

**Fourth Sunday in Advent  
December 21, 2025  
Mass Intentions**

**December 21, Sunday, Fourth Sunday of Advent**

8:00AM+Doris Carson Eget (Brian & Teresa Stayer)  
10:00AM+Ben Delozier, Anniversary (Family)  
5:00PM Pro Popolo/For the People

**December 22, Monday, Late Advent Weekday**

12:00PM+Mildred Brady, Ann. (Joe & Dee Shellenberger)

**December 23, Tuesday, Saint John of Kanty, Priest**

12:00PM+Kathleen Bollinger, Birth. Husband Ken & Family)

**December 24, Wednesday, Late Advent Weekday**

8:00AM+Jean Fornwalt (Cheri & Greg Yukas)  
5:00PM Pro Popolo/ For the People

**December 25, Thursday, The Nativity of the Lord**

Midnight For Peace in the World

8:00AM Parishioners and Benefactors

10:00AM Parishioners and Benefactors

**There is no 5:00PM Mass on Christmas Day**

**December 26, Friday, Saint Stephen, The First Martyr**

12:00PM+Jim DeStefano, Birth. (Randy & Karen Isenberg)

**December 27, Saturday, Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist**

12:00PM+John P. Koeck Jr. (The Shupp Family)

Vigil : **The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

5:00PM+Terry Smith (Family/ Joe & Patty Pufka)

**December 28, Sunday, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

8:00AM+Helen Tomassetti (The Smith Brothers)

10:00AM+Anthony Pastore, Anniversary (Family)

5:00PM Pro Popolo/For the People



**OFERTORY COLLECTIONS**

Sunday, December 14, 2025, \$ 11,994.21

Thank you for your monetary and personal contributions to the life of our parish.



Congratulations to our parish's Christmas Float Committee who crafted the float that won the First Place Award in this year's parade. Gratitude is also extended to those who participated at the parade by passing out treats and by being on the float. The refreshments provided after the parade by the Christian Mothers were appreciated too. A list of volunteers will appear in next week's bulletin.



We'll be decorating the Cathedral on Monday, December 22, at 2:00 P.M. Please come and help us! Refreshments will be served afterwards.



The official closing Mass for the Jubilee will be celebrated at all cathedrals worldwide on Sunday, December 28, 2025, on the Feast of the Holy Family. In the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown at the 11:00 A.M. televised Mass at St. John Gualbert Cathedral in Johnstown, Bishop Mark L. Bartchak will be the main celebrant and conduct the closing rites.

Additionally, closing rites for the Jubilee will take place at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament during the 10 o'clock Sunday morning Mass on the same day.

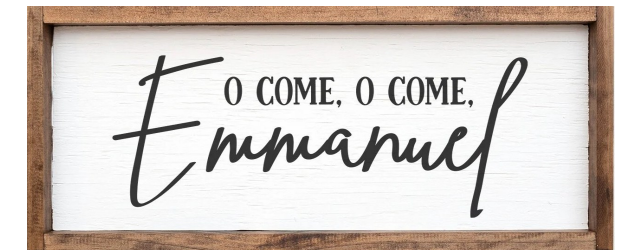
All the faithful are encouraged to participate in prayer, and if coming in person, to please bring an offering of a non-perishable item, paper or cleaning products for those in need.

**I GIVE TUESDAY**

Your response to the I GIVE TUESDAY has been heartwarming. To date we have collected \$3,749.00 towards the purchase of hymnals for the choir and yearlong hymnals with readings for the congregation. Thank you.



There are still some packets of Oplatki, Christmas Wafers, available on the railing near the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. There are four wafers in each packet. There is a Polish/Slavic tradition of breaking and sharing the host-like bread at the Christmas meal while extending to those at table wishes for blessings and peace. The wafers are quite fragile, so be gentle with the packets.



**THE SHRINES OF ITALY PILGRIMAGE**

Msgr. Stan Carson plans to lead a pilgrimage in 2026 to Rome and some of the shrines of Italy from Monday, October 12, to Thursday, October 22, 2026. Brochures are at the entrances of the cathedral. Details can also be found at

<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link1377752>

You may also call Brenda Ajay at 888-462-9299.



# WRTA

## NEWS - TALK

### 98.5 - 1240

We are pleased to announce that Lightner Communications is providing the courtesy of broadcasting the Cathedral's Midnight Mass which will be preceded by music at 11:40 P.M. Tune in at 98.5 FM & 1240 AM or online at wrta.com-click on "Listen Live"



#### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Msgr. Carson will provide the following additional times for Confessions before Christmas.

Sunday, December 21, at 2:00 P.M.,

Monday, December 22, at 12:30 P.M. and

Tuesday, December 23, at 8:30 A.M. and 5:00 P.M.



Our Calendar of Prizes is currently on sale. The cost is \$20.00 per ticket for a year's worth of opportunities to win cash prizes. Please be supportive. The tickets are available after the weekend Masses and in the parish office.



THE  
GABRIEL  
PROJECT

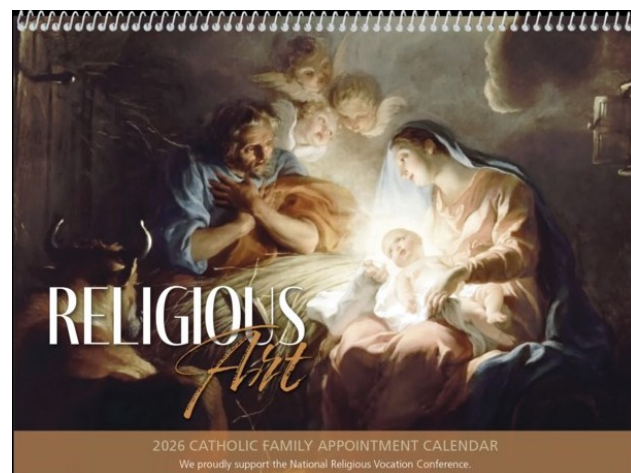
The Altoona Gabriel Project is a Catholic Pro-Life ministry dedicated to helping moms and babies with supplies, as well as providing spiritual and emotional support. Our parish has a collection crib at the alley entrance for non-perishable baby items (diapers, wipes, clothing, bibs, towels, blankets, etc.).

The Cathedral is a distribution site on Thursdays from 1:30-2:30 P.M..

If you know of moms who need help, call 814- 440-1021.

#### Special Advent/Christmas Project

Gift tags are attached to our collection crib. During Advent you're invited to pick one up and purchase an item for the Altoona Area Gabriel Project. The tags include requests for diapers (size newborn-3) nail kits, diaper rash cream, infant snowsuits, personal hygiene items for moms, baby wipes, pacifiers, teething items, socks, hats, etc. Monetary donations can be placed in the collection basket marked *Christmas Crib* donation.



Thanks to Garrett L. Anderson and Rose Hill Funeral & Cremation Care, Inc., our parish's 2026 Religious Art calendars are available at our entrances. At this time, please take on one per household. You may also take one to a homebound parishioner.

## The Church of Altoona-Johnstown THE CATHEDRAL OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

ONE CATHEDRAL SQUARE, Altoona, Pennsylvania 16601-3315

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DECEMBER 21, 2025**

#### **CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS:**

The process of formation for those seeking God through membership in the Catholic Church.  
Call 814-944-4603

#### **INFANT BAPTISM:**

Arrange in advance for pre-baptismal instructions.

#### **CONFIRMATION:**

Ninth, tenth and eleventh and twelfth grade students are invited to participate in the Confirmation Preparation Process.

#### **RECONCILIATION:**

Wednesday: 7:00 PM, Saturday: 12:30 PM or by appointment, by texting or calling 814-937-8240

#### **ANOIDING OF THE SICK:**

Upon Request and Communal celebration

#### **MARRIAGE:**

Arrange nine months in advance. Couples expected to participate in pre-marriage preparation program.

#### **DEVOTIONS:**

Eucharistic Adoration - Normally, the First  
Wednesday 12:30 PM - 6:45 PM

Eucharistic Day - Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ.

#### **PRO-LIFE ROSARY**

Sponsored by the Christian Mothers on Thursdays after the noon Mass.

**Church Office:** 814-944-4603

**Msgr. Carson E-mail:**

scarson@dioceseaj.org

**Secretary E-mail:**

pclmens@dioceseaj.org

**Fax:** 814-942-4337

#### Mass Times

**Sunday:**

5:00 PM (Vigil)

8:00 AM

10:00 AM

5:00 PM

**Weekday:**

12:00 Noon

**Saturday:**

12:00 Noon

**Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, J.C.D., Bishop**  
**Reverend Monsignor Stanley Carson, Rector**  
**Paula Clemens, Parish Secretary**

#### **DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Chris Laraia - Pre-K thru 12 - 814-312-7317

Religious Education Office: Sundays - 814-943-7424

E-mail: claraia@dioceseaj.org

#### **DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY**

Mr. Bob Long 814-944-2044, rlong@dioceseaj.org

**CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME** - 814-944-4603

**GABRIEL PROJECT**-814-440-1021

**MAIL MINISTRY TO ELDERLY, HOMEBOUND, SERIOUSLY SICK, AND GRIEVING** - 814-944-4603

#### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM:**

September through April: Pre-Kindergarten thru 12.  
Sunday morning 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM Pre-Kindergarten thru 8. Grades 9-12 Sunday evening at 6:15 P.M.

WEB

[www.altoonacathedral.org](http://www.altoonacathedral.org)

Facebook

[www.facebook.com/cathedralofaltoona](https://www.facebook.com/cathedralofaltoona)



*Serving the People of God in the City of Altoona Since 1851*