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Rev. John J. Slovikovski, PhD, Pastor
Mrs. Maureen Clark, DRE
Mrs. Kathleen Bumbnick, DMM
Mr. David Kozak, Chairperson, PC
Ms. Catherine Bennett, Secretary
Mr. Joseph Martella, Vice-Chairperson, PC
Mr. Steve Myers, Chairperson, FC
Ms. Chris Houghton, Maintenance

Rectory Office Hours: Monday through
Friday, 9:00AM - 3:00PM

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 26th, 2025

MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY - Weekday in Ordinary Time
12:05 PM - Esperanza "Cha Cha" Bair
(Req. by husband, John Bair)

TUESDAY - St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church
12:05 PM - Ann Lecci
(Req. by Art Smith & Linda Cavanaugh)
Rescheduled from 1-20-25

WEDNESDAY - Weekday in Ordinary Time
5:30 PM - Victoria Kelly
(Req. by Pat Balagusz)
Adoration of Blessed Sacrament after Mass until 6:30 PM

THURSDAY - Weekday in Ordinary Time
Private Mass
Spiritual & Temporal Welfare of
Jeanne Thompson
(Req. by Fr. John)

FRIDAY - St. John Bosco, Priest
12:05 PM - Peter & Helen Sikirica
(Req. by granddaughter Nicolett)

SATURDAY - Vigil of 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:00 PM - Pro Populo

SUNDAY - 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:00 AM - Vicki Huston
(Req. by Cathy Fuska)

SANCTUARY CANDLE

For Fr. John's Personal (Special) Intention
****Parishioners are asked to join
Fr John in this intention this week if you have
some "free: prayer time**"**

IN LOVING MEMORY: The Sanctuary Lamp is available for your intentions by calling the parish office. Please attempt to request your intentions as early as possible. A \$10 donation is suggested.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE: Confessions are heard from 6:30 until 7:00 PM on Wednesday Evenings. DURING THE JUBILEE YEAR, CONFESSIONS WILL BE HEARD FROM 3:00 PM until 3:40 PM THE FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH. Confession may ALWAYS be arranged with Fr. John personally by calling the rectory office. Please avail yourselves to this life-giving sacrament!

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Scheduled no less than nine months prior to the date of marriage. Four preparation sessions with the pastor, as well as all diocesan requirements, must be met. All Catholic candidates for Marriage must be registered, practicing members of a parish at least 6 months prior to scheduling the wedding. There are NO EXCEPTIONS.

INFANT BAPTISM: Baptisms are generally celebrated during one of the Sunday Liturgies. Pre-baptismal instructions must be completed by the parents at least 3 weeks prior to the celebration of the sacrament. Catholic godparents must obtain a letter of eligibility from their pastors four weeks in advance. Baptisms are never celebrated during the Season of Lent. **ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** Celebrated after any Sunday Mass as requested and as a parish during the Easter Season.

MEMBERSHIP: Forms are located on the back page of the bulletin (or on the parish website) to be filled out and sent to the parish. Registrations are also welcome by phone.

\$\$\$ INCOME \$\$\$

Collection - January 19, 2025

Loose Money.....	\$254.00
Sunday Collection.....	\$2391.00
Solemnity of Mary.....	\$15.00
Initial Offering.....	\$15.00
Votive Candles.....	\$52.00
Sanctuary Candle.....	\$25.00
Perquisites - Worthington Funeral.....	\$75.00
Parking Lot Rent.....	\$525.00

TOTAL:

\$3352.00

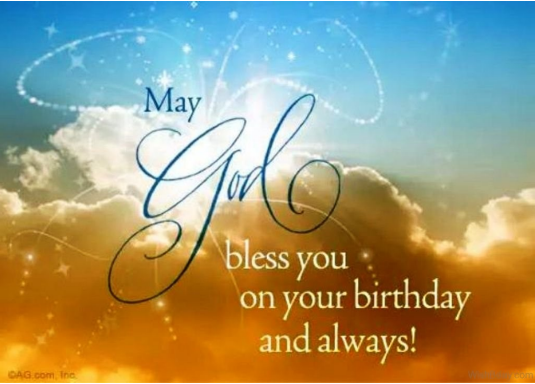
Second Collection - California Fires

\$1524.00

Let us continue to pray for the members of our parish community who serve in the military, as well as for the sick, elderly and homebound members of our parish especially:

Anonymous Petitioners, Pat Balagusz, Ralph Blair, David Clark, Ronald Cleaver, Dolores Danner, Francis Dietz, Dorothy Fisher, Barbara Fox, Paul Harnish, Catherine Heinlein, Mary Carol Hill and children, Donna Johnson, Gianna Kniss, Karen Kohan, Betsy Konar, Marylee Konicky, Madeleine Krueger, Gaile Krumenacker, Victoria Leflie, Michael Letzo, Joanne Macri, Patricia Mainhart, Marianne Mangiafico, Pat Meagher, Myla Minner, Pauline Molchany, Larry Oravetz, Anna Petro, Francis Petro, Jean Petraro, Anna Marie Pfeil, Maria Petro-Sanders, Mia Bella Rastall, Stacy Roberts, Sean Rovon, Stephen Sanders, Jennifer Schellhammer, Rose Sigg, Allegra Slick, Father John Slovickovski, Shirley Slovickovski, Megan Varnecky, Christi Vavrek, Carrie Young

Please join us in remembering members of our parish family who celebrate their birthdays the week of January 27th to February 2nd:



Gerald Gorentz

The invitations to participate in all of the devotions associated with the spiritual life and vigor of our parish continue to be extended to all parishioners. We pray the rosary every Saturday evening at approximately 3:30 PM prior to mass as well as every Tuesday at 6:00 PM. On Wednesdays, Mass is celebrated at 5:30 PM followed by adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 6:30 PM. This will continue to be extended to all parishioners. We also pray the litany of St. Joseph since Wednesday is dedicated to him as the patron of the Universal Church. Remember the parish intention is for Fr. John’s health, however, personal intentions for the Rosary and adoration are your own.

Home Visits with the Eucharist - If you or someone you know cannot come to Church and would like to receive the Eucharist, please either fill out the form on the parish website or call the parish office and give your name to the secretary. We will be certain that you or your friend or loved one will receive the Lord regularly as you rightly deserve. Please call as soon as possible since we would like to have you included in the list for First Friday visits.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI - MUSIC BINGO on FEBRUARY 8, 2025. Doors open at 5:00 PM. First game starts at 7:00PM. Ticket includes food and non-alcoholic beverages. Cash prizes every half hour!! Also available for purchase will be Qualifiers, 50/50, & basket chances. \$7.00 Beer bracelets will be available. Tables can be reserved. \$20/person, tickets are available before and after all weekend Masses. You also can call Fran King at 814-536-3667.

Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown STRENGTH IN CHRIST Men’s Conference—Sunday, March 30, 2025 from 11:00 AM until 5:30 PM at Mount Aloysius College, Cresson. Please join us for a day that includes lunch, Sunday Mass, talks from local priests, personal testimonies, and a panel discussion with local Catholic men. Visit www.dioceseaj.org to register online. For those unable to register online, paper registration forms can be found at each parish to complete and return via email. Registration closes on March 21st. Online registration is encouraged due to limed seating.. Please note that the flyers in the main vestibule of the Church do not explain the theme of the conference. For more information regarding the theme of the day, you must contact Tony Degol at 814-695-5579 for any specific details. Parishes do not have any more information that that which is contained in promotional materials sent out by the diocese.

We would like to extend a note of thanks to all of the volunteers who gave of their valuable time during the Advent and Christmas Seasons to assist with the decorating of the Church for Christmas as well as the removal of the decorations at the end of the season. We would never have been able make our liturgical space as beautiful as it was without your gracious assistance. Thank you for your stewardship.

- Marian Cyburt & Gaile Krumenacker

January, the first full month of the Jubilee Year, is dedicated to praying for the right to an Education. Let us pray for all people, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be encouraged and respected. Amen.

From Pope Francis to the Pew:

In this Sunday’s **Angelus Message**, Pope Francis speaks about the Gospel of the day which tells us about Jesus’ first sign, when He turns water into wine during a wedding feast in Cana, in Galilee. For him, it is an account that foreshadows and encapsulates the whole of Jesus’ mission: on the day of the coming of the Messiah – so said the prophets – the Lord will prepare “a feast of ... choice wines” (Is 25:6) and “the mountains shall drip with the juice of grapes” (Am 9:13); Jesus is the Bridegroom who brings the “good wine”. In this Gospel we can find two things: lack and superabundance. On the one hand, there is a shortage of wine and Mary tells Her Son: “They have no wine” (v.3); on the other hand, Jesus intervenes, filling six large jars and, in the end, the wine is so abundant and exquisite that the master of the banquet asks the groom why He has kept it until the end (v. 10). Thus, our sign is always lack, but “the sign of God is superabundance”, and the superabundance of Cana is its sign (cf. Benedict XVI, Jesus of Nazareth, vol. I, 294). How does God respond to man’s lack? With superabundance (cf. Rom 5:20). Francis declares: God is not mean! When He gives, He gives a lot. He does not give you a little bit, He gives you a lot. The Lord responds to our shortcomings with His superabundance. In the banquet of our life – we might say – at times we realize that the wine is missing that we lack the strength and many things. It happens when the worries that plague us, the fears that assail us or the overwhelming forces of evil rob us of the taste for life, the exhilaration of joy and the flavor of hope. Take note: in the face of this lack, when the Lord gives, He gives in superabundance. It seems to be a contradiction: the more that is lacking in us, the greater the Lord’s superabundance. Because the Lord wants to celebrate with us, in a feast without end. “Let us pray then”, Pope Francis pleads, “to the Virgin Mary. May She, who is the “woman of the new wine,” intercede for us and, in this Jubilee year, help us to rediscover the joy of the encounter with Jesus.”

In this **Wednesday’s Audience**, Pope Francis resumed the Jubilee cycle on Jesus Christ our hope. He notes that at the beginning of his Gospel, Luke shows the effects of the transforming power of the Word of God, which reaches not only the halls of the Temple, but also the poor dwelling of a young woman, Mary, who, betrothed to Joseph, still lives with her family. After Jerusalem, the messenger , Gabriel, is sent to Nazareth. At that time, it was a small village in Galilee, in a remote area of Israel, a border area with the pagans and their contamination. It is there that the angel brings a message of an entirely unheard-of form and content, so much so that Mary’s heart is disturbed. In the place of the classic greeting, “Peace be with you”, Gabriel addresses the Virgin with the invitation “Hail!”, “rejoice!”, an appeal dear to sacred history, because the prophets use it when they announce the coming of the Messiah. It is the invitation to the joy that the Lord addresses to His people when the exile ends, and the Lord makes His living and active presence felt. In addition, God calls Mary with a loving name unknown in biblical history: kecharitoméne, which means “filled with divine grace”. This name says that God’s love has already for some time inhabited and continues to dwell in Mary’s heart. He says how “gracious” she is, and above all how God’s grace has accomplished in her an inner engraving, making her His masterpiece: full of grace. This loving name, which God gives only to Mary, is immediately accompanied by reassurance: “Do not be afraid!”, “Do not be afraid!”: the presence of the Lord always gives us this grace of not fearing, and so He afraid” to Abraham, Isaac and Moses in history: “Do not be afraid!” And He says to

us too: “Do not be afraid, keep going; do not be afraid!”. Please, do not be afraid! Do not be afraid! Do not be afraid! This is good. “I am your travelling companion” and He says this to Mary. The “Almighty” is with Mary, together with and beside her; He is her companion, her principally, the eternal “I-with-you.” Then Gabriel announces to the Virgin her mission, making echo in her heart numerous biblical passages referring to the kingship and messianic nature of the child that must be born of her, and that the child will be presented as the fulfilment of the ancient prophesies. The Word that comes from on High calls Mary to be the mother of the Messiah, that long-awaited Davidic Messiah. He will be king, but not in the human and carnal manner, but in the divine, spiritual manner. His name will be “Jesus”, which means “God saves” (cf. Lk 1:31; Mt 1:21), reminding everyone forever that it is not man who saves, but only God. Jesus is the One who will fulfil these words of the prophet Isaiah: “It was not an envoy or a messenger, but His presence that saved them [with] His love and pity” (Is 63:9). This motherhood shakes Mary to the core. And as the intelligent woman she is, thus capable of reading into events (cf. Lk 2:19,51), she tries to understand, to discern what is happening to her. Mary does not look outside, but within. And there, in the depths of her open and sensitive heart, she hears the invitation to trust in God, who has prepared for her a special “Pentecost”. Just as at the beginning of creation (cf. Gen 1:2), God wants to nurture Mary with His Spirit, a power capable of opening what is closed without violating it, without encroaching on human freedom; He wants to envelop her in the “clouds” of His presence (cf. 1 Cor 10:1-2) because the Son lives in her, and her in Him. And Mary is illuminated with trust: she is “a lamp with many lights”. Mary welcomes the Word in her own flesh and thus launches the greatest mission ever entrusted to a woman, to a human creature. She places herself in service: she is full of everything, not like a slave but as a collaborator of God the Father, full of dignity and authority to administer, as she will do at Cana, the gifts of divine treasure, so that many will be able to draw from it with both hands. Pope Francis encourages us to us learn from Mary, Mother of the Savior and our Mother, to let ourselves open our ears to the divine Word and to welcome it and cherish it, so that it may transform our hearts into tabernacles of His presence, in hospitable homes where hope grows. Thank you!

JUBILEE NEWS

-The Pilgrim’s Passport: To be on pilgrimage during a Jubilee Year is a special time to gain special graces called plenary indulgences. The Pope has named Holy Door Churches throughout the world. Every bishop has been given permission to name holy sites in his diocese as travel sites. **The Pilgrims Passport** booklet available in the main vestibule of the Church includes the 13 Holy Site Churches named by Bishop Mark. All special prayers are included. A special incentive for individuals and families to win two overnight gift packages and special gift cards are part of the “Pilgrims Passport.” All of the information is in the inside cover. The booklets will be stamped at the Holy Site Churches as part of the gift opportunity. Pilgrims Passports will be available until 9/8/2025.