



**Second Sunday of
Easter
April 12, 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
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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

April Prayer Intention of Pope Leo

For Priests in Crisis

Let us pray for Priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.



NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS

LECTORS

Sat. Apr. 18- 4:00 PM - Joyce Cunningham, Maria Spayd
 Sun. Apr. 19- 8:00 AM - Norma Foose, Bill Foose
 Sun. Apr. 19- 11:00 AM - Dave Auerbeck, Laverne Kovacs

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. Apr. 18- 4:00 PM - Abigail Hovance, Sadie Swope
 Sun. Apr. 19- 8:00 AM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED
 Sun. Apr. 19- 11:00 AM - Camille Krug, Aidan Schurr

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. Apr. 18- 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, NOT FILLED
 Sun. Apr. 19- 8:00 AM - Mike Greslick, Ginny Reeder
 Sun. Apr. 19- 11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Dolores Capriotti,
 Lou Ann Clark, Ken Gorman, NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. Apr. 18- 4:00 PM - Dennis Moughemer, Karen Moughemer,
 Larry VanSickel, Paula VanSickel
 Sun. Apr. 19- 8:00 AM - Ed Stoltz, Mary Truesdale,
 Daniel Turcovsky, Diane Turcovsky
 Sun. Apr. 19- 11:00 AM - Walter Bloom, Wendy Campbell,
 Mitchell Evans, Peg Madden

SACRISTAN

Sat. Apr. 18- 4:00 PM - Mary King
 Sun. Apr. 19- 8:00 AM - Ashley Greslick
 Sun. Apr. 19- 11:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti

SCRIP

Sat. Apr. 18- 4:00 PM - Julie Beiswenger, Becky Merilli
 Sun. Apr. 19- 8:00 AM - Amber Yasolsky, Heather Yasolsky
 Sun. Apr. 19- 11:00 AM - Lori Baker, Carolyn English

A Few Words from the Pastor:

CONFIRMATION THIS SPRING: On Sunday, April 19th at 2pm we will be celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation here at St. John's. We encourage our parishioners to attend and support our candidates for this important sacrament. Next Sunday, at the 11am Mass, we will have our Rite of Sending, when our candidates, parents and sponsors will affirm their readiness to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. We are very proud of our young people as they continue their journey of Discipleship: Elena Baughman, Aiden Cooney, Itzabella Cosme Negrón, Mai Vi Do, Henry Dolphin, Addison Horell, Abigail Hovance, Jack Hoyne, Marissa Kanouff, Evie Koch, Ayden Koeck, McKenna Koeck, Lydia Krug, Landen Petrunak, Conner Ryan, Sadie Swope and Alexander Wolf. We keep them in our prayers as they prepare for this important moment in their lives.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY is a special feast in the Catholic Church celebrated on the Sunday after Easter. It centers on the message of God's mercy—that no matter how great a person's sins, forgiveness is always available through trust in Jesus. The devotion comes from the visions of Saint Faustina Kowalska, a Polish nun in the 1930s, who recorded Jesus' messages about mercy in her diary. The feast was officially established in 2000 by Pope John Paul II, the same day he canonized St. Faustina. Special Devotions for this feast are observed at St. Catherine of Siena in Duncansville on Sunday, April 12th throughout the day with Mass at 8 & 11am, refreshments, basket raffles, confessions at 1:30pm and Divine Mercy Holy Hour from 3-4pm. See the flyer in the Gathering Space for more information.

ADULT ED IN APRIL - For the remaining weeks of April, our Sunday morning sessions will focus upon the Resurrection that we share as followers of Christ, with reflections on the afterlife. These will be our final sessions for this year, and we do hope that you take advantage of this opportunity to reflect more deeply upon the way in which the resurrection of Christ shapes our life today and our vision of the afterlife.

OUR PRAYER FOR PEACE – Pope Leo has courageously challenged world leaders to turn away from violence as a way of seeking peace. The Pope said he wished simply to say, once again, what he had said in his message last Sunday, "asking all people of goodwill to always search for peace and not violence, to reject war—especially a war which many people have said is unjust, which is continuing to escalate and which is not resolving anything. There are certainly issues of international law here, but even more, it is a moral question concerning the good of the people as a whole, in its entirety." The Pope did not neglect to shine the light on the wide-reaching consequences of the conflict and said, "We have a worldwide economic crisis, an energy crisis, and a situation in the Middle East of great instability, which is only provoking more hatred throughout the world." ***Our Lady, Queen of Peace, pray for us!***

SAVE THE DATES!

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

Youth Protection Class: Saturday, April 25th from 8am-12pm-Complete clearances and paperwork to work with children for Church activities. More details to come!

May Crowning: Sunday, May 3rd at the 11am Mass-All children are invited to participate!

First Holy Communion: Sunday, May 3rd at the 11am Mass



Congratulations to Allison Kendall on receiving the sacraments of Baptism, First Holy Communion and Confirmation during the Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 4th. Please join us in welcoming Allison and keep her in your prayers as she begins her new life in Christ. The parish community celebrates her commitment and passion for the Catholic faith. We also want to thank Patrick and Susan Podoletz, our OCIA leaders, for providing Allison with the support and guidance to fully prepare for these sacraments and for walking with her for every step of her journey. Congratulations and welcome Allison!

Schedule for the Week of April 12th

Sunday, April 12 - Second Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM - Mass for *Andrew Jr. & Florence Dancha*

requested by Vicki Faretta

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

Monday, April 13 - Easter Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Grace Moore* requested by

Bob & Ginny Reeder

Tuesday, April 14 - Easter Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Mary Catherine Majestic* requested by

Barbara Bundy

Wednesday, April 15 - Easter Weekday

6:00 PM - Mass for *Genie & George Semko* requested by

Karen Mazzarella

Thursday, April 16 - Easter Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Helen Hamberger* requested by

the Sibold family

Friday, April 17 - Easter Weekday

8:30 AM - Communion Service

Saturday, April 18 - Vigil of Third Sunday of Easter

4:00 PM - Mass for *the 25th Wedding Anniversary of*

Dave & Connie McManuels requested by

Dave & Connie McManuels

Sunday, April 19 - Third Sunday of Easter

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

11:00 AM - Mass for *Birthday Remembrance of Jude*

Wargo requested by Mom, Dad, Brother & Sister

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. To volunteer for parish ministries or discuss how St. John's may be present to your faith journey, kindly call 814-942-5503 to schedule a meeting with Monsignor Becker.

DON'T FORGET ABOUT SCRIP! Don't forget to buy scrip for your Spring 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. Have questions still? Stop by the Scrip table at any weekend mass and our volunteers will be happy to help answer any questions.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: The Christian steward approaches life with an "Easter vision" rooted in gratitude for and confidence in the salvation our Lord has won for us through His death and Resurrection. Today's readings on this Divine Mercy Sunday teach us how this approach plays out in daily life and reminds us that we can have complete trust in the mercy of God to lead us, step by step, to heaven.

Our first reading, from the Acts of the Apostles, describes this beautiful way of life as it was practiced by the first Christians. "They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers." And "they ate their meals with exultation and sincerity of heart, praising God and enjoying favor with all the people." This is a snapshot of the very first community of Christian stewards living out their daily life – embracing prayer (the breaking of the bread), formation (the teaching of the apostles), hospitality (the communal life and fellowship through joyful meals together) and mutual service. What an inspiration to us modern-day stewards!

March 28th/29th

Envelopes	\$	4,997.00
Loose Offerings	\$	845.00
Heating & Cooling	\$	205.00
Catholic Education	\$	10.00
Holy Thursday	\$	60.00
Good Friday	\$	65.00
Easter Flowers	\$	265.00
Easter Offering	\$	305.00
Online Giving	\$	1,060.25
Total Offertory	\$	7,812.25

2026 Catholic Ministries Drive Goal: \$37,300

January 1, 2026 - March 31, 2026

Gifts/Pledges - \$33,350.00

Total Gifts Received - \$32,915.00

Pledge Balance - \$435.00

2026 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. **We are already more than 80% to our goal and will be receiving a \$1,000 check to use in any ministry that we choose here at St. John's! Any funds received beyond the goal will come directly back to the parish to be used for the replacement of our aging heating and cooling unit and tree removal/improvements around the property.** Thank you for supporting the Catholic Ministries Drive and our diocese's vital ministries!

ST JOHN'S PRAYER LIST

Please call Ginny Reeder (695-7671) or email her at giny.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 • Deb Bloom
Idy Caporuscio • Cheryl Dennis • Ed Drexler
Lois Dullinger • Charles Elder • Carol Field
Donna Fornwalt • Mark Hastings • Melissa Horne
Michael Horton • Tim Jimenez • Marianne Jones
Ray King • Rosanne Krawick • Sally Langham
Elsie MacCullagh • Dave Madden • Janet McNulty
Adena & Cora Mertz • Barb Nagle • Mary O Fleming
Richard Olson • Pat Rauch • Bette Richards • Dan Roberts
Darlene Scarpaci • Anne Showalter
Cathy Stapelfeld • Donna Taddy • Tammy
Tim Temofonte • Wally Wargo • Lois Werfel
Heather Yasolsky • Dorothy Yingling

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

Kathy Custer, mother of Jeremy Truscello
Donald Free
Gerald Gonsman Jr.
William Hoeffler
May they rest in the peace and joy of the Lord.

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.

GABRIEL PROJECT: A Pro-life Ministry dedicated to helping moms and babies in the Altoona area with baby items as needed. The current needs are diapers size 5, 6,7, & 8 and Summer clothes (newborn to size 5T). Donations to purchase larger items are appreciated. Any mom needing assistance should call 814-440-1021.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST: Sunday, April 19, the Men's Club of St. Mary and St. Michael in Hollidaysburg will hold it's famous all you can eat Pancake and Sausage Breakfast from 8AM-Noon at the St. Michael's Church hall, 301 Spruce Street in Hollidaysburg. Donation of \$6 for adults and \$3 for Children 12 and under. Proceeds will benefit upcoming service projects. Come try the best pancake breakfast in town, which includes drinks and our popular pancake topping bar! Questions? Feel free to contact: John Elder - Men's Club President Johnpelder@aol.com 814-270-1051

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

April 12th-Class

April 19th-No Class- Confirmation at St. John's at 2pm

April 26th-Class

May 3rd-Last Class-Children's Liturgy, First Communion & May Crowning at the 11am Mass

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.

****Stay tuned for information about Vacation Bible School coming in June with **ROAR! Life is wild, God is good!****

CANDLELIGHT SAINTS TOUR 2026: On Saturday April 11 and Sunday April 12 at Bishop Guilfoyle, our student actors and actresses will be dressed as six different men and women Saints, recounting their lives at different 'stops' around our building as a tour guide leads your group. It's an entertaining and inspiring encounter with holiness! Tours leave every 15 minutes from 6-9 pm both evenings. Each group lasts less than an hour, with seats at each stop. Cost is \$10 per person or \$5 for children 12 and under (paid at the door). To reserve a tour time or to ask any additional questions, please contact Bob Sutton at rsutton@bguilfoyle.org or (814) 552-0267. Mark your calendars- and we hope to see you there!

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS: Court Prince Gallitzin # 2625 serves all 11 parishes and beyond. New members are always welcome! On Monday, April 13th, please come and join us for our monthly meeting in the St. Rose of Lima community room at 5:30 p.m. with the business meeting beginning at 6 p.m. If you have any questions please contact Regent Donna Hoover at 814-632-3509 or donna31049@gmail.com.

BUS TRIP: From the banks of the Jordan River to the towering wall of Jericho, JOSHUA is a miraculous adventure for the whole family. Experience one of the most redemptive stories in the Bible as it comes to life in this brand new original stage production from Sight and Sound Theatres on May 28th with a 3pm show. Cost is \$205 per person. Price includes bus, show ticket and smorgasbord dinner at Brand New Hershey Farms at 6pm. Bus pick up at St. Rose of Lima Church in Altoona. Please see flyers on the kiosk for more information.