

Saint John Gualbert
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Bishop
Most Rev Mark L Bartchak, DD

Rector & Pastor
Very Rev James F Crookston

Parochial Vicar
Father Clarence S Bridges

In Residence
Father Sean K Code

Deacon
Senior Deacon John J Concanon

SUNDAY LITURGY

Saturday Evening

5:00 pm

Sundays

8:00 am

11:00 am

5:00 pm



Daily Mass

Monday through Friday

7:00 am

12:05 pm

Saturday

8:00 am

CONFESSION

Saturday

3:00 pm - Cathedral

Thursday before First Friday

3:00 pm - Cathedral

Saint John Gualbert Cathedral Parish

Let the peace of Christ control your hearts;
Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.



Sunday, December 30, - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Readings: 1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28/ 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24/ Luke 2:41-52

8:00 am: Charles Laslo (Deacon John, Monica Kendera, & Brigid Starchok)

11:00 am: Betty Weaver (Family)

5:00 pm: *For the Intentions of the People of the Parish*

Monday, December 31, - Seventh Day in the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord:

Saint Sylvester I, Pope

Readings: 1 John 2:18-21/ John 1:1-18

7:00 am: Eleanor Heider (John & Cha Cha)

12:05 pm: Kathleen Grady, Anniversary (Karen & Bob Fink)

6:00 pm: Robert F. Crookston (Family)

Tuesday, January 1, - Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

Readings: Numbers 6:22-27/ Galatians 4:4-7/ Luke 2:16-21

9:00 am: Florence Eckenrod (Pat & Denny Heptner)

Rose Goodman (Family)

Wednesday, January 2, - Saints Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen,

Bishops & Doctors of the Church

Readings: 1 John 2:22-28/ John 1:19-28

7:00 am: Saint Anne Society

12:05 pm: Shirley Turtoro (Mary Lou Gelles)

Thursday, January 3, - The Most Holy Name of Jesus

Readings: 1 John 2:29-3:6/ John 1:29-34

7:00 am: Ron Vogel (Kiel Family)

12:05 pm: Edward & Margaret Wess (Family)

Friday, January 4, - Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

Readings: 1 John 3:7-10/ John 1:35-42

7:00 am: Tim Obringer (Diane Keafer)

12:05 pm: Gerri Herdman, Birthday Remembrance (Family)

Saturday, January 5, - Saint John Neumann, Bishop

Readings: 1 John 3:11-21/ John 1:43-51

8:00 am: Clara Mulkey (Lena & Pete Omodio)

5:00 pm: Bob King (Wife, Betty, Children & Grandchildren)

Sunday, January 6, - The Epiphany of the Lord

Readings: Isaiah 60:1-6/ Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6/ Matthew 2:1-12

8:00 am: Charles Laslo (Deacon John, Monica Kendera, & Brigid Starchok)

11:00 am: *For the Intentions of the Television Ministry*

5:00 pm: *For the Intentions of the People of the Parish*

From Our Pastor . . .

Ministries Make Yuletide Glorious Our voices, along with piano, organ, brass, wind, and percussion are wonderfully uplifting our Christmas worship. The musical splendor evokes glee, and exuberant, spiritual joy. Evonne Yanzetich-Homway's direction of choral and instrumental excellence enlivens our praise of God. The Greater Johnstown Diocesan Festival Choir and Youth Chorale bring warm, brilliant coloring to beloved Christmas hymns and inspiration echoing the heavenly angelic chorus.

The artistic efforts of Patricia Loughlin, Elizabeth Gramlich, and many others magnificently embellish our foyer and sanctuary.

Church custodian, John Molnar, gives sparkle to pew, wall, and floor. Ushers and altar ministers also help create an uplifting atmosphere for our worship of the Christ who has come to dwell among us.

Also, the highly appreciative assemblage for our Advent of Christmas Concert continues to share with friends their joyous memories of the excellent musical offerings by the Festival Choir and Chorale, and the Hilltop Chamber Orchestra.

Holy Day of Obligation This week we observe of the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. Masses celebrating Mary's Blessed Motherhood are: Monday evening, December 31 at **6:00 PM**, and Tuesday morning, January 1, at **9:00 AM**.

Pope Francis: Excerpts from the World Day of Peace Message 2019

5. Good Politics Promotes the Participation of the Young and Trust in Others When the exercise of political power aims only at protecting the interests of a few privileged individuals, the future is compromised, and young people can be tempted to lose confidence, since they are relegated to the margins of society without the possibility of helping to build the future.

However, when politics concretely fosters the talents of young people and their aspirations, peace grows in their outlook and on their faces. It becomes a confident assurance that says, "I trust you, and with you, I believe" that we can all work together for the common good.

Politics is at the service of peace if it finds expression in recognition of the gifts and abilities of each individual. "What could be more beautiful than an outstretched hand? It was meant by God to offer and to receive. God did not want it to kill (cf. Gn 4:1ff) or to inflict suffering, but to offer care and help in life. Together with our heart and our intelligence, our hands too can become a means of dialogue."

Everyone can contribute his or her stone to help build the common home. Authentic political life, grounded in law and frank and fair relations between individuals, experiences renewal whenever we are convinced that every woman, man, and generation brings the promise of new relational, intellectual, cultural and spiritual energies. That kind of trust is never easy to achieve because human relations are involved, especially in our times, marked by a climate of mistrust rooted in fear of others or of strangers, or anxiety about one's security.

Sadly, it is also seen at the political level in attitudes of rejection or forms of nationalism that call into question the fraternity of which our globalized world has such great need. Today more than ever our societies need "artisans of peace" who can be messengers and authentic witnesses of God the Father, who wills the good and the happiness of the human family.

6. No to War and the Strategy of Fear

A hundred years after the end of World War I, as we remember the young people killed in those battles and the civilian populations torn apart, we are more conscious than ever of the terrible lesson taught by fratricidal wars: Peace can never be reduced solely to a balance between power and fear. To threaten others is to lower them to the status of objects and to deny their dignity. Therefore we state once more that an escalation of intimidation and the uncontrolled proliferation of arms is contrary to morality and the search for real peace. Terror exerted over those who are most vulnerable contributes to the exile of entire populations who seek a place of peace.

Political addresses that tend to blame every evil on migrants and to deprive the poor of hope are unacceptable. Instead, there is a need to reaffirm that peace is based on respect for each person, whatever his or her background, on respect for the law and the common good, on respect for the environment entrusted to our care and for the richness of the moral tradition inherited from past generations.

Our thoughts turn in a way to all those children currently living in areas of conflict and to all those who work to protect their lives and defend their rights. One out of every six children in our world is affected by the violence of war or its effects, even when they are not enrolled as child soldiers or held hostage by armed groups. The witness given by those who work to defend them and their dignity is most precious for the future of humanity.

FROM OUR PARISH

Religious Education News:

- **Sunday, Dec. 30th** – no class – Happy New Year!!
- **Sunday, Jan. 6th** – regular class 9:00 to 10:15 am

2019 Envelopes are available for pick-up near the Clinton Street entrance way. This is the final week for the envelopes to be in the back of the church.

The Christian Life and Service Committee will be conducting their **Annual Yellow Ribbon Campaign** in support of pro-life before and after all Masses the weekend of January 5 & 6. The monetary donations received will get our fellow parishioners down to Washington, DC for the March for Life to be held on Friday, January 18th. Thank you for your many prayers and generosity in supporting this effort.

FROM OTHER PARISHES & THE COMMUNITY

St. Francis of Assisi will sponsor a Fish Fry on Friday, January 11 from 11am to 6:00pm at the Activity Center, corner of D Street and Barron Avenue. There will be a Gob and Bake sale in conjunction with the Fish Fry. We offer Fried and Baked Fish, Shrimp and a Combo dinner of Fish and Shrimp along with Sandwiches and a variety of sides. For a complete menu, visit our website at <http://www.stfrancisofassisijohnstown.com> and click on the Fish Fry tab.

Guidance Through the Year

By Lois Snelling

In faith, O Lord, you guided me
 Through every day of the year:
 Come blinding storm, come doubt or pain,
 Your hand was always near.
 The year was long, till I had trod it through;
 But I walked secure because you walked there too.
 That year is past and all its days
 Now finished, lie behind;
 But reaching out ahead of me
 A strange new year I find.
 So strange, untried, these newer days—
 But Lord, I have no fear—
 For I know well that every hour
 Your presence will be near.

Finding Your Own Way to Pray

By Jim and Susan Vogt

Susan isn't comfortable raising her arms in praise. Jim found Forty Hours devotion less than satisfying even as an altar boy. As children, we both learned the rosary but seldom say it. None of these prayer styles is wrong; it's just that prayer is such a personal experience. What inspires one person bores another. What seems old-fashioned to one connects another with their religious heritage.

Prayer, be it memorized or spontaneous, individual or communal, filled with incense or the fragrance of pine needles in the woods, is communication with God. Most people eventually seek answers to life's persistent questions: Is there anything more than what meets the eye? Is there really an afterlife? We may not often be aware of these yearnings, but sooner or later, a crisis occurs, a life-changing decision is before us or we simply marvel at the miracle of a newborn child—and so we pray.

Are we holier if we pray more? Yes, prayer puts us in a more conscious relationship with God. This relationship of thankfulness, dependence, trust and honor should make us better people—more aware of our inner selves and more attentive to the needs of others.

Prayer generally falls into the broad categories of verbal or nonverbal, individual or communal, memorized or spontaneous, contemplative or active. Those seeking a more prayerful life might experiment with many forms of prayer and let trial and error lead them to deeper conversation with God.

Remember, prayer is basically conversation with God. Books and organized prayer can help, but if you have a relationship with someone, you want to spend time together. If you can talk, you can pray. Talking isn't even required; just being in each other's company is what counts.

But prayer isn't all there is to spirituality. Becoming a holier, more spiritual person includes having an attitude of gratefulness, looking for the good in others rather than complaining, living out the corporal and spiritual works of mercy, and doing the dishes and changing diapers as acts of service for those we love. Donating money so that others' lives may be a little better, putting up with annoyances, enduring an illness or physical pain, sacrificing our wants for the needs of another—all these actions make our hearts bigger and deepen our spirituality.

Consider this: If you're too busy to pray, you're too busy.

COLLECTION: 12/23/2018

Collection – cash	\$ 966.07
Collection – envelopes	\$ 3,395.73
Second collection	\$ 333.00
Maintenance	\$ 25.00
Christmas	\$10,648.68
Christmas flowers	\$ 15.00
New Year's	\$ 5.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 10.00
Catholic Charities	\$ 5.00
St. Croix	\$ 5.00
Retirement for Religious	\$ 27.00
Retired Priest's Medical	\$ 5.00
Mission Sunday	\$ 5.00
Advent Concert	\$ 1,425.04

Total \$16,870.52
Thank you for your Stewardship

**Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Servers,
CCA Gift Cards and Audio Operators, Jan 5 - 6**

Saturday, January 5, 5:00 PM

Reader: Elizabeth Rhoades, Beth Stem
Eucharistic Minister: Elizabeth Gramlich, Russ Gramlich,
Betty King, Elizabeth King,
Christine Russell
Server: Jason Harris, Rylee Russell
Audio Operator: Kevin Slonka

Sunday, January 6, 8:00 AM

Reader: Dave Harteis, Fred Oliveros
Eucharistic Minister: Carmen Grasso, Sam Grasso,
Irene Ott, Rose Ann Schellhammer,
Gloria Stephens
Server: Rich Ott, Request a server
Gift Card: Lisa Leckey
Audio Operator: Rose Eckenrod

Sunday, January 6, 11:00 AM

Reader: Lonnie Rietscha, David Wilson
Eucharistic Minister: Esperanza Bair, Request a minister,
James Hollis, Russ Smith,
Geoffrey Stumpo
Server: Damien Byer, Hayleigh Rietscha
Gift Card: Brian King
Audio Operator: Tracy Smith

Sunday, January 6, 5:00 PM

Reader: Charlotte Amenti, Dixie Lochrie
Eucharistic Minister: Patricia Loughlin, Pat Roth,
James Sandoval, Request two ministers
Server: Namita Gallo, Vi Najjar
Audio Operator: Matthew Updyke

Families and the Gospel: Lk 2:41-52, Today's gospel contains this truth about parenting: "but his parents did not know." One of the reasons parenting is so difficult is because our children don't tell us everything. If the Holy Family had trouble with their teenager, why do we think it will be easier for us? - Reprinted with permission from: *A Family Perspective* by Bud Ozar

Liturgical Reflection ... Our churches and our homes have the scene of the newborn Child surrounded by his Mother and Joseph. Today the Church celebrates with the Holy Family. May all families be grounded in the love of the Holy Family. When parents and children, husbands and wives, brothers and sisters face tough moments at home, turn to Jesus, Mary, and Joseph to find your peace. Pray for right judgement and the strength to live in harmony with the Holy Family. - 2018, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 South Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648.

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Bradley Duca, *Supervisor* Alexis Mueller, *Supervisor*
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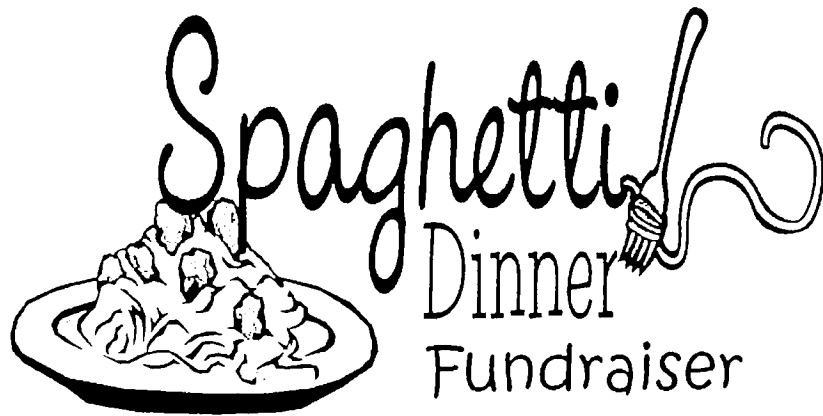
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Saint John Activity Center
Corner of Adams & Railroad Streets

SUNDAY, March 3
11:00 AM-2:00 PM

SAVE THE DATE!

**Proceeds benefit the mission volunteers
of our parish who are going to
our Sister Parish of Saint Croix,
Santa Cruz, Jamaica.**

Your support is greatly appreciated!