



THE MARIAN

ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA

Website: <http://stmaryschurchaltoona.wix.com/saintmarys>

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross – September 14, 2025

Rev. Mariusz Gorazd

Administrator

St. Mary's Rectory 942-2416

FOCUS: ... In the cross is our hope. The cross, a horrible instrument of death, can be celebrated because there is no evil, no pain, no darkness which cannot be transformed by Christ. He enters into whatever we may be confronting to bring his perfect love, goodness, truth, and life to us. Lift high the cross, for through it, God has worked our salvation.

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Weekday Mass Schedule at St. Mary's Church

Monday, September 15, 2025

9:00 AM Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

Tuesday, September 16, 2025

No MASS

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

No Mass

Thursday, September 18, 2025

No Mass

Friday, September 19, 2025

No Mass

Weekend Mass Schedule at St. Mary's Church

Saturday, September 20, 2025

4:00 PM – James Oberneder by his sister

Sunday, September 21, 2025

8:00 AM – Spiritual and Temporal Living Welfare by

Nonna Levri, Anne Levri

Weekend Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church on Sunday

11:30 AM

MINISTRIES FOR THE WEEKEND OF September 20, 2025 and September 21, 2025:

| DATE | ALTAR SERVERS | LECTOR | EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS |
|---|------------------------------|----------------|--|
| Saturday, September 20 4:00 PM | Volunteer | Carolyn Becker | Joe Keller – Host Joan Keller – Chalice Jim Adams – Chalice |
| Sunday, September 21 8:00 AM Youth Mass | McKenna Snare Rylee Snare | Lucas Helsel | Debbie Bartley – Host Jill Helsel – Chalice Brian Jubeck - Chalice |

VOCATIONS CHALICE (September 21) –Ed Levri Family – 8:00 AM

CANDLE MEMORIAL: The Altar Candles and Sanctuary Lamp will burn the week of September 21 is for Katie Gehl from Terry Carnicella. If you would like to make an offering in memory of someone or a special intention, please call the rectory.

CONFESSIONS: Saturday at 3:00 PM.

PRAYER CHAIN: Please call the St. Mary's Rectory at 814-942-2416 to request a person be added to the prayer list.

LOW GLUTEN HOSTS AVAILABLE: For individuals who have Celiac Disease and want to receive Communion, please go to Father Mariusz's line for Communion and let him know by saying "Low Gluten" and he will give you the Low Gluten Host.

SAINT MARY'S PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE is having the Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Fundraiser. Shopping Passes for 25% Off are on sale at the Rectory Office for \$5.00. Shop on Wednesday, October 22, 2025 from 8:00 AM – 11:00 PM and receive 25% Off your purchases for that day. Please support Saint Mary's Parish Life Committee by getting your \$5.00 Shopping Pass from us so we get to keep the \$5.00 donation. Thank you.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS: In honor of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, Father Mariusz will have the Annual Blessing of the Animals at St. Mary's Rectory Parking Lot at 10:00 AM on Saturday, October 4, 2025. The Blessing of Animals is meant to give individuals with animals a chance to reflect on the positive connection they have to our physical and emotional well-being.

COVERED DISH DINNER sponsored by the St. Mary's Parish Life Committee will be held on Saturday, October 4, after the 4:00 PM Mass in the Memorial Hall Cafeteria. The meat dish will be stuffed meatloaf. Bring your favorite side dish or dessert and join us for food, fun and fellowship.

LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Adult Envelopes | \$ 5,421.00 |
| Student Envelopes | \$ 21.00 |
| Monthly | \$ 1,603.00 |
| Loose | \$ 45.00 |
| House Collection | \$ 160.00 |
| Assumption | \$ 20.00 |
| St. Vincent dePaul | \$ 190.00 |
| Memorial Candles | \$ 20.00 |
| Votive Candles | \$ 5.00 |
| CMD Over Target | \$ 40.00 |
| Catholic Univ. | \$ 50.00 |
| Retired Priests | \$ 85.00 |
| TOTAL | \$ 7,660.00 |

REGISTRATION OF PARISHIONERS: We are always happy to welcome new parishioners to Saint Mary's 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.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: The Sacrament of Baptism for Infants normally takes place during a weekend celebration of the Eucharist or on Sundays at 9:00 AM. For the baptism of their first child, parents are expected to attend a baptismal session with Father Mariusz. 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 the freedom to receive the Eucharist. Sponsor certificates for Godparents are necessary and can be obtained from their parish office of their current Church registration.

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

SACRAMENT OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION: Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Catholic Church should contact a member of the parish staff by calling the Rectory Office.

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.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING AN ADULT ALTAR SERVER? If you are interested in becoming an adult altar server to help serve funerals and/or Saturday Evening Mass at St. Mary's, please contact the Rectory Office at 814-942-2416. Currently we have 4 adult servers and could always use more.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/SACRAMENTAL PREP – There will be a meeting of parents of students (both Catholic and Public School and Home School from St. Mary's and Our Lady of Fatima) in grades 8, 9, 10 and 11 on Sunday September 14 at 9:00 AM in the Memorial Hall Cafeteria. The purpose of this meeting is to explain the New Confirmation Preparation Process set by the Diocese of Altoona/Johnstown. **Religious Education Classes begin next Sunday, September 21 with the Youth Mass at 8:00 AM.**

BIBLE READINGS AND FAITH SHARING SESSIONS – You are cordially invited group faith sharing which will begin Thursday, October 2 in the Church Basement Saint Joseph Room. These sessions will be facilitated by Joan Keller. We will begin our sessions at 9:30 AM, which would allow participants to attend Mass at 9:00 AM. In these weekly sessions we read the daily and weekend scriptures, then discuss the meaning of the passages as they relate to our lives. If you have any questions, please call the rectory office (814-942-2416) between the hours of 8:00 AM and 1:00 PM Monday thru Friday or call Joan at 814-696-3951. All are welcome! Hope to see you!

GROUP SESSIONS ON "THE CHOSEN" will be facilitated by Father Mariusz in the Blessed Mother Room of St. Mary's Church on Monday Evenings from 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM beginning in October. Dates of the Sessions will be the following Mondays: October 6, October 13, October 20, December 1, December 15. There will be no sessions in November. If interested in attending these sessions, please call the Rectory Office (814-942-2416) between the hours of 8:00 AM and 1:00 PM Monday through Friday.

DO YOU HAVE A LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT, LIVING WILL, AND/OR POWER OF ATTORNEY PREPARED? If you would like the opportunity to get one or all of these done, one or two attorneys are willing to offer appointments at St. Mary's if there is enough interest. Please contact the rectory office for more information (814-942-2416).

2025 FALL LAY ECCLESIAL AND ADULT ENRICHMENT CLASSES: Old Testament taught by Father Brian Saylor at St. Rose of Lima Wednesdays from 6:30 – 9:00 PM. This begins September 24 and will run for 8 weeks. The cost for this class is \$35.00 and must be turned in with Registration Form. One book is also required for this class. The name of the book can be found on the Registration form and can be purchased on Amazon. The Registration Form is on the table at the main entrance of the church. To register please visit the diocese website at www.dioceseaj.org/lay-ecclesial-ministry or contact Jessica at 814-361-2000 or by email at jgramling@dioceseaj.org. The deadline for registration is Monday, September 15. No registrations will be accepted after this date.

SPAGHETTI DINNER. Christian Mothers LCBA 1290 Spaghetti Dinner (take out only), will be held on Saturday, November 1st from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The pick-up location is the Saint Mary's Memorial Hall. Dinners are \$12. Tickets will be sold after Mass at St. Mary's Blessed Mother Room the weekends of October 4th and 5th, October 11th & 12th, October 18th & 19th, and October 25th & 26th. You can also purchase tickets at the St. Mary's Rectory (814-942-2416) or from any member of Christian Mothers. Deadline for orders is Tuesday, October 28.

SPAGHETTI DINNER – Saturday, November 1, 2025

Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____

of Dinners _____ @ \$12.00 each = \$ _____ Make Checks Payable to Saint Mary's Christian Mother's