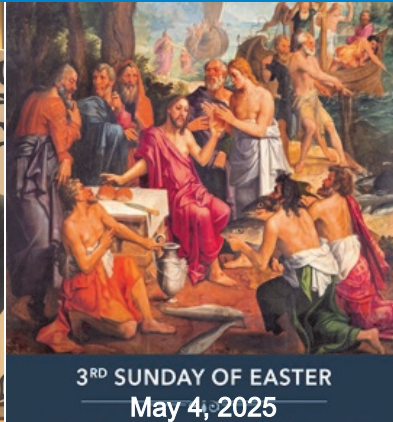


SACRED HEART CHURCH ♥ SAINT MARY CHURCH



ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA 16602

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

Sacred Heart Email: sacredheartaltoona@dioceseaj.org
Website: 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
Website: <http://stmaryschurchaltoona.wixsite.com/saintmarys>

DIRECTORY OF PARISH STAFF

Rev. Lubomír J. Strečok, Pastor of Sacred Heart and Administrator of Saint Mary
 Rev. Ashok Kumar Alphonse, Weekend Assistant

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
 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 INTENTIONS**Saturday, May 3rd, Sts. Philip and James**4:00 p.m. (SM) **Karl Burgmeier** (Talley Family)5:30 p.m. (SH) **Daniel Greiner** (Wayne & Margie Eisel)**Sunday, May 4th, The 3rd Week of Easter**8:00 a.m. (SM) **Catherine Pacifico** (Don & Karen Castagnola)10:00 a.m. (SH) **Pro Populo** (Living and Deceased members of Sacred Heart and Saint Mary Parishes)12:00 p.m. (SH) **Dorothy McCloskey** (Daughters, Carol & Sharon & Families)**Monday, May 5th**

7:45 a.m.. (SH) Mr. & Mrs. Alphonse (Daughter, Muriel Gilot)

Tuesday, May 6th

7:45 a.m. (SH) Bob Naperkowski (Dave & Pat Zeak)

Wednesday, May 7th

7:45 a.m. (SH) Ted & Marcella Adams (The Adams Children)

Thursday, May 8th

7:45 a.m. (SH) Phyllis Good (Robert Good)

Friday, May 9th

7:45 a.m. (SH) William McLughlin (Beverly McLaughlin)

Saturday, May 10th, St. John of Avila

4:00 p.m. (SM) Shirley Runk (David & Eve Bailor)

5:30 p.m. (SH) **Pro Populo** (Living and Deceased members of Sacred Heart and Saint Mary Parishes)**Sunday, May 11th, The 4th Week of Easter**

8:00 a.m. (SM) Ray Family (Phil & MaryLou Ray)

10:00 a.m. (SH) Dorothy Stevens (Ed & Lucia Stoehr)

12:00 p.m. (SH) Charles E. Huffman (Matt, Jennifer, Logan and Aubrey Brownell)

**Weekly Collection at Sacred Heart April 20th, 2025**

Envelopes \$8,680.00

Loose Change \$1,242.50**Total** \$9,922.50**Weekly Collection at Saint Mary, April 120th, 2025**

Envelopes \$8730.00

Loose Change \$127.00**Total** \$8,857.00**EVERY DAY STEWARDSHIP**

Throughout the Easter season, our readings have given us glimpses into the life of the newborn Church and the bold witness of the early disciples in spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ to all who would listen. These disciples were the first to live a stewardship way of life. Their example is as relevant today as it was 2,000 years ago to inspire and guide us modern-day disciples.

A spirit-filled and joy-filled life can be available to all of us, all these years later. It can be achieved when we recognize, as Paul and Barnabas did in our First Reading, that all we have and all we are is a gift from God, meant to be shared with others for His glory. Living as stewards isn't always easy, and sometimes involves great challenges, but in the end there is simply no more satisfying way to live.

ON THE COVER

We would like to Congratulate the 11th grade students who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Tuesday, April 22, 2025.

Sacred Heart—(Left side of Cover: Left to right)-Alexis Milliron, John Compton, Kara Wood, Rebekah Adams and Lucas Mc Geary.

St. Mary-(Right side of Cover: Left to Right) -Michael Buckreis, Adrianna Levri, Lilly Butterbaugh, Sophia Wise, and Mason Lynn, Cooper Lovrich.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES SCHEDULE
SATURDAY, 10TH AND SUNDAY, MAY11TH
 (Also posted on the Sacred Heart Facebook page)

Time and Location	Altar Servers	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Organist/Cantor
Saturday, 4:00 St. Mary's	Volunteer	Amber Varner	Host-Tina Johnston Chalice-Joe Varner	Jean Ann Mitchell
Saturday, 5:30 Sacred Heart	Lucas Rivera Cruz Rivera	Jim Imler	Host-Dennis Greiner Chalice-Gerry Milliron	Karen Koehle Paula Imler
Sunday, 8:00 St. Mary's	Dominic Sparacino Gaby Sparacino	Mike Sparacino	Host-Ron DiFrango Chalice-Doug Wise	Karen Koehle Marian Choir
Sunday, 10:00 Sacred Heart	Henry Drumm	Rick Byrne	Host-Patty Wolf Chalice-Barb Gerhart Chalice-Jann Dalansky	Mary Villani Julie Carnicella
Sunday 12:00 Sacred Heart	Ella Lauver John Lauver	April Lauver	Host-Becky Kowalczyk Chalice-Joe Fernicola	Mary Villani

**PRO-LIFE CORNER...**

Pregnancy is not a disease. It is a power, a glory, and a privilege beyond measure. More importantly, it is a gift from God. Do not abort God's gift.

PRO-LIFE ROSARY As Catholics, we proclaim that human life is a precious gift from God; that each person who receives this gift has responsibilities toward God, self and others; and that society, through its laws and social institutions, must protect and nurture human life at every stage of its existence. The USCCB Committee on Pro-Life is inviting Catholics to join a focused effort of prayer for the end of abortion and for the protection of women and pre-born children.

Join us at Sacred Heart every Wednesday at 3:00 p.m. in the Church. All are welcome to attend. No commitments. Come when you can!

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE**By Bud Ozar**

In today's gospel the disciples were returning home so "downcast" they did not recognize Jesus walking with them. In our homes we can be so overwhelmed with responsibilities we don't see God with us. Today's gospel tells us to stop and open our eyes to the blessings we are to one another.

NEEDED! EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Sacred Heart Church is seeking dedicated parishioners to serve as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Current Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion and those interested in becoming new EOMs are encouraged to volunteer their time and talents. For more information contact the church office at 814-943-8553.

ALTOONA CURVE BASEBALL tickets are available to the Altoona Curve vs. the Erie SeaWolves game on Friday, June 13, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$7 for registered, participating members and \$13 for nonmembers. We thank Denny Greiner of Sacred Heart for making the arrangements. To purchase tickets, please see Anita or Kellie at your churches office.

CREATED FROM THE HEART Do you sew? Do you crochet? Or knit? Do you want to bring comfort to others? A new ministry called Created from the Heart may be for you. The next meeting will be Saturday, May 10, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome! If you have any questions please call Betsy Chilcote at 814-934-7737. *The group is in need of plastic grocery bags, they are used in the making of sleeping mats for the homeless. Bags can be placed in the gray bin at the main entrance of Sacred Heart Church

MAY DAYS 2025 at the Basilica of St. Michael - May 24th and 25th at Our Lady of Loretto Community Hall – live entertainment, cinch tournament (call Mag 421-2867 to join) basket raffle, flea market, silent auction, and refreshments. Saturday, 4pm-8pm and Sunday, 11am-4pm. Turkey dinner Sunday at 11AM. \$10 per person. All are welcome!



SAINT MARY CANDLE MEMORIAL The Altar Candles and Sanctuary Lamp will burn the week of May 4th, 2025, in loving memory of Carl Burgmeier from the Talley Family

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, Dennis Born, Vince Bumann, Jack Chilcote, Harry Chirdon, Karen Claar, Brandon Conaway, Shirley Conlon, Denise Conrad, James Conrad, Kathy Corl, William Costlow, Bob Decker, Colette DiMemmo, Margaret Dodson, Tim Dodson, Joan Donnelly, Matthew Dorman, Nate Dorman, Amelia Dougherty, Lois Duncan, Thomas Duncan, Paul Dunmire, Ashley Eagen, Corinda Ermin, Roberta Farabaugh, Herman Frederick, Katie Gehl, Pat Harpster, Leighton Hess, Dolly Holzer, Lucy Horton, Raymond Kargo, Carol Keagy, Kenny Anthony Keagy, Russell Keith, John Kleine, Sue Koehle, Ruth Lamca, Cyndi Lansberry, John Leshene, Beth Lloyd, Charles McGrain, Shirley McIntyre, Mason Wayne McManus, Paul Angelo Morelli, Bev Mueller, Bonnie Neal, Jessica Neff, Lee Neff, Kevin O'Rourke, Mark Pacifico, Sarah Rihnovich, Nancy Servello, Laura Snyder, Alex Walter, Margo Wascherl, Alan Watson, Joan Weston, Hank Williams, Renee Williams, Mikayla Yanchik.

ST. MARY'S PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE GRADUATE RECOGNITION

we will be honoring our 2025 High School and College Graduates on Sunday, May 18, at the 8:00 Mass followed by Coffee and Donuts in the St. Mary's Rectory. Please join us as we celebrate together these new graduates as they embark on the next exciting journey of their life. If you have a high school or college student graduating this year, please contact the Rectory Office 814-942-2416.

DONUT AND COFFEE SOCIAL The Sacred Heart Social Committee along with all of the Sacred Heart Parish will be having a Donut and Coffee Social after the 10:00 a.m. mass on Sunday, May 18th to recognize our 2025 High School Graduates. Please join us in fellowship, all are welcome to attend.

CHRISTIAN MOTHERS LCBA #1290 Will be holding their monthly meeting on Monday, May 5, 2025, at 6:30 p.m., with Rosary at 6:15 p.m. in the St. Mary's Church Basement.

ST. MARY'S BOY SCOUTS will be placing flags along with the Catholic War Veterans in the St. Mary's and St. John's Cemetery on Sunday, May 18 at 6:00 PM. Anyone wanting to help place these flags to honor our Veterans are welcome. Please meet at the shed on 12th Street and Bell Avenue.

FIND US ON FACEBOOK at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church in Altoona, PA and St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Altoona, PA

GOSPEL MEDITATION

May 4, 2025

THE 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

John 21:1-19

I eat breakfast. If I don't have something substantial, I'm fading by midmorning. Breakfast is my key meal because it sets up my physical wellbeing for the rest of the day.

Spiritually speaking, we need sustenance to get us going. This is true for the Apostles in this Sunday's remarkable Gospel reading. The risen Jesus makes his third appearance to them in the early morning light and calls, "Come, have breakfast" (John 21:12). The exhausted and cold fishermen sit, and he feeds them bread and fish as the dawn breaks. They are overwhelmed by his presence to the point of awestruck silence. As they eat, their bodies and their hearts come alive. Once refreshed by their morning meal, they will be ready to feed others — indeed, the whole world — with the love of the risen Jesus. But first, they need breakfast from him.

Do you realize how essential early morning prayer is? Jesus desires to refresh us every morning with his word of love, with his grace-filled presence. This week, hear Jesus calling to you: "Come, have breakfast!" Embrace some form of spiritual, meditative practice each morning for spiritual strength to get you going.— *Father John Mui*

Please join in praying for the Priests of our Diocese this week
we are praying for Rev. Nelson Javier
Pastor of St. Mark in Altoona

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.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

1st Saturday, May 3rd

11:00 a.m. First Communion Rehearsal (SH)

12:30 Confessions (SH)

3:00 Confessions (SM)

3:15 pm 1st Saturday Fatima Devotion (SM)

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

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

Sunday, May 4th, 3rd Sunday of Easter

8:00 a.m. Holy Mass and 1ST Communion (SM)

10:00 a.m. Holy Mass and 1ST Communion (SH)

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

Monday, May 5th

6:30 pm Christian Mothers

Wednesday, May 7th

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Food Pantry is Open (SH)

3:00 p.m. Pro Life Rosary (SH)

Saturday, May 10th

12:30 Confessions (SH)

1:00 p.m. Created From the Heart Group (SHFC)

3:00 Confessions (SM)

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

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

Sunday, May 11, 4th Sunday of Easter

World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Mather's Day

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

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

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



CATHOLIC WAR VETERAN'S MEMORIAL DAY PARADE AND MASS

will be held on Monday, May 26, 2025. The Parade will begin from the Bavarian Hall at 8:30 AM and proceed to St. Mary's Catholic Church for Mass which will begin at 9:00 AM. This year the Bishop Guilfoyle Marching Band will participate in the parade from the Bavarian Hall to Church and Back to the St. Mary's Cemetery for the Catholic War Veteran's Ceremony and Salute. Parade participants are invited to walk or drive in the parade to St. Mary's and back to the Cemetery.

GOLF TOURNAMENT The St. Mary's 21st Annual Golf Tournament will be held Sunday, June 1st at the King Valley Golf Course. Registration is at 7:30 AM with a Shotgun start at 8:00 AM. It is a scramble and the entry fee is \$80.00 per golfer. This includes the round of golf, cart, beverages, skill prizes and a spaghetti dinner served after the tournament. For more information or to sign up as a team or individual, please contact Terry Carnicella (814) 946-0672 or Terry Anderson (814)-932-0465.