

# SACRED HEART CHURCH ♥ SAINT MARY CHURCH



OUR LORD  
JESUS CHRIST,  
KING OF THE  
UNIVERSE

So Pilate said to him, "Then you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say I am a king. For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." - Jn 18:37

November 21st 2021



## ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA 16602

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**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**

**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 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, November 20th**

4:00 p.m. (SM) Frank and Josephine Schachtner (Denny and Josie Stitt)

5:30 p.m. (SH) Sal Randazzo (Randazzo Family)

**Sunday, November 21st, OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE**

8:00 a.m. (SM) Greg Hallman (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) Lawrence McCloskey (Daughters and Family)

**Monday, November 22nd, St. Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr**

7:45 a.m. (SH) Frankie and Rudy Kessler (Family)

**Tuesday, November 23rd, St. Clement, Pope**

7:45 a.m. (SH) Charles McCord (Brian McCord)

**Wednesday, November 24th, St. Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest**

7:45 (SH) In Thanksgiving to Saint Jude (Bernice Cellini)

**5:30 p.m.** (SM) Thomas Frank (Jane Steinbugl)

**Thursday, November 25th, THANKSGIVING DAY**

**9:00 a.m.** (SH) Living and Deceased Members of William Penn Association (William Penn Association, Branch 800)

**Friday, November 26th**

7:45 a.m. (SH) Ann Costlow (Patricia Huber)

**Saturday, November 27th**

4:00 p.m. (SM) Alois Oberneder (Children)

5:30 p.m. (SH) Frances Adams (Carol Rodkey)

**Sunday, November 28th, 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

8:00 a.m. (SM) Donald Bryan (Dave and Tracy Auerbeck)

10:00 a.m. (SH) Catherine Mack (Daughters)

12:00 p.m. (SH) Pro Populo (Living and Deceased members of Sacred Heart and Saint Mary's Parishes)

**A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE**

by Bud Ozar

When we are young, our parents “tell us about Jesus” and we believe what our parents believe. At some point we must leave our parents faith and ask Pilate’s question: “Are you the King?” Pilate is just asking these questions on our behalf.

**Weekly Collection at Sacred Heart, November 7th**

Envelopes	\$ 6,057.05
Loose Change	\$ 103.00
Total	\$ 6,160.25

**Weekly Collection at Saint Mary, November 7th**

Envelopes	\$ 3,754.90
Loose Change	\$ 46.30
Total	\$ 3,801.20

**EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS .....**

Long Live the King

Did you know that you can become royalty, for the right price? It's true — for the low, low cost of \$50, you, too, can purchase a 12-square-inch souvenir plot of Scottish land and call yourself “Laird So-and-so.” Now, this lordship or ladyship doesn't come with the ability to boss anyone around, but maybe your friends will be impressed enough to bend the knee.

My point is, we've all got our own little fiefdoms — folks or communities for which we have a feeling of responsibility. Maybe we're not their “king,” but most of us have those we think of as “our people.”

Now, in this world, people lay themselves down for their kings. History is riddled with the bodies of men, young and old — and plenty of women and children, too — who were casualties of wars waged by men in power, men who never had to shed their own blood. But in the next world, the King dies for his people. This is leadership par excellence — the leadership of someone whose love is greater than his ambition.

We are all leaders of a sort. On the parish level, you have the obvious roles — serving on pastoral council, spearheading the capital campaign, leading the Altar Guild. But you also have the quiet ones who lead from the wings — the janitor who can always be relied upon to do his job, or the volunteer librarian who puts in extra hours on the weekends.

There is a saying — find your people. I say, find your people, and find a way to lay yourself down for them, in imitation of the greatest King that ever was.— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS - ©LPi

**LITURGICAL MINISTRIES SCHEDULE  
for November 27th&28th, 2021**

TIME and LOCATION	Altar Servers	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Organist/Cantor
Saturday 4:00 p.m. Saint Mary	Volunteers	Jim Adams	Ruth Westley	Karen Koehle Michael Ercole
Saturday 5:30 p.m. Sacred Heart	Volunteers	Debra Picano	Jerry Milliron	Jean Ann Mitchell Maddie Trotter
Sunday, 8:00 a.m. Saint Mary	Siara Helsel Lucas Helsel	Jill Helsel	Debbie Bartley	Terry Carnicella
Sunday 10:00 a.m. Sacred Heart	Volunteers	Lynn Nagle Jim Rokosky	Barbara Gerhart	Mary Villani Luke Rokosky
Sunday 12:00 p.m. Sacred Heart	Jack Compton Vivienne Compton	Keri Condron	Jim Imler	Mary Villani Judy Whal



**PRO-LIFE CORNER...**To sin by silence when they should protest, makes cowards of men. No law can give us the right to do what is wrong. Abortion is an unjust and wrong law. How many of us have stayed silent regarding the atrocity of abortion while millions of our precious unborn babies are being slaughtered in their mother's wombs? Speak out and join pro-life today.

**PRO-LIFE CHRISTMAS CARDS** Citizens Concerned for Human Life, Blair County Chapter, has Christmas cards available for purchase. Two beautiful designs are offered, one depicts the Nativity scene and the other pictures the Infant Jesus. The cost is \$7 for a package of 11 cards. Your purchase will help support the pro-life work of CCHL in Blair County. For more information, call Pat at 946-068

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

**AFGHAN RAFFLE** The Altoona Catholic Daughters of the Americas invite you to "Help us help our neighbors." We are selling raffle tickets for an afghan made by one of our member's mother! Tickets are \$5.00 each. For tickets contact Hazel at [cda2625.com/contact/](http://cda2625.com/contact/) Flyers are in most parish foyers or you can see a flyer online at: [cda2625.com/2021-afghan.pdf](http://cda2625.com/2021-afghan.pdf). Sponsored by Court Prince Gallitzin #2625. Serving all 11 Altoona parishes and beyond. Catholic Daughters primary focus is Spirituality and Service! New members are always welcome! Find us online at: [cda2625.com](http://cda2625.com)

**SACRED HEART FOOD PANTRY** Due to the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday, the food pantry will be open on Tuesday, November 23rd instead of Wednesday, November 24th. As always, the food pantry is very appreciative of the donations both food and monetary throughout the year. We welcome new clients from both Sacred Heart and Saint Mary's parishes.

**NOCTURNAL ADORATION** The monthly Vigil of Prayer scheduled by the Nocturnal Adoration Society for December 3rd will be held at Our Lady of Lourdes 2716 Broad Ave. Altoona from 8:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. Persons interested in joining the Nocturnal Adoration Society are invited to attend one of the monthly Vigils and complete an attendance card provided for that purpose at the church.

**SAINT MARY'S YOUTH CHRISTMAS SERVICE PROJECT** During Advent items can be brought to Church and placed in the boxes provide in the Blessed Mother Room or can be dropped off at the Rectory Office no later than Sunday, December 19, 2021.

**THANKSGIVING VIGIL MASS AND MASS ON THANKSGIVING DAY!** Please remember to bring your non-perishable food items and/or monetary gifts to Saint Mary Thanksgiving Vigil Mass at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday November 24, or Sacred Heart Thanksgiving Mass on Thanksgiving day at 9:00 a.m. (non-perishable food items and/or monetary gifts at 9:00 a.m. Mass will benefit Sacred Heart Food Pantry).

**SAINT MARY PRAYER CHAIN:** Call Rectory at 814-942-2416.

**SAINT MARY CANDLE MEMORIAL:** The Altar Candles and Sanctuary Lamp will burn the week of November 21st, in memory of The Foster Family from Nancy and Kathleen Foster.



Mark Blackie, Rod Baronner, Dan Bauer, John Belin, Glenn Benner, Tommy Cheslock, Jack Chilcote, Brandon Vince Bumann Conaway, Shirley Conlon, Denise Conrad, James Conrad, Kathy Corl, Dan Costlow, John Delin, Joan Donnelly, Matt Dorman, Amelia Doughurty, Lois Duncan, Sam Dunio, Willis Edevane, Ruth Ann Frederick, Shane Gladfelter Phyllis Hartman, Phyllis Hauser, Alva Herman, Ralph Hildebrand, Diane Horton, Paulette Johns, Kenny Anthony Keagy, Sue Koehle, Lori Krug, John Leshene, Beth Lloyd, Cindy Lytle, Barbara Mattren, Chad McDowell, Charles McGrain, Bev Mueller, Kevin O'Rourke, Bill Orr, Karen Pacifico, Gail Pearson, Sarah Rihnovich, Brian Sherbin, Hank Sherbin, Laura Snyder, Peggy Stauffer, Alice Thiec, and Ken Tromm.

**Sacred Heart Youth Service Project** Beginning the weekend of November 20-21, and continuing through the weekend of December 11-12, youth of the Sacred Heart Religious Education program will be collecting new hats, gloves & scarfs for infants, toddler's & youth, to be donated to a local charity. Donation boxes will be located in the church vestibule and youth will be available before all masses to accept donations. Our parish motto "Let the Christ in me reach out to the Christ in you" is the foundation for this service project. Please be supportive, Thank You - For more information, contact Judy Wahl, 944-3922

**ST. MARY'S CHRISTINA MOTHER'S** extends a huge "THANK YOU" to everyone who participated in the Take-Out Spaghetti Dinner Fund Raiser on November 7. We appreciate all who purchased dinners, worked at selling tickets, labored on the day of the dinner to make it run so smoothly and the cooks who made the meal delicious. We especially want to recognize DelGrosso Foods who donated the pasta and sauce, and Pacifico Bakery who donated the rolls. We are very grateful.

**LECTIO DIVINA (SCRIPTURE REFLECTION PRAYER GROUP)** - Since the 3-year ARISE Together in Christ Program has ended, many have requested to continue meeting to discuss the Scriptures. To continue the wonderful opportunity to hear the scriptures through listening and sharing faith comfortably with others, we are forming a group or groups called Lectio Divina (Scripture Reflection Prayer Group). This group will meet once a week beginning in January to pray and discuss the Sunday Scripture Readings in small group settings. If you are interested, please contact the St. Mary's Rectory at 814-942-2416 for more information. Mrs. Joan Keller will coordinate

## GOSPEL MEDITATION

November 21, 2021

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

We often come to life expecting all of the pieces of the puzzle to nicely fit together. We want and expect harmony, order, and fairness, the achievement of rewards for good behavior, good health, and happiness. We can more easily accept death when it comes naturally after a good long life, but have a real difficulty comprehending the meaning of it all when it is cut short. Willing to put in a good measure of effort, we desire positive results. When things go wrong and life gets hurtful, unjust, and downright ugly, we become unsettled and can quickly fall into despair. This is especially true if we are people of faith who believe in a God who sees things on our terms and works in favor of our life agenda. What happens to our faith when we find ourselves sitting in a mess?

Does it help to know that God understands and that hardship, failure, disappointment, injustice, confusion, and all of life's ugliness do not make faith irrelevant or irrational? God is wonderfully and surprising creative! He turns the tables on not only our understanding of life, but of what it means to be a king. God sends us a king who is not exempt from life's ills but embraces them. The king that God gives to us knows what it means to be poor, suffer insults, be ridiculed, face rejection, endure suffering, be betrayed, and face a most unjust and horrific death. This is our king. Jesus is not a king of prestige or grandeur but a king who brings light to darkness, hope to despair, sinners to mercy, and new life out of death. Christ dances before us pleading with us to hold on, cling to love, avoid being negative, stop feeling cheated, and be strong in faith! There may be hardship and disappointment now but there are more surprises to come.

Once we understand this truth, we will also understand that we are on a most incredible and awesome universal journey to Christ and becoming one in Christ. We all carry within us the image of God, the image of our suffering king. The One who lives in us also lives in all of our brothers and sisters. Failing to see this universal Divine Presence in all is one of the greatest mistakes we can make, for we also fail to see God, our king, as well. There are many things that can bring hardship to life. If we keep our head about us and do not lose hope, we can persevere and strive for the greatest degree of justice possible. Even though there are ample things that can challenge our faith, we also know that our deepest joy comes from union with God and our brothers and sisters. One day, the fullness of that joy will be ours to have when we are all eternally one with Christ our King forever. - ©LPi

## Weekly Schedule

### Saturday, November 20th

9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Altoona Deanery Area 11th  
Grade Retreat on Discipleship Saint Mary's  
12:30 p.m. Confessions at Sacred Heart  
3:00 p.m. Confessions at Saint Mary

### Sunday, November 21st

8:00 a.m. All Youth of Parish Youth Mass Saint Mary's  
9:00 a.m. K-10 Religious Education Saint Mary's  
11:00 a.m. PK-9, 11 Religious Education Sacred Heart

### Wednesday, November 17th

10:00 a.m.—1:45 p.m. Sacred Heart Food Pantry  
3:00 p.m. Pro-Life Rosary at Sacred Heart

### Saturday, November 27th

12:30 p.m. Confessions at Sacred Heart  
3:00 p.m. Confessions at Saint Mary

### Sunday, November 28TH

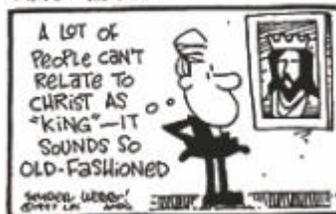
9:00 a.m. No Religious Education Classes St. Mary's  
11:00 a.m. No Religious Education Classes Sacred Heart

**WHAT IS #iGIVECATHOLIC?** Celebrated annually on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving, Black Friday, and Cyber Monday, #iGiveCatholic is a bishop/diocesan led initiative. The U.S. Catholic Church's Giving Day kicks off the charitable season and brings the Catholic community together to give thanks and give back. As the first-ever giving day created to celebrate our unique Catholic heritage, #iGiveCatholic inspires faithful stewards to "Give Catholic" on #GivingTuesday, a global day of giving.

**WHERE CAN I GO TO GIVE?** The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown site is [aj.igivecatholic.org/](http://aj.igivecatholic.org/). Starting on Nov 15th, all of our parishes, schools and some ministries can be found via a drop down box on this site. 100% of all donations go directly towards the parish, school or ministry of your choice!

## HOLY HUMOR

CHRIST THE KING



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