
- Sun. Mar. 31 - 11:00 AM - Peg Madden, Marge Rudolph

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 Podoletz 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
- Mrs. Megan Swope 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:

THE FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION -- It is hard to overestimate the importance of the celebration of the Annunciation which occurs on Monday. The Annunciation of Our Lady, also known as the Annunciation of the Lord, is our celebration of the announcement by the Archangel Gabriel to the Blessed Virgin Mary that she would conceive and become the mother of Jesus, the Son of God, marking His Incarnation. It is on this feast that the "Word Becomes Flesh" in the womb of Mary, and the mystery of our Redemption in Christ begins! From this date, March 25th, it will be nine months until the Nativity of the Lord!

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.

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY – Next Sunday, March 31, after all Masses, we will be recruiting for the Ministry of Hospitality in our parish. The responsibilities are manageable and the rewards are great. Greeting people as they arrive at Mass, taking up the collection, and distributing bulletins are the principal tasks. You are already coming to Mass. Come early and be the welcoming face of the parish!

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST – On Sunday, April 7th, we will be recruiting Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist. This ministry gives one a more intimate sharing in the Mass, as these ministers share the Bread of Life and the Cup of Blessing at Mass. There will then be a special training session on Tuesday, April 9th, at 7:00 PM in the Church.

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 \$113,895 in 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.

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 consisting 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 in the Gathering Space.

PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE: Parish Council recently met on Monday, March 11, 2019. Council covered old business topics of the parishioner survey, the developing Emergency Action Plan, Amazon Smile fundraising and heard updates from the Repair, Restore, Rejoice Campaign. The new business topic was an open forum brainstorming session to develop ideas to celebrate our 100th year anniversary. We are also going to explore the idea hosting a yard sale in the spring. The next parish council meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 8th.

Be A Good Shepherd. Give Help. Build hope. Change Lives. Today is Commitment Sunday for the Catholic Ministries Drive. Through it, your sacrificial gifts of prayer and treasure will make an immediate impact on ministries that care for the poor, strengthen family life, nurture our youth, and provide leadership development for clergy and laity. If you did not bring your commitment Card to mass this weekend, please bring it next weekend or you may make an online gift at www.diocesaj.org. All gifts received beyond our parish target amount will be returned to the parish. 100% of your gift goes directly to these ministries!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Religious Education Schedule

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

THE CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION will be taken up next week. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to all people here and abroad. Next week, please give generously to the collection, and help Jesus in disguise. Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.



Each week as 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.

STEWARSHIP CORNER: May this Lenten season symbolize a harvest during which we recognize our sinfulness in order to bear the fruit of a Christ-centered life.

Stewardship at St. John's

Offertory for March 17

Envelopes	\$ 4,798.00
Loose	\$ 759.00
Children's	\$ 3.00
Ash Wednesday	\$ 5.00
Easter	\$ 50.00
<i>SubTotal</i>	<i>\$ 5,615.00</i>
Online Giving	\$ 1,309.00
Total Offertory	\$ 6,924.00

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 Charlie Elder • 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 Jeff Price • 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
 May he rest in the peace and joy of the Lord.**

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.

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SHOE DRIVE UPDATE: Thanks to all who have donated shoes. Our parish has donated 98 pairs of shoes so far! The collection box will remain in the Gathering Space until the end of March. Thank you!

TOILETRIES NEEDED: The American Rescue Mission is in need of toilet articles (soaps, razors, toilet paper, toothpaste/toothbrushes, shampoos etc) for their clients.

Please place in the PINK BASKETS in the Gathering Space during this Lenten Season!

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 IN AN AGE OF LONELINESS: A Day Retreat on the Family. An opportunity to reflect on marriage and home life and be inspired by the Catholic vision for the family. Featuring talks by well-known speakers and authors Kimberly Hahn and Mike Aquilina, Mass with Bishop Mark, Confession, Adoration, and lunch. Saturday, June 22nd, starting at 9am at St. Joseph's Catholic Academy in Boalsburg, PA. The first 100 to register will receive a free copy of The First Society by Scott Hahn. Spaces are limited. Register at: <https://stjoeacad.org/love-in-an-age-of-loneliness/>

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

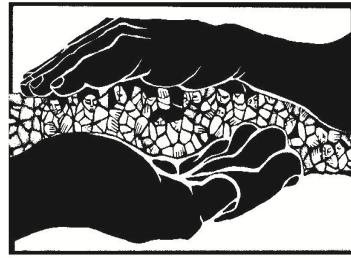
LENTEN LUNCHES AT THE CATHEDRAL: Fridays of Lent from 11:00 Am to 1:30 PM. Eat in or take out. Fish sandwich with choice of macaroni and cheese, pierogi, French fries or haluski. \$8.00 - includes drink.

CARMELITE COMMUNITY OF THE WORD OVERNIGHT RETREAT:

April 12 - 13, 2019 - What the "People of the Passion" teach us about Jesus Today. As we journey through Lent to Holy Week, this retreat offers the opportunity to reflect on 7 people who witnessed the death of Jesus. Retreat begins on Friday evening at 7 PM; ends on Saturday at 3 PM. and will include presentations on the theme, guided prayer opportunities and time for quiet personal reflection. Donation: \$40/person or \$60/married couple. Includes overnight accommodations, meals and all materials. **Pre-registration with donation is required by April 8.** 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.

Liturgical Reflection... Eucharistic Adoration is a hallmark of Catholic piety. All are encouraged these Lenten days, and throughout the year, to spend time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. Pope Saint John Paul II said that "adoration of the Most Holy Sacrament is an important daily practice and becomes an inexhaustible source of holiness." Believers place themselves in the divine presence of the Lord who suffered and died for our salvation when praying before the Holy Sacrament. This is the source of our spiritual nourishment as we pray before the holy bread that has become the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ. *Instruction on the Eucharist*, Chapter VI, Number 136. 2019,

2019, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 South Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648



© J.S. Pollock Co., Inc.

Third Sunday of Lent
March 24, 2019

The LORD secures justice
and the rights of all the oppressed.

—Psalm 103:6

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

Sunday March 24 - Third Sunday of Lent

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

Monday March 25 - Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord

7:30AM-Eucharistic Adoration
8:10AM-Morning Prayer
8:30AM-Mass for *Frances Brown* requested by
Anna Musselman

Tuesday March 26 - Lenten Weekday

7:30AM-Eucharistic Adoration
8:10AM-Morning Prayer
8:30AM-Mass for *Clarence & Eileen Becker* requested by
Walter Becker

Wednesday March 27 - Lenten Weekday

5:00PM-Eucharistic Adoration/Confessions
6:00PM-Mass for *Mary Catherine Majestic* requested by
Susanna Tomlinson
6:45PM-Rosary

Thursday March 28 - Lenten Weekday

7:30AM-Eucharistic Adoration
8:30AM-Morning Prayer & Communion Service

Friday March 29 - Lenten Weekday

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

Saturday March 30 - Vigil of Fourth Sunday of Lent

3:00 PM - Confessions
4:00PM-Mass for *Lillian Cichetto* requested by
Ron & Becky Merilli

Sunday March 31 - Fourth Sunday of Lent

8:00AM- Mass for *People of the Parish*
11:00AM- Mass for *Edward Bastian* requested by
Rich & Joyce Lowe

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Heb 10:4-10;
Lk 1:26-38

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



**The Most Complete
Online National
Directory of
Catholic Parishes**

FINDaPARISH.com

Check It Out Today!

VICTOR J. RIZZO, D.C.
CHIROPRACTOR
502 LOGAN BLVD.
944-3536

**SeniorLIFE
ALTOONA**
Home Today. Home for LIFE.

SeniorLIFEPa.com
814-943-2273

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!

**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

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



Consider
Remembering
Your Parish in
Your Will.

For further information,
please call the Parish Office.

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



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

Grow in your faith,
find a Mass, and
connect with your
Catholic Community
with OneParish!

Download on the
App Store GET IT ON
Google Play



800-566-6150 • www.wlpmusic.com

**Saint Margaret
Sunday Missal**

An ideal companion
for personal prayer.

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



ONE PARISH
Download Our Free App or Visit
MY.ONEPARISH.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
iARC
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
all St. John parishioners are eligible to join
www.arcfcu.org • 814-946-0857

McAleer's
Since 1886
• Registered Master Plumbers • Residential & Commercial
• Free Estimates • Neat & Clean Is Our Tradition • Quality Work
Non-Smoking Employees • An Altoona Tradition
1008 Chestnut Ave. • Altoona **942-7153**

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

• LeafGuard®
is guaranteed
never to clog
or we'll clean it for
FREE*



- Seamless, one-piece system keeps out leaves, pine needles, and debris
- Eliminates the risk of falling off a ladder to clean clogged gutters
- Durable, all-weather tested system not a flimsy attachment

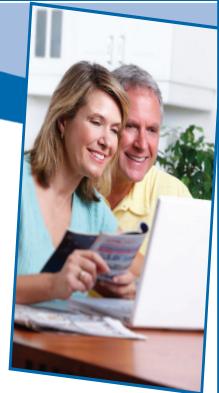
**ENGLERT
LeafGuard®**
Get it. And forget it.®



*Guaranteed not to clog for as long as you own your home, or we'll clean your gutters for free.

• 2008 HOUSEKEEPING

**Get this
weekly bulletin
delivered by
email - for FREE!**



Sign up here:

<https://www.jspaluch.com/BulletinSubscribe.aspx>

Courtesy of J.S. Paluch Company, Inc.



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