



The Baptism of the Lord

January 11, 2026

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
 stjohchurch@atlanticbb.net
 Diane Ryan - Faith Formation Coordinator/Secretary
 stjohsecretary@atlanticbb.net
 Iris Tatar - Director of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
 iristat38@gmail.com
 Pat & Sue Podoletz - OCIA
 paddypodo@gmail.com mrsposito@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 & 11:00 AM

January Prayer Intention of Pope Leo

For Prayer With The Word of God
 Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us build a more fraternal and missionary Church.



NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS

LECTORS

Sat. Jan. 17-4:00 PM - Joyce Cunningham, Laverne Kovacs
 Sun. Jan. 18-8:00 AM - Daniel Turcovsky, Diane Turcovsky
 Sun. Jan. 18-11:00 AM - Evie Koch, Estella Koch

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. Jan. 17-4:00 PM - Abigail Hovance, Sadie Swope
 Sun. Jan. 18-8:00 AM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED
 Sun. Jan. 18-11:00 AM - Madison Kantoski, Lexi Tatar

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. Jan. 17-4:00 PM - Connie Baker, NOT FILLED
 Sun. Jan. 18-8:00 AM - Mike Greslick, Jennifer Helsley
 Sun. Jan. 18-11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Dolores Capriotti,
 Lou Ann Clark, Ken Gorman, Susanna Tomlinson, NOT FILLED

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. Jan. 17-4:00 PM - Carolyn English, Jeremy Truscello,
 Larry VanSickel, Paula VanSickel
 Sun. Jan. 18-8:00 AM - Jane Becker, John Becker, Ginny Reeder,
 Mary Truesdale
 Sun. Jan. 18-11:00 AM - Walter Bloom, Mitchell Evans,
 Mary Horton, Patrick Podoletz

SACRISTAN

Sat. Jan. 17-4:00 PM - Mary & Ray King
 Sun. Jan. 18-8:00 AM - Ashley Greslick
 Sun. Jan. 18-11:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti

SCRIP

Sat. Jan. 17-4:00 PM - Julie Beiswenger, Becky Merilli
 Sun. Jan. 18-8:00 AM - Lori Baker, NOT FILLED
 Sun. Jan. 18-11:00 AM - Peg Madden, Marge Rudolph

Happy New Year! Prayers and Blessings to you and your family!
May you shine the light of Christ in the new year!



A Few Words from the Pastor:

BELOVED VENEZUELA: Pope Leo has expressed deep concern about the situation in Venezuela, a largely Catholic country, and has asked that “the good of the beloved Venezuelan people must prevail over every other consideration.” He has called for respect for Venezuela’s sovereignty and that the rule of law be respected, even amid these violent events. The Pope entrusted Venezuelans to the intercession of their patroness, Our Lady of Coromoto, who appeared in 1652 to invite the indigenous people to receive baptism. We pray this prayer daily!

Prayer to Our Lady of Coromoto

O Most Holy Virgin of Coromoto, Mother and Patroness of Venezuela,
you who appeared full of love to call your children to the path of faith,
look upon us with mercy from heaven. Obtain for us the grace to live as true Christians,
faithful to your Son, Jesus Christ, united in peace, justice, and charity.

Protect our families, comfort the afflicted, strengthen the weak,
and guide our nation along paths of hope.

Virgin of Coromoto, receive our petitions and present them to your Divine Son.

Amen.

THE YEAR OF ST. MATTHEW: Our gospel readings for the past year have been from the gospel of Luke. In 2026 we begin hearing each Sunday from the gospel of Matthew (See his icon in the Gathering Space)! Except for some Sundays in Lent and Eastertide, our weekly fare will come from Matthew’s writings. This Gospel presents Jesus as **Israel’s long-awaited Messiah** and is filled with verses taken directly from the Hebrew Scriptures. His audience was primarily Jewish, and he wishes to illustrate that Jesus is the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies.

ADULT ED: Our Sunday morning Adult Ed resumes next Sunday, January 18, when over the next few weeks, we will complete our discussion of the Nicene Creed. ALL ARE WELCOME! First timers are especially welcome to our study and fellowship, which begins at 9:15ish and concludes by 10:30ish!

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY: We will restart our weekly Bible Study on Wednesday, January 14 at 6:45 PM in the parish center (following our evening Mass). We will continue our reflections on the Sunday readings. Our sessions last about an hour. Matthew the Evangelist will be our faithful companion! Please join us!

SUPPORT OUR SEMINARIANS! The Men's Club of St. Mary and St. Michael Parish in Hollidaysburg will be hosting a Spaghetti Dinner on Wednesday January 21 with all proceeds dedicated to Seminarians of the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese. The dinner will be held at the St. Mary Social Hall at 312 Clark Street Hollidaysburg from 4-7PM. The dinner features both dine in or take out meal. In addition, a basket raffle will also be held with winners to be drawn at 7PM. Dinner tickets can be purchased in advance, as only a limited number of dinner tickets will be available for walk up purchase. Donation of \$10 for adult dinner and \$5 for children 10 and under. Tickets can be purchased by contacting the parish office at 814-695-0912 or by contacting John Elder at 814-270-1051.

SAVE THE DATES!

Ash Wednesday Soup Supper: Wednesday, February 18th after the 6pm Mass in Fr. Bailey Hall

Spring Fling Brunch & Easter Egg Hunt: Sunday, March 22nd after the 11am Mass in Fr. Bailey Hall

ST VINCENT DEPAUL CARE PACKAGES: Your SVDP Conference continues in its efforts to serve the poor and needy by collecting care packages to help show those in need that they are not forgotten. Once again, we are asking you to put together a care package for someone who fits into one of the following categories: Senior, Homeless, New Mom, Expectant Mom, Single Parent – Male, or Single Parent – Female. Boxes will be available the weekend of January 17th/18th and should be returned by February 15th. If you would like to put together a care package, please pick up a box and detailed flyer from the table at the entry of the Church and fill it with items suitable for the person it is intended for and then seal up the box. Please list who the box is for on the line under St John the Evangelist (i.e. Senior, Homeless, New Mom, Expectant Mom, Single Parent-Male, Single Parent - Female) and return to the Gathering Space of the Church when done. Once again, our SVDP Conference would like to thank all those who help make our programs possible and the lives of the needy a bit easier. **God Bless You All!**

Schedule for the Week of January 11th

Sunday, Jan. 11 - The Baptism of the Lord

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

11:00 AM - Mass for *Mary, Marion, Elmer & Christine Stokes* requested by Len & Bob Stokes

Monday, Jan. 12 - Weekday

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

Tuesday, Jan. 13 - St. Hilary

8:30 AM - Mass for *Bob & Diane Long* requested by Dee Schmerbeck

Wednesday, Jan. 14 - Weekday

6:00 PM - Mass for *Florence Dancha* requested by Nancy Mincin

Thursday, Jan. 15 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Denise Madden* requested by Marian Monios

Friday, Jan. 16 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Communion Service

Saturday, Jan. 17 - Vigil of 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

3:15 PM - Confessions

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

Sunday, Jan. 18 - 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM - Mass for *Andrew Jr. & Florence Dancha* requested by Vicki Faretta

11:00 AM - Mass for *Tim & Marie Farrell* requested by Cecelia Bloom

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.

NEWCOMERS: Welcome to our parish family! If you wish to participate fully in our parish life, please register in the office Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday, 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. or complete a Parish Registration Form provided in the Gathering Space and return it in the offertory collection. You may also call the Parish Office at 814-942-5503 or email dryan@dioceseaj.org for more information. To volunteer for parish ministries or discuss how St. John may be present to your faith journey, kindly call 814-942-5503 to schedule a meeting with Monsignor Becker. Follow us on Facebook at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church or check out our parish website at <https://stjohnsaltoona.org>. Our St. John's Flocknote is a great way to stay up to date! Information is sent by text or email. Text SJC1 to 84576. Then after it responds, make sure you click that link and complete the process. If you can't complete this on your mobile phone, please go online to stjohnsaltoona.flocknote.com to register. Sign up with your email address or phone number. Join Flocknote today!

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: Jesus's baptism is a story we've heard before, so it is easy to lose sight of just how incredible it is – that Jesus wished to be baptized in the Jordan River by His cousin, John. We just spent the last two weeks marveling at the fact that this Savior of ours was born as a baby in a crude stable for our sake, and now this! Stop and contemplate our Lord, in all His perfection, waiting quietly and patiently in line with a bunch of sinners (like us) in order to "lead by example." His love and humility in serving and self-giving are beyond all telling. And just in case there was any doubt about the extraordinary actions of Jesus that day at the Jordan River, we learn of the powerful affirmation of the Father. Who, immediately after the baptism, opens the heavens and sends the Holy Spirit upon Jesus in bodily form and says audibly, "This is My beloved Son with whom I am well pleased!" Wow!

December 24th/25th/27th/28th

Envelopes	\$ 3,975.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 757.00
Heating & Cooling	\$ 75.00
Catholic Education	\$ 40.00
Christmas Offering	\$ 5,173.00
Christmas Loose Offerings	\$ 1,277.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 45.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 30.00
Online Giving	\$ 1,815.40
Total Offertory	\$ 13,187.40

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

2025 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS will be available upon request beginning January 30th. Please call the Parish Office at 814-942-5503 to request your contribution statement to be mailed or picked up in the Parish Office. A contribution statement will not be mailed to you unless you call the office to request it. Thank you for your generous support!

MARRIAGE PREP 2026: The Marriage Preparation Schedule for 2026 is available at 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.

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.

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 • Cheryl Dennis
Mary Lee Destefano • Ed Drexler • Charlies 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

PRAYER PAL 2026 COMMUNITY UNITED IN PRAYER:

The members of the Church of the Brethren, St. Mary Parish, St. Michael Parish, Zion Lutheran Church all of Hollidaysburg, St. John the Evangelist Parish in Lakemont, St. Mark Parish and Holy Rosary Parish in Altoona and St. Joseph Parish in Williamsburg are happy to announce that Prayer Pal will be offered to all parishioners this Lenten season. A mailer was sent to all registered parishioners with all the details explaining this popular (private) prayer activity. Please take a few moments to read the mailer and join the over 285 participants from last year, in this rewarding and prayerful experience. If anyone has questions after reviewing your mailer, please feel free to call one of the committee members listed below:

Jane Becker 814-414-9836
Ryan Custead 814-502-7630
Mary Jo Lanzel 814-934-6793
Mary Leap 814-937-9789
Dave & Diane Madden 814-215-7677
Donna Messner 814-934-9023
Lisa Myers 814-934-0619
Dec. Kevin Nester 717-574-4856
Kathleen Winter 814-591-0248



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.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

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

February 18th-Ash Wednesday Soup Supper

February 22nd-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.

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. The usual offering within the Diocese of Altoona Johnstown is \$10.00 per mass intention. We are currently scheduling masses for the 2026 and 2027 year. If you have any questions, or to submit an intention, please call the office at 814-942-5503 or stop into the office during office hours.

DON'T FORGET ABOUT SCRIP! Don't forget to buy scrip for your home improvement purchases! Whether you're picking out new furniture, remodeling the kitchen, or repainting your favorite room, big projects don't come cheap. On the plus side, big spending means big rebates for St. John's, so don't forget to order scrip for purchases at Lowes, Home Depot, etc.



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