

## BAPTISM OF THE LORD

**January 12, 2025**

Mass Intentions

January 12, Baptism of the Lord

8:00AM+Dave Behe (Wife, Sons and Families)

10:00AM+James S. Cole (Jane Kiser)

5:00PM Pro Popolo/For the People

**Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church 11:30AM**

January 13, Monday, Saint Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

12:00PM+Ruth Ann Frederick (Audrey Breslin)

January 14, Tuesday, Weekday

12:00PM+Mrs. Kay Maiolo (Diana Fanale)

January 15, Wednesday, Weekday

12:00PM+Alice Winkler, Anniversary (Family)

January 16, Thursday, Weekday

12:00PM+Dr. Fred Petrunak, Birthday (Family)

January 17, Friday, Saint Anthony Abbot

12:00PM+Mike Kling/Bill Crouse, Ann. (Families)

January 18, Saturday, Weekday

12:00PM+Elizabeth Yauneridge (Family)

Vigil: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00PM+John Conti, Birth. (Family)

January 19, Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00AM+Alice Ann Martynuska (Fred & Gail Martynuska)

10:00AM+Regina Kutruff (The Lambert Family)

5:00PM Pro Popolo/For the People

**Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church 11:30AM**

### Calendar Of Prizes

**If anyone still have Calendar of Prize tickets still out, could you please return them ASAP. If the number comes up and we do not have the stub, we cannot pay them.**

### Church Cleaning

We will be cleaning the church on Wednesday, January 15, 2024 at 9:00AM. If there is a funeral it will be on Thursday same time.

### Church Decorations

Help is needed to take down the Christmas decorations in the church on Tuesday, January 14, at 8:00AM. All help would be very much appreciated. The Poinsettias will be bagged and you're welcome to take as many as you want home.



The Jubilee 2025 Committee of the Diocese wants to express a sincere thank you to all the following who helped with the Opening Mass on Sunday, December 29th, at the Cathedral: cleaning crew, ushers, music ministry, and social committee. A special thank you to Paula Miller and Beth Moore for assisting with the *Expressions of Hope Art, Photo, and Poetry* display boards.

### Pilgrim's Passport

To be on pilgrimage during a Jubilee Year is a unique time to gain special graces called Plenary Indulgences. Since many people cannot travel to Rome, the Pope has named Holy Door Churches, (in the U.S., the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C has been named). Every Bishop has been given permission to name Holy Sites in their own diocese. Our Pilgrim's Passport Booklet includes the 13 Holy Site Churches named by Bishop Mark. Pictures of all our churches are also included in the booklet. QR codes are printed in the booklet to access parish information. The booklets will be stamped at the Holy Site Churches. Information about Special Bonus Gifts is available in the Passport Booklet. You may use the Pilgrim's Passport until September 8, 2025.

### OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

Sunday, January 5, 2025, \$ 8,995.97

The Christmas Collection amounted to \$20,694.91.

Thank you very much for your financial and spiritual support.

### RADIO MASS

Following consultations with our Parish Council and Finance Council, it has been decided to discontinue broadcasting our 10:00 A.M. Sunday Mass on the radio. Gratitude is extended to our generous sponsors. As you know, there has been a significant increase in Masses that are available on television and the internet.

### FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION

All meetings/sessions will be held in the Cathedral basement from 6:30-8:00PM. A parent must accompany your child to the meetings. Please contact Chris Laraia if you are unable to attend a meeting so that make up work can be assigned.

#### PARENTS / STUDENT SESSIONS:

March 11, 2025

April 8, 2025

First Communion will be celebrated at the 10:00AM Mass May 4, 2025. If you have any questions please call Chris Laraia, 814-312-7317 or email me at claraia@dioceseaj.org



### Liturgical Ministers Schedules

The schedule and assignment of liturgical ministers will be done by our parish office. Early in the new year we will begin to recruit additional liturgical ministers for all of our liturgies.

### GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

January 12, 2025

The Baptism of the Lord

Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

In my second year of theology studies, I went to confession to a priest visiting the seminary for a three-day retreat. My heart wasn't in it. I was going through the motions. I confessed my sins and waited for his response. The priest said, "For your penance, I'd like you to go into the chapel and repeat the words 'You are my beloved Son, with you I am well pleased' (Luke 3:22) until they mean something to you." Easy penance, I thought.

But to my surprise, I struggled to say those words. I sensed a strong interior resistance blocking them. How could God be well-pleased with me? He couldn't be, I thought. A battle within me ensued. Two hours later, the resistance vanished, and I found myself able to speak, and claim as my own, those marvelous words. I emerged from the chapel with a new, deep, peaceful conviction that I was indeed God's beloved son.

Those words are a precious gift from heaven to all of us. Jesus' baptism, which we celebrate this week, offers them to us. Are we willing to receive these words anew? Many things can block this deepening of our baptismal identity: failings, sins, disappointments, traumas, problems, and so on. Yet God's love is always greater. This week I challenge you to prayerfully repeat these words over yourself — or perhaps over someone you're struggling to love — until those words find a home in your heart.

— Father John Muir

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## COURTESY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Holy Spirit Ministry

Holy Spirit Ministry will hold a special Mass on Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at 7:00 P.M. at St. Michael Church in Hollidaysburg. This powerful night of hope and healing is for all who are suffering physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Fr. David Dodd, TOR will be the main celebrant. Praise and worship will precede Mass at 6:30 PM and prayer ministry will follow the Mass. If you are suffering in any way, including from an addiction, come and experience the healing power of Jesus and be set free!

### Annual Respect Life March

The march on Sunday, January 19, begins at noon with a prayer service at St. Matthew Church, Tyrone. Then there is a 1.25 mile walk to Oak Grove Cemetery to the grave of Baby Agnes Doe for another short prayer service. A hot lunch will be served in the parish hall after the march. Bring a sign.

### Bridges Out of Poverty

January is the month of National Poverty Awareness. Please consider joining a virtual overview of **Bridges Out of Poverty: Strategies for Professionals and Communities** to have a better understanding of a comprehensive approach to the dynamics that cause and maintain poverty, from the individual to the systemic level. Catholic Charities will have two options to share this information virtually: Thursday, January 23, from 6 PM to 8 PM.

To register please RSVP [coconnor@dioceseaj.org](mailto:coconnor@dioceseaj.org).

### Sight and Sound Theatre

You are invited to join the St. Mark/Holy Rosary Parishes' bus trip to see **Noah-30th Anniversary Limited Showing at Sight & Sound Theatre** on Wednesday, April 9. The cost of the bus trip includes the 11:00 AM Show and 2:15 PM lunch smorgasbord at Hershey Farm Restaurant. \$195.00/Adult, \$140/Child (3-12). Please contact Robyn Murphy 814-931-5683 or Diane O'Leary 814-935-2114 to reserve your seat.

## Stewardship Reflections

What a treasure trove of stewardship lessons we find in our Gospel reading today on this feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Today's Gospel is one we read every year, so it is easy to lose sight of just how incredible it is that Jesus wished to be baptized in the Jordan River by His cousin, John. Stop and contemplate our Lord in all His perfection, waiting quietly and patiently in line with a bunch of sinners (like us!) in order to 'lead by example.' His love and humility in serving and self-giving beyond all telling.

In addition to the gratitude that Jesus' baptism should inspire, we can also study His actions at the Jordan River as a powerful example of the servant-leadership He displays time and again throughout His public ministry. We see in our Lord a style of leadership characterized by humility and leading by example.

Let us be filled with gratitude for our amazing God and be reminded that when we are grateful followers of Jesus and servant-leaders in imitation of Him, the Father all be well pleased with us, too.

## COURTESY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Italian Culture

All Saints Parish (Somerset County) will be hosting a presentation about Italian culture on Sunday, January 19th, at 2:00 PM. The focus of the talk will be the Italian festa. The Italian expression of Catholicism teems with life. Honoring a saint is often expressed in a festival, or festa, that includes devotions, a procession, and unique traditions. Dr. Stephanie Longo will be the presenter. Dr. Longo has authored several award winning books on Italian-American history and is an expert on the lived experience and history of Italians in American. The talk begins at 2:00 PM at All Saints Parish Hall, 505 Center St. in Boswell, and includes authentic Italian refreshments at no cost. Call the parish office, 814-629-5551, to register.

### Journeys of St. Paul in Greece Pilgrimage

Father Josef and Deacon Jack will lead a pilgrimage on May 12-19, 2025. For more information, go to the Good Shepherd Website at <https://www.goodshepherd-sc.org>

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

ONE CATHEDRAL SQUARE, Altoona, Pennsylvania 16601-3315

## **BAPTISM OF THE LORD, JANUARY 12, 2025**

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

The process of formation for those seeking God through membership in the Catholic Christian community.

### **INFANT BAPTISM:**

Arrange in advance for pre-baptismal instructions.

### **CONFIRMATION:**

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

### **RECONCILIATION:**

Wednesday: 7:00 PM, Saturday: 12:30 PM.

By appointment, by texting or calling 814-937-8240 Communal Penance Services: Advent and Lent.

### **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.

**Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, J.C.D., Bishop**

**Reverend Monsignor Stanley Carson, Administrator**

**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](mailto:claraia@dioceseaj.org)

### **DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY**

Leslie C. Thayer, MM, CAGO

Music Ministry Office - 814-944-2044

E-mail: [lthayer@dioceseaj.org](mailto:lthayer@dioceseaj.org)

**CHRISTIAN INITIATION TEAM - 814-944-4603**

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

**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 9-11 Sunday Evening at 6:15.

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

**E-MAIL:** [altcathedral@dioceseaj.org](mailto:altcathedral@dioceseaj.org)

**Fax:** 814-942-4337

Facebook

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

WEB

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



### **Mass Times**

**Sunday:**

5:00 PM (Vigil)

8:00 AM

10:00 AM

5:00 PM

**Weekday:**

12:00 Noon

**Saturday:**

12:00 Noon



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