



**Fourth Sunday of
Easter
April 26, 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
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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. May 2- 4:00 PM –Jeremy Truscello, Maria Spayd
 Sun. May 3- 8:00 AM - Mary Truesdale, Susan Podoletz
 Sun. May 3- 11:00 AM - Estella Koch, Camille Krug

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. May 2- 4:00 PM - Abigail Hovance, Sadie Swope
 Sun. May 3- 8:00 AM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED
 Sun. May 3- 11:00 AM - Evie Koch, Aidan Schurr

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. May 2- 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, NOT FILLED
 Sun. May 3- 8:00 AM - Jennifer Helsley, NOT FILLED
 Sun. May 3- 11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Barbara Bundy,
 Dolores Capriotti, Lou Ann Clark, Ken Gorman,
 Susanna Tomlinson

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. May 2- 4:00 PM - Dennis Moughemer, Karen Moughemer,
 Larry VanSickel, Paula VanSickel
 Sun. May 3- 8:00 AM - Ashley Greslick, Mike Greslick,
 Ginny Reeder, Ed Stoltz
 Sun. May 3- 11:00 AM - Walter Bloom, Wendy Campbell,
 Mitchell Evans, Mary Horton

SACRISTAN

Sat. May 2- 4:00 PM - Linda McAleer
 Sun. May 3- 8:00 AM - Ashley Greslick
 Sun. May 3- 11:00 AM - Barbara Bundy

SCRIP

Sat. May 2- 4:00 PM - Julie Beiswenger, Becky Merrill
 Sun. May 3- 8:00 AM - Erika Yasolsky, Heather Yasolsky
 Sun. May 3- 11:00 AM - Peg Madden, Marge Rudolph

A Few Words from the Pastor:

CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL: This week we will take up the Catholic Home Missions Appeal. Today, nearly 40% of dioceses in the United States and its current and former territories are unable to fund the essential pastoral work their communities need. Your support for this appeal helps them meet these faith formation and sacramental needs. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this appeal. Find more information at www.usccb.org/home-missions.

PRAYERS FOR OUR FIRST COMMUNION CLASS: We pray for our First Communicants who will be making their First Eucharist next Sunday, May 3rd at the 11am Mass. They are: Theodore Ballos, Aubriella Evans, Ellaria Gides, Claire Gillie, Liam McManus, Eleanor Mills, Addison Stratton, Meghan Weikert and Paxton Weimer We are grateful to their parents and teachers who together worked hard to prepare them for this very special day on their journey of faith! May the love of Jesus forever remain close to you as you receive Him in the Eucharist!

MAY CROWNING: Next week we enter into the month of May. This month is traditionally dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. One of the well-known ways of honoring Mary is with a May Crowning, which we will celebrate at our parish on May 3rd at the 11am Mass. A May Crowning is an old tradition in which a crown (usually a crown of flowers) is placed on the head of a statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary to signify her honor as Queen of heaven and earth. Besides the May Crowning there are other ways to honor our mother, Mary, throughout the month of May. One way is by praying the rosary each day. Other families may set up a Marian shrine or table in their home. Another old tradition is planting a Mary garden. Mary gardens go back to the Middle Ages when certain flowers and herbs began to be symbolically associated with Mary. However it is that we honor Mary, let us remember to dedicate this month to her as our Queen of heaven and earth!

WELCOME HOME, POPE LEO! Pope Leo has spent 10 days visiting four African countries, a trip that began amid criticism from President Trump. But as the pontiff made clear at the start of his African tour, he was not silent on the message he wanted to spread. Pope Leo XIV spoke bluntly about war, migration, same-sex blessings, and the Holy See's relations with authoritarian governments. During a roughly 20-minute in-flight press conference with journalists the Pope stressed that the primary purpose of a papal trip is pastoral rather than political. "When I make a trip — speaking for myself, but today as Pope, Bishop of Rome — especially an apostolic, pastoral trip, it is to find, accompany, and come to know the people of God." He said that such journeys should be understood above all as "an expression of wanting to announce the Gospel, proclaim the message of Jesus Christ," and as a way "to draw close to the people in their happiness, in the depth of their faith, but also in their suffering."

SAVE THE DATES!

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

Ascension Thursday Masses: Wednesday, May 13th at 6pm Vigil of the Feast of the Ascension and Thursday, May 14th at 8:30am & 6pm Feast of the Ascension

Annual Parish Picnic: Sunday, July 26th after the 11am Mass in Fr. Bailey Hall (gym)



Congratulations to our 2026 Confirmation Class! We are excited to see what these newly confirmed, young adults will accomplish in our parish, community and beyond with the power of the Holy Spirit by their side. Your parish family is here to support you, pray for you and walk with you in your faith journey. Go forth with courage, joy, and trust in the Lord!

Our candidates: Elena Baughman, Aiden Cooney, Itzabella Cosme Negron, 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

Schedule for the Week of April 26th

Sunday, April 26 - Fourth Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM - Mass for *Ida Prosperi* requested by
John Prosperi

11:00 AM - Mass for *Lee Wilson* requested by
Barbara Bundy

Monday, April 27 - Easter Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Karen Marek & family* requested by
Karen Mazzarella

Tuesday, April 28- Easter Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Sue Caldwell* requested by
Pete & Carol Rodgers

Wednesday, April 29 - Easter Weekday

5:30 PM - Confessions

6:00 PM - Mass for *Fred Mazzarella* requested by
Karen Mazzarella

Thursday, April 30 - Easter Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Marian Monios* requested by
Mary & Ray King

Friday, May 1 - Easter Weekday

8:30 AM - Communion Service

Saturday, May 2 - Vigil of Fifth Sunday of Easter

3:15 PM - Confessions

4:00 PM - Mass for *Bob Cole* requested by
Mary Ann Cole

Sunday, May 3 - Fifth 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*

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.

PRAYERS FOR OUR FIRST COMMUNION CLASS: Please keep Theodore Ballos, Aubriella Evans, Ellaria Gides, Claire Gillie, Liam McManus, Eleanor Mills, Addison Stratton, Meghan Weikert and Paxton Weimer in your prayers this week as they make their final preparations to receive their First Holy Communion on Sunday, May 3rd. May you always live your faith with joy!

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.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: Today's readings on this fourth Sunday of Easter offer us a glimpse into the heart of our loving Savior. He is the Good Shepherd, and we can confidently place our trust in Him as we live the stewardship way of life.

In both the first and second readings, we find Peter embracing his role as leader of the newborn Church. In our first readings from Acts, he exhorts the crowd, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." We then read that the ones who accepted his message were baptized that day. Peter simply proposed the Good News to them and then left them free to accept or reject the call to repentance and belief in Christ, which is ultimately a call from God.

We can find many parallels in this passage to the call to a stewardship way of life. We, too, are free to accept or reject God's call to discipleship. We can keep our time, talents, and treasure for ourselves, purely to serve our own interests. We are free to make that choice. Or we can embrace the call to discipleship through the stewardship way of life. If we do so, we will find a path to freedom from "this corrupt generation" just as those first disciples found in the early days of the Church.

April 11th/12th

Envelopes	\$	4,244.00
Loose Offerings	\$	664.00
Catholic Education	\$	10.00
Heating & Cooling	\$	120.00
Holy Thursday	\$	15.00
Easter	\$	985.00
Easter Flowers	\$	20.00
Online Giving	\$	1,789.75
Total Offertory	\$	7,847.75

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! 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 • Christine 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:

Edward Garlena
Rosario Davis
Mark Hastings
Donald Free

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

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT: **Journey Through Loss** is a nine-week program for those who have lost a loved one through death recently or in the past. The Christian based program provides the opportunity to share or to listen and offers positive ideas for coping. The next session begins on Thursday, May 21. We will meet weekly from 6:30 to 8:00 PM in the Parish Center at St. John the Evangelist Church in Lakemont. All faiths are welcome. For more information or to register contact Mary Petrak at 814-502-6076.

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.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS: Court Prince Gallitzin # 2625 serves all 11 parishes and beyond. New members are always welcome! On Monday, May 11th, 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.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

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!** Join us for a safari adventure of games, crafts, snacks, singing and more!*****

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.

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

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.

SECOND SUNDAY FOOD COLLECTION: On behalf of the Samaritan Committee, we would like to thank you for your continued support of the Second Sunday Food Collection. This week we were able to give \$400 to ten churches and agencies that feed the people of Blair County. Summer will soon be here and school will be out; more children will be home and not have access to school breakfast and lunch programs. Sr Paula easily feeds over 150 people every day in one hour. Government money is being cut from humanitarian programs. We are so grateful for generous support to feed those in need in our community.