



**Fifth Sunday of
Easter
May 3, 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
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 Diane Ryan - Faith Formation Coordinator/Secretary
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 Iris Tatar - Director of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
 iristat38@gmail.com
 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

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 9- 4:00 PM - Joyce Cunningham, Laverne Kovacs
 Sun. May 10- 8:00 AM - Mike Greslick, Mary Truesdale
 Sun. May 10- 11:00 AM - Patrick Schurr, Bob Olson

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. May 9- 4:00 PM - Abigail Hovance, Sadie Swope
 Sun. May 10- 8:00 AM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED
 Sun. May 10- 11:00 AM - Camille Krug, Aidan Schurr

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. May 9- 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, NOT FILLED
 Sun. May 10- 8:00 AM - Daniel Turcovsky, Diane Turcovsky
 Sun. May 10- 11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Barbara Bundy,
 Lou Ann Clark, Ken Gorman, Susanna Tomlinson,
 NOT FILLED

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. May 9- 4:00 PM - Betsy Lloyd, Jeremy Truscillo,
 Larry VanSickel, Paula VanSickel
 Sun. May 10- 8:00 AM - Jane Becker, John Becker, Carolyn English,
 Ginny Reeder
 Sun. May 10- 11:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti, Mary Horton,
 Peg Madden, Patrick Podoletz

SACRISTAN

Sat. May 9- 4:00 PM - Mary King
 Sun. May 10- 8:00 AM - Ashley Greslick
 Sun. May 10- 11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan

SCRIP

Sat. May 9- 4:00 PM - Lori Baker, NOT FILLED
 Sun. May 10- 8:00 AM - Erika Yasolsky, Heather Yasolsky
 Sun. May 10- 11:00 AM - Peg Madden, Marge Rudolph

A Few Words from the Pastor:

FIRST COMMUNION – We congratulate our First Communicants who will be making their First Eucharist this Sunday. They are: Theodore Ballos, Aubriella Evans, Ellaria Gides, Claire Gillie, Liam McManus, Eleanor Mills, Addison Stratton, Meghan Weikert and Paxton Weimer. Our May Crowning will occur at the same Mass!

THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION, MAY 14! At the end of His earthly life Jesus ascends triumphantly into heaven. The Church acclaims Him in His holy humanity, invited to sit on the Father's right hand and to share His glory. But Christ's Ascension is the pledge of our own. Filled with an immense hope, the Church looks up towards her leader, who precedes her into the heavenly home and takes her with Him in His own person: "for the Son of God, after incorporating in Himself those whom the devil's jealousy had banished from the earthly paradise, ascends again to His Father and takes them with Him" (St. Leo). Our Masses for the Feast will be on Wednesday evening at 6, Thursday morning at 8:30, and Thursday evening at 6.

MASS OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK - we will be celebrating a Mass of Anointing here at St. John's on May 17 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.

In the Church's Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, through the ministry of the priest, it is Jesus who touches the sick to heal them from sin – and sometimes even from physical ailment. His cures were signs of the arrival of the Kingdom of God. The core message of his healing tells us of his plan to conquer sin and death by his dying and rising. 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.

"OUR SUNDAY BEST" - this expression has its roots in the way churchgoers prepare themselves to worship Christ the King! We put on our "Sunday Best" as a sign of the honor with which we acknowledge Christ the Risen One. We certainly do it for Easter Sunday, when "we come dressed for an audience with the Living God." The Church teaches us that **every** Sunday is Easter! Every Sunday when we come to celebrate the Eucharist, we are urged to come in our "Sunday Best."

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.

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

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

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

Annual Chicken BBQ: Sunday, June 14th-More details to come!

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. **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 3rd

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*

Monday, May 4 - Easter Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Dave English* requested by Carolyn English

Tuesday, May 5 - Easter Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Marian Monios* requested by Dr. Joseph & Pam Klobuka

Wednesday, May 6 - Easter Weekday

5:30 PM - Confessions

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

Thursday, May 7 - Easter Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *George Billeck* requested by the Sibold family

Friday, May 8 - Easter Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Kenneth Young* requested by Iris & Chris Tatar

Saturday, May 9 - Vigil of Sixth Sunday of Easter

3:15 PM - Confessions

4:00 PM - Mass for *Rebecca Ann Fetterolf* requested by Doug & Maria Spayd

Sunday, May 10 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

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

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

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. 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: The readings on this fifth Sunday of Easter present us with themes of dwelling places and home. As Christian stewards, we are well aware that this world is not our permanent home. We are merely pilgrims here, making our way through the stewardship way of life to our true home, heaven. Yet, as we make our way to heaven, we are called to make our dwelling here – whether we are in a household of one or bursting at the seams – our true ‘domestic church’ starts at home. Stewardship is not just about going to Mass once a week, serving in ministries, and giving financially to the parish. Those are all important, but stewardship begins long before we step onto our parish campus. It begins with our families, our domestic church. Let us respond to God’s great love by becoming good stewards of our earthly dwellings, making our homes true ‘domestic churches’ where we honor God with our prayer, our thoughtfulness to each other, and our generous hospitality to all. Let us never forget that stewardship starts at home.

April 18th/19th

Envelopes	\$ 5,707.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 343.00
Heating & Cooling	\$ 488.00
Holy Thursday	\$ 70.00
Good Friday	\$ 70.00
Easter	\$ 255.00
Online Giving	\$ 2,201.37
Total Offertory	\$ 9,134.37

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!

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.

ST JOHN'S PRAYER LIST

Please call Ginny Reeder (695-7671) or email her at gabby.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.

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 dannah31049@gmail.com.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

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!****

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 as they prepare 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.

DON'T FORGET ABOUT SCRIP! This time of year is full of graduations, concerts, recitals and end of the school year activities. Need a quick and easy gift? Grab a scrip gift card at mass this weekend! Have questions still? Stop by the Scrip table at any weekend mass and our volunteers will be happy to help answer any questions.

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. 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.



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