



**Twenty-fourth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
September 15, 2024**

**St. John the Evangelist Church  
309 Lotz Avenue, Altoona, PA 814-942-5503**

**PASTORAL STAFF**

Monsignor Michael Becker - mbecker253@aol.com  
 Rev. Ashok Kumar Alphonse - aalphonse@dioceseaj.org  
 Deacon Gene Neral - gene@lifeinfocus.net  
 Patricia Jimenez - Director of Music  
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 Diane Ryan - Faith Formation Coordinator/Secretary  
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 Iris Tatar - Director of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd  
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 aalphonse@dioceseaj.org  
 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**

**September Prayer Intention of Pope Francis**

The Cry of the Earth

We pray that each one of us will hear and take to heart the cry of the earth and of victims of natural disasters and climatic change, and that all will undertake to personally care for the world we live in.



**NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS**

**LECTORS**

Sat. Sept. 21- 4:00 PM - Jeremy Truscello, John Majcher  
 Sun. Sept. 22-8:00 AM - Ginny Reeder, Mike Greslick  
 Sun. Sept. 22-11:00 AM - Gary Johnson, Barbara Bundy

**ALTAR SERVERS**

Sat. Sept. 21- 4:00 PM - Abigail Hovance, NOT FILLED  
 Sun. Sept. 22- 8:00 AM - Nicholas Helsley, NOT FILLED  
 Sun. Sept. 22-11:00 AM - Camille Krug, Bob Olson

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

Sat. Sept. 21- 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, NOT FILLED  
 Sun. Sept. 22-8:00 AM - Diane Turcovsky, Daniel Turcovsky  
 Sun. Sept. 22-11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Dolores Capriotti,  
 Francel Dandrea, Kenneth Gorman, Susanna Tomlinson,  
 NOT FILLED

**MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY**

Sat. Sept. 21- 4:00 PM - Coleen Langguth, Betsy Lloyd,  
 Dennis Moughemer, Karen Moughemer  
 Sun. Sept. 22-8:00 AM - Ed Stoltz, Mary Truesdale,  
 Paula VanSickel, Larry VanSickel  
 Sun. Sept. 22-11:00 AM - Walter Bloom, Lou Ann Clark,  
 Mary Grace Horton, Peg Madden

**SACRISTAN**

Sat. Sept. 21- 4:00 PM - Ray King, Mary King  
 Sun. Sept. 22- 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci  
 Sun. Sept. 22- 11:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti

**SCRIP**

Sat. Sept. 21 - 4:00 PM - Lori Baker, Julie Beiswenger  
 Sun. Sept. 22- 8:00 AM - Chris Palazzi, Heather Yasolsky  
 Sun. Sept. 22- 11:00 AM - Carolyn English, Patrick Podoletz

## A Few Words from the Pastor:

**POPE FRANCIS ON THE SEASON OF CREATION:** The Season of Creation spans five weeks between the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation (September 1) and the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi (October 4). This "time for creation" offers, in the words of Pope Francis, "individual believers and communities a fitting opportunity to reaffirm their personal vocation to be stewards of creation, to thank God for the wonderful handiwork which he has entrusted to our care, and to implore his help for the protection of creation as well as his pardon for the sins committed against the world in which we live."

**ADULT ED RESUMES: GOING BACK TO THE VERY BEGINNING!!!** Our Sunday morning adult ed gatherings have resumed! The focus of our sessions will be the book of Genesis, the cherished and inspiring first book of the bible. Materials will be available, as well as video presentations. How in our modern age are we to understand and interpret these ancient texts which have so much to teach us about Creation, the Fall, and God's Covenant with us? Genesis is full of stories which inspire us and challenge us. Given that this is the beginning of the Season of Creation, the biblical story of creation is an excellent place to start our study.

**OUR PARISH BIBLE STUDY:** Father Ashok is leading our weekly bible study which is held each Wednesday evening at 6:45 in the parish center. Please plan to participate! This is an excellent way to prepare for the coming Sunday, as we reflect on the readings for that day!

**IS GOD CALLING YOU?** We are in the process of forming our OCIA team (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) formerly called RCIA. We ask for your prayers that the Lord will raise up from among us a leaders and catechists to carry on this important ministry in the parish. Already we have two families who have inquired about joining the Catholic Church, so we need your help! Might God be calling YOU to be part of our team in sharing your faith? Embrace your vocation to be a **missionary disciple!**

**CATECHETICAL SUNDAY:** "Lord, when did we see you hungry" Matthew 25:37 Our theme reflects our call to missionary discipleship. As St John Paul II reminded us: The universal call to holiness is closely linked to the universal call to mission. Every member of the faithful is called to holiness and to mission. We are called to be eucharist by word and action to our brothers and sisters in Christ. Our times cry out for this kind of holiness, one inflamed by the ardent determination to bring as many of our brothers and sisters as possible to Christ. Thank you to our many catechists! St. John's appreciates your willingness to share your time and talent in spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ!

### **SAVE THE DATES!**

**Faith Formation Meeting/Meet the Teacher:** Sunday, September 15th at 9:15am in the gym

**Blessing of the Pets:** Sunday, October 6th at 1pm in front of the church

**Hollidaysburg Pumpkin Fest:** Saturday, October 12th from 10am-4pm in uptown Hollidaysburg

**Hymn Sing:** Sunday, October 13th at 3pm at St. John's

**Mass of Anointing:** Sunday, October 20th at 2pm at St. John's

**St. John's Annual Trunk or Treat:** Sunday, October 27th at 12:30pm in our Parking Lot

**MUSIC MINISTRY:** Our St. John music ministry provides beauty, joy, comfort, and inspiration for our liturgies and festive parish celebrations through the musical gifts, generosity and commitment of our members. Music ministry outreach includes Adult Choir, Youth Choir, Handbell Choir, cantors, soloists, and instrumentalists, and occasional seasonal events in our community. If you carry a tune in your heart, want to learn, and have a desire to sing with us, call or text 814-414-7529.

**NIGHT OF WORSHIP:** Sr. Angela Marie Igou, Vocation and Novice Director for the Sister Servants of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, will be the guest speaker at the Tuesday, September 17th Night of Worship sponsored by Holy Spirit Ministry. The evening of prayer will begin at 7pm, at St. Michael Church, Hollidaysburg. Praise and worship music will precede Sr. Angela Marie's talk. Sister will share her own vocation story and share about her life as a Sacred Heart Sister. Everyone is encouraged to come and learn about vocations, as well as to pray for vocations. All ages are most welcome!

## Schedule for the Week of September 15

### Sunday, September 15 - 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM - Mass for *50th Wedding Anniversary of Edward & Barbara Neff* requested by Sarah Neff

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

### Monday, September 16- Sts. Cornelius & Cyprian

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

### Tuesday, September 17- Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Adoena Rocchiccioli* requested by Betsy & Dennis Flynn

### Wednesday, September 18- Weekday

6:00 PM - Mass for *Jim Reilly* requested by Betty Peschock

### Thursday, September 19 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Jane Byrne* requested by Joe & Joan Keller

### Friday, September 20 - Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gon & Paul Chong Ha-sang

8:30 AM - Mass for *John Caporuscio* requested by Bob & Ginny Reeder

### Saturday, September 21- Vigil of 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM - Mass for *Ida Prosperi* requested by John Prosperi

### Sunday, September 22 - 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

11:00 AM - Mass for *Jane Byrne* requested by Marian Monios & family

**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.

### **HONOR OUR TEACHERS ON CATECHETICAL SUNDAY:**

The U.S. Bishops have designated Sunday, September 15th, as Catechetical Sunday to honor all those who share in the evangelizing and teaching mission of the Church. At St. John's, we are so grateful for the dedicated ministry of these persons who have accepted the call to catechize our youth and children in our Faith Formation Program. We acknowledge, with gratitude our catechists: Donna Messner, Kristina Hoyne, Carole Litzinger, Jared Miller, Patrick Podoletz and Stuart Sibold. We also thank those who have volunteered to assist Faith Formation classes as substitute teachers for the upcoming year: Iris Tatar, Deborah Johnson and Jennifer Helsley. Please join us in thanking all of these outstanding leaders of our parish for their dedication and commitment to sharing the faith with our youngest members of St. John's Parish! THANK YOU!!

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER:** "You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." Jesus' words in our Gospel today challenge us to become imitators of Christ. This is not an easy request. It takes sacrifice, endurance, and commitment. Yet, it is profoundly rewarding.

Jesus encourages us to think, not as human beings, but as God. He is calling us not to look at life in relation to ourselves. Rather, He wants us to be open-minded and look at life in relation to God. This requires acceptance on our part – accepting the will of God and allowing it to mold us into Christ-like people. Jesus re-echoes this message as He addresses His disciples saying, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me."

This week let us sit in Jesus' presence and listen to what He is calling us to at this point in our lives. Let us rise each day with a commitment to follow Him, carry our daily crosses with Him, and live in total gratitude and service to God, family and neighbor.

### **August 31/September 1**

Envelopes	\$ 6,459.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 398.00
Catholic Education	\$ 225.00
Assumption of Mary	\$ 50.00
Mission Co-op	\$ 100.00
Catholic University	\$ 50.00
Online Giving	\$ 2,253.90
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$ 9,535.90</b>

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

**January 1, 2024 - July 31, 2024**

**Gifts/Pledges - \$46,745.00**

**Total Gifts Received - \$46,455.00**

**Pledge Balance - \$290.00**

**GIVE US THIS DAY:** It's time to renew our Give Us This Day order for December 2024-November 2025. Samples are available in the Gathering Space. If you are a current subscriber, renewal envelopes are included with your September copy. New subscribers may use the envelopes provided with the samples. We can order either the standard print for \$33 or the large print for \$44 for an annual subscription. Orders are due by October 1st. Please contact the Parish Office with questions. Thank you!

**CHICKEN BBQ:** The Knights of Columbus will be having a Chicken BBQ on October 13, 2024, from 11am-1pm at our council hall. Cost is \$12. Drive through take out service only! Proceeds benefit St Vincent De Paul Needs Department. Contact Dan Turcovsky for tickets.

**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. 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 • Idy Caporuscio  
Betsie Claar • Betty Dennis • Mark Hastings  
Sally Langham • Dan Roberts • Anne Showalter  
Mary Frances Stokan • Tim Temofonte  
Wally Wargo • Lois Werfel**

HOME WITH THE LORD: Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of:  
Helen Mincin  
May she 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. St. John, St. Michael, and St. Mary Parishes offer support groups that will allow you to acknowledge the pain and to learn positive strategies for coping. *Journey Through Loss* is a seven-week program at St. Johns for those who have lost a loved one through death. Sessions are held several times a year. 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 SEPTEMBER:**

September 8th-Harry Murphy  
September 9th-Mary Swalga  
September 17th-Margaret Madden  
September 19th-Marie Engleman  
September 25th-Fran Semelsberger  
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.

**FALL FESTIVAL:** Marian Heights is hosting an arts & crafts fall festival September 21 from 9 to 4. Marian Heights is located at the top of Marian Heights Drive above Garvey Manor & across from Grace Bible Church where parking will be available. Vendors will be selling their wares, musical entertainment will be ongoing, & homemade cookies, soup & sandwiches will be available for sale. A beautiful, handmade quilt is on display at Garvey Manor for which raffle tickets are available.

**MOTHER THERESA MINISTRY:** If you know of a parishioner not currently on our list that is in a nursing facility, hospital or homebound that would like a visit or cards please text or call Mary Susick at 814-207-0185.

**FAITH FORMATION NEWS**

Registration for the 2024-2025 school year for Kindergarten-11th Grade is now available. Catholic School students in Sacramental Preparation in Grades 2, 9,10 & 11 should also register to begin preparing for the upcoming Sacraments but are also always welcome to join us in any grade for additional Faith Formation. Forms will be available in the Gathering Space or can be requested by phone or email.

September 15th- Parent Meeting/Meet the Teacher  
9:15am in the Gym

September 22nd-First class 9:15am-10:45am

September 29th-No Class

*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).*

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:** We will be offering Children's Liturgy with child centered readings and activities during the 11am Mass as often as possible depending on volunteers. Contact the office if you are interested in helping!

**BLAZIN' ANGELS:** September 15th from 6-9pm in the Parish Center Music Night (Worship Night) There will be Pizza and fruit offered. Bring your own drinks and sweets if you want them! We will be spending the evening listening to music. There will be a prepared playlist, but if you would like to bring your own recommendations requests will be added to the playlist. Feel free to bring your own music.

**CHICKEN BBQ & FALL FESTIVAL:** St. Demetrius Parish in Gallitzin will hold its annual Chicken BBQ Dinner and Fall Festival on Sunday, September 29th, in the parish Activity Center, 714 Foster Street, Gallitzin. The meal includes a half BBQ chicken, deliciously seasoned and slow roasted over a fire pit, green beans, potato, roll, and a dessert. Dine-In and takeout dinners are available for \$14.00 each. A rummage sale will also be featured, along with baked goods, games, and a basket raffle. It's fun for the whole family! Dinner will be served beginning at 11:00AM until sold out.

**Prayer for Vocation**

O God  
Hear our prayer  
And let our cry come to You.  
Bless the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown  
With many vocations to the  
Priesthood, diaconate, and religious life.  
Give Your sons and daughters  
The confidence to accept Your call,  
And the love to follow always  
In the footsteps of Your beloved Son  
With courage and dedication to Your will.  
Amen