



**32nd Sunday in  
Ordinary Time  
November 12, 2023**

## **St. John the Evangelist Church**

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

### **PASTORAL STAFF**

Monsignor Michael Becker - mbecker253@aol.com  
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 pjimenez@dioceseaj.org  
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 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**

### **November Prayer Intention of Pope Francis**

#### **For the Pope**

We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.



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

#### **LECTORS**

Sat. November 18- 4:00 PM - Iris Tatar, Maria Spayd  
 Sun. November 19- 8:00 AM - Diane Turcovsky, Dan Turcovsky  
 Sun. November 19- 11:00 AM - Camille Krug, James Krug

#### **ALTAR SERVERS**

Sat. November 18- 4:00 PM - Abigail Hovance, Sadie Swope  
 Sun. November 19- 8:00 AM - Emily Miller, Nicholas Helsley  
 Sun. November 19- 11:00 AM - Aidan Schurr, Liam Schurr

#### **EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

Sat. November 18- 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, NOT FILLED  
 Sun. November 19- 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci, NOT FILLED  
 Sun. November 19- 11:00 AM - Marily Bevan, Barabara Bundy,  
 Kenneth Gorman, Bob Olson, Susanna Tomlinson,  
 NOT FILLED

#### **MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY**

Sat. November 18- 4:00 PM - Betsy Lloyd, Karen Moughemer,  
 Dennis Moughemer, NOT FILLED  
 Sun. November 19- 8:00 AM - Carolyn English, Jane Strasser,  
 Larry VanSickel, Paula VanSickel  
 Sun. November 19- 11:00 AM - Walter Bloom, Wendy Campbell,  
 Dolores Capriotti, Mary Grace Horton

#### **SACRISTAN**

Sat. November 18- 4:00 PM - Jane Byrne  
 Sun. November 19- 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci  
 Sun. November 19- 11:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti

#### **SCRIP**

Sat. November 18- 4:00 PM - Julie Beiswenger, Becky Merilli  
 Sat. November 19- 8:00 AM - Chris Palazzi, Heather Yasolsky  
 Sun. November 19- 11:00 AM - Peg Madden, Marge Rudolph

## A Few Words from the Pastor:

**WEEK 6: LIFE'S UPS AND DOWNS!** This week in our sacred story retreat we are invited to move from considering the life of St. Ignatius, to reflecting upon the persons, issues, and life events that have shaped our own life story. We seek the grace to understand how those things, in both a negative or positive way, have shaped our thoughts, actions, feelings, and beliefs that are linked to God, the world and ourselves. Conscious of the words of the philosopher Plato, that "the unexamined life is not worth living," we now move to that part of the retreat when we are looking more closely at ourselves, considering what life events have brought us closer to God, or have affected us in a negative way. I am asked to make a list of those positive and negative persons or life events, and to consider how God is working in my life. Remember that nothing is lost to God's redeeming grace, and that God will use all things to draw us nearer to himself.

**PARISH THANKSGIVING DINNER:** At the "Dream" on Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:00, we will celebrate a Thanksgiving meal together as a parish family. A good time for food and fellowship! Please join us! You can sign up in the Gathering Space.

**INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE FOR PEACE AND HEALING:** The dual values of healing ("tikkun" in Hebrew) and peace ("shalom") are at the heart of this years' 92<sup>nd</sup> Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service on Thursday, November 16, 2023 at 7:00 PM at Sacred Heart Church, 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 20<sup>th</sup> Street, Altoona. Hosted by the Sixth-Ward Ministries, this annual service of gratitude plays an important role in bringing together all our faith communities. Father Lubomir Strecok and Sacred Heart Parish is hosting this years' service. All are encouraged to participate.

**THE SACRED STORY OF THE WEEK: ST FRANCES XAVIER CABRINI (1850 – 1917).** A native of Italy, Frances was well educated, becoming headmistress of an orphanage, and subsequently forming her own religious order, the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart. In 1889, St. Frances set off for New York, along with six of her Sisters, to help the many impoverished Italian immigrants. They continued the Orders' great work of tending to the many orphaned children, the sick and the poor. In total, St Frances set up 67 institutions ranging from homes to hospitals throughout North and South America and Europe. She is the first American Citizen Saint, and universal patron Saint of immigrants! Her prayer: *Pray that we will see the poor and marginalized as members of our own family and reach out to welcome and help them.* Her feast day is Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup>.

### SAVE THE DATES!

**Dinner of Thanksgiving at The Dream:** Thursday, November 16th at 5pm

**Thanksgiving Day Mass:** Thursday, November 23rd at 9am

**I Give Catholic-Giving Tuesday:** Tuesday, November 28th-Support our electrical and kitchen upgrades

**Children's Liturgy:** Sunday, December 3rd at the 11am Mass

**Breakfast with Santa:** Sunday, December 10th at 9am to 11am in the Gym/Father Bailey Hall

**Ceremony of Candles:** Sunday, December 17th at 3pm at St. John's Church

**LECTOR WORKBOOKS:** The 2024 Lector Workbooks are available in the Gathering Space for our lectors. Please pick one up. Thank you to our lectors for helping with this important ministry and for sharing your time and talent!

**#IGIVECATHOLIC:** St. John's is excited to participate in the 2023 #iGiveCatholic Campaign. Our 24-hour giving day is coming November 28th and we are asking for your support to help us raise money for our school kitchen and electrical upgrades. Your gift of \$10 or more can help us reach our goal! Advanced giving online starts November 13th. If you prefer to give offline, please use the #iGiveCatholic envelopes provided in the Gathering Space. More details to come in the next few weeks! Give thanks, Give back, Give Catholic!

**8 SAINTS YOUTH BADMINTON TOURNAMENT:** Sunday, November 26th- 6pm-8pm at St. Patrick's Gym in Newry. Enter a team of 4 or join a team when you arrive. Pizza and drinks provided. Open to all 7th-12th Graders. RSVP your team or student to Tim Baranik at 814-207-7008 or email tbaranik24@gmail.com. Permission slips provided after registration and will be required.

## ***Schedule for the Week of November 12th***

### **Sunday, November 12 - 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM - Mass for *Tom & Mary McGrath* requested by Dan & Linda McGrath

11:00 AM - Mass for *Deceased members of the Angelo Lapenna & Michael Novak Sr. families* requested by Judy & Chuck Stephens

### **Monday, November 13 - St. Frances Xavier Cabrini**

8:30 AM - Mass for *Barbara Seiler* requested by Ron & Joyce Cunningham

### **Tuesday, November 14 - Weekday**

8:30 AM—Mass for *Tom Kristofco* requested by ACHS Class of "56" girls

### **Wednesday, November 15 - Weekday**

6:00 PM - Mass for John L. Lloyd requested by Betsy Lloyd & family

### **Thursday, November 16 - Weekday**

8:30 AM - Mass for *Walter Dumm* requested by Dan & Mary Susick

### **Friday, November 17 - St. Elizabeth of Hungary**

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

### **Saturday, November 18- Vigil of 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

4:00 PM - Mass for *George & Genie Semko* requested by Karen Mazzarella

### **Sunday, November 19 - 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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

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

**ADVENT GROUPS:** St. John's will be having small sharing groups on the Eucharist during the four weeks of the Advent season. Readings and questions will be provided for the facilitators and participants. Anyone interested in being a facilitator/leader, please sign up in the form provided on the kiosk. You can also contact Jane Becker at 814-414-9836 for further information or questions.

**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.

**INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING PRAYER SERVICE:** "Prayers of Peace and Healing"- In this time of strife, in this time when terror grips the hearts of many, we take the time to ask the God of peace to bring peace to this earth. Please join the people of different faiths in Altoona area to pray together on Thursday November 16, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church (corner of 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 20<sup>th</sup> Street).

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER:** Wisdom is a central theme in our readings today. It is one of the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit and it is key to living the stewardship way of life in our complex world. As Christian stewards, we should rely on this gift and ask the Holy Spirit to increase it within us. The stewardship way of life – with its daily and weekly commitments to giving God the best of our Time, Talent and Treasure – is the "oil" that we keep with us at all times. When we have this plan in place and we rely deeply on the Holy Spirit to guide us through the twists and turns of each day, we are free, we are ready to answer the Bridegroom when He calls us. We live in wisdom.

### ***October 28/29***

Envelopes	\$ 3,675.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 596.00
Children's Envelopes	\$ 1.00
Parish Development	\$ 65.00
World Mission Sunday	\$ 60.00
All Saints' Day	\$ 10.00
All Souls' Day	\$ 105.00
Thanksgiving	\$ 50.00
Online Giving	\$ 1,649.45
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$ 6,211.45</b>

**SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS:** Congratulations to our 2023-2024 Scholarship winners! Lydia and Violet Krug and Colin and Liam Schurr each received the John & Helen Despot Scholarship for \$250. Estella Koch received the William & Josephine Seiler Scholarship for \$775. Congratulations to all of our winners!

**ANGEL TREE 2023:** St. John's Parish will assist Catholic Charities to work with those in need this Christmas Season. The Parish Angel Tree will be located in the Gathering Space. You may stop by the Church and grab a tag after Mass or during the week. Doors are open from 8am to 2:30pm Monday through Friday. Catholic Charities imposes the rule that you may not spend more than \$50 for a gift. Please return your wrapped gift, with the tag attached to the Gathering Space by December 10th. The week of December 11th we will take the gifts to Catholic Charities, where families will pick them up. On the tree you will find requests for food gift cards (Giant Eagle, Martin's, Walmart) that you can purchase with scrip and then place the gift cards in the Angel Tree box located on the scrip table. We will give those cards to Catholic Charities and they will disburse them to the families. Any questions, please call the Parish Office at 814-942-5503.

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

### **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 • Britta Albright  
Charles Bassett • Idy Caporuscio • Michelle Cooney  
Mary Lee DeStefano • Kathy Ganz  
Devon McCarter Graham • 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 souls of:

Dee Burchfield, mother of Debbie & Ed Ergler

May she 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 date is:

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: Debby Chapman at 912-713-5412 or Mary Petrak at 814-502-6076.

**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. There is a second distribution day in early December. Thank you for your help with this project.

**THE MIRACLE OF JESUS:** Holy Rosary Church will hold The Miracle of Jesus Christmas Program on December 3, 2023. Families are invited to spend 40-60 minutes exploring "Bethlehem, visiting the shops and engaging in fun and meaningful activities at their own pace. Please pre-register in order for us to have enough supplies by calling Barb at Holy Rosary rectory, 814-944-6676.

### **FAITH FORMATION NEWS**

**November 12th-No Class**

**November 17th-9th Grade Confirmation Retreat at St. Mary's, Altoona from 6pm-8pm**

**November 18th-11th Grade Confirmation Retreat at St. Mary's from 9am-5pm**

**November 19th-Class 9:15am-10:45am for K-8th Grade**

**November 19th-10th Grade Confirmation Retreat at St. Mary's from 1pm-3pm**

**November 26th-No Class-Thanksgiving Break**

**December 2nd-2nd Grade Reconciliation Retreat & Sacrament of Reconciliation**

**December 3rd-Class 9:15am-10:45am & Children's Liturgy at 11am Mass**

**December 10th-No Class**

*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).*

**GAME NIGHT:** Blazin' Angels will be hosting a game night at Saint John the Evangelist's Parish Center (Lakemont) on November 12th from 6-9pm. Blazin' Angels 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](mailto:blazinangels.yagroup@gmail.com) for more information.

**NATIVITY FESTIVAL:** Last year, St. Mary and St. Michael parishes in Hollidaysburg hosted their first ever Nativity Festival as a gift to the parish communities including all in the surrounding community area. It was a huge success! Over 200 nativity scenes were on display and well over 600 people attended the two day event. This festival encourages attendees to reflect on the humble birth and life of Jesus Christ, our Savior, and is a self-guided, free public event. It features magnificently crafted nativity sets loaned by parishes, parishioners and friends. These works reflect the culture and perspective of artists around the world. This amazing event for the whole family includes a free Christmas Concert by the Altoona Community Band and this year there will be a LIVE nativity scene as well! This year they are excited to feature the parish nativity scenes from St. Catherine, St. John, St. Patrick, St. Thomas More and St. Joseph Parishes AND the personal scenes of their parishioners. We really hope that every parishioner will participate and attend the festival. If you think you would like to have your own personal family nativity set(s) displayed, please take home a flyer with you today from the Gathering Space table. A video of last year's video can be found at [stmichael-hldg-pa.org](http://stmichael-hldg-pa.org)



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