

2025 Jubilee Year Pilgrims of Hope



**Twentieth Sunday in
Ordinary Time
August 17, 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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Deacon Gene Neral - gene@lifeinfocus.net
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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 & 10:00 AM

August Prayer Intention of Pope Francis

For Mutual Coexistence

Let us pray that societies where
coexistence seems more difficult might
not succumb to the temptation of
confrontation for ethnic, political,
religious, or ideological reasons.



NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS

LECTORS

Sat. Aug. 23-4:00 PM - James Krug, Jeremy Truscillo
Sun. Aug. 24-8:00 AM - Susan Podoletz, Ginny Reeder
Sun. Aug. 24-10:00 AM - Susanna Tomlinson, Bob Olson

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. Aug. 23- 4:00 PM - Abigail Hovance, Sadie Swope
Sun. Aug. 24- 8:00 AM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED
Sun. Aug. 24-10:00 AM - Estella Koch, Evie Koch

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. Aug. 23- 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, NOT FILLED
Sun. Aug. 24-8:00 AM - Daniel Turcovsky, Dian e Turcovsky
Sun. Aug. 24-10:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti, Lou Ann Clark,
Ken Gorman, NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. Aug. 23 - 4:00 PM - Coleen Langguth, Larry VanSickel,
Paula VanSickel, NOT FILLED
Sun. Aug. 24- 8:00 AM - Jane Becker, John Becker, Ray Kennedy,
Mary Truesdale
Sun. Aug. 24- 10:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Walter Bloom,
Wendy Campbell, Peg Madden

SACRISTAN

Sat. Aug. 23- 4:00 PM - Ray King, Mary King
Sun. Aug. 24- 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci
Sun. Aug. 24- 10:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti

SCRIP

Sat. Aug. 23- 4:00 PM - Julie Beiswenger, Becky Merilli
Sun. Aug. 24- 8:00 AM - Erika Yasolsky, Heather Yasolsky
Sun. Aug. 24- 10:00 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:

MISSION COOPERATION APPEAL: Fr. Emmanuel Mezza thanks you for your prayers and generous mission offering last weekend. Your offering will help them carry out their many missionary, educational and charitable activities in their missions and will help educate young men studying for priesthood. If you did not have an opportunity to make an offering, you may still make a donation using the Missionary Cooperative Collection envelopes available in the Gathering Space. Thank you for your generous support!

IN TWO WEEKS, THE SEASON OF CREATION BEGINS! The Season of Creation has a special significance for the Catholic Church, particularly since Pope Francis established 1 September as an annual World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. The Season of Creation is marked throughout the Christian world from 1 September to 4 October (Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi) and celebrates the joy of creation as well as encouraging awareness-raising initiatives to protect the natural environment. Throughout this holy season, our bulletin will carry quotes from *Laudato Si*, the encyclical on the environment by Pope Francis. Take time to reflect on the beauty of creation and consider your personal or family efforts in caring for our common home.

SAVE THE DATES!

Backpack Blessing: Sunday, August 24th at the 10am Mass-Students bring your backpacks to Mass!

Despot Scholarship Applications Due: Sunday, August 31st Return to the Collection Basket or Parish Office

Confirmation Parent & Student Meeting: Sunday, September 7th 9:30am-10:45am in the gym

Faith Formation Meet the Teacher & Meeting: Sunday, September 21st from 9:30am-10:45am followed by Children's Liturgy at the 11am Mass

Diocesan Pilgrimage Bus Trip to Washington, DC: Friday, October 17th-Details below!

••••• DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE BUS TRIP TO WASHINGTON DC: •••••

The Diocese of Altoona Johnstown is having bus trip for a Jubilee Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC on Friday, October 17, 2025. Trip will include a tour of the Shrine, confessions and Mass with the Bishop. You can purchase lunch at the Shrine Cafeteria or bring a lunch. There will be a rest stop on the way to Washington and a stop on the way back to Altoona for dinner on your own. To make reservations beginning August 4th, please call Diane Ryan at 814-942-5503. The cost of the trip is \$60.00/person, which includes the gratuity for the driver. The bus will leave at 7 am from PNC Field (Altoona Curve) Parking Lot.

Liturgical Ministry Scheduling For September 1, 2025 – January 1, 2026 It's time to schedule ministries for the Fall/Winter of 2025. If you have internet access, please enter the dates that you are NOT available in the Profile section of **Ministry Scheduler Pro**. Here is the direct link to that website – <https://www.rotundasoftware.com/ministry/teammates>. There is also a link from our parish website (<https://www.stjohnsaltoona.org>) and in the email reminder you will receive soon. There are cards available in the gathering space for those who do not have access to the internet. If you are not able to update your profile online, visit the church to fill out a card, or just have general questions about ministry scheduling, please call Mike Greslick on a weekday evening between 6 PM and 9 PM or anytime on the weekends at 814-577-5292. Feel free to reach out via email as well to mike.greslick@gmail.com. **Please update your profile online, call Mike, or fill out a card and return it by Noon on August 17th.** The schedule for the next round will be generated on or around August 18th. Thank you for your service to our faith community throughout the year!

PILGRIM'S PASSPORT: The Jubilee 2025 Pilgrim's Passport used by many persons and families during this Jubilee year need to be returned, or postmarked by September 8 and sent, to the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown Pastoral Center, 2713 West Chestnut Avenue, Altoona PA 16601 to be eligible for prizes that were listed on the inside cover of the Passport: An overnight stay in Washington DC the weekend of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown Pilgrimage, October 17, an overnight stay in Pittsburgh, or the monetary amounts, and various gift cards. You still have some weeks to travel and visit Holy Sites in our five deaneries!

MASS TIME CHANGE! Just a reminder that the Summer Mass Schedule for the 2nd Sunday Mass will be 10:00am now through Labor Day weekend. Mass will return to 11:00am on Sunday, September 7th.

Schedule for the Week of August 17th

Sunday, Aug. 17 - 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM - Mass for *Florence Dancha* requested by
Nancy Mincin

10:00 AM - Mass for *People of the Parish*

Monday, Aug. 18 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Bill Schmerbeck* requested by
Dee Schmerbeck

Tuesday, Aug. 19 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Arthur Sibold* requested by
the Sibold family

Wednesday, Aug. 20 - St. Bernard

5:30 PM - Confessions

6:00 PM - Mass for *Ronald Costa* requested by
Doug & Maria Spayd

Thursday, Aug. 21 - St. Pius

8:30 AM - Mass for *Mary Ann Weakland* requested by
Bill & Norma Foose

Friday, Aug. 22 - The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:30 AM - Mass for *Helen Mincin* requested by
Judith Hatch

Saturday, Aug. 23 - Vigil of 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

3:15 PM - Confessions

4:00 PM - Mass for *Deceased members of the Sclafani*
family requested by Mary & Ray King

Sunday, Aug. 24 - 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM - Mass for *Robert & Diane Long* requested by
Chris & Melissa Ringkamp

10:00 AM - Mass for *People of the Parish*

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

ANNUAL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY LITURGY: Bishop Mark Bartchak and the Family Life Office cordially invite all couples celebrating 1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60+ years of marriage in 2025 (and their families) to attend the Annual Wedding Anniversary Liturgy. Couples may attend Sunday, September 21 in ALTOONA at Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament or Sunday, September 28 in JOHNSTOWN at St. John Gualbert Cathedral. Both locations are handicap accessible. Liturgies in each location begin at 2:00 p.m. Most Rev. Bishop Mark will be the celebrant and homilist at each celebration. Refreshments/snacks will be available after the mass for anniversary couples and their families. Reservations must be made through your parish for either celebration by Friday, September 12th.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: Today's readings set a high bar for us Christian stewards, reminding us that a stewardship way of life is meant to be a challenging way of life.

The stewardship way of life helps us to stay in good racing shape. By putting God first in all areas of our lives, we rid ourselves of the burden and sinfulness of over-attachment to ourselves and our things. We get lean and fit and strong for the long race to Heaven. We begin to look and act more like Jesus, the leader and perfecter of faith.

The stewardship way of life sets a high bar indeed. But deeply embraced, this way of life focused on God and others will make us the saints we are called to be.

August 2nd & 3rd

Envelopes	\$	4,750.00
Loose Offerings	\$	1,198.00
Heating & Cooling	\$	200.00
Catholic Education	\$	395.00
Online Giving	\$	2,933.90
Total Offertory	\$	9,476.90

2025 Catholic Ministries Drive Goal: \$42,700

January 1, 2025 - July 31, 2025

Gifts/Pledges - \$50,385.00

Total Gifts Received - \$49,685.00

Pledge Balance - \$700.00

SCRIP TIP: Pick up all the gear your favorite students need for the new school year and earn rebates at the same time! Fill those new backpacks with pencils, pens, binders, and everything else they need to be successful students!

ST. JOHN'S BOWLING LEAGUE: A new season will begin on Friday, September 12th, continuing every other week through April. We are a fun, noncompetitive league that welcomes bowlers of all abilities. Please consider joining us for the fun and fellowship of an occasional night out at Holiday Bowl! There will be a sign-up sheet on the kiosk in the Gathering Space. For more information, call Jr. Mendez at 814-761-2181.

MUSIC MINISTRIES: Calling all Music Makers! Our St. John music ministries support our liturgies and festive parish celebrations through hymns, anthems, solos, and instrumental praise. If you carry a tune in your heart and want to sing or share your musical talent, please contact Patti at 814-414-7529. Adult Choir rehearsal will start on Wednesday, September 3rd at 7:00 p.m. Youth Choir will meet on Thursdays from 6:00-6:45 beginning September 11. Handbell Ensemble will begin on Thursday, September 11 at 7:00 p.m. Come and join your voice with ours!

ST JOHN'S PRAYER LIST

Please call Ginny Reeder (695-7671) or email her at ginny.reeder@gmail.com to add or remove someone from the prayer list. **Prayer list will be cleared in June.** **Contact Ginny or the office to have names added or kept on the 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
Barbara • Idy Caporuscio • Betty Dennis • Duane
Carol Field • Mark Hastings • Melissa Horne
Tim Jimenez • Jason Robeson • Ray King
Rosanne Krawick • Sally Langham • Elsie MacCullagh
Dave Madden • Marian Monios • John Patz
Dan Roberts • Darlene Scarpaci • Anne Showalter
Mary Frances Stokan • Donna Taddy • Tammy
Tim Temofonte • Lois Werfel

HOME WITH THE LORD: Your prayers are requested
for the repose of the soul of:
Richard Rauch
May he rest in the peace and joy of the Lord.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Registration forms for the 2025-2026 Faith Formation year are available in the Gathering Space and have been emailed to families registered last year.

All public school students entering kindergarten through 11th grade should be registered with the Faith Formation Program.

All catholic school students entering 2nd grade and 9th-11th grade should be registered with the Faith Formation Program to prepare for Sacraments.

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

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS: Please join us on Sunday, August 24th at the 10am Mass for a Blessing of the Backpacks! Students of all ages are welcome to bring their backpacks to the 10am for a special blessing. Children participating in the backpack blessing will also receive a backpack tag, pencil and ruler/bookmark. Please join us! Children's Liturgy is also returning the weekend of August 24th and will continue on Sundays during the 2nd Mass. During Children's Liturgy 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. Please join us!

2025 JOHN AND HELEN DESPOT SCHOLARSHIP: The John and Helen Despot Scholarship Fund will be offering 3 \$400 scholarships this year. This scholarship is available to any child of St. John's parish who is attending a Catholic School. Applications are available in the Gathering Space or in the parish office. All applications must be submitted by August 31st and will be awarded in early September. If you have any questions, please contact the parish office at 942-5503.

BISHOP GUILFOYLE ACADEMY FUNDRAISER: Aidan, Colin and Liam Schurr will be selling NFL Extravaganza Tickets and Lottery Calendars after all masses the weekend of August 16 & 17. NFL Extravaganza Tickets are \$20 each. Lottery calendars cost \$30.

THANK YOU! We recently received a \$1,150 annual grant from the L. J. Fleckenstein Impact Grant Fund to assist with our annual subscription to FORMED, which is available to all parishioners to access diverse Catholic movies, audiobooks, podcasts, shows, and more. To learn more about FORMED or how to sign up, contact the office. We are grateful to the Lou Fleckenstein family for creating this fund for our benefit. It is administered by our endowment partner, the Independent Catholic Foundation, Altoona, in an investment portfolio that is completely aligned with the ethical, moral, and social teachings of the Catholic Church. Learn more about the ICF at www.icfdaj.org or by calling 814-201-2080.

BIRTHDAY CORNER FOR AUGUST:

August 3rd-Judy Sneath
August 4th-Franklin Jones
August 8th-Mary Ann Cole
August 11th-Donna Harpster
August 25th-Olga Romerowicz -will be 100 years young!
August 28th-John Moyer
August 31st-John Patz

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.

****If you do not wish to have your name listed, please contact the office at 814-942-5503. ****

THE CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD: We are preparing for another year in our atrium with The Good Shepherd. We are in need of an Atrium Assistant. An assistant will work with our children ages 3 to 9 in reading scripture, accompanying children with their selected works, singing, praying and more. We could also use help in making wood materials for the children's use. Please contact Iris Tatar at 814-215-9991 (call/text) or iristat38@gmail.com.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: We invite you to shower with cards our parishioner, Olga Romerowicz, who is turning 100 on August 25th! We want to wish her the happiest of birthdays. May God bless her with health and happiness! Cards can be dropped in the Collection Basket, in the Parish Office or mailed to her at Garvey Manor.