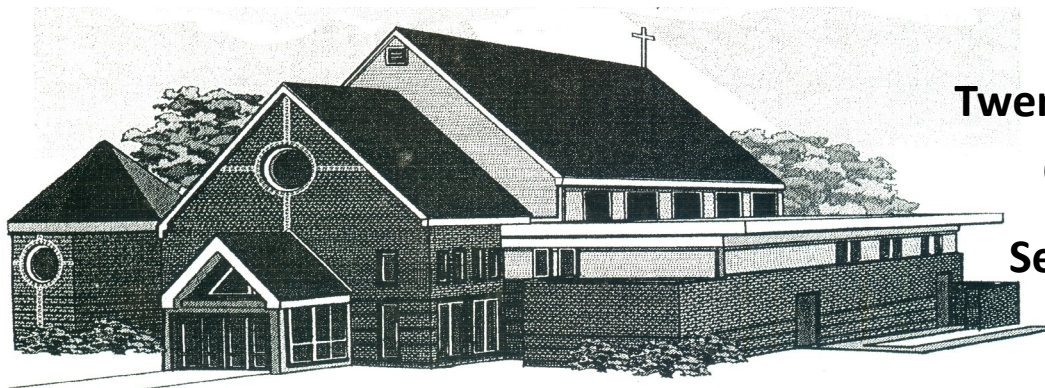




**Twenty-third Sunday in  
Ordinary Time**

**September 6, 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 - 9:00 AM (LABOR DAY) 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**

**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. 12- 4:00 PM - Jeremy Truscello, Mireille Crevecoeur  
Sun. Sept. 13-8:00 AM - Daniel Turcovsky, Diane Turcovsky  
Sun. Sept. 13-11:00 AM - Iris Tatar, Dave Auerbeck

**ALTAR SERVERS**

Sat. Sept. 12- 4:00 PM - Sadie Swope, NOT FILLED  
Sun. Sept. 13- 8:00 AM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED  
Sun. Sept. 13- 11:00 AM - Madison Kantoski, Lexington Tatar

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

Sat. Sept. 12- 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, David Loth  
Sun. Sept. 13- 8:00 AM - Ginny Reeder, NOT FILLED  
Sun. Sept. 13- 11:00 AM - Barbara Bundy, Dolores Capriotti,  
Ken Gorman, Susanna Tomlinson

**MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY**

Sat. Sept. 12- 4:00 PM - Kay Laratonda, Betsy Lloyd,  
Marge Rudolph, NOT FILLED  
Sun. Sept. 13- 8:00 AM - Ashley Greslick, Jack Hoyne, Ray Kennedy,  
Ed Stoltz  
Sun. Sept. 13- 11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Walter Bloom,  
Wendy Campbell, Peg Madden

**SACRISTAN**

Sat. Sept. 12- 4:00 PM - Mary King  
Sun. Sept. 13- 8:00 AM - Ashley Greslick  
Sun. Sept. 13- 11:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti

**SCRIP**

Sat. Sept. 12- 4:00 PM - Patrick Podoletz, Marge Rudolph  
Sun. Sept. 13- 8:00 AM - Erika Yasolsky, Heather Yasolsky  
Sun. Sept. 13- 11:00 AM - Carolyn English, 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:

**WHY DO WE CELEBRATE MASS ON LABOR DAY?** *Because we honor the dignity of work.* Work is more than earning a living. Through work, people contribute to their families, communities, and the common good. ***Because we honor the worker, not simply the job.*** A person's dignity does not depend upon salary, status, productivity, or occupation. The retired person, homemaker, unemployed person, student, caregiver, and person unable to work all possess the same human dignity. Please join us on Monday at 9:00 AM as we honor the dignity of work and all those who labor to build a more peaceful and prosperous and just world!

**POPE LEO ON THE CARE OF CREATION:** his homily in celebrating the Eleventh World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation: *This evening, as we accept the invitation to pause and reflect before the works of God, we begin the "Season of Creation" — a period of five weeks devoted to prayer and commitment to the care of our "common home." On this Day, therefore, and in the weeks ahead, let us set aside a few moments to pause from the frenzy of our daily lives, in order to savor the profound harmony of which we ourselves are a part. Let us place in "silent mode" the many noises generated by human activity, so that we may hear the melodious voice of creation, through which God, the Author of all things, speaks to us. This task of contemplation, which disposes us to an encounter with the Lord, is a first step towards an "authentic ecological conversion, where the effects of our encounter with Jesus Christ become evident in our relationship with the world around us. "From contemplating creation and encountering its Creator, there arises an awareness of our particular place within God's wondrous plan, and of the responsibility that we bear both personally and collectively for preserving the original harmony. Thus, as we become conscious of our shortcomings and failures, we can renew our commitment to restoring the relationships among all creatures according to the will of their Creator!*

**SUNDAY MASS TIME CHANGE** -- Beginning on September 13, the Sunday after Labor Day, our second Sunday Mass will be celebrated at 11:00 AM. Remember to mark your mark your calendars! 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 on Amazon. Our first session will be held September 27. Plan on joining us!

### SAVE THE DATES!

**Labor Day Mass:** Monday, September 7th at 9am

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

**DIOCESAN FAMILY CONFERENCE CELEBRATING THE 125<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE DIOCESE:** The diocesan family conference will be held on Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup> 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 includes the annual Men's and Women's Conferences, Shycon (**also a discipleship event for Senior High Confirmation candidates**) and Junior High Youth Day. 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](http://dioceseaj.org) or copies of the registration booklet are available in the Gathering Space or by contacting the parish office. Please also prayerfully consider being a Sponsor for this day. Information on the day and to be a sponsor are in the registration booklet. For additional information contact Francine Swope at [fswope@dioceseaj.org](mailto:fswope@dioceseaj.org) OR (814)317-2646.

**FLOCKNOTE:** Sign up to receive all our upcoming events and parish news directly to your email inbox or via text through Flocknote! Stay up-to-date and never miss out on important news and events.

**How to Join:** Text SJC1 to 84576. Then after it responds, make sure you click that link and complete the process. If you can't complete this on your mobile phone, please go online to [stjohnsaltoona.flocknote.com](http://stjohnsaltoona.flocknote.com) to register.

Sign up with your email address or phone number. Join Flocknote today and stay informed about everything happening in our parish. We look forward to connecting with you!

## ***Schedule for the Week of September 6th***

### **Sunday, September 6 - Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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

10:00 AM - Mass for *Dr. Murray & Georgia Dolphin*  
requested by the Dolphin family

### **Monday, September 7 - Weekday**

9:00 AM - Mass for *Michael Rudolph* requested by  
his wife & children

### **Tuesday, September 8 - The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

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

### **Wednesday, September 9 - St. Peter Claver**

5:30 PM - Confessions

6:00 PM - Mass for *Michael Rudolph* requested by  
Chuck & Mary Beth Edmonds

### **Thursday, September 10 - Weekday**

8:30 AM - Mass for *Frank Mento* requested by  
Bob & Ginny Reeder

### **Friday, September 11 - Weekday**

8:30 AM - Communion Service

### **Saturday, September 12 - Vigil of Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

3:15 PM - Confessions

4:00 PM - Mass for *Paul Spayd* requested by  
Doug & Maria Spayd

### **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

**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.

**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](http://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.

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER:** Today's readings are all about relationships. Among the many lessons we have learned as a result of the global pandemic is the deep importance of the relationships and communities in our lives. Our families, our neighbors, our friends, and our parish family need us and we need them – not just for survival, but to be our best selves, and to help each other on the path to heaven. Our readings today show us how we can be good stewards of these vital relationships, beginning with the first reading from the prophet Ezekiel. God says to Ezekiel, "I have appointed watchmen for the house of Israel; when you hear me say anything, you shall warn them for me." Because of our Baptism, we are all "watchmen" for one another. We have been given the gift of our Catholic faith and we have a responsibility to lovingly and generously share that gift. As Christian stewards, God has designed us in such a way that we must help each other on the journey towards heaven. Let us take care to steward our relationships well.

#### **August 22nd & 23rd**

|                        |           |                 |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Envelopes              | \$        | 2,849.00        |
| Loose Offerings        | \$        | 497.00          |
| Assumption of Mary     | \$        | 75.00           |
| Heating & Cooling      | \$        | 195.00          |
| Online Giving          | \$        | 1,562.95        |
| <b>Total Offertory</b> | <b>\$</b> | <b>5,178.95</b> |

#### **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**

**ANNUAL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY LITURGY:** Bishop Mark Bartchak and the Family Life Office cordially invite all couples celebrating **1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60+ years of marriage in 2026** (and their families) to attend the Annual Wedding Anniversary Liturgy. Couples may attend Sunday, **September 13** in **ALTOONA** at Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament or Sunday, **September 20** in **JOHNSTOWN** at St. John Gualbert Cathedral. Both locations are handicap accessible. Liturgies in each location begin at **2:00 p.m.** Most Rev. Bishop Mark will be the celebrant and homilist at each celebration. Refreshments/snacks will be available after the mass for anniversary couples and their families. **Reservations must be made through your parish for either celebration by Friday, September 11th.**

**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!

### **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:*

Barbara • Idy Caporuscio • Dr. Kip Dolphin  
Ed Drexler • Lois Dullinger • Charles Elder  
Patty Flanagan • Donna Fornwalt  
Marianne Jones • Ray & Mary King • Sally Langham  
Elsie MacCullagh • Dave Madden  
Suzana Mladenovska • Mike Nagle • Olga Romerowicz  
Bette Richards • Anne Showalter • Cathy Stapelfeld  
Walter Sweedo • Tammy • Tim Temofonte  
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 Galioto at 814-327-4841 or [Carol54ann@Outlook.com](mailto:Carol54ann@Outlook.com)

**ST. JOHN'S BOWLING LEAGUE:** Are you looking for something fun for the whole family to do together? Do you have just a little "SPARE" time every two weeks? Roll on down to Holiday Bowl and join our St. Johns Bowling League. This is a Just for Fun League and we would love to have you!. We don't care if you enjoy spending the whole time in the gutter or if the pins fear you as soon as you walk onto the lane. We hope that you will join us at Holiday Bowl. We will begin September 11, 2026 and there is a sign up sheet located on the bulletin board in the Gathering Space. Any questions, please call JR Menendez at (814)761-2181.

**ALPHA:** Alpha will be starting every Tuesday beginning September 8th through November 17th here at St. John's in the cafeteria from 6-8:15pm. Dinner is included. Registration forms will be available in the Gathering Space. If you have any questions, please contact Jane Becker at 814-414-9836.

### **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](mailto:stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net).*

**MUSIC MINISTRIES:** Calling all Music Makers! Our St. John music ministries support our liturgies and festive parish celebrations through hymns, anthems, solos, and instrumental praise. If you carry a tune in your heart and want to sing or share your musical talent, please contact Patti at 814-414-7529. Adult Choir rehearsal will start on Wednesday, September 2nd at 7:00 p.m. Youth Choir will meet on Thursdays from 6:00-6:45 beginning September 10th. Handbell Ensemble will begin on Thursday, September 10th at 7:00 p.m. Come and join your voice with ours!

**BIRTH OF MARY CELEBRATION:** Tuesday, September 8th at St. Catherine of Siena Church/Shrine, Old Rt.22,Duncansville. Mass times: 7am, 12:05pm and 5:30pm. Evening Mass and Rosary Procession at the Shrine. Bishop Mark Bartchak, celebrant. Please bring a lawn chair. Inclement weather, the outdoor mass will be celebrated in the church. Rosary at 7:30am, 11:15am, 1pm and 4:30pm. Food, exhibits and crafts in the church hall. Conclude the day with birthday cake for all in the church hall.

#### **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