

2025 Jubilee Year Pilgrims of Hope



**Third Sunday in
Ordinary Time
January 26, 2025**

St. John the Evangelist Church

309 Lotz Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602 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
pjimenez@dioceseaj.org
Stephanie Baker-Business Manager
sbaker@dioceseaj.org
Diane Ryan - Faith Formation Coordinator/Secretary
stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net
Iris Tatar - Director of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
iristat38@gmail.com
Order of Christian Initiation for Adults
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

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. Feb. 1- 4:00 PM - David Langguth, Joyce Cunningham
Sun. Feb. 2-8:00 AM - Diane Turcovsky, Daniel Turcovsky
Sun. Feb. 2-11:00 AM - Barbara Bundy, Iris Tatar

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. Feb. 1- 4:00 PM - Chloe Truscello, Jeremy Truscello
Sun. Feb. 2- 8:00 AM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED
Sun. Feb. 2-11:00 AM - Colin Schurr, Liam Schurr

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. Feb. 1- 4:00 PM - David Loth, NOT FILLED
Sun. Feb. 2-8:00 AM - Ashley Greslick, Mike Greslick
Sun. Feb. 2-11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Dolores Capriotti,
Francel Dandrea, Ken Gorman, Bob Olson,
Susanna Tomlinson

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. Feb.1- 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, Coleen Langguth,
Dennis Moughemer, Karen Moughemer
Sun. Feb. 2-8:00 AM - Ray Kennedy, Ginny Reeder, Ed Stoltz,
Mary Truesdale
Sun. Feb.2-11:00 AM - Walter Bloom, Wendy Campbell,
Peg Madden, NOT FILLED

SACRISTAN

Sat. Feb.1- 4:00 PM - Ray King, Mary King
Sun. Feb.2- 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci
Sun. Feb.2- 11:00 AM - Barbara Bundy

SCRIP

Sat. Feb. 1- 4:00 PM - Julie Beiswenger, Becky Merilli
Sun. Feb. 2- 8:00 AM - Chris Palazzi, Marge Rudolph
Sun. Feb.2- 11:00 AM - Patrick Podoletz, NOT FILLED

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:

THE SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD: This Sunday the Church marks the sixth Sunday of the Word of God, a day instituted by Pope Francis on September 30, 2019, to emphasize the significance of Sacred Scripture. The theme for this year's edition is taken from the Psalms: "I hope in Your Word."

The Sacred Scriptures are a cry of hope: man, in a moment of anguish, tribulation, and confusion, cries out to God and puts all his hope in him. It is a deeply human experience, as is usually found in the Psalter. Everyone hopes, we all have hopes, but what is communicated to us in this Jubilee is a "Hope," in the singular. It is not an abstract idea or naive optimism, but a person, alive and present in everyone's life: Christ crucified and risen, the only one who never abandons us. Pauline theology is extremely clear on this point: "Christ Jesus our hope" (1 Tim. 1:1). A special blessing will be conferred at all Masses on those who participate in the ministry of Lector in our parish.

NATIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK is an annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. Now entering its 51st anniversary year, Catholic Schools Week begins on January 26th and continues until February 1st. We are blessed here in the Altoona area to have a strong Catholic School presence, now Bishop Guilfoyle Academy. We affirm the commitment and sacrifices which parents and parishes make in providing a Faith-centered environment where our children can grow in their love for God and in their formation as disciples of Jesus Christ.

FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION - We commonly think of February 2nd as Ground Hog Day. In the Church, however, February 2nd is the Feast of the Presentation of the Child Jesus in the Temple, which celebrates the 40th day since Christmas. This feast is also considered **Candlemas Day**, when candles for the coming year are blessed. Falling on a Sunday this year, we will observe this feast with a procession and blessing of candles. Candles for home use will be available after all Masses. If you have any candles at home, you are encouraged to bring them and place them near the altar for the blessing.

MEMORIAL OF ST. BLAISE – There is a beautiful tradition in the Church when we bless throats on St. Blaise day, February 3rd. We will anticipate this day by having individual blessing of throats, as well as a communal blessing at the end of next weekend's Masses.

WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE! On Sunday, February 2, the universal church celebrates the world Day for consecrated life. Please pray for all those who have made commitments in the consecrated life and be sure to thank them on their special day may they continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and responded generously to God's gift of their vocation.

SAVE THE DATES!

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

Blessing of Throats: Saturday, February 1st & Sunday, February 2nd at the end of each weekend Mass

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

President's Day: Monday, February 17th-Parish Office Closed

Ash Wednesday: Wednesday, March 5th Masses at 8:30am & 6pm with Soup Supper following in the gym

Lent Communal Penance Service: Sunday, March 23rd at 4pm

Easter Egg Hunt: Sunday, April 6th after the 11am Mass in the gym

Deacon Gene's Birthday Breakfast: Tuesday, April 15th after Morning Mass in the Parish Center

Monsignor Becker's 50th Ordination Anniversary Mass & Luncheon: Sunday, May 4th at the 11am Mass followed by a luncheon at the Casino-More info to come!

MONSIGNOR'S 50TH ORDINATION CELEBRATION SAVE THE DATE: Mark your calendars for Sunday, May 4th as we will be celebrating Monsignor's 50th Ordination Anniversary! We will begin our celebration at the 11am Mass followed by a luncheon at the Casino. Please plan on joining us as we honor Monsignor for his 50 years of faithful and dedicated service. Formal invitations and more information will be coming soon. We pray for God's continued blessings for Monsignor and our parish. Congratulations Monsignor!

Schedule for the Week of January 26th

Sunday, January 26- 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

11:00 AM - Mass for *John Wolfe* requested by
Patty Wolfe & daughters

Monday, January 27- Weekday

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

Tuesday, January 28- St. Thomas Aquinas

8:30 AM - Mass for *Ryan Ergler* requested by
Ed & Debbie Ergler

Wednesday, January 29-Weekday

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

Thursday, January 30- Weekday

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

Friday, January 31 - St. John Bosco

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

Saturday, February 1-Vigil of The Presentation of the Lord

4:00 PM - Mass for *Mary, Elmer, Marion & Christine Stokes*
requested by Len & Bob Stokes

Sunday, February 2- The Presentation of the Lord

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

11:00 AM - Mass for *John Wolfe* requested by
Patty Wolfe & daughters

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.

2024 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS will be available upon request beginning January 31st. Please call the Parish Office at 814-942-5503 to request your contribution statement to be mailed or picked up in the Parish Office. A contribution statement will not be mailed to you unless you call the office to request it.

FEBRUARY-JUBILEE OF ARTISTS: 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 submitting artwork, items can be dropped off Saturday, January 25th from 1-2pm in the Gathering Space or you can bring items to any weekend Mass January 25th & 26th. Items can be placed on the tables or below the tables on the left hand side of the Gathering Space. If you have any questions or would like to arrange a different day/time to drop items off, please contact Mary Susick at 814-207-0185.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: Today's Second Reading, from St. Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, picks up where we left off last week and continues with a similar theme. The message is that we are each unique in the gifts and talents God has given to us, and therefore, we all have different tasks to fulfill as members of the Body of Christ. And just what are we, as Christian stewards, aiming to achieve by sharing our gifts and talents? We are aiming to follow in the footsteps of our Lord, furthering with His grace the mission He began 2,000 years ago. What a noble purpose! What great dignity has been bestowed upon us, modern-day disciples, that we are called to this same task. In the week ahead, let's take this mission to heart, examining the way we can use our gifts and talents for this mission and asking ourselves what it looks like in our unique circumstances to 'bring glad tidings to the poor', 'liberty to captives', 'sight to the blind', and 'freedom to the oppressed.' It might feel uncomfortable at first, but the good news is you don't have to do it alone. Do you part and know that the Spirit of the Lord is upon us all as we live out this stewardship way of life.

January 11/12

Envelopes	\$ 4,393.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 268.00
Parish Development	\$ 170.00
Retirement Fund for Religious	\$ 100.00
Christmas Offerings	\$ 120.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 25.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 105.00
Online Giving	\$ 1,682.15
Total Offertory	\$ 6,863.15

2024 Catholic Ministries Drive Goal: \$42,400

January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024

Gifts/Pledges - \$48,455.00

Total Gifts Received - \$48,455.00

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!

HELP NEEDED: The St. Vincent DePaul Assumption Chapel Food Pantry is looking for someone to drive their truck occasionally to pickup donations. If you have questions or are interested in helping, please contact Bob McManus at 814-943-7962.

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

HOME WITH THE LORD: Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of:
Florence T. Rizzo, mother of Vic Rizzo
May she rest in the peace and joy of the Lord.

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 FEBRUARY:

February 9th- Ronald Cunningham
February 13th-Mary Louise Rajnish
February 16th-Joyce Cunningham & Lois Werfel
February 19th-Carl Mauch
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.

HCC: The Heidelberg Country Club will have a BBQ Chicken Dinner on Sunday, January 26th beginning at 11am until sold out at the Heidelberg. Dinners are \$12 and include 1/2 BBQ chicken, macaroni salad, baked beans and roll. Eat in or take out. Members and guests are welcome. Proceeds benefit the Heidelberg Repairs and Improvement Fund.
The Rocket Blasters 7:30-10:30 Feb. 8 \$5 cover charge.
Freedom Rocks 7:30-10:30. Feb. 22. \$5 cover charge.

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

January 26th-Class 9:15am-10:45am

February 2nd-No Class

February 9th-Class 9:15am-10:45am

February 16th-No Class

February 23rd-Class 9:15am-10:45am

March 2nd-9:15am-10:45am Family Lent Event-Gym-Student and a parent/guardian should attend with Children's Liturgy to follow at 11am Mass

March 9th-No Class

If you would like more information or have questions, please contact Diane Ryan at 814-942-5503 or email stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net.

PRAYER PAL 2025 COMMUNITY UNITED IN PRAYER:

The members of the Church of the Brethren, St. Mary, St. Michael, Zion Lutheran Church all of Hollidaysburg, St. John the Evangelist Lakemont, and St. Joseph Parish in Williamsburg are happy to announce that Prayer Pal will be offered to all parishioners this Lenten season. A mailer was sent to all registered parishioners with all the details explaining this popular (private) prayer activity. Please take a few moments to read the mailer and join the over 285 participants from last year, in this rewarding and prayerful experience.

If anyone has questions or wishes to sign-up, after reviewing your mailer, please feel free to call one of the committee members listed below, visit St. Michael's parish website at www.stmichael-hldg-pa.org or scan the QR code.

Jane Becker 814-414-9836
Ryan Custead 814-502-7630
Mary Jo Lanzel 814-934-6793
Mary Leap 814-937-9789
Dave & Diane Madden 814-215-7677
Donna Messner 814-934-9023
Lisa Myers 814-934-0619
Dec. Kevin Nester 717-574-4856



STRENGTH IN CHRIST Men's Conference: Sunday, March 30th, 2025 from 11:30 AM-5:30 PM at Mount Aloysius College, Cresson. Join us for a day that includes lunch, Sunday Mass, talks from local priests, personal testimonies, and a panel discussion with local Catholic men. There is no cost to attend. Visit www.dioceseaj.org to register online. For those unable to register online, paper registration forms can be found at each parish to complete and return via mail. *Registration closes March 21st.* Online registration is encouraged due to limited seating.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS: Court Prince Gallitzin # 2625 serves all 11 parishes and beyond. New members are always welcome! On Monday, February 10, 2025, 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. If you have any questions, please contact Regent Donna Hoover at donnah31049@gmail.com or 814-632-3509.