



THE ALMIGHTY HAS DONE
GREAT THINGS FOR ME
AND HOLY IS HIS NAME.

LUKE 1:49

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

PASTORAL STAFF

Monsignor Michael Becker - mbecker253@aol.com; allinall214@gmail.com
Deacon Gene Neral - gene@lifeinfocus.net
Kristina Hoyne - Parish Council President - inaugh@aol.com
Jena Bowman - Business Manager - stjohchurch@atlanticbb.net
Deborah Johnson - Director of Music/Pastoral Associate - dj219@msn.com
Diane Ryan - Faith Formation Coordinator/Secretary - stjohsecretary@atlanticbb.net
Mark Krepich - Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults - mark.krepich@gmail.com
Ken Dunmire - Maintenance

NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS

LECTORS

Sat. Aug. 21 - 4:00 PM - Maria Spayd,
Susanna Tomlinson
Sun. Aug. 22 - 8:00 AM - James Krug, NOT FILLED
Sun. Aug. 22 - 10:00 AM - Donna Moyer,
Jim Campbell

Sat. Aug. 21 - 4:00 PM - Betsy Lloyd, Judy Sneath,
Billy Sweet, NOT FILLED
Sun. Aug. 22 - 8:00 AM - Ray Kennedy, Lou Ann Clark,
Larry VanSickel, Paula VanSickel
Sun. Aug. 22 - 10:00 AM - Walter Bloom, Dolores
Capriotti, Peg Madden, Wendy Campbell

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. Aug. 21 - 4:00 PM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED
Sun. Aug. 22 - 8:00 AM - Mai Linh Do, Nicholas Helsley
Sun. Aug. 22 - 10:00 AM - Nevaeh Langenbacher
Makayla Langenbacher

SACRISTAN

Sat. Aug. 21 - 4:00 PM - Jane Byrne
Sun. Aug. 22 - 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci
Sun. Aug. 22 - 10:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. Aug. 21 - 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, David Loth
Sun. Aug. 22 - 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci
Sun. Aug. 22 - 10:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Bob Olson

SCRIP

Sat. Aug. 21 - 4:00 PM - Chris Palazzi, NOT FILLED
Sun. Aug. 22 - 8:00 AM - Erika & Heather Yasolsky
Sun. Aug. 22 - 10:00 AM - Peg Madden, Marge Rudolph

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

August Prayer Intention of Pope Francis

The Church

Let us pray for the Church, that She may receive
from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength
to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.



THE ASSUMPTION OF
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

AUGUST 15, 2021

A Few Words from the Pastor:

SAINT OF THE WEEK! This week the church celebrates a renowned bishop and abbot, Saint Bernard of Clairvaux (1090 --1153). St Bernard was a French abbot and a major leader in the revitalization of Benedictine monasticism through the nascent Cistercian Order, known as the Trappists. We ponder his words of wisdom:

There are those who seek knowledge for the sake of knowledge; that is curiosity.

There are those who seek knowledge to be known by others; that is vanity.

There are those who seek knowledge in order to serve; that is Love.

The measure of love is love without measure!

PREPARING OUR CHILDREN FOR FAITH IN CHRIST - On the day of our Baptism, a small cross is traced on our forehead, claiming us for Christ. The youngest children know that this small cross is made with the thumb, which is the strongest finger. Although the priest (or deacon) makes the small cross on the outside of the person, it is meant to go deep inside the person, leaving an indelible mark. This small cross is a sign of Christ. • Gestures are a language of their own, a sign, that helps the child “to see” and “to experience” Covenant, which is God’s gift and our response. • Practice being intentional, slowly and prayerfully making the Sign of the Cross. The children know that in making the Sign of the Cross, they belong to Jesus. This simple but profound gesture prepares a child to encounter Christ the Good Shepherd, who calls us each by name!

RENEWAL OF LITURGICAL MINISTRIES - Now that more of the Faithful are returning to Sunday Mass, it is important for us to renew our commitment to our various liturgical ministries. We have begun reaching out to enlist your active participation in our liturgical ministries. We will continue our in-pew survey over the next few weeks! Thank in advance for your service to the parish!

BACK TO MASS THIS SUNDAY! – Along with the other bishops of Pennsylvania, Bishop Mark has announced that the dispensation from the Sunday Mass obligation ceases to be in effect this weekend. Of course, there is always a dispensation for those with medical issues. **For safety’s sake, those not yet vaccinated are asked to continue wearing a mask, and to practice social distancing at Mass.**

THE FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY! This beautiful feast is celebrated on a Sunday, giving us an opportunity to reflect more deeply upon this blessing given to Mary, and to us! She experienced the fullness of Christ’s resurrection, as a reminder of the resurrection which each of us will experience in our union with the Risen Christ.

We’re Looking for Catechists and Helpers for the following 3 classes:

Kindergarten/First Grade • Third/Fourth Grade • Fifth/Sixth Grade



To volunteer to teach or help in a classroom, or if you would like more information, please contact Diane Ryan by calling the office at 814-942-5503 or email stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net. For the safety and protection of our parish children, all of our catechists, substitutes and volunteers are required to be in compliance with the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese Children and Youth Protection Policy.

Liturgical Ministry Scheduling

For September 11, 2020 – January 2, 2021

It’s time to schedule for the Fall. It’s hard for me to believe it also!

If you have internet access please enter your NOT available dates in your profile in **Ministry Scheduler Pro**.

Here is the direct link to that website – www.rotundasoftware.com/ministry/teammates

There is also a link from our parish website (WWW.STJOHNSALTOONA.ORG) and a link in the email reminder you will receive soon.

There are cards available in the gathering space for those who do not have access to the internet.

If you are not able to update your profile online or visit the church to fill out a card, you may give me a call on a week-day evening between 7 PM and 10 PM or on the weekends at 814-932-2223.

Please update your profile online or call me or fill out a card and return it by midnight on Sunday, August 22nd.

Family members can fill out one card front and back.

Thank you for your service to our faith community throughout the year!

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Registration information for the 2021-2022 can be found on our website and also in the Gathering Space. If you would like more information, please contact Diane Ryan by calling the office at 814-942-5503 or by emailing stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net.

CALLING ALL TEENS! One Faith Youth Group invites you to an end of summer fire and outdoor movie night (weather permitting, if not movie will be indoors) on Sunday, August 15, 7PM-10PM at St. Mary's Church, Hollidaysburg. Included will be s'mores and hotdogs, popcorn and other snacks! Just bring a friend, a pillow, and a blanket! For more info contact Ethan @ 814-423-0987.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: The Blessed Virgin Mary, is not only the model Christian disciple but also the model Christian steward. Mary had heard the word of God; she believed it; and she observed in her willingness to obey. "May it be done according to your word," she said to the angel (Luke 1:38), accepting the vocation God had prepared for her. Her vocation shows us the pattern of a good steward. She offered her time to spend with her divine Son at his birth, in the years of his youth, at his death, and at prayer with the Apostles after the Ascension. She gave talent when she offered a mother's care. What earthly treasure she possessed was of secondary importance compared to her service to God. Her desire for material security was not enough to keep her from fleeing to Egypt with Joseph to protect their Son or to stop her from coming to Jerusalem for his Crucifixion. Our own sacrifices seem minor compared to hers. (*Stewardship Reflection*, Catholic Stewardship Consultants, Inc. 2010/08/10)

August 1, 2021

Envelopes	\$ 6,106.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 543.75
Catholic Register	\$ 141.00
Assumption of Mary	\$ 10.00
Catholic Education	\$ 56.00
Food Bank Collection	\$ 95.00
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>\$ 6,951.75</i>
Online Giving	\$ 1,050.00
Total Offertory	\$ 8,001.75

Restore*Repair*Rejoice

Payments/Donations	\$177,382
Pledge Payment Committed	\$10,825
Total Pledges/Donations	\$188,207

2021 Catholic Ministries Drive: Goal \$42,813.

January 1 to July 14, 2021:

Payments/Donations	44,030
Pledge Payments Committed	\$25
Total Pledges/Donations	\$44,055

ST JOHN'S PRAYER LIST

Please call Ginny Reeder (695-7671) or email her at giny.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:*

**Aiden • Seth Alexander • Amy B. • Scott Brenneman
Dan Burley • Cari Ann • Robert Cole • Michelle Cooney
Mary Lee Madigan-Davis • Betty Dennis • John Dennis •
Michael DeStefano • Gary Ellis
Bernadine Farrell • Kathy Felty • Leann Frazier
Matt Gormley • Randy Horton • Alexandra Hudson Tim
Jimenez • Amy Langenbacher Lisa • Sherri Maffettone
Genevieve Mathias • Susie Miller • Karrie McCall
Sylvia Louise Mills • Barbara Moore • Ailani Myers
Patricia Olson • Mary Oricko • Linda Pletcher
Mona Porta • Connie R Mary Rajnish • Allison Recker
Vicki Riley • Lauryn Ryan • Olga Romerowicz
Mike Rudolph • Pat Seiler • Bruce Shank
Anne Showalter • Tim Temofonte • Bill Teufel
Kathy Wagner • Lois Werfel • Len Whitten
Daronda Wooldridge • Milan & Family**

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

Ken Hartman - brother of Barb Aubrey

Barbara Neral

Jim DeStefano

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



This Sunday, August 15, all Catholics are required to attend and participate in Mass, in person. It has been well over a year that many of us have watched the Liturgy at home on the TV. So, yes, we have to readjust to God's call. To help us adjust, Msgr. Becker and Fr. Spishak have provided large decals like the one above to be distributed after each Mass. Please accept them, as many as you want, and do your part in encouraging others to paste them on their autos or on their refrigerators as reminders. Thank you. *You are asked to make a contribution to cover the cost of these decals by using the separate offering box found in the Gathering Space. Your gift will go to the support of our seminarians.*

GIVE US THIS DAY: It is time to subscribe or renew a subscription to this monthly missal. It is a wonderful resource for personal prayer, as well as for your preparation for daily or Sunday Mass. *The subscription begins with the December issue and runs through November 2022.* You can place your \$30 payment in the envelope in the Gathering Space and drop it in the collection. Please return your envelope before October 1 so we know how many to order.

Patris Corde, 3. An Obedient Father, Model of Patience
While in Egypt, Joseph awaited the angel's notice that he could safely return home. In the third dream, the angel told Joseph that those who sought to kill the child were dead and ordered him to rise, take the child and his mother, and return to the land of Israel. Once more, Joseph promptly obeyed—he got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. Again, it was a long and dangerous trip.

In the Gospel of Luke, it is specifically written that Jesus' parents observed all the prescriptions of the Law: the rites of the circumcision of Jesus, the purification of Mary after childbirth, the offering of the firstborn to God and attending the annual celebration of the Feast of Passover. This would have involved many journeys to the holy city of Jerusalem to the temple.

St. Joseph, we ask you to intercede to Jesus and Mary for as we journey in our spirituality and in our humanity. May our patient obedience to God's commands be our goal too. **St. Joseph, obedient father, model of patience, pray for us.** (Pope Francis Apostolic Letter *Patris Corde*, 3. Dec. 8, 2020)
2021, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown Liturgy Committee, Liturgy Office, Mary, Mother of the Church Pastoral Center, 2713 W. Chestnut Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601.

SAMARITAN COMMITTEE REPORT: St John's Parish continues to address food disparity in our community and feed those in need. We are able to continue our generous contributions to 8 agencies with monetary donations of over \$5000 and weekly we distribute the food items that you bring to church. Thank you to all the volunteers that make that possible. You are true Angels and your generosity and prayers helped so many. This is a testament to the strong faith community within our parish. Looking forward to a blessed year as we continue to practice God's love in our community! *Susanna Tomlinson*

HAITI STUDENT SPONSORSHIP 2021-2022: For \$150 you can sponsor a student in our sister parish, Sts. Peter and Paul in Haiti. This donation helps with tuition, books, uniform, and lunch. Having a definite budget for the school year, thanks to our support, allows the school to run more effectively and with security. In the Gathering Space you will find the display with envelopes. If you are renewing, please take a renewal envelope. If you are new, take one for a new sponsorship. You can return the envelopes in the collection or mail to the office. It may be that you can not be assigned the same student. Sometimes families move or your student may have passed 6th grade. It would be wonderful to have all donations in by the end of September. *We thank you in advance for your great support for our Haitian brothers and sisters. They are always grateful and pray for us often. We make a big difference to their lives and give them hope.*



**The Assumption of the
Blessed Virgin Mary
August 15, 2021**

Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

— Luke 1:42

Schedule for the Week

Sunday, August 15 – The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 AM - Mass for *Fred Myers* requested by Bill & Norma Foose

10:00 AM - Mass for *People of the Parish*

Monday, August 16 – Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Jean Riccitelli* requested by Her Family

Tuesday, August 17 – Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *David Zeek* requested by Richard & Joyce Lowe

Wednesday, August 18 – Weekday

5:30 PM - Confessions

6:00 PM - Mass for *Bill Schmerbeck* requested by Dee Schmerbeck

Thursday, August 19 – Weekday

8:30AM– Mass for *Regina Feryok* requested by Marian Monios & Family

Friday, August 20 – St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church

8:30AM– Mass for *Sally Yetsko* requested by ACHS Class of 1956

Saturday, August 21 - Vigil of The 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

3:00 PM - Confessions

4:00 PM - Mass for *Jean Stein* requested by Betsy Lloyd & Family

Sunday, August 22 – The 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM - Mass for *People of the Parish*

10:00 AM - Mass for *Ron Peschock* requested by Betty Dennis

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Jgs 2:11-19; Ps 106:34-37, 39-40, 43ab, 44; Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday: Jgs 6:11-24a; Ps 85:9, 11-14; Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday: Jgs 9:6-15; Ps 21:2-7; Mt 20:1-16

Thursday: Jgs 11:29-39a; Ps 40:5, 7-10; Mt 22:1-14

Friday: Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22; Ps 146:5-10; Mt 22:34-40

Saturday: Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17; Ps 128:1b-5; Mt 23:1-12

Sunday: Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b; Ps 34:2-3, 16-21; Eph 5:21-32 [2a, 25-32]; Jn 6:60-69



My soul proclaims the greatness
of the Lord; my spirit rejoices
in God my Savior.

Luke 1:46

AUGUST 15, 2021

THE ASSUMPTION OF
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

POINTING THE WAY

Today we celebrate the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The readings give us much to ponder as we reflect on Mary, her special place prepared by God for eternity, and all that resulted from her “yes” to the angel’s message that she was to bear the Christ, the anointed one of God. Mary is “blessed among women,” the vessel for the life and salvation of Christ for all generations. Mary always points us to her son, Jesus. Through her witness, we are inspired to proclaim the greatness of the Lord with our lives. In her Assumption, we are assured that Mary is in the presence of God, pointing the way to all who live as God’s good and holy people in this life while we await ultimate fulfillment in the next.

BLESSED ARE YOU

Elizabeth had waited a long time for the child she carried. She was beyond child-bearing age by the time she conceived the baby who would be known as John the Baptist. We can only imagine her joy and amazement when the baby leaped in her womb at Mary’s arrival. Elizabeth was old and Mary young, yet both trusted in the goodness of the Lord; both relied on the Holy Spirit to be with them in the perplexing, exciting, and anxious time in which they found themselves. They show us what it means to put God at the center of our lives. Their story may inspire us to believe that God’s loving mercy awaits in every moment of our lives. Elizabeth calls Mary and the child in her womb “blessed,” holy. Mary’s holiness is found in her belief in God and her willingness to carry out God’s plan by carrying the child Jesus in her womb. How are you called to holiness? In what ways are you willing to carry out God’s plan?

MY SOUL PROCLAIMS

Mary’s response to Elizabeth, which we hear in today’s Gospel, is known as the Magnificat. Mary “magnifies” the greatness of the Lord—through her, we see God’s mercy clearly. Mary’s canticle is a declaration that God cares for the lowly and vulnerable, for the humble and hungry. This, Mary says, is the God for whom the people of Israel had long waited. This is God in whom we believe. Like Mary, the Almighty has done great things for us. As followers of Mary’s son, Jesus Christ, we are called to make this merciful, caring God known to those who are in need. How will you glorify, magnify, the Lord by your life?

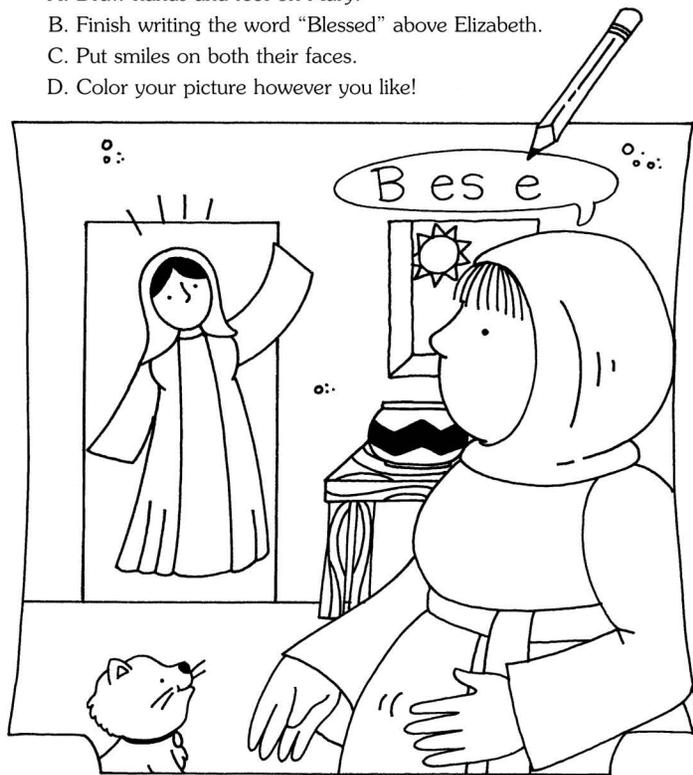
TODAY’S READINGS

Revelation 11:19a, 12:1–6a, 10ab
Psalm 45:10, 11, 12, 16
1 Corinthians 15:20–27
Luke 1:39–56

God's Word for Children

When Mary came to visit her cousin and called out to her,
the baby inside Elizabeth jumped for joy!
Finish the picture of these women
by following the instructions.

- Draw hands and feet on Mary.
- Finish writing the word "Blessed" above Elizabeth.
- Put smiles on both their faces.
- Color your picture however you like!



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August 15

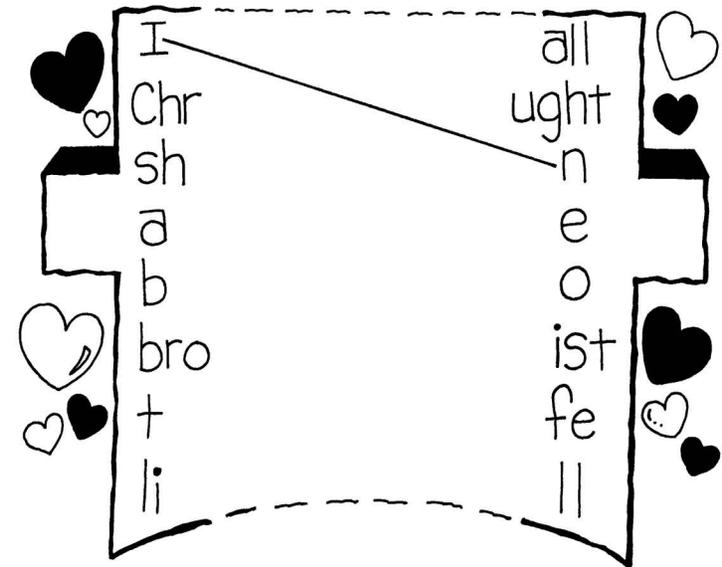
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Sin brings death into the world, but Jesus brings life!
Paul reminded the Corinthians to rely on Christ
and on God's forgiveness of sins.

To find out what he said,
draw lines to match the beginning of the
words (on the left) to their endings (on the right).

For help, look at 1 Corinthians 15:22.

The first one has been done for you.





[Mary] entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

Luke 1:40



THE SEVEN JOYS OF MARY

We observe the solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on August 15. This feast celebrates our belief that Mary was taken (“assumed”), body and soul, into heaven. Mary is the first person to share fully in Christ’s promise of the Resurrection. The Assumption is one of the most important feasts of Mary celebrated during the church year.

The Assumption is one of the Seven Joys of Mary, seven events in her life that filled her with joy. They continue to bring joy to all those who honor Mary and love her Son, Jesus. The Seven Joys are named here. Read the scripture passage that tells the story of each event and talk about it with an adult in your family. On the lines next to each one, describe in your own words the reason for Mary’s joy.

1. The Annunciation
(Luke 1:26-38)

2. The Visitation
(Luke 1:39-56)

3. The Birth of Jesus
(Luke 2:1-20)

4. The Epiphany
(Matthew 2:1-12)

5. The Presentation of Jesus
(Luke 2:22-38)

6. The Finding of Jesus in the Temple
(Luke 2:41-52)

7. The Assumption of Mary
(Declared a dogma of the faith
by Pope Pius XII, 1950)



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