



**Seventh Sunday  
of Easter  
May 17, 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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 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**

**May Prayer Intention of Pope Leo**

*That Everyone Might Have Food*  
 Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.



**NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS**

**LECTORS**

Sat. May 23- 4:00 PM - Joyce Cunningham, Maria Spayd  
 Sun. May 24- 8:00 AM - Norma Foose, Bill Foose  
 Sun. May 24- 10:00 AM - Jim Campbell, John Sukala

**ALTAR SERVERS**

Sat. May 23- 4:00 PM - Abigail Hovance, Sadie Swope  
 Sun. May 24- 8:00 AM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED  
 Sun. May 24- 10:00 AM - Estella Koch, Evie Koch

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

Sat. May 23- 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, NOT FILLED  
 Sun. May 24- 8:00 AM - Jennifer Helsley, Ginny Reeder  
 Sun. May 24- 10:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Barbara Bundy,  
 Dolores Capriotti, Lou Ann Clark, Ken Gorman,  
 Susanna Tomlinson

**MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY**

Sat. May 23- 4:00 PM - Dennis Moughemer, Karen Moughemer,  
 Larry VanSickel, Paula VanSickel  
 Sun. May 24- 8:00 AM - Jane Becker, John Becker, Ed Stoltz,  
 Mary Truesdale  
 Sun. May 24- 10:00 AM - Walter Bloom, Wendy Campbell,  
 Mitchell Evans, Patrick Podoletz

**SACRISTAN**

Sat. May 23- 4:00 PM - Mary King  
 Sun. May 24- 8:00 AM - Ashley Greslick  
 Sun. May 24- 10:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti

**SCRIP**

Sat. May 23- 4:00 PM - Julie Beiswenger, Becky Merilli  
 Sun. May 24- 8:00 AM - Erika Yasolsky, Heather Yasolsky  
 Sun. May 24- 10:00 AM - Peg Madden, Marge Rudolph

**\*\*Mass Time Change - Sunday of Memorial Day weekend, (May 24th) our 2nd Mass will begin at 10am and will continue through Labor Day weekend \*\***

## A Few Words from the Pastor:

**MASS OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK** - we will be celebrating a Mass of Anointing here at St. John's this Sunday at 2 PM in the afternoon. Please mark your calendar and plan on joining us. Perhaps you know someone who needs transportation to this beautiful celebration.

The Rite of Anointing tells us there is no need to wait until a person is at the point of death to receive the Sacrament. But even if there is no physical healing, the primary effect of the Sacrament is a spiritual healing by which the sick person receives the Holy Spirit's gift of peace and courage to deal with the difficulties that accompany serious physical, mental or emotional illness, as well as those who are enduring the frailty of old age.

**A PATRON FOR THOSE IN NEED OF HEALING.** As we prepare for our Mass of Anointing this Sunday, I'd like to introduce our parish to a saint who is known for his healing ministry, St. Charbel. Charbel was born in 1828 in Lebanon and was raised in a poor shepherd family. As he grew, Charbel was attracted to the hermit's life of the desert and eventually entered the Monastery of St. Maron in Annaya. He was faithful to his duties in religious life and drew closer to God every day. After many years Charbel felt God calling him again to become a hermit and was granted permission to live the rest of his life at a nearby hermitage. Charbel died at the age of 70, and when his body was later exhumed it was found to be incorrupt. A holy oil was discovered flowing from the tomb, which has since been the source of numerous miracles. Following his death, many miracles of healing and grace were reported through his intercession, drawing people from around the world to seek his prayers. He was canonized in 1977, Saint Charbel is a powerful witness to the beauty of a life centered on Christ. One of the first pastoral journeys of Pope Leo XIV was to the shrine of Father Charbel.

**CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE** - In addition to supporting our diocese and its many ministries, this year's Catholic Ministries Drive allows us the opportunity to raise funds for our own project, the replacement of our heating and air conditioning system, which will cost us well over \$100,000. Every contribution that is now made to the Catholic Ministries Drive will return to us without any taxation from the diocese. If you've not yet made your contribution to the Catholic Ministries Drive, you are urged to do so. Many thanks to all of those who have already made their contribution.

**RENEWING OUR SACRED VESSELS!** Some of the gold vessels we use for Mass show signs of wear and need to be re-gilded. This is especially true of the two ciboria that hold the precious Body of Christ. The price to restore the gold plating is \$700 for each. If you would like to donate one in memory of your family or a loved one, please call the office. This would be a beautiful remembrance at the altar.

**CONFIRMATIONS ON PENTECOST** - I have been delegated by Bishop Mark to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation for two adults who have come forward seeking this sacrament in our parish. These candidates are Madison Bunk and Mark Longo. We rejoice with these soon-to-be fully initiated members of the Church, extending our heartfelt welcome!

### SAVE THE DATES!

**Mass of Anointing of the Sick:** Sunday, May 17th at 2pm

**Summer Mass Time Change:** Sunday of Memorial Day weekend, (May 24th) our 2nd Mass will begin at 10am and will continue through Labor Day weekend

**Memorial Day Mass:** Monday, May 25th at 9am

**125th Anniversary of the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese:** Sunday, May 31st at 2pm at Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament

**Annual Chicken BBQ:** Sunday, June 14th-Tickets available after weekend masses and in the office

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

**LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULING For May 25, 2026 - September 6, 2026** It's time to schedule ministries for the Summer of 2026. If you have internet access, please enter the dates that you are NOT available in the Profile section of **Ministry Scheduler Pro**. Here is the direct link to that website – <https://www.rotundasoftware.com/ministry/teammates>. There is also a link from our parish website (<https://www.stjohnsaltoona.org>) and in the email reminder you will receive soon. There are cards available in the gathering space for those who do not have access to the internet. If you are not able to update your profile online, visit the church to fill out a card, or just have general questions about ministry scheduling, please call Mike Greslick on a weekday evening between 6 PM and 9 PM or anytime on the weekends at 814-577-5292. Feel free to reach out via email as well to [mike.greslick@gmail.com](mailto:mike.greslick@gmail.com). **Please update your profile online, call Mike, or fill out a card and return it by Noon on May 17th.** The next schedule will then be generated and go live on or around May 20th. Thank you for your service to our faith community throughout the year!

## **Schedule for the Week of May 17th**

### **Sunday, May 17 - Seventh Sunday of Easter**

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

11:00 AM - Mass for *John Despot* requested by  
Barbara Bundy

### **Monday, May 18 - Easter Weekday**

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

### **Tuesday, May 19 - Easter Weekday**

8:30 AM - Mass for *Barbara Neral* requested by  
Deacon Gene Neral

### **Wednesday, May 20 - Easter Weekday**

5:30 PM - Confessions

6:00 PM - Mass for *Sue Caldwell* requested by  
Pete & Carol Rodgers

### **Thursday, May 21 - Easter Weekday**

8:30 AM - Mass for *Jim Reilly* requested by  
Pat Reilly

### **Friday, May 22 - Easter Weekday**

8:30 AM - Mass for *Deceased members of the Sisters of  
the Holy Family of Nazareth* requested by  
Sr. Cynthia & Sr. Thea

### **Saturday, May 23 - Vigil of Pentecost Sunday**

3:15 PM - Confessions

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

### **Sunday, May 24 - Pentecost Sunday**

8:00 AM - Mass for *Wiona Reeder* requested by  
Bob & Ginny Reeder

10:00 AM - Mass for *Brian Zitzlsberger* requested by  
Barbara Bundy

### **MASS FOR WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS:** (Televised)

Remember your loved ones on Sunday, May 24, 2026 with a televised Mass Celebrated by Bishop Mark Bartchak at 11:00 am on WATM ABC 23.

All spouses will be acknowledged and remembered at the Mass. All persons who have lost a spouse through death throughout the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese are invited to register by contacting the Family Life Office 814-317-2643 or email [familylife@dioceseaj.org](mailto:familylife@dioceseaj.org). When registering, please give your name, address, phone number and the name of your spouse who has passed away. The last day to register is Thursday, May 21, 2026. The event is sponsored by the Diocesan Family Life Office and the Catholic Ministries Drive. Please be advised, a special broadcast of a sporting event on WATM ABC 23 may delay this broadcast. All names of loved ones will be seen during Communion.



**STEWARDSHIP CORNER:** This week, we celebrated the great feast of the Ascension of our Lord, that glorious moment when Jesus, 40 days after His resurrection, was lifted up – quite literally – into heaven, as the apostles watched in stunned amazement. It must have been an extraordinary thing to witness.

But the apostles were not permitted to simply bask in the moment for very long. “While they were looking intently at the sky as he was going, suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood beside them. They said, ‘Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky?’ In other words, ‘Don’t just stand there, do something!’

Let us take a moment to ‘look up at the heavens’ and ponder all the graces and blessings our loving God has given us. And then, let us do something! Let’s put all those gifts to work as we serve as grateful witnesses to this amazing God.

#### **May 2nd/3rd**

Envelopes	\$ 5,303.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 555.00
Catholic Education	\$ 120.00
Heating & Cooling	\$ 130.00
Catholic Home Missions	\$ 20.00
Online Giving	\$ 2,568.75
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$ 8,696.75</b>

#### **2026 Catholic Ministries Drive Goal: \$37,300**

**January 1, 2026 - April 30, 2026**

**Gifts/Pledges - \$37,160.00**

**Total Gifts Received - \$36,755.00**

**Pledge Balance - \$405.00**

**\*\*We are 98% to our goal!\*\***

**ST. JOHN’S CHICKEN BBQ:** Sunday, June 14, 2026  
11:00 am until 1:00pm Drive thru only  
1/2 Chicken, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Roll, Dessert \$12.00 Pick up at Knights of Columbus 324 Bedford Street, Hollidaysburg. Proceeds benefit St. John’s Social Committee. Tickets will be sold after masses and in the office.



**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.

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

Please call Ginny Reeder (695-7671) or email her at [ginny.reeder@gmail.com](mailto: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 • Wilbur J. Arend  
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

**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. 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.

**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.

**INDOOR YARD SALE & BAKE SALE:** Our Lady of Lourdes Church is holding a Yard Sale & Bake Sale in the Church Hall located at 2716 Broad Avenue, Altoona on Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup> from 8 AM - 2 PM and Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup> from 8 AM - 1 PM. Household and children's items, books, jewelry, seasonal items. Please use the alley/elevator entrance.

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:** The Parish Office is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9am to 3pm unless otherwise noted to accommodate appointments and vacations. Thank you!

### **FAITH FORMATION NEWS**

**Registration Forms for the 2026-2027 Faith Formation Year are now available in the Gathering Space.**

**All public school students entering Kindergarten through 9th grade should be registered with the Faith Formation Program.**

**All catholic school students entering 2nd grade and 9th 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).*

**\*\*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!\*\***

**125TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR DIOCESE:** In celebration of the 125th anniversary of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, all the faithful are invited to a Mass of Thanksgiving celebrated by Bishop Mark on May 31 at 2:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona. Priests, deacons, and men and women religious will be in attendance. All parishioners of the diocese are welcome and encouraged to attend the Mass. Anyone interested in being part of the festival choir for the Mass may contact Cathedral Music Director Robert Long by emailing him at [rlong@dioceseaj.org](mailto:rlong@dioceseaj.org).

**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.

**SCRIP TIP:** Plans for Memorial Day? Traveling over the holiday weekend? Grab Scrip gift cards to purchase all your picnic and travel needs for next weekend! Stop at the Scrip table if you have questions or to learn about ordering scrip cards online. Every purchase helps support the church!



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