

DECEMBER 21, 2025



Saint John Gualbert Cathedral

PO Box 807 Johnstown, PA 15907-0807
Office: 814-536-0117 <http://www.stjohngualbert.org>
johnstowncathedral@dioceseaj.org

Most Rev Bishop Mark L Bartchak, JCD
V. Rev Matthew Baum, Rector
Fr. Canice McMullen, OSB
Deacon Rick Messina



Mass Times: Saturday 6PM
Sunday 7AM, 11AM, 5PM
Weekday Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri 7AM Sat 8AM
Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri 12:05PM
Confessions: 8:30AM Sat & 3PM Sun
3PM Thurs before 1st Friday

Saint Patrick Church

P.O. Box 806, Johnstown, PA 15907-0806
Office: 814-539-2186 <http://stpatricktowntown.com>
stpatricktowntown@dioceseaj.org

V. Rev Matthew Baum, Pastor
Fr. Canice McMullen, OSB
Deacon Rick Messina



Mass Times: Saturday 4PM
Sunday 9AM
Thursday 8AM
Rosary: 30 minutes before all Masses
Confessions: Saturday 3PM



Week of December 21, 2025



1st Reading:
Isaiah 7:10-14

2nd Reading:
Romans 1:1-7

Gospel:
Matthew 1:18-24

ST JOHN GUALBERT

Saturday 8:00AM	Dec 20th Third Week of Advent George Pappas <i>Anniversary 12/20</i> (Andrea & Ray Ritter)
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	Vigil—Fourth Sunday of Advent
6:00PM	John D. Kendera (Monica Kendera)
Sunday 7:00AM 11:00AM 5:00PM	Dec 21st Fourth Sunday of Advent Paul Sumandra (Fred & Barb Oliveros) Carl Motter, Jr. (Family) People of the Parish
Monday 7:00AM 12:05PM	Dec 22nd Fourth Week of Advent Carrie McCullough (Mother: Lois McCullough) No Mass
Tuesday 7:00AM 12:05PM	Dec 23rd Fourth Week of Advent Fr. John Brezovec (Dr. Eric & Susan Wieczorek) David Wilson (Wife: Valerie Wilson)
Wednesday 4:00PM	Dec 24th (No Daily Masses) Vigil—The Nativity of the Lord, Bishop Mark presiding Christine Barber (Family)
Thursday 12:00AM	Dec 25th The Nativity of the Lord at Midnight Mr. & Mrs. John M. O'Donnell (Son: Ed O'Donnell)
7:00AM	The Nativity of the Lord during the Day Michael Leonard (Wife: Mary Ellen Leonard)
Friday 7:00AM 12:05PM	Dec 26th Feast of St. Stephen - 1st Martyr St. Anne Society Michael H. Rosey <i>Anniversary 12/25</i> (Cookie & Bill Antesberger)
Saturday 8:00AM	Dec 27th Feast of St. John, Apostle & Evangelist Madeline Figura <i>Anniversary</i> (Family)
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	Vigil—Feast of the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary & Joseph
6:00PM	Louie Distefano (Sister: Lucille Taylor)
Sunday 7:00AM 11:00AM 5:00PM	Dec 28th Feast of the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary & Joseph People of the Parish Linda Calpin <i>Birthday Remembrance</i> (Yanko Family) Bobby King <i>Birthday Remembrance</i> (Family)



Dec 22nd at St. Peter in Chains Parish, behind the walls of SCI Somerset:
St. Anne

ST PATRICK

Saturday 4:00PM	Dec 20th Vigil—Fourth Sunday of Advent Constance Koontz (Sister: Mary Pannone)
Sunday 9:00AM	Dec 21st Fourth Sunday of Advent Mary Smith (Barbara Havener)
Wednesday 4:00PM	Dec 24th Vigil—The Nativity of the Lord People of the Parish
Thursday 9:00AM	Dec 25th The Nativity of the Lord Charles Holtzman, Jr. (Valerie Orris)
Saturday 4:00PM	Dec 27th Vigil—Feast of the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary & Joseph Walter J. & Rose H. Rummell (Family)
Sunday 9:00AM	Dec 28th Feast of the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary & Joseph Mary C. Smith (Bea Edwards)
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Parish Staff & Volunteers	
Finance: Gerald Foust gfoust@dioceseaj.org	
Secretary: Brigid Starchok bstarchok@dioceseaj.org	
Cemetery: Kristen Caddy kcaddy@dioceseaj.org	
St. John Gualbert Music: Evonne Yanzetich-Homway (814)659-6240	
St. Patrick Music: Jean Arcurio (814)241-9972	
St. John Maintenance: Mike Amenti (814)536-0117 ext. 207	
St. Patrick Maintenance: Dan Schofield (814)792-5891	

Faith Formation /Sacramental Prep

Christine Babik—Resurrection Parish
(814)539-5788 / cbabik@dioceseaj.org

RCIA

Lonnie Rietscha: (814)244-6681
Harry Mangus: (814)525-9943

Prayer Chain

Dr. Joyce Werner: (814)288-1186

Catholic Outreach

St. Vincent de Paul

John Gualbert SVdP - (Mon or Fri) 814-421-4344
SVdP Human Needs Office - (Tues - Thurs) 814-535-8521
SVdP Family Kitchen: 814-539-7811

Catholic Charities

Altoona: 814-944-9388 Johnstown: 814-535-6538

Crisis Pregnancy/Pro-Life:

Birthright of Johnstown: 814-535-8231
Gabriel Project- Gail Bala: 814-418-1813
Rachel's Vineyard: 1-877-467-3463
Website - www.RachelsVineyard.org -
the world's largest ministry for healing after abortion.

Diocesan Family Life Office: 814-695-5579
Diocesan Website: www.dioceseaj.org

Physical locations:

St. John Gualbert Cathedral
117 Clinton Street
Johnstown, PA 15901

St. Patrick Church
609 Park Avenue
Johnstown, PA 15902

COLLECTIONS

Shared Parish Information:

Collection St John Gualbert 12/14/2025	
Weekly Envelopes	\$1,993.50
Cash	823.00
Online	205.00
Maintenance	50.00
SVdP	5.00
Retired Religious	929.31
Christmas	150.00
Immaculate Conception	36.00
Total	\$4,191.81

St. John Gualbert



St. Patrick



Collection St Patrick 12/14/2025	
Envelopes	\$3,461.00
Cash	174.15
Children's Envelopes	5.00
Online Donations	35.00
Maintenance	110.00
Fuel & Air	393.00
SVdP	50.00
Retired Religious	343.00
Immaculate Conception	340.00
Catholic Charities	210.00
Christmas	300.00
All Saints	5.00
Votives	22.00
Total	\$5,448.15

Catholic Ministries Drive - 2025			
St. John Gualbert	Goal:	\$32,300.00	
	Receipts	16,682.00	
St. Patrick	Goal:	\$24,900.00	
	Receipts	16,637.00	

Office Hours: Monday through Friday 9AM - 3PM.

Parishioner Registration: If you would like to join either of our parishes, please contact the rectory/church office. Registration, the practice of stewardship and regular participation in the sacraments, indicates that a person is an active member of the parish and is eligible to act as a godparent or a sponsor. As a church community seeking to be faith-filled disciples and good stewards, the sacrifice of our time, talent, and treasure is essential for the common good.

Moving or joining a different parish: Please remember to notify us if you have a change of address or will be leaving either of our parishes so we can update our records and notify the diocese of the change.

Anointing of the Sick: Upon request for the sick or homebound.

Infant Baptism & Christian Initiation of Adults: Call the church office, (814)536-0117.

Marriage: 9-month notice; pre-marital preparation required.

Mass Intentions: ALL mass intentions are handled through the St. John Gualbert office. If you would like to have a mass offered, please fill out the form in the churches or available on the parish website, put it in an envelope with the mass donation (\$10) and drop it off in the collection basket or at the parish office. A copy of the rules and policies for Mass intentions are also available in the churches.

Do you know anyone who can't make it to mass? If you have a family member who is sick or infirmed and unable to attend mass, please let us know. Father makes periodic rounds to visit the sick. In time, we would also like to find Eucharistic Ministers to do the same. If there is ever an emergency, call the parish number and leave a message for Fr. Matt. It is very important that those who are seriously ill or in danger of death are able to receive the sacraments, but we don't know unless you tell us. Don't be afraid to call.

Weekly Contributions: If you would like your cash gifts to be reflected on your giving statement, please use an offering envelope. Be sure to write your name and the amount given clearly on the offering envelope to insure proper credit. If you attend at another parish, please use your envelopes as they will be returned to us.

Taking up the Gifts: If the mass intention is for your family and you would like to take up the gifts at that mass, please let the ushers know about 10 minutes before mass. We have had a few families ask at the last minute and we would rather not ask someone to take up the gifts and then tell them not to because the family of the mass intention has just showed up.

Daily Mass Missals—If you would like a copy of "the Word Among Us" daily missal that includes daily mass readings, antiphons, and reflections, please stop or call the St. John parish office. A subscription costs \$20 per person per year.

Bulletin Deadline: ALL submissions for the bulletin need to be submitted no later than Tuesday 12:00 PM in order to be listed in the following Sunday edition and must include the name of the submitter. Also, when there are multiple layers to an event, bulletin announcements need to be coordinated through the primary event planner to prevent conflicting submissions.

Flocknote: Flocknote enables us to send large group emails and text messages. If you would like to receive the general notices and reminders about upcoming events in the parish, requests for help/volunteers, the bulletin published to the website, and other updates, use these instructions to sign up if you have not already done so.

Keep in touch with us!

TEXT SJGC TO 84576

OR CONNECT WITH US ONLINE AT:

stjohngualbert.flocknote.com



Religious Education

Questions - contact DRE - Christine Babik at
814-539-5788, or email cbabik@dioceseaj.org.

Sunday, December 21: Religious Education 9:00-10:15 am Resurrection Parish Center and Oratory Hall.

Sunday, December 28: No class - Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

Sunday, January 4, 2026: Religious Education 9:00-10:15am Resurrection Parish Center, Confirmation Mentor meeting Oratory and Oratory Hall

Sunday, January 11, 2026: Religious Education 9:00-10:15am Resurrection Parish Center, Confirmation Mentor meeting Oratory and Oratory Hall.

Sunday, January 18, 2026: NO CLASS

Confirmation Service Project:

WINTER CLOTHESLINE: We will be collecting new or gently used winter garments, as part of a group service project for Confirmation candidates ongoing each week, running through Sunday, February 22, 2026.

Needed items of hats, gloves, scarves coats etc. can be placed in the marked boxes, in the back of Resurrection Church or St. John Gualbert Cathedral. All donations will be hung on our winter clothesline in front of the Resurrection Oratory, for anyone in the community to take freely. Thank you from Tyler Foust, Griffin Ream, Bella Dixon, Sophie Messina and Lilly Oakes.



Christian Life & Service:

At Both

We are having a PARTY!

We are having an Epiphany party on January 9th at 5:30 pm in the St Patrick's Church basement. **All parishioners from both parishes are welcome.** The party is potluck. Meat and drinks will be provided. You are welcome to bring your favorite side dish or dessert. There are signup sheets at both parishes, OR you may call the office (814-536-0117) to RSVP please let us know! We want to ensure that we have enough drinks and a main course for everyone! Any questions, please contact Charlotte Ecklund - 814-341-8861 or Mary Jo Podratsky - 814-242-1183

Straw Distribution: The annual blessing and distribution of straw will be done on the weekend of the 20th & 21st at both parishes for all Masses.

The Blessing Box on Village Street:

Both St. John & St. Patrick Christian Life and Service Groups wanted to remind everyone that we have this beautiful box available. As we move through the final days of Advent, this serves as an excellent way to help those less fortunate than us. It allows us to participate with Advent almsgiving through food donations.

Joseph and Mary would have been so grateful to have come across this type of kindness on their way to Bethlehem.



OCIA/Basics of Faith

******* Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!**

Anyone interested in being a Sponsor for Candidates please contact Lonnie Rietscha (814)244-6681, or Harry Mangus (814)525-9943.

St. Vincent de Paul Conference of St. John Gualbert Cathedral:

Saint Vincent de Paul Update from 11-15-25 to 12-14-25.

Number of calls on our 3CX Lime = 13

Individuals receiving assistance = 32

Adult Female = 12 Ranging in age from 25 to 67

Adult Male = 6 Ranging in age from 29 to 63

Children Female = 4 Ranging in age from 2 to 16

Children Male = 10 Ranging in age from 18 Months to 13

Assistance Details:

6 - Eviction / Rent = \$1,145.00

6 - Water Shut Offs = \$1,099.21

1- Caller left no message

Conference members served lunch at the SVDP Family Kitchen on 11-18-25.

Anyone interested in joining our conference is welcome to attend our next meetings.

* Saturday January 3, 2026 at 9:00 AM

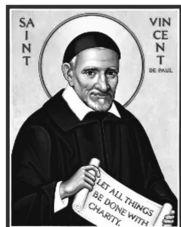
* Thursday January 15, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Our meetings are held at the Saint John's Activity Center in the Saint Joseph's Room lower level. THANK YOU! For your continued financial support and prayers.

HAVE A BLESSED CHRISTMAS!

"All comes at the proper time to him who knows how to wait."

Saint Vincent de Paul



Fr. Canice's Thoughts:

Allow me to draw your attention to the important role of St. Joseph in today's Gospel. When Joseph discovers that Mary is with child, we learn of his intention to divorce Mary quietly. While some may be quick to assume Joseph's suspicion that Mary was unfaithful to him, the gospel story simply does not support this theory. Notice that the Angel Gabriel did not say "do not be suspicious of your wife," but "do not be afraid" to take her into your home. From this we can reason that Joseph was not suspicious of infidelity but, perceiving that something extraordinarily holy was happening within Mary, he felt his own unworthiness and decided to distance himself from the mystery out of respect and reverence. Despite this hesitation, when Joseph receives his call from the Angel to take Mary into his home, he responds readily and faithfully. As St. Joseph was a true virginal father and protector of Jesus and Mary, he also is a father and protector of our family, the Church! St. Joseph, protector of the universal Church and terror of demons, pray for us!

Blessings, Fr. Canice

Deacon Rick's Corner - Christmas Wishes



MINISTERS SCHEDULES:

ST JOHN GUALBERT CATHEDRAL **Vigil—The Nativity of the Lord**

Wed Dec 24th, 4:00PM

Reader	Elizabeth Rhoades
Reader	Khloe Babyak
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Rick Messina
Eucharistic Minister	Anthony Kamnikar
Eucharistic Minister	Susan Kamnikar
Eucharistic Minister	Volunteer Needed
Eucharistic Minister	Pat Loughlin
Eucharistic Minister	Dixie Lochrie
Servers	Sophie, Cora, & Ileana Messina
Server	Jayce Costlow
Audio Operator	Kevin Slonka
Sacristan	Lonnie Rietscha
Cantor	Sydney Petro

The Nativity of the Lord at Midnight

Thurs Dec 25th, 12:00AM

Reader	Fred Oliveros
Reader	Charlotte Amenti
Eucharistic Minister	Matthew Krawczyk
Eucharistic Minister	James Sandoval
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Rick Messina
Server	Kaleb Krawczyk
Server	Steve Molnar
Server	Paige Titus
Audio Operator	Evonne Yanzetich
Sacristan	Steve Molnar
Cantor	Ryan Kucera

The Nativity of the Lord

Thurs Dec 25th, 7:00AM

Reader	David Weaver
Reader	Carrie Weaver
Eucharistic Minister	Carmen Grasso
Eucharistic Minister	Rose Ann Schellhammer
Eucharistic Minister	Volunteer Needed
Server	David Harteis
Audio Operator	Patrick McClain
Cantor	Rose Eckenrod

Feast of the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Sat Dec 27th, 6:00PM Mass

Reader	Joseph Mazzarella
Reader	Elizabeth Rhoades
Eucharistic Minister	Matthew Krawczyk
Server	Kaleb Krawczyk
Audio Operator	Michael Stoskey
Sacristan	Matthew Krawczyk
Cantor	Ryan Kucera

Sun Dec 28th, 7:00AM Mass

Reader	Christine Brothers
Reader	Gloria Stephens
Eucharistic Minister	Carmen Grasso
Eucharistic Minister	Rose Ann Schellhammer
Eucharistic Minister	Melissa Gates
Server	Hayden Gates
Audio Operator	Patrick McClain
Sacristan	Gloria Stephens
Cantor	Peter T. Yanko

Sun Dec 28th, 11:00AM Mass—Close of the Jubilee Year

Reader	Rachel Hall
Reader	Geoffrey Stumpo
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Rick Messina
Eucharistic Minister	Fr. Canice McMullen
Eucharistic Minister	Pam Sabol
Server	Charlotte DeArmitt
Server	Jayce Costlow
Server	Synthia Barber
Audio Operator	Tracy Smith
Sacristan	Lonnie Rietscha
Cantor	Ashley Gregory

Sun Dec 28th, 5:00PM Mass

Reader	Pat Loughlin
Reader	Dixie Lochrie

St. John Gualbert Ministers' Schedule Continued:

Eucharistic Minister	Charlotte Amenti
Servers	Bella, Ryder, Tenley Ascherl
Audio Operator	Evonne Yanzetich
Sacristan	Charlotte Amenti
Cantor	Sydney Petro

Vigil—Mary, Mother of God

Wed Dec 31st, 6:00PM

Reader	Elizabeth Rhoades
Reader	Beth Stem
Eucharistic Minister	Matthew Krawczyk
Server	Kaleb Krawczyk
Audio Operator	Evonne Yanzetich
Sacristan	Charlotte Amenti
Cantor	Sydney Petro

Thurs Jan 1st, 12:05PM - Mary, Mother of God

Reader	Mary Jane Verbiar
Reader	Fred Oliveros
Eucharistic Minister	Pam Sabol
Server	Steve Molnar
Audio Operator	Peter T. Yanko
Sacristan	Deacon Rick Messina
Cantor	Rose Eckenrod

ST PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

Vigil—The Nativity of the Lord

Wed Dec 24th, 4:00PM

Cantor	Choir
Server	Sydnee Dixon
Eucharistic Minister	Cindy Stofko
Eucharistic Minister	Kathy Kristofko
Eucharistic Minister	Harry Mangus
Sacristan	Cindy Stofko
Reader	Denise Marks

The Nativity of the Lord

Thurs Dec 25th, 9:00AM

Cantor	Eric Ecklund
Server	Kevin Malloy
Eucharistic Minister	Connie Cassidy
Eucharistic Minister	Marge Sindleri
Eucharistic Minister	Charlotte Ecklund
Sacristan	Connie Cassidy
Reader	Mary Ann Craig

Feast of the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Sat Dec 27th, 4:00PM Mass

Cantor	Lisa Stofko
Server	Jerry Stofko
Eucharistic Minister	Connie Cassidy
Eucharistic Minister	Harry Mangus
Eucharistic Minister	Kathy Kristofko
Sacristan	Harry Mangus
Reader	Mary Ann Craig

Sun Dec 28th, 9:00AM Mass

Cantor	Eric Ecklund
Server	Rita Redden
Eucharistic Minister	Joyce Werner
Eucharistic Minister	Kevin Malloy
Eucharistic Minister	Marge Sindleri
Sacristan	Marianna Glover
Reader	Charlotte Ecklund

Mary, Mother of God

Thurs Jan 1st, 6:00PM

Cantor	Rita Redden
Server	Harry Mangus
Eucharistic Minister	Connie Cassidy
Eucharistic Minister	Kathy Kristofko
Eucharistic Minister	Rita Redden
Sacristan	Connie Cassidy
Reader	Kathy Getzey

*****ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR BOTH PARISHES*****

Cemetery Calendar Tickets Available: These tickets make the best stocking stuffers for Christmas! They keep on giving for all 365 days of 2026 and we still have them available..... Simplify your Christmas gift list and pick one up for your family and friends.

Stop by the rectory office on Clinton Street to pick some up or call the rectory office (814)536-0117 and we can put some back for you.

St John Gualbert Cemetery
2026 Calendar Tickets
\$25-\$250 per day for 2026

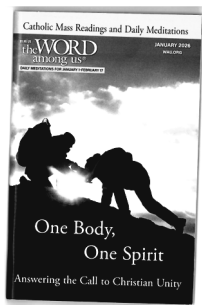
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Tickets are \$25/each

**Call the St John Gualbert Parish Office
814-536-0117**

Word Among Us:

It is that time again, the end of the year, when those who subscribe to the Word Among Us Magazine need to renew their subscription for 2026. The cost is \$20.00 - half the price of an individual subscription. Checks need to be payable to your respective parish, cash works too, and there are envelopes at both churches that can be used to remit your payment. Please include your name, phone number and just drop the envelopes in the collection basket. The new January 2026 issue will be available on the weekend of December 27 & 28 to those individuals who have sent in their renewal payments. There is still time to subscribe &/or renew for the new year. Don't miss out!



Bible Study Returning in January 2026!

Bible Study Class is returning on **Thursday, January 8, 2026** at 6PM. All sessions will be based on the upcoming Sunday Mass readings and will be held in the St. Patrick's Parish basement gathering room, (609 Park Avenue). You can park in the lot behind the Church and the door to the meeting is adjacent to the parking lot.

Readings for the 1st class in the New Year will be for

Sunday, January 11th, 2026 - The Baptism of the Lord:

- ⇒ The first reading is from Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7
- ⇒ The second reading is from the Acts of the Apostles 10:34-38
- ⇒ The Gospel is from Matthew 3:13-17

Come join us to explore the Word of the Lord. All are welcome!

“Called by Name” Diocesan Vocations Campaign:

Bishop Bartchak is encouraging you to support our diocese's Vocation Appeal. Your gift will fund the diocese's renewed efforts to promote vocations to the priesthood, an especially urgent need as the number of seminarians for our diocese has been very low in recent years. To inspire more young men to consider the priesthood, the Vocation Office has developed a robust plan, which includes:

- ⇒ A newly formed Vocation Team with 5 priests in different regions of the diocese who are committed to offering mentorship to young men as they discern their vocations.
 - ⇒ Our recent Called By Name campaign, which has already connected the Vocation Team with many incredible young men. • Discernment Retreats & In-Person Events.
 - ⇒ Regional Priesthood Discernment Groups, several young men are already participating.
 - ⇒ Fr. Brian Norris's appointment as Vocation Recruiter, expanding the outreach of Fr. Peter Crowe (Vocations Director) and the Vocation Team.
 - ⇒ Revamping communications and marketing to reach more young men.
 - ⇒ Creating a new website with discernment resources: ajvocations.org.
 - ⇒ Personally accompanying men as they discern their vocations.
- Our Vocation Team's overall strategy is to identify and accompany young men as they discern God's call. Bishop Bartchak is asking all parishioners to be especially generous to ensure dedicated priests for the future of our diocese. To learn more and make a gift, visit ajvocations.org/give

Do You Have an End of Mass Announcement?



Many times parishioners ask to have some important event, notification, etc. announced at the end of weekend Masses following the prayer after Communion. Making sure that this happens with all the busy staff comings and goings, phone calls and so forth can be challenging. In order to make this process better, it has been suggested that all requests of this nature be handled as follows:

1. We need to have the announcement submitted to the rectory **no latter than 12 noon Wednesday - no exceptions.**
2. Please email them to eyanzetich@dioceseaj.org as she organizes these items along with the petitions for both parishes.

Let's Party!

We are having an Epiphany party on January 9th at 5:30 pm in the St Patrick's Church basement. **All parishioners from both parishes are welcome.** The party is potluck. Meat and drinks will be provided. You are welcome to bring your favorite side dish or dessert. There are signup sheets at both parishes, **OR** you may call the office (814-536-0117) to RSVP please let us know! We want to ensure that we have enough drinks and a main course for everyone! Any questions, please contact Charlotte Ecklund - 814-341-8861 or Mary Jo Podratsky - 814-242-1183



Stewardship Reflections for December 21, 2025 – 4th Sunday of Advent:



As our Advent preparations draw to a close and Christmas fast approaches, it is fitting that today's readings demonstrate the intensity of the Father's perfect and passionate love for each of us, culminating in the gift of His own Son, Jesus Christ, on Christmas Day. As we reflect on the enormity of this gift, let us ask ourselves what we can offer in return.

In our Gospel passage from Matthew, we find an unparalleled example of one who embraced the stewardship way of life in St Joseph, as he responds to God's call to him through the message of an angel. St Joseph immediately and humbly obeys the instruction from the angel: "Do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." Open to this extraordinary role, he did as the angel commanded and 'takes Mary into his home.'

Let us imitate St Joseph, then, as good stewards, giving our very lives to those around us in love and gratitude to God who has given us everything we have, especially His own Son, Jesus Christ. We will no doubt find that the more we give ourselves away, the more our generous Father will fill us with His grace and peace – these are truly the best Christmas gift we could receive.

St. John Gualbert

Current Events:

12-20 & 21 SJG CLS Straw Distribution All Masses; Cathedral
12-20 7:30PM SJG Advent Concert; Cathedral
12-21 9AM Religious Ed; Resurrection
12-21 6:15PM SJG Decorating the Cathedral
12-22 6PM Penance Service available at SPJ; Church
12-24 4PM SJG Live Televised Christmas Eve Mass; Cathedral
12-25 12AM SJG Christmas Midnight Mass; Cathedral
12-25 7AM SJG Mass of Christmas morning; Cathedral

******No other Masses at SJG on Christmas Day & Eucharistic Adoration returns on January 8th**

12-26 The office is closed for the Christmas Holiday - Wishing everyone the most Blessed Christmas Celebrations
12-27 11AM SJG Mass Closing of the Jubilee Year; Cathedral

Jubilee 2025 Pilgrims of Hope: 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 am televised Mass at St. John Gualbert Cathedral, Bishop Mark L. Barchak is the Main celebrant.

Also at the 10:00 am Mass at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Altoona, Msgr. Stanley C. Carson will be the Main Celebrant leading the Closing Jubilee Year Eucharistic celebration.

All the faithful are encouraged to participate in prayer and if coming in-person to please bring an offering of a non-perishable food item, paper or cleaning products for those in need to Mass in the spirit of charity as envisioned by Pope Francis for the Jubilee Year. We can all be Ambassadors of Hope.



St. Patrick Church

Current events:

12-20 & 21 SPJ CLS Straw Distribution All Masses; Church
12-20 7:30PM Advent of Christmas Concert at SJG; Cathedral
12-21 9AM Religious Ed; Resurrection
12-21 10AM SPJ Assemble/ Deliver Blessing Bags; REC
12-21 1PM SPJ Decorating the Church
12-22 6PM SPJ Penance Service; Church

Annual Advent Penance Service:

We will come together as a parish during Advent 2025 at St. Patrick Church to seek reconciliation with God on Monday, December 22nd at 6PM.

Multiple priests from the diocese will be there to assist at this liturgy of prayer, music, and individual confessions. As we wait for the coming of our Lord Jesus, join us and let us allow God to share His infinite mercy, compassion and forgiveness with us.

*****Around the Area*****

Upcoming Penance Services in Cambria County:

*******Saint Patrick, Johnstown*******
Monday, December 22 at 6:00 PM

Our Lady of the Alleghenies, Lilly
Tuesday, December 23 at 6:00 PM

Theology on Tap - Young Adult Group (18-39):

March will be our 3-year anniversary, and we still have at least 1 new member join every month; however, some members are moving to different stages of life, so we are always seeking new members. Please help spread the word! All young adults (18-39) – regardless of their background – are invited to join us for faith, food, and fellowship. There is no cost to attend. We gather for Benediction and Board Games on Friday, January 9th.

Our next Theology on Tap Meeting will be at the Boulevard Grill on Wednesday, January 28th, 2026 at 6PM and the speaker will be our own, Fr. Canice McMullen OSB.

Fr. David Dodd TOR and others are already booked for 2026! For more information contact Geoffrey Stumpo at (814) 659-7415 or geoffstumpo@gmail.com.

Echoes of a Polish Christmas

All Saints Parish in Boswell will host their annual singing of Polish Christmas Carols (known as Kolędy) on:

Sunday, January 4th – at 2:00 PM
All Saints Church
325 Quemahoning Street, Boswell
– Somerset County

Following the singing of hymns by the parish's Polish choir, there will be Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament as well as refreshments.

Kolędy help to capture some of the finest sentiments, values, and emotions of the Polish religious, national, and artistic heritage. Polish Christmas customs are very rich; whether you are Polish or not, please come and experience these time-honored hymns celebrating the birth of Christ.



JOIN US FOR THIS JANUARY CLASS:

The following class is open to all!

History of the Catholic Church in the US. taught by Fr. Aron Maghsoudi at All Saints Parish in Boswell, Mondays with (2) Tuesday classes from 6:00 to 8:30 PM (8 weeks) beginning January 5. The cost of the class is \$35.00 and MUST be turned in with the Registration Form.

To Register please visit the diocese website at www.dioceseaj.org/lay-ecclesial-ministry, or see your parish priest or secretary for a registration form or by contacting Jessica, Office of Adult Enrichment and Lay Ecclesial Ministry at (814) 361-2000 or via email at jgramling@dioceseaj.org. All are welcome!

Please Note that the Registration Deadline for this class is Friday, December 26. No registrations will be accepted after this date.

Registration Form

History of the Catholic Church in the U.S.

Please complete the entire form

2025/2026

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Prefix: _____

Mr. Mrs. Mr.

Street: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Other Phone: _____

Email: _____

Parish: _____

This class will be offered at All Saints Parish, Boswell

Facilitator: Fr. Aron Maghsoudi

Mondays and (2) Tuesdays: 6:00-8:30 PM

Jan 5, 12, 26; Feb. 3(Tues), 9, 17 (Tues); March 9, 16

Registration Fee: \$35

Required book for Class: The American Catholic Experience by Jay Dolan
(This book can be found on Amazon)

16 Hours Continuing Education Hours

For any questions, please contact the Office of Lay Ministry at (814) 361-2000

I am taking the course for: Adult Enrichment _____ Lay Ecclesial Ministry _____ Other _____

Payment Enclosed: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to *Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown*
Send completed registration form and payment to:

Adult Enrichment and Lay Ecclesial Ministries

609 Park Avenue

Johnstown, PA 15902

Thank-You!

JOIN US FOR BREAKFAST ON January 4, 2026 DOING FOR OTHERS IS DOING FOR CHRIST!

Join us for breakfast which will benefit:

St. Benedict Knights of Columbus

Our Knights of Columbus help our local food pantry (which will surely need replenished after the holidays) as well as providing support as a philanthropic organization supporting various charities.

DATE: Sunday, January 4, 2026!

PLACE: School Cafeteria

TIME: 8:30 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.

(LAST SEATING IMMEDIATELY after 10:30 Mass.)

MENU: Egg muffins (plain, vegetable, ham and cheese). Ham, bacon, sausage (choice of two), breakfast potatoes, toast, French Toast with Berry Compote, and Plain, Blueberry, and Banana Pancakes and Sausage Gravy and biscuits

Meals include choice of coffee, tea, milk (white or chocolate) or juice.

COST: Adults \$10.00 - Children 6-12 \$5.00

Children 5 and under are FREE!

Immediate family members of four or more \$30.

Mastercard and Visa accepted!

We will once again be selling

Apple Dumplings after all masses while supplies last!

PLEASE JOIN US AND BRING A NEW FRIEND! THE GREATER THE ATTENDANCE, THE GREATER THE DONATION!

YOU ARE INVITED
TO A CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

AT
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ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2025

BEGINNING AT 5:30PM
AND ENDING AT 10:00PM

COST IS \$25.00 SINGLE TICKET
AND \$45.00 COUPLE TICKETS
B.Y.O.B. & MUST BE 21 TO ATTEND

DINNER SERVED AT 6:00PM
LIVE BAND HOT WAX
BEGINS AT 7:00PM

CONTACT ANNA LEAHEY
AT 814-935-4501 FOR TICKETS



Epiphany House Blessings

20 + C + M + B + 26

A beautiful Catholic tradition!

**Just as the Holy Magi welcomed Christ
to dwell in the world, we invite Him to
dwell in our Home**



Register for a House Blessing from our clergy team!

- **Call Parish Office (814-536-0117)**
- **Visit the Parish Website**
- **Or Scan the QR Code**

**House Blessings will occur between
Jan. 4th and Feb. 8th**



From the Rector/Pastor:

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
Upon those who lived in a land of gloom a light has shone...

For a child is born to us, a son is given to us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace. His dominion is vast and forever peaceful, Upon David's throne, and over his kingdom, which he confirms and sustains by judgment and justice, both now and forever.

This week we celebrate Christmas. A Savior is born to us who is both Christ and Lord, and of his kingdom there will be no end. Jesus is the light that came into a dark world. He was and is THE turning point of all of human history.

In our own lives we have lots of smaller turning points, moments when we see the light in the darkness, when we see real hope.

This year has been a year of endings and new beginnings here in town. It has been a year of changes. As a Church, we watched the death of Pope Francis and the election of the first Pope from the United States with Pope Leo. Locally, We watched the building next to our activities center burn down, opening the possibility for a parking lot at St John's. We tore down the Convent at St Patrick's, dramatically opening the space, and we watched in town as Central Park is being redone. It felt so different going to watch the Tree lit up over at PNG Park this year after having the park at Central Park for so long, just as it still feels different walking to the activities center or pulling into the parking lot at St Patrick's. We also said our farewells to Fr Simon as he moved up the hill to St Benedict's and welcomed Fr Canice who is only just getting started here.

In my own family, this has been quite the year of change, as two of my nieces were married this year, and another has a wedding very soon. They're each setting up their new families, and welcoming new life into the world. Yet, they've also moved away and the people at the holiday tables are changing for us. There's something about

holding a little baby that reminds us that not only is the world always changing, but it's always being renewed and restored with new life.

Really, that is the way of things. Times do change, life marches on, and if we try to hold things just as they are, we find them slipping away from us, but if we're willing to grow, through Christ the world is constantly being renewed.

I think that's part of the beauty of the Christmas Season. The Savior of the world doesn't appear on earth suddenly out of nowhere already full grown. He comes to us as a tiny, helpless infant. Then, he lives, grows, and ultimately dies on a cross for our sins, that He might rise again in newness of life, so that might rise with him and celebrate eternally in heaven. That's the challenge...life keeps moving, and we're called to keep growing with it. Growing, learning, moving, and becoming all that God has called us to be.

I ran across a quote recently from Pope Leo the Great in around the year 450. He said the purpose of Christmas was...

to give the human race a wondrous grace so that iniquity might return to the ways of innocence, old age to newness of life, strangers might be received by God as His children and without any claim be capable of entering into an inheritance, that the evil-living might begin to live righteously, the parsimonious become generous, the incontinent chaste, and the earthly might become heavenly-minded.

As we celebrate this Christmas, are we prepared really, to embrace the newborn king, to welcome that return to innocence, the return to newness of life, so that all on earth might, as Saint Leo the Great says, become heavenly-minded.

Happy Advent and Merry Christmas,
Fr Matt



SJG - ST JOHN GUALBERT
 ACH - ACTIVITIES CENTER HALL
 AC-SA; AC-OLM; AC-SJ
 ACT. CTR DOWNSTAIRS MEETING ROOMS NEXT TO GREEN
 AC-U - ACTIVITIES CTR UPSTAIRS ROOM
 RDR - RECTORY DINING ROOM

SPJ - ST PATRICK
 GR - GREEN ROOM
 REC - REC

January

Happy New Year
 2026



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
4 3rd and 4th SJGC & SPJ CLS Distribution of Chalk at all Masses 9AM Religious Ed.; Resurrection 6:30PM OCIA; AC-SJ	5 ----- Fr. Canice away on Retreat -----	6 6PM SJG Christian Life & Service; AC-SA 6PM Vocations Committee; AC-SJ	7 4:30PM SPJ Christian Life & Service; REC 6PM SPJ Liturgy; REC 7PM SJG Choir; Cathedral	8 3PM SJG Eucharistic Adoration; Shrine 6PM SJG Parish Council; AC-SA	9 5:30PM SPJ Epiphany Party; REC 6PM TOT- Benediction & Board Games; Shrine/AC-SJ	10 FRM away for the day. 12 Noon Public Rosary; Shrine
11 9AM Religious Ed.; Resurrection 12:15PM SJG Private Baptism; Cathedral 6:30PM OCIA; AC-SJ	12	13 7PM SPJ Maintenance; REC	14 FRM Birthday! 7PM SJG Choir; Cathedral	15 3PM SJG Eucharistic Adoration; Shrine 6PM SVdP Meeting; AC-SJ 6:30PM SJG TV Council; RDR	16	17
18 1PM SPJ Undecorate; Church 6PM OCIA; AC-SJ 6:15PM SJG Undecorate; Cathedral	19	20 5:30PM Catholic Daughters; AC-H 6:30PM SPJ Finance; REC	21 6PM SJG-SPJ-Turners Calendar Planning MTG; AC-H 7PM SJG Choir; Cathedral	22 3PM SJG Eucharistic Adoration; Shrine 6PM SJG Finance; RDR	23	24
25 9AM Religious Ed.; Resurrection 11AM Catholic Schools Week at Proclaim TV 6:30PM OCIA; AC-SJ	26 6PM Confirmation Planning MTG.; AC-H	27 6:30PM SJG Cemetery MTG; RDR	28 2PM Mass at Hilltop Heights for Residents 6PM Theology on Tap; Boulevard Grill 7PM SJG Choir; Cathedral	29 3PM SJG Eucharistic Adoration; Shrine 6PM SPJ Parish Council; REC	30	31

Advent



**Penance
Service**



**Monday, Dec 22
6 PM St. Patrick**

St. John Gualbert & St. Patrick Christmas

Wednesday, Dec 24

**St. John
4 PM (TV Mass)**

**St. Patrick
4 PM**

Thursday, Dec 25

**St John
Midnight
7AM**

**St. Patrick
9 AM**



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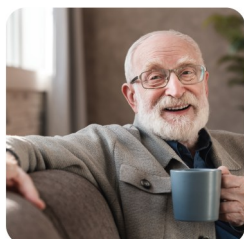
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