

# 2025 Jubilee Year Pilgrims of Hope



The Holy Family of  
Jesus, Mary and Joseph  
December 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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Patricia Jimenez - Director of Music  
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Ken Dunmire - Maintenance

### **MASS SCHEDULE**

**MONDAY - 8:30 AM    TUESDAY - 8:30 AM**  
**WEDNESDAY SOLEMNITY OF MARY VIGIL - 4:00 PM**  
**THURSDAY SOLEMNITY OF MARY - 10:00 AM**  
**FRIDAY - 8:30 AM    SATURDAY - 4:00 PM**  
**SUNDAY - 8:00 AM & 11:00 AM**

### **December Prayer Intention of Pope Leo**

*For Christians in Areas of Conflict*



For Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.

### **NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS**

#### **LECTORS**

Wed. Dec. 31-4:00 PM - Patrick Schurr, Iris Tatar  
Thurs. Jan. 1-10:00 AM - Mireille Crevecoeur, Susanna Tomlinson  
Sat. Jan. 3-4:00 PM - Jeremy Truscello, Joyce Cunningham  
Sun. Jan. 4-8:00 AM - Mary Truesdale, Susan Podoletz  
Sun. Jan. 4-11:00 AM - Iris Tatar, Laverne Kovacs

#### **ALTAR SERVERS**

Wed. Dec. 31-4:00 PM - Abigail Hovance, NOT FILLED  
Thurs. Jan. 1-10:00 AM - Aidan Schurr, Sadie Swope  
Sat. Jan. 3-4:00 PM - Abigail Hovance, Sadie Swope  
Sun. Jan. 4-8:00 AM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED  
Sun. Jan. 4-11:00 AM - Madison Kantis, Lexi Tatar

#### **EUCARISTIC MINISTERS**

Wed. Dec. 31-4:00 PM - Daniel Turcovsky, Diane Turcovsky  
Thurs. Jan. 1-10:00 AM - Jennifer Helsley, David Loth  
Sat. Jan. 3-4:00 PM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED  
Sun. Jan. 4-8:00 AM - Jennifer Helsley, NOT FILLED  
Sun. Jan. 4-11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Barbara Bundy,  
Dolores Capriotti, Ken Gorman, Susanna Tomlinson,  
NOT FILLED

#### **MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY**

Wed. Dec. 31-4:00 PM - Ray Kennedy, Ginny Reeder,  
Jane Strasser, NOT FILLED  
Thurs. Jan. 1-10:00 AM - Jane Becker, John Becker,  
Carolyn English, Patrick Podoletz  
Sat. Jan. 3-4:00 PM - Connie Baker, Larry VanSickel,  
Paula VanSickel, NOT FILLED  
Sun. Jan. 4-8:00 AM - Carolyn English, Ashley Greslick,  
Mike Greslick, Ginny Reeder  
Sun. Jan. 4-11:00 AM - Lou Ann Clark, Mitchell Evans, Mary Horton,  
Peg Madden

#### **SACRISTAN**

Wed. Dec. 31-4:00 PM - Barbara Bundy  
Thurs. Jan. 1-10:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti  
Sat. Jan. 3-4:00 PM - Mary & Ray King  
Sun. Jan. 4-8:00 AM - Ashley Greslick  
Sun. Jan. 4-11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan

#### **SCRIP**

Sat. Jan. 3-4:00 PM - Lori Baker, Marge Rudolph  
Sun. Jan. 4-8:00 AM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED  
Sun. Jan. 4-11:00 AM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED

## A Few Words from the Pastor:

**MASSES FOR NEW YEARS, THE FEAST OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD:** January 1<sup>st</sup> is a holy day of obligation. Masses for the feast will be held at 4 o'clock on New Year's Eve, and 10 o'clock on New Year's Day.

### A FAMILY NEW YEAR PRAYER

Our Loving Father,  
We thank You for the gift of family  
and for walking with us through the past year.  
As we enter this new year together,  
we invite You into our home and into our hearts.  
Cover our family with Your love and protection.  
Give us unity in times of disagreement, patience in moments of stress,  
and joy in the everyday moments we share.  
Guide our decisions, bless our work and studies,  
and help us to support one another with kindness and understanding.  
May our home be a place of peace, laughter, and faith.  
When challenges come, remind us to lean on You and on each other.  
When blessings come, help us to remain grateful and humble.  
We commit this new year to You.  
Lead our family in health, hope, and purpose,  
and keep us close to You and to one another.  
All this we ask through Jesus Christ, the newborn Prince of Peace.  
Amen.

**WHY DO WE MAKE NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS?** At its heart, the tradition has religious roots, reflecting a universal truth: Each new year offers a fresh start—a chance to grow, to heal, and to become better versions of ourselves. New Year's resolutions can also be personal goals—related to health, habits, finances, or individual growth. Whether religious or secular, the core reason for making resolutions remains the same: self-examination, letting go of what no longer serves us, and committing to positive change.

### SOME SUGGESTED PERSONAL SPIRITUAL RESOLUTIONS

- Begin or end each day with prayer, even if brief and simple.
- Read a portion of sacred or inspirational text regularly (daily or weekly).
- Practice gratitude by thanking God for at least one blessing each day.
- Seek forgiveness quickly and choose reconciliation over resentment.
- Spend time in silence or reflection to listen for God's guidance.
- Commit to living with greater patience, kindness, and humility.

### FAMILY SPIRITUAL RESOLUTIONS

- Pray together regularly as a family (daily or weekly).
- Share faith stories, reflections, or lessons during meals or gatherings.
- Create a peaceful home atmosphere by speaking with love and respect.
- Serve others together through acts of kindness or community service.
- Celebrate milestones with prayer and thanksgiving.

### SAVE THE DATES!

**Solemnity of Mary Masses:** Wednesday, December 31st at 4pm & Thursday, January 1st at 10am

**Madrigal Feast Jubilee:** Friday, January 2nd at 5:30pm in Fr. Bailey Hall

## ***Schedule for the Week of December 28th***

### **Sunday, Dec. 28 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

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

11:00 AM - Mass for *Gary Johnson* requested by  
*Dr. Joseph & Pam Klobuka*

### **Monday, Dec. 29 - Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord**

8:30 AM - Mass for *Michael Rudolph* requested by  
*Chuck & Mary Beth Edwards*

### **Tuesday, Dec. 30 - Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord**

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

### **Wednesday, Dec. 31 - Vigil of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

4:00 PM - Mass for *Deceased members of Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth* requested by Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth

### **Thursday, Jan. 1 - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

10:00 AM - Mass for *Mary Catherine Majestic* requested by *Barbara Bundy*

### **Friday, Jan. 2 - Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen**

8:30 AM - Mass for *Joyce Cordek* requested by  
*Larry Cordek*

### **Saturday, Jan. 3 - Vigil of The Epiphany of the Lord**

3:15 PM - Confessions

4:00 PM - Mass for *Betty J. Caldwell* requested by  
*Leslie Ventre*

### **Sunday, Jan. 4 - The Epiphany**

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

11:00 AM - Mass for *Sister Mary Ann Palko* requested by  
*Barbara Bundy*

**BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Please email any upcoming bulletin announcements to Diane Ryan at [stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net](mailto: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.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!** In this New Year, may God's unfailing hope lift your spirit, renew your strength, and guide you to fulfill your dreams. Have a blessed and hope-filled year ahead! Happy New Year from the St. John's Staff!

**2025 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE:** Our Catholic Ministries Drive supports 10 ministries throughout our diocese, which all fall into one of our three main focuses of evangelization, serving those in need, or formation of our priests and deacons. Any funds received beyond the goal come directly back to the parish to be used where needed. Currently we are \$9,535 over our goal amount! Thank you for supporting the Catholic Ministries Drive!

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER:** Today, as we continue our celebration of the Christmas season, we focus our attention in a special way on the Holy Family. This is a great time to thank God for the gift of family life. The Catechism of the Catholic Church refers to the family as the "domestic church", so today's feast is also a fitting time to consider the importance of the virtue of hospitality – a fundamental aspect of the stewardship way of life – within the context of our domestic churches. Why is hospitality so important to a stewardship way of life, beginning with family life? Well, we can hardly expect our family members to pray together, study their faith, and serve others if we have a home where we are disconnected from each other or the atmosphere is stressful and tense. Of course there will be moments like this. But we must be intentional in creating homes where everyone feels cherished, accepted and important. We want our homes to be the place where we can get recharged and filled up to go out and bring love to everyone we encounter outside our home. Lest we think that the Holy Family is somehow unable to sympathize with our struggles, we see in our Gospel passage from Matthew that this Family was certainly not free from trials and stress, quite the contrary. The very life of the newborn Jesus was threatened by Herod's extreme jealousy such that the family had to flee suddenly into a foreign land for protection until Herod's death. Yet Mary and Joseph remained united and ever obedient to the leading of the Holy Spirit for direction. Who better to turn to for help and inspiration for our own families?! Happy feast day to all families living a stewardship way of life!

### **December 13th/14th**

Envelopes	\$	4,438.00
Loose Offerings	\$	2,935.00
Heating & Cooling	\$	480.00
Catholic Education	\$	10.00
Retirement Fund	\$	378.00
Thanksgiving	\$	100.00
Christmas Flowers	\$	255.00
Christmas Offering	\$	900.00
Immaculate Conception	\$	484.00
Online Giving	\$	1,448.90
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>11,428.90</b>

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

**January 1, 2025 - December 15, 2025**

**Gifts/Pledges - \$52,635.00**

**Total Gifts Received - \$52,235.00**

**Pledge Balance - \$400.00**

**THANK YOU!** Thank you to Cindy Trimarco for hosting the Christmas Centerpiece class and for donating the proceeds of \$200 to our Charity Fund for our local food banks. We appreciate your generosity!

### **ST JOHN'S PRAYER LIST**

Please call Ginny Reeder (695-7671) or email her at [genny.reeder@gmail.com](mailto:genny.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 • Cheryl Dennis • Duane  
Ed Drexler • Charles Elder • Carol Field • Donald Free  
Donna Fornwalt • Mark Hastings • Melissa Horne  
Tim Jimenez • Ray King • Rosanne Krawick  
Sally Langham • Mary Lauterbach Elsie MacCullagh  
Dave Madden • Marian Monios Mary Ann  
Mary O Fleming • Richard Olson • John Patz  
Bette Richards • Dan Roberts • Darlene Scarpaci  
Anne Showalter • Donna Taddy • Tammy  
Tim Temofonte • Lois Werfel  
Heather Yasolsky

**HOME WITH THE LORD:** Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of:  
Jack Moyer, husband of Donna Moyer  
May he rest in the peace and joy of the Lord.

**GABRIEL PROJECT:** The Altoona Gabriel Project now has 14 churches that have joined our ministry. We have over 60 moms and babies using our services. We are currently in need of boys size 2t clothing, diaper cream, and baby wash. Monetary donations are also appreciated for pack n' plays, cribs, and high chairs. We are not in need of diapers and wipes at this time. Thank you for your continued generosity in helping those who are in need. The Gabriel project number is 814-440-1021.

**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.

**SCRIP:** Did you know you can raise money for our parish when you buy food for your holiday gatherings ? Use scrip when you go grocery shopping for holiday get-togethers and earn rebates for St. John's. We have Walmart, Giant Eagle, Hometown Market, Martin's and Weis gift cards in stock. Drop off your order form at the scrip table as you come in to mass and pick it up on your way out after mass.

**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, the spiritual wellbeing of a person living, a wedding anniversary, a birthday, or for a personal/private intention. The usual offering for a mass intention is \$10. We are accepting intentions for the 2026 year. Please call the Parish Office to submit an intention.

### **FAITH FORMATION NEWS**

**December 28th-No Class**

**January 4th-No Class**

**January 11th-Class & Confirmation Mentor Meeting**  
following 11am Mass in the gym

**January 18th-No Class**

**January 25th-Class**

**February 1st-No Class**

**February 8th-Family Lent Event and Youth Liturgy at 11am Mass**

**February 15th-No Class**

**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](mailto:stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net).*

**MARRIAGE PREP 2026:** The Marriage Preparation Schedule for 2026 is available at [www.dioceseaj.org](http://www.dioceseaj.org) under Ministries and then Marriage Preparation. Brochures with dates and additional information are available on the kiosk in the Gathering Space. Contact the Family Life Office at 814-317-2643 for questions.

**NIGHT OF WORSHIP FOR VOCATIONS:** Holy Spirit Ministries and Fr. Brian Norris invite you to a very special Night of Worship with Eucharistic Adoration for Vocations. It will be held on Tuesday, January 6th, 7-8pm at St. Michael Church, Hollidaysburg. The evening will include a special talk from Fr. Norris on how all the faithful can help promote and pray for vocations. The evening of prayer will also include Eucharistic Adoration with beautiful praise and worship music, followed by prayer ministry. All are most welcome!

#### **Prayer for Vocation**

O God

Hear our prayer

And let our cry come to You.

Bless the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown

With many vocations to the

Priesthood, diaconate, and religious life.

Give Your sons and daughters

The confidence to accept Your call,

And the love to follow always

In the footsteps of Your beloved Son

With courage and dedication to Your will.

Amen