

ST. MICHAEL'S



Mission Statement

Compelled by the love of Christ,
we **love** others,
deepen our faith,
and **transform** our world.

PARISH OFFICE
415 Tioga St., Johnstown, PA 15905
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Fax: 814 536-7850
Email: omos@dioceseaj.org
Website: omostoday.com

PRESBYTERY
407 Tioga St., Johnstown, PA 15905
814-535-7646
By appointment

ST MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH
180 Gilbert St., Johnstown, PA 15906
DIVINE MERCY SCHOOL—WEST
Phone: 814 961-3622, Ext. 3

FR. MARK'S NOTES

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

As I mentioned last week, we will not have our usual Penance Service, **but we will offer times for the sacrament – especially Monday and Tuesday, March 20 and 21, from 6—7:30 pm each evening.** Priests will be scattered throughout the Church. We will have hospitality ministers direct you and let you know where the priests are stationed, and you will know when the priests are available. Of course, I will also have Confessions at the usual times throughout Lent. More on that later. Personally, this sacrament is very important in my life. I need to celebrate it often and hear those words of forgiveness. I hope we provide enough opportunities for you to celebrate this great sacrament of forgiveness.

Folks, let's stop putting off confession. Let's make every effort to get there. Parents, please, please get here yourself, AND PLEASE, PLEASE, BRING YOUR KIDS!! PLEASE. Stop the merry-go-round of activities for one hour and do this very important thing.

2023 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE

I think you finally got your letter for the Catholic Ministry Drive. Again, the entire focus of this initiative is different, as it has been for the last few years. Let me explain: The monies collected by this new "Drive" (I'll call it the 2023 CMD) will go exclusively to: caring for the poor, strengthening families, nurturing youth, and formation of clergy and laity, and not to the Diocesan general budget, which is where most of it went before. **Not most, but 100% of all funding will go to these vital ministries.** Many of those things fit our mission statement. Therefore, the funding will go to ministries that impact people in parishes and communities. That is very different from how the old ACA worked.

Also, the diocese will be doing everything it can to keep administrative expenses to a minimum, 2%, while doing everything it can to keep these vital ministries that we support sustained and viable.

Again, our target amount here at OMOS is \$92,000; for St. Michael's, the target it's \$7,210. That shouldn't freak us out. If we all give a little –me too, all will be well. Now, if we all give a little, this can be light work for us. A few years ago, we hit 45% participation and met the goal. What would happen if we hit 100%? We should try to do what we can to hit that target amount. Again, with this new approach, the diocese is trying to keep ministries that affect everyday people going while also keeping the Diocese financially solvent.

More later, but thank you for reading this, and I simply ask you to pray and keep an open heart as you discern, as members of the Church of Altoona-Johnstown, how you may enter this financial commitment to your local Church.

SAVE THE DATE: JUNE 20

We have been asked by the international organization Divine Renovation to sponsor a daylong event titled "Unlocked." We are to "unlock our parishes from simply hunkering down and maintaining to parishes that embrace the mission of the Gospel. Instead, we want to unlock using the keys of Evangelization, Leadership, and the Holy Spirit. These three keys renew us and finally take us in the direction Jesus means for us to go as his disciples in 2023.

We will invite priests and their leadership from the region around us and the dioceses of Altoona-Johnstown, Greensburg, Pittsburgh, Harrisburg, and Baltimore, which border us on the south. And, if we invite all these people from all these dioceses, we will need your help. We are to be the hosts. It will be a big day for us. So, please save the date. If you can, clear your calendar, and we will share more later. Of course, the Bishop will be here too. We will keep you posted very soon.

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL: DID YOU KNOW?

The Eucharist is not just a sacrament; it is the "source and summit" of the Catholic Church. According to the Catechism, a sacrament is "an outward sign, instituted by Christ, to give grace," hence the Eucharist being the most blessed of all sacraments. The Catechism also states: "In the most blessed sacrament of the Eucharist, 'the body and blood, together with the soul and divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ, therefore, the whole Christ is truly, really, and substantially contained. This presence is called 'real.'" (CCC1374)

OMOS Assistance Ministry Activity Report for 2022

Thanks to our generous parish family, we helped 425 families in the past year with much-needed assistance. Poverty in our area is staggering. Cambria County is listed as the poorest county in Pennsylvania. Many live on \$750 monthly and pay for rent, utilities, transportation, and necessities. Moms struggle without child support, the “working poor” cannot exist on their pathetic income, and one unexpected expense can put any of them into severe financial trouble. These are among the families we help. We care deeply about the mission of the Ministry. We thank you for your incredible generosity and for continuing to bless families in need.

MONTH	PARISHIONER SUPPORT/DONATIONS	FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE DISBURSED	CALLS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE	TOTAL CALLS
January	\$9,500.00	\$13,117.83	42	69
February	\$6,000.00	\$1,834.89	14	45
March	\$6,100.00	\$3,698.68	17	51
April	\$11,100.00	\$6,984.84	25	65
May	\$12,000.00	\$9,187.52	29	77
June	\$10,000.00	\$12,442.35	45	83
July	\$8,021.15	\$10,535.21	54	97
August	\$9,000.00	\$12,615.30	47	120
September	\$5,100.00	\$7,257.84	48	99
October	\$13,750.00	\$12,700.19	46	61
November	\$6,000.00	\$5,385.72	27	64
December	\$6,000.00	\$7,937.23	27	79
Total	\$102,571.15	\$103,697.60	421	910

CARE MINISTRIES

Our service to others reaches beyond our parishioners into the whole community of Johnstown. We have several ministries that have this as their primary focus. We offer the opportunity for **Food/Toiletries donations**. These donations include opportunities to give to local food pantries, St. Vincent de Paul’s monthly tuna dinner meal, and the Free Clinic. We also have our monthly **Stuff the Truck** on the 4th weekend of each month. Stuff the Truck identifies a local charity’s needs and communicates this information through the bulletin, email, and website. As a parish, we support **St. Vincent de Paul** by providing a meal for Saturday’s Kitchen twice a year. In addition, we also offer helping hands to St. Vincent de Paul Food Kitchen throughout the year as needed. Throughout the year, we have **Seasonal Special Events** that reach out to many in our community. These events include Easter Baskets, Trunk or Treat, Turkey Dinners, Angel Tree, and many others. As a parish, we generously give to the community through these opportunities. If you are interested in learning more about or getting involved in one of these ministries, contact omoscareministry@gmail.com or call the parish office at 814-535-7646, and someone will contact you.



FOLLOW YOUR FAITH—March 12 @ 7 pm
Fr. Mark will be using the book Good Goats-Healing Our Image of God by Dennis Lint to discuss free will, our image of God, and a host of other topics in this book. Join us on YouTube.



YOU ARE INVITED!

The Music Ministry Team invites all singers and instrumentalists to participate in the Triduum. You may participate in one, two, or all the masses and liturgies. Whatever works best for you!

Rehearsals for Holy Thursday and the Easter Vigil are being held Thursday evenings at 7 pm. The rehearsals for Good Friday and Easter Sunday will begin closer to Easter.

If you plan on participating in Holy Thursday or Easter Vigil, attend rehearsal on Thursdays! If you only plan to participate on Good Friday and/or Easter Sunday, please email, call, or text Terri Gritzer at (814) 242-2242 or terrigritzer@gmail.com. You will be notified when rehearsals begin.

We are looking forward to making beautiful music with you!

SHARING THE JOURNEY

Are you, or a friend or family member, grieving the loss of a loved one?

Grief is a lonely time. Please consider joining us for Sharing the Journey, an ongoing bereavement support group that meets on the 3rd Sunday of each month. Our next meeting is **Sunday, March 19, from 3-4:30 pm at Holy Grounds**. These informal gatherings are intended to provide the opportunity to share, listen to others who have experienced loss, and open our hearts to Jesus. There is no need to pre-register. You are welcome to come as often as you would like.

For more information contact ,Mary Petrak at (814) 502-6076

MARIAN CONSECRATION PRAYER HOUR

The monthly Marian Consecration hour will be on **Thursday, March 23, at 3 pm** in the church on the tabernacle side. We will pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet and the Louis de Montfort method of the rosary. New members are welcome to join in prayer.

2023-LENTEN SCHEDULE

Stations of the Cross:

- ◆ March 17—6 pm @ St. Michael's
- ◆ March 24—6 pm @ OMOS
- ◆ March 31—6 pm @ St. Michael's
- ◆ April 7—6 pm @ St. Michael's

Soup, Salad, & Speaker: (will begin after Stations)

- ◆ March 24 @ OMOS

Nights of Reconciliation:

- ◆ March 20—6 pm @ OMOS
- ◆ March 21—6 pm @ OMOS

Walking Stations of the Cross:

- * April 7—TBD—@ OMOS

ST. MICHAEL'S NEWS

Please help us create a Spring Garden for the Easter Season. Easter flower order forms are at our church doors or contact Maureen Puchko at 814 539-6321. All orders are due March 19. Thanks for your help decorating St. Michael's.

Gifts cards for Giant Eagle, Sheetz, Walmart, and BiLo are available at Riek's Country Store Thursday and Friday, 11 am to 5 pm and Saturday, 10 am to 2 pm, or by calling Marisa Williams at 814 243-3674. Please make checks payable to St. Michael's Church. Sorry, we cannot accept cards for payment.

SAVE THE DATE

April 15—8:30 am—4:30 pm—OMOS Women's Retreat @ Bishop Carroll

April 20—23 - Women's Cursillo Weekend

April 27-30—Men's Cursillo Weekend

April 29— 9 am—3:30 pm— Men's Conference, "Strength in Christ-Be Not Afraid," Mount Aloysius College, Cresson

SAVE THE DATE—JUNE 20, 2023

Unlocked Conference at OMOS

The 'Unlocked' Event we are hosting for Divine Renovation will be **June 20** not June 6. So please mark your calendars as we will roll out the welcome mat to many visitors. We will need many helping hands.

Way of the Cross

Art inspired by Faith to Create space
for Reflection and Meditation
on the gifts **GOD** provides for Us.

Wednesday, March 29 and Thursday March 30
Doors will be open from 3 - 7

625 Horner St. Johnstown, Pa 15902

All are welcome. Bring a friend.

Walk through at your own pace.

Take time to reflect

Be inspired to move closer to God's presence and character.

A Season for Everything



OMOS Women's Retreat

Saturday, April 15, 2023

8:30 AM -4:30 PM

Bishop Carroll Catholic High School
Ebensburg, PA

The focus of this retreat is to understand the seasons of life and the many ways we can relate, support and love each other through our seasons.

Register at omostoday.com

CURSILLO WEEKEND

Another Step in Your Journey of Faith

Join us for the Women's (April 20 – 23) and Men's (April 27 – 30)

Cursillo weekend at St. Ann's in Ebensburg.

The cost is \$200, which covers lodging and meals.

Scholarships are available. Contact Sean O'Dowd
(sodowd8@yahoo.com; 814 539-1489)

for additional information.

EASTER BASKETS

We will once again provide Easter baskets to children in our community and supply them with much-needed toiletries, essentials, and of course, a few Easter treats. If you want to help fill these baskets, please make a financial donation. For example, a gift of \$25 will generously fill a basket. Your donation may be made online or dropped off at the Parish Office. You can also help by coming Saturday morning, March 18, to Holy Grounds for assembling and distributing the baskets. Thank you for your generous support and your love of others as you transform a child's world.

WEEKLY & MINISTRY SCHEDULES

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, March 13

6 a.m.—Eucharistic Adoration
 8 a.m.—Mass at OMOS
Server: Isabella Segear

Tuesday, March 14

6 a.m.—Eucharistic Adoration
 7:30 am—Confession
 8 a.m.—Mass at OMOS
Server: Nicolas Barger

Wednesday, March 15

7 a.m.—Praise & Worship
 4:30 p.m.—Eucharistic Adoration
 5:15 p.m.—Confessions
 6 p.m.—Mass at OMOS
Server: Tim Burgess

Thursday, March 16

6 a.m.—Eucharistic Adoration
 9 a.m.—Mass with Divine Mercy
Servers: Divine Mercy Students

Friday, March 17

6 a.m.—Eucharistic Adoration
 8 a.m.—Mass OMOS
Server: Arianna & Annaliese Manalang
 6 p.m.—Stations of the Cross St. Michael's

Saturday, March 18

4 p.m.—Mass at OMOS
Servers: Nicolas & Domenick Barger
Lector: Monica Garver
Euch. Min. Tom Simmons (2), Kathy Ridella, Nancy Simmons
Hosp. Kathy Lepsch, Mary & George Kogut, Cathy Vigna, Helen Hromulak, Allie Zoldos, Pat Smith, Alexis Angelo

Saturday, March 18

6 p.m.—Mass at St. Michael's
Servers: Tim Burgess & Lucy Smith
Lector: Mary Anne Rizzuto

Sunday, March 19

8:30 a.m.—Mass at OMOS
Servers: Sophie Messina & Kyle Mateljan
Lector: Dave Milligan
Euch. Min: Rick Wess (2), Rick Messina, Evie Wess
Hosp: Jackie Ayres, Ralph & Maria DeMarco, Anne & Matt DiFrancesco, John Esch, Julie Fontana, Martin Malek
Prayer Ministry: Vicki DiGuardi, Mary Beth Cartwright

Sunday, March 19

11:00 a.m.—Mass at OMOS
Servers: Caden & Cullen Miller
Lector: Don Falcone
Euch. Min. Michele Varner (2), Nelson Lowes, Brad Duca
Hosp: Patty & Don Falcone, Michele Varner, Lisa Shetler, Gail Stotler, John Onufro, Bill Ingram, Joyce Nesmith

Saturday, March 11—Vigil

4:00 p.m. Sharon Birch (Family)
6:00 p.m. Francis Pleskovic (Family) & Monica Coyle (Mary Ann Rizzuto)

Sunday, March 12—Third Sunday of Lent

8:30 a.m. Mary (Ciupak) Passano (Loretta Ciupak)
11:00 a.m. Jim Cuthbert (Friends)

Monday, March 13

8:00 a.m. Stephen & Eleanor Rist (Family)

Tuesday, March 14

8:00 a.m. Rose Mirabile (M/M Joseph Boito)

Wednesday, March 15

6:00 p.m. John Evanchick (Jim & Kathy Ridella)

Thursday, March 16

9:00 a.m. Mary Jane Messich (Jim & Kathy Ridella)

Friday, March 17

8:00 a.m. Marilyn Shorto (Helen Kittka -Wilson)

Saturday, March 18—Vigil

4:00 p.m. Albert Kiefer (Bill & Terrie Ray)

6:00 p.m. Bernice Stem (John Meyers) & Paulette Balog (Eugene & Donna Vamos)

Sunday, March 12—Third Sunday of Lent

8:30 a.m. Judy Abood (Kathleen Murnin)

11:00 a.m. Laura Garrity (Jim & Mary Jo Gardill)

WEEKLY READINGS

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4/Lk 4:24-30
 Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 18:21-35
 Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/Mt 5:17-19
 Thursday: Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 11:14-23
 Friday: Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17/Mk 12:28-34
 Saturday: Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab/Lk 18:9-14
 Next Sunday: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (1)/Eph 5:8-14/
 Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

March 5, 2023

Envelopes\$ 10,758
Loose 2,507
Online 13,533
Total\$ 26,798
Budget to Sustain Mission \$17,000/wk

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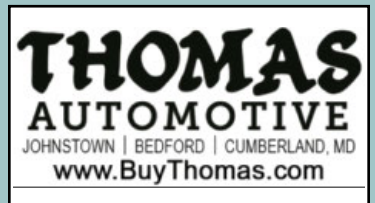
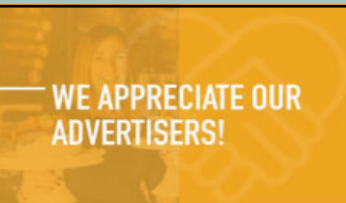
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