

# SACRED HEART CHURCH ♥ SAINT MARY CHURCH



## ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA 16602

**Sacred Heart Rectory: 511 20TH STREET**  
**Telephone: 814-943-8553**  
**Fax: 814-943-1556**

**Sacred Heart Email: [sacredheartaltoona@dioceseaj.org](mailto:sacredheartaltoona@dioceseaj.org)**  
**Website: [www.sacredheartaltoona.org](http://www.sacredheartaltoona.org)**  
**Sacred Heart Formation Center: 814-944-3922**  
**Sacred Heart Food Pantry: 814-943-4529**

**Saint Mary Rectory: 1401 5TH AVENUE**  
**Telephone: 814-942-2416**  
**FAX: 814-944-5049**

**Saint Mary Email: [stmaryaltoona@dioceseaj.org](mailto:stmaryaltoona@dioceseaj.org)**  
**Website: <http://stmaryschurchaltoona.wixsite.com/saintmarys>**

### DIRECTORY OF PARISH STAFF

Rev. Lubomír J. Strečok, Pastor of Sacred Heart and Administrator of Saint Mary

Kellie Rivera, Sacred Heart Parish Secretary  
Joel Caracciolo, Sacred Heart Parish Council Chairperson  
James Rokosky Sacred Heart Finance Council Chairperson  
Judy Wahl, Sacred Heart Director of Religious Education  
Patrick Dorman, Sacred Heart Choir Director

Anita Wavrek, Saint Mary Parish Secretary  
Joseph Eckels, Saint Mary Finance Council Chairperson  
Debbie Bartley, Saint Mary Director of Religious Education  
Jim Mock, Saint Mary Director of Christian Initiation  
Terry Carnicella, Saint Mary Choir Director

Terry Carnicella, Jean Ann Mitchell, Karen Koehle, Mary Villani, Organists

### CELEBRATIONS OF THE EUCHARIST

Saturday Vigil Masses: **4:00 p.m.** (Saint Mary) **5:30 p.m.** (Sacred Heart)  
Sunday Masses: **8:00 a.m.** (Saint Mary) **10:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon** (Sacred Heart)  
Weekday Masses: Monday-Friday: **7:45 a.m.** (Sacred Heart)

### CELEBRATIONS OF THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confessions)

Saturday: 12:30 p.m. (Sacred Heart)  
Saturday: 3:00 p.m. (Saint Mary)  
or by appointment

**SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** You are encouraged to notify the rectory as soon as there is a serious illness. You are also asked to notify the rectory when a relative is admitted to a hospital or nursing home.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:** The Sacrament of Baptism for Infants normally takes place during a weekend celebration of the Eucharist or on Sundays at 1:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart or 9:00 a.m. at Saint Mary. For the baptism of their first child, parents are expected to attend a baptismal session with Fr. Lubomír. Please call the rectory office for an appointment. Godparents for infants must be at least 16 years of age, confirmed, and regularly practicing the faith with a freedom to receive the Eucharist. Sponsor certificate for Godparents is necessary and can be obtained from their parish office of their current Church of registration.

**CHRISTIAN INITIATION:** Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Catholic Church should contact a member of the parish staff.

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY MATRIMONY:** Please call the Pastor/Administrator nine months in advance to make arrangements for instruction and planning the marriage ceremony.

**FOOD PANTRY:** The Sacred Heart Food Pantry will be open on Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. until 1:45 p.m.

**REGISTRATION OF PARISHIONERS:** We are always happy to welcome new parishioners to Sacred Heart Parish and Saint Mary Parish. Please introduce yourself to a member of the parish staff and register at the rectory. Registration, the practice of stewardship, and regular participation in the Eucharist indicate that a person is an active member of the parish and is eligible to act as a godparent or 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.

**MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, April 13th, St. Martin I**

4:00 p.m. (SM) John “Jack” Steinbugl (Noreen Adams La Brode)

5:30 p.m. (SH) Claude Weinzierl (Wife, Rose Marie)

**Sunday, April 14th, 3rd Sunday of Easter**

8:00 a.m. (SM) Marian Porta Sr. (Richard Hammel and Janet Lego)

10:00 a.m. (SH) Pro Populo (Living and Deceased members of Sacred Heart and Saint Mary’s Parishes)

12:00 p.m. (SH) Jim Consalvo (Sacred Heart Social Committee)

**Monday, April 15th**

7:45 a.m. (SH) Pete Focht (John and Alice McKnight)

**Tuesday, April 16th**

7:45 a.m. (SH) All Souls in Purgatory (Anonymous)

**Wednesday, April 17th**

7:45 a.m. (SH) Mary Ann Dietrick (Roy and Lynn Holtz)

**Thursday, April 18th**

7:45 a.m. (SH) Thelma Servello (Clair and Nancy Servello)

**Friday, April 19th**

7:45 a.m. (SH) Scott Galant (Tillie Galant)

**Saturday, April 20th**

4:00 p.m. (SM) Fr. Robert Neugelbauer (The Family)

5:30 p.m. (SH) Richard Picano (Wife, Debra)

**Sunday, April 21st, 4th Sunday of Easter**

8:00 a.m. (SM) Yolanda Bumann (Jim and Helen Seidel)

10:00 a.m. (SH) Pro Populo (Living and Deceased members of Sacred Heart and Saint Mary’s Parishes)

12:00 p.m. (SH) Jim Consalvo (Sister and Aunt Josie)

**Weekly Collection at Sacred Heart, March 31, 2024**

Envelopes	\$5,394.00
<u>Loose Change</u>	<u>\$738.37</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,132.37</b>

**Weekly Collection at Saint Mary, March 31, 2024**

Envelopes	\$4,876.00
<u>Loose Change</u>	<u>\$241.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,117.00</b>

**EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP**

During this Easter season, in addition to celebrating all that Christ did for us, we are also reminded of how His sacrifice impacts our lives. The knowledge of His sacrifice should not only affect our minds but also our hearts, changing how we live.

Through sin, we betray Jesus once again. It is like saying, “crucify Him!” Sometimes we deliberately turn away from Jesus out of pride and selfishness, and other times, we are not even aware of the gravity of our sin. Whether we know our weaknesses or are ignorant to them, let us ask God to reveal the areas of our lives in which we are betraying Him – maybe through addiction, materialism, and how we spend our money or time and putting things above God. And let us ask for the grace to repent and change our ways.

As we are still in the midst of this Easter season, let us take some time to think about what Christ did for us and the changes we should make in our daily lives to help us grow closer to Him.

<b>LITURGICAL MINISTRIES SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 20TH AND 21ST (Also posted on the Sacred Heart Facebook page)</b>				
Time and Location	Altar Servers	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Organist/Cantor
Saturday 4:00 p.m. Saint Mary	Volunteer	Jim Adams	Host-Diane Dry Chalice-Helen Schmitt	Terry Carnicella
Saturday 5:30 p.m. Sacred Heart	Clair Servello	Debra Picano	Host-Theresa Adams Chalice-Jean Lutchko	Jean Ann Mitchell Patrick Dorman
Sunday 8:00 a.m.	Lily Butterbaugh Levi Bailey	Mary Rose Poorman	Host-Tina Johnston Chalice-Anita Wavrek	Terry Carnicella
Sunday 10:00 a.m. Sacred Heart	Jacqueline Bevan Harry Bevan	Steve Dalansky Tish Crum	Host-Becky Bimle Chalice-Barb Gerhart Chalice-Cathy Keefe	Mary Villani Choir
Sunday 12:00 p.m. Sacred Heart	Jack & Vivienne Compton Traxton Smith	Ron Adams	Host-Marlene Brown Chalice-Jim Imler	Mary Villani Betsy Chilcote

**PRO-LIFE CORNER**

“Today the spirit of violence in our society is so great that our children are literally killing one another. What else should we expect in a nation where mothers have been granted the spurious ‘right’ to kill their offspring at will...As long as our courts sanction murder in the womb we will be faced with the consequences of violence in our streets, schools, workplace, and homes.” Alan Keyes

**PRO-LIFE ROSARY** meets every Wednesday at 3:00 p.m. in Sacred Heart Church. All are welcome to attend. No commitments. Come when you can!

**A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE**

by Bud Ozar

When Jesus called his disciples, they came “immediately.” Parents wish their children would respond as quickly, but they don’t. Children grow slowly into responsibility. It is a process like walking, not done “immediately”, but in small steps. Parenting demands patient encouragement.

**Pictures on the Cover — Confirmation April 2, 2024.**

St. Mary’s from left to right: Ellaina Saylor, Ava Steinbugl, Ryan McConnell, Paxton DeLeo, and Anthony Forlina.

**Sacred Heart** Top row, left to right: Lucas Condron, Logan Meyers, Lucas Rivera, William Sankey, Elliot Farabaugh.

Bottom Row, left to right: Ava Barton, Ava Drumm, and Madison Trotter.

**ALTOONA CURVE BASEBALL** tickets are available to the Altoona Curve vs. the Erie SeaWolves game on Friday, June 14, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for registered, participating members and \$11 for nonmembers. Please stop by your church office if interested. We thank Denny Greiner of Sacred Heart for making the arrangements.

**FREE MEDICARE 101 SEMINAR** Turning 65? Retiring soon? Would you like to review your current Medicare plan? You’re invited to attend a FREE, Medicare 101 seminar. Tuesday, May 21st at 8:30am or 1pm at the Sacred Heart Formation Center. Presented by Sacred Heart parishioner Chris Bertani, a licensed Life & Health Insurance agent with Evolve Insurance specializing in Medicare. Please rsvp to Chris at 814-937-0148 or [chris@evolveinsurancegrp.com](mailto:chris@evolveinsurancegrp.com)

**ST. MARY’S PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE MEETING** will be held on Wednesday, May 1, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Blessed Mothers Room. Everyone is welcome.

**UPDATE PARISH RECORDS** Please help us keep our Parish Records up to date! Contact your church office if you have changed your home or cell number, your address or email since you registered.



**SAINT MARY CANDLE MEMORIAL:** The Altar Candles and Sanctuary Lamp will burn the week of April 14, 2024, in loving memory of James and Margaret Mattingly from Bobby Mattingly.

**SAINT MARY PRAYER CHAIN:** Please call the St. Mary’s Rectory at 814-942-2416



**PLEASE PRAY FOR....**Kathy Ansman, Mark Blackie, Rod Baronner, Dan Bauer, Dave Bauer, Damian Branas, Ron Buckreis, Vince Bumann, Alexander Campos, Jack Chilcote, Harry Chirdon, Karen Claar, Brandon Conaway, Shirley Conlon, Denise Conrad, James Conrad, Kathy Corl, Bob Decker, Tim Dodson, Joan Donnelly, Matt Dorman, Nate Dorman, Amelia Doughurty, Lois Duncan, Thomas Duncan, Sam Dunio, Ashley Eagen, Ruth Ann Frederick, Herman Frederick, Phyllis Hauser, Leighton Hess, Ralph Hildebrand, Dolly Holzer, Lucy Horton, Austin Judy, Lynn Judy, Raymond Kargo, Russell Keith, Kenny Anthony Keagy, Carol King, John Kleine, Sue Koehle, Ruth Lamca, Cyndi Lansberry, John Leshene, Janet Lego, Beth Lloyd, Charles McGrain, Shirley McIntyre, Paul Angelo Morelli, Bev Mueller, Bonnie Neal, Jessica Neff, Lee Neff, Kevin O'Rourke, Gail Pearson, Scott Reimer, Sarah Rihnovich, Patti Robinson, Nancy Servello, Laura Snyder, Fred Tromm, Alex Walter, Margo Wascherl, Alan Watson, Joan Weston, Hank Williams, Mikayla Yanchik.

**BISHOP GUILFOYLE ACADEMY OPEN HOUSE,** Sunday, April 28, 1- 3 p.m. Eldorado (St. Rose) \* Fairview (St. Therese) \* Hollidaysburg (St. Michael) We invite you to learn more about our Catholic school Bishop Guilfoyle Academy where joyful students, PreK through Grade 12, are equipped to succeed in the world and shape our communities for the better. Come to any of our Open Houses on April 28 (PreK through Grade 5). Can’t make the Open House? Call and schedule a personal tour of any of our sites where you can meet the Principal, shadow a student, and witness our safe and virtuous environment. Offering Monday through Friday full-day school, before and after school program available. NEW 2024! Hollidaysburg Early Education Campus, PreK & Kindergarten, growing to Grade 5, full-day, Monday through Friday, before and after school program, and summer options available. For more information, call 814.942.7835 or visit [bishopguilfoyleacademy.org](http://bishopguilfoyleacademy.org) Automatic scholarship for Catholic students; additional financial aid available.

**JOB OPENING** The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown has an opening for a full-time Director of Faith & Family Ministries to manage the execution of religious education, youth ministry, OCIA, Scouting and family life programs. To view a listing of responsibilities and qualifications and to apply, please go to <https://www.dioceseaj.org/employment>. Resumes may be emailed to [lmcevoy@dioceseaj.org](mailto:lmcevoy@dioceseaj.org).

# GOSPEL MEDITATION

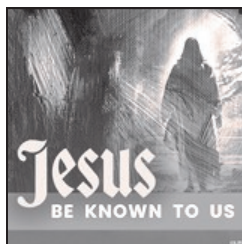
April 14, 2024


## 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

When I was a kid, a friend at my home parish told me, “If you get to Mass by the Gospel reading, it counts!” As a lifelong late-arriver, it’s something I have told myself many times, especially in my earlier years as a Catholic. If the “it counts” is justifiable on a pathetically minimal scale of liturgical legalism, then the Gospel reading today shows how insanely wrong-headed it is, and how helpful it is to re-think the Mass in its light.

The famous “Road to Emmaus” story recounts, on that first Sunday of the Resurrection, the basic two-fold structure of the Mass: Word, followed by Eucharist. Jesus spends a significant period of time with two dismayed disciples, as he connects a wide swath of the Hebrew scriptures with his own suffering, death, and resurrection. They would later report that this Liturgy of the Word touched their hearts with an inexplicable fire. This Word-induced flame alone is what leads the two disciples to discover Jesus’ presence in the “breaking of the bread.”

With this in mind, how can we possibly think that the Liturgy of the Word is unnecessary or incidental? The two disciples needed the Scriptures explained to them in order to experience Jesus alive in the eucharistic breaking of bread. Sure, we say, but they had the Risen Jesus. But that’s precisely the point: Jesus is risen and accompanies us in both parts of the Mass. Imagine how much our experience of Jesus in the Eucharist would deepen if we (preachers and listeners) took even more seriously that Jesus himself sets our hearts ablaze with his Word so that we know him in the Eucharist. That Word-induced fire counts, too!—  
*Father John Muir*





**Weekly Schedule**

**Saturday, April 13th**

12:30 p.m. **Sacrament of Reconciliation** (SH)

3:00 p.m. **Sacrament of Reconciliation** (SM)

4:00 p.m. **Holy Mass** (SM)

5:30 p.m. **Holy Mass** (SH)

**Sunday, April 14th**

8:00 a.m. **Holy Mass** (SM)

9:00 a.m. **K-10 Religious Education Classes** (SM)

10:00 a.m. **Holy Mass** (SH)

11:00 a.m. **Prek-11 Religious Education Classes** (SH)

12:00 p.m. **Holy Mass** (SH)

**Wednesday, April 17th**

10:00 a.m. **Sacred Heart Food Pantry Open** (SH)

3:00 p.m. **Pro-Life Rosary said in the Church** (SH)

**Saturday, April 20th**

12:30 p.m. **Sacrament of Reconciliation** (SH)

3:00 p.m. **Sacrament of Reconciliation** (SM)

4:00 p.m. **Holy Mass** (SM)

5:30 p.m. **Holy Mass** (SH)

**Sunday, April 21st**

8:00 a.m. **Holy Mass** (SM)

9:00 a.m. **K—8 Religious Education Classes** (SM)

10:00 a.m. **Holy Mass** (SH)

11:00 a.m. **PreK—11 Religious Education Classes** (SH)

12:00 p.m. **Holy Mass Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** (SH)

**Please join in praying for the Priests of our Diocese**

**This week we are praying for Rev. Robert C. Hall**

**Pastor of Church of the Transfiguration in Conemaugh, PA**

O Jesus, you are the eternal High Priest, the Good Shepherd, the Source of life. Through the singular generosity of Your most sensitive heart, You have given us our priests for the purpose of fulfilling in us that plan of sanctification which Your grace inspires in our hearts. We beg You come to their aid with Your merciful assistance.

O Jesus, may they possess faith which energizes their actions, Hope which is unshakable in trials, And charity which permeates their endeavors. Through their constant meditation, may your word, Which is an outpouring of eternal wisdom, Become the everlasting nourishment of their interior life; And may their conduct and suffering reflect the example of Your life and Passion, So as to serve for our instruction, and as a beacon of consolation in our sorrows.

O Lord, grant that our priests be detached from all worldly interests, and labor only for Your glory. With a pure conscience may they persevere in their duties faithfully until their dying breath. And when death has claimed their bodies, and they place back into Your hands the account of their faithful stewardship, May they enjoy in You, Lord Jesus, their divine teacher on earth, the everlasting reward of the crown of justice in the splendor of the Saints. Amen