

**21st Sunday in
Ordinary Time
August 27, 2023**

St. John the Evangelist Church

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

PASTORAL STAFF

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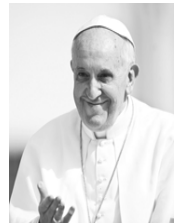
MASS SCHEDULE

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. September 2 - 4:00 PM - David Langguth, Jim Campbell
Sun. September 3 - 8:00 AM - Norma Foose, Bill Foose
Sun. September 3 - 10:00 AM - Donna Moyer, Richard Consiglio

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. September 2 - 4:00 PM - Abigail Hovance, Sadie Swope
Sun. September 3 - 8:00 AM - Emily Miller, Nicholas Helsley
Sun. September 3 - 10:00 AM - Evie Koch, Estella Koch

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. September 2 - 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, David Loth, NOT FILLED,
NOT FILLED
Sun. September 3 - 8:00 AM - Lou Ann Clark, Darlene Scarpaci,
Dan Turcovsky, Diane Turcovsky
Sun. September 3 - 10:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Cecelia Bloom, Walt
Bloom, Dee Capriotti, Bob Olson, NOT FILLED

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. September 2 - 4:00 PM - Carolyn English, Larry VanSickel, Paula
VanSickel, NOT FILLED
Sun. September 3 - 8:00 AM - Ray Kennedy, Mike O'Neill, Ed Stoltz,
Mary Truesdale
Sun. September 3 - 10:00 AM - Wendy Campbell, Mary Grace Horton,
Peg Madden, Patrick Podoletz

SACRISTAN

Sat. September 2 - 4:00 PM - Jane Byrne
Sun. September 3 - 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci
Sun. September 3 - 10:00 AM - Dee Capriotti

SCRIP

Sat. September 2 - 4:00 PM - Chris Palazzi, Marge Rudolph
Sat. September 3 - 8:00 AM - Erika Yasolsky, Heather Yasolsky
Sun. September 3 - 10:00 AM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED

A Few Words from the Pastor:

WORRIED ABOUT YOUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN? You are not alone! 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, 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. More information will be available in the weeks to come.*

"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 7th at 6:30pm in the Parish Center. Books will be available and an introduction to this program will be given.** 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.*

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE - Please make note that beginning Sunday, September 10th, our second mass on Sunday morning is scheduled at 11:00 AM.

LABOR DAY MASS: Human beings are made in the image of God, and God is a worker. We are called to work with God as our model. How are you imitating God in the work that you do? Please join us for our Labor Day Mass on Monday, September 4th at 9:00am.

FALL ADULT FAITH FORMATION TOPICS:

September 17 to October 1: Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist. This series explores "the truth and beauty of Christ's real presence in the Eucharist, from its origins in Sacred Scripture, to its profound role in the life of the Church and her members.

October 8 to November 19: The Search *The Search*, hosted by Chris Stefanick, guides us through seven videos examining life and death, sorrow and happiness, and science and faith. Astrophysicists, psychologists, astronauts, neuroscientists, professors, athletes, artists, and the beauty of the cosmos all point us to the person of Jesus Christ.

We meet on Sunday mornings from 9:00 to 10:30 in the St. Johns school cafeteria. Please consider joining us for food, fellowship, and the opportunity to deepen your faith.

For more information contact Mary Petrak, 814-502-6076 or mfpetrak@hotmail.com.

ANNUAL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY LITURGY: Bishop Mark Bartchak and the Family Life Office cordially invite all couples celebrating 1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60+ years of marriage in 2023 (and their families) to attend the Annual Wedding Anniversary Liturgy. Couples may attend Sunday, September 10 in ALTOONA at Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament or Sunday, September 17 in JOHNSTOWN at St. John Gualbert Cathedral. Both locations are handicap accessible. Liturgies in each location begin at 2:00 p.m. Most Rev. Bishop Mark will be the celebrant and homilist at each celebration. Refreshments/snacks will be available after the mass for anniversary couples and their families. Reservations must be made through your parish for either celebration by Tuesday, August 29.

Schedule for the Week of August 27

Sunday, August 27 - 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time

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

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

Monday, August 28 - St. Augustine

8:30 AM - Mass for *Barbara Neral* requested by Florence Dancha

Tuesday, August 29— The Passion of St. John the Baptist

8:30 AM—Mass for *James Ronan* requested by Ray & Mary King

Wednesday, August 30 - Weekday

6:00 PM - Mass for *Helen Baca* requested by family

Thursday, August 31 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Margareta H. Goch*

Friday, September 1- Weekday

8:30 AM - Communion Service

Saturday, September 2- Vigil of 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM - Mass for *Bradley Johnson* requested by Ray & Mary King

Sunday, September 3— 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

10:00 AM - Mass for *Barbara Neral* requested by Deacon Gene Neral

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS: Please email any upcoming bulletin announcements to Diane Ryan at 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.

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

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE: Please join us for our 2nd Annual Women's Conference at Mount Aloysius on Saturday, September 16th. Registration forms and additional information is on the kiosk. Registration deadline is September 1st. Cost is \$20 for adults and \$10 for college and high school registrants.

BIRTH OF MARY CELEBRATION: 42nd Anniversary, Friday, September 8th at St. Catherine of Siena Church, Duncansville. Masses 7:45am & 12:05pm with Msgr. Bob Saly. 5:30pm Mass and Rosary Procession at the Shrine (please bring lawn chair) with Rev. Brian Norris. Continuous Rosary between Masses, food and exhibits in the church hall. Kitchen open 11:30am till 4:00pm. Conclude the day with cake and beverages in the hall. Petitions to Birth of Mary Celebration, P.O. Box 88, Duncansville, PA 16635.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: Jesus poses the same personal question to each one of us who call ourselves His stewards and modern-day disciples. But do our lives truly reflect Peter's answer? If we really believe that Christ is the Son of God, sent to save us from our sins and lead us to heaven, then we must say so, not just with words, but with our actions. We must love Him with our whole being and make our very lives a grateful gift of love to Him. This is the beauty and power of a stewardship way of life. (CatholicSteward.com 7/10/2023)

August 12/13

Envelopes	\$ 6,477.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 866.00
Parish Development	\$ 40.00
Peter's Pence	\$ 100.00
Assumption	\$ 65.00
Mission Co op	\$ 1,127.00
Online Giving	\$ 2,174.75
Total Offertory	\$ 10,849.75

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

MIRACLES OF THE EUCHARIST ACROSS THE WORLD: The "Miracles of the Eucharist Across the World" exhibit will be hosted by St. Benedict Parish, 2310 Bedford St., Johnstown, PA in conjunction with their Forty Hours Celebration in September. This beautiful exhibit was designed by Blessed Carlo Acutis, an English-born Italian Catholic whose life was cut short at the age of 15 when he died from Leukemia. The exhibit will be available for visitation in the St. Benedict Church Hall on Saturday, Sept. 16 from 1 to 8:30 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 17 from 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. The display features information about the many Eucharistic Miracles that have occurred throughout the world from the first century until modern times. Mark your calendar and plan to make a visit to see this wonderful exhibit.

DESPOT SCHOLARSHIP: The 2023 John and Helen Despot Scholarship Fund will be offering two \$500 scholarships this year and is available to any child of St. John's Parish who is attending a Catholic elementary/middle school (K-8th) this school year. Applications are available in the Gathering Space or in the Parish Office and must be submitted by September 25th. Scholarships will be awarded in October. Contact the office for questions or more information.



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:*

**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:*

**James A. Arend, brother of Mary Grace Horton
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.

Bereavement Support: Our parishes would like to offer support to anyone dealing with a loss. Our programs are designed to acknowledge the pain and the loss, while offering positive ideas for coping. Consider joining us for any or all of the following:

Bereavement Gatherings are held monthly in the St. Michael Convent Building (the house between the church and the school). Upcoming dates are:

Wednesday, Sept. 13 at 9:30 AM

Tuesday, Sept. 26 at 6:30 PM

Journey Through Loss is a six-week program for those who have lost a loved one through death. We will meet weekly from 6:30-8:00 PM at the St. Michael Convent Building in Hollidaysburg. The next session begins on Wednesday, January 10.

Both programs are Christian based. All denominations are welcome! For more information call/text: Debbi Chapman at 912-713-5412 or Mary Petrak at 814-502-6076.

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 there 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. 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.

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's 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.