

MASSES FOR THE WEEK December 31 2023
Feast Of The Holy Family Of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Please note that all daily masses will be held in the chapel unless otherwise noted. In the event of a funeral mass there will be NO (8:00 AM) daily mass.

Solemnity Of Mary The Holy Mother Of God:

Sunday 7:00 PM: Margaret Lynch

By: Mary Ellen & Patty

Monday 10:30 AM: Ida Mae (Weimer) Straub (B'day)

By: The Restly Family Reunion

Tuesday 7:00 PM: NO MASS

Wednesday 8:00 AM: Ronald Castillo

By: Dorothy Castillo

Thursday 8:00 AM: Eddie Wolfhope

By: Mary Grace Imgrund

Friday 8:00 AM: Edward Will (Anniv)

By: Greg Will and Family

Friday 7:00 PM: EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Solemnity Of The Epiphany Of The Lord:

Saturday 6:00 PM: Irma Plush & Kay Boyer and Families

By: St. Patrick Men's Contemplative Prayer Group

Sunday 8:00 AM: Thelma Hillegass

By: Paul Fochtman

Sunday 10:30 AM: Joel Thomas Easter

By: The Diehl Family

Sanctuary Candle: For Peace

St. Peregrine Candle: Cindy (Miller) Bearer

By: Patti Hankinson and Family

Mass Readings for the Week:

- Monday:** Octave Day Of The Nativity Of The Lord
Solemnity Of Mary, The Holy Mother Of God
Numbers 6:22-27/PS Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8/Galatians 4:4-7/Luke 2:16-21
- Tuesday:** Memorial Of SS. Basil The Great And Gregory Nazianzen,
Bishops And Doctors Of The Church
1 John 2:22-28/PS Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/John 1:19-28
Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13/PS Psalm 23:1/Matthew 23:8-12
- Wednesday:** Optional Memorial Of The Most Holy Name Of Jesus
1 John 2:29-3:6/PS Psalm 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/John 1:29-34
Philippians 2:1-11/PS Psalm 8:2ab/Luke 2:21-24
- Thursday:** Memorial Of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
1 John 3:7-10/PS Psalm 98:1, 7-8, 9 (R/3cd)/John 1:35-42
Deuteronomy 10:8-9 (737-4)/PS Psalm 128 (739-8)/Matthew 11:25-30 (742-4)
- Friday:** Memorial Of St. John Neumann, Bishop
1 John 3:11-21/PS Psalm 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 and John 1:43-51
Isaiah 6:1-8 (719-4)/PS Psalm 89:2 (721-4)/Matthew 28:16-20 (724-4)
- Saturday :** Optional Memorial Of St. Andre Bessette, Religious
1 John 5:5-13/PS Psalm 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Mark 1:7-11 or Luke 3:23-38 or 3:23, 31-34
36, 38/ 1 Kings 19:4-9a, 11-15a (737-5)/PS Psalm 128 (739-8)/ Luke 9:57-62 (742-19)
- Sunday:** Solemnity Of The Epiphany Of The Lord
Isaiah 60:1-6/PS Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (R/cf.11)/Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6
Matthew 2:1-12

St John The Baptist Catholic Church

Box 10 New Baltimore, PA 15553 Phone: 733-2210 Hall: 733-4113

Email: dwambaugh@dioceseaj.org

Website: <https://newbaltimorecatholic.com/>

Fr. Mark Pattock, OFMcap

Pastor

Fr. Roman Kozacheson, OFMcap-

In residence

Fr. Stephen Shin, OFMcap

In residence-Pastor of Ss. Philip & James, Meyersdale & St. Gregory, MacDonaldton

Br. Stephen Wright OFMcap

In Residence

Sacramental Emergencies: 724-272-5474

Mass Schedule:

Mon: 8:00 AM Tues: 7:00 PM

Wed - Fri: 8:00 AM Sat: 6:00 PM (Vigil)

Sun: 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Secretary Office Hours:

Mon :8:00 AM-1:00PM

Wed :8:00 AM-1:00PM

Thurs :8:00 AM-3:00 PM

Fri :8:00AM -1:00 PM

Baptism: Arrange in advance for pre-baptismal instructions.

Confessions: Saturday 5:00 – 5:45 PM

Holy Communion:

Low Gluten hosts will be available for anyone with a low gluten tolerance. If you have a low gluten tolerance, please tell the priest before mass so a low gluten host can be placed in a pyx for you.

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

Rosary: Saturday Evenings beginning at 5:25 PM

Parish Mission Statement

St. John the Baptist Parish is a Catholic Christian Community centered in rural New Baltimore, Pennsylvania. As members of the Body of Christ, we seek to live as entrusted stewards using God's gifts responsibly, intelligently, prudently, and gratefully to bring about His kingdom. As stewards of our time, talents, possessions, and faith, we are called to put our lives in proper focus and to live in accord with one another giving love and caring support, to accept Christ's challenge as related in the Gospels- to serve one another.



St. John's News & Upcoming Events:

Feast Of The Holy Family Of Jesus, Mary And Joseph



Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph:

On this Sunday we honor the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, but there is another holy family to consider, one that we are all part of: **the Church**. After all, Jesus tells us, "Whoever does the will of my heavenly Father is my brother, and sister, and mother." We are called to treat our neighbor with that same compassion, kindness and patience. No matter which sense of family we are speaking of, we are called to bear with one another, forgive one another and put on love above all! This feast day is a reminder to us of the example Mary and Joseph set for all of us in welcoming Jesus into their lives. The Holy Family serves as a model for us all in which to live in faith and simplicity.

A Big Day for Families

Sunday December 31st is a very special day for families. Sunday is the feast of the Holy Family. We read in the gospel about the day Mary and Joseph took Jesus to the Temple and offered him to God. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph were a family just like you and your parents. Jesus learned from Mary and Joseph, and grew wise, loving and good. You can learn from your parents to live and love as Jesus did. **This is truly a happy family day!**

Prayer to the Holy Family:

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, bless us and grant us the grace to love the Church as we ought, above every other thing, and always to show forth our love by deeds. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, bless us and grant us the grace to profess openly as we ought the faith given to us in Baptism, without fear or human respect. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, bless us and grant us the grace to share in the defense and propagation of the Faith whether by word or by the sacrifice of our fortunes and our lives. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, bless us and grant us the grace to love one another, and to live together in perfect harmony of thought, will and action, under the rule and guidance of our pastors. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, bless us and grant us the grace to conform our lives to the precepts of God and of the Church, so as to live always in that charity which they set forth. Amen

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God:

This year, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, on Monday, January 1, 2024, is **Not** a Holy Day of Obligation in the Catholic Church. However, please consider joining us for Mass on **Sunday Dec 31st at 7:00 PM and Jan 1st at 10:30 AM**. Please come celebrate Mary's unwavering faith and trust in God! "When that particular Solemnity falls on a Sunday or Monday, the obligation to attend Mass is abrogated," DeGol explained. "Catholics, of course, should fulfill the normal Sunday obligation on December 30-31 when the Church will celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. They are welcome to attend Mass on January 1 to honor the Blessed Mother, but they are not obligated to do so



Holy Hour:

The Capuchin Franciscan Friars invite you to Adoration of Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament on **Friday January 5th from 7-7:45 pm** in the Church. Please come to adore Jesus truly present in the Blessed Sacrament

The Word Among Us:

Be sure to get your **FREE** copy of the **Word Among Us** for the **months of January and February** on the table in the back of Church. The **Word Among Us** magazine offers daily meditations based on the Mass readings of the Catholic Church, inspirational essays, stories of the saints and more!

Offertory Envelopes: The 2024 Offertory Envelopes can now be picked up in the church basement.

Empty Egg Cartons Needed:

Harry Fochtman a parishioner is looking for empty egg carton containers and is asking the parish for our help. If anyone has any empty egg cartons they wish to give please place them in the back of the Church in the Food Pantry Bins or in the plastic bags provided. Thank You for your generosity!

PRAYER LIST

Abby Barnes, Debbie Brady, Cindy (Miller) Bearer, Fr. Mark Begly, Jane Beyer, Ed Boyer, Tonya Brown, Mark Bruck, Carol Burcaw, Macy Burke, Doug Burkett, Kara Bussard, Randy Clites, Denis Crum, Andrew Davenport, Sara Davenport, Michael Davis, Larry DeArmitt, Thomas DeArmitt, Joyce Dively, Tara Dively, Lisa Easter, George Faidley III, Tabitha Flick, Bradley Fochtman, Harry Fochtman, Myrna Fries, Debbie Foor, Carol Ann Gallagher, Jarrett Gowatty, Paisley Goetzl, Donald Grasser, Helen Greenway, Kelsey Grove, Grayson Gumbert, Pam Habinyak, Sam Hall, Ron Hagens, Eugene Hankinson, Phyllis Harris, Mary Jo Harrington, Elizabeth, Ken & Kennaley Heider, Sandra Herzing, George Hickey, Ida Mae Hillegass, Missy Hillegass, Tara Hillegass, Todd Hillegass, David Hinson, Amy Jo Hoffman, Phyllis Hoppert, Tina Hoover, Ernest Imgrund, Mary Janachovski, Pam Kach, Martha (Lewis) Kalbach, Matt Karns, David Krieie, Fr. Robert Kaylor, Todd Kline, Jerry Kochinski, Virginia Lambert, Teresa Lamens, Tim Landis, Kelly Legarski, Bruce Leonard, Linda Leonard, Carol Leppert, Gordon Leppert, Katie Lewis, Barry Leydig, Barlow Luhn, Don Lynch, John Lynch, Jane McGregor, Toots Maddy, Martha Marker, Justin Martin, Tim Martin, George Maser, Declan McCahan, Tony and Janet Miele, Micki McCahan, Linda McCahan, Shirley McVicker, Virginia Meslovich, Betty Meslovich, Terry Metevier, Mary Meyers, Erica Miller, Ray & June Miller, Tara Miller, Mike Montreal, Reed Morgan, Tracey Mowry, Bonnie Murphy, Doug Murphy, Kai Musselman, John Myers, Ashley Nail, Eugene Nickelow, Charlene Norris, Laird Ober, James O'Bryon, Shannon Plush, Michael Price, Fr. Gavin Quinn, Sabina Restly, Cindy Robb, Katherine Rosenbaum, Nancy Schrock, Roberta & Steve Sontus, Barb Sarver, Paula Saunders, Shirley Sechler, Greg Seeley, Jordon Seville, Rodney Shaffer, Sandra Shaffer, Terry Shaffer, Harold Shannon, Tom Shippy, Daniel Smith, Eddie Smith, JoAnne Smith, Marie Smith, Merdith Speicher, Michelle Speicher, Margaret Ann Stevens, Tommy Stiffler, Pat Stoe, Jim Suhrie, Leo Suhrie, Toni Suhrie, Gary Tataleba, Carol Taylor, Mary Jane Thomas, Michael Valentine, Gail Wade, Anna Lee Wambaugh, Tom Warren, Jr., Aaron Weiss, Bonnie Welsh, Dee Werline, Bob & Mereada Werner, John & Doris Werner, Christina Whetstone, Logan Weyand, Charlotte Will, George Will, Jan Will, Pat Will, Tracy Williams, Larry & Alice Winegardner, Nicholas Winegardner, Angie Wolfhope, Ron Wolfhope, Steve Wolfhope, John Wolfhope, Shirley Varchetti, Fr. Allen Zeth

If you added a person's name to the prayer list and they have since recovered, please call to remove their name from our prayer list.

OFFERTORY

Sunday Loose: \$365.00	Sunday Adults: \$2286.00	Total Sunday: \$2651.00
Christmas Loose \$1582.00	Christmas Adults: \$5097.00	Total Christmas: \$6679.00
Christmas Flowers: \$5.00		

We're always collecting non-perishable food items for our local foodbanks. Items can be placed in the bins in the back of church.

Feast of the Holy Family - A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar:

The gospel today shows Mary and Joseph weren't 'perfect' parents. If you have ever been 'amazed' and 'astonished' at what came out of your child's mouth, then you are in good company. If there were times you 'didn't understand' your children or felt 'anxious' about their behavior so did Mary and Joseph. Parenting is tough but it is also the stuff of holiness.

The Pope's Prayer Intention For January:

For The Gift Of Diversity In The Church

Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.



WE LOVE HAVING YOU AS PART OF OUR FLOCK. Keep in touch with us via email and text. Just simply Text **BALTIMORE** to **84576** Or Connect with Us Online At: **newbaltimorecath.flocknote.com**

IMPORTANT PLEASE READ - CCD RETREAT INFORMATION:

All **Diocesan Required Retreats** for our **9th, 10th and 11th grade students** will be held virtually this year. All Students are required to attend these retreats as part of the formation process for confirmation. Please review dates of the actual retreat and the deadlines to register by with the parish office.

Virtual Confirmation Retreat Discipleship (5 Zoom Sessions)
11th Grade Students Only
Sunday, Wednesday, Sunday Wednesday 8:00pm, Sunday 7:00 PM
February 18, 21, 25, 28, and March 4 Register at parish office no later than Friday January 29 2024
March 10, 13, 17, 20, 24 Register at parish office no later than Monday February 19 2024
Explore the role of the Disciple and the connection of Baptism and Confirmation through the reflection on the baptismal prayer of being anointed to be priest, prophet and king. Emphasis is made on the springboard of moving forward in one's faith journey of being a priest, a prophet, and a king in our church and culture today. There are three opportunities to choose from.

Final registration needs to be sent from the parish office at least **2 weeks** before retreat begins to Sr. Suzanne Thiabult. There is no cost to the student as it will be covered by the parish. All retreats are conducted via Zoom by Sr. Suzanne Thibault of Bethany Youth Retreat Center. Sr. Suzanne Thibault has been presenting youth retreats since 1986. She is best known for the ability to engage students and adults on retreat. The Virtual Retreat format includes live presentations on the Zoom Platform. Each session is 30-45 minutes in length and includes breakout rooms with small group sharing. Each session is followed with discussion and reflection work for the student and sponsor to take a deeper look into the presented material. The reflection work is returned to the presenter before the next zoom session. Make Up Sessions Must Be Arranged by the Candidate directly with Sr. Suzanne. This Virtual Retreat would be presented in as an 8-10 hour in-person retreat with large group, small group and one-on-one sharing between student and sponsor. For more information or questions please contact Sr. Suzanne at the Bethany Youth Retreat Center: Bethanyyouthcenter@gmail.com or srsuzanneth@bethanyministries.org or by phone at (814) 263-4177.

Religious Education Update:
There will be **No** Religious Education Classes this **Sunday December 31st**. All classes will **resume next Sunday January 07, 2024**



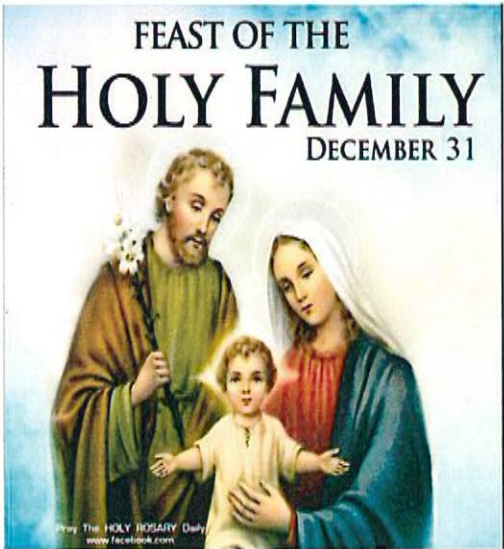
From all the Friars and Staff here at St. John's we want to wish you and your family a **HAPPY, SAFE AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR!**

Diocesan News & Upcoming Events:

Echoes of a Polish Christmas :
All Saints Parish in Boswell (Somerset County) will host their annual singing of Polish Christmas Carols (known as Kolędy or Pastoralki) on **Sunday, January 7th, at 2:00 PM** at the church (325 Quemahoning Street, Boswell). The hymns will be sung by their Polish choir. Following the singing of hymns by the parish's Polish choir, there will be benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and 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 the time-honored hymns celebrating the birth of Christ. For more information please call the parish office at 814-629-5551.

Healing Mass:
Holy Spirit Ministry will hold a special Healing Mass on **Tuesday January 9, 2024, at 7 pm**, at St. Michael Church, Hollidaysburg. This powerful night of hope and healing is for all who are suffering physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Fr. Brad Baldwin TOR will be the main celebrant. Praise and worship will precede the Mass at 6:30 pm and prayer ministry will follow the Mass. If you are suffering physically, or from an addiction, or hurting or struggling in anyway, come and experience the healing power of Jesus and be set free! All are welcome!

Stewardship Reflection For Sunday December 31, 2023- Feast of the Holy Family
Today we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. They are a model for all families! And just as the Holy Family is holy, our families too are called to be holy. This may seem like a daunting task at times! Yet, as Christian stewards we know that this holiness is achievable by living as disciples of Christ. Our Gospel today says a great deal about trust and surrender to our Lord – two trademark words of a steward. As the Holy Family brought the infant Jesus to the temple, they encountered two key individuals, Simeon and Anna. Upon seeing the Infant, both praised the Lord, rejoiced in the coming of their Savior and prophesized about what was to come. It says, “the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was said about him.” We can imagine that two parents would be taken aback by these words! Yet, through all of this, the Holy Family surrendered their lives to God and had unwavering faith and trust in His plan. Thankfully, they did, because the fulfillment of this plan meant the salvation for man! Believe it or not, God has a plan for our lives too. Oftentimes, we get in the way of what He has in store for us. Although our plan might be ‘good’, God’s plan is great and will fulfill our hearts more than we could ever have imagined. Like the Holy Family, we just need to trust, surrender and be attentive to God’s voice. As we celebrate this Christmas season with joy and gladness for our Savior, let us deepen our commitment to Him through the love and service we give our family members, and the trust and surrender we place in God to take care of us each day.



A Plenary Indulgence is Available with Visits to Certain Parishes this Christmas:

Although the welcome mat is out at all parishes in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown this Christmas season, there is a special incentive for local Catholics to visit a parish that is under the ministry of a Franciscan priest. In celebration of the 800th anniversary of Saint Francis of Assisi creating the first Nativity scene in Greccio, Italy, which included live animals and people recreating the humble, yet magnificent birth of Christ, Catholics who visit a Franciscan parish and pray before the Nativity scene in that church can receive a plenary indulgence. This indulgence was approved by the Apostolic Penitentiary at the direction of Pope Francis. The indulgence, which is a remission of the temporal punishment for sins, is available until February 2, 2024 — the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. Besides visiting the church and praying before the Nativity, one must, as usual, celebrate the Sacraments of Eucharist and Reconciliation and pray for the Pope's intentions. Those who are ill or otherwise physically unable to visit a church during this time may receive an indulgence by offering their sufferings to the Lord and through prayer. Among the parishes in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown blessed by Franciscan ministry and presence, and therefore appropriate locations to visit to receive the indulgence, are Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Holy Rosary, and Saint Mark in Altoona, Saint Francis of Assisi, Saint Anne, and Saint Therese of the Child Jesus in Johnstown, Holy Family in Colver, Saint Anne in Davidsville, Saint Gregory in MacDonaldton, Saints Philip and James in Meyersdale, Saint John Vianney in Mundys Corner, Saint John the Baptist in New Baltimore, Saints Peter and Paul in Philipsburg, Holy Family in Portage, Saint Michael in St. Michael, and Saint Anthony of Padua in Windber. "As the Franciscan family celebrating the centenary of the Christmas at Greccio, we are invited to pause before the mystery of the Incarnation in order to contemplate the depth of God's love for humanity," noted Father Christopher Panagoplos, TOR, one of many Franciscan priests serving in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown. "Let us raise our awareness of daily life, with all its joys and difficulties, as a privileged place of encounter with the Lord."



Did You Know? In its present form the custom of displaying figures depicting the birth of Jesus Christ owes its origin to St. Francis of Assisi, who made the Christmas crèche or manger for Christmas Eve of 1223.

Prayer for the New Year

On New Year's Eve or New Year's Day, the household gathers at the table or at the Christmas tree or manger scene. Many people make New Year's Day a day of prayer for peace.

All make the sign of the cross. The leader begins:

Let us praise the Lord of days and seasons and years, saying:
Glory to God in the highest!
R/. And peace to his people on earth!

The leader may use these or similar words to introduce the blessing:

Our lives are made of days and nights, of seasons and years, for we are part of a universe of suns and moons and planets. We mark ends and we make beginnings and, in all, we praise God for the grace and mercy that fill our days.

Then the Scripture is read, Book of Genesis 1:14-19:

Listen to the words of the Book of Genesis:
God said: "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky, to separate day from night. Let them mark the fixed times, the days and the years, and serve as luminaries in the dome of the sky, to shed light upon the earth." And so it happened: God made the two great lights, the greater one to govern the day, and the lesser one to govern the night; and he made the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky, to shed light upon the earth, to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the

darkness. God saw how good it was. Evening came, and morning followed—the fourth day.

(The family's Bible may be used for an alternate reading such as Psalm 90:1-4.)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
R/. Thanks be to God.

After a time of silence, members of the household offer prayers of thanksgiving for the past year, and of intercession for the year to come. On January 1, it may be appropriate to conclude these prayers with the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary (in Part VII: Litanies) since this is the solemn feast of Mary, Mother of God. In conclusion, all join hands for the Lord's Prayer. Then the leader continues:

Let us now pray for God's blessing in the new year.

After a short silence, parents may place their hands on their children in blessing as the leader says:

Remember us, O God;
from age to age be our comforter.
You have given us the wonder of time,
blessings in days and nights, seasons and years.
Bless your children at the turning of the year
and fill the months ahead with the bright hope
that is ours in the coming of Christ.
You are our God, living and reigning, forever
and ever.
R/. Amen.