

# 2025 Jubilee Year Pilgrims of Hope



The Holy Family of  
Jesus, Mary and Joseph  
December 29, 2024

## St. John the Evangelist Church

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

### MASS SCHEDULE

**MONDAY - DECEMBER 30TH - 8:30 AM**

**TUESDAY - DECEMBER 31ST - VIGIL OF THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY - 4:00 PM**

**WEDNESDAY - JANUARY 1ST - THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY - 10:00 AM**

**THURSDAY - JANUARY 2ND - 8:30 AM FRIDAY - JANUARY 3RD - 8:30 AM**

**SATURDAY - JANUARY 4TH - 4:00 PM**

**SUNDAY - JANUARY 5TH - 8:00 AM & 11:00 AM**

### NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS

#### LECTORS

Tues. Dec. 31-4:00 PM-Bob Olson, John Sukala  
Wed. Jan. 1-10:00 AM-Mireille Crevecoeur, Dave Auerbeck  
Sat. Jan. 4- 4:00 PM - Jeremy Truscello, James Krug  
Sun. Jan. 5-8:00 AM - Diane Turcovsky, Daniel Turcovsky  
Sun. Jan. 5-11:00 AM - Susan Podoletz, Bob Olson

#### ALTAR SERVERS

Tues. Dec. 31-4:00 PM-Colin Schurr, Liam Schurr  
Wed. Jan. 1-10:00 AM-Nicholas Helsley, Camille Krug  
Sat. Jan. 4- 4:00 PM - Abigail Hovance, Sadie Swope  
Sun. Jan. 5- 8:00 AM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED  
Sun. Jan. 5-11:00 AM - Iris Tatar, Lexi Tatar

#### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Tues. Dec. 31-4:00 PM-Ashley Greslick, Mike Greslick  
Wed. Jan. 1-10:00 AM-Daniel Turcovsky, Diane Turcovsky  
Sat. Jan. 4- 4:00 PM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED  
Sun. Jan. 5-8:00 AM - Jennifer Helsley, Darlene Scarpaci  
Sun. Jan. 5-11:00 AM - Barbara Bundy, Francel Dandrea,  
Ken Gorman, Susanna Tomlinson, NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED

#### MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Tues. Dec. 31-4:00 PM-Connie Baker, Lou Ann Clark, Jane Strasser,  
Mary Truesdale  
Wed. Jan. 1-10:00 AM-John Becker, Jane Becker, Patrick Podoletz,  
Ginny Reeder  
Sat. Jan. 4- 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, Betsy Lloyd, Larry VanSickel,  
Paula VanSickel  
Sun. Jan. 5-8:00 AM - Carolyn English, Mike Greslick,  
Ashley Greslick, Ginny Reeder  
Sun. Jan. 5-11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Dolores Capriotti,  
Lou Ann Clark, Peg Madden

#### SACRISTAN

Tues. Dec. 31-4:00 PM-Marilyn Bevan  
Wed. Jan. 1-10:00 AM-Barbara Bundy  
Sat. Jan. 4- 4:00 PM - Ray King, Mary King  
Sun. Jan. 5- 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci  
Sun. Jan. 5- 11:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti

#### SCRIP

Sat. Jan. 4- 4:00 PM - Julie Beiswenger, Becky Merilli  
Sun. Jan. 5- 8:00 AM - Erika Yasolsky, Heather Yasolsky  
Sun. Jan. 5- 11:00 AM - Peg Madden, Marge Rudolph

**2025 JUBILEE YEAR:** The 2025 Jubilee will be centered on the theme "Pilgrims of Hope." As His Holiness Pope Francis so beautifully expressed it: "We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us, and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision." Throughout this Jubilee year, we are called to reflect on God's boundless mercy and embrace our mission to live out the Gospel in everyday life.

## A Few Words from the Pastor:

**JUBILEE YEAR 2025** – We are drawing near to the worldwide observance of the Jubilee Year, which will be inaugurated in every diocese on the Feast of the Holy Family, Sunday December 29. A special Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral at 2:00 PM. All are encouraged to participate.

**JANUARY 1: THE WORLD DAY OF PEACE!** Every year on January 1, the Holy Father marks the World Day of Peace with a special message inviting all people to reflect on the important work of building peace. This year's message is the latest in a long tradition of messages for this day that began with St. Paul VI in 1967 and continued with St. John Paul II, Pope Benedict XVI, and Pope Francis. The theme chosen by the Holy Father for the World Day of Peace for 2025 is "Forgive us our trespasses: grant us your peace", corresponding to "the biblical and ecclesial understanding of the Jubilee Year".

*Pope Francis writes: At the beginning of this Year of Grace, I would like to offer three proposals capable of restoring dignity to the lives of entire peoples and enabling them to set them out anew on the journey of hope. In this way, the debt crisis can be overcome and all of us can once more realize that we are debtors whose debts have been forgiven. I renew the appeal to reducing substantially, if not cancelling outright, the international debt which seriously threatens the future of many nations". I also ask for a firm commitment to respect for the dignity of human life from conception to natural death, so that each person can cherish his or her own life. In addition, in this time marked by wars, let us use at least a fixed percentage of the money earmarked for armaments to establish a global Fund to eradicate hunger and promote sustainable development!*

**SOLEMNITY OF MARY THE MOTHER OF GOD** – Mass for this feast of Mary will be offered with a Vigil Mass on New Year's Eve, Tuesday, December 31st at 4pm and at 10:00 am on Wednesday, January 1st, New Years Day! What better way to begin the New Year than by placing our parish family under Mary's protection! Please join us!

**ALPHA AT ST. JOHN'S** - ALPHA will again be coming to our parish on Thursday evenings in January. Alpha is a series of sessions which explore the Christian faith. Each talk looks at a different question and is designed to create conversation. Alpha has three key experiences in common: food, a talk and conversation. For more information, email [ajourneywithalpha@gmail.com](mailto:ajourneywithalpha@gmail.com). Please consider registering for this opportunity to deepen your faith!

### SAVE THE DATES!

**Jubilee Opening Mass:** Sunday, December 29th at 2pm at Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament

**Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Masses:** Vigil Mass on Tuesday, December 31st at 4pm and  
Feast Day Mass on Wednesday, January 1st at 10am

**Christmas Cantata and Drama-A Thrill of Hope:** Sunday, January 5th at 3pm in the church

**Alpha:** Thursday, January 16th at 6pm in the cafeteria

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* **CHRISTMAS CANTATA:** St John the Evangelist Catholic Church choirs will present "A Thrill of Hope," a Christmas \*  
\* musical by Joel Raney on Sunday, January 5th at 3:00 p.m. A one-hour production of familiar carols re-telling the \*  
\* Christmas story with charm, scripture, and thoughtful narration will become a truly meaningful worship experience. \*  
\* Free-will offerings will be accepted to support our music ministries. Contact Patti Jimenez for more information at \*  
\* 814-414-7529. \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

**HEALING MASS:** Holy Spirit Ministry will hold a special Healing Mass on Tuesday, January 21, 2024 at 7pm at St. Michael Church. This powerful night of hope and healing is for all who are suffering physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Fr. David Dobb, TOR will be the main celebrant. 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!

**Schedule for the Week of December 29th**

**Sunday, December 29- The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**

8:00 AM - Mass for *People of the Parish*  
 11:00 AM - Mass for *Dan & Dolores Kubitsky* requested by Donna Messner

**Monday, December 30- Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord**

8:30 AM - Mass for *Margareta H. Goch* requested by family

**Tuesday, December 31- Vigil of the Solemnity of Mary**

4:00 PM - Mass for *Barbara Neral* requested by John & Dixie Smith

**Wednesday, January 1- Solemnity of Mary**

10:00 AM - Mass for *Mary Catherine Majestic* requested by Barbara Bundy

**Thursday, January 2- Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen**

8:30 AM - Mass for *Florence Dancha* requested by Michele Collins

**Friday, January 3 - Christmas Weekday**

8:30 AM - Mass for *Joyce Cordek* requested by Larry Cordek

**Saturday, January 4- Vigil of The Epiphany of the Lord**

4:00 PM - Mass for *Sister Mary Ann Palko* requested by Barbara Bundy

**Sunday, January 5- The Epiphany of the Lord**

8:00 AM - Mass for *People of the Parish*  
 11:00 AM - Mass for *Patricia Olson* requested by Bob & Ginny Reeder

**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.

**PASTORAL STAFF**

Monsignor Michael Becker - [mbecker253@aol.com](mailto:mbecker253@aol.com)  
 Rev. Ashok Kumar Alphonse - [aalphonse@dioceseaj.org](mailto:aalphonse@dioceseaj.org)  
 Deacon Gene Neral - [gene@lifeinfocus.net](mailto:gene@lifeinfocus.net)  
 Patricia Jimenez - Director of Music  
[pjimenez@dioceseaj.org](mailto:pjimenez@dioceseaj.org)  
 Stephanie Baker-Business Manager  
[sbaker@dioceseaj.org](mailto:sbaker@dioceseaj.org)  
 Diane Ryan - Faith Formation Coordinator/Secretary  
[stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net](mailto:stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net)  
 Iris Tatar - Director of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd  
[iristat38@gmail.com](mailto:iristat38@gmail.com)  
 Order of Christian Initiation for Adults  
[aalphonse@dioceseaj.org](mailto:aalphonse@dioceseaj.org)  
 Ken Dunmire - Maintenance

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER:** Today's Gospel reading on this Feast of the Holy Family gives us a glimpse into the childhood of Jesus with his Mother, Mary, and his foster father, Joseph. This is a family like no other – consisting of the very Son of God, Mary the Queen of all Saints, and St Joseph the patron of the Universal Church. Yet as we see in today's Scripture passage, they led a life typical of the families of their day. They experienced many of the same joys and trials that all parents and children experience, even today. And so, we can look to this Family for help in our own family lives and see in them a model of Stewardship in family life.

On this Feast of the Holy Family, let us reclaim the beauty and importance of family life. Let's commit to steward our families well in 2025, making time spent with God and practicing our faith the most important appointments on our family calendars. And let's make 2025 a year in our parish like never before. Happy Feast Day, parish family!

**December 14/15**

Envelopes	\$	4,438.00
Loose Offerings	\$	233.00
Parish Development	\$	20.00
Christmas Flowers	\$	47.00
Thanksgiving	\$	25.00
Christmas Offering	\$	850.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$	7.00
Retired Religious Fund	\$	25.00
Immaculate Conception	\$	45.00
Online Giving	\$	1,162.92
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>6,852.92</b>

**2024 Catholic Ministries Drive Goal: \$42,400**  
**January 1, 2024 - November 30, 2024**  
**Gifts/Pledges - \$48,065.00**  
**Total Gifts Received - \$48,065.00**

**MARRIAGE PREP 2025:** The Marriage Preparation Schedule for 2025 is available at [www.dioceseaj.org](http://www.dioceseaj.org) under Ministries and then Marriage Preparation. For more information/dates contact the Parish Office at 814-942-5503.

**December Prayer Intention of Pope Francis**

Pilgrims of Hope

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian Hope.



**HAPPY NEW YEAR!** In this New Year, may God's unfailing hope lift your spirit, renew your strength, and guide you to fulfill your dreams. Have a blessed and hope-filled year ahead! Happy New Year from the St. John's Staff!

### 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 • Carol Field • Mark Hastings  
Rosanne Krawick • Sally Langham • Loane Maier  
Elsie MacCullagh • Samantha McQuade  
Marian Monios • John Patz • Dan Roberts • Jason Ryan  
Anne Showalter • Rachel Sibold • Baby Smith  
Mary Frances Stokan • Donna Taddy • Tim Temofonte  
Wally Wargo • Lois Werfel • Dorothy Yingling

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT:** Journey Through Loss is a nine-week program for those who have lost a loved one through death recently or in the past. The program provides the opportunity to share or to listen and offers positive ideas for coping. The next session begins on Tuesday, January 21. We will meet weekly from 1:30 to 3:00 PM in the convent building next to St. Michael's Church in Hollidaysburg. All faiths are welcome. For more information or to register contact Mary Petrak at 814-502-6076.

### **BIRTHDAY CORNER FOR JANUARY:**

January 13th- Joan Frye

January 16th-Patricia Shaw

January 21st-Judy Roberts

January 26th-Frank Wagner

January 31st-Marian Monios

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.

**MASS INTENTION REQUESTS:** Celebrating Mass for a definite intention is a long tradition in the Catholic Church. The intention may be for the repose of a deceased person's soul, the spiritual wellbeing of a person living, a wedding anniversary, a birthday, or for a personal/private intention. The usual offering for a mass intention is \$10. We are accepting intentions for the 2025 year. Please call the Parish Office to submit an intention.

**HOLY SPIRIT MINISTRY SPECIAL SPEAKER:** Carol Steffen, Executive Director of ELM Pregnancy Support Center, will share her testimony at Holy Spirit Ministry's Night of Worship on Tuesday, January 7th at 7pm at St. Michael's Church, Hollidaysburg. Carol will share her riveting, personal story of redemption, healing and God's great mercy, and what led her to her passionate ministry in Pro-Life Crisis Pregnancy work. Praise and worship music preceding and individual prayer for healing and confessions will follow. All are welcome!

### FAITH FORMATION NEWS

**December 29th- No Classes (Christmas/New Year's)**

**January 5th-Class 9:15am-10:45am**

**January 12th-Class 9:15am-10:45am**

**January 12th-Spring Retreat for ALL Confirmation Preparation Students in the gym (Catholic and Public) with 9th Grade Rite of Blessing and 10th Grade Rite of Commitment at the 11am Mass.**

**January 19th- No Class**

**January 26th-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).*

**ALPHA AT ST. JOHN'S:** ALPHA will be coming to our parish in January. Alpha is a series of sessions which explore the Christian faith. Each talk looks at a different question and is designed to create conversation. No two Alpha's look the same, but generally it has three key experiences in common: food, a talk and conversation. Registration cards are available in the Gathering Space. Online registration for Alpha at St. John's is available through the [stmichael-hldg-pa.org](http://stmichael-hldg-pa.org) website.

**Alpha** - Register today with the QR Code or fill out this form and return to your parish office.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PARISH: \_\_\_\_\_

AGE (for grouping purposes; please circle)

18-29 30-45 46-59 60+

Do you have any medically necessary dietary requirements?

Y or N

Do you have any mobility limitations? Y or N

Please return to your parish office or collection basket.

**REGISTER BY JANUARY 6, 2025**

**Space is limited!**



**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.