

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

134 East Bishop Street, Bellefonte, PA 16823

August 24, 2025/ 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 10:15 a.m.

**Weekday: Varies—see weekly
Mass schedule**

**St. Kateri Church: 12:00 p.m.
Sunday**

CONFESSION

Saturday: 3:30 p.m.—4:30 p.m.

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

FRIDAY CLOSED

CONTACT US

(814) 355-3134 | saintjohnsoff@gmail.com
www.bellefontecatholicchurch.org

Join us on FlockNote!

Text "SJ814" to the number 84576

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Brian Saylor, Pastor | Deacon Tom Boldin

Fr. Joshi Narisetti, HGN, Parochial Vicar

Lorraine Fello and Rose Truglio: Office Staff

Kristina Tice: St. John School Principal

Tony and Paula Roland: Directors of Rel. Ed.

David Harry: O.C.I.A. Coordinator

Deacon Tom & Shirley Boldin:

Confirmation Directors

Natalie Stanton: Music Ministry Coordinator

Joe Baummer: Maintenance

SACRAMENTS

Confession: Saturday 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Baptism: Call the rectory

O.C.I.A.: Call the rectory

**Marriage: Notify pastor 9 months
in advance**

Masses for the week

Saturday, August 23

5:00 PM Mary Capparelle (Vickie Wolfe)

Sunday, August 24

8:00 AM Consuella Koenig Geiser
(Her Loving Family)

10:15 AM People of the Parish

Monday, August 25

9:00 AM Patricia Grote
(Monica & Fabian Grote)

Tuesday, August 26

10:00 AM Angeline Fedele
(Tina & Greg Wendt Family)

Wednesday, August 27 St. Monica

8:00 AM James Ficarro (Kathleen Ficarro)

Thursday, August 28 St. Augustine

6:00 PM Barb Surovec
(Deb & Art Ardire)

Friday, August 29 Passion of John the Baptist

9:00 AM Katie Saylor (Fr. Brian)

Saturday, August 30

5:00 PM Jerome Basalla (Wife Genny)

Sunday, August 31

8:00 AM Vera & John Eckert I
(Jane & Jim Eckert)

10:15 AM People of the Parish

Eucharistic Minister/Lector /Altar Server/Music

Saturday, August 30 5:00 pm

Eucharistic Ministers: Cindy Hallahan/Sandy Kowalski
Lector: Doreen Koleno
Servers: Elliott Brezler/Henry St. Amant
Music: David Harry

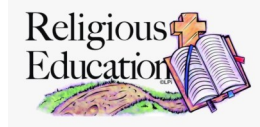
Sunday, August 31 8:00 am

Eucharistic Ministers: Jeff Drapcho/Art Ardire
Lector: Jeff Drapcho
Servers: Dante & Leon Pighetti
Music: Stephen St. Amant

Sunday, August 31 10:15 am

Eucharistic Ministers: Leoni Martins/Adam Rawding
Lector: Adam Rawding
Servers: Grant & Jack Wintersteen
Music: Youth

TRAVELING VOCATION CRUCIFIX PROGRAM: The Vocation Crucifix will be available to travel from home to home for one-week intervals. During that week the host family will be asked to make a special effort to pray together with emphasis on an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life, as well as a clear understanding as to the vocation Christ is calling each family member. A booklet of prayers will accompany the chalice. Sign-up by calling or emailing the Church Office.



CCD GRADES K-8

CCD classes begin Sunday, September 14th at 9 AM.

Registration forms are available at the back of the church by the confessionals for any students not already registered. Please return completed forms to the church office or bring the first day of class.

We will hold a brief parent meeting the first week in the school auditorium. Students will gather with their grades and proceed to their rooms after the meeting has ended.

ATTENTION 9th, 10th and 11th GRADE STUDENTS – For the past three years the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown has been working to update the preparation for reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation. This Confirmation revision involves all ninth, tenth and eleventh grade religious education students, Home School students and St. Joseph's students. Father Brian and the Confirmation Team will be having a meeting to introduce the new Confirmation preparation process on September 7th after the 10:15 Mass.

It is required that the Candidate and at least one parent be present

Questions - please contact Deacon Tom & Shirley Boldin at 355-4234(H) or text to 814-883-8123 or email at stboldin@verizon.net

CONGRATULATIONS to Alexander & Hannah Stroud! Their son Oliver Donald Stroud was baptized on August 11, 2025 May they continue to grow in the faith.

BAPTISM CLASS DATES 2025: Families who would like their first child baptized must attend a baptism class. Class dates for 2025 are September 14, December 14. For additional information or questions contact Deacon Tom Boldin at 814-355-4234(H) or text to 814-883-8123 or email

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sunday, Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 66:18-21; Ps 117:1, 2; Heb 12: 5-7, 11-13; Lk 13:22-30

Monday, Weekday

1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10; Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b; Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday, Weekday

1 Thes 2:1-8; Ps 139:1-3, 4-6; Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday, Memorial of Saint Monica

1 Thes 2:9-13; Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab; Mt 23:27-32

Thursday, Weekday

1 Thes 3:7-13; Ps 90:3-5a, 12-13, 14 and 17; Mt 24:42-51

Friday, Memorial of the Passion of John the Baptist

1 Thes 4:1-8; Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12; Mk 6:17-29

Saturday, Weekday

1 Thes 4:9-11, Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9; Mt 25:14-30

Sunday Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29; Ps 68:4-5, 6-7, 10-11; Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a; Lk 14:1, 7-14

Weekly events

Thursday August 28

6:30 PM Bible Study

Box of Joy 2025

St. John's in Stitches sewing group is excited to coordinate the Christmas **"Box of Joy"** program again this year. Our goal is to provide **150 shoeboxes** for children (in 3 age groups: 2-4 yrs, 5-9 yrs, 10-14 yrs) in Haiti and Central and South America. The shoeboxes will be filled with various items like school supplies, toys and necessities. While the program won't start in earnest until the end of August, we didn't want to miss summer sales and summer related items that are currently in the stores. If you are interested in shopping now, please consider the following items:

- ~ Shorts and t-shirts (ages 2-14, both male and female, light-weight material)
- ~ Hats - bucket and baseball
- ~ Summer Dresses
- ~ School Supplies (crayons, notebooks 4"x6" or smaller, stickers, flashcards, small board books)

Please note that we already have plenty of flip flops, sunglasses and glue sticks from last year's collection. We do not need any of those items.

What to do with your items? You can either hang on to them until we set out collection bins or you can drop them off at the rectory office. Look for our official Box of Joy kick-off in August. Thank you!

2025 Wedding Anniversary Liturgies: Bishop Mark Bartchak and the Family Life office cordially invite all couples celebrating **1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60+ years** of Marriage in 2025 (and their families) to attend the **Annual Wedding Anniversary Liturgy**. Couples may attend **Sunday, September 21 in Altoona at Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament** or **Sunday, September 28 in Johnstown at St. John Gaulbert Cathedral**. Both locations are handicap accessible. Liturgies in each location **begin at 2:00 PM**. Most Rev. Bishop Mark will be the celebrant and homilist at each celebration. Refreshments/snacks will be available after the Mass for anniversary couples and their families.

Reservations must be made through our parish office for either celebration by Friday, September 12th. Call the rectory office to register at 814-355-3134.

OCIA Classes begin in September! If you, or someone you know, is interested in becoming Catholic, our OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults) class will begin in September. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the Catholic faith and draw closer to the Lord Jesus. These sessions are not only for those who have decided to join, but also those who are curious about the faith – all are welcome! If you would like more information, please contact the rectory office, or RCIA coordinator David Harry at 814-880-8427 or at centreplayhouse@aol.com. We are also looking for faithful Catholics interested in joining the RCIA team – we need people to help with the program and to serve as sponsors for our candidates and catechumens. We look forward to hearing from you!

Weekly Financial Report

For the Weekend of August 17, 2025

ORDINARY COLLECTION INCOME RECEIVED:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Adult Offertory (regular & online): | \$ 7,265.60 |
| Loose Offertory: | \$ 1,105.00 |
| Children | \$ 5.20 |
| Special Monthly: | \$ 220.00 |
| Votive Candles: | \$ 214.05 |

ORDINARY TOTAL \$ 8,809.85

EXTRA ORDINARY INCOME RECEIVED:

| | |
|--------------|-----------|
| Local Family | \$ 60.00 |
| Cemetery | \$ 00.00 |
| Maintenance: | \$ 325.00 |

EXTRA ORDINARY TOTAL: \$ 385.00

ORDINARY & EXTRA TOTAL: \$ 9,194.85

SCHOOL COLLECTION: \$ 1,484.00

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS: (Diocesan or Other)

| | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Assumption | \$ 1,650.00 |
| Holy Name of Mary | \$ 7,387.00 |
| Missionary Coop | \$ 355.00 |

Thank you for your generosity!

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE GOAL

\$54,600.00

\$34,885.00 as of June 30, 2025



Calling All Youth Singers!



The Saint John Youth Choir is looking for more voices to join our joyful music-making! If you're in grades 3–12, love to sing, and want a fun way to get involved in our church family, we'd love for you to come check us out.

Questions? Contact Natalie Stanton — Youth Choir Director & Church Music Coordinator — at nstanton@saintjohnsch.net.

HEALING THROUGH FAITH MEETINGS -

Are you looking for an opportunity to talk about your grief with others who are experiencing similar feelings? If so, please join us as we support one another through our faith. Grief can come from the death of a loved one, unexpected illnesses, loss of a job, divorce and many other situations in everyday life. The monthly "Healing through Faith" meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 9AM in the Rectory dining room which is easily accessible. The evening sessions are on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 6:30PM in the Rectory basement. All are welcome! For more information contact a member of our Ministry of Consolation team: Ed Mulfinger at 280-2755, Connie Davis at 355-1280 or Barbara Materna at 359-0354.

St. Kateri Tekakwitha Church

P.O. Box 159, 3503 Penns Valley Rd Spring Mills, PA 16875 | www.stkaterichurch.org | Rev. Brian Saylor, Pastor

Mass is celebrated Sunday at 12:00 Noon | Confession: 1st Sunday after Mass (1:00 pm)

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, August 24

12:00 PM Ann Butz (56th Wedding
Anniversary of Ann & Larry Butz)

Sunday, August 31

12:00 PM Lewis Turner
(Millie Turner)

LECTOR SCHEDULE

August 24 Shelly Ash
August 31 Millie Turner

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER SCHEDULE

August 24 Deb Cusatis
August 31 Sandy Rockey

WEEKLY COLLECTION TOTALS (regular & online)

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| August 10, 2025 | \$ 956.00 |
| August 17, 2025 | \$ 1,008.00 |
| Assumption | \$ 30.00 |

ROSARY at St. Kateri is prayed before Mass most Sundays beginning at 11:30 am. Why not come a little early to church that day to pray the rosary to Our Lady with us! Contact Millie Turner (mlt3557@verizon.net) if you would like to lead the rosary on occasion.

COMMUNION SERVICE There will be a Communion Service this Tuesday, August 26th at 11:00 AM followed by Adoration.

Thank you and Blessings to Father Ralph!

We want to thank Father Ralph for all his help this summer and wish him all of God's Blessings as he returns to teach in the Seminary this fall. We also pray for his continued success in his work with the children at Holy Name of Mary Academy. Father Ralph will be returning home Wednesday, August 27th. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Relic of the Cloak of St. Joseph

The cloak of Saint Joseph is a sacred relic held at the Basilica of Sant'Anastasia in Rome. It is believed to have been brought to Rome by Saint Jerome in the 4th century. This relic, believed to be the mantle of Saint Joseph, is a symbol of his role as protector and provider for the Holy Family and is associated with miracles and healings.

While the physical mantle is found in a basilica of Rome, the spiritual mantle is encountered anywhere with the following prayer:

"O, Glorious Patriarch, St. Joseph, you who were chosen by God, above all others, to be the earthly head of the Holy Family, I ask you to accept me within the folds of your holy cloak, that you may be the guardian and protector of my soul, of my family, parish, and world.

"From this moment on, I choose you as my father, protector, help, and patron — and I ask you to place me in your care — my health and well-being, my faith, my life, and my death.

"Look upon me as one of your children; defend me from all harm and from my enemies — invisible or otherwise. Assist me always in all my necessities; console me in the bitterness of life, and especially at the hour of my death.

"Say but one word for me to the Divine Savior, who you were worthy to hold in your arms, and to Mary, your Spouse.

"Ask, please, for those blessings that will lead me to Jesus. Include me among those who are dear to you and I shall try to prove myself worthy of all I know you will do.

Amen."

2025 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE GOAL

\$8,500.00

\$18,550.00 as of June 30, 2025

Pilgrimage to Washington, DC

Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception - October 17, 2025.

Important Notice: We are taking reservations for the Buses traveling to Washington DC for the Jubilee 2025 Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. The cost of the Bus is \$70.00 per person and does not include meals or the tip for the bus driver. The bus will depart at **EXACTLY 6:00 AM** from the Walmart parking lot, Benner Pike, State College.

ONLY 2 BUSES with 100 SEATS are available.

Reservations will be taken on a first come first serve basis. To reserve a seat (s) and make payment to St. John the Evangelist Parish, please call 814-355-3134. More information and an itinerary for the day will be distributed closer to the event.

Please call as soon as possible because seats will fill up fast and these are the only buses reserved for the Northern Deanery area.

MEMORIALS & DONATIONS:

School Collection (July): \$2,246.50

General donation: Bill and Louise Rogers

In memory of Louise Masullo: Tina Carlin, Bill Masullo and family

Thank you to all of our benefactors and God bless your generosity to and support of our school.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:

As we joyfully begin the 135th year of Saint John Catholic School, I give thanks for the rich tradition begun by the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. For more than a century, their vision has guided us in fostering academic excellence, nurturing a warm and welcoming community, and instilling in our students a deep commitment to living out the Catholic faith.

This year, our theme, "From Small Seeds, Great Things Grow," reminds us that every lesson taught, every act of kindness shared, and every prayer offered plants seeds that will flourish in the lives of our students for years to come.

I am deeply grateful to our parishioners for your continued prayers, encouragement, and support, which make our mission possible. I especially thank our school families for entrusting us with their greatest gifts: their children. It is our privilege to walk with them as they grow into bright, faith-filled servant leaders. May God bless our students, families, faculty, staff, and parish as we begin another year of faith and learning together.

In Christ,

Kristina Tice

Principal of Saint John Catholic School

SCHOOL MASS AND BLESSING OF BACKPACKS: All Saint John families are invited to join Fr. Brian for a special Mass to start the new school year on Sunday, August 24th at 4pm at Governors Park. Please bring a lawn chair or blanket and your school backpack to be blessed. The Home and School Association will provide popsicles for students and siblings after Mass. Families are encouraged to stay afterward for fellowship and so that the kids can enjoy time together at the park.

2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR:

- Sunday, August 24th - Mass/Blessing of Backpacks @ Governors Park - 4pm
- Tuesday, August 26th - New school year begins for K-5th grade (full day)
- Wednesday, August 27th - 4-year-old Pre-K orientation - 9am
- Thursday, August 28th - 3 year-old Pre-K orientation - 9am
- Friday, August 29th and Monday, September 1st - No School in observance of Labor Day
- Tuesday, September 2nd - School resumes and first day of Pre-K

CLASSROOM CULTIVATORS:

It takes a village to help our garden grow and we are incredibly grateful to the following Classroom Cultivators:

- Preschool: Anonymous Cultivator
 - Pre-K: Mr. and Mrs. Gary and Cathy Himmel
 - Kindergarten: Mr. and Mrs. Bill and Louise Rogers
 - First Grade: Dr. and Mrs. Joe and Phyllis Martin
 - Second Grade: Mr. and Mrs. James and Christine Surovec
 - Third Grade: Ms. Barbara Carver and Ms. Kay Uncapher
 - Fourth Grade: Mr. and Mrs. Barry and Barbara Pearce
 - Fifth Grade: Mr. and Mrs. Robert and Ann Kubat
 - Phys. Ed.: Mr. and Mrs. John and Torrey Hillard
 - Art: Mr. and Mrs. Don and Sara Nagel
 - Music: Deacon Tom and Shirley Boldin
 - STREAM: OPEN
 - Library: OPEN
 - After School Care: Anonymous Cultivator
- What are Classroom Cultivators? Classroom Cultivators are generous individuals or families who sponsor a specific

CULTIVATORS cot'd

Classroom at St. John School for the year with a \$500 donation. Their support helps ensure that teachers don't need to use their own funds to provide classroom materials, student resources, and special activities - planting the seeds for a joyful, faith-filled learning environment where great things grow! If you're interested in sponsoring one of our remaining classrooms, please contact the school office at mainoffice@saintjohnsch.net or 814-355-7859. Thank you for helping our students thrive!

SAINT JOHN Oktoberfest

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2025 6-9 PM
The Shop - 129 Snyder Brook Lane, Bellefonte

TICKET INCLUDES:
ONE BEVERAGE | ONE MEAL | ONE DESSERT
DOOR PRIZE ENTRY | CUSTOM HUG
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT BY THE LITTLE GERMAN BAND

Purchase tickets at school or rectory office,
or pay securely online using QR code
to pick up your tickets at the event.

Contact us at
814-355-7859 or oktoberfest@saintjohnsch.net
with any questions or to inquire about sponsorship opportunities.
Tickets will be sold until September 27
and will not be available at the door.

**ON SALE NOW
\$40/PERSON**
must be 21 years of age or older



**Robin Hood
Brewing Co**

AXEMANN 

**TICKETS FROM THIS
21+ EVENT TO BENEFIT
SAINT JOHN SCHOOL**

VOCATION CORNER

Jesus uses the metaphor of a narrow door to illustrate the effort required to enter the Kingdom of God. It's not a wide gate that anyone can easily pass through, but a path that requires focus, humility, and a commitment to following Jesus.



The passage challenges the idea that salvation is simply a matter of belonging to a certain group or having certain religious affiliations. It implies that individuals must actively strive to enter, suggesting a personal commitment and a turning away from self-centeredness and towards God's will.

The passage suggests that entering the narrow door requires humility, a letting go of pride and self-reliance. It implies a spiritual slimming down through prayer, fasting, and acts of penance.

"Strive to enter through the narrow gate." (Luke 13:24)

A vocation to the priesthood or religious life is a challenging but rewarding path. If you feel called to follow Christ through this narrow gate, embrace it with courage.