



***Palm Sunday of the
Passion of the Lord
March 24, 2024***

St. John the Evangelist Church

309 Lotz Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602 814-942-5503

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Monday, March 25th: Morning Mass 8:30 AM

Tuesday, March 26th: Morning Mass 8:30 AM Tenebrae 7:00 PM

Wednesday, March 27th: Evening Mass 6:00 PM

Holy Thursday, March 28th: Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00 PM

Good Friday, March 29th: Stations of the Cross 12:00 PM

The Passion of the Lord 7:00 PM

Holy Saturday, March 30th: Blessing of Easter Food Baskets - 12:00 PM

Easter Vigil 8:30 PM

Easter Sunday, March 31st: 8:00 AM & 11:00 AM

NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS

LECTORS

Thur. March 28-7:00 PM- TBD, TBD

Fri. March 29-7:00 PM- TBD, TBD, TBD

Sat. March 30- 8:30 PM - Patrick Schurr, Susan Podoletz, NOT FILLED,
James Krug, Bob Olson

Sun. March 31-8:00 AM - TBD, TBD

Sun. March 31-11:00 AM - TBD, TBD

ALTAR SERVERS

Thur. March 28-7:00 PM -Bob Olson, Colin, Liam & Aidan Schurr

Fri. March 29-7:00 PM -Abigail Hovance, Sadie Swope, NOT FILLED

Sat. March 30- 8:30 PM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED

Sun. March 31- 8:00 AM - Emily Miller, Nicholas Helsley, NOT FILLED

Sun. March 31-11:00 AM - Evie Koch, Estella Koch, Lexi Tatar

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Thur. March 28-7:00 PM - Marily Bevan, Barbara Bundy, Dolores
Capriotti, Lou Ann Clark, Diane Turcovsky, Daniel Turcovsky

Sat. March 30- 8:30 PM - Connie Baker, Mary Petrak, Barbara Bundy,
Dolores Capriotti, NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED

Sun. March 31-8:00 AM - Susanna Tomlinson, NOT FILLED

Sun. March 31-11:00 AM - Walter Bloom, Lou Ann Clark, Kenneth
Gorman, Diane Turcovsky, Daniel Turcovsky, NOT FILLED

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

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

Sat. March 30- 8:30 PM - Ray Kennedy, Dennis Moughemer,
Karen Moughemer, Mike O'Neill

Sun. March 31-8:00 AM - Carolyn English, Peg Madden,
Patrick Podoletz, Darlene Scarpaci

Sun. March 31-11:00 AM - Jane Becker, John Becker, Darlene Scarpaci,
Mary Truesdale

SACRISTAN

Thur. March 28-7:00 PM- Barbara Bundy

Sat. March 30- 8:30 PM - Barbara Bundy

Sun. March 31- 8:00 AM - Jane Byrne

Sun. March 31- 11:00 AM - Ray King, Mary King

SCRIP

Scrip will not be sold during Holy Week or on Easter Sunday. Scrip will be
sold again the weekend of April 6th/7th. Happy Easter!

A Few Words from the Pastor:

HOLY WEEK BEGINS: Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday (when Jesus made his final entrance into Jerusalem) and culminates with Easter Sunday. Walk with Jesus to the Cross on Calvary and rejoice at his Resurrection.

THE SACRED TRIDUUM: Sundown on Holy Thursday to sundown on Easter Sunday is considered the most solemn part of the liturgical year. This three-day period is referred to as the *Easter Triduum*, also known as the *Sacred Triduum*, or *Paschal Triduum* (three days). The Conference of Catholic Bishops reminds us: "*Though chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day unfolding for us the unity of Christ's Paschal Mystery*".

HOLY THURSDAY MASS AND ADORATION - The evening Mass on Holy Thursday is referred to as *The Mass of the Lord's Supper*. This is where the Church re-lives the institution of the Eucharist and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at the Last Supper, as well as the institution of the priesthood, which took place the evening before Jesus was crucified. Extra hosts are consecrated at this Mass to be used on Good Friday when no Mass will be celebrated. The Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday concludes with a procession of the Blessed Sacrament around the church, with continued adoration until 10PM.

GOOD FRIDAY: This is the day of the Lord's crucifixion, the day Jesus died for the sins of the world. - This is a mandatory day of fasting and abstinence. The parish altar looks very different on Good Friday: it is plain and bare. There is no consecrated Host in the tabernacle at the main altar of the church; it was carried away on Holy Thursday night to the "altar of repose" to signify Jesus' death. The candle by the tabernacle is blown out, and the tabernacle doors are left open to show that it is empty. Jesus is gone. This is quite dramatic, reminding us that Good Friday is a solemn day of mourning and prayer. The ceremony on Good Friday is not a Mass—it is a communion service using the consecrated hosts from Holy Thursday. Good Friday is the only day of the year on which no Masses are offered.

HOLY SATURDAY: On this day Christ is in the tomb. There is no daytime Mass on Holy Saturday. It is still a day of fasting and sorrow before the Easter Vigil begins that evening. We recall, with Mary and the disciples, that Jesus died and was separated from them for the first time as He lay in the tomb. The faithful often continue their Good Friday fast through Holy Saturday.

THE BLESSING OF THE EASTER BASKET: This has been a cherished Catholic ritual for centuries among families of Eastern European origin and adopted by people of all ethnic backgrounds. On Holy Saturday, families prepare their Easter Baskets to be later blessed. Our Easter Basket blessing will take place on Holy Saturday at noon. Please come and bring your baskets!

THE EASTER VIGIL - A vigil Mass is held after nightfall on Holy Saturday, or before dawn on Easter Sunday, in celebration of the resurrection of Jesus. This is called the Easter Vigil: the most glorious, beautiful, and dramatic liturgy for the Church. The vigil is divided into four parts: 1) the Service of Light, 2) the Liturgy of the Word, 3) the Liturgy of Baptism, and 4) the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

EASTER SUNDAY: The Catechism of the Catholic Church describes it this way: "Easter is not simply one feast among others, but the 'Feast of feasts', the 'Solemnity of solemnities', just as the Eucharist is the 'Sacrament of sacraments'. St. Athanasius calls Easter 'the Great Sunday' and the Eastern Churches call Holy Week 'the Great Week'.

TENEBRAE – Tenebrae is the Latin word for darkness and night. It is a religious service of Western Christianity held during the three days preceding Easter Day, and characterized by gradual extinguishing of candles, and by a "strepitus" or "loud noise" taking place in total darkness near the end of the service. Our Tenebrae service here at St. John's will be held this Tuesday evening at 7:00. Please join us for this very moving ceremony!

OPERATION RICE BOWL - Rice Bowls can be returned to the parish by placing them in the basket provided in the Gathering space. Your generosity is so much appreciated!

WEEK 25 OF OUR SACRED STORY RETREAT: *We have been reflecting on the Five Step Structure of Daily Sacred Story Prayer: CREATION, PRESENCE, MEMORY, MERCY, ETERNITY. As holy week unfolds, how important it is to spend time each day meditating on the Suffering and death of the Lord Jesus. Acknowledge God's gift of life, become aware of your presence with him on the road to Calvary, remember that Jesus in making this journey for YOU, listen to the words of Jesus, "Father forgive them," and open your life to the fullness of grace flowing from the pierced side of Christ.*

OUR PARISH BIBLE STUDY: We will not be meeting during Holy Week, but our weekly meetings will resume on Wednesday, April 3rd, at 6:45 in the parish center. Our study will focus on the readings for the following Sunday.

Schedule for the Week of March 24th

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*

Monday, March 25 - Monday of Holy Week

8:30 AM - Mass for *Special Intentions of Marian Monios & family* requested by the 8:30 Morning Mass Group

Tuesday, March 26 - Tuesday of Holy Week

8:30 AM - Mass for *Healing Mass for Christine Finklestine*
requested by Idy Caporuscio

7:00 PM - Tenebrae Service

Wednesday, March 27 - Wednesday of Holy Week

6:00 PM - Mass for *Mary Ann Rossman* requested by
David & Bonnie Loth

Thursday, March 28 - Holy Thursday

7:00 PM - Mass of the Lord's Supper

Friday, March 29 - Good Friday

12:00 PM - Stations of the Cross

7:00 PM - The Passion of the Lord

Saturday, March 30 - Holy Saturday Easter Vigil

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

Sunday, March 31 - Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

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

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

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.

THANK YOU! A BIG thank you to everyone who came to our Easter Egg Hunt and Spring Fling Brunch last Sunday. We had a great turn out! Thank you also to everyone who donated food, candy and money and all those who helped serve lunch. Our Faith Formation students helped make the event a success by filling eggs, setting up and assisting during the hunt. We are certainly blessed at St. John's to have such amazing people supporting our parish events!

JARED MILLER, OUR ELECT! Jared will participate in the diocesan retreat for the Elect and candidates with Bishop Mark this Sunday afternoon. This is his final preparation for Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist at the Easter Vigil. Let us all keep him in our prayers.

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.



STEWARDSHIP CORNER: Today we celebrate Palm Sunday – the beginning of our Holy Week. Our liturgy starts with the account of Jesus humbly entering into Jerusalem riding a donkey. People put cloaks and palm branches in His pathway crying, “Hosanna, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” It is with great joy that Christ was being honored as king, still in the same breath, we are filled with sorrow as we reflect on Christ’s passion and death. Thankfully, we know the glorious outcome of this painful journey. Today, as we read about the climax of Christ’s mission here on earth, we are reminded that He is the Perfect Steward, a model for us all on our stewardship journey. Our First Reading, from the prophet Isaiah, portrays a suffering servant. The suffering servant, in many ways, foreshadows what Jesus endured during His passion – “I gave my back to those who beat me... my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting.” Christ endured such tortures, knowing that He did not deserve them, but still He humbly submitted to them. As we embark on this Holy Week, let us take some time to reflect on the life of Christ as He is our model Steward, and may we strive to imitate Him daily.

March 9/10

Envelopes	\$ 3,207.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 834.00
Catholic Education	\$ 25.00
Parish Development	\$ 40.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 701.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$ 292.00
Easter	\$ 180.00
Holy Land	\$ 20.00
Holy Thursday	\$ 20.00
Online Giving	\$ 2,544.90
Total Offertory	\$ 7,863.90

2024 Catholic Ministries Drive Goal: \$42,400

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@dioceseajorg or by phone at 814-742-7894.



Rice Bowls can be returned to the parish by placing them in the basket provided in the Gathering Space.

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
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 soul of:*

David Garhart

May he 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 at St. John's for those who have lost a loved one through death. The next session will begin on June 18. Call Mary Petrak, 814-502-6076, for more 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 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

April 21st-Class

**April 21st- 2nd Grade First Holy Communion Retreat
9:15am to 10:45am-2nd Grade Classroom**

April 28th-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. We will finish *A Biblical Walk through the Mass* on April 7. We have 2 additional classes this spring:

April 21: *The Bible: God's Love Letter to Humanity*

May 5: *The Holy Spirit and the Life of Grace*

All are welcome!

For information contact Mary Petrak, 814-502-6076.

BLAZIN' ANGELS: There will not be a meeting on Sunday, March 31st due to Easter. The next meeting will be April 7th from 6-9pm in the Parish Center. Divine Mercy will be the theme for this meeting. 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.

PASTORAL STAFF

Monsignor Michael Becker - mbecker253@aol.com

Deacon Gene Neral - gene@lifeinfocus.net

Patricia Jimenez - Director of Music
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Stephanie Baker-Business Manager
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Ken Dunmire - Maintenance