



**Twenty-third Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
September 8, 2024**

**St. John the Evangelist Church**

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

**PASTORAL STAFF**

Monsignor Michael Becker - mbecker253@aol.com  
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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**

**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. 14- 4:00 PM - James Krug, Joyce Cunningham  
Sun. Sept. 15-8:00 AM - Daniel Turcovsky, Diane Turcovsky  
Sun. Sept. 15-11:00 AM - John Sukala, Jim Campbell

**ALTAR SERVERS**

Sat. Sept. 14- 4:00 PM - Abigail Hovance, Sadie Swope  
Sun. Sept. 15- 8:00 AM - Nicholas Helsley, NOT FILLED  
Sun. Sept. 15-11:00 AM - Lexi Tatar, Iris Tatar

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

Sat. Sept. 14- 4:00 PM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED  
Sun. Sept. 15-8:00 AM - Ashley Greslick, Mike Greslick  
Sun. Sept. 15-11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Barbara Bundy,  
Dolores Capriotti, Francel Dandrea, Kenneth Gorman,  
Susanna Tomlinson

**MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY**

Sat. Sept. 14- 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, Coleen Langguth,  
Dennis Moughemer, Karen Moughemer  
Sun. Sept. 15-8:00 AM - Carolyn English, Ray Kennedy,  
Mike O'Neill, Ginny Reeder  
Sun. Sept. 15-11:00 AM - Walter Bloom, Wendy Campbell,  
Lou Ann Clark, Peg Madden

**SACRISTAN**

Sat. Sept. 14- 4:00 PM - Ray King, Mary King  
Sun. Sept. 15- 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci  
Sun. Sept. 15- 11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan

**SCRIP**

Sat. Sept. 14 - 4:00 PM - Lori Baker, Becky Merilli  
Sun. Sept. 15- 8:00 AM - Erika Yasolsky, Heather Yasolsky  
Sun. Sept. 15- 11:00 AM - Gary Johnson, Patrick Podoletz

**MASS TIME CHANGE! Mass will return to 11am on Sundays beginning September 8th.**

## A Few Words from the Pastor:

**THIS WEEK'S WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS ON THE ENVIRONMENT!** "If we approach nature and the environment without this openness to awe and wonder, if we no longer speak the language of fraternity and beauty in our relationship with the world, our attitude will be that of masters, consumers, ruthless exploiters, unable to set limits on their immediate needs. By contrast, if we feel intimately united with all that exists, then sobriety and care will well up spontaneously."

Pope Francis, Encyclical Letter Laudato Si' - On Care For Our Common Home

**ADULT ED RESUMES: GOING BACK TO THE VERY BEGINNING!!!** Our Sunday morning adult ed gatherings resumes this Sunday, September 8th. 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 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!

**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!**

**OBSERVING THE SEASON OF CREATION? RECYCLE! RECYCLE! RECYCLE!!!** Last week we were encouraged to take a walk outside, delighting in Creation. This week, we are reminded that the world's natural resources are finite, and some are in very short supply. What can we do in our homes and neighborhoods? If everyone does just a little, we can do a lot!!

Recycling **paper** and wood saves trees and forests. Yes, you can plant new trees, but you can't replace virgin rain-forest or ancient woodlands once they're lost.

Recycling **plastic** means creating less new plastic, which is definitely a good thing, especially as it's usually made from fossil fuel hydrocarbons.

Recycling **metals** means there's less need for risky, expensive and damaging mining and extraction of new metal ores.

Recycling **glass** reduces the need to use new raw materials like sand – it sounds hard to believe but supplies of some types of sand are starting to get low around the world.

### **SAVE THE DATES!**

**Adult Ed:** Sunday, September 8th at 9:15am in the cafeteria-Focus on the book of Genesis

**Children's Liturgy:** Sunday, September 8th at the 11am Mass-Kid friendly readings and activities during Mass

**St. John's Bowling League:** Season begins Friday, September 13th at Holiday Bowl

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

**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 8

### Sunday, September 8 - 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

11:00 AM - Mass for *Mary, Elmer, Marion & Christine Stokes* requested by Len & Bob Stokes

### Monday, September 9- St. Peter Claver

8:30 AM - Mass for *Ray & Mary King's 56th Wedding Anniversary* requested by the Arise Prayer Group

### Tuesday, September 10- Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *James Reilly* requested by Larry & Mary Ann Nedimyer

### Wednesday, September 11- Weekday

6:00 PM - Mass for *Fr. Paul Turnbull* requested by Barbara Bundy

### Thursday, September 12 - Weekday

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

### Friday, September 13 - St. John Chrysostom

8:30 AM - Mass for *Helen Baca* requested by family & friends

### Saturday, September 14- Vigil of 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM - Mass for *Paul & Betty McManuels* requested by Dave & Connie McManuels

### 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*

**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.

### **THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA COLLECTION:**

This weekend the diocese will take up the National Collection for The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. By giving to the collection, you are supporting future Catholic leaders, both religious and lay, who are being formed by an exceptional, faith-rooted education. The University's various research and training initiatives support dioceses and parishes in responding to the most pressing needs of their faithful. Envelopes are included with your mailed bimonthly packets. Thank you!

**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!

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER:** "Thus says the Lord: say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not!" Our readings today offer us a message of hope – God is with us and wants to heal us. May this message come ablaze in our hearts so that we might live with unwavering faith. The prophecy in our first reading and the story in our Gospel overwhelm us with comfort and peace because we have a compassionate God who sees our physical needs. Yet if we reflect further on these readings, we see that God uses these moments of physical healing as opportunities to restore something much deeper – our souls. This week let us seek God to heal our souls and transform our hearts. Let us pray that our eyes and our ears might "be open" to His workings, words, and promptings in our lives.

### **August 24/25**

Envelopes	\$ 3,644.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 487.00
Children's Offerings	\$ 10.00
Parish Development	\$ 170.00
Catholic Education	\$ 5.00
Assumption of Mary	\$ 75.00
Mission Co-op	\$ 95.00
Online Giving	\$ 1,138.90
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$ 5,624.90</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**

**ST. JOHN'S BOWLING LEAGUE:** A reminder to all who signed up for the St. John's Bowling League that our season begins this coming Friday, September 13, at Holiday Bowl. Practice bowling starts at 6:20, with league play beginning at 6:30. We still have room in the league for two individual bowlers to fill open roster spots, so please consider joining us! Any questions, contact Gary Johnson at 814-931-7832.

**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.

**CELEBRATE THOSE WHO SHARE FAITH:** The Ministry of the Word includes the mission of Evangelization and Catechesis. Catechesis means "to echo." Believers who embrace the Gospel of Jesus Christ as the best news ever proclaimed are eager to "echo" the Good News everywhere. Have you shared your enthusiasm for the Catholic Church with someone recently?

**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 • 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.

**CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS:** Court Prince Gallitzin # 2625 serves all 11 parishes and beyond. New members are always welcome! On Monday, September 9, 2024, please come and join us for our monthly meeting in the St. Rose of Lima community room at 5:30 pm with the business meeting beginning at 6pm. To view some of the court activities we have done, go to [www.CDA2625.com](http://www.CDA2625.com). If you have any questions, please contact Regent Donna Hoover at [donnah31049@gmail.com](mailto:donnah31049@gmail.com) or 814-632-3509.

**FATIMA DEVOTIONS:** Please join us for Fatima Devotions along with the dedication and blessing of the new Stations of the Cross and Garden Benches on Friday September 13, 2024, at 6:30pm in the Sunken Gardens, Loretto PA. (In case of inclement weather everything will be at the Immaculate Conception Chapel at Saint Francis University.) The Homilist will be Fr. Joseph, Lehman, T.O.R., Minister Provincial.

**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**

*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 are looking for volunteers who would be interested in helping our Faith Formation team start up Children's Liturgy during the 11am Mass at least once a month as we did several years ago. We gather the younger children during the readings and homily to provide a kid friendly version of the readings and other activities. Children are returned to the parents after the homily is finished. Volunteers would need to have all clearances completed. Please contact Diane Ryan in the office at 814-942-5503 or email at [stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net](mailto:stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net) if you are interested in helping. Our first Children's Liturgy will be offered on Sunday, September 8th at the 11am Mass. We will offer Children's Liturgy as often as possible on Sundays if we have enough volunteers.

**THE CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD:** What is a "prepared environment"? The prepared environment is a Montessori concept that the environment can be designed to facilitate independent learning by the child. In a prepared environment, children work with materials of their own choice and at their own pace. They experience a combination of freedom and self-discipline in a place especially prepared to meet their developmental and spiritual needs. To learn more about the Atrium or to schedule a tour, contact Iris Tatar at [iristat38@gmail.com](mailto:iristat38@gmail.com).

**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.