



**29th Sunday in
Ordinary Time
October 22, 2023**

St. John the Evangelist Church

309 Lotz Avenue, Altoona, PA 814-942-5503

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 & 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 28- 4:00 PM - Joyce Cunningham, Maria Spayd
 Sun. October 29- 8:00 AM - Ginny Reeder, Mike Greslick
 Sun. October 29- 11:00 AM - Camille Krug, James Krug

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. October 28- 4:00 PM - Chloe Truscello, Jeremy Truscello
 Sun. October 29 - 8:00 AM - Emily Miller, Nicholas Helsley
 Sun. October 29- 11:00 AM - Estella Koch, Evie Koch

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. October 28- 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, NOT FILLED
 Sun. October 29 - 8:00 AM - Diane Turcovsky, Daniel Turcovsky
 Sun. October 29- 11:00 AM - Walter Bloom, Cecelia Bloom,
 Dolores Capriotti, Kenneth Gorman, NOT FILLED,
 NOT FILLED

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. October 28- 4:00 PM - Betsy Lloyd, Karen Moughemer,
 Dennis Moughemer, NOT FILLED
 Sun. October 29- 8:00 AM - Jane Becker, John Becker, Mike O'Neill,
 Darlene Scarpaci
 Sun. October 29- 11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Wendy Campbell,
 Mary Grace Horton, Patrick Podoletz

SACRISTAN

Sat. October 28- 4:00 PM - Mary King, Ray King
 Sun. October 29- 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci
 Sun. October 29- 11:00 AM - Barbara Bundy

SCRIP

Sat. October 28- 4:00 PM - Lori Baker, Becky Merilli
 Sat. October 29 - 8:00 AM - Amber Yasolsky, Heather Yasolsky
 Sun. October 29- 11:00 AM - Jane Byrne, Carolyn English

A Few Words from the Pastor:

OUR SACRED STORY RETREAT – WEEK THREE: Reading and reflecting on the lives of the saints can provide great inspiration. We are lifted up by the courage and perseverance of those who have gone before us. Last week and again this week our sacred story retreat invites us to continue reflecting upon the life of St. Ignatius of Loyola. His is a story of conversion, which is be our story as well, as we turn away from self-centeredness and toward Christ. This call to holiness is evident in these words of our Saint Ignatius:

There are very few who realize what God would make of them if they abandoned themselves entirely to his hands and let themselves be formed by his grace. A thick and shapeless tree trunk would never believe that it could become a statute, admired as a miracle of sculpture, and would never consent to submit itself to the chisel of the sculptor who, as St. Augustine says, sees by his genius what he can make of it. Many people who now scarcely live as Christians, do not understand that they could become saints, if they would but let themselves be formed by the grace of God, if they did not ruin his plans by resisting the work which he wants to do. St. Ignatius of Loyola

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 who have begun to make our 40 weeks retreat and who have questions regarding the retreat of 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?)

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."

NOTES ON OUR PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – Hospitality was a strong focus of our council meeting last Monday. WE discussed continuing on a quarterly basis "Name Tag Sunday", which helps us get to know those who are new to us! We spoke as well of the need for a "Welcome Wagon" to visit the home of those new to the parish. The need for additional Hospitality Ministers was addressed. Can we perhaps invite Families to serve in this ministry? Mom and Dad and kids? Hospitality is the essential virtue of a parish, as we celebrate the welcome which Christ extends to us and which we extend to others!

SAVE THE DATES!

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 6pm

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 22th

Sunday, October 22 - 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

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

Monday, October 23 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Clarence & Eileen Becker* requested by Becker family

Tuesday, October 24— St. Ignatius of Antioch

8:30 AM—Mass for *Yoshi Adachi* requested by Marian Monios

Wednesday, October 25 - Weekday

6:00 PM - Mass for *Dave English* requested by Carolyn English

Thursday, October 26 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Jean Lester* requested by Mary Petrak

Friday, October 27 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *People of the Parish*

Saturday, October 28- Vigil of 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM - Mass for *Scott Broberg* requested by Gloria Broberg

Sunday, October 29 - 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM - Mass for *Allen & Marian Conrad* requested by Ed & Debbie Ergler

11:00 AM - Mass for *People of the Parish*

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!

FREEZER WANTED: We are looking for an upright freezer - size 13.8 - 16 cu in. We would accept a used one in good condition. Buying new the cost would range from \$600 to \$900. If you or anyone you know is interested in donating or selling, please contact Ginny (695-7671) or the office (944-2503).

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: Today's readings encourage us Christian stewards to always be mindful of who we are and Whose we are in every aspect of our lives. Our First Reading, from Isaiah, takes us back to the very foundation of our faith. The prophet, serving as the "voice" of God, proclaims, "I am the Lord and there is no other, there is no God besides me." This is a powerful reminder of a fundamental truth. But it is easy to lose sight of this truth in our fast-paced, stressed-out, digital world. As disciples of Christ, we must make intentional choices each day as to how we spend our Time, Talents, and Treasure so that each of these aspects of our lives proclaim that we indeed serve God and God alone. Let us joyfully give thanks to this wonderful God by the way we live our daily lives. We belong to Him and there is no other!

October 7/8

Envelopes	\$ 6,785.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 434.00
Children's Offerings	\$ 3.00
Parish Development	\$ 215.00
Retired Medical	\$ 25.00
Online Giving	\$ 4,023.75
Total Offertory	\$ 11,485.75

PUMPKINFEST 2023: This was St. John's 18th involvement in this event & we sold out! Our total profit including donations: \$2375. Even with consistent rain throughout the day, we were able to set up & serve a steady flow of customers. They look for us every year! Thanks to all!

BLAZIN' ANGELS: Blazin' Angels formerly known as Young Catholic Professionals will be participating with St. John the Evangelists' (Lakemont) Trunk or Treat event on October 29th at 12:30pm. Young Catholic Professionals is a multi-parish young adult group for people ages 18-39 years old. Please feel free to reach out to Amber Yasolsky or Cherié Langenbacher via email at blazinangels.yagroup@gmail.com.

ANGEL TREE 2023: Prior to the Advent Season, (beginning December 3rd) we will be visited once again with our Christmas Angel cherub. Catholic Charities is currently reviewing all perspective families who will be recipients for this year's gifts collected from our community at St. John's. We are planning to have the tree up and decorated in the Gathering Space by the weekend of November 18th/19th. We are hopeful that this year's response to this drive will be successful as the ones in the past and are always greatly for the generosity of our parishioners!

ROSARY DEVOTION: Our Lady of Champion Annual Rosary Devotion with Mary will be Sunday, October 22nd at 2:00 PM at St. Rose of Lima Church, Altoona. Sponsored by The Legion of Mary, Altoona-Johnstown Curia.

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 • Mary Truesdale
Dorothy Yingling**

HOME WITH THE LORD: Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of:
Marion Tessitore
Anna Gertrude McGrath, sister of Dan & Linda McGrath
May they rest in the peace and joy of the Lord.

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 dates are:

Tuesday, Oct. 24 at 6:30 PM

Wednesday, Nov. 8 at 9:30 AM

Tuesday, Nov. 21 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

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.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

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

November 5th-Class 9:15am -10:45am Safety Lessons

November 12th-No Class

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

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.

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.

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!