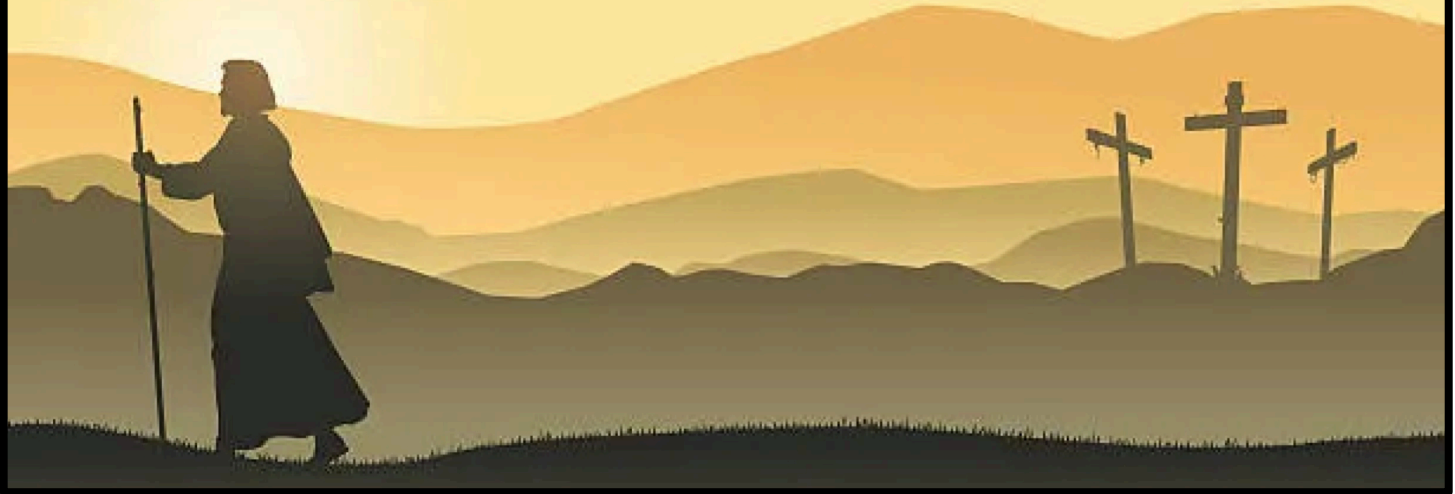


# May 17, 2026

## Seventh Sunday of Easter



### Saint John Gualbert Cathedral

PO Box 807 Johnstown, PA 15907-0807  
Office: 814-536-0117 <http://www.stjohngualbert.org>  
[johnstowncathedral@dioceseaj.org](mailto: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://stpatrickjtown.com>  
[stpatrickjtown@dioceseaj.org](mailto:stpatrickjtown@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 May 17, 2026



1st Reading:  
Acts 1:12-14

2nd Reading:  
1 Peter 4:13-16

Gospel:  
John 17:1-11a

## ST JOHN GUALBERT

### Saturday, May 16 Easter Weekday

8:00AM Joe, Ronnie, Catherine Kmetz  
(Catherine Kmetz Family)

### Vigil—7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

6:00PM Peter Yanko (Children and Grandchildren)

### Sunday May 17 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

7:00 AM John Michael O'Donnell *Death Anniversary*  
(Brothers Ed and Tud)

11:00 AM 105<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Court of Our Lady 647  
(Catholic Daughters of America)

5:00PM People of the Parish

### Monday, May 18th Easter Weekday

7:00 AM Corita Huffman (Family)  
12:05 PM **No Mass**

### Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup> Easter Weekday

7:00 AM Tom O'Niell (Rose Ann Schellhammer)  
12:05 PM Charles E Gojmerac (By Wife Rose Marie)

### Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> Easter Weekday

7:00 AM Joe, Ronnie, Catherine Kmetz and Ann Lubera  
(Catherine Kmetz Family)  
12:05 PM Virginia Amenti (MaryAnn & Audrey Yanko)

### Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup> Easter Weekday

7:00 AM **No Mass**  
12:05 PM Karen Heptner (Rick Tauber)

### Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> Easter Weekday

7:00 AM Helen and Paul Picklo (Albert Murin)  
12:00 PM William "Bill" Kmett (James Zabrosky)

### Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> Easter Weekday

8:00 AM Joann Kriss *BirthDay Day Remembrance*  
(The Leonard Family)

### Vigil— Pentecost Sunday

6:00PM Mike Aust (Kathy Aust)

### Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup> Pentecost Sunday

7:00 AM People of the Parish  
11:00 AM Larry M Gianotti *Death Anniversary* (Family)  
5:00 PM Charlen Tarnowsky *Death Anniversary*  
(John Bair)



May 18th at St. Peter in Chains Parish, behind the walls of  
SCI Somerset: St. Anne Society

## ST PATRICK

### Saturday, May 16th Vigil-7th Sunday of Easter

4:00 PM Mary Stofko (Family)

### Sunday, May 17th 7th Sunday of Easter

9:00 AM Travis Kutchma *BirthDay Remembrance* (Family)

### Tuesday, May 19th Easter Weekday

8:00AM Joseph Vasilko (Dave and Mary Jo Podraysky)

### Thursday, May 21st Easter Weekday

8:00 AM Paul and Maxine Kinley *Anniversary 5/16*  
(Connie and Ray Cassidy)

### Vigil- Pentecost Sunday

Saturday, May 23rd

4:00 PM James P. Kinley *Death Anniversary* (Wife Monica)

Sunday, May 24 Pentecost Sunday

9:00 AM Mafalda Mastrolembo (Susan Diamond)

## Parish Staff and Volunteers

Pastor: Very Rev. Matthew Baum [mbaum@dioceseaj.org](mailto:mbaum@dioceseaj.org)  
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Canice McMullen OSB [cmcmullen@dioceseaj.org](mailto:cmcmullen@dioceseaj.org)  
Deacon: Dcn Rick Messina [rmessina@dioceseaj.org](mailto:rmessina@dioceseaj.org)  
Finance: Gerald Foust [gfoust@dioceseaj.org](mailto:gfoust@dioceseaj.org)  
Cemetery: Kristen Caddy [kcaddy@dioceseaj.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.RachelsVineyard.org) -  
the world's largest ministry for healing after abortion.

Diocesan Family Life Office: 814-695-5579  
Diocesan Website: [www.dioceseaj.org](http://www.dioceseaj.org)

### Physical locations:

St. John Gualbert  
117 Clinton St.  
Johnstown PA 15901

St. Patrick Church  
609 Park Avenue  
Johnstown, PA 15902

# COLLECTIONS

| <b>Collection St. John Gualbert- 5/10/2026</b> |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| Weekly   | \$5,570.41        |
| Ascension                                      | 83.00             |
| Cemetery                                       | 10.00             |
| Communications Campaign                        | 25.00             |
| Maintenance                                    | 225.00            |
| Mother's Day                                   | 95.00             |
| Second Collection                              | 571.36            |
| SVdP   | 105.00            |
| Online Giving                                  | 385.00            |
| <b>Total</b>                                   | <b>\$7,069.77</b> |

| <b>Collection St. Patrick-5/10/2026</b> |                |
|---|----------------|
| Weekly                                  | \$3,232.00     |
| Mother's Day                            | 20.00          |
| Father's Day                            | 10.00          |
| Maintenance                             | 65.00          |
| Fuel and Air                            | 448.00         |
| Children's Envelopes                    | 17.00          |
| SVdP                                    | 15.00          |
| Ascension                               | 10.00          |
| Online Giving                           | 50.00          |
| <b>Total</b>                            | <b>\$3,867</b> |

## Stewardship Reflection May 17, 2026 – 7th Sunday of Easter

This week, we celebrated the great feast of the Ascension of our Lord, that glorious moment when Jesus, 40 days after His resurrection, was lifted up – quite literally – into heaven, as the apostles watched in stunned amazement. It must have been an extraordinary thing to witness.

But the apostles were not permitted to simply bask in the moment for very long. "While they were looking intently at the sky as he was going, suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood beside them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky?' In other words, 'Don't just stand there, do something!'

Let us take a moment to 'look up at the heavens' and ponder all the graces and blessings our loving God has given us. And then, let us do something! Let's put all those gifts to work as we serve as grateful witnesses to this amazing God

# Shared Parish Information:

**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:** Contact the church office, (814)536-0117 or johnstowncathedral@dioceseaj.org

**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.

**Homebound:** 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. 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.

**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.

|   |                                       |                      |
|---|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <br>Catholic Ministries<br>DRIVE | <b>Catholic Ministries Drive 2026</b> |                      |
|   | <i>(as of April 30, 2026)</i>         |                      |
| St. John Gualbert   | Goal: \$32,300.00                     | Receipts: \$7,209.00 |
| St. Patrick   | Goal: \$24,900.00                     | Receipts: \$6,877.00 |

**Keep in touch with us!**

TEXT SJGC TO 84576

OR CONNECT WITH US ONLINE AT:  
[stjohngualbert.flocknote.com](http://stjohngualbert.flocknote.com)



### Religious Education

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

Reminder for all those who are applying for Confirmation in the spring of 2027 your letter to your Pastor and Commitment to Discipleship form are due May 31st.

**Diocesan Family Conference** -SEPT. 19,2026 Bishop Carroll High School , Ebensburg. We are celebrating our 125th year as a diocese and this conference is our way to recognize the Diocesan Family of Altoona- Johnstown. This day is for young and old alike. Our keynote for the day is Steve Angrisano, and we will offer breakout sessions for adults on topics to meet the needs of all the faithful. For the youth, we will offer special opportunities based on age. Registration booklets and online registration booklets will be available at the end of May.

Come join the fun... **CAMP ZACCHAEUS - JULY 19-24, 2026:** For youth entering grades 4-9 in the fall of 2026 - Camp Z has Activities, Swimming, Hiking, A Nature Program, Gospel centered Activities, and much more!! The Camp is where faith, fun, and friendship meet the great outdoors! Registration brochures can be found in the back of Church ,and at Religious Education!!

### OCIA/Basics of Faith - 2026

Classes have concluded for the year, anyone interested in becoming Catholic and beginning RCIA should reach out to:

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

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

As for your conduct toward the poor, may you never take the attitude of merely getting the task done. You must show them affection; serving them from the heart; inquiring of them what they might need; speaking to them gently and compassionately.

The only way God dwells among us is to let go of ourselves and hand ourselves over to Jesus. On our own we would not be able to succeed; the good news is that we are not alone, but God dwells within us and gives us all we need to be faithful. These Sundays before Pentecost remind us that as disciples, we never have to feel like the whole task of living the gospel falls on our shoulders alone. God is always present, dwelling within us, to give us the strength we need to be faithful to Jesus' commands. Only in this way can our everyday lives be fruitful.

Anyone interested in joining the St. John conference is welcome to attend our next meeting which is held at the St. John Activity Center in the lower-level St. Joseph Room. Bring a friend and remember the organization is not for Catholics only.

· Thursday, May 21 at 6:00 PM

*Jesus, the Good Shepherd. You seek me when I wander, You welcome me home. I will not be afraid, for You are with me. Amen*

### Christian Life & Service At St John Gualbert

**Gift Card Sales:** Hoss's Gift Card Pre Sales will happen the weekends of May 16th and 17th, May 23rd & 24th. Gift cards are available for pre-order in increments of \$10, and a portion of each sale helps our parish. Pick up weekend for the cards that you order will be May 30th and May 31st. If you can't be here for pickup weekend, the cards will be held at the rectory for you.

-St. John Gualbert Christian Life & Service Members

### Christian Life & Service At St Patrick

**Flower Planting and Mulch Laying:** Come help us beautify our church grounds on May 27<sup>th</sup> at 4PM! We will be planting flowers, with a rain date of the following day, May 28<sup>th</sup> at 4PM. For more information, contact Charlotte Ecklund at (814) 341-8861. Anyone interested in helping lay mulch on the church grounds, please contact Dan Schofield at (814)792-5891.

**October Basket Party:** Although our annual Basket Party will not take place until October 2026, St. Pat's CLS Group is beginning our collection efforts early to help us better plan and prepare for one of our largest fundraisers of the year. Your early support allows us to organize, create, and build a successful event for our parish community. We are gratefully accepting donations now for:

Fully assembled baskets, Lottery tickets, Gift cards, company gift certificates, individual basket items such as religious items, holiday-themed items, specialty gifts and cash donations to help with purchase of basket items. Your donations can be dropped off at St Patrick's church in totes placed at the entrance. Every donation, large or small, helps support our fundraising efforts and is sincerely appreciated. Thank you for your continued generosity and for helping make our 2026 Basket Party a success! For any questions, please contact Lolly Kennedy at (814) 659-8717.

-St. Patrick Christian Life & Service Members

### 2026 Cemetery Ticket Daily Winners

| <u>Date</u>       | <u>Winning #</u> | <u>Winner</u>        | <u>Payout</u> |
|-------------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| <u>Sun, 5/3</u>   | 864              | Leonard Friendman Jr | \$50.00       |
| <u>Mon, 5/4</u>   | 312              | Sue Hall             | \$25.00       |
| <u>Tues, 5/5</u>  | 230              | Teresa Buterbaugh    | \$25.00       |
| <u>Wed, 5/6</u>   | 179              | UNSOLD               | \$25.00       |
| <u>Thurs, 5/7</u> | 684              | Ann Stanislawczyk    | \$25.00       |
| <u>Fri, 5/8</u>   | 396              | UNSOLD               | \$25.00       |
| <u>Sat, 5/9</u>   | 568              | Irene Ott            | \$50.00       |

#### OFFICIAL RULES AS STATED ON ALL TICKETS:

1. The winning number is based on the PICK 3 PA Lottery drawing at 7:00PM.
2. Sales are closed as of Dec. 31st, 2025 - any further unsold, outstanding tickets are NOT ELIGIBLE FOR PRIZE PAYOUTS.
3. If any unsold tickets win, the winner for that day will be determined by a drawing from all the sold tickets on 01/15/2027.
4. All winning numbers will be published in this box on the following Sunday's bulletin.
5. All checks will be available in the Sacristy the weekend after the drawing, if not picked up, checks will be mailed the following Monday.

# MINISTERS SCHEDULES:

## ST JOHN GUALBERT CATHEDRAL

### *Pentecost Sunday*

#### **Sat, May 23 6:00PM Mass**

|                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Reader               | Susan Kamnikar    |
| Reader               | Elizabeth Rhoades |
| Eucharistic Minister | Anthony Kamnikar  |
| Server               | Rich Ott          |
| Audio Operator       | Michael Stoskey   |
| Sacristan            | Rich Ott          |
| Cantor               |                   |

#### **Sun May 24, 7:00AM Mass**

|                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Reader               | Gloria Stephens       |
| Reader               | Fred Oliveros         |
| Eucharistic Minister | Melissa Gates         |
| Eucharistic Minister | Carmen Grasso         |
| Eucharistic Minister | Rose Ann Schellhammer |
| Server               | Hayden Gates          |
| Audio Operator       | Patrick McClain       |
| Sacristan            | Gloria Stephens       |
| Cantor               | Rose Eckenrod         |

#### **Sun May 24, 11:00AM Mass**

|                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Reader               | Geoffrey Stumpo     |
| Reader               | Mary Jane Verbiar   |
| Eucharistic Minister | Dcn Rick Messina    |
| Eucharistic Minister | Fr. Canice McMullen |
| Server               | E. Wills            |
| Server               | C. Wills            |
| Server               | J. Lavelly          |
| Audio Operator       | Kevin Slonka        |
| Sacristan            | Lonnie Rietscha     |
| Cantor               | Mark Schuster       |

#### **Sun, May 24, 5:00PM Mass**

|                      |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Reader               | Dixie Lochrie    |
| Reader               | Charlotte Amenti |
| Eucharistic Minister | Pat Loughlin     |
| Server               | B. Ascherl       |
| Server               | T. Ascherl       |
| Server               | Ryder Ascherl    |
| Audio Operator       | Evonne Yanzetich |
| Sacristan            | Charlotte Amenti |
| Cantor               | Namita Gallo     |

## ST PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

### *Pentecost Sunday*

#### **Sat May 23, 4:00PM Mass**

|                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Cantor               | Ed Herdman     |
| Server               | Harry Mangus   |
| Eucharistic Minister | Rick Maser     |
| Eucharistic Minister | Cindy Stofko   |
| Eucharistic Minister | Connie Cassidy |
| Sacristan            | Harry Mangus   |
| Reader               | Rick Maser     |

#### **Sun, May 24, 9:00AM Mass**

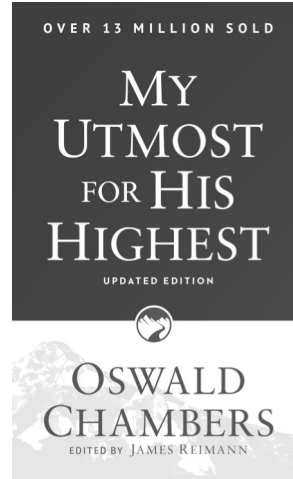
|                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Cantor               | Eric Ecklund    |
| Server               | Rita Redden     |
| Eucharistic Minister | Marge Sindleri  |
| Eucharistic Minister | Kevin Malloy    |
| Eucharistic Minister | Joyce Werner    |
| Sacristan            | Marianna Glover |
| Reader               | Kathy Getzey    |

If you are not available for your scheduled time, please reach out ASAP.

For Ministry scheduling questions contact:  
At SJG - Evonne Yanzetich - (814)659-6240  
At SPJ - Jean Arcurio - (814)241-9972

## Deacon Rick's Corner:

### **Book of the Week:**



### **Quote of the Week:**

"At His Ascension our Lord entered Heaven, and He keeps the door open for humanity to enter."  
-Oswald Chambers

## Fr. Canice's Thoughts:

Once again I would like to share with you a reflection from one of my favorite theologians, Christopher West, from his companion to Sunday readings, Word Made Flesh. This reflection beautifully states the significance of the Ascension of Jesus into Heaven which we celebrated this past Thursday.

The first reading marking the Ascension of the Lord, celebrated either forty days after Easter tells us that Jesus "was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight." In the psalm we respond, "God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blaze of trumpets for the Lord." But it's in the second reading, from Ephesians, that we see what this actually has to do with our own lives. Christ's bodily Ascension into heaven reveals "the hope that belongs to his call!" The hope is this: the humanity that we all share has entered eternal bliss, body and soul, and this means we now "have confidence that we too shall go where "Christ has preceded us" (CCC 661). The Church is so often accused of "demonizing" the body. This is not so!

Demons demonize the body and then blame the Church for their dirty work. Through the bodily Ascension of Christ into heaven, the Church proclaims the "divinization" of the body. Christ's bodily Ascension into heaven indicates "the irreversible entry of his humanity into divine glory" (CCC 659). That is where following Christ leads. "May the eyes of our hearts be enlightened" as St. Paul exhorts us in the second reading, that we may know "what are the riches of glory" that await us as followers of the Lord.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR BOTH PARISHES

**Annual Parish Picnic!** Join us for the Annual St. John's & St. Patrick's Parish Picnic following the 4:00 p.m. Mass on June 6! The picnic will be held under the tents outside in St. Pat's Church parking lot. Come enjoy good food, fellowship, and time together as our parish communities celebrate this annual tradition. If you have a favorite dessert, please bring and share with everyone! We hope to see you there! Sign-ups to help with the picnic are in the entrance of the churches.

## St. John Gualbert

### Current Events:

- +++++
- 5/16 and 5/17 SJG CLS Hoss's Gift Card Presale
  - 5/16 and 5/17 Second Collection : Catholic Communication
  - 5/16 CDA Anniversary Celebration Setup; AC-H
  - 5/17 CDA Anniversary Celebration; AC-H
  - 5/18 6:30 PM Adult Faith Formation; AC-H
  - 5/19 Election Day- AC-H
  - 5/20 7PM SJG Choir; Church
  - 5/21 3PM Eucharistic Adoration; Shrine
  - 5/21 6PM SvdP Meeting; AC-SJ
  - 5/23 1PM Christ Life Core Team Meeting #2; AC-SJ
  - 5/23 and 5/24 SJG CLS Hoss's Gift Card Presale
  - 5/24 11 AM Widow and Widowers Mass; Church

## St. Patrick Church

### Current Events:

- +++++
- 5/16 and 5/17 Second Collection : Catholic Communication
  - 5/18 6:30PM Adult Faith Formation; AC-H
  - 5/19 8AM SPJ CLS Sight and Sound Trip
  - 5/19 Election Day- REC

### \*\*\*\*\* Around the Area\*\*\*\*\*

#### **Mass for Widows and Widowers to be Televised**

Remember your loved ones on Sunday, May 24, 2026 with a televised Mass Celebrated by Bishop Mark Bartchak at 11:00 am on WATM ABC 23. All spouses will be acknowledged and remembered at the Mass. All persons who have lost a spouse through death throughout the Altoona- Johnstown Diocese are invited to register by contacting the Family Life Office 814-317-2643 or email [familylife@dioceseaj.org](mailto:familylife@dioceseaj.org). When registering, please give your name, address, phone number and the name of your spouse who has passed away. The last day to register is Thursday, May 21, 2026. The event is sponsored by the Diocesan Family Life Office and the Catholic Ministries Drive.

#### **Steak Dinner Save the Date:**

The Church of the Transfiguration in Conemaugh will be hosting a Swiss Steak Dinner on May 17th from 11 AM—2:00 PM. Eat in or take out, cost is \$15. The menu includes Swiss Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Salad with Roll and Dessert !

#### **Young Adult Cookout & Social**

Looking to meet new people and make real connections? Railroad City Catholics invites all young adults ages 21–35 to a Cookout & Social at the Catholic War Vets in Altoona, 290 Valley Ave. Friday, May 22nd at 6:30pm. Whether you're looking to get competitive with a game of ultimate frisbee, volleyball, or cornhole, or just want to relax by the fire with some s'mores, there's a spot for you. Burgers, hot dogs, and refreshments provided.

#### **All Saints Bingo:**

All Saints Parish in Boswell hosts Bingo Nights every 2nd and Last Saturday each month at the All Saint Lyceum Building at 332 Stonycreek Street in Boswell! Doors Open at 5:00 PM, Early Bird Bingo begins at 6:30 PM, and regular games start at 7:00 PM. Join a fun night of Bingo, great company, and the chance to win! All the proceeds benefit the high school religious education students' pilgrimage to Europe!

#### **Music Bingo Night :**

Visitation Parish will be having music bingo night with DJ Tom Hoover on Saturday, June 6th at Visitation school gymnasium, with doors opening @ 5:15 PM and first round of bingo @ 6:30 PM. The cost is \$25.00 which includes dinner and non-alcoholic beverage; 1 card per game and additional cards available for purchase, and cash prizes awarded throughout the night. Tickets will be sold in advance! Reserving a table of 8 is an additional \$10.00. Also available for purchase will be: 50/50, chances on baskets, qualifiers, cash bar, \$10 beer bracelets.call Debbie Magro at (814) 536-3426 or(814) 243-9028 to purchase tickets. We hope to see you there!

#### **Local Church Basket Party:**

As we may remember, two and a half years ago, The Pleasant Hill Baptist Church was lost to fire. As the church community looks to rebuild, they will be host a Basket Party Fundraiser on Saturday, June 20, 2026 at the St. John Gualbert Activity Center, at 110 Adams St. Admission is \$10 dollars and additional basket party tickets, along with food will also be available. Some out, take chance, and support a great cause!

## PUBLIC ROSARY

*In Honor of Our Lady of Fatima*



**Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup>**  
**6:30 PM**  
**ST. CLEMENT CHURCH**

## From the Pastor:

There's an old saying, "If you want to make God laugh, tell him your future plans!" When I was a young high school kid looking out at the possibility of Seminary, I don't think I could have imagined someday that I would find myself standing on the front steps of a Church praying for the victims of a recent shooting and realizing that this is exactly where God is calling me to be right now.

I want to thank everyone who showed up last week for our Prayer Walk and Candle Light Vigil at St Patrick's and through Moxham. It really was a wonderful event in so many ways. When Mayor Sylvia called me, I suggested a prayer vigil. She suggested a walk, so we agreed to do both. I was a little skeptical going in about the idea of going door to door, knocking on doors, and talking to neighbors. That isn't exactly something we're used to doing as Catholics, and the group of 7 or so of us that walked Coleman Avenue shared that apprehension. Yet, when we started, at each house, one of the ladies would say, "Oh, I know the people who live here." and at another house, after knocking, another lady would say, "We're just saying hello to the neighbors as part of our walk, and I remember the couple that used to live here years ago." While there were a few people who simply said, "Hello, have a nice day" and closed the door, no one was rude, and we weren't really asking for anything other than to say hello. So many people simply said "Thank you for walking and saying hello." Others wanted to talk and wanted to pray with us. It made me realize some of what it must have been like for our Lord and the disciples going from town to town and village to village sharing the Word.

As we shared in someone else's plan for the walk and found quite a bit of grace, when it came time for the candlelight vigil, we couldn't have asked for anything nicer. There was a reasonable crowd, who all participated, and yet it was pleasantly mixed. There were local residents, people from other Church, many many elected officials and representatives, and our own local parishioners. Deacon even teased me a little that I don't usually have interactive homilies, as someone would occasionally interject "Amen!" or "Preach it Brother." It was a beautiful experience to share the story of our Patron of the Cathedral, St John Gualbert at St Patrick's with a crowd from the city, many of whom had never seen inside a Catholic Church before, had never met a Catholic Priest or deacon, and had certainly never heard John's story. Yet somehow it seemed almost divinely inspired to be celebrating a candlelight vigil after multiple murders with the manhunt still going on, and share the story of a Saint, who's brother was murdered and at the very moment when he encountered the perpetrator, God's grace changed his life forever. If I had looked through volumes of stories of the saints, I could not have found a story more appropriate than the story of our own Patron.

This is what real evangelization really looks like. Ordinary people talking to ordinary people, sharing grace. Inviting people to "come and see" and then sharing out of the incredible deposit of faith we have as Catholics, stories of saints, real people, who have lived in real situations, and

yet Jesus Christ worked through and spoke through them. So let me say thank you to everyone who helped in any way with that service and thank you everyone who attended. I hope that through all that we do in both of our parishes we can work together to cooperate with God's grace in sharing the good news even in the darkest of places.

## Catholic Daughters and our history

Yet, not every place is dark, we have some wonderful bright spots in our parish and world as well. This weekend, we congratulate our Catholic Daughters as our local court celebrates an amazing anniversary. This year marks 105 years of Catholic Daughters in Johnstown, and 105 years here at St John Gualbert Parish. The 1920s must have been an incredible time in this parish. The Catholic Daughters began in 1921, the St Anne Society began in 1923, the Church was growing in incredible ways and sharing the good news. Every community has it's seasons of ups and downs, but I think seeing the history of St John's and realizing that we are celebrating 191 years as a parish, we survived three floods, we're now occupying our third Church building and the one we're in is 131 years old, and we're celebrating the 105th anniversary of a parish organization. If we have weathered all those years as a community, and even now we're slowly growing. Just in the last few weeks since Easter, already we have nine different families inquiring about becoming Catholic, and we have so many other good things happening right here. Both of our parishes have served as lights in the darkness many times before, and I pray we will continue to be those lights into the future, always working to reflect the light of Christ.

## Widow & Widowers

Finally, next weekend, I hope you will join me in welcoming back our Bishop as he celebrates our annual mass for widows and widowers. One of the great blessings of our TV Mass is that so many people who are unable to come to mass in person are able to feel connected. Many of those homebound, as well as many others, have had the sad duty of burying a spouse. For most it is almost like losing a part of yourself. So we stand together and pray next weekend as we celebrate our mass for widows and widowers, standing with all those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

But above all, I'm grateful to be with you and be your pastor, please keep me in your prayers as we walk through all of these adventures together. In this, I'm reminded of GK Chesterton's line, "The Christian life has not been tried and found wanting, but more often found difficult and left untried." Join me in trying to keep our faith and hope alive, even when it's difficult.

God Bless You All,

Fr Matt



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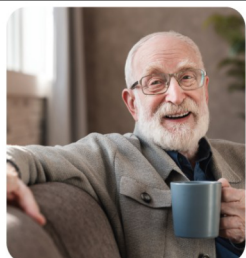
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