

Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 17, 2024

St. John the Evangelist Church

PASTORAL STAFF

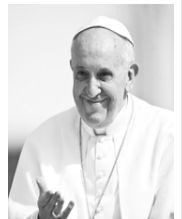
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MASS SCHEDULE

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 23- 4:00 PM - Jeremy Truscello, Maria Spayd, Mike Greslick
 Sun. March 24-8:00 AM - Dan Turcovsky, Diane Turcovsky, Ginny Reeder
 Sun. March 24-11:00 AM - Jim Campbell, Gary Johnson, Patrick Schurr
 Thur. March 28-7:00 PM- TBD, TBD
 Fri. March 29-7:00 PM- TBD, TBD, TBD

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. March 23- 4:00 PM - Lexi Tatar, Iris Tatar
 Sun. March 24- 8:00 AM - Emily Miller, Nicholas Helsley
 Sun. March 24-11:00 AM - Camille Krug, Liam Schurr
 Thur. March 28-7:00 PM -Bob Olson, Colin Schurr, Liam Schurr,
 Aidan Schurr
 Fri. March 29-7:00 PM -Abigail Hovance, Sadie Swope, NOT FILLED

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. March 23- 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, NOT FILLED
 Sun. March 24-8:00 AM - Diane Turcovsky, Daniel Turcovsky
 Sun. March 24-11:00 AM - Walter Bloom, Lou Ann Clark, Kenneth Gorman, Bob Olson, Susanna Tomlinson, NOT FILLED
 Thur. March 28-7:00 PM - Marily Bevan, Barbara Bundy, Dolores Capriotti, Lou Ann Clark, Diane Turcovsky, Daniel Turcovsky

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. March 23- 4:00 PM - Betsy Lloyd, Paula VanSickel, Larry VanSickel,
 NOT FILLED
 Sun. March 24-8:00 AM - Carolyn English, Ashley Greslick,
 Mike Greslick, Darlene Scarpaci
 Sun. March 24-11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Wendy Campbell,
 Dolores Capriotti, Peg Madden
 Thur. March 28-7:00 PM- Connie Baker, Ed Stoltz, Jane Strasser,
 Mary Truesdale
 Fri. March 29-7:00 PM- Connie Baker, Ginny Reeder, Diane Turcovsky,
 Daniel Turcovsky

SACRISTAN

Sat. March 23- 4:00 PM - Jane Byrne
 Sun. March 24- 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci
 Sun. March 24- 11:00 AM - Barbara Bundy
 Thur. March 28-7:00 PM- Barbara Bundy

SCRIP

Sat. March 23- 4:00 PM - Julie Beiswenger, Becky Merilli
 Sat. March 24- 8:00 AM - Erika Yasolsky, Heather Yasolsky
 Sun. March 24- 11:00 AM - Patrick Podoletz, NOT FILLED

A Few Words from the Pastor:

WHY WE COVER OUR CROSSES AND STATUES: It seems strange that during the most sacred time of year we cover everything that is beautiful in our churches, even the crucifix. Shouldn't we be looking at the painful scene at Calvary while we listen to the Passion narrative on Palm Sunday? While it may appear counterintuitive to veil statues and images during the final weeks of Lent, the Church recommends this practice to heighten our senses and build within us a longing for Easter Sunday. The unveiling before the Easter Vigil is a great reminder of our own life on earth. We live in a "veiled" world, in exile from our true home. It is only through our own death that the veil is lifted, and we are finally able to see the beauty of everything in our lives.

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION: For many centuries, the 5th Sunday of Lent was called "Passion Sunday," while the Sunday after it was called, "Palm Sunday." Currently the Roman Rite denotes Palm Sunday as "**Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion**," combining the two observances. Passion Sunday also marked the beginning of a special sub-season called "Passiontide," which extended up until Holy Saturday. During this time the Church's liturgy became more somber and a sorrowful mood was reflected in the various practices that occurred in the liturgy. Palm Sunday was the same celebration as it is today, with the procession of palm branches and the reading of the Passion narrative.

BLACK CROSS, NEW MEXICO: During the Lenten season we have displayed in the gathering space a print of a rather stark black cross. This work of art was painted by Georgia O'Keefe, a modern American painter, in 1927. She was enamored by the deserts of New Mexico, and the images of the Cross which she saw to be ever present in the landscape. Near the cross is a "crown of thorns" cactus, blooming with tiny red flowers, reminding us of the blood of Christ.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Our Friday evening devotions 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!

WEEK 24 OF OUR SACRED STORY RETREAT: *We have been reflecting on the Five Step Structure of Daily Sacred Story Prayer: CREATION, PRESENCE, MEMORY, MERCY, ETERNITY. We return now in this Lenten season to a reflection on ETERNITY. "I believe now that the grace of forgiveness will open my heart, making my every thought, word and deed bear fruit that endures for eternity. I ask that everything in my life serve Christ's Great Work of Reconciliation."*

FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH – The Sacred Story of Saint Joseph is celebrated this Tuesday, March 19th. As the husband of Mary, he has a unique place among the saints as the protector of the Holy Family and protector of the Church. We honor him as well as the patron of all "foster" fathers, those who take special children under their care!

A PARISH BIBLE STUDY ON THE GOSPEL OF MARK...AND BEYOND! We meet at 6:45 on Wednesday evenings in the parish center. Bring your favorite bible and prepare to embark on an inspiring Lenten Journey. When we have completed our study of the gospel of Mark, we will continue our study on Wednesday evenings, using as our focus the readings of the coming Sunday.

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.

SAVE THE DATES!

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

Adoration and Stations of the Cross: Friday, March 22nd-Adoration at 5pm and Stations at 5:30pm

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 17th

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

Monday, March 18 - Lenten Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Robert Loth* requested by

David & Bonnie Loth

Tuesday, March 19 - St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:30 AM - Mass for *Carol Bismark* requested by

Ron & Maryann Hinkle

Wednesday, March 20 - Lenten Weekday

6:00 PM - Mass for *Fr. Terry Adams* requested by

Joe & Paula Adams

Thursday, March 21 - Lenten Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Ida Prosperi* requested by

John Prosperi

Friday, March 22 - Lenten Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Dolores Burchfield* requested by

David & Ramona Shrift

Saturday, March 23 - Vigil of Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

4:00 PM - Mass for *Bob Long* requested by

John Bismark

Sunday, March 24 - Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

8:00 AM - Mass for *Janet E. Kauffman* requested by

Bob & Ginny Reeder

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

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: As we are nearing the end of our Lenten journey, our readings today remind us of the goodness that our God has to offer us. Jesus states in the Gospel, "whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will preserve it for eternal life." God should have our entire heart, not just a portion of it. When we regularly practice the discipline of detachment by offering small, daily sacrifices to the Lord, we are also better preparing our hearts for the ultimate happiness in eternal life. As our Lenten journey soon concludes, let us strive to more faithfully live out our covenant with God by actively living as disciples of Christ. And may we consider the ways in which we might continue the practice of self-denial by offering small, daily sacrifices to the Lord.

March 2/3

Envelopes	\$ 8,998.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 322.00
Catholic Education	\$ 120.00
Parish Development	\$ 70.00
Black & Indian	\$ 90.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 185.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$ 110.00
Easter	\$ 25.00
Holy Land	\$ 5.00
Holy Thursday	\$ 5.00
Online Giving	\$ 3,108.90
Total Offertory	\$ 13,038.90

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 llamagna@dioceseaj.org or by phone at 814-742-7894.

EASTER FLOWERS: All memorial donations for Easter flowers should be submitted by Monday, March 25th in order to be acknowledged in the Easter Sunday bulletin.

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.

LOCAL PENANCE SERVICES:

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! This weekend, Jared Miller, our Elect, will participate in the Third (and final) Scrutiny, as we reflect on the gospel story of the Raising of Lazarus. Let us all keep him in our prayers.

FAMILIES AND THE GOSPEL: Relationships come with a price tag. We must be willing to entrust ourselves to another, to let go of our autonomy and die to our independence. It is in dying to our independence that we find interdependence with others.

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:*

David Garhart

Michael Ebersole, husband of Amy Ebersole

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 Debbi 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 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

April 14th- 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 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.

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.

HOLY TRINITY FUNDRAISER: Night at the Races on Saturday, April 6th at Holy Trinity-Eldorado Gym. Doors open at 5:30pm, Dinner at 6pm and Horse Races start at 7pm. Tickets are \$40 per person and include: food, drinks and ownership of one horse, jockey or trainer. See flyer on the kiosk for more information.

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