



Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 10, 2024

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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MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY - 8:30 AM TUESDAY - 8:30 AM
WEDNESDAY - 8:30 AM
THURSDAY - 8:30 AM FRIDAY - 8:30 AM
SATURDAY - 4:00 PM
SUNDAY - 8:00 AM & 11:00 AM

March Prayer Intention of Pope Francis

The New Martyrs
 We pray that those who risk their lives for
 the Gospel in various parts of the world
 inflame the Church with their courage and
 missionary enthusiasm.



NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS

LECTORS

Sat. March 16- 4:00 PM - Joyce Cunningham, Maria Spayd
 Sun. March 17- 8:00 AM - Ginny Reeder, Mary Truesdale
 Sun. March 17- 11:00 AM - Patrick Schurr, Jim Campbell

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. March 16- 4:00 PM - Chloe Truscello, Jeremy Truscello
 Sun. March 17- 8:00 AM - Emily Miller, Nicholas Helsley
 Sun. March 17- 11:00 AM - Evie Koch, Estella Koch

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. March 16- 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, NOT FILLED
 Sun. March 17- 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci, NOT FILLED
 Sun. March 17- 11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Barbara Bundy,
 Dolores Capriotti, Lou Ann Clark, Bob Olson, Susanna Tomlinson

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. March 16- 4:00 PM - Carolyn English, Betsy Lloyd,
 Dennis Moughemer, Karen Moughemer
 Sun. March 17- 8:00 AM - Jane Becker, John Becker, Diane Turcovsky,
 Daniel Turcovsky
 Sun. March 17- 11:00 AM - Walter Bloom, Wendy Campbell,
 Peg Madden, Patrick Podoletz

SACRISTAN

Sat. March 16- 4:00 PM - Ray King, Mary King
 Sun. March 17- 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci
 Sun. March 17- 11:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti

SCRIP

Sat. March 16- 4:00 PM - Lori Baker, Julie Beiswenger
 Sat. March 17- 8:00 AM - Chris Palazzi, Heather Yasolsky
 Sun. March 17- 11:00 AM - Peg Madden, Marge Rudolph

A Few Words from the Pastor:

WEEK 22 OF OUR SACRED STORY RETREAT: *Due to Monsignor Becker being away on retreat this week, we will resume our notes next week.*

A LENTEN CONFESSION - An essential element of Lenten living is the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Its importance in our spiritual life cannot be stressed enough. If you missed our Lenten Penance Service last Sunday, there is a list of local penance services, including the Diocesan Lenten Communal Penance Service on March 20th at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, in this week's bulletin that are being offered in our area. Many priests from local parishes will be at each service to hear Confessions. We especially encourage all our families and students to come and celebrate the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation during this holy Season of Lent.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS - To encourage greater participation for Stations, and to promote a greater love for the Holy Eucharist, our Friday evening devotions will begin at 5:00 with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, with Stations of the Cross beginning at 5:30. Stations will conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Please consider joining us!

FASTING AND ABSTINENCE: Remember that the Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence from meat. Throughout the season of Lent, however, DAILY FASTING can strengthen our will, remind us of the hungers of the human family, and certainly can put us in mind of our hunger for God. Our fasting is closely related to our care for the poor: when I fast, another person must eat in my place!

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE 2024 –Your sacrificial gifts of prayer and treasure will make an immediate impact on ministries that care for the poor, strengthen family life, nurture our youth, and provide leadership development for clergy and laity. During Lent, and throughout the year, we are challenged to renew our spiritual devotions and duties – and one of those holy duties is to support the Church. We are challenged to open our eyes and see those in our midst that bring hope to life through their time and talent in serving the community through the many ministries supported by the Catholic Ministries Drive. You can place your Commitment Card in the offertory basket, or you can send it in the mail or make an online gift at www.dioceseaj.org/giving.

BRUNCH FOR THE WHOLE BUNCH! Please join us in Fr. Bailey Hall (gym) after the 11:00 AM Mass on Sunday, March 17th for a Spring Fling Brunch during our Easter Egg Hunt. Everyone is welcome! Enjoy a bite to eat while the children hunt for eggs. Even if you don't have any children participating in the Egg Hunt, please join us for the brunch and enjoy the fellowship of our parish community. We hope to see you there!

SAVE THE DATES!

Adoration and Stations of the Cross: Friday, March 15th-Adoration at 5pm and Stations at 5:30pm

Easter Egg Hunt: Sunday, March 17th after 11am Mass in the Gym

Diocesan Lenten Communal Penance Service: Wednesday, March 20th at 6pm-Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament

Palm Sunday Masses: Saturday, March 23rd at 4pm & Sunday, March 24th at 8am & 11am

Tenebrae Service: Tuesday, March 26th at 7pm

Holy Thursday Mass: Thursday, March 28th at 7pm

Good Friday: Friday, March 29th at 7pm

Easter Vigil Mass: Saturday, March 30th at 8:30pm

Easter Sunday Mass: Sunday, March 31st at 8am & 11am

Schedule for the Week of March 10th

Sunday, March 10 - 4th Sunday of Lent

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

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

Monday, March 11 - Lenten Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Sister Meloney* requested by Barbara Bundy

Tuesday, March 12 - Lenten Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Kathy Wagner & Dave Petrak* requested by Bob & Mary Jo DuPont

Wednesday, March 13 - Lenten Weekday

6:00 PM - Mass for *Mercia Crevecoeur* requested by Mimi Crevecoeur & family

Thursday, March 14 - Lenten Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Reta Mae Loth* requested by David & Bonnie Loth

Friday, March 15 - Lenten Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *William David Rossman* requested by David & Bonnie Loth

Saturday, March 16 - Vigil of 5th Sunday of Lent

4:00 PM - Mass for *People of the Parish*

Sunday, March 17 - 5th Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM - Mass for *Bob Cooney* requested by Ginger Cooney & family

11:00 AM - Mass for *Tom Semelsberger* requested by Larry & Carol Field

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.

LENT SCHEDULE FOR ST. JOHN'S:

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

The Year of Mark: A Parish Bible Study: Wednesdays at 6:45pm in the Parish Center starting January 31st until March 20th

LOCAL PENANCE SERVICES:

March 14 Saint Mark Parish, Altoona 5:30 PM

March 18 Our Lady of Mt Carmel Parish, Altoona 7PM

March 20 Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Altoona 6PM

March 21 Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Altoona 5:30 PM

March 24 Saint Mary Parish, Hollidaysburg 4 PM

JARED MILLER, OUR ELECT! Last Sunday, our Elect, Jared Miller, celebrated the First Scrutiny as part of his final preparations for the Easter sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and the Holy Eucharist. This weekend, he will participate in the Second Scrutiny, as we reflect on the gospel story of the Man Born Blind.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: Our readings today remind us that Jesus came into the world, suffered, and died for each one of us. It is a profound truth that we often forget through the busyness of life. Jesus came for you. We must realize that it was not out of good works on our part that He did this for us, but out of pure love. When we recognize that His love does not waver in any circumstance, we become overwhelmed with gratitude. How can we respond to this? By loving Him in return – in our thoughts, in how we spend our time, in how we treat others most especially our families, in how we spend our resources. Everything we do should be a reflection of our love for God. Then we will become a light of Christ in the world. During these last weeks of Lent, let us examine our hearts for the times we have turned away from God, whether it be just a moment or years of distance from our Lord. Then let us bring all of those impurities to God, with a sorrowful heart and a resolution to change, in the sacrament of Confession. May we reflect on just how much God loves us despite our shortcomings and may we strive to love Him in return each day.

February 24th/25th

Envelopes	\$ 3,162.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 555.00
Children's Offerings	\$ 3.00
Parish Development	\$ 133.00
Black & Indian	\$ 50.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 25.00
Online Giving	\$ 1,178.90
Total Offertory	\$ 5,106.90

2024 Catholic Ministries Drive Goal: \$42,400

2024 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE: Our diocese's ministries need your support. Please prayerfully consider making a donation this coming week or in the future if you haven't already. All contributions received beyond our parish goal will remain with the parish. Thank you for supporting the Catholic Ministries Drive and our diocese's vital ministries.

DR. EDWARD SRI: The Diocese of Altoona Johnstown proudly presents Dr. Edward Sri, a nationally recognized theologian and speaker, for a 2-day event celebrating the eucharistic revival at Mount Aloysius College in Cresson. Friday, April 19th from 7-9:30pm for High School, College and Young Adults and Saturday, April 20th from 9am-12:30pm for the General Public. Additional information and schedules for both days are available on flyers in the Gathering Space. There is no cost to attend but registration is required online at www.dioceseaj.org or mail in a form available in the Gathering Space. Please direct all questions to Sister Linda LaMagna by email at llamgna@dioceseaj.org or by phone at 814-742-7894.

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 • Idy Caporuscio • Eleanor Christine
Michelle Cooney • Mary Lee DeStefano • Kathy Ganz
Devon McCarter Graham • Marlene Hartman
Sallie Langham • Bonnie & Mike Long
Connor McLaughlin • Kathy Mittermeier
Patricia Olson • Ryan Raybuck • Dan Roberts
Anne Showalter • Reed Stellabotte • Tim Temofonte
Mary Truesdale • Lois Werfel • Dorothy Yingling
Anne Zelnosky

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

*Michael Ebersole, husband of Amy Ebersole
Guy Langham, husband of Sallie Langham
May they rest in the peace and joy of the Lord.*

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 Debby Chapman, 912-713-5412, for dates and information.

BIRTHDAY CORNER FOR MARCH:

March 5th-Melvin Engleman
March 8th-James Reilly
March 9th-Raymond Bacon & Elaine Dodson
March 17th- Carol Field
March 20th-Marianne Jones & Vicky Riley
March 22nd-Donna Moyer
March 26th-Bette Richards
March 28th-Elsie MacCullagh

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.

TENEBRAE SERVICE: A Tenebrae Cantata entitled "In the Shadow of the Cross" will be held at 7:00pm Good Friday March 29 at St John Gualbert Cathedral 117 Clinton Street Johnstown, Pa. The Greater Johnstown Diocesan Festival Choir along with the Festival Chamber Orchestra will recount poignantly in song and scripture the last moments of the Christ's earthly struggle. A free-will offering will be taken.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

March 10th-No Class

March 17th-Class

March 17th-Easter Egg Hunt after 11am Mass

March 24th-No Class-Palm Sunday

March 31st-No Class-Easter Sunday

April 1st-11th Grade Confirmation Practice at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament-arrive by 6pm

April 2nd- 11th Grade Confirmation at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament-arrive by 6pm

April 7th-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 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 for bowling at Holiday Bowl on March 17th from 6pm-8pm. We are asking that you pay for your portion of the game which is around \$15-\$20 . Anyone ages 18-39 are welcome to join. If you are interested in attending or interested in learning more please email us at blazinangels.yagroup@gmail.com.

THE 59TH ANNUAL NOVENA IN HONOR OF THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS: Monday, March 11 to Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at Sacred Heart Church (6th Avenue and 20th Street Altoona, PA). Solemn Opening Mass will be celebrated on Monday, March 11, at 7:00 p.m. A complete schedule will be available on the first night of the novena in the church.

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 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.

LENTEN LUNCH FISH FRY: 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.
Time: 11:00 AM – 1:30 PM Cost: \$10.00