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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

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
February 23rd, 2025

MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY - Weekday in Ordinary Time  
12:05 PM - Spiritual & Temporal Welfare  
of Fr. John  
(Req. by Ron Cleaver)

TUESDAY - Weekday in Ordinary Time  
12:05 PM - Francis John Beaujon  
(Req. by Family)

WEDNESDAY - NO MASS

THURSDAY - Weekday in Ordinary Time  
Private Mass

FRIDAY - Weekday in Ordinary Time  
12:05 PM - Joseph Lecci  
(Req. by Jen0 Lecci)  
\*Adoration of Blessed Sacrament after Mass\*

SATURDAY - Vigil of 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
4:00 PM - Pro Populo

SUNDAY - 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
9:00 AM - Nancy Vavrek  
(Req. by Georganne, Dorothy & Debbi)

SANCTUARY CANDLE  
For the Spiritual & Temporal Welfare  
of Fr. John  
(Req. by Ron Cleaver)

The daily readings; may be  
found at either [USCCB.ORG](http://USCCB.ORG) or  
under the headings of daily  
readings listed in back of the  
missalette.

IN LOVING MEMORY: The Sanctuary Lamp is avail-  
able for your intentions by calling the  
parish office. Please attempt to request your inten-  
tions as early as possible. A \$10 donation is sug-  
gested.

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 SATUR-  
DAY 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 Cath-  
olic candidates for Marriage must be registered,  
practicing members of a parish at least 6 months  
prior to scheduling the wedding. There are NO EX-  
CEPTIONS.

INFANT BAPTISM: Baptisms are generally celebrat-  
ed 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.

Eucharistic Adoration: Every Wednesday and  
Friday following Mass.

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.

VISITATION PARISH MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Check One: ☐ New Registration ☐ Change of Address ☐ Moving Out of Parish ☐ Want Envelopes

Please drop Membership Form into the offertory basket or mail to Rectory. 814-536-6110



\$\$\$ INCOME \$\$\$  
 Collection - February 16, 2025

Loose Money.....	\$288.00
Sunday Collection.....	\$2256.00
Sanctuary Candle.....	\$10.00
Parking Lot Rent.....	\$105.00

TOTAL:        \$2659.00

\*\*\*\*\*

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, Dick Krumenacker, 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 Petro-ro, Anna Marie Pfeil, Maria Petro-Sanders, Mia Bella Rastall, Stacy Roberts, Sean Rován, Stephen Sanders, Jennifer Schellhammer, Rose Sigg, Allegra Slick, Father John Slovikovski, Shirley Slovikovski, Ken Turner, Megan Varnecky, Christi Vavrek, Carrie Young

\*\*\*\*\*

**Please join us in remembering members of our parish family who celebrate their birthdays the week of February 24th to March 2nd:**



Teresa Arnone  
 Stephanie Rovansek

Donna Decker  
 Bradley Lehman

For the Good of the Vineyard and Our Particular Part

\*\*\*\*\*



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 complete the form on the parish website or call the parish secretary. We will be certain that you or your 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 this March

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The month of February is dedicated For Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life. Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ’s mission in the priesthood and religious life. **This is a very important intention for the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown.** It is the responsibility of everyone to work to inspire vocations. It is everyone’s responsibility to pray for vocations. This is not only true for the priesthood, but also for the diaconate and for the consecrated life. Encourage anyone who may share with you in interest in a vocation. You are working for the future of the Church, a Church that cannot exist without priests, deacons, and vowed religious (sisters and brothers)!!! May God bless us with many who are willing to answer the call.

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**URGENT – MASS ATTENDANCE:** I wanted to reiterate that last weekend we had **only** 94 persons at 4:00 PM Mass and 57 persons attending 9:00 AM. Even though the weather was *somewhat inclement*, this is indicative of a disturbing downward trend regarding weekend Mass attendance at our parish. **Our numbers are noticeably down.** We need to encourage our brothers and sisters of the parish family who have not been coming to celebrate with us at Sunday Eucharist on a regular basis to rejoin us at the Lord’s table. To be completely honest, personally I feel the loss when we are not gathered together as a whole community. It is challenging at times as a presider to look our at the assembly and see so many empty sections of the nave of the Church. **It is extremely important for our present and for our future that we all are together for the celebration of the Lord’s Supper.** Therefore, I implore you, **I BEG YOU**, if you know anyone who may be hesitant to come to Church on Sunday **FOR ANY REASON**...if you know anyone who has a difficulty getting to Mass because of transportation...if you know of anyone looking to find a new home to pray on Sundays, reach out to them in any way that you can. If you know someone, but cannot help them personally, please contact me so that I can reach out to them. **My hope is that we can return to the full vibrancy of our pre-COVID existence as a faith community!**



From Pope Francis to the Pew:

While Pope Francis was unable to lead the **Sunday Angelus** due to his continuing bout with a severe case of bronchitis coupled with a microbial infection, he was able to prepare a catechesis for the **Wednesday Audience**. In it, which is found below in detailed summary form, he speaks of the Magi as “Pilgrims of Hope.”

Matthew is the only Gospel in which we read of the visit of the Magi. Attracted by the appearance of a star, which in many cultures is the harbinger of the birth of an exceptional person, some wise men set out on a journey from the east, without knowing exactly where they will go. They are the Magi, people who do not belong to the people of the covenant. The last time we spoke about the shepherds of Bethlehem, we identified them as marginalized by Hebrew society because they were considered “impure”; today we encounter another category of persons, the foreigners (magi), who immediately arrive to pay homage to the Son of God who entered into history with an entirely predated kingship. Hence, the Gospels tell us clearly that the poor and foreigners are invited among the first to meet God made child, the Savior of the world. The Magi were considered to be representatives both of the primordial races, generated by the three sons of Noah, and of the three continents known in antiquity, Asia, Africa and Europe, as well as the three phases of human life: youth, maturity and old age. Aside from all possible interpretations, they are men who do not stay still but, like the great chosen ones of biblical history, feel the need to be “on the move.”. They are men who are able to look beyond themselves, who know how to look upwards. The attraction for the star that appeared in the sky sets the Magi on the move to the land of Judaea, to Jerusalem, where they meet King Herod. Their naivety and trust in asking for information about the newborn king of the Jews clashes with the shrewdness of Herod, who, troubled by the fear of losing his throne, immediately tries to obtain a better view, contacting the scribes and asking them to investigate.

The power of the earthly ruler thus shows all his weakness. The experts know the Scriptures and refer to the king the place where, according to Micah’s prophecy, the leader and shepherd of the people of Israel should be born (Mi 5:1): little Bethlehem, and not great Jerusalem! Indeed, as Paul reminds the Corinthians, “God chose the weak of the world to shame the strong” (1 Cor 1:27). The scribes; however, who are able to identify the Messiah’s birthplace exactly, show the way to others, but they themselves do not move! Indeed, it is not enough to know the prophetic texts to tune in to the divine frequencies; one must let them to enter within and allow the Word of God to revive the yearning to seek, the kindle to desire to see God. At this point Herod, acting secretly, as do the deceitful and violent, asks the Magi the precise moment of the appearance of the star and incites them to continue their journey and then to return to bring him news, so that he too can go and adore the newborn. For those attached to power, Jesus is not the hope to be welcomed, but a threat to be eliminated! When the Magi set off again, the star reappears and leads them to Jesus, the sign that creation and the prophetic word represent the alphabet with which God speaks and lets Himself be found. The sight of the star inspires an irrepressible joy in those men, because the Holy Spirit, who stirs the heart of whoever sincerely seeks God, also fills it with

joy. Having entered the house, the Magi prostrate themselves, adore Jesus and offer Him precious gifts, worthy of a king, worthy of God. Why? What do they see? An ancient author writes: they see “a humble little body that the Word has assumed; but the glory of divinity is not hidden from them. They see an infant child; but they worship God” (CROMAZIO DI AQUILEIA, Comment on the Gospel of Matthew, 5:1). The Magi thus become the first believers among the pagans, the image of the Church drawn together from every language and nation. Dear brothers and sisters, let us, too, follow in the footsteps of the Magi, these “pilgrims of hope” who, with great courage, turned their steps, hearts and goods towards the One who is the hope not only of Israel but of all peoples. Let us learn to adore God in His smallness, in His kingship that does not crush but rather sets us free and enables us to serve with dignity. And let us offer Him the most beautiful gifts, to express our faith and our love.

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St. Andrew/St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry

The St. Andrew/St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry is open on the second Monday of the month from 2:30 PM - 6 PM.

**\*\*MUST QUALIFY UNDER INCOME GUIDELINES\*\***

Household Size	Annual Income
1 person	\$27,861.00
2 people	\$37,814.00
3 people	\$47,767.00
For each ADDITIONAL member add	\$9,953.00

\*\*\*\*\*

**Food Pantry Distribution Dates for 2025** - The distribution dates and times for the St. Andrew/St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry are every second Monday of the month. You can go to the St. Vincent DePaul building at 927 Franklin Street for pick up. The pickup time is from 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM and the dates for 2025 are as followed:

March 10	August 11
April 14	September 8
May 12	October 13
June 9	November 10
July 14	December 8

**\*Please be sure to return your boxes!\***

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As mentioned last week, Lent is fast approaching and with it the Annual Lenten Fish Fries. As part of the bulletin insert, all of the details for the Fish Fry (cost, menu, etc.) are identified. Two other important things regarding the Fish Fry are of note. The sign-up sheet for volunteers continues to be located in the main vestibule of the Church. Please consider helping us with this important *ministry*. Also, this year we will also be selling gobs at the Fish Fry separately from our regular menu. The price of the gobs is \$2.00 each. Thank you for your support in this important fundraising ministry for our parish.