

2025 Jubilee Year Pilgrims of Hope



**Twenty-first Sunday in
Ordinary Time
August 24, 2025**

St. John the Evangelist Church

309 Lotz Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602 814-942-5503

PASTORAL STAFF

Monsignor Michael Becker - mbecker253@aol.com
Deacon Gene Neral - gene@lifeinfocus.net
Patricia Jimenez - Director of Music
pjimenez@dioceseaj.org
Mimi Crevecoeur - Business Manager
stjohnchurch@atlanticbb.net
Diane Ryan - Faith Formation Coordinator/Secretary
stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net
Iris Tatar - Director of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
iristat38@gmail.com
Pat & Sue Podoletz - OCIA
paddypodo@gmail.com mrspodo@hotmail.com
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. 30-4:00 PM - Joyce Cunningham, Maria Spayd
Sun. Aug. 31-8:00 AM - Bill Foose, Norma Foose
Sun. Aug. 31-10:00 AM - Dave Auerbeck, Barbara Bundy

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. Aug. 30- 4:00 PM - Chloe Truscello, Jeremy Truscello
Sun. Aug. 31- 8:00 AM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED
Sun. Aug. 31-10:00 AM - Camille Krug, Aidan Schurr

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. Aug. 30- 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, NOT FILLED
Sun. Aug. 31-8:00 AM - Jennifer Helsley, Darlene Scarpaci
Sun. Aug. 31-10:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Lou Ann Clark,
Ken Gorman, Bob Olson, Susanna Tomlinson, NOT FILLED

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. Aug. 30- 4:00 PM - Dennis Moughemer, Karen Moughemer,
Larry VanSickel, Paula VanSickel,
Sun. Aug. 31- 8:00 AM - Ashley Greslick, Mike Greslick, Mike O'Neill,
Jane Strasser
Sun. Aug. 31- 10:00 AM - Walter Bloom, Wendy Campbell,
Dolores Capriotti, Mary Grace Horton

SACRISTAN

Sat. Aug. 30- 4:00 PM - Ray King, Mary King
Sun. Aug. 31- 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci
Sun. Aug. 31- 10:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan

SCRIP

Sat. Aug. 30- 4:00 PM - Lori Baker, NOT FILLED
Sun. Aug. 31- 8:00 AM - Amber Yasolsky, Heather Yasolsky
Sun. Aug. 31- 10:00 AM - Carolyn English, Patrick Podoletz

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.

A Few Words from the Pastor:

THE 10TH ANNUAL WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CARE OF CREATION – SEPTEMBER 1: Established by Pope Francis to raise awareness and encourage action on environmental issues, this day of prayer in the Catholic Church coincides with the Orthodox Church's day for the protection of the environment. It serves as the start of the Season of Creation, a broader ecumenical initiative that extends until October 4. The theme for 2025 is "Seeds of Peace and Hope". Pope Leo XIV, in his message for the occasion, uses the biblical imagery of seeds to symbolize the promise of new life and hope even in desolate places.

A NEW MASS FOR CREATION: Catholic priests will now be able to celebrate Mass "for the care of creation" after the Vatican announced that a new formulary of prayers and biblical readings for the Mass will be added to the Roman Missal. The prayers for this Mass began development during Pope Francis' pontificate in response to requests for a liturgical way of celebrating the meaning and the message of 'Laudato si', the Encyclical of Pope Francis which emphasized the importance of our care for our common home!

THE BLESSING OF NEW FACES: We have begun noticing several new faces at our weekend Masses! We welcome you and are delighted that you have joined us for worship! You are invited to register in the parish, particularly if you have children who will need Faith Formation, which begins in September. Registration forms are in the Gathering Space, or you may call the parish office. We are enriched by your presence with us!

TOP 5 HOMETOWN FAVORITE! We were notified this week that we made the Altoona Mirror's TOP 5 Hometown Favorite Place of Worship! Next round of voting begins September 14th. Stay tuned for more details on how to vote. Thank you for voting and letting our community know what a great parish we have here at St. John's!

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.

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!

"SPONSORS OF HOPE" CAMPAIGN: The Permanent Diaconate Community of the Altoona-Johnstown diocese is launching a "Sponsors of Hope" campaign to raise funds to continue supporting our foreign missions program. Our foreign mission program encompasses many facets. What is prompting us to begin our "Sponsors of Hope" campaign is the dedication of our contact, Pakistani priest Father Khalil Maqsood. With his guidance, we have opened a school for the "Brickyard Children," who work daily in the brickyards and have no opportunity to receive an education. In addition, we have been helping the many persecuted Christians who are deprived of the basic necessities of life, such as food, medicine, and clothing. Hopefully, by joining our efforts to raise funds, we can not only help further the education of these impoverished children but also serve as a beacon of hope by bringing the mercy of Christ and His love into their world. Though the main thrust of our work is helping the children, our long-term goal is to continue to reach out by providing food, medical supplies, clothing, and prayerful support through the guidance of our trusted friend, Father Kahlil. We also provide assistance in India and other parts of the world as the need arises. We are now open to anyone who may want to join us on this journey. If you would like to know more about our foreign missions program, we have provided information in the gathering space. Or please see the Deacon's Website: <https://www.deaconaj.org>

Schedule for the Week of August 24th

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*

Monday, Aug. 25 - Weekday

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

Tuesday, Aug. 26 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Florence Danha* requested by
Nancy Mincin

Wednesday, Aug. 27 - St. Monica

5:30 PM - Confessions

6:00 PM - Mass for *Frank Mento* requested by
Boby & Ginny Reeder

Thursday, Aug. 28- St. Augustine

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

Friday, Aug. 29 - The Passion of St. John the Baptist

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

Saturday, Aug. 30 - Vigil of 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

3:15 PM - Confessions

4:00 PM - Mass for *People of the Parish*

Sunday, Aug. 31 - 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM - Mass for *Florence Bacho* requested by
Dan & Diane Turcovsky

10:00 AM - Mass for the *50th Wedding Anniversary of
Mary Grace & Mike Horton* requested by sons Paul &
Chris

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: Today's readings show us that it is not enough to be Christ's disciples in name only. To be a real disciple, we must live for Christ every day and in every aspect of life. This kind of life takes strength and discipline. Intentionally and consistently offering the Lord the best of our time, talent and treasure through a stewardship way of life is a form of spiritual discipline. These spiritual disciplines teach us to become ever more aware of God's constant provision for us and they keep us on the narrow path towards the Kingdom of Heaven. The more we embrace this way of life, the more we can be 'trained' by the Lord in the ways of true discipleship. Though difficult, these disciplines become a source of spiritual strength. In the week ahead, let's strive to embrace the spiritual disciplines that can transform us into real disciples of Christ and lead us into the Kingdom of God.

August 9th & 10th

Envelopes	\$	5,460.00
Loose Offerings	\$	757.00
Heating & Cooling	\$	1,060.00
Assumption	\$	60.00
Missionary Coop	\$	1,103.00
Online Giving	\$	2,064.90
Total Offertory	\$	10,504.90

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

CATHOLIC FOUNDATION GALA FEATURING JAY

PATERNO: The Independent Foundation will celebrate its 35th anniversary on Sunday, September 14th at the Blair County Convention Center. Gala guests will enjoy a delightful social hour beginning at 4pm followed by a gourmet dinner, award presentations, and Jay Paterno's inspiring reflections of his family's Catholic legacy. The Master of Ceremonies will be WTAJ News Anchor Marty Radovanic. Individual tickets are \$65. Business attire preferred. For complete details including ticket purchases and corporate sponsorship opportunities, please visit www.icfoundation.us or call 814-201-2080.

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!

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.

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.

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

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

Registration forms for the 2025-2026 Faith Formation
year are available in the Gathering Space.

**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 gath-
er the younger children during the readings and homily
to provide a kid friendly version of the readings and oth-
er 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.

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 happi-
ness! Cards can be dropped in the Collection Basket, in
the Parish Office or mailed to her at Garvery Manor.

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.

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

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.

SOUND TECHNICIANS NEEDED: Persons willing to monitor
our digital sound iPad during worship services are needed
to rotate with other sound technicians. Training will be
provided but the slide keys program is easy to understand
and maneuver. You can still sit anywhere in the sanctuary.
Email Patti Jimenez, pjimenez@dioceseaj.org, or call/text
her at 814-414-7529 for more information. Better yet,
chat with a trained tech for the real buzz. Will you meet
this call of ministry?

THE CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD: We are pre-
paring for another year in our atrium with The Good
Shepherd. We are in need of an Atrium Assistant. An as-
sistant 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.