

***Second Sunday in
Ordinary Time
January 14, 2024***

St. John the Evangelist Church

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

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
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 iristat38@gmail.com
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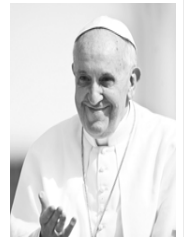
MASS SCHEDULE

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 & 11:00 AM

January Prayer Intention of Pope Francis

Gift of Diversity in the Church

We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community and to discover the richness of different traditions and rituals of the Catholic Church.



NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS

LECTORS

Sat. January 20- 4:00 PM - Maria Spayd, James Krug
 Sun. January 21- 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci, Mike Greslick
 Sun. January 21- 11:00 AM - Dave Auerbeck, Richard Consiglio

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. January 20- 4:00 PM - Chloe Truscello, Jeremy Truscello
 Sun. January 21- 8:00 AM - Emily Miller, Nicholas Helsley
 Sun. January 21- 11:00 AM - Camille Krug, Colin Schurr

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. January 20- 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, NOT FILLED
 Sun. January 21 - 8:00 AM - Diane Turcovsky, Daniel Turcovsky
 Sun. January 21- 11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Barbara Bundy,
 Dolores Capriotti, Kenneth Gorman, Bob Olson,
 Susanna Tomlinson

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. January 20- 4:00 PM - Betsy Lloyd, Dennis Moughemer,
 Karen Moughemer, NOT FILLED
 Sun. January 21- 8:00 AM - Jane Becker, John Becker, Ginny Reeder,
 Ed Stoltz
 Sun. January 21- 11:00 AM - Walter Bloom, Lou Ann Clark,
 Peg Madden, Patrick Podoletz

SACRISTAN

Sat. January 20- 4:00 PM - Ray King, Mary King
 Sun. January 21- 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci
 Sun. January 21- 11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan

SCRIP

Sat. January 20- 4:00 PM - Lori Baker, Becky Merilli
 Sat. January 21- 8:00 AM - Erika Yasolsky, Heather Yasolsky
 Sun. January 21- 11:00 AM - Jane Byrne, Carolyn English

A Few Words from the Pastor:

OUR SACRED STORY RETREAT: Due to Monsignor Becker being away this past week, his comments on the 40 week retreat, Our Sacred Story retreat will resume next week.

SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD: JANUARY 21! Three years ago on the feast of St Jerome, Pope Francis proclaimed that the 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time be observed annually as the Sunday of the Word of God. He declared it *"a Sunday given over entirely to the Word of God, so as to appreciate the inexhaustible riches contained in that constant dialogue between the Lord and his people."* He goes on to vividly describe the power of the Word of God: it "makes a pathway within us. We listen to it with our ears and it passes to our hearts; it does not remain in our ears; it must go to the heart. And from the heart, it passes to the hands, to good deeds. *This is the path which the Word of God follows: from our ears to our heart and hands*". the motto chosen for this year taken from the Gospel of St John: "Remain in my Word" (John 8,31). **Remember to bring your bible to Mass that weekend for a special blessing!**

SAVE THE DATES!

Martin Luther King Jr. Day: Monday, January 15th-Parish Office will be closed

Sunday of the Word of God: Sunday, January 21st -Bring your Bible to the weekend masses to be blessed

Parish Breakfast: Thursday, January 25th after the 8:30am morning mass at The Dream in Hollidaysburg

Ash Wednesday: Wednesday, February 14th Soup Supper-Additional details to follow

WARMING CENTER: Are There Homeless in Altoona? There are indeed homeless people in Altoona. As Christians we are asked by God to help those in need.

We at St. John's have been addressing the needs of the poor for many years. Your generosity through out the year with clothing, food and monetary donations every Second Sunday is a huge help to Food Banks and those in need.

As the cold and wet weather arrive, a group of concerned community members are addressing the issue of homeless individuals. There a lot of issues and we can only do a few at a time. This committee is made up of Agencies and concerned Christians. Their first endeavor is a warming center open from January until March 31, 2024. This year the center is located at Over Flow Church at 127- 5 Avenue, Altoona PA. Each evening at 9:00PM people come to the center and register for a cot to sleep on. Many agencies are present to evaluate their needs. There are 80 volunteers who take turns spending the night. Two for the women who sleep upstairs and two men who sleep downstairs. A guard is hired and present at all times. At this time no children are allowed but the committee is working to include children in the future.

The guests leave at 7:00AM after light breakfast donated by Green Bean. If you would like to help, please give money to St. John's and mark Warming Shelter on an envelope or check.

Susanna Tomlinson

Co Chair of the Samaritan Committee

PRAYER PAL 2024: The members of St. Mary, St. Michael, St. John the Evangelist, Hollidaysburg Church of the Brethren, and St. Joseph Parish in Williamsburg are happy to announce that Prayer Pal will be offered to all parishioners this Lenten season. A mailer was sent to all registered parishioners. Unfortunately it appears that the letters sent to St. John's parishioners were mailed without the informational letters inside. This information will be available in the Gathering Space this weekend. Registrations will also be accepted online by scanning the QR code also available in the Gathering Space. Please take a few moments to read over the information and join the over 285 participants from last year in this rewarding and prayerful experience. If anyone has any questions please feel free to contact one of the committee members listed below:

Dave Madden 814-695-0395

Bob Muldoon 814-515-7050

Mary Jo Lanzel 814-934-6793

Mary Leap 814-937-9789

Anne Musser 814-515-8028

Anita Carvalho 209-993-2818

Donna Messner 814-934-9023

Jane Becker 814-414-9836

Lisa Myers 814-934-0619

Dec. Kevin Nester 717-574-4856



Schedule for the Week of January 14th

Sunday, January 14 -2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

11:00 AM - Mass for *All Cursillistas* requested by
The Cursillo Movement

Monday, January 15 - Weekday

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

Tuesday, January 16 - Weekday

8:30 AM—Mass for *Bob Long* requested by
John Bismark

Wednesday, January 17 - St. Anthony

6:00 PM - Mass for *Robert J. Long* requested by
Bob & Ginny Reeder

Thursday, January 18 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Special Intentions* requested by
Ray & Mary King

Friday, January 19 - Weekday

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

Saturday, January 20— Vigil of 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM - Mass for *Wayne Cunningham* requested by
Ron & Joyce Cunningham

Sunday, January 21 - 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM - Mass for *Guido Prosperi* requested by
John Prosperi

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

ST ROSE OF LIMA SVDP CONFERENCE – CARE PACKAGE PROGRAM 2024

-With the assistance of the parishioners from St Rose of Lima, St John the Evangelist and St Patrick, the St Rose SVDP Conference will once again be running its Care Package program for our seniors, the homeless in our community, new or expectant moms, and single parents. These packages contain items that each group would find useful, such as toiletries, blankets, gloves, hats, jig saw puzzles, scented candles, healthy snacks, diapers, baby wipes, parenting books, coffee mugs, bath bombs, activity books, etc. Each donor is also asked to include items to help boost the mental health of the recipient, such as a handwritten note of encouragement, a rosary, prayer card, gift card, etc. Also, new this year, our SVDP Conference is asking that you include in your package(s) a prayer card that our Conference will be supplying. The cards will be attached to the flyers that list suggested items for each group. The collection period will run from January 21st through March 11th. Care Packages can be returned to the Gathering Space when filled. The care packages will be delivered to these needy individuals and families with the help of Family Services and WIC. The members of the St Rose SVDP Conference would like to take this time to thank all those who help make programs like this one possible and the lives of the needy a bit easier. God Bless You All!

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: Our readings today focus on the vital attributes of being a disciple of Christ. Our First Reading from Samuel unfolds the relationship between Samuel and the Lord. If we put ourselves in Samuel's shoes, we can wonder how many times the Lord has spoken to us but we did not recognize His voice. God's voice might already be present in the quiet of our hearts, in Scripture, or even in speaking through someone else. He speaks to us in various forms, but to recognize that it is Him, we must give Him a portion of our time by being still and listening to what He is calling us to do or not do.

Our journey as disciples of Christ is an ongoing adventure. To grow on this journey, we can seek first the Kingdom of God, listen to God's voice in our lives, and be good stewards of what He has gifted us. With that, the Lord will respond with "Come, and you will see!"

December 30/31

Envelopes	\$ 4,902.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 540.00
Children's Offerings	\$ 4.00
Parish Development	\$ 265.00
Christmas Offering	\$ 920.00
Retirement Fund	\$ 100.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 492.00
Online Giving	\$ 1,643.75
Total Offertory	\$ 8,866.75

2023 Catholic Ministries Drive Goal - \$41, 761

January 1, 2023-November 30, 2023

Total Gifts/Pledges - \$38,897

FAMILIES AND THE GOSPEL: A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar Jesus' question in today's gospel is still valid today: "What are you looking for?" What do you want from your spouse, children or parents? Families are populated with imperfect people. To expect perfection is unreal. To expect and accept imperfection is wisdom.

PARISH CAST: If you did not receive a Parish Cast robo call last Saturday regarding the Mass cancellation for the January 6th 4pm Mass, please contact the Parish Office to be added or to update your information. You can also email any contact information updates to stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net. Thank you!

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS: Please email any upcoming bulletin announcements to Diane Ryan at stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net or call the Parish Office at 814-942-5503. Bulletin announcements need to be submitted by Wednesday to be included in the following weekend's bulletin.

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
Bill Arend • Charles Bassett • Idy Caporuscio
Eleanor Christine • 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
Lois Werfel • John E. Wolfe • Dorothy Yingling
Anne Zelnosky**

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

Joanne Byrne, sister of Joan Price

May she rest in the peace and joy of the Lord.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT: Experiencing a loss of any kind is difficult and lonely. Our bereavement 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). For more information contact Debbi Chapman at 912-713-5412. Upcoming dates are:
Tuesday, January 23 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. For more information contact Mary Petrak at 814-502-6076.

MARCH FOR LIFE: Once again, Citizens Concerned for Human Life is planning a bus trip to the March for Life on January 19, 2024, in Washington. Our buses will be leaving for the March from St. Therese's Church in Altoona at 7:00 A.M. and we will be leaving Washington by 4:00 P.M. we hope to be back in Altoona around 8:30 P.M. We will also have pick ups at St. Mary's in Hollidaysburg at 7:30 A.M. and Walmart in East Freedom at 7:45 A.M. We ask the participants to pack a lunch and on the way back from the March we will stop at the Golden Carrol in either Frederick or Hagerstown for dinner. The March is always prayerful and peaceful, and our cost is \$10.00 for students and \$15.00 for adults. For reservations, please contact Patricia Forr or Marita Forr at (814) 946.0681 or Roxanne Blazovitch at (814) 696.8008.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

January 14th-No Class

January 21st-Class 9:15am-10:45am

January 21st-9th & 10th Grade Spring Session-ALL 9th & 10th Grade Students must attend 9:15am-10:45am followed by the 9th Grade Rite of Blessing and the 10th Grade Rite of Commitment at 11am Mass

January 28th-No Class

February 4th-Class 9:15am-10:45am

February 11th-Family Lent Event-9:15am-10:45am All students and at least one parent/guardian should attend. Children's Liturgy following Lent Event at the 11am Mass.

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

ADULT FAITH FORMATION: Beginning in January the schedule for Adult Faith Formation will follow the Faith Formation Calendar for grades K-8, so that parents are able to attend. We will meet on Sunday morning from 9:15 to 10:45 on January 21.

In January we will begin A Walk Through the Mass, a five-session series by Edward Sri. Dr. Sri helps us to understand the historical and biblical roots of the words, prayers, actions, and gestures contained within the Mass. Registration is not necessary. Please join us for food, faith, and fellowship. For more information contact Mary Petrak at 814 502 6076 or mfpetrak@hotmail.com.

BLAZIN' ANGELS: Join us on January 21st at St. John the Evangelist's Parish Center from 6-9pm. Deacon Gene Neral will be speaking about his book. Anyone ages 18-39 are welcome to join. If you are interested in attending or interested in learning more please let Cherié Langenbacher and Amber Yasolsky know by emailing us at blazinangels.yagroup@gmail.com.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION: The 2024 Marriage Preparation Series has released their upcoming schedule. Local sessions will be offered at St. John's April 15, 22, 29. Please contact the office for more information or take a pamphlet from the kiosk.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church

February 14, 2024

Ash Wednesday Fish Dinner

4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Serving at School Cafeteria on 8th Avenue

\$14.00 - BAKED OR FRIED FISH

Tickets sold in advance at the Parish Office, 806 11th St.

Take outs available