

**Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 16, 2026
Mass Intentions**

August 16, Sunday, Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00AM+Walter Beckel, Ann. (Wife & Family)
10:00AM+Rita Kibler, Birth. (Family & Richard McNulty)
5:00PM Pro Popolo/ For the People

August 17, Monday, Weekday

12:00PM+Mary (Lilly) Tomlinson (Paula Lilly Miller)

August 18, Tuesday, Weekday

12:00PM+Fred Drexler/Pat Duffy (Tim & JoAnn Bettwy)

August 19, Wednesday, Saint John Eudes, Priest

12:00PM+Betty Farber/Paul Seymor) (Seymour Family)

August 20, Thursday, Saint Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church

12:00PM+Florence Moffa Brook (Estate)

August 21, Friday, Saint Pius X, Pope

12:00PM+ Regina Kutruff (Richard Steinbeiser)

August 22, Saturday, The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

12:00PM+Tom Andros (Gabe & Roberta Pelligrini)
Vigil: Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
5:00PM+Virginia Jones ((Bob & Jean Jones)

August 23, Sunday, Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00AM+Bear McCloskey (Peter Starr & Family)
10:00AM+Kirk Kling, Ann. (Weaver Family)
5:00PM Pro Popolo/ For the People



The 2026 Catholic Ministries Drive target for the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament is \$53,700. Dollars raised over our goal will be returned to our parish. As of July 31, \$57,090 been pledged/donated. Thank you very much.



OFERTORY COLLECTIONS

Sunday, August 9, 2026 \$10,493.78

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



Please Support our Future Priests

The efforts of our Vocations Office are working! We have 3 new seminarians this year, which brings our total to four men in formation for the priesthood. In addition, we have launched new programs to reach young men, including the popular “Loggia Nights” at the cathedral in Altoona. Thanks be to God, we now have dozens of teens and young men who are seriously considering priesthood! To support our seminarians and these increased efforts, we truly need your financial support. Bishop Mark has asked all Catholics to consider a generous gift. Please make the donation online at ajvocations.org/give, or use the envelope made available.

Stewardship Reflections

Our readings today remind us that God is ever-faithful, even when we are not. They challenge us as Christian stewards to show that our love for this faithful God through actions, and to lean in to our trust in Him even when it seems He is not answering our prayers.

Jesus certainly challenged the Canaanite woman in today’s Gospel passage from Matthew. She called out to Him on behalf of her daughter, who was being tormented by a demon. What did Jesus do in reply to this mother’s desperate plea? Nothing. He “did not say a word in answer to her.” But she was undeterred and continued to call out to Him. Jesus did not give her what she asked for right away. Instead. He continued to challenge the woman’s faith. And she rises to the challenge to such an impressive degree that Jesus exclaims, “O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.”

Imagine Hearing those words proclaimed over us by God. Truly, there could be no higher honor that hearing our Lord say that to us. So we must except the difficulties that come with the stewardship way of life. Some days will be a true challenge, but those are the days that God is making saints of us. Let’s embrace the hard days. The deep joy that eventually comes will be so worth it.



Our Finance Council will meet on Tuesday, August 18, at 4:00 P.M.

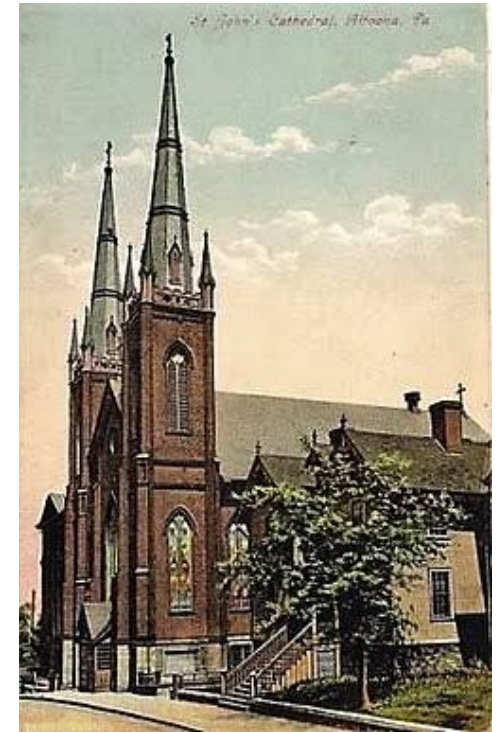
Basket Bingo

Basket Bingo SAVE THE DATE! And mark your calendars for Sunday, September 27, 2026, for our basket bingo at Father Kelley Hall. Donations are being accepted and are appreciated.



Basket Bingo Tickets

Basket Bingo Tickets are now available at the Thirteenth Avenue entrance after all Masses, and also at the Parish Center Office. Hours there are 8:30AM-4:30PM, Monday thru Thursday and Friday, 8:00AM to 3:00PM at 1405-13th Avenue. They are \$25.00 per person, and also a value pack can be bought for an additional \$30.00. If you have any questions call Paula at the Parish Office at 814-944-4603, Her cell # 814-215-5949, or Lorraine Beck cell at 1-240-676 6704. DAUBBERS UP!!!!!!



175th Anniversary

In 1872 the cornerstone was laid for the new brick church that was to replace the original chapel. This inspiring gothic structure was one hundred twenty feet long and sixty feet wide. Two galleries rose above the main body. Twin towers soared one hundred eighty feet, dominating the city’s valley. Saint John the Evangelist in Altoona was considered the largest English speaking parish in the Diocese of Pittsburgh outside of Pittsburgh. For almost twenty-five years Saint John the Evangelist was the Cathedral Church once the Diocese of Altoona was formed in 1901.



There is dinner/meeting for the pilgrims to the Shrines of Italy on Monday, August 31, at 5:30 P.M. on the Loggia.



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.

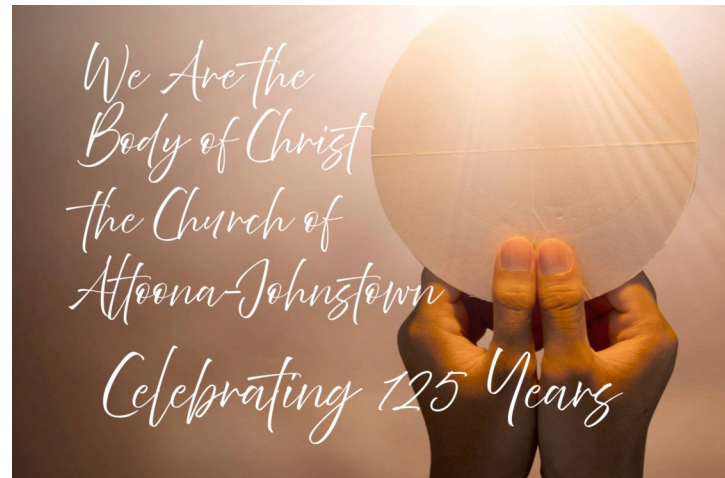


Annual Wedding Anniversary Liturgy

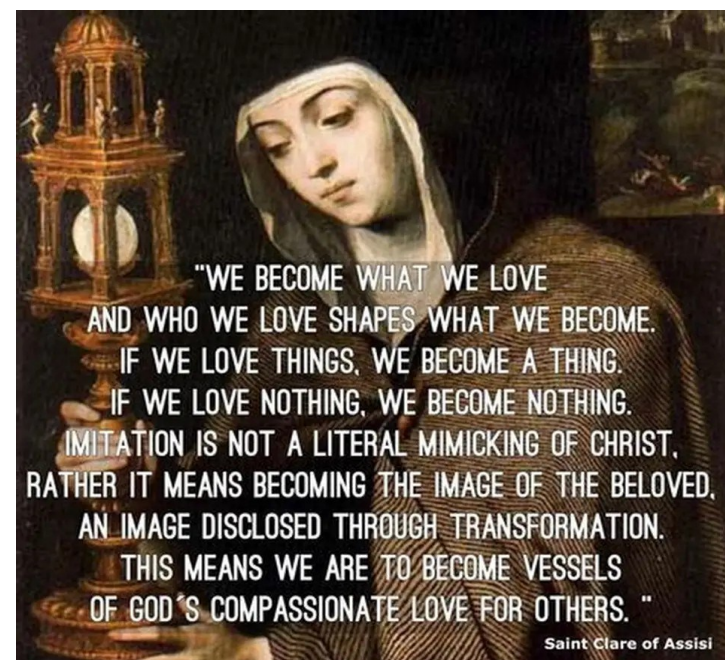
Bishop Mark and the Family Life Office cordially invite all couples celebrating 1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60 plus years of marriage in 2026 (and their families) to attend the Annual Wedding Anniversary Liturgy. Couples may attend Sunday, September 13 in Altoona at The Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament or Sunday, September 20 in Johnstown at Saint John Gualbert Cathedral. Both locations are handicap accessible. Liturgies in each location begin at 2:00 p.m. Bishop Mark will be the celebrant and homilist at each celebration. Refreshments and 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.

A NOTE OF THANKS

Over 100 people attended our parish's social picnic at the Catholic War Veterans' Club last Sunday. Gratitude is extended to those who attended and brought delicious food, to Mary Ann Bell, Roberta Burns, Lorraine Beck, and Paula Clemens for planning the event, and a special thanks to Mike McDonough and the Catholic War Veterans Club.



The Diocesan Family Conference will be held on Saturday, September 19th, at Bishop Carroll Catholic High School in Ebensburg. This conference has been designed for every generation, from young children and teens to parents, grandparents, clergy, and parish leaders. The 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. Information booklets with registration information are available at the Cathedral's entrances. The booklet also contains personal and business sponsorship information.



St. Clare of Assisi,
Pray for us.

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

ONE CATHEDRAL SQUARE, Altoona, Pennsylvania 16601-3315

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, AUGUST 16, 2026

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

ANointing 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:

pclemens@dioceseaj.org

Fax: 814-942-4337

Mass Times

Sunday:	Weekday:
5:00 PM (Vigil)	12:00 Noon
8:00 AM	
10:00 AM	Saturday:
5:00 PM	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

Facebook
www.facebook.com/cathedralofaltoona



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