

2025 Jubilee Year Pilgrims of Hope



**Twenty-sixth Sunday in
Ordinary Time
September 28, 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

September Prayer Intention of Pope Francis

Our Relationship with Creation

We pray that inspired by St. Francis, we
might experience our independence with
all creatures who are loved by God and
worthy of love and respect.



NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS

LECTORS

Sat. Oct. 4-4:00 PM - Jeremy Truscello, John Sukala
Sun. Oct. 5-8:00 AM - Mary Truesdale, Susan Podoletz
Sun. Oct. 5-11:00 AM - Iris Tatar, Dave Auerbeck

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. Oct. 4- 4:00 PM - Abigail Hovance, Sadie Swope
Sun. Oct. 5- 8:00 AM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED
Sun. Oct. 5-11:00 AM - Estella Koch, Evie Koch

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. Oct. 4- 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, NOT FILLED
Sun. Oct. 5-8:00 AM - Ginny Reeder, NOT FILLED
Sun. Oct. 5-11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Barbara Bundy,
Dolores Capriotti, Lou Ann Clark, Ken Gorman,
Susanna Tomlinson

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. Oct. 4- 4:00 PM - Betsy Lloyd, Dennis Moughemer,
Karen Moughemer, NOT FILLED
Sun. Oct. 5- 8:00 AM - Jane Becker, John Becker, Ray Kennedy,
Jane Strasser
Sun. Oct. 5- 11:00 AM - Walter Bloom, Mary Grace Horton,
Peg Madden, NOT FILLED

SACRISTAN

Sat. Oct. 4- 4:00 PM - Ray King, Mary King
Sun. Oct. 5- 8:00 AM - NOT FILLED
Sun. Oct. 5- 11:00 AM - Barbara Bundy

SCRIP

Sat. Oct. 4- 4:00 PM - Lori Baker, NOT FILLED
Sun. Oct. 5- 8:00 AM - Erika Yasolsky, Heather Yasolsky
Sun. Oct. 5- 11:00 AM - Carolyn English, 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:

COME TO OUR MINISTRY FAIR! If you are reading this on the way home in the car, turn around and come back to our Parish Ministry Fair in Bailey Hall (9:00 – 1:00)! For those who went to Saturday evening Mass, come back on Sunday and enjoy the fellowship of our Ministry Fair! This is a very practical but also deeply spiritual event in a Catholic parish. Its importance goes beyond “sign-ups” — it helps build up the parish as the living Body of Christ. Why should we take time to visit the fair? First, it reminds us that parish life isn’t just attending Mass but involves actively participating in the mission of the parish. The fair can also help a parishioner find a ministry that suits them, one that fits their skills, schedule, and passion. Further, parishioners often know only a small circle of people. When you come to a ministry fair, you meet ministry leaders and volunteers and see the “family” dimension of parish life. A fair shows that the Church is a place where people care, serve, and grow — which can draw people deeper into faith.

ADULT ED PAUSES THIS WEEK! Because of our Ministry Fair, our Sunday morning adult ed gatherings will pause this Sunday, to resume on October 5. Our sessions are a deep dive into the CREED. Making use of content provided by the Augustine Institute and available on “Formed”, each session will provide enlightening insight and engaging Q&A interaction. What better way to complete our Jubilee Year than by a journey into the basics of our Catholic Faith!

DON’T BELIEVE ALL THAT YOU SEE ON THE INTERNET! A search for “Pope Leo” on YouTube will turn up dozens of fake videos of the Holy Father purportedly making statements that range from the plausible, such as reflections on the Eucharist, to the unlikely, such as the announcement of his resignation. Most of the videos have received no more than a few hundred views, but some of the **deepfakes** have started to go viral. (The term “**deepfake**,” coined less than a decade ago, refers to videos, photos, or audio recordings altered to *show people doing or saying things they have never said or done*.) Pope Leo himself recently noted an example of the confusion which these AI videos can cause. In an interview with an American journalist, the Pope recalled his surprise when an acquaintance asked him with concern if he was all right. AI-generated photographs of the Pope appearing to fall down a flight of stairs outside St. Peter’s Basilica had circulated on the internet in June. The images, which caught the attention of an internet fact-checker, were “so good that they thought it was me,” Pope Leo said. Of course, the photos were fake and the pope is fine!

A GREAT WEEK FOR SAINTS: The liturgical calendar this week will highlight the Archangels (Sept 29), St. Jerome (Sept 30), St. Therese of the Child Jesus (Oct 1), the Holy Guardian Angels (Oct 2), and St. Francis of Assisi (Oct 4).

THE SEASON OF CREATION: This observance is meant to heighten our awareness of our need to care for the natural world and all its inhabitants! Though the “season” concludes with the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, our care for God’s creation must continue year-round!

BLESSING OUR PETS! In celebration of the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi on October 4, we will be holding our annual Pet Blessing on Sunday, October 5th at 1pm in front of the church. This is a wonderful opportunity to do something special for those creatures of God that bring us such joy; St. Francis of Assisi, pray for us!

SAVE THE DATES!

St. John’s Ministry Fair: Sunday, September 28th 9am-1pm in Fr. Bailey Hall (gym) See flyer for information!

Annual Blessing of Pets: Sunday, October 5th at 1pm in the circle in front of the Church

Pumpkinfest: Saturday, October 11th-See details below!

Diocesan Pilgrimage Bus Trip to Washington, DC: Friday, October 17th-Call office to register by September 26th

Annual Trunk or Treat: Sunday, October 26th beginning at 12:30 pm in the parking lot

PUMPKIN FEST: The 19th Annual Pumpkin Fest will be on Saturday, October 11th from 10am-4pm on Allegheny Street between Front & Union Streets. St. John’s will be selling homemade soups again at their booth. If you are able to make 5-10 quarts of soup, please sign up on the kiosk. We are also looking for volunteers for various time slots on the day of the Pumpkin Fest to help sell soup. If you are interested in helping at the booth, please sign up on the kiosk. All profits will benefit the Social Committee and upcoming Parish Events. Contact Ginny Reeder at 814-695-7671 for questions or more information. Thank you for supporting our Parish!

Schedule for the Week of September 28th

Sunday, Sept. 28 - 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM - Mass for *Florence Dancha* requested by
Michele Collins

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

Monday, Sept. 29 - Sts. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael

8:30 AM - Mass for *Frank Mento* requested by
Bob & Ginny Reeder

Tuesday, Sept. 30 - St. Jerome

8:30 AM - Mass for *Grady Weyandt* requested by
Linda Weyandt

Wednesday, Oct. 1 - St. Therese of the Child Jesus

5:30 PM - Confessions

6:00 PM - Mass for *Joyce Bagshaw* requested by
the Sibold family

Thursday, Oct. 2 - The Holy Guardian Angels

8:30 AM - Mass for *Dave Petrak* requested by
Mary Petrak

Friday, Oct. 3 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Communion Service

Saturday, Oct. 4 - Vigil of 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

3:15 PM - Confessions

4:00 PM - Mass for *Ida Prosperi* requested by
John Prosperi

Sunday, Oct. 5- 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM - Mass for *Bob Cooney* requested by
Ginger Cooney & family

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

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: Our Lord Himself gives us a very clear illustration of the urgency for us to put our powers to good use in today's Gospel Passage from Luke. He tells the rather chilling parable of the rich man who ignored poor Lazarus during their lifetimes. At the moment of the rich man's death, he goes down to the netherworld while Lazarus is taken to the eternal joy and comfort in the bosom of Abraham. The rich man keenly regrets his complacency towards the needs of Lazarus, but it is too late for regret. His choices have played out and now the rich man will face the consequences of his failure to use the gifts God gave him. We have all been given power by God, in the form of our time, talents and treasure. Today's readings remind us to use that power for great good, and not let it go to waste.

September 13th & 14th

Envelopes	\$	3,709.00
Loose Offerings	\$	376.00
Heating & Cooling	\$	176.00
Catholic Education	\$	21.00
Catholic University	\$	70.00
Online Giving	\$	1,570.40
Total Offertory	\$	5,922.40

2025 Catholic Ministries Drive Goal: \$42,700

January 1, 2025 - August 31, 2025

Gifts/Pledges - \$51,225.00

Total Gifts Received - \$50,625.00

Pledge Balance - \$600.00

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.

MINISTRY FAIR: Ever wonder what ministries we have here at St. John's or how you can participate? Not sure who to contact if you are interested in becoming more actively involved within the Parish Community and beyond? At our Ministry Fair you can learn about and join church ministries, discover opportunities to serve, and find a place for your unique talents and gifts within the parish community. Come to the Ministry Fair on Sunday, September 28th from 9am to 1pm in Fr. Bailey Hall for information!

THE GABRIEL PROJECT: The Altoona Gabriel Project is currently in need of newborn diapers, clothing & pajamas for boys and girls, newborn, size 2T, 3T and 4T. You can help by placing these items in the bassinet in the Gathering Space. Since April, we have helped 34 moms and babies. If you know of moms who need help, call 814-440-1021. Thankyou for all of your donations.

ALTAR SERVERS WANTED: What better way to be involved in our liturgy and our parish life than as an altar server! If your children are in grade 4 or higher, they can be an altar server. We are all called to use our gifts and talents to serve God and others, and answering that call as an altar server is an act that reaps many blessings. As an added bonus, St. John 's has a special sector to altar serving where parents can serve with their children. Perhaps you have seen these families serving together; that is no accident! Our parents choose to serve with their children and share in the joy of deepening their Catholic faith together. Please consider joining this special ministry and receive detailed training as a server. You may contact Iris at iristat38@gmail.com or contact the Parish Office to sign up.

GIVE US THIS DAY: It's time to renew our Give Us This Day order for December 2025-November 2026. Samples are available in the Gathering Space. If you are a current subscriber, renewal envelopes are included with your September copy. New subscribers may use the envelopes provided with the samples. We can order either the standard print for \$33 or the large print for \$44 for an annual subscription. Orders are due by October 6th. Please contact the Parish Office with questions. Thank you!

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 • Cheryl Dennis
Duane • Carol Field • Mark Hastings • Melissa Horne
Tim Jimenez • Ray King • Rosanne Krawick
Sally Langham • Elsie MacCullagh • Dave Madden
Marian Monios • Mary Ann • John Patz • Dan Roberts
Darlene Scarpaci • Anne Showalter • Donna Taddy
Tammy • Tim Temofonte • Lois Werfel

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: The Human Needs Office of St. Vincent de Paul in Altoona is run by a small group of volunteers who offer compassion, prayer and financial assistance to those in need. Volunteers make calls to those in need, set up visits, corroborate the need request and coordinate payments. The ever-increasing demand for assistance from the community continues to create a backlog for assistance and more volunteers are needed. If you are interested in helping in any way, please contact Alice Sturm at 814-312-0156.

JUBILEE 2025 PILGRIMS OF HOPE ECUMENICAL CHORAL CONCERT: You and your friends are invited to Saint John Gualbert Cathedral, Johnstown for a Jubilee Expression of Music at 2:00 p.m on Sunday, October 5th. The choirs featured will be: Diocesan High School Choir: featuring students from Bishop Carroll, Bishop Guilfoyle and Bishop McCort; Westmont Presbyterian Choir, Greater Johnstown Community Choir and Greater Johnstown Diocesan Festival Choir. Before and following the concert In the Zion Lutheran Hall next door you can view the Expressions of Hope Art and Photo display and refreshments.

PUBLIC ROSARY RALLY: At Heritage Plaza, Altoona On Saturday, October 11th, The Knights of Columbus Chapter 551 and Cathedral Christian Mothers invite you to join them for a public Rosary Prayer in cooperation with the ***America Needs Fatima*** committee. The rosary will start at Noon in the Heritage Plaza. Refreshments prior to the rosary hosted by Cathedral Christian Mothers with music by the Holy Spirit Ministry. A luncheon will be held at the K of C building (1508 12th Avenue) after the rosary.

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 to receive Communion at home, a visit or cards please text or call Mary Susick at 814-207-0185.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Faith Formation Meet the Teacher & Meeting: Sunday,

September 28th - No Class

October 5th- Class & Mentor Meeting for Confirmation Students after 11am Mass

October 12th- No Class

October 19th- Class & SHYCON

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.

OCIA: The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) is a process providing for those adults, unbaptized or baptized, who are seeking to know more about the Catholic faith and become a part of that faith. Here at St. John's the process is also open to those adult Catholics who have been away from the church and are seeking to become closer to Christ. If you are interested in growing in your faith, please contact Pat at 717-575-4224 or Sue at 717-575-1142.

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, or for the spiritual and temporal wellbeing of a person or persons who are living, especially on the occasion of a wedding anniversary or birthday, or for someone's personal/private/health intention. Knowing that the Mass is being celebrated for someone's intention can be more beneficial and comforting than any other expression of sympathy, concern, and love. Mass cards are available so that you can notify the person or family of your request. Though not obligatory, the usual offering within the Diocese of Altoona Johnstown is \$10.00. We are currently scheduling masses for the 2025 and 2026 year. If you have any questions, or to submit an intention, please call the office at 814-942-5503.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS: Court Prince Gallitzin # 2625 serves all 11 parishes and beyond. New members are always welcome! On Monday, October 13th, 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.