

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 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
 pjimenez@dioceseaj.org
 Stephanie Baker-Business Manager
 sbaker@dioceseaj.org
 Diane Ryan - Faith Formation Coordinator/Secretary
 stjohsecretary@atlanticbb.net
 Iris Tatar - Director of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
 iristat38@gmail.com
 Mark Krepich - Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults
 mark.krepich@gmail.com
 Ken Dunmire - Maintenance

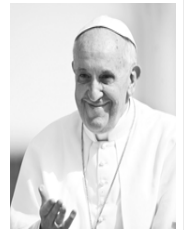
MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY - 8:30 AM TUESDAY - 8:30 AM
 VIGIL OF THE ASCENSION WEDNESDAY - 6:00 PM
 ASCENSION OF THE LORD THURSDAY - 8:30 AM & 6:00 PM
 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

Wed. May 8-6:00 PM - Bob Olson, Patrick Schurr
 Thurs. May 9-6:00 PM - Barbara Bundy, Bob Olson
 Sat. May 11- 4:00 PM - Joyce Cunningham, Iris Tatar
 Sun. May 12-8:00 AM - Mike Greslick, Susan Podoletz
 Sun. May 12-11:00 AM - Jim Campbell, James Krug

ALTAR SERVERS

Wed. May 8-6:00 PM - Abigail Hovance, Sadie Swope
 Thurs. May 9-6:00 PM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED
 Sat. May 11- 4:00 PM - Chloe Truscello, Jeremy Truscello
 Sun. May 12- 8:00 AM - Emily Miller, Nicholas Helsley
 Sun. May 12-11:00 AM - Colin Schurr, Liam Schurr

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Wed. May 8-6:00 PM - Barbara Bundy, NOT FILLED
 Thurs. May 9-6:00 PM - Lou Ann Clark, Darlene Scarpaci
 Sat. May 11- 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, NOT FILLED
 Sun. May 12-8:00 AM - Diane Turcovsky, Daniel Turcovsky
 Sun. May 12-11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Cecelia Bloom, Walter Bloom, Kenneth Gorman, Bob Olson, Susanna Tomlinson

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Wed. May 8-6:00 PM - Connie Baker, Lou Ann Clark, Ray Kennedy, Darlene Scarpaci
 Thurs. May 9-6:00 PM - Connie Baker, Jane Strasser
 Sat. May 11- 4:00 PM - Betsy Lloyd, Dennis Moughemer, Karen Moughemer, NOT FILLED
 Sun. May 12-8:00 AM - Ashley Greslick, Jane Strasser, Paula VanSickel, Larry VanSickel
 Sun. May 12-11:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti, Lou Ann Clark, Mary Grace Horton, Peg Madden

SACRISTAN

Wed. May 8-6:00 PM- Marilyn Bevan
 Thurs. May 9-6:00 PM- Marilyn Bevan
 Sat. May 11- 4:00 PM - Ray King, Mary King
 Sun. May 12- 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci
 Sun. May 12- 11:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti

SCRIP

Sat. May 11- 4:00 PM - Gary Johnson, Becky Merrill
 Sat. May 12- 8:00 AM - Chris Palazzi, Marge Rudolph
 Sun. May 12- 11:00 AM - Carolyn English, NOT FILLED

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 will arrive here at St. Johns on May 8th!**

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.



THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION: Thursday, May 9th, is the feast of the Ascension of our Lord to the right hand of the Father. We rejoice that he has come to live forever on the throne of our hearts. Please note the Mass schedule: Wednesday May 8th at 6:00 PM, and Mass on May 9th at 8:30 AM and 6:00 PM.

OUR PARISH BIBLE STUDY: Our weekly bible study has resumed, gathering each Wednesday at 6:45 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 32: 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:***

*Christ, who has walked before me, knows everything I suffer.
Christ who walks before me, will always lead me home to safety.*

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FIRST COMMUNION CLASS: We congratulate our First Communicants who will be making their First Eucharist this Sunday, May 5th. They are: Linh Huynh, Porter Schraff, Theresa Trieu and William Davis. We are grateful to their parents and teachers who together worked hard to prepare them for this very special day on their journey of faith! May the love of Jesus forever remain close to you as you receive Him in the Eucharist!

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. There is also a link from our parish website (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!

CATHOLIC INVESTING SUMMIT: The Independent Catholic Foundation will host a Catholic Investing Summit on Tuesday, May 14, at The Blairmont Club in Hollidaysburg starting with a continental breakfast at 8:00 AM. In this half-day event, participants will learn about capital market assumptions and Catholic investing guidelines. You will also learn how the Foundation stewards 280 endowments for the benefit of parishes, schools, ministries, cemeteries, and social service organizations. The Keynote Speaker will be Kevin Karpuk, Chief Investment Officer from Cornerstone Advisors Asset Management in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. The Summit is suitable for professional advisors and anyone interested in learning more about Catholic responsible investing and philanthropy. This is a free event, but participants must register online by May 7 at www.ICFoundation.US through the Donate/Register button.

Schedule for the Week of May 5th

Sunday, May 5 - 6th Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM - Mass for *Eugene & Eileen O'Neill* requested by the O'Neill family

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

Monday, May 6 - Easter Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Deacon Gene in celebration of his life* requested by Susanna Tomlinson

Tuesday, May 7 - Easter Weekday

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

Wednesday, May 8 - Vigil of the Ascension of the Lord

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

Thursday, May 9 - Ascension of the Lord

8:30 AM - Mass for *Jack Schmittle* requested by Betsy Lloyd & family

6:00 PM - Mass for *People of the Parish*

Friday, May 10 - Sts. Philip & James

8:30 AM - Mass for *Barbara Neral* requested by Vicki Faretta & children Crystal & Michael

Saturday, May 11 - Vigil of 7th Sunday of Easter

4:00 PM - Mass for *Mercia Crevecoeur* requested by Mimi Crevecoeur & family

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*

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.

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: Next week our special collection supports the Catholic Communication Campaign. This campaign connects Catholics with Christ in the United States and developing countries using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Half of the money collected remains here in our diocese to fund local communications efforts. Your support helps spread the gospel message! Learn more at www.usccb.org/cc.

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 20/21

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Envelopes | \$ 3,341.00 |
| Loose Offerings | \$ 660.00 |
| Children's Offerings | \$ 5.00 |
| Parish Development | \$ 115.00 |
| Catholic Education | \$ 20.00 |
| Online Giving | \$ 1,113.90 |
| Total Offertory | \$ 5,254.90 |

2024 Catholic Ministries Drive Goal: \$42,400

January 1, 2024 - March 31, 2024

Gifts/Pledges - \$37,725.00

Total Gifts Received - \$37,245.00

Pledge Balance - \$480.00

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS: Court Prince Gallitzin #2625-Serves all 11 Altoona parishes and beyond. New members are always welcome! Find us online at : cda2625.com. On Monday, May 13, 2024, please come join us for our monthly meeting in the community room of Saint Rose of Lima at 5:45pm with the business meeting beginning at 6pm. If you have any questions, please contact us at <http://cda2625.com/contact>.

MASS FOR WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS: Sunday, May 26, 2024 with a televised Mass Celebrated by Bishop Mark Bartchak 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. 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 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.

JOB OPENING: The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown has an opening for a full-time Director of Faith & Family Ministries to manage the execution of religious education, youth ministry, OCIA, Scouting and family life programs. To view a listing of responsibilities and qualifications and to apply, please go to <https://www.dioceseaj.org/employment>. Resumes may be emailed to lmcevoy@dioceseaj.org.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

May 5th-Last Class

May 5th-First Holy Communion & May Crowning at the 11am Mass

**Vacation Bible School is coming to St. John's!
June 18th-20th 6pm-8pm for children ages 5-12 years.
More details to come!**

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 have 1 class left this spring:

May 5: *The Holy Spirit and the Life of Grace*
All are welcome!

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

MONICA'S TEARS: Saint Rose of Lima Parish, Altoona, hosts an hour of adoration with the recitation of the rosary every Thursday night from 6pm to 7pm to pray for our loved ones who have left the practice of the Catholic faith. Everyone is welcome, please join us.

BUS TRIP: St. Rose will be hosting a bus trip to The Museum of the Bible in Washington DC on Wednesday, June 12th. The bus will leave St. Rose on the Sixth Avenue side parking lot at 9am and return to St. Rose at 9pm. The cost of the bus is \$51 and the cost of the ticket is \$17 (ages 18 and above for a total of \$68. Meals are not included in this price. Feel free to bring a packed breakfast and water on the bus. Lunch can be purchased at the museum. A dinner stop will be made at the Golden Corral in Frederick, MD. For reservations, call Janet Brown at 814-944-4995. Deadline for reservations is May 12th. This is a 40 passenger bus and will be first come, first serve.

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.

BLESSING OF THE BIKES: by The Christian Motorcyclist Association on May 18th from 12pm-5pm at the Parking Lot across from the Ebensburg Courthouse, 200 S. Center Street, Ebensburg. Motorcycles and Bicycles welcome. Proclamation at 3pm and Blessing of the Bikes at 3:15pm.