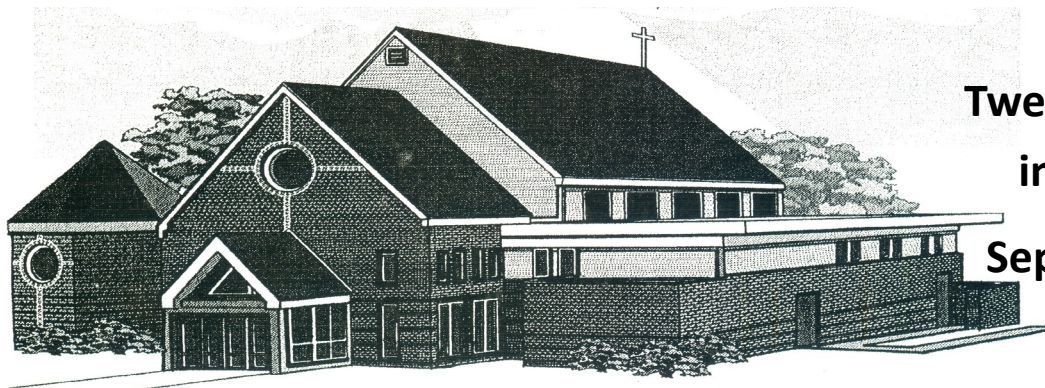




**Twenty-fourth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
September 13, 2026**

**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
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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 & 11:00 AM

September Prayer Intention of Pope Leo

For the care of water
Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital source, so that everyone may have equal access to it.



NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS

LECTORS

Sat. Sept. 19- 4:00 PM - James Krug, Joyce Cunningham
Sun. Sept. 20-8:00 AM - Daniel Turcovsky, Diane Turcovsky
Sun. Sept. 20-11:00 AM - Evie Koch, Aralin Guinard

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. Sept. 19- 4:00 PM - Sadie Swope, NOT FILLED
Sun. Sept. 20- 8:00 AM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED
Sun. Sept. 20- 11:00 AM - Aidan Schurr, NOT FILLED

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. Sept. 19- 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, David Loth
Sun. Sept. 20- 8:00 AM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED
Sun. Sept. 20- 11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Ken Gorman,
Bob Olson, Susanna Tomlinson

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. Sept. 19- 4:00 PM - Betsy Lloyd, Dennis Moughemer,
Karen Moughemer, Jeremy Truscello
Sun. Sept. 20- 8:00 AM - Ashley Greslick, Mike Greslick,
Ginny Reeder, Mary Truesdale
Sun. Sept. 20- 11:00 AM - Faith Formation Students

SACRISTAN

Sat. Sept. 19- 4:00 PM - Linda McAleer
Sun. Sept. 20- 8:00 AM - Ashley Greslick
Sun. Sept. 20- 11:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti

SCRIP

Sat. Sept. 19- 4:00 PM - Julie Beiswenger, Becky Merilli
Sun. Sept. 20- 8:00 AM - Amber Yasolsky, Heather Yasolsky
Sun. Sept. 20- 11:00 AM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED

****Mass Time Change - Our 2nd Mass on Sunday will begin at 10am and will continue with this schedule through Labor Day weekend. Beginning September 13th the 2nd Mass on Sunday will be at 11am.****

A Few Words from the Pastor:

SUNDAY MASS TIME CHANGE -- Beginning this Sunday our second Sunday Mass will be celebrated at 11:00 AM. This schedule will continue until Memorial Day. We will do a robo call as a reminder!!

LOOKING AHEAD TO ADULT ED! – We will again be having our adult ed session on Sunday morning this fall, with a very timely topic. Using his book *Insane for the Light: A Spirituality for our Wisdom Years*, Ronald Rohlheiser will provide an insightful look at how we are to grow spiritually as we deal with the delights and challenges of growing older. For those wishing to get a head start, this book is available online from Amazon. I will also have copies available. Our first session will be held on September 27. Plan on joining us!

SOME PRACTICAL STEPS FOR THE SEASON OF CREATION!

GIVE THANKS FOR GOD'S CREATION: Take a few moments each day to notice something beautiful—a sunrise, a tree, a bird, a garden, or the changing seasons—and simply thank God.

TAKE A CREATION WALK: Walk outdoors with family or friends. Slow down, listen, look, and enjoy the beauty of God's creation.

REDUCE WASTE: During September, try one simple change: use less plastic, recycle carefully, reduce food waste, or avoid unnecessary disposable items.

CONSERVE WATER AND ENERGY: Turn off unnecessary lights, use water wisely, and look for simple ways to conserve the resources God has entrusted to us.

SEPTEMBER is called “September” because the name comes from the Latin word *septem*, meaning “seven.” The interesting part is that September is now the ninth month, not the seventh. The reason is that in the early Roman calendar, the year began with March. Counting from March, September is the 7th month. Later, January and February were placed at the beginning of the year, making September the ninth month. Now you know!

FEASTS OF THE WEEK: Our celebration of the Triumph of the Cross on Monday (Sept 14) and Our Lady of Sorrows on Tuesday (Sept 15) provide a wonderful reflection during this Season of Creation: “THE CROSS, COMPASSION, AND CARE.” On September 14 the Cross teaches us that God's love can transform suffering into new life. On September 15, we are called to imitate Mary, who teaches us to stand with those who suffer. In this Season of Creation, We are called to stand with God's creation and work for its healing.

SAVE THE DATES!

Alpha: September 8th-November 17th from 6-8:15pm in St. John's cafeteria

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

Faith Formation Meet the Teacher/Parent & Student Meeting: Sunday, September 20th at 9:30am in the gym

Blessing of the Pets: Sunday, October 4th at 1pm in front of the church entrance

Annual Pumpkin Fest: Saturday, October 10th from 10am-4pm in Hollidaysburg

Annual Hymn Sing: Sunday, October 18th-More details to come!



St. John the Evangelist Church for voted Top 5 Favorite Places of Worship! Please go to the Altoona Mirror webpage to vote daily for the 2026 Hometown Favorites beginning September 13th-20th. You can vote once daily on the website. Our link is: <https://www.altoonamirror.com/HometownFavorites#/gallery/558108712> Please share with your family and friends and encourage them to vote for St. John's! Additional contest details and information can be found on the Altoona Mirror Website. Winners announced on December 7th. Last year we made it to the top 5-this year let's be the winner! **Please vote for St. John's every day!**

DIOCESAN FAMILY CONFERENCE CELEBRATING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DIOCESE: The diocesan family conference will be held on Saturday, September 19th at Bishop Carroll Catholic High School, Ebensburg. This conference has been designed for every generation, from young children and teens to parents, grandparents, clergy and parish leaders. This day-long event will offer inspiring keynote presentations, engaging break-out sessions, opportunities for prayer and fellowship, food and the Vigil Mass for Sunday. You may register online at: dioceseaj.org or copies of the registration booklet are available in the Gathering Space or by contacting the parish office. Information on the day and to be a sponsor are in the registration booklet. For additional information contact Francine Swope at fswope@dioceseaj.org OR (814)317-2646.

Schedule for the Week of September 13th

Sunday, September 13 - Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

11:00 AM - Mass for *George Semko* requested by Karen Mazzarella

Monday, September 14 - The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

8:30 AM - Mass for *Andrew Jr. & Florence Dancha* requested by Vicki Faretta

Tuesday, September 15 - Our Lady of Sorrows

8:30 AM - Mass for *Florence Bacho* requested by Betty Peschock

Wednesday, September 16 - Sts. Cornelius & Cyprian

5:30 PM - Confessions

6:00 PM - Mass for *Deceased members of the Yokitis family* requested by Mary & Ray King

Thursday, September 17 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Cheryl Dennis* requested by Betty Dennis & family

Friday, September 18 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Communion Service

Saturday, September 19 - Vigil of Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

3:15 PM - Confessions

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

Sunday, September 20 - Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

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

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!

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.

PUMPKIN FEST: The 20th Annual Pumpkin Fest will be on Saturday, October 10th from 10am-4pm on Allegheny Street between Front & Union Streets. St. John's will be selling homemade soups again at their booth. If you are interested in helping, please sign up on the kiosk. All profits will benefit the Social Committee and upcoming Parish Events. Contact Ginny Reeder at 814-695-7671 for questions or more information. Thank you for supporting our Parish!

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: As Christian stewards, we recognize that all we have and all that we are is a gift from God, and we live our lives in a grateful response to such extravagant love. This calls for continuous conversion of heart. The practices of giving a portion of our time, our talents and our treasure are essential steps on the path to conversion. But they serve an even deeper purpose than helping us remember our good intentions. They open our minds and hearts to ever-deepening surrender to the Lord, Who has given us every good thing.

In our Gospel passage from Matthew, Jesus gives us a provocative reminder of the true position we have before Him in light of all that He has done for us. He compares the kingdom of heaven to a "king who decided to settle accounts with his servants." In the parable, a debtor is brought before the king, owing such an overwhelming debt that it could not possibly be repaid. Yet, the king is filled with compassion for the servant, forgives the debt and lets him go free.

Just like the servant in the parable, we could never possibly repay our debt to the Lord. All we can do is thank God by giving Him our whole selves – our outward actions and our inner selves – and by treating our fellow debtors with the same compassion and forgiveness He has shown to us. In fact, Jesus rightfully and justly commands us to "forgive your brother from your heart." What joy and freedom of heart we find in the stewardship way of life!

August 29th & 30th

Envelopes	\$	4,542.00
Loose Offerings	\$	622.00
Heating & Cooling	\$	190.00
Online Giving	\$	1,089.45
Total Offertory	\$	6,443.45

2026 Catholic Ministries Drive Goal: \$37,300

January 1, 2026 - July 31, 2026

Gifts/Pledges - \$60,348.00

Total Gifts Received - \$60,098.00

Pledge Balance - \$250.00

BG CLASS OF 1978 ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP: If your child transferred into the BG school system this year (Pre-K through 12), he or she may be eligible to receive an \$880 award from the BG Class of 1978 Scholarship Endowment. Please download an application from the Independent Catholic Foundation's "Grants & Scholarships" webpage at www.icfoundation.us. Please give your pastor or parish administrator ample time to sign it. The Foundation will accept completed applications until 4:00 PM, Thursday, October 1.

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:*

Barbara • Idy Caporuscio • Dr. Kip Dolphin
Ed Drexler • Lois Dullinger • Charles Elder
Patty Flanagan • Donna Fornwalt • Erin Jones
Marianne Jones • Ray & Mary King • Sally Langham
Elsie MacCullagh • Dave Madden
Suzana Mladenovska • Mike Nagle • Olga Romerowicz
Bette Richards • Anne Showalter • Cathy Stapelfeld
Chuck Stephens • Walter Sweedo • Tammy
Tim Temofonte • Susanna Tomlinson • Wally Wargo
Lois Werfel • Holly Whitmire
All Garvey Manor Residents

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. 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, September 14, 2026, please come and join us for our monthly meeting in the St. Rose of Lima community room at 5:30 pm with the business meeting beginning at 6pm. If you have any questions, please contact Regent Carol Galieto at 814-327-4841 or Carol54ann@Outlook.com

2026-2027 HAITI STUDENT SPONSORSHIP: \$160 per student for the school year. This support is dedicated to the student and the operating costs, which include books, supplies, uniforms, lunch and salaries.

Thank you for your generosity in the past years. Sts. Peter & Paul is now supporting many, many families who have fled their homes to escape the gangs and violence. St. John's dedication to this mission has been and is crucial to the survival of our sister parish and community. Have no doubt your prayers and donations make the difference personally for each fellow Haitian Catholic. Thank you, again, for being a blessing to Haiti.

CLASS REUNION: The Bishop Guilfoyle Class of 1986 is planning their 40th class reunion. The date is set for November 13 & 14, 2026. All classmates and spouses are welcome. Please contact Reneé Francis-Luciano @ 814-329-0858 for further information.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH: MEET THE TEACHER/ PARENT & STUDENT MEETING 9:30AM-GYM

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 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.

OCIA: The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) is a process providing for those adults, unbaptized or baptized, who are seeking to know more about the Catholic faith and become a part of that faith. Here at St. John's the process is also open to those adult Catholics who have been away from the church and are seeking to become closer to Christ. If you are interested in growing in your faith, please contact Pat at 717-575-4224 or Sue at 717-575-1142.

IS GOD CALLING YOU TO BECOME A DEACON? Do you believe that God might be calling you to discern the Ordained Ministry of Christ the Servant, as a Permanent Deacon in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown? If so, you and your wife (if married) are invited to join Bishop Mark and Deacon Michael Russo at the **"Bishop's Night of Vocations"** on Thursday, **October 8th at 7 p.m.** at the US Hotel Tavern, Hollidaysburg. Reservations for this event are required and can be made by contacting Jessica at (814) 361-2000. The deadline for reservations is **Sept. 18**. For more information on the Permanent Diaconate please visit us online at www.dioceseaj.org/Diaconate/ or by contacting Deacon Michael Russo, Director at (814) 288-3036. **All are welcome!**

THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA COLLECTION:

This weekend, the (arch)diocese will take up the National Collection for The Catholic University of America. Catholic University is a national research university, in the heart of Washington, D.C., with over 5,700 undergraduate and graduate students in more than 250 academic programs. By giving to the collection, you are supporting future Catholic leaders, both religious and lay, who are being formed by an exceptional, faith-rooted education. The University's various research and training initiatives support dioceses and parishes in responding to the most pressing needs of their faithful. Please give generously. Scan the QR code on the provided envelopes or visit: Collection.catholic.edu.