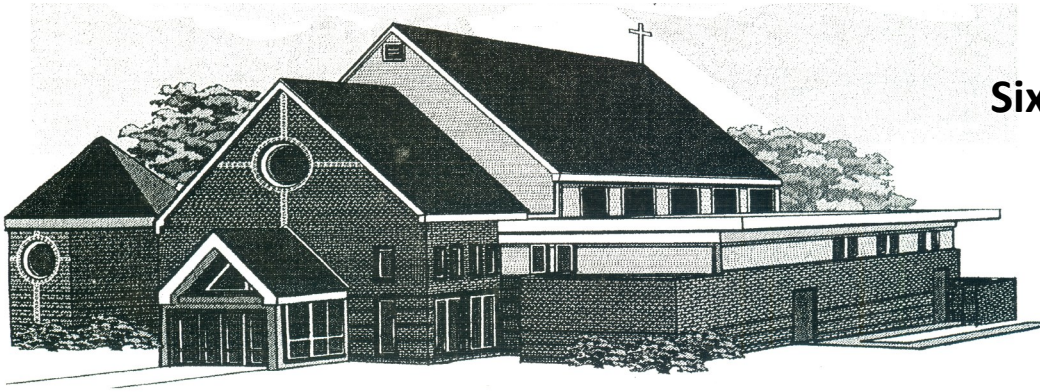




**Sixteenth Sunday in
Ordinary Time
July 19, 2026**

**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
Diane Ryan - Faith Formation Coordinator/Secretary
stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net
Iris Tatar - Director of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
iristat38@gmail.com
Pat & Sue Podoletz - OCIA
paddypodo@gmail.com mrsposito@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 & 10:00 AM

July Prayer Intention of Pope Leo

For respect for human life
Let us pray for the respect and protection
of human life in all its stages, recognizing it
as a gift from God.



NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS

LECTORS

Sat. July 25- 4:00 PM - Jeremy Truscello, Laverne Kovacs
Sun. July 26- 8:00 AM - Daniel Turcovsky, Diane Turcovsky
Sun. July 26- 10:00 AM - John Sukala, Jim Campbell

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. July 25- 4:00 PM - Abigail Hovance, Sadie Swope
Sun. July 26- 8:00 AM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED
Sun. July 26- 10:00 AM - Estella Koch, Evie Koch

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. July 25- 4:00 PM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED
Sun. July 26- 8:00 AM - Jennifer Helsley, Ginny Reeder
Sun. July 26- 10:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Barbara Bundy,
Ken Gorman, Bob Olson

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. July 25- 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, Betsy Lloyd, Larry VanSickel,
Paula VanSickel
Sun. July 26- 8:00 AM - Carolyn English, Ashley Greslick,
Mike Greslick, Ed Stoltz
Sun. July 26- 10:00 AM - Wendy Campbell, Dolores Capriotti,
Lou Ann Clark, Marge Rudolph

SACRISTAN

Sat. July 25- 4:00 PM - Linda McAleer
Sun. July 26- 8:00 AM - Ashley Greslick
Sun. July 26- 10:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti

SCRIP

Sat. July 25- 4:00 PM - Lori Baker, NOT FILLED
Sun. July 26- 8:00 AM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED
Sun. July 26- 10:00 AM - Peg Madden, Marge Rudolph

****Mass Time Change - Our 2nd Mass on Sunday will begin at 10am and will continue with this schedule through
Labor Day weekend ****

A Few Words from the Pastor:

THANK YOU FATHER ASHOK! We are very grateful to have Father Ashok back at St. John's to celebrate masses while I am away this weekend. We appreciate his willingness to share his time and his gifts with us again! I will be returning Sunday evening with my fellow travelers. Prayers for a safe return are appreciated!

PARISH PICNIC TIME! Next Sunday we will be celebrating our annual summer picnic. Following our 10:00 AM Mass, join us in Bailey Hall for good food and fellowship! This is a real practical example of what the Eucharist means, that we break bread together and enjoy the blessings of one another's company. We are grateful to the Altoona Sweet Adeline's Chorus who will provide our entertainment! Please join us for this special annual parish event!

THE FEAST OF SAINT MARY MAGDALENE we celebrate on Wednesday. It is a significant day in the Catholic Church and other Christian denominations, commemorating Mary Magdalene, a prominent figure in the Gospels and considered the "Apostle to the Apostles". Pope Benedict, in raising her liturgical celebration from a Memorial to a Feast in 2016, recalled Mary Magdalene's presence "beneath the Cross" on Good Friday, as well as how "she was to be the one to discover the empty tomb" on Easter morning. "The story of Mary of Magdala reminds us all of a fundamental truth: A disciple of Christ is one who, in the experience of human weakness, has had the humility to ask for his help, has been healed by him and has set out following closely after him, becoming a witness of the power of his merciful love that is stronger than sin and death."

POPE LEO'S PRAYER: Pope Leo XIV has urged Catholics across the globe to join him this July in praying for respect for human life. In his prayer intention for the month of July, the Pope is praying "for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God." Recognizing that the Lord has created each person in love and calls everyone to live in fullness, the pope said in the video: "Each person is a sacred gift that reflects your face from the first instant of existence to the final breath of their journey on earth." The Pope prayed that the Lord help his Church become a living witness of the Gospel of life, "an open home where every life is celebrated, where no one feels unwanted, and where dignity is always honored and protected." Finally, Pope Leo concluded by imploring the Lord Jesus to help us love life as he does, "with tenderness, fidelity, and self-giving. May we proclaim, in words and actions," he said, "that every human life is worth the total gift of ourselves."

SAVE THE DATES!

Annual Parish Picnic: Sunday, July 26th after the 10am Mass in Fr. Bailey Hall (gym)

Diocesan Family Conference: Saturday, September 19th at Bishop Carroll High School in Ebensburg

ST. JOHN'S ANNUAL PICNIC-NEXT SUNDAY, JULY 26TH: Please plan on joining your parish family next Sunday, July 26th following the 10am mass for our Annual Parish Picnic. The parish will provide chicken, hot dogs and shredded beef. Please bring a dish to share in a disposable tray or bowl, if possible. A basket raffle will be conducted and the proceeds will be donated to St. John's Social Committee. There are sign up sheets on the kiosk in the Gathering Space inviting your attendance, what you wish to bring, if you would like to help in any way and also to bring a basket for the raffle. We are most grateful to the committee for all the hard work they have been doing in preparing for this wonderful parish event! Please join us as we celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the Altoona Johnstown Diocese and the 250th year of our great nation with fun, food and fellowship!

PROCLAIM! NIGHT WITH THE ALTOONA CURVE: In celebration of the 125th anniversary of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, *Proclaim!* is sponsoring a night with the Altoona Curve on August 14 at PNG Field in Altoona. The game starts at 6:00 p.m., but before the game, *Proclaim!* is hosting a picnic supper at 5:00 p.m. Game tickets are \$9 for adults; \$7 dollars for children ages 3-12. The picnic supper is free with the purchase of a game ticket. To purchase tickets, contact Cory Homan at the Altoona Curve at 814-283-3128 or choman@altoonacurve.com. As part of the celebration, the Very Rev. Frank Sconaienchi, TOR, the Very Reverend Matthew Baum, and Father Michael Pleva will throw out the ceremonial first pitch.

Schedule for the Week of July 19th

Sunday, July 19 - Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

10:00 AM - Mass for *the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Bob & Loretta Olson* requested by Bob & Loretta Olson

Monday, July 20 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Communion Service

Tuesday, July 21 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Florence Dancha* requested by David & Donna Steigerwalt

Wednesday, July 22 - St. Mary Magdalene

5:30 PM - Confessions

6:00 PM - Mass for *Sue Caldwell* requested by Ron & Joyce Cunningham

Thursday, July 23 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Marian Monios* requested by Ron & Joyce Cunningham

Friday, July 24 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Bill Schmerbeck* requested by Dee Schmerbeck

Saturday, July 25 - Vigil of Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

3:15 PM - Confessions

4:00 PM - Mass for *John Stokan* requested by Mr. & Mrs. William Stokan

Sunday, July 26 - Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

10:00 AM - Mass for *Tom Semelsberger* requested by Fran Semelsberger

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.

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

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 are filled with lessons both cautionary and consoling for the Christian steward.

Our first reading, from the book of Wisdom, reminds us that our God is just as well as kind, all-powerful as well as merciful. "For You show Your might when the perfection of Your power is disbelieved... But though You are master of might, You judge with clemency." God is indeed kind and loving, but He is also a just judge and the day will come when we will have to give an account for what we have done with the gifts of time, talent and treasure that He entrusted to us during our lifetime. We will be judged by God for the part we played – or did not play – in the building of His kingdom.

We are never alone in this work, however, as we are reminded in our second reading from the letter to the Romans. "The Spirit comes to the aid of our weakness... the Spirit himself intercedes with inexpressible groaning." We must turn to the Holy Spirit continuously to guide us in our daily lives as Christian stewards. The Holy Spirit is the source of all wisdom. He will reveal to each of us the unique mission the Father has given us, as individuals and as a parish family, in the building of the kingdom of heaven. And He will give us the strength we need to remain faithful to our mission.

July 4th & 5th

Envelopes	\$	3,159.00
Loose Offerings	\$	617.00
Catholic Education	\$	80.00
Peter's Pence	\$	55.00
Heating & Cooling	\$	230.00
Online Giving	\$	3,256.75
Total Offertory	\$	7,397.75

2026 Catholic Ministries Drive Goal: \$37,300

January 1, 2026 - June 30, 2026

Gifts/Pledges - \$54,200.00

Total Gifts Received - \$52,825.00

Pledge Balance - \$1,375.00

****We have reached our goal!****

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 will be receiving a check for \$11,355 for our overage in June. Any additional funds received now will come directly back to the parish to be used for the replacement of our aging heating and cooling unit which will cost at least \$140,000. Donations still being accepted!** 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 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:*

Idy Caporuscio • Dr. Kip Dolphin • Ed Drexler
Lois Dullinger • Charles Elder • Donna Fornwalt
Erin Jones • Marianne Jones • Ray King • Sally Langham
Elsie MacCullagh • Dave Madden • Ron Merilli
Mike Nagle • Olga Romerowicz • Bette Richards
Anne Showalter • Cathy Stapelfeld • Walter Sweedo
Tim Temofonte • Wally Wargo • Lois Werfel
All Garvey Manor Residents

JOURNEY THROUGH LOSS: The next session will be offered at Holy Family Parish in Portage from 6:30-8:00 beginning on Wednesday, July 29. *Journey Through Loss* is a 9-week Christian based Bereavement Support Program for adults who are grieving the death of a loved one. Friends and family members from other parishes and denominations are most welcome. Thoughts from a former participant: "It was a prayerful time, a time for memories, tears, laughter, and sharing."

For more information or to register contact Mary Petrak, 814 502-6076, mfpetrak@hotmail.com

ONLINE OFFERTORY: If you find yourself away from St. John's for any reason - illness, inclement weather or vacation, you can continue to express your gratitude to God through the secure online giving option that we have offered for more than a decade. Join the many parishioners who already take advantage of it. From the parish website, www.stjohnsaltoona.org, click on the "Donate Online" button on the left of the page and follow the instructions to create an account and schedule your contributions. You may continue to place your envelope in the basket when you are present at Mass - just check the "I gave online" box. You can also mail your contribution envelopes to our office - 309 Lotz Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602. Thank you!

SCRIP NEWS: Fundraising doesn't have to mean extra spending or extra work. With RaiseRight, your everyday purchases can earn money for St. John's, making every dollar go further. How it works:

1. Shop, dine, or book travel through RaiseRight
 2. Brands share a portion of your purchase back to St. John's as earnings
 3. Earnings go towards helping to pay parish needs
- Questions still? Stop by the Scrip table on weekends and our volunteers can help! Already have our enrollment code? Visit RaiseRight.com/Enroll to get started.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Registration Forms for the 2026-2027 Faith Formation Year are now available in the Gathering Space.
Classes will be begin in mid-September.

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 of their home parish to prepare for Sacraments.
Catholic school students do not receive the sacraments through the school.

If you would like more information or have questions, please contact Diane Ryan at 814-942-5503 or email stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net.

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.

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.

BLESSING BAGS PROJECT: During the months of June, July and August, the Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court Prince Gallitzin #2625 will be collecting the following items for the Blessings Bags Project for the Homeless of our community. There will be a box in the Gathering Space for you to place your donations. In advance, thank you for your generosity in this project. Once we have collected all the items, the members of our court will create the blessing bags for the homeless of our community. Items needed: Band-Aids, washcloths, small bottled water, toothbrushes, travel size toothpaste, soap, shampoo and toilet paper, deodorant, brushes/combs, floss, chapstick, socks, small tissues.

Prayer for Vocation

O God
Hear our prayer
And let our cry come to You.
Bless the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown
With many vocations to the
Priesthood, diaconate, and religious life.
Give Your sons and daughters
The confidence to accept Your call,
And the love to follow always
In the footsteps of Your beloved Son
With courage and dedication to Your will.
Amen