



Third Sunday in
Ordinary Time
January 25, 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
stjohnchurch@atlanticbb.net
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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 & 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. 31-4:00 PM - Laverne Kovacs, Joyce Cunningham
Sun. Feb. 1-8:00 AM - Mary Truesdale, NOT FILLED
Sun. Feb. 1-11:00 AM - Susan Podoletz, Richard Consiglio

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. Jan. 31-4:00 PM - Abigail Hovance, Sadie Swope
Sun. Feb. 1-8:00 AM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED
Sun. Feb. 1-11:00 AM - Camille Krug, Aidan Schurr

EUCARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. Jan. 31-4:00 PM - Connie Baker, NOT FILLED
Sun. Feb. 1-8:00 AM - Jennifer Helsley, Ginny Reeder
Sun. Feb. 1-11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Barbara Bundy,
Ken Gorman, Bob Olson, Susanna Tomlinson, NOT FILLED

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. Jan. 31-4:00 PM - Dennis Moughemer, Karen Moughemer,
Jeremy Truscello, NOT FILLED
Sun. Feb. 1-8:00 AM - Carolyn English, Ashley Greslick,
Mike Greslick, Ed Stoltz
Sun. Feb. 1-11:00 AM - Wendy Campbell, Dolores Capriotti,
Mary Horton, Peg Madden

SACRISTAN

Sat. Jan. 31-4:00 PM - Mary & Ray King
Sun. Feb. 1-8:00 AM - Ashley Greslick
Sun. Feb. 1-11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan

SCRIP

Sat. Jan. 31-4:00 PM - Lori Baker, NOT FILLED
Sun. Feb. 1-8:00 AM - Gary Johnson, NOT FILLED
Sun. Feb. 1-11:00 AM - Peg Madden, Marge Rudolph

A Few Words from the Pastor:

TODAY: THE SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD! Pope Leo urges that this theme be promoted in our parishes! The Vatican writes: Every Christian and every community must rediscover the primacy of the Word of God. Its sincere and profound listening is an essential path through which human beings encounter God. When space is given to the Word, each person discovers that the Word of God dwells in the heart like a seed that, in due time, sprouts and bears fruit. Indeed, all of us are invited to nourish ourselves with the daily bread of the Word and, afterwards, to proclaim it to our brothers and sisters, for proclamation flows from the abundance of the heart, according to the Gospel saying: "from the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks" (Mt 12:34; Lk 6:45). It is particularly significant that this year the celebration of the Sunday of the Word of God coincides with the celebration of the Conversion of Saint Paul, the day that concludes the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The Word that Christ addressed to Paul on the road to Damascus struck his heart so deeply that it made him the great evangelizer we know. Today it is up to us to ensure that the same Word reaches the ends of the earth, so as to transform the life of all people by dwelling among us.

ADULT ED: Our Sunday morning Adult Ed resumed Sunday, January 18, and 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 28 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!

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE OF MINNEAPOLIS: Prayers are urged by the Bishop of Minneapolis.

We pray for the consolation of the grieving members of the Good family;
for wisdom for our political leaders here and in Washington;
for prudence and safety for those charged with enforcing our laws;
for temperance on the part of those protesting;
for healing for those wounded by the divisions that cleave our state and our nation;
for courage for our neighbors who have been living in fear;
for a sense of hope for families directly impacted by the detention of loved ones.
We also pray for the parish priests, deacons, pastoral ministers and educators
who are directly dealing with the aftermath of the tension in Minneapolis,
while they striving to bring the light of the Gospel
and the balm of Jesus' love into these difficult situations.
We ask this through Christ, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK: In honor of Catholic Schools Week, representatives from Bishop Guilfoyle Academy will be having a presentation at all masses the weekend of January 31st/February 1st.

SAVE THE DATES!

Blessing of Throats: Sunday, February 8th at 8am & 11am Masses

Ash Wednesday: Wednesday, February 18th Masses at 8:30am & 6pm

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

Lent Communal Penance Service: Sunday, March 15th at 4pm

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

Confirmation 2026: Sunday, April 19th at 2pm at St. John's-All are welcome to attend!

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 25th

Sunday, Jan. 25 - 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

11:00 AM - Mass for *Fred Fornwalt* requested by
Walt & Cecelia Bloom

Monday, Jan. 26 - St. Timothy & St. Titus

8:30 AM - Mass for *Betty Caldwell* requested by
Betty Peschock

Tuesday, Jan. 27 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Terry Bartley* requested by
Greg Sweeney

Wednesday, Jan. 28 - St. Thomas Aquinas

6:00 PM - Mass for *Deceased members of Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth* requested by Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth

Thursday, Jan. 29 - Weekday

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

Friday, Jan. 30 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Communion Service

Saturday, Jan. 31 - Vigil of 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

3:15 PM - Confessions

4:00 PM - Mass for *Alphonse Chinnappan* requested by
Ray & Mary King

Sunday, Feb. 1 - 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM - Mass for *Rich Rauch* requested by
Jane Strasser

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.

NEW AT ST. JOHN'S: Sometime Helpers is our new ministry for those who have limited time or are new to volunteering in the parish. All ministries and programs of the parish often have a need for some small task to be done or one-time assistance; maybe making posters, office work, set-up and clean-up, obtaining supplies. There can be many possibilities. Sometime Helpers is a list of people who sign up with their names and emails through the office. When there is a request for assistance, it will be sent to all those on the list. If it is a fit for you, you will respond to the person who requested assistance. **YOU ARE UNDER NO OBLIGATION TO VOLUNTEER WHEN YOU ARE NOT AVAILABLE.** The Parish Council is reaching out to those who do not have time or familiarity for a large commitment but would like to "put their toes in the water" to being involved in our many endeavors. We hope this offers you an accommodating opportunity to enter more into our Church Community. Call the Parish Office at 814-942-5503 or email stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: Today's readings remind us that stewardship is not just a thing we do – rather, stewardship is at the core of who we are as disciples of Christ. Our first reading, from Isaiah, contains this prophecy of Christ and what His saving message would mean to all who embrace it. "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone." We are among those blessed people on whom the light of Christ has shone. By virtue of our Baptism, we who were once in the darkness and gloom of original sin have been born again into the great light that is God's grace in us.

We have become cherished members of God's family. What a privilege! Yet, with this privilege comes the responsibility to actually live for God and to bring His good News to all those we meet at work, at school, in our community and right in our own home. This is the essence of a stewardship way of life – to be always ready for the ways that our Lord is calling us to bring His light to others. It's more than something we do – it's who we are.

January 10th/11th

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|------------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Envelopes | \$ | 4,193.00 |
| Loose Offerings | \$ | 761.00 |
| Heating & Cooling | \$ | 195.00 |
| Immaculate Conception | \$ | 80.00 |
| Christmas Offering | \$ | 50.00 |
| Solemnity of Mary | \$ | 20.00 |
| Online Giving | \$ | 2,114.90 |
| Total Offertory | \$ | 7,338.90 |

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!

CALLING ALL SOUP MAKERS! We are looking for volunteers to make soup or donate bread for our Annual Ash Wednesday Soup Supper on February 18th following the 6pm Mass. If you are able to make soup or donate bread, please sign up on the kiosk. We invite all parishioners and visitors to join us in Fr. Bailey Hall after Mass for dinner as we begin our Lenten journey together as a parish community!

ST JOHN'S PRAYER LIST

Please call Ginny Reeder (695-7671) or email her at ginnen.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 • Wilbur J. Arend
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
Barb Nagle • Mary O Fleming • Richard Olson
John Patz • Pat Rauch • Bette Richards • Dan Roberts
Darlene Scarpaci • Anne Showalter
Cathy Stapelfeld • Donna Taddy • Tammy
Tim Temofonte • Lois Werfel • Heather Yasolsky

HOME WITH THE LORD: Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of:

Susan Mock

May she rest in the peace and joy of the Lord.

PRAAYER 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
**Flyers are available in the Gathering Space if you didn't receive one in the mail. **

PALMS: Please return any old palms to the Gathering Space basket by February 8th to prepare ashes for Ash Wednesday.



FAITH FORMATION NEWS

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
March 1st-No Class
March 8th-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.

DEAR FRIENDS,

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all of you for your kind prayers, loving support, and the beautiful condolence cards. I extend my special thanks to everyone who attended the Memorial Mass last Tuesday. It truly meant a great deal to me. During this difficult time, I felt deeply that I was not alone—that you were all with me. Your presence and prayers gave me a sense of peace and reassurance, and I felt I was in safe hands. My family was greatly comforted by your prayers and was deeply moved by the love and support I have received here. Please keep my family in your continued prayers. Please know that my family and I are deeply grateful and keep all of you in our prayers. With sincere gratitude, Fr. Ashok

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! We invite you to shower with cards Marian Monios, who will be turning 95 on January 31st. She would love to hear well wishes from her parish family. May God bless her with good health and happiness. St. John's wants to wish her the happiest of birthdays! Cards can be sent to:

The Lutheran Home-Marian Monios
916 Hickory Street Rm 227B
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

HEALING MASS: Holy Spirit Ministry will hold a special Healing Mass on Tuesday, February 3rd at 7pm, at St. Michael Church, Hollidaysburg. This powerful night of hope and healing is for all who are suffering physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Fr. Jeremy Mohler will be the main celebrant. Praise and worship will precede the Mass at 6:30pm and prayer ministry will follow the Mass. If you are struggling physically, or from an addiction, or hurting or struggling in any way, come and experience the healing power of Jesus and be set free! All are welcome!