



***Fifth Sunday in
Ordinary Time
February 4, 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
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 Mark Krepich - Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults
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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

February Prayer Intention of Pope Francis

The Terminally Ill
 We pray that those with a terminal illness,
 and their families, receive the necessary
 physical and spiritual care and
 accompaniment.



NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS

LECTORS

Sat. February 10- 4:00 PM - Jeremy Truscello, Iris Tatar
 Sun. February 11- 8:00 AM - Diane Turcovsky, Daniel Turcovsky
 Sun. February 11- 11:00 AM - Lily Davis, John Sukala
 Wed. February 14- 6:00 PM - Susanna Tomlinson, Richard Consiglio

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. February 10- 4:00 PM - Abigail Hovance, Sadie Swope
 Sun. February 11- 8:00 AM - Emily Miller, Nicholas Helsley
 Sun. February 11- 11:00 AM - Evie Koch, Aidan Schurr
 Wed. February 14- 6:00 PM - Camille Krug, Colin Schurr

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. February 10- 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, NOT FILLED
 Sun. February 11 - 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci, NOT FILLED
 Sun. February 11- 11:00 AM - Walter Bloom, Cecelia Bloom,
 Barbara Bundy, Lou Ann Clark, Bob Olson, Susanna Tomlinson
 Wed. February 14- 6:00 PM - Marilyn Bevan, Dolores Capriotti

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. February 10- 4:00 PM - Betsy Lloyd, Paula VanSickel,
 Larry VanSickel, NOT FILLED
 Sun. February 11- 8:00 AM - Jane Becker, John Becker, Ray Kennedy,
 Jane Strasser
 Sun. February 11- 11:00 AM - Faith Formation Students
 Wed. February 14- 6:00 PM - Connie Baker, Diane Turcovsky,
 Daniel Turcovsky, NOT FILLED

SACRISTAN

Sat. February 10- 4:00 PM - Ray King, Mary King
 Sun. February 11- 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci
 Sun. February 11- 11:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti
 Wed. February 14- 6:00 PM - Barbara Bundy

SCRIP

Sat. February 10- 4:00 PM - Lori Baker, Julie Beiswenger
 Sat. February 11- 8:00 AM - Chris Palazzi, Marge Rudolph
 Sun. February 11- 11:00 AM - Jane Byrne, Carolyn English

A Few Words from the Pastor:

ASH WEDNESDAY SOUP SUPPER – There is a wonderful Lenten tradition at St. John's of a special "Soup Supper" on Ash Wednesday, February 14th, following our evening Mass. Those who are good at making soup or baking bread are invited to share your talents! You can sign up on the kiosk! All donations will be given to assist our Haitian Sister parish, Saints Peter and Paul!

WHAT'S IT LIKE IN HAITI? Cholera is very common in both rural areas and cities due to contamination in the water. In rural areas, **fewer than 20 percent** have access to clean water and sanitation. Malaria also poses a risk to many. These diseases can be fatal without access to healthcare. Your donations mean a lot!

WEEK 17 OF OUR SACRED STORY RETREAT: *This week we are introduced to the Five Step Structure of Daily Sacred Story Prayer: **CREATION, PRESENCE, MEMORY, MERCY, ETERNITY.** The first of these meditations is **CREATION.** I believe God has created everything in love and for love. I ask for heartfelt knowledge of God's love for me and for gratitude for the general and particular graces of this day. In this prayer I ask to know and feel God's tender and passionate love and to know myself as beloved – a treasure of God's heart in the grand symphony of creation. I pray for the grace of Gratitude.*

THE YEAR OF MARK: A PARISH BIBLE STUDY HAS BEGUN – please plan on joining us on Wednesday evenings at 6:45 for a video presentation by the noted biblical scholar Amy-Jill Levine, as well as an enriching conversation on this oldest of the Gospels. Sessions will last no more than 90 minutes. This will be a wonderful way to experience Lent. Printed materials will be available. Bring your favorite bible and prepare to embark on an inspiring Lenten Journey.

LIVE! MARK'S GOSPEL! This Sunday, February 4th, (a no football Sunday!) at 2:00 PM, in our Parish Center, we will view the "Gospel of Mark" performed by noted actor Max McLean! McLean has made it his life's work to make the Bible come alive for his audiences. He has performed the books of Mark, Acts, and Genesis to millions of people on television and radio and theater. Experience Mark's gospel through Maclean's dynamic and at times humorous narration. Refreshments will be provided!

THIS WEEK'S SACRED STORY - In 1597, Paul Miki and his twenty-five companions were crucified for their Christian faith in Nagasaki, Japan. A Japanese layman, St. Paul Miki was born into a Japanese noble family and was heir to a great inheritance and position in Japanese society. He was converted to Christianity by the great Saint Francis Xavier, who was a companion of St. Ignatius of Loyola and one of the first Jesuits. The commemoration of these Japanese Martyrs is this Tuesday, February 6.

CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE: "STRENGTH IN CHRIST" is set for March 3 from 11:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Mount Aloysius College in Cresson. The theme is *J2J: Journey to Jesus*. Nationally recognized speaker and musician Cooper Ray will be the keynote presenter. Father Michael Pleva and Father Brian Norris will also share their incredible faith journeys. The day includes lunch and Mass at 5:00 p.m. with Bishop Mark. There is no cost. Seating is limited, so register before February 23 online at dioceseaj.org or pick up a hard copy registration form in the Gathering Space!

ON NETFLIX, there is an excellent program (4 parts) entitled *The Mysteries of the Faith*. It is a well done presentation on the history and power of relics. Don't miss it!

SAVE THE DATES!

"Gospel of Mark" Movie: Sunday, February 4th at 2pm in the Parish Center

Children's Liturgy: Sunday, February 11th at 11am Mass and Tackle Hunger Food Drive/Collection

Ash Wednesday Masses: Wednesday, February 14th at 8:30am and 6pm

Ash Wednesday Soup Supper: Wednesday, February 14th after the 6pm Mass in the Gym

Parish Breakfast: Thursday, February 22nd after the 8:30am Morning Mass at The Dream in Hollidaysburg

Lent Penance Service: Sunday, March 3rd at 4pm

Schedule for the Week of February 4th

Sunday, February 4 -5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

11:00 AM - Mass for *Scott Broberg* requested by Gloria Broberg

Monday, February 5 - St. Agatha

8:30 AM - Mass for *Fr. Terry Adams* requested by Women's ARISE Group

Tuesday, February 6 - St. Paul Miki & Companions

8:30 AM—Mass for *Kathy Wagner* requested by Bob & Ginny Reeder

Wednesday, February 7 - Weekday

6:00 PM - Mass for *Intentions of Ron & Dee Artim*

Thursday, February 8 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Kathy Cecchine* requested by Bill & Norma Foose

Friday, February 9 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Regina & Margie, sisters of Marian Monios* requested by Marian Monios

Saturday, February 10— Vigil of 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM - Mass for *Carol Bismark* requested by Connie & Dave McManuels

Sunday, February 11 - 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM - Mass for *Kathy Ann Cecchine* requested by Bob & Ginny Reeder

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

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: Our readings today remind us that Christ came to serve. The world often encourages us to look inward – for ways that someone or something can better serve us. Countering this typical mindset, Jesus' entire life was focused on others. He came to fulfill His Father's mission – the salvation of mankind. And He labored for this mission by becoming the humblest of servants. This is made evident in our Gospel today. As Christian stewards, we too are called to be humble servants who labor for our Father's mission. We should strive to imitate Christ – the Perfect Steward – Who was constantly aware of the needs of those around Him and put His gifts to good use. For us, this begins right here in our homes, parish and community. It doesn't need to be complex, but rather, very simple – to live each moment in awareness of our Father's mission and in gratitude for all He has given us. When we intentionally live each moment for Christ, even the ordinary moments are made significant.

January 20/21

Envelopes	\$ 4,458.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 1,348.00
Parish Development	\$ 115.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 20.00
Online Giving	\$ 1,273.75
Total Offertory	\$ 7,214.75

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

LENT SCHEDULE FOR ST. JOHN'S:

Ash Wednesday Mass Times: February 14th: 8:30am and 6:00pm Ash Wednesday Soup Supper following the 6:00pm Mass in Fr. Bailey Hall (Gym)

Adoration and Stations of the Cross: Fridays during Lent with Adoration beginning at 5:00pm and Stations beginning at 5:30pm

Lent Penance Service: Sunday, March 3rd at 4:00pm

The Year of Mark: A Parish Bible Study: Wednesdays at 6:45pm in the Parish Center starting January 31st until March 20th (No class on Ash Wednesday)

FAMILIES AND THE GOSPEL: In today's gospel Jesus went to the "house of Andrew and Simon" to relax but discovered that "Simon's mother-in-law was very ill. Like Jesus we come home to relax but are confronted with problems. Take a tip from Andrew and Simon who "told Jesus about it at once."

2023 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS are available upon request. Please call the Parish Office at 814-942-5503 to request your giving statement. A contribution statement will not be mailed to you unless you call the office to request it.

MARCH FOR LIFE DONATIONS: Citizens Concerned for Human Life would like to thank St. John's for their donation of \$296 that went towards paying for the buses and the materials for the March for Life. Thank you!

BEAUTIFUL EUCHARIST BOOK: Our diocese has been promoting the Eucharistic Revival for the past 2 years. Matthew Kelly has written a very interesting, easy to read book titled "Beautiful Eucharist." This book invites us to encounter Jesus through the Eucharist to heal us and bring peace and clarity to our lives. These books are available to all parishioners in the Gathering Space thanks to a generous donation from a parishioner. Please feel free to take one!

SUPER BOWL TACKLE HUNGER FOOD DRIVE: Faith Formation students will be collecting donations for the Mt. Lion Back Pack program on Super Bowl Sunday as part of a Tackle Hunger Food Drive at the 11am Mass on February 11th. Most needed items include cracker packs, pop tarts, fruit cups, 100% juice boxes, cereal cups, canned pasta, pudding cups and rice krispie treats. Thank you!

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 Caporusio
Eleanor Christine • Michelle Cooney
Mary Lee DeStefano • Kathy Ganz
Devon McCarter Graham • Marlene Hartman
Kay Laratonda • Bonnie & Mike Long
Connor McLaughlin • Kathy Mittermeier
Patricia Olson • Ryan Raybuck • Dan Roberts
Anne Showalter • Reed Stellabotte • Tim Temofonte
Mary Truesdale • Lois Werfel • John E. Wolfe
Dorothy Yingling • Anne Zelnosky**

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT: Dealing with a loss, whether in the past or recent, is difficult and lonely. Our support groups will allow you to acknowledge the pain and to learn positive strategies for coping.

Journey Through Loss is a seven week program for those who have lost a loved one through death. Call Mary Petrak, 814-502-6076, for dates and information.

St. Michael and St. Mary Parishes offer monthly meetings for those who have experienced a loss. Call Debbi Chapman, 912-713-5412, for dates and information.

BIRTHDAY CORNER FOR FEBRUARY:

February 9th- Ron Cunningham

February 13th-Mary Louise Rajnish

February 16th- Lois Werfel

Something new-sending individual cards to our "senior" (80 and older) parishioners. If you wish to send a birthday card, use the address in your Parish Directory, place card in the Collection Basket or take to the Parish Office and the cards will be forwarded.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR: Holy Spirit Ministry will be holding a Life in the Spirit Seminar on Saturday, March 16th from 8:00am to 6:30pm at St. Mary Church, Hollidaysburg. This one day retreat includes dynamic spiritual teachings and testimonies. Spirit-filled praise and worship, small group faith sharing and much more. Donation is \$20 if registered by 2/26/24, \$25 afterward. Students are free. Lunch and dinner provided. To register contact 814-931-0192 or email holyspiritministry20@gmail.com. Deadline to register is 3/6/24. All are welcome!

BUS TRIP: Museum Of The Bible, DC Wednesday, April 17, 2024 - \$115 (Adult and Ages 11+) and \$99 (Child 4-10) - Price includes: Transportation, Admission and Dinner. To reserve your seat or if you have any questions, please contact Robyn Murphy (814-931-5683) or Diane O'Leary (814-935-2114). The deadline for reservations is February 25, 2024. Must have 24 for trip. Make checks payable to Freedom Excursions.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

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.

February 18th-No Class

February 25th-No Class

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: The Adult Faith Formation class meets on Sunday mornings from 9:15 to 10:45 on February 4 (Feb 11, Family Lent Event), March 3 and March 17, April 7 and April 21, May 5.

Our topic is A Biblical Walk through the Mass by Edward Sri. For more information contact Mary Petrak at 814-502-6076 or mfpetrak@hotmail.com.

BLAZIN' ANGELS: Join us on February 4th for a night of fellowship at St. John the Evangelist's Parish Center from 6-9pm. Bring a Friend! Anyone ages 18-39 are welcome to join. If you are interested in attending or interested in learning more please let us know by emailing us at blazinangels.yagroup@gmail.com.

NUTRITION CLASSES: Jody Petrunak will be offering a series of 3 Nutrition Classes in March to help spread the word on the benefits of eating healthy and to help decrease the risk of chronic diseases. Additional information and registration forms will be in next weekend's bulletin.

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.

LENTEN LUNCH FISH FRY: Always looking for that Friday lunch fix? Look no further than "Lent Lunch Fish Fry Fridays" at The Friar's Nook Gift Shop! Bites Food Truck will be serving up delicious food Fridays during Lent except Good Friday! Lunch includes fish sandwich, mac and cheese, and stewed tomatoes. The Friar's Nook Gift Shop at 793 Monastery Road, Hollidaysburg
Time: 11:00 AM – 1:30 PM Cost: \$10.00

LENTEN FISH FRY: Our Lady of Lourdes Church Hall
2716 Broad Avenue, Altoona, PA
February 16th – March 29th Cost: \$14.00
3:30 for take out 4:30 for eat-in until
7:00pm or until sold out
Choose from our hand-breaded fried or baked haddock, homemade mac & cheese or hand-cut fries, homemade stewed tomatoes & coleslaw or applesauce & dessert.