

2025 Jubilee Year Pilgrims of Hope



**The Baptism of the
Lord
January 12, 2025**

St. John the Evangelist Church

309 Lotz Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602 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

January Prayer Intention of Pope Francis

For The Right to an Education

We pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, may always be respected.



NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS

LECTORS

Sat. Jan. 18- 4:00 PM - James Krug, Joyce Cunningham
Sun. Jan. 19-8:00 AM - Mary Truesdale, Mike Greslick
Sun. Jan. 19-11:00 AM - Susanna Tomlinson, Iris Tatar

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. Jan. 18- 4:00 PM - Chloe Truscello, Jeremy Truscello
Sun. Jan. 19- 8:00 AM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED
Sun. Jan. 19-11:00 AM - Estella Koch, Evie Koch

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. Jan. 18- 4:00 PM - David Loth, NOT FILLED
Sun. Jan. 19-8:00 AM - Ginny Reeder, Darlene Scarpaci
Sun. Jan. 19-11:00 AM - Barbara Bundy, Dolores Capriotti,
Francel Dandrea, Ken Gorman, Bob Olson, NOT FILLED

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. Jan. 18- 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, Coleen Langguth,
Larry VanSickel, Paula VanSickel
Sun. Jan. 19-8:00 AM - Ed Stoltz, Jane Strasser, Daniel Turcovsky,
Diane Turcovsky
Sun. Jan. 19-11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Lou Ann Clark,
Mary Grace Horton, Peg Madden

SACRISTAN

Sat. Jan. 18- 4:00 PM - Ray King, Mary King
Sun. Jan. 19- 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci
Sun. Jan. 19- 11:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti

SCRIP

Sat. Jan. 18- 4:00 PM - Lori Baker, Julie Beiswenger,
Sun. Jan. 19- 8:00 AM - Chris Palazzi, Marge Rudolph
Sun. Jan. 19- 11:00 AM - Carolyn English, Patrick Podoletz

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:

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY, 18 January through 25 January - Every year, Christian communities and churches join together to pray for the visible unity of the Church, faithfully abiding by the will of Christ, who prayed "that all may be one" (John 17:21), during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. 2025 is a special year, which marks the 1,700th anniversary of the First Ecumenical Council. This Council of Christian churches, was called by Emperor Constantine I. The Council took place in Nicaea, a place just outside Constantinople (now Istanbul), from May to July of 325.

THE SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD, JANUARY 26 – Though a few weeks away, this special Sunday is a yearly invitation to embrace and make part of our daily life the person of Jesus Christ, the living Word of God. The motto chosen by the Holy Father is in keeping with the Jubilee Year, and is a verse from Psalm 119, "I hope in your Word". It is a cry of hope: man, in a moment of anguish, tribulation, and confusion, cries out to God and puts all his hope in him. As the Jubilee year reminds us, we are "Pilgrims of Hope".

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD: In the Baptism of the Lord, we remember the day Jesus was baptized. This event marked the beginning of his important work. When Jesus came out of the water, he prayed, making it clear that this was a special moment in his life. The Holy Spirit came down on him like a dove. This is similar to how the Spirit empowered the disciples at Pentecost for their mission. Jesus' baptism prepared him to spread the good news, heal broken hearts, and set people free. He was ready to do God's work and to show God's love to everyone. Jesus cared for people like a shepherd cares for sheep. He was gentle, kind, and always ready to help those in need. When we think about Jesus' baptism, we should also think about our own baptism. Our baptism prepares us to share in the work of Jesus. We are called to care for one another, to help those in need, to show mercy and love, and to guide others toward God's goodness. Baptism makes us part of God's family and gives us a mission to share God's love with others. Just as Jesus was empowered by the Holy Spirit, we are also given the strength to do good in our lives. We can bring hope to those who are sad, help those who are struggling, and show kindness to everyone we meet. Through our actions, we can show the love of God in the world.

CONFIRMATION STUDENTS: This Sunday, at the 11am Mass we will celebrate The Rite of Blessing for our 9th grade Confirmation students, Lily Davis, Abigail Hovance, Jack Hoyne, Marissa Kanouff, Evie Koch, McKenna Koeck and Tyler Lightner as well as The Rite of Commitment for our 10th grade Confirmation students, Aiden Cooney, Henry Dolphin, Landon Petrunak, Conner Ryan, Sadie Swope and Alexander Wolf. Congratulations to these Confirmation students as they continue their journey of living their call from God first received at Baptism. Let us keep them in our prayers as they continue to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

SAVE THE DATES!

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

Martin Luther King Day: Monday, January 20th-Parish Office Closed

Nutrition Classes: Saturdays, February 1st, 8th & 22nd in the Parish Center-Registration required

Vaccine Clinic: Sunday, February 9th from 9am-11am in the Parish Center-Sign up on the kiosk

ST VINCENT DEPAUL CARE PACKAGES: Your SVDP Conference continues in its efforts to serve the poor and needy by collecting care packages to help show those in need that they are not forgotten. Once again, we are asking you to put together a care package for someone who fits into one of the following categories: Senior, Homeless, New Mom, Expectant Mom, Single Parent – Male, or Single Parent – Female. Boxes will be available the weekend of January 18th/19th and should be returned by March 2nd. If you would like to put together a care package, please pick up a box and detailed flyer from the table at the entry of the Church and fill it with items suitable for the person it is intended for and then seal up the box. Please list who the box is for on the line under St Rose of Lima (i.e. Senior, Homeless, New Mom, Expectant Mom, Single Parent-Male, Single Parent - Female) and return to the donation box at the front of the Church when done. Once again, our SVDP Conference would like to thank all those who help make our programs possible and the lives of the needy a bit easier. **God Bless You All!**

SPAGHETTI DINNER: The Men's Club of St. Mary and St. Michael is hosting a Spaghetti Dinner to support parishioners with undue medical hardship. The Dinner will be held January 16 from 4-7PM at the St. Mary Social Hall in Holidaysburg. The Spaghetti Dinner includes Spaghetti, Meatballs, Salad, Roll, Dessert and Drinks. There will also be a basket raffle held during the dinner. Spaghetti Dinner tickets must be purchased in advance and can be purchased by calling John Elder at 814-270-1051.

Schedule for the Week of January 12th

Sunday, January 12- Baptism of the Lord

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

11:00 AM - Mass for *Mike Rudolph* requested by
Robert & Mary Jo Geishausner

Monday, January 13- Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Guido Prosperi* requested by
John Prosperi

Tuesday, January 14- Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Patricia Olson* requested by
Paul & Sherry Hoffman

Wednesday, January 15- Weekday

6:00 PM - Mass for *Barbara Neral* requested
by Vicki Faretta & children Crystal & Michael

Thursday, January 16- Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Rita Kibler* requested by
Tom Forr family

Friday, January 17 - St. Anthony

8:30 AM - Mass for *Florence Dancha* requested by
Bob & Ginny Reeder

Saturday, January 18-Vigil of 2nd Sunday of Ordinary

Time

4:00 PM - Mass for *Bradley Johnson* requested by
Rebecca & Stephen McNulty

Sunday, January 19- 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time

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

11:00 AM - Mass for *Dan & Dolores Kubitsky* requested by
Donna Messner

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.

NATIONAL POVERTY AWARENESS: January is the month of National Poverty Awareness. Please consider joining a virtual overview of Bridges Out of Poverty: Strategies for Professionals and Communities to have a better understanding of a comprehensive approach to the dynamics that cause and maintain poverty, from individual to the systemic level. We will have two options to share this information virtually: Friday, January 10th from 10am-noon or Thursday, January 23rd from 6pm-8pm. To register for a session, please RSVP to Cindy O'Connor at coconnor@dioceseaj.org with Catholic Charities.

NUTRITION CLASSES: Jody Petrunak will be offering again this year a series of 3 Nutrition Classes in the Parish Center on February 1st, 8th and 22nd to help spread the word on the benefits of eating healthy and to help decrease the risk of chronic diseases. Cost is \$60 and registration forms are available in the Gathering Space. If you have any questions or would like more information, please email Jody at jodyp168@gmail.com. Make one of your New Year's resolutions to eat healthy this year!

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: What a treasure trove of stewardship lessons we find in our Gospel reading today on this feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Today's Gospel is one we read every year, so it is easy to lose sight of just how incredible it is that Jesus wished to be baptized in the Jordan River by His cousin, John. Stop and contemplate our Lord in all His perfection, waiting quietly and patiently in line with a bunch of sinners (like us!) in order to 'lead by example.' His love and humility in serving and self-giving are beyond all telling.

In addition to the gratitude that Jesus' baptism should inspire, we can also study His actions at the Jordan River as a powerful example of the servant-leadership He displays time and again throughout His public ministry. We see in our Lord a style of leadership characterized by humility and leading by example.

Let us be filled with gratitude for our amazing God and be reminded that when we are grateful followers of Jesus and servant-leaders in imitation of Him, the Father will be well-pleased with us, too.

December 28/29

Envelopes	\$ 2,436.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 234.00
Parish Development	\$ 10.00
Christmas Offerings	\$ 860.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 115.00
Online Giving	\$ 763.90
Total Offertory	\$ 4,418.90

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 under Ministries and then Marriage Preparation. For more information/dates contact the Parish Office at 814-942-5503.

FEBRUARY-JUBILEE OF ARTISTS: Calling all artists, authors, musicians and actors! Throughout the month of February as part of our 2025 Jubilee Year celebration, we are honoring our many St. John's artists. If you are interested in displaying your art (drawings, sculptures, carvings, crafts, needlepoint, crochet, performances, literary works, etc.) in the Gathering Space, please complete the form in the Gathering Space by January 19th. We will accept photographs mounted on poster boards of the artwork types listed above. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Susick at 814-207-0185.

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 • Carol Field • Mark Hastings
- Rosanne Krawick • Sally Langham
- Elsie MacCullagh • Samantha McQuade
- Marian Monios • John Patz • Dan Roberts
- Anne Showalter • Rachel Sibold • 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.

HEALING MASS: Holy Spirit Ministry will hold a special Healing Mass on Tuesday, January 21, 2025 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!

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

- 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
- February 2nd-No Class
- February 9th-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.

RECEIVE UP TO DATE INFORMATION FROM ST. JOHN'S WITH FLOCKNOTE: We want to communicate more effectively with you. But we also want to make it easy for you to control what types of announcements you get from us and how you are notified when we make them. And in order to do this we are using a simple service called FLOCKNOTE. Like sending "notes" to your "flock". This is all totally free for you to use and it's going to also make it easy for you to stay plugged in to the ministries or groups that you care about, all by text message or email updates. Your information will be completely safe and secure. And you can unsubscribe from any updates at any time! To join, text SJC1 to 84576. Then after it responds, make sure you click that link and complete the process. If you can't complete this on your mobile phone, please go online to stjohnsaltoona.flocknote.com to register.

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.

DON'T FORGET ABOUT SCRIP! Don't forget to buy scrip for your home improvement purchases! Whether you're picking out new furniture, remodeling the kitchen, or repainting your favorite room, big projects don't come cheap. On the plus side, big spending means big rebates for St. John's, so don't forget to order scrip for purchases at Lowes, Home Depot, etc.

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