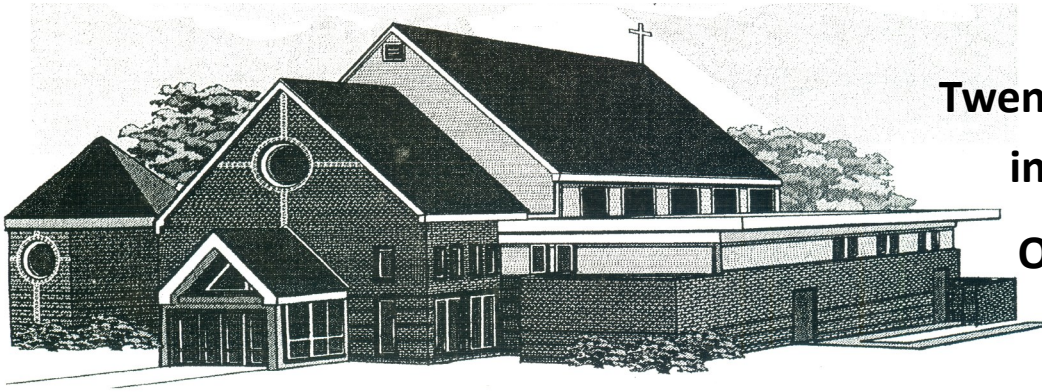




**Twenty-seventh Sunday
in Ordinary Time
October 4, 2026**

**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 & 11:00 AM

October Prayer Intention of Pope Leo

For mental health ministry
Let us pray that the mental health ministry
be established throughout the Church,
helping to overcome the stigma and dis-
crimination of persons with mental illness.



NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS

LECTORS

Sat. Oct. 10- 4:00 PM - Joyce Cunningham, Maria Spayd
Sun. Oct. 11-8:00 AM - Mireille Crevecoeur, NOT FILLED
Sun. Oct. 11-11:00 AM - Richard Consiglio, Susan Podoletz

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. Oct. 10- 4:00 PM - Sadie Swope, NOT FILLED
Sun. Oct. 11- 8:00 AM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED
Sun. Oct. 11- 11:00 AM - Aidan Schurr, NOT FILLED

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. Oct. 10- 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, David Loth
Sun. Oct. 11- 8:00 AM - Mike Greslick, Ginny Reeder
Sun. Oct. 11- 11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Ken Gorman, Bob Olson
Susanna Tomlinson, NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. Oct. 10- 4:00 PM - Jack Hoyne, Kay Laratonda, Larry VanSickel,
Paula VanSickel
Sun. Oct. 11- 8:00 AM - Carolyn English, Mike O'Neill, Ed Stoltz,
Mary Truesdale
Sun. Oct. 11- 11:00 AM - Walter Bloom, Dolores Capriotti,
Lou Ann Clark, Mary Horton

SACRISTAN

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

SCRIP

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

A Few Words from the Pastor:

RESPECT LIFE MONTH BEGINS: Each October since 1973, the Catholic Church in the United States observes Respect Life Month and focuses on reflecting more deeply on the dignity and gift of human life. This year, the theme chosen is *Mary, Mother of Life*. Our Blessed Mother is our model for upholding the sanctity of all human life in every stage and circumstance. We entrust all our efforts to protect mothers and babies to her motherly care, which we greatly need at this time. Bishop Daniel E. Thomas, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) Committee on Pro-Life Activities, reminds us that, "with easier access to abortion pills, the abortion rate today is tragically climbing, along with increased health risks. This means that more women, many of whom have been misinformed about the nature and risks of the abortion pill, will have an abortion alone at home, without any medical supervision. It also sets up additional opportunities for exploitation by violent partners or human traffickers. These affronts to human dignity demand our response."

WEEKLY PRO-LIFE HOLY HOUR! Beginning this Wednesday, October 7, and on each Wednesday of October, we will celebrate an "Pro-Life Holy Hour", which will begin at 5:00 PM. Following adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, we will conclude with Evening Mass at 6:00. Please plan on joining with your fellow parishioners in prayer for the respect of all human life, from conception to natural death! Special prayers will be provided!

PET BLESSING ON OCTOBER 4! Our annual blessing of pets will be celebrated this Sunday, October 4th, at 1:00 PM. This year, however, we will be celebrating this event in **Tuckahoe Park** on Union Avenue, and faith communities from around the city are invited to participate! This event is sponsored by the Interfaith Alliance and is an opportunity for we of the Catholic persuasion can share our love for St. Francis of Assisi, the loving protector of animals. There will be a representative of the Animal Shelter present, with prayers and song to celebrate the beauty of God's many creatures. Our love for pets is universal!

JOIN US FOR ADULT ED! – We have begun our adult ed sessions on Sunday morning, 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. This book is available online from Amazon. We will also have copies available. Plan on joining us!

OUR NEW HVAC UNIT has arrived and is in place. Within the next week we expect it to be connected to our existing ductwork. We are grateful that the weather has cooperated. We are especially thankful for the generosity of so many parishioners who have financially supported this important project.

SAVE THE DATES!

Blessing of the Pets: Sunday, October 4th at 1pm at Tuckahoe Park in Altoona

20th Annual Pumpkin Fest: Saturday, October 10th from 10am-4pm in Hollidayburg

Annual Hymn Sing: Sunday, October 18th at 3pm in the church

Annual Trunk or Treat: Sunday, October 25th at 1pm in the parking lot

RECEIVE UP TO DATE INFORMATION FROM ST. JOHN'S WITH FLOCKNOTE: We want to communicate more effectively with you. But we also want to make it easy for you to control what types of announcements you get from us and how you are notified when we make them. And in order to do this we are using a simple service called FLOCKNOTE. Like sending "notes" to your "flock". This is all totally free for you to use and it's going to also make it easy for you to stay plugged in to the ministries or groups that you care about, all by text message or email updates. Your information will be completely safe and secure. And you can unsubscribe from any updates at any time! 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 to register.

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 able to make 5-10 quarts of soup, please sign up on the kiosk. We are also looking for volunteers for various time slots on the day of the Pumpkin Fest to help sell soup. If you are interested in helping at the booth, 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!

Schedule for the Week of October 4th

Sunday, October 4 - Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

11:00 AM - Mass for *Frank Frye & Darla Frye* requested by
Gene & Joan Frye

Monday, October 5 - Weekday

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

Tuesday, October 6 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Tim & Donna Sheehan* requested by
Connie Burket

Wednesday, October 7 - Our Lady of the Rosary

5:30 PM - Confessions

6:00 PM - Mass for *Dave English* requested by
Carolyn English

Thursday, October 8 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Leonard Majestic* requested by
Barbara Bundy

Friday, October 9 - Weekday

8:30 AM - Communion Service

Saturday, October 10 - Vigil of Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

3:15 PM - Confessions

4:00 PM - Mass for *Ida Proserpi* requested by
John Proserpi

Sunday, October 11 - Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM - Mass for *Bob Cooney* requested by
Ginger Cooney & family

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.

HEALING MASS: Holy Spirit Ministry will hold a special Healing Mass on Tuesday, October 6th at 7pm, at St. Michael Church, Hollidaysburg. This powerful night of hope and healing is for all who are suffering physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Fr. Alan Thomas will be the main celebrant. Praise and worship will precede the Mass at 6:30pm and prayer ministry, Sacramental Anointing of the Sick and confessions will follow the Mass.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: We have been given so many gifts and blessings by our Heavenly Father. Yet, in our fallen state it is all too easy to take them for granted. Our readings today teach us that we must live with an intentional awareness of our many blessings and use them gratefully to glorify God.

Our Second Reading, from St. Paul's letter to the Philippians, is a reminder of one key blessing that is surprisingly easy to take for granted – the gift of our thought life. Our intellect is gift from God and we are called to steward it well. Lack of discipline in our thoughts can easily lead us down a path of discontentment and fear. St. Paul instructs us rather to "have no anxiety at all." How are we to do this? He tells us, "In everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God." And as it turns out, by turning our thoughts towards God with gratitude, we will be blessed immediately.

So let us live each day with a profound awareness of all that we have been given by God. Let us use our intellect to think on these gifts throughout the day and resolve to use all our gifts for God's glory. We will find peace, joy and purpose as we do.

September 19th & 20th

Envelopes	\$	5,061.00
Loose Offerings	\$	430.00
Heating & Cooling	\$	535.00
Retired Priests	\$	75.00
Online Giving	\$	1,883.55
Total Offertory	\$	7,984.55

2026 Catholic Ministries Drive Goal: \$37,300

January 1, 2026 - August 31, 2026

Gifts/Pledges - \$75,690.00

Total Gifts Received - \$75,440.00

Pledge Balance - \$250.00

HYMN SING: Praise, fellowship, and this year's favorite hymn? Come to the **HYMN SING** at 3:00 pm on Sunday, October 18 here in St. John's sanctuary to experience one joyful hour of hymn singing and praiseful entertainment. Yes, you will have the opportunity to share your favorite hymn. Yes, you will certainly hear at least one new hymn. Yes, you can invite your friends and neighbors to come along; we're kid friendly, too! Contact Patti Jimenez for more information at 814-414-7529.

ROSARY RALLY: October 10th at 12pm at Our Lady of Fati ma Shrine on the campus of St. Catherine of Siena, Duncansville. Rain or shine. Contact Dennis at 814-215-7776 with questions.

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:*

Paula Adams • 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
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: Thank you for the many generous donations collected so far for our moms in need. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and making a difference in many lives. We are collecting winter clothing and diapers in sizes 4-8. Any mom needing assistance should call 814-440-1021. Thank you for your support!

GIVE US THIS DAY: It's time to renew our Give Us This Day order for December 2026-November 2027. Samples are available in the Gathering Space. If you are a current subscriber, renewal envelopes are included with your September copy. New subscribers may use the envelopes provided with the samples. We can order either the standard print for \$44 or the large print for \$58 for an annual subscription. Orders are due by October 5th. Please contact the Parish Office with questions. Thank you!

AMERICA NEEDS FATIMA PUBLIC ROSARY RALLY: Saturday, October 10th at noon in the downtown Heritage Plaza. Join with Knights of Columbus, Christian Mothers, Catholic Daughters and Holy Spirit Ministry as we come together in Mary's prayer. Refreshments and lunch provided.

DON'T FORGET ABOUT SCRIP! Don't forget to buy scrip for your home improvement purchases! Whether you're picking out new furniture, remodeling the kitchen, or repainting your favorite room, big projects don't come cheap. On the plus side, big spending means big rebates for St. John's, so don't forget to order scrip for purchases at Lowes, Home Depot, etc. Have questions still? Stop by the Scrip table at any weekend mass and our volunteers will be happy to help answer any questions.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

October 4th- Class - 9:15-10:45am

October 11th- No Class-Mentor Meeting for 9th Grade students and a parent from 9:30am-10:45am

October 18th- Class - 9:15am-10:45am

October 25th- No Class- Trunk or Treat at 1pm

November 1st- Class - 9:15-10:45am Safety Lessons

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.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS: Court Prince Gallitzin # 2625 serves all 11 parishes and beyond. New members are always welcome! On Monday, October 12, 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

ST. JOHN'S ANNUAL TRUNK OR TREAT: Our annual St. John's Trunk or Treat will be held on Sunday, October 25th at 1pm in the church parking lot. Families are invited to dress up in their best costume, decorate the trunk of their car and join us in the church parking lot. Each family decorating a trunk is asked to bring candy/treats to share as children will trick or treat from car to car. Please sign up on the kiosk if you will be decorating a trunk and distributing candy. We will also have games and crafts in the upper school hallway. We will be pairing up with the Lakemont Fire Hall and the Lakemont Lions Club again this year for the Halloween Parade and Costume Contest at 2pm. Help us make this a great annual event for our parish and community! Everyone is welcome! Tell your friends and neighbors!