

Luke 23:43

**Palm Sunday of the  
Passion of the Lord  
April 13, 2025**



**St. John the Evangelist Church  
309 Lotz Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602 814-942-5503**

**HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

**Monday, April 14th:** Morning Mass 8:30 AM  
**Tuesday, April 15th:** Morning Mass 8:30 AM Tenebrae 7:00 PM  
**Wednesday, April 16th:** Evening Mass 6:00 PM  
**Holy Thursday, April 17th:** Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00 PM  
**Good Friday, April 18th:** Stations of the Cross 12:00 PM  
The Passion of the Lord 7:00 PM  
**Holy Saturday, April 19th:** Blessing of Easter Food Baskets - 12:00 PM  
Easter Vigil 8:30 PM  
**Easter Sunday, April 20th:** 8:00 AM & 11:00 AM

**NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS**

**LECTORS**

Thurs. Apr. 17-7:00 PM- Camille Krug, John Sukala  
Fri. Apr. 18-7:00 PM- Iris Tatar, Bob Olson, Dave Auerbeck  
Sat. Apr. 19- 8:30 PM - Bob Olson, James Krug, Susan Podoletz,  
Ginny Reeder, Patrick Schurr  
Sun. Apr. 20-8:00 AM - Mireille Crevecoeur, Patrick Schurr  
Sun. Apr. 20-11:00 AM - Gary Johnson, Richard Consiglio

**ALTAR SERVERS**

Thurs. Apr. 17-7:00 PM- Estella Koch, Evie Koch, Camille Krug,  
Bob Olson  
Fri. Apr. 18-7:00 PM-Aidan Schurr, Colin Schurr, Liam Schurr,  
Sadie Swope  
Sat. Apr. 19- 8:30 PM - Bob Olson, Estella Koch, Evie Koch,  
Aidan Schurr, Colin Schurr  
Sun. Apr. 20- 8:00 AM - Abigail Hovance, NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED  
Sun. Apr. 20-11:00 AM - Iris Tatar, Lexi Tatar, NOT FILLED

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

Thurs. Apr. 17-7:00 PM- Lou Ann Clark, Ashley Greslick, Mike  
Greslick, Ginny Reeder, Daniel Turcovsky, Diane Turcovsky  
Sat. Apr. 19- 8:30 PM - Connie Baker, Dolores Capriotti, Ken  
Gorman, Bob Olson, Mary Petrak, Susanna Tomlinson  
Sun. Apr. 20-8:00 AM - Ashley Greslick, Mike Greslick

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS CONTINUED**

Sun. Apr. 20-11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Lou Ann Clark,  
Ginny Reeder, NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED

**MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY**

Thurs. Apr. 17-7:00 PM- Carolyn English, Ray Kennedy,  
Patrick Podoletz, Jane Strasser  
Fri. Apr. 18-7:00 PM- Lou Ann Clark, Ginny Reeder,  
Daniel Turcovsky, Diane Turcovsky  
Sat. Apr. 19- 8:30 PM - Mary Grace Horton, NOT FILLED,  
NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED  
Sun. Apr. 20-8:00 AM - Jane Becker, John Becker, Ed Stoltz,  
NOT FILLED  
Sun. Apr. 20-11:00 AM - Carolyn English, Patrick Podoletz,  
NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED

**SACRISTAN**

Thurs. Apr. 17-7:00 PM- Dolores Capriotti  
Sat. Apr. 19- 8:30 PM - Ray King, Mary King  
Sun. Apr. 20- 8:00 AM - NOT FILLED  
Sun. Apr. 20- 11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan

**SCRIP**

Scrip will not be sold during Holy Week or on Easter Sunday. Scrip will  
be sold again the weekend of April 26th/27th. Happy Easter!

## A Few Words from the Pastor:

**THE SACRED TRIDUUM:** sundown on Holy Thursday to sundown on Easter Sunday is considered the most solemn part of the liturgical year. This three-day period is referred to as the *Easter Triduum*, also known as the *Sacred Triduum*, or *Paschal Triduum*. The word "triduum" comes from the Latin word *triduum*, which comes from *tris* ("three") + *dies* ("day"). Basically, the Sacred Triduum is one great festival recounting the last three days of Jesus' life on earth, the events of his Passion and Resurrection, when the Lamb of God laid down his life in atonement for our sins.

**TENEBRAE** – Tenebrae is the Latin word for darkness and night. It is a religious service of Western Christianity held during the three days preceding Easter Day, and characterized by gradual extinguishing of candles, and by a "strepitus" or "loud noise" taking place in total darkness near the end of the service. Our Tenebrae service here at St. John's will be held this Tuesday evening at 7:00. Please join us for this very moving ceremony!

**HOLY THURSDAY MASS AND ADORATION** - The evening Mass on Holy Thursday is referred to as *The Mass of the Lord's Supper*. This is where the Church re-lives the institution of the Eucharist and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at the Last Supper, as well as the institution of the priesthood, which took place the evening before Jesus was crucified. The Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday concludes with a procession of the Blessed Sacrament around the church, with continued adoration until 10PM.

**GOOD FRIDAY:** This is the day of the Lord's crucifixion, the day Jesus died for the sins of the world. This is a mandatory day of fasting and abstinence. The parish altar looks very different on Good Friday: it is plain and bare. There is no consecrated Host in the tabernacle at the main altar of the church; it was carried away on Holy Thursday night to the "altar of repose" to signify Jesus' death. The candle by the tabernacle is blown out, and the tabernacle doors are left open to show that it is empty. Jesus is gone. This is quite dramatic, reminding us that Good Friday is a solemn day of mourning and prayer. The ceremony on Good Friday is not a Mass—it is a communion service using the consecrated hosts from Holy Thursday. Good Friday is the only day of the year on which no Masses are offered.

**HOLY SATURDAY:** On this day Christ is in the tomb. There is no daytime Mass on Holy Saturday. It is still a day of fasting and sorrow before the Easter Vigil begins that evening. We recall, with Mary and the disciples, that Jesus died and was separated from them for the first time as He lay in the tomb. The faithful often continue their Good Friday fast through Holy Saturday. In the Apostles Creed we pray "He descended into hell" (translated hades, that is, the temporary abode of the dead—not the eternal lake of fire) which describes what Jesus did in the time between his burial and Resurrection.

**THE BLESSING OF THE EASTER BASKET:** Our Easter Basket blessing will take place on Holy Saturday at noon. Please come and bring your baskets!

**THE EASTER VIGIL** - A vigil Mass is held after nightfall on Holy Saturday, or before dawn on Easter Sunday, in celebration of the resurrection of Jesus. This is called the Easter Vigil: the most glorious, beautiful, and dramatic liturgy for the Church. The vigil is divided into four parts: 1) the Service of Light, 2) the Liturgy of the Word, 3) the Liturgy of Baptism, and 4) the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

### SAVE THE DATES!

**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-RSVP's due by April 7th!

**May Crowning:** Sunday, May 4th at the 11am Mass-All children are invited to participate!

**Deacon Gene's 40th Ordination Anniversary:** Sunday, June 1st-More details to come!

**OUR PARISH BIBLE STUDY:** Our weekly bible study gathers each Wednesday at 6:45pm in the parish center. Fr. Ashok is leading this class. Please plan on joining us! This is an excellent way to prepare for the coming Sunday, as we reflect on the readings for that day! If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Ashok at aalphone@dioceseaj.org.

**HOLY WEEK PRACTICE:** Practice for Tenebrae will be held on Palm Sunday evening at 6:30 p.m. in the church for the lectors. Tenebrae will be Tuesday evening, April 15, at 7 p.m. Lectors for the Easter Vigil will meet in the front pew in front of the ambo on Holy Saturday evening at 8 p.m. Altar servers for the Easter Vigil will meet Holy Saturday morning at 10 a.m. to practice for the Vigil. Servers will meet at 8 p.m. Holy Saturday evening.

## Schedule for the Week of April 13

### Sunday, April 13- Fifth Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM - Mass for *Florence Dancha* requested by  
Robin Lestochi & Ken McCracken

11:00 AM - Mass for *People of the Parish*

### Monday, April 14- Monday of the Holy Week

8:30 AM - Mass for *Mary Catherine Majestic* requested by  
Barbara Bundy

### Tuesday, April 15 - Tuesday of the Holy Week

8:30 AM - Mass for *Robert Cole* requested by  
Mary Anne & Dave Rowan

### Wednesday, April 16 - Wednesday of the Holy Week

6:00 PM - Mass for *Helen Hamberger* requested by  
the Sibold family

### Thursday, April 17- Holy Thursday

7:00 PM - Mass of the Lord's Supper

### Friday, April 18 - Friday of the Passion of the Lord

7:00 PM - Observance of the Lord's Passion

### Saturday, April 19- Holy Saturday

8:30 PM - Mass for *People of the Parish*

### Sunday, April 20- Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

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

11:00 AM - Mass for *People of the Parish*

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER:** We now enter a week in our liturgical year that is like no other – Holy Week. The complete name for this Sunday's liturgy is "Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion." Let us do our best to live this week closely connected to our Lord whose passionate love for us knows no bounds – culminating in His death on the cross and His triumph over death – all for us.

Stay near to Christ this Holy Week – attend the Triduum services of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday, pray the Stations of the Cross, increase your fasting just a bit – and allow yourself to be transformed by His passionate love, so that this week indeed becomes a week like no other.

### March 29/30

Envelopes	\$	4,169.00
Loose Offerings	\$	186.00
Parish Development	\$	20.00
Black & Indian Missions	\$	5.00
Catholic Relief	\$	130.00
Holy Thursday	\$	20.00
Easter Offering	\$	50.00
Easter Flowers	\$	515.00
Online Giving	\$	1,043.90
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>6,138.90</b>

### **2025 Catholic Ministries Drive Goal: \$42,700**

**2025 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE:** Your sacrificial gift of prayer and treasure will make an immediate and lasting impact on our ministries that focus on evangelization, serving those in need and formation of our priests and deacons. During Lent, and throughout the year, we are challenged to renew our spiritual devotions and duties – and one of those holy duties is to support our Church. This year's theme "Follow Me" (Mt. 16:24) invites us into a deeper relationship with Christ, as we share in His mission of love and service, proclaiming the Good News to all. There is no limit to what we can accomplish together in Christ. Please prayerfully consider making a donation this coming week or in the future. Our diocese's ministries need your support. All contributions received beyond our parish goal come directly back to the parish and will be used for general expenses here at St. John's. Thank you for supporting the Catholic Ministries Drive and our diocese's vital ministries.

### **April Prayer Intention of Pope Francis**

For The Use of the New Technologies

We pray that the use of new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.



**BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Please email any upcoming bulletin announcements to Diane Ryan at stjohsecretary@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.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY DEACON GENE!** Join us on Tuesday, April 15th in the Parish Center after the 8:30am Mass for a birthday breakfast to celebrate Deacon Gene's 85th Birthday. Please sign up on the kiosk if you are able to attend. Hope you can join us!

**THANK YOU!** A BIG thank you to everyone who came to our Easter Egg Hunt and Spring Fling Brunch last Sunday. We had a great turn out! Thank you also to everyone who donated food, candy and money and all those who helped serve lunch. Our Faith Formation students helped make the event a success by filling eggs, setting up and assisting during the hunt. We are certainly blessed at St. John's to have such amazing people supporting our parish events!

**OCIA:** Please keep Maggie Conrad, Mitch Evans and Allie Evans in your prayers this week as they make their final preparations to receive Sacraments at the Easter Vigil. Maggie will receive Confirmation, Mitch will receive Holy Eucharist and Confirmation, and Allie will receive Baptism, Holy Eucharist and Confirmation. The parishioners of St. John's support all of you on this faith journey and welcome you into our community!

### **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 • Stephanie Baker  
Bernie Beiswenger • Idy Caporuscio • Betty Dennis  
Duane • Carol Field • Mark Hastings  
Rosanne Krawick • Sally Langham • Elsie MacCullagh  
Samantha McQuade • Marian Monios  
Montgomery Family • 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. All faiths are welcome. For information about the next session contact Mary Petrak at 814-502-6076 or [mfpetrak@hotmail.com](mailto:mfpetrak@hotmail.com).

#### **BIRTHDAY CORNER FOR APRIL:**

April 10th-Larry Field  
April 12th-James & Barbara McLarren  
April 15th-Deacon Gene Neral & Ray King  
April 16th- Patricia Kenney  
April 23rd-Donald Riley  
April 24th-Betsy Lloyd

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, April 14, 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 814-632-3509 or [dannah31049@gmail.com](mailto:dannah31049@gmail.com).

**8SAINTS VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** is looking for team members. The schedule is August 5,6,7 from 6:00 -8:00. There are various needs such as crafts, snacks, and games leaders so not necessarily teaching. There will be meetings to prepare but missing some is acceptable. Thank you. Contact Mary Lee Madigan: 814 931-2651.

**ADULT ED:** We have completed our current Sunday Morning Adult Education classes. Adult Ed will resume at a later date. Stay tuned for updates!

### **FAITH FORMATION NEWS**

**April 13th-No Class-Palm Sunday**

**April 20th-No Class-Easter Sunday**

**April 21st-11th Grade Confirmation Practice at 6pm**

**April 22nd-11th Grade Confirmation at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament at 7pm**

**April 27th-Class and 2nd Grade First Holy Communion Retreat**

**May 4th-Last Class! May Crowning and First Holy Communion at 11am Mass**

**Watch for information about our Vacation Bible School this summer!**

*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).*

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY:** Join St. Catherine of Siena Parish on Sunday, April 27th for Divine Mercy Sunday. Holy Hour, The Chaplet, readings and a homily by Deacon Gene at 3pm. Other activities include morning masses, confession, food trucks, basket raffle and an evening outdoor Mass. See flyer the in Gathering Space for more information.



Rice Bowls can be returned to the parish by placing them in the basket provided in the Gathering Space.

**PONTIFICAL GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION:** At the request of the Holy Father, the Franciscans of the Holy Land promote the Pontifical Good Friday Collection in the US and around the world. Funds are distributed at the direction of the Vatican's Congregation for the Oriental Churches and support the people of the Holy Land and the pilgrims that visit, educational and ecclesial projects in the Middle East and ministries and programs entrusted by the Holy See to the Holy Land Franciscans. To learn more visit [www.myfranciscan.org](http://www.myfranciscan.org).

### **PASTORAL STAFF**

Monsignor Michael Becker - [mbecker253@aol.com](mailto:mbecker253@aol.com)  
Rev. Ashok Kumar Alphonse - [aalphonse@dioceseaj.org](mailto:aalphonse@dioceseaj.org)  
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Ken Dunmire - Maintenance