



Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time September 22, 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

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. 28- 4:00 PM - Jeremy Truscello, David Langguth
Sun. Sept. 29-8:00 AM - Bill Foose, Norma Foose
Sun. Sept. 29-11:00 AM - Bob Olson, Richard Consiglio

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. Sept. 28- 4:00 PM - Abigail Hovance, Sadie Swope
Sun. Sept. 29- 8:00 AM - Nicholas Helsley, NOT FILLED
Sun. Sept. 29-11:00 AM - Colin Schurr, Liam Schurr

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. Sept. 28- 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, NOT FILLED
Sun. Sept. 29-8:00 AM - Ashley Greslick, Mike Greslick
Sun. Sept. 29-11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Dolores Capriotti,
Lou Ann Clark, Francel Dandrea, Kenneth Gorman,
Susanna Tomlinson

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. Sept. 28- 4:00 PM - Coleen Langguth, Betsy Lloyd,
Dennis Moughemer, Karen Moughemer
Sun. Sept. 29-8:00 AM - John Becker, Jane Becker, Jane Strasser,
Mary Truesdale
Sun. Sept. 29-11:00 AM - Walter Bloom, Wendy Campbell,
Carolyn English, Peg Madden

SACRISTAN

Sat. Sept. 28- 4:00 PM - Ray King, Mary King
Sun. Sept. 29- 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci
Sun. Sept. 29- 11:00 AM - Barbara Bundy

SCRIP

Sat. Sept. 28- 4:00 PM - Christopher Palazzi, Marge Rudolph
Sun. Sept. 29- 8:00 AM - Erika Yasolsky, Heather Yasolsky
Sun. Sept. 29- 11:00 AM - Carolyn English, Gary Johnson

A Few Words from the Pastor:

POPE FRANCIS' WORDS TO A TROUBLED NATION: On his recent trip to the Far East, Pope Francis spoke to Papua New Guinea's political officials and dignitaries, emphasizing the need for equitable development and responsible use of the nation's natural resources. *"Your country, besides consisting of islands and languages, is also rich in natural resources. These goods are destined by God for the entire community. It is only right that the needs of local people are given due consideration when distributing the proceeds and employing workers, in order to improve their living conditions."* Papua New Guinea, is one of the nations most vulnerable to climate change. Its Governor delivered an emotional plea during the pope's visit: *"Your Holiness, climate change is real. The rise in sea levels is affecting the livelihoods of our people in the remote islands of Papua New Guinea and across the Pacific."* The Governor highlighted the existential threat his country faces, with extreme weather events, landslides, and flooding placing thousands of lives at risk. *"The experience across the Pacific is that islands are sinking, people are affected and displaced, while the world continues to talk."*

ADULT ED!!! Our Sunday morning adult ed gatherings are focusing on the book of Genesis, the cherished and inspiring first book of the bible. How in our modern age are 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: Our new priest, 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!

NOTES FROM OUR PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: We had a lively discussion on Monday evening about the variety of ways that our parish can observe the Jubilee Year 2025, which begins on Christmas Eve of this year and concludes on the feast of the Epiphany in 2026. A variety of liturgical and social events were considered, with further planning set for our meeting in October.

WHAT IS A JUBILEE YEAR? In May Pope Francis issued a papal bull proclaiming the 2025 Jubilee Year. Pope Francis has since announced the motto for the upcoming Jubilee Year, a motto he said, "that can be summed up in two words: *Pilgrims of hope.*" Like for any motto, it attempts to condense the meaning of the entire Jubilee journey. He notes that the chosen words – pilgrims and hope – both represent key themes of Pope Francis' pontificate.

THE GREEN PATRIARCH! As we humans continue to abuse our fragile planet, we ask "what force can stop us or change our behavior? Can religion, espousing an environmental ethic, change how we act?" The Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, the first major Christian leader to make the environment a moral imperative, is a man on a spiritual mission to save our earth, save God's creation. The 270th successor to the Apostle Andrew, who resides in Istanbul, has visited the burning rainforests of the Amazon and the melting glaciers of the Arctic where he gathered representatives of the world's religions in a silent prayer for the planet. Bartholomew has been dubbed "The Green Patriarch" for his defense of the environment and the stewardship of all God's Creation.

SAVE THE DATES!

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

Mass of Remembrance: Sunday, November 3rd at the 11am Mass

FRANCISCAN CREATION FESTIVAL: Join us for the Franciscan Creation Festival Saturday, Oct. 5th, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM! St. Bernardine Monastery and the Friar's Nook Gift Shop are located at 793 Monastery Road, Hollidaysburg. Parking and entry are free for the festival! The event will have 30 craft vendors, 10 food trucks, children's activities, and a community yard sale. The Friar's Nook Gift Shop will be having a Fall Fling Sale as well as our very popular garage sale! The Rosary will take place at 3:00, Pet Blessing at 3:30, and Catholic Mass at 4:00. Please bring a lawn chair or blanket if you are staying for Mass. This event is for all ages, and pets too! (Please ensure your pets do well in crowds and with other animals).

Schedule for the Week of September 22

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

Monday, September 23- St. Pius of Pietrelcina

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

Tuesday, September 24- Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Robert J. Ritchey* requested by
Bob & Ginny Reeder

Wednesday, September 25- Weekday

6:00 PM - Mass for *Tom Semelsberger* requested by
Fran Semelsberger

Thursday, September 26 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *George Goch* requested by
family

Friday, September 27 - St. Vincent de Paul

8:30 AM - Mass for *Barbara (Burchfield) Karl* requested by
ACHS Class of "56"

Saturday, September 28- Vigil of 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM - Mass for *Bob Long* requested by
Dee Schmerbeck & family

Sunday, September 29 - 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

11:00 AM - Mass for *Ward Huntley* requested by
Marian Monios

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.

PUMPKIN FEST: The 18th Annual Pumpkin Fest will be on Saturday, October 12th from 10am-4pm on Allegheny Street between Front & Union Streets. St. John's will be selling homemade soups again at their booth. If you are able to make 5-10 quarts of soup, please sign up on the kiosk. We are also looking for volunteers for various time slots on the day of the Pumpkin Fest to help sell soup. If you are interested in helping at the booth, please sign up on the kiosk. All profits will benefit the Social Committee and upcoming Parish Events. Contact Ginny Reeder at 814-695-7671 for questions or more information. Thank you for supporting our Parish!

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.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: Our readings today bring to light the daily struggle between good and evil and how we can combat this struggle through wisdom and gratitude. In our Second Reading, St. James encourages us to seek wisdom from above. "But the wisdom from above is first of all pure, then peaceable, gentle, compliant, full of mercy and good fruits..." When we seek the Lord, we will have the strength to choose good and the wisdom to properly use what we have received from Him. When we are caught in the raging war of jealousy, fighting, and pride, and begin to become enslaved to our passions we are ultimately being ungrateful for what we have been given. We overlook the blessing God has given us and the gifts and talents He has entrusted to us. Today, let us recall that we have an infinitely loving God who cares deeply for us. Consider all that He has blessed you with, and how you can use those blessings for His glory.

September 7/8

Envelopes	\$ 3,853.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 1,115.00
Children's Offering	\$ 2.00
Parish Development	\$ 115.00
Assumption of Mary	\$ 110.00
Retired Priest Medical	\$ 50.00
Catholic University	\$ 113.00
Catholic Communication	\$ 100.00
Online Giving	\$ 2,709.90
Total Offertory	\$ 8,167.90

2024 Catholic Ministries Drive Goal: \$42,400

January 1, 2024 - August 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!

HEALING MASS: Holy Spirit Ministry will hold a special Healing Mass on Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at 7pm at St. Michael Church, Hollidaysburg. This powerful night of hope and healing is for all who are suffering physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Fr. Brad Baldwin, TOR, Fr. David Dodd, TOR, Fr. Jeremy Mohler and others concelebrating. Praise and worship will precede the Mass at 6:30pm and prayer ministry will follow the Mass. Come and experience the healing power of Jesus and be set free! All are welcome!

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

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 OCTOBER:

October 1st-Anne Zelnosky
October 3rd-Anna Musselman
October 8th-Bill Foose
October 10th-Anne Showalter
October 26th-Janice Grzesinski
October 30th-John Hurm

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.

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.

LOOKING FOR A BABYSITTER? My name is Savannah Langenbacher and I'm 17 years old from Hollidaysburg, PA. I am looking for babysitting opportunities. I have been babysitting my younger siblings and cousins since I was 12. I also attended a class on CPR through AMED in Altoona. You can contact me at (814) 656-8099.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Faith Formation is back in session! Registrations for the 2024-2025 school year for Kindergarten-11th Grade are still being accepted. 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.

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

September 29th-No Class

October 6th- Class 9:15am-10:45am

October 13th- No Class

If you would like more information or have questions, please contact Diane Ryan at 814-942-5503 or email 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 29th will be: Music, Movies, and Games Galore. We will be hosting a night of games and praise music followed by a movie. Join us for a fun time with board games, card games, and more. We will end the night with a movie! Feel free to bring your own games and drinks.

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.

BINGO: The Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona will sponsor a Longaberger Basket and Vera Bradley Bingo on Sunday, September 29, at 1:00 p.m. at Father Kelley Hall, 429 Twenty-fifth Avenue in Altoona. Doors open at Noon. The event supports the ministries offered by the Cathedral to children and teenagers. For more information, please contact the Cathedral Parish Office at (814) 944-4603 or pclomens@dioceseaj.org.

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