

# ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

134 East Bishop Street,  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

# ST. KATERI TEKAKWITHA CATHOLIC CHURCH

PO Box 159  
3503 Penns Valley Rd,  
Spring Mills, PA 16875

## November 30, 2025/ First Sunday of Advent



### MASS SCHEDULE

**St. John: Saturday: 5:00 p.m.;**  
**Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 10:15 a.m.**

**St. Kateri: Sunday 12:00 p.m.**  
**Weekday: Varies—see weekly Mass**  
**schedule**

### CONFESSION

**St. John: Saturday: 3:30 p.m.—4:30 p.m.**  
**St. Kateri: First Sunday: 1:00 p.m.**

### RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

### CONTACT US

(814) 355-3134 | [saintjohnsoff@gmail.com](mailto:saintjohnsoff@gmail.com)  
[www.bellefontecatholicchurch.org](http://www.bellefontecatholicchurch.org)  
[www.stkaterichurch.org](http://www.stkaterichurch.org)

Join us on FlockNote!  
Text “SJ814” to the number 84576

### PARISH STAFF

Fr. Brian Saylor, VF, Pastor |  
Deacon Tom Boldin  
Fr. Joshi Narisetti, HGN, Parochial Vicar  
Lorraine Fello and Rose Truglio: Office Staff  
Kristina Tice: St. John School Principal  
Religious Education:  
Tony and Paula Roland: Directors-St. John  
Millie Turner: Director -St. Kateri  
Confirmation Program:  
Deacon Tom & Shirley Boldin: Directors-St. John  
kb Boomer: Director-St. Kateri  
David Harry: O.C.I.A. Coordinator  
Natalie Stanton: Music Ministry Coordinator  
Joe Baummer: Maintenance

### SACRAMENTS

**Baptism: Call the rectory**  
**O.C.I.A.: Call the rectory**  
**Marriage: Notify pastor 9 months**  
**in advance**

## St. John Masses for the week

### Saturday, November 29

**5:00 PM** Jerome Basalla (Wife, Genny)

### Sunday, November 30

**8:00 AM** JoAnn Murray (Jim & Jane Eckert)

**10:15 AM** Raymond J. Trexler  
(Tom & Rosemary Kasten)

### Monday, December 1

**9:00 AM** Mary Foreso (Fr. Brian)

### Tuesday, December 2

**8:00 AM** Robert Uncapher (The Family)

### Wednesday, December 3 St. Francis Xavier, Priest

**8:00 AM** Virginia Yost (CDA #448)

### Thursday, December 4 St. John Damascene

**6:00 PM** Betty Lutchko  
(Mindy & Pat Terpak)

### Friday, December 5

**8:00 AM** Emro Drapcho (Family)  
Edith Modis (Art & Deb Ardire)

### Saturday, December 6 St. Nicholas, Bishop

**8:00 AM** Father Sylvester Bendzella (Fr. Brian)

**5:00 PM** Donald & Vilma Anspauch (Anspauch  
Neidigh, & Kowalski Families)

### Sunday, December 7

**8:00 AM** Betty Nastase (Doug Moerschbacher)

**10:15** People of the Parish

### Eucharistic Minister/Lector /Altar Server/Music

#### Saturday, December 6 5:00 pm

Eucharistic Ministers: Cindy Hallahan/Mike Pavone  
Lector: Stephanie Mullin  
Servers: Cameron Niemann/Luke Russell  
Music: Stephen St. Amant

#### Sunday, December 7 8:00 am

Eucharistic Ministers: Jeff Drapcho/Shirley Boldin  
Lector: Jeff Drapcho  
Servers: Dante & Leon Pighetti  
Music: Traditional

#### Sunday, December 7 10:15 am

Eucharistic Ministers: Adam Rawding/Janie Provan  
Lector: Christine Surovec  
Servers: Michael & Grace Herzing  
Music: Folk

## St. Kateri Masses for the week

### Sunday, November 30

**12:00 PM** People of the Parish

### Tuesday, December 2

**11:00 AM** Barbara Gillespie (Family)

### Sunday, December 7

**12:00 PM** Frank LaNasa (Millie Turner)

**WEEKDAY MASS** There will be Mass this Tuesday,  
December 2 at 11:00 AM.

**The ROSARY** 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](mailto:mlt3557@verizon.net)) If you would like to lead the rosary on occasion.



### ST. KATERI MINISTERS

#### Lector

**November 30** Gail Anderson  
**December 7** Millie Turner

#### Eucharistic Minister

**November 30** Sandy Rockey  
**December 7** Shelly Ash

#### Hospitality

**November 30:** Happy Thanksgiving– no Hospitality  
**December 7:** Susan Slenker and kb & Rick BB  
**December 14:** Shelly Ash & Diane Brown

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sunday, First Sunday of Advent  
Is 2:1-5; Ps 122, 1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Rm 13:11-14; Mt 24:37-44  
Monday, Advent Weekday  
Is 4:2-6; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9; Mt 8:5-11  
Tuesday, Advent Weekday  
Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24  
Wednesday, Memorial of Saint Francis Xavier, Priest  
Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5,6; Mt 15:29-37  
Thursday, Advent Weekday  
Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27  
Friday, Advent Weekday  
Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31  
Saturday, Advent Weekday  
Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8  
Sunday, Second Sunday of Advent  
Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Rm 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

### SANCTUARY CANDLE

In memory of Emro Drapcho  
From the Family

## Weekly events

**Sunday Dec. 1**      **9:30 AM Adoration**  
**6:00 PM Movie**

**Thursday Dec. 4**      **6:30 PM CDA Meeting**

**St. John's in Stitches** is in need of Girl, baby blankets which can be knitted, crocheted or quilted. There is yarn available in the storage bins in the supply room. Thank you for all of your support as we appreciate all your help providing for these newly baptized babies.

### **ST. JOHN'S GIVING TREE**

St. John's annual Giving Tree project begins this week-end. This program helps to provide gifts for area children and families as well as elderly residents in area nursing homes.

The Giving Trees are in the back of the church with "angels" displayed on them. Each angel contains a name of a child, adult, or family along with some items they may need. Please consider taking an angel or 2 to help make this holiday a little brighter for someone in need. Please take an angel if you are able to return the gift by **Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>**. **Make sure you buy gifts from the list that is on the angel. The items listed are things needed or requested by those individuals. If items are not listed, they may not be needed.** All of the gifts should be returned wrapped (unless otherwise noted) with the angel attached to the outside.

**Please return gifts to the back of the church during the weekends of Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> only. All gifts must be received by 11:30 on Sunday Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> to ensure delivery.**

If you have any questions, please call Patty Correll at 814-571-8718.

### **St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store: Holiday Specials**

- The Holiday season is here, check out our selection of Apparel and Décor.
- Are you looking for "That Special Gift"? We have a wonderful selection for the special someone.
- Winter Coats, Vests and Leather and Suede Coats are available at great prices.

Fabulous Furs now available—just in time for Christmas giving. There are also a few in less-than-perfect condition that can easily be used to make stuffed animals as Christmas gifts.

Have you ever thought about volunteering at the Thrift Store? We are looking for individuals to join our team. If you are interested in learning more, please call 814-867-3131 or stop by the Thrift Store.

Donations are accepted Monday – Thursday, 10 am – 3:30 pm and Friday and Saturday, 10 am – 1 pm ONLY. The Thrift Store is open Monday - Saturday, 10 am - 4 pm.

## Weekly Financial Report

**For the Weekend of November 16, 2025**

### **ORDINARY COLLECTION INCOME RECEIVED:**

|                                     |             |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Adult Offertory (regular & online): | \$ 6,061.90 |
| Loose Offertory:                    | \$ 889.00   |
| Children's Offertory:               | \$ 5.00     |
| Special Monthly:                    | \$ 325.00   |
| Votive Candles:                     | \$ 151.76   |

**ORDINARY TOTAL \$ 7,432.66**

### **EXTRA ORDINARY INCOME RECEIVED:**

|                         |           |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Maintenance:            | \$ 205.00 |
| Local Family Assistance | \$ 500.00 |

**EXTRA ORDINARY TOTAL: \$ 705.00**

**ORDINARY & EXTRA TOTAL: \$ 8,137.66**

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**SCHOOL COLLECTION: \$ 1,173.00**

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### **SPECIAL COLLECTIONS: (Diocesan or Other)**

|                    |             |
|--------------------|-------------|
| All Souls          | \$ 2.00     |
| Catholic Charities | \$ 1,000.00 |
| Holy Name of Mary  | \$ 250.00   |
| Hurricane Relief   | \$ 100.00   |
| World Mission      | \$ 5.00     |

### **ST. KATERI COLLECTION TOTALS (regular & online)**

|                          |                    |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>November 9, 2025</b>  | <b>\$ 2,020.00</b> |
| <b>World Mission</b>     | <b>\$ 100.00</b>   |
| <b>November 16, 2025</b> | <b>\$1, 212.00</b> |

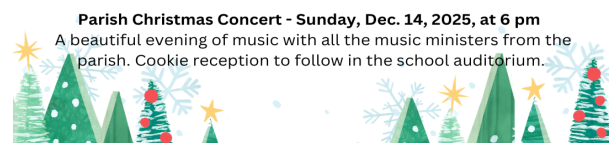
**Thank you for your generosity!**



The Saint John School students and the Music Ministers of Saint John have been busily preparing for a number of upcoming concerts. Please consider joining us as we spread the good news of the season through song. All concerts will be held in the Church.

**Saint John School Christmas Nativity - Sunday, Dec. 7, 2025, at 3 pm**  
*Join Saint John students in grades PreK4-5th grade as they tell the story of Jesus' birth.*

**Victorian Christmas Concert - Saturday, Dec. 13, 2025, at 10:00 am,**  
 featuring the students from Saint John School in grades K-5, in addition to the school's Bell Choir.



**Parish Christmas Concert - Sunday, Dec. 14, 2025, at 6 pm**  
 A beautiful evening of music with all the music ministers from the parish. Cookie reception to follow in the school auditorium.



# Religious Education

## St. John

### **CCD GRADES K-8**

CCD classes have resumed! Grades K-8<sup>th</sup> class times are Sunday 9:00-10:00 in St. John School. Please contact Tony ([tcroland@hotmail.com](mailto:tcroland@hotmail.com)) or Paula Roland ([proland@dioceseaj.org](mailto:proland@dioceseaj.org)) for new student registration or with any questions.

Please note the following class schedule

Nov. 30th—No Class

Dec. 7th—Class (First Reconciliation 2nd Grade, 3rd & 4th grade Reconciliation)

Dec. 14th—Class, Reconciliation 5th & 6th grades

### **9th , 10th , 11th Grade Confirmation Class**

Mass at 10:15 am - Followed by Class from 11:15 am-12:30 pm in the School Auditorium.

Sunday, November 30 No Class

Sunday, December 7 Group Mass & Class

Sunday, December 14 Group Mass & Class

Sunday, December 21 Evening Class-Christmas Party

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

### **Exclusive Film Screening: *Triumph of the Heart***

Our parish is thrilled to host a special screening of *Triumph of the Heart* – the moving true story of St. Maximilian Kolbe, the Franciscan priest who offered his life in exchange for another prisoner at Auschwitz during World War II.

When: December 1, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Where: St. John the Evangelist Church, 134 E. Bishop St., Bellefonte

Come and be inspired by this powerful witness of faith, courage, and sacrificial love. This screening is open to all parishioners, families, and friends.

Admission: Free Will Donation will be accepted

Join us for this unique opportunity to encounter the heroic story of St. Maximilian Kolbe on the big screen! More about the movie at [triumphoftheheart.com](http://triumphoftheheart.com)

**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.

## St. Kateri

Nov. 30—No CCD-Happy Thanksgiving

Dec. 7—CCD

Dec. 14—No CCD

Dec. 21—CCD Christmas Pageant during Mass/dinner afterward

**BAPTISM CLASS DATES 2025:** Families who would like their first child baptized must attend a baptism class. The final class date for 2025 is December 14. For additional information or questions contact Deacon Tom Boldin at 814-355-4234(H) or text to 814-883-8123 or email [stboldin@verizon.net](mailto:stboldin@verizon.net)

### **WHAT IS A DEAN IN THE CHURCH?**

The structure of the institution of the Catholic Church has evolved in response to a changing world and the growth of the Church ("the evolving of the Church as it looks to the signs of the times," in the language of Vatican II). The Church in 33 AD was very small. It was led by Apostles and deacons (helpers). As it grew, it included bishops, then priests, then regional councils. Today the administration of the Church has many layers. The term "diocese" refers to a geographic boundary led by a Bishop which includes all Catholic institutions and people (Catholic or not) within its boundaries. It is administered via several Secretariats under a Vicar General. The bishop appoints the Vicar General and the heads of the secretariats. The closest secular example would be a corporate hierarchy. In this analogy, Bishop Bartchak would be the President of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, the Vicar General is the CEO, and the Secretariats are the CFO, COO, etc.

Given the size of the diocese, certain tasks such as record keeping need to occur at a more local level. The diocese is then separated into administrative regions called deaneries. This medieval concept of a rural dean ("vicar forane," or VF) can be seen still in English Cathedrals where there are seats along the wall for each dean. Each one has its own coat of arms!

We are in the Northern Deanery of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown. This includes 12 parishes from Bellefonte, Clarence, Dudley, Huntingdon, Lock Haven, Mount Union, Orbisonia, Philipsburg, Port Matilda, Renovo, Spring Mills, and State College. The Dean holds a diocesan administrative position that also comes with a title change to "Very Reverend". Recently, Very Rev. Brian Saylor, VF has been named Dean for the Northern Deanery. Sadly, there is no coat of arms. Happily, we still get to call him our Pastor. Congratulations, Fr. Brian!

# St. John School News

## MEMORIALS & DONATIONS:

**School Lunch Program:** Rich and Linda Struble, Molly Fisher

**General Donation:** Nick and Bunny St. Amant

**Alumni Support:** J. Ronald Hughes

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

## ADVENT FAMILY ADORATION NIGHT:

All parishioners are invited to a peaceful evening of prayer as we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. Join us on December 9th at 6:00 PM in the Church for a gentle, family-friendly time before the Blessed Sacrament, featuring quiet music, simple reflections, and space for all ages to encounter Jesus.

## DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE AWARD

Each year during Catholic Schools Week, we honor an alum of Saint John School with the National Catholic Educational Association Distinguished Graduate Award. This award, that honors the achievements of Catholic elementary school graduates, was created as "a means of highlighting the people, who as adults, put into practice the values and ideals they learned in their Catholic elementary school." We are currently accepting nominations for this year's award. If you would like to nominate a former graduate of our school for this recognition, please send your nomination to [sjadmin@saintjohnsch.net](mailto:sjadmin@saintjohnsch.net).

Previous Distinguished Graduate Awardees:

1996 - Patricia J. Kersavage Mauk  
1997 - Patricia A. Kohlbecker Mulfinger  
1998 - Rose M. Quaranta Miles  
1999 - Helen M. Brosky Jabco  
2000 - Richard A. Fornicola  
2001 - Tanya N. Lidgett Packer  
2002 - Joseph R. Hartle, Jr.  
2003 - Francis J. Bonfatto  
2004 - Carol M. Luckovich Fisher  
2005 - Regina E. Hartle Zellars  
2006 - John H. McCulley  
2007 - Deacon Thomas E. Boldin  
2008 - Sr. Lila M. Sciabica  
2009 - Francis G. Plozner  
2010 - Marian E. Rider Wayne  
2012 - Helene A. Allen Sheckler  
2013 - Barbara L. Waite Carver  
2014 - Edward A. Mulfinger  
2015 - Captain Granger K. Benson, USMC  
2016 - Carl R. Capparelle  
2017 - Patricia A. Coder Hillard  
2018 - Anthony C. Roland  
2019 - Francis G. Clemson  
2020 - John T. Saylor  
2021 - John M. Luckovich  
2022 - Steven J. McCulley  
2023 - Thomas G. Brezler  
2024 - Aaron W. Cleaver  
2025 - Jennifer Gill

## SUPPORT SAINT JOHN HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Saint John Home and School Association is once again holding a Gift Card Lotto! Tickets are \$10 each and will be available for purchase from a St. John student, Church Rectory or the School. Don't miss your chance to win some great prizes!



## VOCATION CORNER

*"Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come." (Matthew 24:42)*

Jesus' command to "stay awake" is a vocational call to be attentive to God's will in your daily life.

Consider what things in your life—whether distractions, anxieties, or self-centered desires—make you "drowsy" in your faith. How can you shed these "works of darkness" this Advent?



Vigilance is more than just waiting; it is active preparation. What daily actions can you take—such as quiet prayer, reading Scripture, or serving others—to be more present to God's movements in your life?

Advent is a time to put your "inner house in order". By embracing a season of repentance and preparation, you can make a "more generous and healthy offering" of your life to God.

God calls us to be vigilant, ready to respond to His invitation. Could He be stirring your heart toward priesthood or consecrated life, to serve His Church with unwavering dedication? Stay awake to His call through prayer. Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at email: [vocations@dioceseaj.org](mailto:vocations@dioceseaj.org).