



**28th Sunday in
Ordinary Time
October 15, 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
 Deacon Gene Neral - gene@lifeinfocus.net
 Patricia Jimenez - Director of Music
 pjimenez@dioceseaj.org
 Stephanie Baker-Business Manager
 sbaker@dioceseaj.org
 Diane Ryan - Faith Formation Coordinator/Secretary
 stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net
 Iris Tatar - Director of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
 iristat38@gmail.com
 Mark Krepich - Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults
 mark.krepich@gmail.com
 Ken Dunmire - Maintenance

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 & 11:00 AM

October Prayer Intention of Pope Francis

For the Synod

We pray for the Church, that she may
 adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle
 at every level, and allow herself to be
 guided by the Holy Spirit towards the
 peripheries of the world.



NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS

LECTORS

Sat. October 21- 4:00 PM - John Majcher, David Langguth
 Sun. October 22- 8:00 AM - Norma Foose, Bill Foose
 Sun. October 22- 11:00 AM - Iris Tatar, Donna Moyer

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. October 21- 4:00 PM - Abigail Hovance, Sadie Swope
 Sun. October 22 - 8:00 AM - Emily Miller, Nicholas Helsley
 Sun. October 22- 11:00 AM - Colin Schurr, Liam Schurr

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. October 21- 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, NOT FILLED
 Sun. October 22 - 8:00 AM - Lou Ann Clark, Darlene Scarpaci
 Sun. October 22- 11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Walter Bloom,
 Cecelia Bloom, Barbara Bundy, Kenneth Gorman,
 NOT FILLED

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. October 21- 4:00 PM - Betsy Lloyd, Karen Moughemer,
 Dennis Moughemer, NOT FILLED
 Sun. October 22- 8:00 AM - Carolyn English, Jane Strasser,
 Larry VanSickel, Paula VanSickel
 Sun. October 22- 11:00 AM - Wendy Campbell, Dolores Capriotti,
 Peg Madden, NOT FILLED

SACRISTAN

Sat. October 21- 4:00 PM - Jane Byrne
 Sun. October 22- 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci
 Sun. October 22- 11:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti

SCRIP

Sat. October 21- 4:00 PM - Lori Baker, Julie Beiswenger
 Sat. October 22 - 8:00 AM - Chris Palazzi, Heather Yasolsky
 Sun. October 22- 11:00 AM - Peg Madden, Marge Rudolph

A Few Words from the Pastor:

OUR SACRED STORY – WEEK TWO: While the true spiritual director for our retreat is the Holy Spirit, He has chosen as his conduit St. Ignatius of Loyola. It is his spiritual journey and his writings which form the basis of our journey. In Week Two we are invited to read about his life, noting especially the way of conversion that he experienced, a conversion from being fully a man of the world to being a Man of God. His conversion experience is sketched in his “spiritual exercises”, upon which our 40-week retreat is based.

FORMED: ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA - A full length film on the life of St. Ignatius, as well as a program on his life and spirituality, are both found on FORMED. You may sign up for free access to countless Catholic media materials. Log in to “Formed” for Catholic Parishes, enter your email, and identify your parish, St. John the Evangelist, Altoona.

TAKE LORD, RECEIVE! Throughout the time of our retreat, we will be offering a special prayer after communion, a prayer that comes from the heart of St. Ignatius. In a homily on the occasion of a special “Ignatian Year,” the Superior General of the Jesuits helped us see the love for the Eucharist in Ignatius’ prayer: *Is there a eucharistic prayer which dares “highly and humbly” to translate the “this is my body” like the one at the “take Lord, receive” (which we pray each Sunday after Communion): to allow the Lord to take freedom and memory, intelligence and will, having and being, to receive the gift of love and grace which is yourself, the body of Christ, the blood of Christ for the life of the world? The Eucharist, “for this is all I need”.*

MEETING FOR SACRED STORY RETREAT – On Wednesday, November 1st, following evening Mass, there will be a special meeting for all those have begun to make our 40 weeks retreat and who have questions as well as those who have interest in being part of a small group. This meeting will last but an hour, and all are welcome.

HOLY DAYS MASSES - To provide consistency regarding the time for the celebration of Mass for holy days, going forward all evening Masses at St. John’s will be at 6 PM. This should help avoid any confusion (is it at 6:00 or 6:30?)

THE SYNOD ON SYNODALITY - More than 400 people are gathering at the Vatican this month for the Synod on Synodality. There have been 19 synods since the time of the second Vatican Council. Synodality is the way in which the church continues to reflect upon her mission and ministry. What is unique about this synod is the wide variety of people represented, particularly the inclusion of the laity, both men and women.

REACHING OUT TO OUR HOMEBOUND - If you have anyone who is homebound and is not currently being visited, call our parish office. Mary Susick will be coordinating this ministry. Given the great inspiration of Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta, the Council decided to name this as our “Mother Teresa Ministry.”

SAVE THE DATES!

Hymn Sing: Sunday, October 15th at 2pm in the church

Dinner at the Heidelberg: Thursday, October 26th at 5pm

St. John’s Annual Trunk or Treat: Sunday, October 29th at 12:30pm in the St. John’s parking lot

All Saints Day Mass: Vigil on Tuesday, October 31st at 6pm, Feast of All Saints on Wednesday, November 1st at 8:30am and 6:00pm

Mass of Remembrance/All Souls Day Mass: Thursday, November 2nd at 6pm

FALL ADULT FAITH FORMATION TOPICS:

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. John’s 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.

Schedule for the Week of October 15th

Sunday, October 15 - 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM - Mass for *Grace Moore* requested by Bob & Ginny Reeder

11:00 AM - Mass for *Fred Mazzarella* requested by Karen Mazzarella

Monday, October 16 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *John L. Lloyd* requested by Betsy Lloyd & family

Tuesday, October 17— St. Ignatius of Antioch

8:30 AM—Mass for *Jean Lester* requested by Charles Lester

Wednesday, October 18 - St. Luke

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

Thursday, October 19 - Sts. John de Brebeuf & Isaac Jogues

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

Friday, October 20 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Communion Service

Saturday, October 21- Vigil of 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM - Mass for *Raymond Fromknecht* requested by Fromknecht family

Sunday, October 22 - 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

11:00 AM - Mass for *Linda Ceschini* requested by Pat & Sue Podoletz

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: How do we keep focused on the Kingdom of Heaven? St. Paul shares his secret for an eternity-driven life. In our Second Reading from his Letter to the Philippians, Paul says, "I know how to live in humble circumstances; I know also how to live with abundance. In every circumstance and in all things I have learned the secret of being well fed and of going hungry, of living in abundance and of being in need." In other words, Paul has learned to live the stewardship way of life. What is the secret? It is this: "I can do all things in him who strengthens me." How? Through this: "My God will fully supply whatever you need, in accord with his glorious riches in Christ Jesus." It is so simple! But it is not easy. It takes both courage and humility to live this way. God will supply these to us if we ask. So let us embrace the stewardship way of life today! Let us put God first with our Time, our Talents and our Treasure, knowing that we can do all of this through Christ Who gives us strength. God is calling us today to live with eternity in mind. If we do this, we will be feasting now and forever!

September 30/October 1

Envelopes	\$ 5,684.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 165.00
Children's Offerings	\$.40
Catholic Education	\$ 85.00
Retired Medical	\$ 105.00
Catholic University	\$ 50.00
World Mission Sunday	\$ 30.00
Online Giving	\$ 3,378.75
Total Offertory	\$ 9,498.15

MOTHER TERESA MINISTRY: If you are interested in participating in our new ministry of reaching out to our local homebound through visits, cards and/or prayers please check out the information on display in the Gathering Space. Forms are available to complete if you are interested in helping or would like to offer the name/information for someone who would like to be visited. Forms can be completed and returned to the folder on the display. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Susick at 814-207-0185.

ST. JOHN'S ANNUAL TRUNK OR TREAT: Our annual St. John's Trunk or Treat will be held on Sunday, October 29th at 12:30pm in the lower church parking lot. Families are invited to dress up in their best costume, decorate the trunk of their car and join us in the church parking lot. Each family is asked to bring candy/treats to share as children will trick or treat from car to car. We will be pairing up with the Lakemont Fire Hall and the Lakemont Lions Club again this year for the Halloween Parade. Help us make this a great annual event for our parish and community! Everyone is welcome!

ANNUAL PET DRIVE: CDA Court Prince Gallitzin # 2625 will be conducting their annual Pet Drive to benefit the Humane Society throughout the month of October. Any items can be placed in the provided box located in the church gathering space. As always thank you for your awesome generosity.

HYMN SING: St John Chancel Choir is hosting a hymn-sing Sunday, October 15th at 2:00 in in our sanctuary. Guest musicians representing the 8 Saints parishes of the Altoona Deanery in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown will present favorite anthems or hymns. YOU will have three opportunities to call out the number of YOUR favorite hymn from the Breaking Bread missal. One great hour of praise and fellowship; how can we keep from singing?

TOASTY TODDLER COLLECTION: It's Toasty Toddler time and we are looking for your assistance. Last year, 598 children, birth through age five received a new coat, hat and gloves through the generosity of businesses, agencies, clubs and individuals in Blair County. Last year, staff and 42 volunteers worked 62 hours sorting, packing, organizing, and distributing this warm winter outerwear for Toasty Toddler. Help us keep our youngest in Blair County warm again this winter. The bin for collecting the coats, etc. will be in the gathering space starting Oct. 7-8. The first distribution date is November 9, so if you could drop off your donations before that it would be appreciated. There is a second distribution day in early December. Thank you for your help with this project.

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:*

**All Garvey Manor Residents • Britta Albright
Charles Bassett • Dee Burchfield • Idy Caporuscio
Michelle Cooney • Mary Lee DeStefano • Nancy Fogel
Marlene Hartman • Kay Laratonda
Connor McLaughlin • Kathy Mittermeier
Patricia Olson • Ryan Raybuck • Anne Showalter
Reed Stellabotte • Tim Temofonte
Marion Tessitore • Mary Truesdale • Dorothy Yingling**

HOME WITH THE LORD: Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of:
Anna Gertrude McGrath, sister of Dan & Linda McGrath
Virginia Burket

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

October 15th-Class 9:15am-10:45am

October 15th - 9:15am-10:45am Required Fall Sessions for ALL 9th and 10th Grade Students in the gym

October 22nd-No Class

October 29th-Class 9:15am-10:45am

October 29th- 9:15am-10:45am Required Fall Sessions for ALL 11th Grade Students in the gym

October 29th-12:30pm-Trunk or Treat in St. John's Parking Lot

If you would like more information or have questions, please contact Diane Ryan at 814-942-5503 or email stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT: We are working with St. Michael and St. Mary's parishes 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 date is:

Tuesday, Oct. 24 at 6:30 PM

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

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.

PARISH MISSION: St. Benedict Parish in Johnstown will be hosting Fr. Frank DeSiano for their Parish Mission, "Renewed in the Eucharist." It will be held from 7-8:30pm on October 22, 23 and 24. Each evening will include powerful talks, images, videos and music for reflection. Practical tools will be offered to help us choose what better leads to a deepening of God's life in us. All are welcome! A love offering will be taken. For more information contact Deacon Michael Russo at 814-288-3036 or by email at michael.russo@atlanticbb.net

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL: St. Mary's Church in Nanty Glo is sponsoring a Eucharistic Revival on October 22, 23, & 24. A period of private Eucharistic Adoration begins at 5:30pm and services begin at 6:30pm. Confessions will be heard on Sunday and Monday evenings. Sunday evening will be ladies only night with 2 women speakers and Monday evening will be men's only night with 2 men speakers. Tuesday evening will be a family night with Fr. Brian Norris presiding at the service and speaking. All are welcome!

8 SAINTS YOUTH GROUP EVENT: Sunday, October 22 (more info: google the GAP bike trail) Starting in southwestern PA near Deal, PA and biking (mostly downhill) to Cumberland, MD. Enjoy the beautiful fall foliage as our own Fr. Alan leads us to the Eastern Continental Divide and through the Big Savage Tunnel on our way to Cumberland, MD. This should be an awesome experience! We'll start with mass near Deal and end with a great meal at Puccini's Wood Fired Pizza restaurant near Cumberland. Spread the word on this one! Looking for families who may have vehicles large enough to transport bikes, and possibly then meet the group in Cumberland, MD. Parents-Please text Tim Baranik (814-207-7008) if you feel you may be able to help us out!

MASS FOR WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS: Remember your loved ones on Sunday, October 29, 2023 with a televised Mass Celebrated by Bishop Mark Bartchak at 11:00 am on WATM ABC 23 and will rebroadcast that night at 9:00 p.m. on Breezeline Channel 9. The Mass will also be able to view, at your convenience, online, at the Diocese Vimeo page at vimeo.com/user53173075. All spouses will be acknowledged and remembered at Mass. All persons who have lost a spouse through death throughout the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese are invited to register by contacting the Family Life Office (814) 317-2643 or email familylife@dioceseaj.org. When registering, please give your name, address, phone number and the name of your spouse who has passed away. The last day to register is Tuesday, October 24, 2023. The event is sponsored by the Diocesan Family Life Office and the Catholic Ministries Drive.

BASKET BINGO: Holy Trinity Catholic School will be having a Basket Bingo on Sunday, November 5th. Doors open at 3:30pm. General Admission tickets are \$35.00 and Value Pack tickets are \$65.00. See the flyer in the kiosk for more information!