



He Is Risen!

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord
March 31, 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
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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

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. April 6- 4:00 PM - Maria Spayd, Iris Tatar
Sun. April 7-8:00 AM - Mike Greslick, Ginny Reeder
Sun. April 7-11:00 AM - Susan Podoletz, Susanna Tomlinson

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. April 6- 4:00 PM - Abigail Hovance, Sadie Swope
Sun. April 7- 8:00 AM - Emily Miller, Nicholas Helsley
Sun. April 7-11:00 AM - Camille Krug, Liam Schurr

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. April 6- 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, NOT FILLED
Sun. April 7-8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci, NOT FILLED
Sun. April 7-11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Walter Bloom, Cecelia Bloom,
Barbara Bundy, Dolores Capriotti, Bob Olson

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. April 6- 4:00 PM - Betsy Lloyd, Dennis Moughemer,
Karen Moughemer, NOT FILLED
Sun. April 7-8:00 AM - Ray Kennedy, Mary Truesdale, Paula VanSickel,
Larry VanSickel
Sun. April 7-11:00 AM - Lou Ann Clark, Mary Grace Horton,
Peg Madden, Patrick Podoletz

SACRISTAN

Sat. April 6- 4:00 PM - Ray King, Mary King
Sun. April 7- 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci
Sun. April 7- 11:00 AM - Barbara Bundy

SCRIP

Sat. April 6- 4:00 PM - Gary Johnson, Marge Rudolph
Sat. April 7- 8:00 AM - Chris Palazzi, NOT FILLED
Sun. April 7- 11:00 AM - Jane Byrne, Carolyn English

A Few Words from the Pastor:

EASTER JOY: The promise of the Resurrection is the assurance that God's love, in every circumstance, is victorious, and that a new heaven and a new earth have come down out of heaven from God. We pray that with the eyes of faith we can see in our daily lives the radiant presence of the Redeemer, who in his Resurrection has made all things new!!!

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'. The mystery of the Resurrection, in which Christ crushed death, permeates with its powerful energy our old time, until all is subjected to him."

"OUR SUNDAY BEST" - this expression has its roots in the way churchgoers prepare themselves to worship Christ the King! We put on our "Sunday best" as a sign of the honor with which we acknowledge Christ the Risen One. We certainly do it for Easter Sunday, when "we come dressed for an audience with the Living God." The Church teaches us that every Sunday is Easter! Every Sunday when we come to celebrate the Eucharist, we are urged to come in our "Sunday Best."

A PRAYER CANDLE FOR EASTER: We are making available this Easter small votive candles which will remind us during the Easter season of Christ's presence as the Light of the World. They can be a small reminder of the beauty of the Easter candle and can be placed next to an icon or crucifix. They can be lit at Easter dinner or anytime a person praying privately, aware that it is Christ who is our Light.

CONFIRMATION THIS SPRING: On Tuesday of this week our candidates for the sacrament of Confirmation will be confirmed by Bishop Mark at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. We are very proud of our young people as they continue their journey of Discipleship: Estella Koch, Jacob Kormanski, Leah Petrunak, Lauryn Ryan, John Sukala and Joulia Wolf. We keep them in our prayers as they prepare for this important moment in their lives.

OUR PARISH BIBLE STUDY: Our weekly meetings will resume this Wednesday, April 3rd, at 6:45 in the parish center. Our study will focus on the readings for the following Sunday. Please plan on joining us!

WEEK 26 OF OUR SACRED STORY RETREAT: During this Easter Week, I would recommend that together with your daily Examen, you include daily reflections on the beautiful prayer of St. Ignatius which we have been praying at Mass each week: *Take, O Lord, and receive, all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, and my entire will, all I have and call my own. You have given all to me. To you, O Lord, I return it. Everything is yours; do with it what you will. Give me only your love and your grace, that is enough for me.* Pray this prayer slowly each day, allowing it to find its deepest roots in your heart.

SAVE THE DATES!

11th Grade Confirmation: Tuesday, April 2nd at 7pm at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament

First Holy Communion and May Crowning: Sunday, May 5th at the 11am Mass

Ascension Thursday: Thursday, May 9th Mass at 8:30am and 6:00pm

Chicken BBQ: Sunday, June 9th-Knights of Columbus

Annual Parish Picnic: Sunday, July 21st in Fr. Bailey Hall after 10am Mass

CONGRATULATIONS, JARED MILLER, OUR NEWEST CATHOLIC! Jared was baptized and confirmed, and received his First Holy Eucharist at the Easter Vigil. His initiation marks a new beginning in his journey. We thank God for his perseverance and passion for the Catholic faith. Let us wish him well and keep him in our prayers.

THANK YOU! We would like to thank the Independent Catholic Foundation for the generous grant of \$3,550 awarded to St. John's as part of the 2023-2034 Impact Grant Program. This grant provided funds to support the Alpha Program offered here at St. John's this past winter as well as helping pay for a portion of our annual subscription to FORMED, which is available to all parishioners to access diverse Catholic movies, audio books, podcasts, shows, and more. For more information please contact the Independent Catholic Foundation at 814-201-2080 or online at www.icfdaj.org.

Schedule for the Week of March 31st

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*

Monday, April 1 - Monday within the Octave of Easter

8:30 AM - Mass for *Grady Weyandt* requested by his mother, Linda Weyandt

Tuesday, April 2 - Tuesday within the Octave of Easter

8:30 AM - Mass for *Tiff Mickens* requested by Linda Weyandt

Wednesday, April 3 - Wednesday within the Octave of Easter

6:00 PM - Mass for *Barbara Neral* requested by Deacon Gene Neral

Thursday, April 4 - Thursday within the Octave of Easter

8:30 AM - Mass for *All God's People* requested by Altoona Catholic Daughters

Friday, April 5 - Friday within the Octave of Easter

8:30 AM - Mass for *Robert J. Cole* requested by Mary Ann Cole

Saturday, April 6 - Vigil of Second Sunday of Easter

4:00 PM - Mass for *Hilda Neal* requested by Julie & Bernie Beiswenger

Sunday, April 7 - Second Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM - Mass for *Dolores Burchfield* requested by Debbie & Ed Ergler

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.

RICE BOWLS: Happy Easter! As our CRS Rice Bowl journey comes to an end, may the Eucharist continue to transform our lives and help us respond to God's call to serve our global family. Let us commit to sharing the joy of the Resurrection with people in our local community and around the world. Rice bowls can be returned to the parish by placing them in the basket provided in the Gathering Space. Thank you for your generosity!

NEWCOMERS: Welcome to our parish family! If you wish to participate fully in our parish life, please register in the office Monday-Friday, 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. or complete a Parish Registration Form provided in the Gathering Space and return it in the offertory collection. To volunteer for parish ministries or discuss how St. John may be present to your faith journey, kindly call 814-942-5503 to schedule a meeting with Monsignor Becker.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: Today, we celebrate the Resurrection of Christ! This event is the greatest event in our Catholic faith. It is through the resurrection that Christ defeated sin and death and opened for us the gates to eternal life. All of God's promises are fulfilled through this glorious event. We have been preparing for 40 long days, through prayer and penance, so that we might be better prepared to receive Christ this day, and to better prepare our hearts to one day rise with Christ in eternal life. Today, we do not fast, but rather, celebrate and rejoice because of our great and merciful God! The meaning and joy of Easter is not just a "one-day" affair, but is an essential element of our Catholic faith. We are called to live out the joy of Easter all year long. Let us celebrate this glorious day with prayer and feasting, for Christ is risen! And let us strive to carry this Easter joy with us all year long by the way we live our lives and how we respond to Christ each day. Happy Easter!

March 16/17

Envelopes	\$ 4,507.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 421.00
Catholic Education	\$ 5.00
Parish Development	\$ 210.00
Children's Offering	\$ 4.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 390.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$ 5.00
Easter	\$ 50.00
Holy Land	\$ 10.00
Holy Thursday	\$ 20.00
Online Giving	\$ 1,399.05
Total Offertory	\$ 7,021.05

2024 Catholic Ministries Drive Goal: \$42,400

FAMILIES AND THE GOSPEL: That first Easter morning was confusing. Jesus was missing and Mary Magdalene, Peter and John "did not know" what to do. In family life there are confusing moments when "we don't know" what to do. Like the apostles we are Easter people when we believe and trust in each other even when all seems lost.

FLOCKNOTE: If you would like to receive text messages or emails regarding parish news, events and reminders and haven't already joined FLOCKNOTE but would like to receive this information, please join by texting SJC1 to 84576. Then after it responds, make sure you click that link and complete the process. If you can't complete this on your mobile phone, please go online to stjohnsaltoona.flocknote.com to register. This is all totally free for you to use and it's going to also make it easy for you to stay plugged in to the ministries or groups that you care about, all by text message or email updates. Your information will be completely safe and secure. And you can unsubscribe from any updates at any time!

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 • Betty Dennis • 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

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.

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.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

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

May 5th-Last Class

May 5th-First Holy Communion & May Crowning 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.

Registration for the 2024-2025 school year for Kindergarten-11th Grade is now available. Forms will be available in the Gathering Space or can be requested by phone or email.

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: Join us for a meeting on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 7th from 6-9pm at St. John's Parish Center. The focus of this meeting is to learn more about the Divine Mercy image and Saint Faustina. Anyone ages 18-39 are welcome to join. If you are interested in attending or interested in learning more please email Amber & Cherié at blazinangels.yagroup@gmail.com or contact Cherié at 814.569.7703.

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.