



# Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 12, 2024

## St. John the Evangelist Church

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

### PASTORAL STAFF

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### 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

### May Prayer Intention of Pope Francis

Formation of Religious and Seminarians

We pray for religious women, religious men and seminarians; may they grow in their vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation-leading them to be credible witnesses to the Gospel.



### NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS

#### LECTORS

Sat. May 18- 4:00 PM - Jeremy Truscello, Joyce Cunningham  
 Sun. May 19-8:00 AM - Norma Foose, Bill Foose  
 Sun. May 19-11:00 AM - Jim Campbell, Patrick Schurr

#### ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. May 18- 4:00 PM - Abigail Hovance, Sadie Swope  
 Sun. May 19- 8:00 AM - Emily Miller, Nicholas Helsley  
 Sun. May 19-11:00 AM - Aidan Schurr, Liam Schurr

#### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. May 18- 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, NOT FILLED  
 Sun. May 19-8:00 AM - Diane Turcovsky, Daniel Turcovsky  
 Sun. May 19-11:00 AM - Barbara Bundy, Dolores Capriotti,  
 Lou Ann Clark, Kenneth Gorman, Bob Olson,  
 Susanna Tomlinson

#### MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. May 18- 4:00 PM - Carolyn English, Betsy Lloyd,  
 Paula VanSickel, Larry VanSickel  
 Sun. May 19-8:00 AM - Ray Kennedy, Mike O'Neill, Ed Stoltz,  
 Jane Strasser  
 Sun. May 19-11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Walter Bloom,  
 Mary Grace Horton, Peg Madden

#### SACRISTAN

Sat. May 18- 4:00 PM - NOT FILLED  
 Sun. May 19- 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci  
 Sun. May 19- 11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan

#### SCRIP

Sat. May 18- 4:00 PM - Julie Beiswenger, Becky Merilli  
 Sun. May 19- 8:00 AM - Erika Yasolsky, Heather Yasolsky  
 Sun. May 19- 11:00 AM - Chris Palazzi, Patrick Podoletz

**MASS TIME CHANGE!** Just a reminder that on Sunday of Memorial Day weekend, (May 26) our 2nd Mass will begin at 10:00 AM. This Summer Mass Schedule will continue through Labor Day weekend.

## A Few Words from the Pastor:

**WE WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S ONE OF THE NEW PRIESTS FROM INDIA!** The Church of Altoona-Johnstown is joyfully greeting four priests from India who have come to the diocese to serve at parishes and minister to local Catholics. The priests, all members of the religious community Heralds of the Good News, arrived in the diocese on April 2. Bishop Mark has assigned one of these priests, **Father Ashok Kumar Alphonse, to reside at St. John's and be available for ministry here and throughout the city. We welcome him with open arms and open hearts! Father Ashok arrived here at St. John's on May 8<sup>th</sup>.**

**A WORD FROM OUR NEW PRIEST!** I am Father Ashok Kumar. I belong to the order of Heralds Good News. I come from a small village called Madampattu in India. The story of my vocation dates to my childhood days where I longed to become a Catholic priest. I expressed my willingness to parents and then to my spiritual director who was a missionary priest in our diocese. After completing my schooling, I joined the seminary. I was ordained a priest on 12th May in 2016. In my eight years of priesthood, I served in the provincial administration as secretary, a pastor in a mission parish and vocation promoter of our province. The constitution of Heralds of Good News enumerates the basic motto of our society as to be sent wherever there is need. Thanks to my order I'm here to serve in the diocese of Altoona-Johnstown. I'm looking forward to working here by the grace of God.



**OUR PARISH BIBLE STUDY:** Our weekly bible study has resumed, gathering each Wednesday at 6:45pm in the parish center. Our focus will be upon the readings for the following Sunday, so that we are well prepared to hear God's Word with hearts ready to receive Christ in both Word and Sacrament! Please plan on joining us!

**WEEK 33: OUR SACRED STORY RETREAT:** *The final section of Father Watson's 40 weeks retreat book focuses upon the rules of discernment as outlined by St. Ignatius of Loyola. Rather than wade through these rather dense pages of theology, I believe our best direction in these final weeks of our retreat is to revisit the sacred story affirmations which appear at the beginning of the book. **This week's affirmation:***

*I will not tire of asking God for help,  
since God delights in my asking!*

**SAINT MATTHIAS**, whose feast we celebrate on Tuesday, was the disciple chosen to replace Judas as one of the twelve Apostles. His name means "gift of God." The Acts of the Apostles state that he was also one of the 72 disciples that the Lord Jesus sent out to preach the good news. Matthias was with the Lord since His Baptism, and was "a witness to Christ's Resurrection," according to St. Peter in Acts. He remained with Jesus until His Ascension. According to various traditions, Matthias preached in Cappadocia, Jerusalem, the shores of the Caspian Sea (in modern day Turkey) and Ethiopia. He is said to have met his death by crucifixion in Colchis or by stoning in Jerusalem.

**OUR GRADUATES!** Congratulations to our 2024 high school graduates: from Hollidaysburg we have Ava Dolphin and Nevaeh Langenbacher... From Altoona Area High School we honor Ryan Isenberg and Jacob Kormanski.... From Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School we celebrate Joseph Colombo, Nicholas Helsley, Emily Miller and Trenton Wandersee.... Remember that the word "Commencement" doesn't mean the end, but rather, your BEGINNING!

**LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULING For June 1 – Sept 2, 2024** It's time to schedule for Summer 2024. If you have internet access please enter your NOT available dates in your profile in **Ministry Scheduler Pro**. Here is the direct link to that website – [www.rotundasoftware.com/ministry/teammates](http://www.rotundasoftware.com/ministry/teammates). There is also a link from our parish website ([WWW.STJOHNSALTOONA.ORG](http://WWW.STJOHNSALTOONA.ORG)) and a link in the email reminder you will receive soon. There are cards available in the gathering space for those who do not have access to the internet. If you are not able to update your profile online or visit the church to fill out a card, you may give me a call on a weekday evening between 7 PM and 10 PM or on the weekends at 814-932-2223. **Please update your profile online or call me or fill out a card and return it by midnight on Sunday, May 19th.** Family members can fill out one card front and back. Thank you for your service to our faith community throughout the year!

## Schedule for the Week of May 12th

### Sunday, May 12 - 7th Sunday of Easter

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

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

### Monday, May 13 - Easter Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Jane Byrne* requested by Mary Petrak

### Tuesday, May 14 - St. Matthias

8:30 AM - Mass for *Ron Peschock* requested by Betty Peschock & family

### Wednesday, May 15 - Easter Weekday

6:00 PM - Mass for *Bob Long* requested by Dee Schmerbeck & family

### Thursday, May 16 - Easter Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *John Despot* requested by Barbara Bundy

### Friday, May 17 - Easter Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Frank Hoover* requested by Karen Mazzarella

### Saturday, May 18 - Vigil of Pentecost Sunday

4:00 PM - Mass for *Fr. Terry Adams* requested by Ray & Mary King

### Sunday, May 19 - Pentecost Sunday

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

11:00 AM - Mass for *Fred Mazzarella* requested by Karen Mazzarella

**BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Please email any upcoming bulletin announcements to Diane Ryan at [stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net](mailto: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.

### **CATHOLIC CHARITIES CLEANING SUPPLY DRIVE:**

Throughout the month of May, we will be collecting paper products, cleaning supplies, hygiene items, soap, shampoo, toothpaste, umbrellas, socks, hand sanitizer and several other items to support local families in need or those who are experiencing homelessness. Please see the box in the Gathering Space for the complete list of items needed and to drop off donations. Thank you for your support!

**CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN:** Today we take up the collection for the Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC). Your support helps the CCC connect Catholics with Christ in the United States and around the world using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Half of the funds we collect remain here in our diocese to support local efforts. Be a part of this campaign to spread the gospel message. Support the collection today! Learn more at [www.usccb.org/ccc](http://www.usccb.org/ccc).

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER:** Our readings today call us to love as Christ loves. This request from our Lord is no small endeavor. It is something we must work at every day in every moment. When we put it at the forefront of our minds and hearts, and strive to live it out each day, it will transform our lives and impact others too. As St. John tells us in our Second Reading, it is "not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as expiation for our sins." Recall that God loved us first, not because of what we do for him, but because He created us out of love. His love for us is pure and radical. In our Gospel, Jesus says, "Love one another as I have loved you." The ways Jesus has loved us and continues to love us are endless. Look at each moment and think, "How can I better love Jesus right now?" or "How can I lay down my life in this moment?" for it is in loving Christ that we will better love others, and it is in loving others that we love Christ Himself.

### **April 27/28**

Envelopes	\$ 4,137.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 486.00
Catholic Home Missions	\$ 140.00
Parish Development	\$ 20.00
Catholic Education	\$ 10.00
Online Giving	\$ 1,208.90
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$ 6,001.90</b>

### **2024 Catholic Ministries Drive Goal: \$42,400**

**January 1, 2024 - April 30, 2024**

**Gifts/Pledges - \$40,815.00**

**Total Gifts Received - \$40,335.00**

**Pledge Balance - \$480.00**

**MAY DAYS 2024:** Basilica of St. Michael - May 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> at Our Lady of Loretto Community Hall – live entertainment, cinch tournament (call Mag 421-2867 to join) basket raffle, flea market, silent auction, and refreshments. Saturday, 4pm-8pm and Sunday, 11am-4pm. Chicken dinner Sunday at 11AM. \$10 per person. All are welcome!

**MASS FOR WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS:** Sunday, May 26, 2024 with a televised Mass Celebrated by Bishop Mark Barchak at 11:00 am on WATM ABC 23 and will rebroadcast that night at 9:00 pm on the Breezeline channel 9. All spouses will be acknowledged and remembered at Mass. All persons who have lost a spouse through death throughout the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese are invited to register by contacting the Family Life Office 814-317-2643 or email [familylife@dioceseaj.org](mailto:familylife@dioceseaj.org). When registering, please give your name, address, phone number and the name of your spouse who has passed away. The last day to register is Wednesday, May 22, 2024. The event is sponsored by the Diocesan Family Life Office and the Catholic Ministries Drive.

### ST JOHN'S PRAYER LIST

Please call Ginny Reeder (695-7671) or email her at [giny.reeder@gmail.com](mailto:giny.reeder@gmail.com) to add or remove someone from the prayer list. **Prayer list will be cleared at the end of May. Requests to remain on the list must be resubmitted for June.** 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 • Joyce Cunningham • 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 • Lois Werfel • Dorothy Yingling  
Anne Zelnosky**

**HOME WITH THE LORD:** Your prayers are requested for the repose of the souls of:  
**Jane Byrne  
Patricia Fromknecht**  
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 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 MAY:**

May 3rd-Hedwig Zumsteg  
May 4th-Virgina Claar  
May 5th-Daniel Turcovsky  
May 12th-Matilda Destefano  
May 23rd-Joseph Stevens  
May 27th-Helen Mincin  
May 28th-Patricia Reilly

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.

**ST. ROSE-100TH ANNIVERSARY RAFFLE:** Tickets are \$100 and winner will be based on the 7pm daily lottery number. Grand prize is \$7,500 and number above and below winning number each win \$500. Drawing will be on May 20th. Tickets are available in the St. John's Parish Office, St. Rose Parish Office or Holy Trinity School Office. For more information, call 814-944-8509.

### FAITH FORMATION NEWS

**Thank you to all of our Faith Formation catechists, parents and students for another successful year of Faith Formation at St. John's!**

*If you would like more information or have questions, please contact Diane Ryan at 814-942-5503 or email [stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net](mailto: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.*

**ROCKY RAILWAY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:** Climb aboard for mountains of fun at Rocky Railway Vacation Bible School! On this faith-filled adventure, students discover that trusting Jesus pulls them through life's ups and downs! We will show them how to "stay on track" with Jesus! June 18th-20th from 6pm-8pm in St. John's School Gym for children ages 5-12 years. Registration is \$10. Children will have the opportunity to have fun, meet new friends and grow in faith! For questions, call the Parish Office at 814-942-5503 or email [stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net](mailto:stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net).

**FESTIVAL:** HOLY NAME PARISH, EBENSBURG, is sponsoring its 63rd Annual Festival on May 31, June 1 & 2 featuring a Fish Dinner (Fried or Baked) on Friday May 31<sup>st</sup> from 4:00 to 7:00 PM, (Adults \$15.00, children under 12 \$7.00) and a Turkey Dinner on Sunday June 2<sup>nd</sup> from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM (Adults \$15.00, children under 12 \$7.00). Refreshments, musical entertainment, family fun & games, baked goods, kiddie corner, giant flea market, basket raffle with over 100 baskets and more!

**FATIMA DEVOTIONS:** The Franciscan Friars, T.O.R., from Loretto, invite you to participate with them in celebrating the Fatima Devotions on Monday, May 13th, 2023, at 6:30pm at the Immaculate Conception Chapel on the campus of St. Francis University. The presider will be Fr. David Dodd, T.O.R. We are looking forward to seeing you.

**GOLF TOURNAMENT:** The Carmelite Community of the Word sisters will hold our Annual Golf Tournament "in person" on Friday, June 7, 2024 at Scotch Valley Country Club. This year our tournament will begin at 8:30 a.m. Registration begins at 7:00 a.m. We will provide a continental breakfast in the morning, and after your round of golf, lunch will be served, followed by awards and an auction. Cost is \$450 for a foursome; \$150 for individual golfers. If you would like to attend the lunch and auction but not golf, that is \$20. Final deadline for Registration is May 29 or when we get 28 teams. To register, or for more information, contact Kelli Murphy at 814-886-4098 or email [communityofficeccw@gmail.com](mailto:communityofficeccw@gmail.com). Come and join us, this event has proven to be a fun day for all! If you cannot golf, but would like to make a donation, contact our offices. Thank you!