

2025 Jubilee Year Pilgrims of Hope



**Twenty-seventh
Sunday in Ordinary
Time**

October 5, 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
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Mimi Crevecoeur - Business Manager
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Pat & Sue Podoletz - OCIA
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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

October Prayer Intention of Pope Francis

Collaboration between different
Religious Traditions

We pray that believers in different
religious traditions might work together to
defend and promote peace, justice and
human fraternity.



NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS

LECTORS

Sat. Oct. 11-4:00 PM - Joyce Cunningham, Maria Spayd
Sun. Oct. 12-8:00 AM - Ginny Reeder, Mary Truesdale
Sun. Oct. 12-11:00 AM - Susan Podoletz, Iris Tatar

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. Oct. 11- 4:00 PM - Abigail Hovance, Sadie Swope
Sun. Oct. 12- 8:00 AM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED
Sun. Oct. 12-11:00 AM - Camille Krug, Aidan Schurr

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. Oct. 11- 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, NOT FILLED
Sun. Oct. 12-8:00 AM - Ashley Greslick, Mike Greslick
Sun. Oct. 12-11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Lou Ann Clark,
Ken Gorman, Bob Olson, Susanna Tomlinson, NOT FILLED

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. Oct. 11- 4:00 PM - Betsy Lloyd, Jeremy Truscello,
Larry VanSickel, Paula VanSickel
Sun. Oct. 12- 8:00 AM - Mike O'Neill, Ed Stoltz, Daniel Turcovsky,
Diane Turcovsky
Sun. Oct. 12- 11:00 AM - Walter Bloom, Dolores Capriotti,
Peg Madden, NOT FILLED

SACRISTAN

Sat. Oct. 11- 4:00 PM - Ray King, Mary King
Sun. Oct. 12- 8:00 AM - Ashley Greslick
Sun. Oct. 12- 11:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti

SCRIP

Sat. Oct. 11- 4:00 PM - Lori Baker, Marge Rudolph
Sun. Oct. 12- 8:00 AM - Amber Yasolsky, Heather Yasolsky
Sun. Oct. 12- 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:

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!

EXTENDING A HAND, OPENING OUR HEARTS! We are beginning a new twinning mission, one that is very close to home, in our own diocese! In partnership with Catholic Charities, St. John's is taking direction from St. Stephen's Parish, McConnellsburg, with the goal of continuing the FULTON COUNTY CATHOLIC MISSION previously staffed by the Carmelite Community of the Word.

Our First Project: St. Stephen's and the Fulton County Family Partnership have informed us that they need winter outerwear for children and teens. We will designate a place in the gathering space for donations of new or gently used items. Our timeline will end Sunday, November 16th.

Volunteers are needed for a team that will assist in this project and future ones. If you have a missionary calling but prefer to stay stateside, this Mission is a great opportunity to follow Jesus in caring for people enduring hardship. Contact Mary Lee Madigan: mlmdcreek@aol.com or 814-931-2651

OUR SECOND SUNDAY COLLECTION: Food prices continue to rise, and this is a burden especially on the needy among us. Just a reminder that the second Sunday of each month is an occasion when we can support our local food banks with non-perishable items and/or cash or gift cards. *"When I was hungry you gave me to eat..."*

ADULT ED RESUMES THIS WEEK! Our Sunday morning adult ed gatherings resume this Sunday. 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!

A CONVERSION OF HEART NEEDED! As our Season of Creation concludes, Pope Leo XIV addressed participants in a global meeting on the "care of our common home," and expressed gratitude For the enduring legacy of Pope Francis' encyclical, *Laudate Si*, noting how its message has inspired schools, dioceses, academic programs, and international dialogue. Challenges remain, he said, and are not only political and social, but also spiritual, calling for what Pope Francis described as a "conversion of heart." The Pope explained that the heart "is where the deepest searching takes place, where one's ultimate identity is found, and where decisions are forged. It is only by returning to the heart that a true ecological conversion can take place." This transformation, he continued, means shifting "from collecting data to caring; from environmental discourse to lifestyles inspired by faith and love of God." Quoting Pope Francis' description of Saint Francis of Assisi, the Holy Father reminded participants that ecological concern, justice for the poor, social commitment, and inner peace are inseparable.

MANY THANKS! Our gratitude goes out to all those who participated in our Ministries Fair – those who represented so well the various ministries of our parish, and those who attended and are giving thought to get more involved in our life as a Catholic community of faith!

SAVE THE DATES!

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

Mass of Remembrance: Sunday, November 2nd at the 11am Mass

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!

BG CLASS OF 1978 ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP: If your child transferred into the BG school system this year (Pre-K through 12), he or she may be eligible to receive one \$850 scholarship from the BG Class of 1978 Endowment. Please visit the Independent Catholic Foundation's "Grants & Scholarships" webpage via www.icfoundation.us to download an application. Please give your pastor or parish administrator ample time to sign it. Parents may submit applications to the Foundation until 4:00 PM, Thursday, November 6.

Schedule for the Week of October 5th

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*

Monday, Oct. 6 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Frank Frye & Darla Frye* requested by

Gene & Joan Frye

Tuesday, Oct. 7 - Our Lady of the Rosary

8:30 AM - Mass for *Tim & Donna Sheehan* requested by

Connie Burket

Wednesday, Oct. 8 - Weekday

5:30 PM - Confessions

6:00 PM - Mass for *Tom Semelsberger* requested by

Fran Semelsberger

Thursday, Oct. 9 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Communion Service

Friday, Oct. 10 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Communion Service

Saturday, Oct. 11 - Vigil of 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

3:15 PM - Confessions

4:00 PM - Mass for *Gary Johnson* requested by

Dr. Joseph & Pam Klobuka

Sunday, Oct. 12- 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Nancy Mincin

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

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.

MADRIGAL FEAST JUBILEE: Hear ye! Hear ye! You are cordially invited to attend the Madrigal Feast Jubilee on Friday, January 2, 2026 in Father Bailey Hall to celebrate the Epiphany of our Lord, Jesus Christ. A delectable meal of roast pork and roast turkey will be served with all the trimmings amidst entertainment of music and folly. Make way on your calendar for tickets will be on sale soon. Prey thee, dost thou have wire coat hangers to donate to our cause?

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!

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: Our readings today show us that living a stewardship way of life - that is, a life focused on serving God and His Kingdom - is not easy. They also show us that our lives belong to God, not to us and that God will indeed bring about the fulfillment of His kingdom. We just need to have faith that He can do it and commit to our small part in His grand design. Living our lives in His service is very much our responsibility, as Jesus explains through the parable of the unprofitable servant. Our Lord describes a scene in which a servant has just come in from tending to the master's affairs and asks whether it would be reasonable for the master to begin waiting on his servant. Of course it would not be reasonable. The servant would be expected to continue to serve his master until he has completed the work the master has given him that day. Jesus says we should have this same attitude before God. The time, talents, and treasure entrusted to us are all God's. Our very lives belong to God. Whatever we do on God's behalf with our lives and gifts is imply our God-given responsibility. The stewardship way of life makes the privilege and responsibility of serving Christ and His kingdom a reality.

September 20th & 21st

Envelopes	\$	3,888.00
Loose Offerings	\$	331.00
Heating & Cooling	\$	450.00
Catholic Education	\$	5.00
Catholic University	\$	50.00
Retired Priest	\$	75.00
Missionary Coop	\$	20.00
Online Giving	\$	1,847.52
Total Offertory	\$	6,666.52

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

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.

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

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. Thank you for all of your donations.

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.

BUS TRIP: 25 Bus seats are still available for the Altoona area for the October 17 Pilgrimage to Washington D.C. Please call Jeanne Thompson at 814-317-2672 to reserve your seats. Payments of \$60.00 per person are made payable to the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown. Buses will be leaving the PNG Ballfield at 7:00am.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

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

October 12th- No Class

October 19th- Class & SHYCON

October 26th-Class & Trunk or Treat

November 2nd-No Class

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.

SEEKING LECTORS: Have you ever considered serving the parish as a Lector? If you are interested, please contact Bob Olson for more information at rolson0581@aol.com or call 814-696-0581.

ROSARY DEVOTION: All parishioners are invited to a Rosary Devotion honoring Our Lady of Fatima with a candle-light procession Sunday, October 12th at 5pm at St. Michael Church in Hollidaysburg. Sponsored by The Legion of Mary, Our Lady of the Angels. Included Rosary Procession featuring the Glorious Mysteries and Benediction.

FATIMA DEVOTIONS: The Franciscan Friars, T.O.R., from Loretto, invite you to participate with them in celebrating the Fatima Devotions on Monday October 13th, 2025, at 6:30pm at the Immaculate Conception Chapel on the campus of St. Francis University. The presider will be Fr. Brian Norris. **Bring a Friend!**

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 donna31049@gmail.com or 814-632-3509.