

~ Parish founded in 1799 by the Servant of God, Father Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin ~
Parish church raised to the honor of a minor basilica by St. John Paul II in 1996

Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel

Home of the Shrine of Our Lady of the Alleghenies and Prince Gallitzin Chapel House Trust



A parish of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown
Very Rev. Father John David Byrnes, JCL, JV, Rector
321 St. Mary Street PO Box 10 Loretto, PA 15940-0144

PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Office 472-8551
Parish FAX 471-4959
Parish email basilicasm@dioceseaj.org
Parish website basilicasm-loretto.org
Parish Administrative Assistant- Mrs. Sherri Krug
Parish Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday 8:00AM-3:00PM
Father John Byrnes email jbyrnes@dioceseaj.org
Diocesan phone 695-5579
Our Lady of Loretto Hall Rental 886-4619
Bingo 471-2764

MASS SCHEDULE Fall/Winter/Spring

Sunday Vigil Mass: 4PM Saturday
Sunday Masses: 8:00AM and 10:00AM
Summer- Memorial Day to Labor Day
Sunday Vigil Mass: 4PM Saturday
Sunday Masses: 8:00AM and 7:00PM (Shrine)
Daily Mass
Monday - Wednesday 7:30AM Friday 8:45AM
Holy Days
See schedule in bulletin
Reconciliation (Confessions)
Saturdays 11:30 -12:30 or anytime by request



St. Michael
the **Archangel**
defend us
in battle

SACRAMENTS

Anointing of the Sick - upon request for the sick or homebound
Infant Baptism - please call the parish office to schedule preparation
Marriage - 9 months preparation needed please call the parish office
Christian Initiation of Adults - For adults interested in becoming Catholic, please call Cindy McMullen 471-6658
High School Confirmation Process - Celeste Stolz 472-9808 Sundays 846-5114

PRAYER

Eucharistic Adoration/Benediction - Holy Hour 6:00PM Wednesdays
Rosary for Vocations - 30 minutes prior to Sunday Mass
Devotions to Our Lady of Loretto-following 7:30AM Mass on Mondays
Parish Mission of Our Lady of Loretto - Fourth Week of Lent
Chaplet of Divine Mercy/ Rosary- 3PM Fridays

PARISH LIFE

Parish Council- Mrs. Julie Little 243-8925
Finance Council- Mrs. Meghan Freidhof 207-0104
Liturgical Music Jonathan Nagy 244-1876
Altar&Rosary Society- Mrs. Maggie Biter 472-6064
Catholic Fraternal Organizations
Legion of Mary-Mrs. Mary Lessard 886-5489
Knights of Columbus-Vince Kalwasinski 241-1712
Secular Franciscans-Mrs. Betty Soisson 472-4667

EDUCATION

St. Michael School Mrs. Rhonda Seymour 472-9117
Bishop Carroll Catholic High School Mr. Stephen Cotchen 472-7500
Religious Education Ms. Celeste Stolz 472-9808 Sundays 846-5114

CATHOLIC OUTREACH

Diocesan Website dioceseaj.org
Fr. Peter Crowe, Vocations Office 814-317-2681
Dorothy Day Center 419-8695
Catholic Charities Johnstown 535-6538 Altoona 944-9388
Crisis Pregnancy/Pro-Life 1-800-395-HELP www.optionline.org
National Suicide Prevention Hotline 1-800-273-8255
Away from Loretto on Sunday? 1-858-207-6277 or www.masstimes.org

November 27, 2022 – FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, Nov. 27	First Sunday of Advent 8:00AM Scott Hanlon (family) 10:00AM Lynn Farabaugh (Crippen & Ruth Taylor)
Monday, Nov. 28	Advent Weekday 7:30AM Patsy Beck Ellis (Beck & Lee families)
Tuesday, Nov. 29	Advent Weekday 7:30AM Margaret Lee-Ann. (family)
Wednesday, Nov. 30	St. Andrew 7:30AM Adam Lee – Birthday Remembrance (family) 6:00 Eucharistic Holy Hour with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
Thursday, Dec. 1	Advent Weekday NO MASS (Mass at Carmelite Monastery@7:45 AM)
Friday, Dec. 2	Advent Weekday 8:45AM Blaine & Nancy Baker (family)
Saturday, Dec. 3	Vigil: Second Sunday of Advent 4:00PM People of the parish
Sunday, Dec. 4	Second Sunday of Advent 8:00AM Mary Motchenbaugh (Ron & Audrey Lee family) 10:00AM James McDermott (family)

Sunday Mass posted to **FACEBOOK** at 11:15 AM

This week the Sanctuary Candle burns for Ed Strittmatter (Ken & Ann)



Advent 2022

FROM THE DESK OF FATHER JOHN:

Dear Parish Family,

The **Year of Grace 2023** begins today with the First Sunday of Advent. **Advent** has a two-fold character. It invites us to prepare for Christmas when Christ's **first coming** to us is remembered, and is a season when that remembrance directs our mind and heart to await Christ's **second coming** at the end of time. It is a time of quiet, joyful expectation. The **lighting of the Advent wreath** is a custom which originated in Germany a few hundred years ago. The **evergreen wreath** is an ancient Roman symbol of victory, which was taken on by Christians to proclaim the victory over sin and death, which Christ's birth signifies. **Four candles, three violet and one rose**, are attached to the wreath to mark the passing of the four Advent weeks and to show the increasing light as Christmas draws near.

Advent Spiritual Reading - All are welcome to pick up a free copy of **Five Minutes with the Word – Advent Edition** at the entrances of the basilica. They are compliments of an anonymous parishioner.

Advent Communal Anointing of the Sick - As Advent approaches, I will be offering the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick to our homebound parishioners. A Communal Anointing of the Sick Service will be offered in church the **Second Sunday of Advent (December 3- 4)** for anyone who wishes to receive the Sacrament. For your convenience, I will offer the Sacrament following Sunday Masses. The service will include a brief Liturgy of the Word followed by Anointing of the Sick. You are encouraged to receive the Sacrament of Penance (Confession) prior to anointing (Saturdays at 11:30 AM).

When ? Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick Saturday evening, **December 3** at 5 PM (immediately following 4PM Mass) Sunday Morning **December 4** at 9 AM and at 11:00 AM (immediately following 8 AM Mass and 10:00 AM Mass).

Who may be anointed?

1) Those whose health is seriously impaired by sickness or old age. 2) Elderly people who have become notably weakened, even though no serious illness is present. 3) Before surgery 4) Those who have been anointed recently if their condition continues. 5) Those who suffer from chronic illnesses or mental illnesses at any age.

Special Advent Confession Schedule

I invite you to receive the Sacrament of Penance this Advent by making a good confession before Christmas. Our **Parish Advent Penance Service** is scheduled for Thursday evening, December 15. Listed below are a variety of opportunities to celebrate the Sacrament!

Thursday, December 15 St. Michael Basilica Advent Penance Service at 7 PM

10 priests will join me in offering Confessions during our Parish Penance Service.

This is a Religious Education event. **All Religious Education students are expected to attend.**

Friday, December 16 St. Michael School Students Eucharistic Adoration and Penance Service at 10 AM

Saturday, December 10 First Reconciliation Penance Service at 10 AM

(3 priests) Second Grade parishioners will celebrate the Sacrament for the first time today. Family members will also celebrate the sacrament.

Other Parishes

Sunday	Dec. 11	<i>Advent Penance Service</i>	St. Thomas, Bedford	4:00 PM
Tuesday	Dec 13	<i>Advent Penance Service</i>	St. Francis Xavier, Cresson	7:00 PM
Wednesday	Dec 14	<i>Advent Penance Service</i>	Holy Name Parish, Ebensburg	6:30 PM

Full Calendar at proclaim.dioceseaj.org

ADULT FAITH EDUCATION CLASSES - LATE FALL/ADVENT

Sr. Marilyn Welch, CCW presents adult faith formation for our parish!

“A Biblical Walk through the Mass”

Continues this Monday at 6:00 – 8:00 PM in Basilica

Parish Council - Our Next Parish Pastoral Council Meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, December 4 at 6:30 PM in the Basilica Hall.**

Members of our **Parish Pastoral Council for 2022-23** are – Fr. Byrnes, pastor, Julie Little (2025), chair, Bob Chumrik (2024), Ashley Kubat (2024), Rick Smith (2024), Monica Klatt (2025), Lizbeth Talko (2025), Chris Krug (2025), Bonnie Paronish (2025), Bridget Yahner (2025), Rhonda Seymour (ex officio St. Michael School Principal), Celeste Stolz (ex officio Director of Religious Education),

The following parishioners will take responsibility in the following areas of parish life. They will make a report to the parish Council, as needed, with regard to their activities.

Liturgy - Jonathan Nagy **Finance/ Parish Fundraising** – Meghan Freidhof **School Finance/School Fundraising** - Rhonda Seymour **Education/Evangelization/Christian Service Projects**– The Legion of Mary, The Knights of Columbus **Outdoor Mass** – Steve & Monica Hogue **Youth Representative** – TBA
Maintenance – Fred Coposky **Father Gallitzin Heritage** – Jonathan Nagy **Men’s Dinner** - Bob Crusciel, Greg Farabagh, Steve Hogue, Mark Poorman **Special Projects for Hall and School/May Days** – Theresa Lysic
Flowers/Seasonal Decorating – Michele Poorman **Life & Family**- Shea Lego



CHRISTMAS CONCERT- On behalf of our Director of Sacred Music, Jonathan Nagy, I invite you to **CHRISTMAS AT THE BASILICA** on **Tuesday, December 27 at 6 PM**, featuring the Saint Michael Children's Choir and the Basilica Choir, singing favorite Christmas Carols and the music of John Rutter! Enjoy the music and the beauty of our basilica during the Christmas Season! Make plans to join us!

Weekly Eucharistic Holy Hour for Vocations Wednesdays 6–7 PM
Begin a commitment to weekly prayer at Eucharistic Adoration! Spend some time with Jesus! 6 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, scripture, brief reflection, quiet prayer and adoration, Rosary or Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 6:30 PM, prayers for vocations, quiet prayer, closing with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.



Legion of Mary News: Advent brings us on the journey to prepare for the celebration of Jesus’ birth. We ask our Blessed Mother to help all of us, especially our aged and ill parishioners, to be ever mindful of our many blessings that life in Jesus brings. The Legion of Mary members will be making a special effort to contact our homebound during the month of December. Holidays may bring feelings of loneliness to those who cannot be out in our community and at Mass. We invite other parishioners to take a moment to call or visit someone you know who is homebound, especially during this season. For information, please call Mary 814-886-5489. Our Lady of Loretto pray for us.

The Altar & Rosary Society would like to **thank** all the ladies who gave of their time to help clean the church last week in order to get ready for the coming of the Christ Child. **Merry and Blessed Christmas to all.**

Wish List ~ A message from the Parish Finance Council: We have compiled a wish list of items that could be sponsored by parishioners (either by name or anonymously) to help offset our ever-increasing costs. It is only with the parishioners’ continued support and generosity that the parish can operate and make ends meet. **Thank you for all that you have done and continue to do!** If you are able to sponsor any amount of the following items, please send your donation into the parish office. *We appreciate your consideration and generosity!*

Candles

- One set of Advent wreath candles \$72
- Box of six floor candles \$89
- Box of 12 back altar candles \$80
- Easter Vigil candles \$48
- 2023 Easter Paschal Candle \$308

Music Ministry

- 2023 Breaking Bread Hymnals \$3,200
- Organ annual maintenance fee \$245
- Piano annual maintenance fee \$90

Miscellaneous

- Monthly security bill \$50/month
- 2023 Parishioner Calendars \$441
- 2023 Reader/Lector workbooks \$201
- Box of incense \$39
- Annual palm order \$280

Parish Office

- Copy machine monthly bill \$236/month
- Roll of stamps \$60
- Website annual fee \$144
- Bulletin paper – box \$82

Basilica Hall

- New tables and chairs for Basilica Hall (basement) \$4,100
- Removal of old carpeting and installation of laminate flooring \$ cost to be determined
- Volunteers to paint our Basilica Hall (lol can’t hurt to ask)

Sanctuary Lamp- The red Sanctuary Lamp is placed before the tabernacle as a sign that the Lord is present; continuously burning and symbolizing God's eternal presence. If you wish to have the Sanctuary Candle burn in memory of a loved one or special intention, please call the parish office. The offering is \$10 for one week. The memorial will be published in the weekly bulletin. We are taking intentions for 2023

PRAYER LIST: Please remember our parishioners and friends who are in need of our prayers: Margaret Gailey, John Oklamchak, Betty Soisson, Lindsay Sammarco, Paul Hanlon, Fr. Bob Hilz, TOR, Luke Eckenrode, Eleanor Strittmatter, Jeanna Karabinos, Judith Lesko, Zach Mento, Marco J. Jardina, Barry Krug, Robert Ruffing, Rod Eckenrode, Stan Mattix, Mike Tresnicky, Alma Scanlan, Nancy Adams, Dale Zakowsky, Susan Sekerak, Charlie Koegler, Mary Ann Baker, Ruth Biter, Cyril Itle, Leona Noel, Harriet Stevens, our Military, and the Sainthood cause of our founding Pastor, the Rev. Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin

LORETTO COMMUNITY

Please join us for **PRAYERS FOR OUR COUNTRY** at 3pm in the Basilica on Fridays. We pray the Divine Mercy and the four mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary for the intentions of the protection, healing and safety of our country. **All are invited to join us and pray all or part of our hour of prayer.**

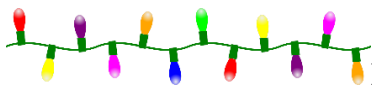
EVENING FOR WIDOWS: A wonderful time was had by all recently as we shared a Thanksgiving meal and time together. Our next gathering is **December 10** following the 4PM Saturday evening Mass. It will be a "celebrating Christmas" evening as we will collect food for the Dorothy Day Center and share an assortment of appetizers and other goodies. We invite other parish widows to join us for this special event. For directions and/or information, please call Mary 814-886-5489.

Prayer for Widows/Widowers

Lord Jesus Christ, in your earthly life you showed compassion to those who had lost a loved one. Turn your compassion toward me in my sorrow. Help me cope with the transition and loss. Teach me to accept the new conditions of my life. Bless my loved one with eternal joy and one day bring us together again in that kingdom where you live and reign forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY – will meet in the Basilica Hall at 3 pm on the Wednesdays of **November 30 and December 14**. All are welcome to join us as we stitch prayer shawls and lap shawls for the ill and elderly in our parish and community. If anyone needs a shawl or knows of anyone needing a shawl, please call Barb at 814-472-9475.

St. Michael BINGO - Our Lady of Loretto Hall 471-2764 - **Admission Tuesday is \$20** Doors open at 5:30 - Regular Games begin at 7PM - **Admission Friday is \$25 - Friday** - Doors open at 6:30 Regular Games begin at 8PM. Fridays only... **Progressive number JACKPOT \$4,000!** Full Kitchen is open with nightly specials! Popcorn, coffee, tea, hot cocoa- FREE every night!!



Loretto Light Up Night - Sunday, December 4th! An invitation to all! The event will begin at 4pm with the lighting to take place at approximately 5pm. All are invited to join in an evening full of **Christmas carols, seasonal hot chocolates and coffees from Biddle's Brewing, photos with Santa, and a tree lighting ceremony.** Beck's Lawn Care & Landscaping Services will be displaying fresh wreaths and swags available for purchase. **Tis the season!** Location: in the Biddle's Brewing Parking Lot across from Smithmyer's Superette

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STEWARDSHIP OF TIME AND TALENT

Liturgical Ministries: Nov. 28 - Dec. 4

ALTAR SERVERS: November 28-December 2

Mornings: Nov. 28, 29, 30, Dec .2 Giuliana Riccella, Will Corcoran

Holy Hour: Wednesday, November 30 6PM -7PM Travis & Kylie Kubat

December 3-4

4:00PM Logan & Zac Krug, Alex Krug

8:00AM Bella & Laylah Weiland, Colin Beiswenger

10:00AM Nicholas & Bennett Clark, Logan Hoover

READERS: December 3-4

4:00PM Joan Krug

8:00AM Lisa Weakland

10:00AM Janet Hogue

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS December 3-4

4:00PM Joan Krug
8:00AM Mason Beiswenger
10:00AM Vince/Jackie Kalwasinski

MUSIC MINISTERS: December 3-4

ORGANISTS: 4PM Jonathan 8AM Max 10AM Jonathan
CANTORS: 4PM Stephanie 8AM Ashley 10AM Monica

USHERS: December 3-4

4:00PM Matt & Alec/volunteers
8:00AM Kayden McMullen/volunteers
10:00AM Rich Clark/volunteers

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

November 27, 2022 Goal \$6,800
Offertory \$4,413 Online Giving \$2,627 Total \$7,040 Difference +\$240

Thank you for your generosity



Congratulations to the following newly baptized children at our parish: Baylee Mechelle Diehl, Rowan Xavier Lucas, Dominic James Tsikalas, Daniel Joseph Flood and Ruby Lee Rogowski. May this day bring everlasting happiness to your family.

ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL

Saint Michael School will have picture re-takes on Tuesday, November 29, 2022.

“iGiveCatholic” Event: From November 14 – November 29, St. Michael School is teaming up with the national organization, #iGiveCatholic, to inspire faithful stewards to “Give Catholic” and support our school directly. This is an online fundraiser for St. Michael School in which online donations are accepted.

Saint Michael School second students will make their First Reconciliation on Saturday, December 10th at 10:00 AM.

Anyone looking for a chance to win some money? The Cougar Cash Calendar is available for purchase. The calendar will be for the entire 2022 year. A chance to win 20,000.00 in cash prizes. Calendars will be available at the rectory, school office, and any Saint Michael’s student.

Let us help you with your Christmas shopping! Gift cards from numerous retailers, restaurants, and grocery stores are readily available through our SCRIP Program. If you would like to purchase SCRIP cards during the week or need information pertaining to our SCRIP program, please call the school office @ 472-9117.

Saint Michael’s Area Community Ski/Snowboard Club

WHO: Open to Families in our community

WHAT: Ski/Snowboarding

WHEN: Saturday January 7 from 4-9

Saturday January 14 from 4-9

Saturday February 18 from 4-9

Saturday February 25 from 4-9

WHERE: Blue Knob Ski Resort, 1424 Overland Pass, Claysburg, PA 16625

COST: Price includes all four dates. You only pay for the services you need. This is the weekend group rate.

4-sessions Friday through Sunday

Grades	Lift	Ski Rentals	Snowboard Rentals	Lesson
Younger than 4th	Call Amy for more info	Call Amy for more info	Call Amy for more info	Call Amy for more info
Elementary (4-6)	\$65	\$33	\$37	\$30
Middle (7-9)	\$74	\$34	\$38	\$30
High (10-12)	\$85	\$39	\$42	\$30
College	\$100	\$43	\$47	\$30
Adult	\$115	\$48	\$55	\$40

Helmet Rentals are \$10 per visit payable at the lodge. Helmets are suggested.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, PLEASE CALL/TEXT AMY FARABAUGH @ (814) 937-2033

All paperwork and payments due 12/23/2022

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Happy Thanksgiving ~ Wishing you a season of bountiful blessings!

December 4 – Classes grades 1-11

December 10- First Reconciliation Service 10:00AM please arrive by 9:45AM

December 11-Classes grades 1-11

AROUND THE AREA

CALLING ALL CINCH CARD PLAYERS: Come to the Cinch Tournament at the St. Monica's Church Hall in Chest Springs on Sunday, December 11 for a day of Good Food and Fun. Small Games of Chance are available. Dinner starts at 12:00 noon and Cards start at 1:00. Cost is \$10.00 each person for dinner and cards. To sign up your three-person team or for more information Call Dan at 814-932-4430. These are held the second Sunday of each month until April.