

**20th Sunday in  
Ordinary Time  
August 20, 2023**

## St. John the Evangelist Church

**309 Lotz Avenue, Altoona, PA 814-942-5503**  
***www.stjohnsaltoona.org***

### **PASTORAL STAFF**

Monsignor Michael Becker - mbecker253@aol.com  
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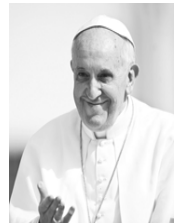
### **MASS SCHEDULE**

**MONDAY - 8:30 AM TUESDAY - 8:30 AM**  
**WEDNESDAY - 6:00 PM**  
**THURSDAY - 8:30 AM FRIDAY - 8:30 AM**  
**SATURDAY - 4:00 PM**  
**SUNDAY - 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM**

### **August Prayer Intention of Pope Francis**

#### **For World Youth Day**

We pray World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives.



### **NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS**

#### **LECTORS**

Sat. August 26 - 4:00 PM - Maria Spayd, Joyce Cunningham  
Sun. August 27 - 8:00 AM - Susan Podoletz, Amber Yasolsky  
Sun. August 27 - 10:00 AM - Camille Krug, James Krug

#### **ALTAR SERVERS**

Sat. August 26 - 4:00 PM - Iris Tatar, Lexi Tatar  
Sun. August 27 - 8:00 AM - Emily Miller, Nicholas Helsley  
Sun. August 27 - 10:00 AM - Liam Schurr, Aidan Schurr

#### **EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

Sat. August 26 - 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED  
Sun. August 27 - 8:00 AM - Lou Ann Clark, Darlene Scarpaci, Dan Turcovsky, Diane Turcovsky  
Sun. August 27 - 10:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Cecelia Bloom, Walt Bloom, Barbara Bundy, Kenneth Gorman, Susanna Tomlinson

#### **MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY**

Sat. August 26 - 4:00 PM - Betsy Lloyd, Dennis Moughemer, Karen Moughemer, NOT FILLED  
Sun. August 27 - 8:00 AM - Jane Becker, John Becker, Ginny Reeder, Jane Strasser  
Sun. August 27 - 10:00 AM - Wendy Campbell, Dee Capriotti, Mary Grace Horton, Patrick Podoletz

#### **SACRISTAN**

Sat. August 26 - 4:00 PM - Ray & Mary King  
Sun. August 27 - 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci  
Sun. August 27 - 10:00 AM - Dee Capriotti

#### **SCRIP**

Sat. August 26 - 4:00 PM - Julie Beiswenger, Becky Merilli  
Sat. August 27 - 8:00 AM - Chris Palazzi, Heather Yasolsky  
Sun. August 27 - 10:00 AM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED

## A Few Words from the Pastor:

**MILLIONS OF MONICAS!** Millions of mothers have watched their children abandon their Catholic faith in a chaotic, stressful and struggling world. Here at St. John's, we are in the beginning stage of forming a "Prayer Community" of Catholic women who are being called by the Holy Spirit to imitate St. Monica as they attend this prayer ministry in our parish. What is involved? **Like St. Monica, mother of St. Augustine, who prayed for years for the conversion of her son, we will pray fervently for our children to return to the practice of their Catholic faith, and for our children to always stay close to their faith. All mothers, young and old, who believe in the mother's power of prayer, are urged to participate, praying as a group one hour a week before the Blessed Sacrament. Our mission is to encounter God through prayer for ourselves and our children. For more information, log on to Millionsofmonicas.com. We will need some volunteers to take the lead in this important ministry. If you are interested, call our parish office.**

**"LET JUSTICE AND PEACE FLOW"** – This is the theme of this year's ecumenical **Season of Creation**, inspired by the words of the prophet Amos: "Let justice flow on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream" (5:24). The evocative image used by Amos speaks to us of what God desires. God wants everyone to strive to be just in every situation, to live according to his laws and thus to enable life to flourish. September 1 was declared by Pope Francis as the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. This time of prayer and reflection will extend until October 4, the feast of St. Francis of Assisi.

**40 WEEKS WITH ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA:** Beginning in September, all will be encouraged to participate in a program entitled *40 Weeks: The Path To Christ With Sacred Story Prayer*. **Our first meeting will be on Thursday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in the Parish Center. Our sessions will last no longer than an hour. Books will be available and an introduction to this program will be given.** This is a prayer program that a person can do on their own. Meetings are meant for support and companionship! All that is required is an openness to daily prayer (15 minutes daily), with a desire to deepen one's relationship with Christ. Begin today by praying this most beautiful of prayers by Ignatius:

*Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty,  
my memory, my understanding  
and my entire will,  
All I have and call my own.  
You have given all to me.  
To you, Lord, I return it.  
Everything is yours; do with it what you will.  
Give me only your love and your grace.  
That is enough for me.*

**LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULING:** For September 9, 2023 – January 1, 2024 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](http://www.rotundasoftware.com/ministry/teammates). There is also a link from our parish website ([WWW.STJOHNSALTOONA.ORG](http://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 weekday 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 20. Family members can fill out one card front and back. Thank you for your service to our faith community throughout the year!

**DIVORCED BUT NOT ALONE:** Please join us for a social on Sunday, August 27, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the Good Shepherd Parish Hall in Port Matilda if you are in the process of a divorce, recently divorced or divorced for years. We invite those interested or curious to come and meet others who understand. You are not alone. The gospel offers hope for life — whether things are going well, or everything is falling apart. In each circumstance, the Church is called to love, care for, and support each other. As the body of the church, we are hoping to build a community of support. We are opening this invitation up to all Good Shepherd parishioners, everyone in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, as well as to our local community. The future direction of this group will be decided by those who come. Asking for help is one of the bravest things you can do. We hope to see you! Please contact Marcella Fickes [mfickes@dioceseaj.org](mailto:mfickes@dioceseaj.org) or Paula Campbell [paulamcampbell@comcast.net](mailto:paulamcampbell@comcast.net) for more information.

## Schedule for the Week of August 20

### Sunday, August 20 - 20th Sunday of Ordinary Time

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

10:00 AM - Mass for *Bud Shuster* requested by Bob & Ginny Reeder

### Monday, August 21- St. Pius X

8:30 AM - Mass for *Robert Loth* requested by David & Bonnie Loth

### Tuesday, August 22- Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:30 AM—Mass for *All God's People* requested by Altoona Catholic Daughters

### Wednesday, August 23 - Weekday

6:00 PM - Mass for *Thomas Semelsberger* requested by Fran Semelsberger

### Thursday, August 24- St. Bartholomew

8:30 AM - Mass for *Dori Shedlock* requested by Mr. & Mrs. Larry Shedlock

### Friday, August 25 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Communion Service

### Saturday, August 26- Vigil of 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM - Mass for *Charles Moore* requested by Paula & Larry VanSickel

### Sunday, August 27- 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM - Mass for *Frank Mento* requested by Bob & Ginny Reeder

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

**BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Please email any upcoming bulletin announcements to Diane Ryan at [stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net](mailto:stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net) or call the Parish Center at 814-942-5503. Bulletin announcements need to be submitted by Wednesday to be included in the following weekend bulletin.

**WOMEN'S CONFERENCE:** Please join us for our 2nd Annual Women's Conference at Mount Aloysius on Saturday, September 16th. Enjoy presentations by our two wonderful speakers, lunch and refreshments, time for reflection and prayer, and fellowship with the other women of our Diocese. Registration forms and additional information is on the kiosk.

**FRANCISCAN CREATION FESTIVAL:** Time is running out to apply as a craft or food vendor for our Franciscan Creation Festival! The deadline to apply is August 31st! For more information visit The Friar's Nook Gift Shop Facebook page. Send us your application today!

**REACHING OUT TO OUR SHUT-INS:** Dorothy Yingling is a temporary resident at the Allegheny Lutheran Home, 911 Hickory Street Room 223B Hollidaysburg, PA 16648. She would like to hear from her fellow parishioners. Her cell phone is 814-330-0763. You may call her, send cards and she would also welcome visitors.

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER:** We have to take Jesus up on the invitation to become His disciples by the way we live our lives. God knows we will not always get this right. We may choose selfishness and stay in our comfort zones at times. But God is patient and merciful with us when we falter. He wants to lead us to the joy of heaven. We must be strong in faith and live our lives as an act of love and gratitude to Him. We must allow Him to transform us. This is what the stewardship way of life is meant to do and we must accept the difficulties and challenges that come it. (CatholicSteward.com 7/10/2023)

### August 5/6

Envelopes	\$ 5,674.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 20.00
Parish Development	\$ 10.00
Catholic Education	\$ 195.00
Assumption	\$ 30.00
Mission Co op	\$ 689.00
Online Giving	\$ 3,573.75
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$ 10,191.75</b>

2023 Catholic Ministries Drive Goal - \$41,761

January 1, 2023 to May 31, 2023

Gifts/Pledges \$32,475

Pledge Balance (Not yet received) \$425

Total Gifts/Pledges (Received) \$32,050

**ST. JOHN'S SECOND SUNDAY FOOD COLLECTION:** "And the King will say, I tell you the truth, what you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!" Matthew 25:40 (NLT) Our ministry of distributing food to our neighboring pantries, are one of many practices exercised by our church family. At the beginning of the school year, it is especially a time to remember the children who require a nutritional breakfast. When shopping for items, the food banks request: cereals, oatmeal, peanut butter, crackers with cheese, fruit bars, packaged breakfast snacks, etc. We thank you for your continued support and generosity of our Second Sunday Collection and thank all those who signed up for delivering these products to these well worthy locations. Your kindness is very much appreciated!

**LOVE TO SING?** Add your voice to a choir or sign up to cantor. No need to read music. Come to a rehearsal and learn by listening. Adult Choir will meet Wednesday, September 6th at 7:00pm in the sanctuary. Youth Choir TBD. Escape your daily stress and focus on noting something beautiful. Call/text Patti Jimenez at 814-414-7529 for more information.



### **ST JOHN'S PRAYER LIST**

Please call Ginny Reeder (695-7671) or email her at [giny.reeder@gmail.com](mailto: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:*

**All Garvey Manor Residents • Anne Showalter  
Idy Caporuscio • Michelle Cooney  
Mary Lee DeStefano • Nancy Fogel • Don Free  
Sherryl Hartman • Patricia Olson • Ryan Raybuck  
Carol Rodgers • Reed Stellabotte • Tim Temofonte  
Mary Truesdale • Dorothy Yingling**

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

**Kathy Wagner**

**Cierra Clark, daughter of Frank & Lou Ann Clark  
Bradley Johnson, son of Gary & Deborah Johnson**

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

**OUR NEXT SESSION FOR GRIEF SUPPORT:** Have you, your family or friends experienced a significant loss through death? Dealing with your loss, whether recent or in the past may still be difficult. The Parish Family at St. John and St. Rose would like to help.

The Journey Through Loss Support Group will be holding weekly meetings beginning on Wednesday August 23rd. We meet in the St. Johns Parish Center from 6:30-8:00 PM. *This six week program is designed to acknowledge the pain and loss, and offer positive ideas for coping. If you are interested or know anyone interested in attending the Journey Through Loss Support Group, contact Mary Petrak at 814-502-6076, This is a Catholic/Christian faith based program. All denominations are welcome!*

**HAITI NEWS:** St. John's parishioners have been admirably generous in financially supporting our twin parish, Sts. Peter and Paul. Since the end of 2019, the protesting and gang action have caused a crisis in every category needed for a functioning country. Our Friends in Marmont are suffering the consequences of the turmoil and danger. Even basic food (rice and beans) are limited. Father Bernard is promoting more gardening by the people. Please look at the display in the Gathering Space. Three photos show us their Feast Day Celebration: the liturgy and the luncheon. Food you have helped provide. Also their is a photo of Father Bernard beginning to harvest from the garden behind the rectory. The student sponsorship for the next school year will begin in late August. Thank you.

### **FAITH FORMATION NEWS**

*If you haven't registered your child(ren) for the 2023-2024 school year, please register soon. Registration forms are available on the kiosk or by emailing [stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net](mailto:stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net). We will be ordering materials for the upcoming school year in the next few weeks. We are still looking for a 5th and 6th Grade Teacher. Please call the office if you are interested!*

Meet the Teacher/Parent Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, September 10th from 9:15am to 10:45am in the school gym. Parents and students should attend.

**2nd Grade Catholic School students must be registered to receive their First Communion at St. John's in the spring. 9th-11th Grade Catholic School students must be registered to receive the sacrament of Confirmation. Although not required, Catholic School students are always welcome in our Faith Formation biweekly classes for enrichment and opportunities to meet other parishioners in their age group.**

*We are looking forward to starting a new year of Faith Formation!*

*If you would like more information or have questions, please contact Diane Ryan at 814-942-5503 or email [stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net](mailto:stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net).*

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES DRIVE:** Catholic Charities has reached out requesting some help to replenish hygiene products and cleaning supplies. They are currently out of shampoo and men's deodorant and are very low on women's deodorant, toothpaste and toilet paper. Cleaning supplies are always in need. If you are able to donate, please place the items in the box in the Gathering Space marked Catholic Charities Drive. Thanks for your support!

**ALPHA:** We are excited to be offering ALPHA once again at St. Mary Parish on Wednesday evenings beginning September 7th. Alpha is an experience which through a Video presentation and Small Faith Sharing Groups becomes an engaging way of addressing the basic questions of life for the church and unchurched alike. It presents the Gospel message with clarity and with a power that empowers those who participate. Alpha invites Christians to stand alongside of others who have a passion for leading people into a deepened relationship with Christ and connecting the unconnected to their faith once again. Alpha is an encounter which opens the heart to grasping the meaning anew of what it means to be loved by God and desire to be in a deep and intimate relationship with Him. Many people lives have been transformed through the Alpha Course, simply because it opens their hearts, eyes, and ears to the riches of the gift of our faith. If you want to experience the Alpha Course, Registration Forms and information are available in the Gathering Space and on the kiosk.



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