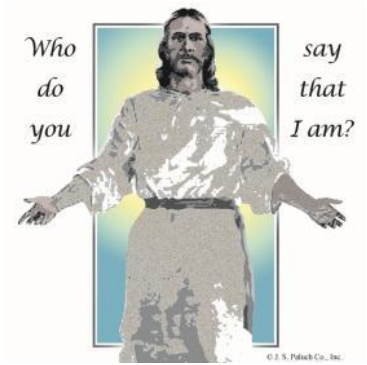


ST. THERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS
THE CHURCH OF THE FRANCISCANS
FR. BERNARD KARMANOCKY, OFM, PASTOR
FR. FRANCIS BALESTINO, IN RESIDENCE



CHURCH/RECTORY
536 Decker Avenue
Johnstown, PA 15906

CONVENT
702 Saybrook Place
Johnstown, PA 15906

OFFICE HOURS WEEKLY
Monday – Friday
9:00AM---2:00PM
Website:StThereseJohnstown.com

SOCIAL HALL: 535-8805
CHURCH HALL: 536-2287
RECTORY: 539-7633

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
Aug 23, 2026

FIRST READING: — Eliakim is destined by God to be a father to those who live in Jerusalem (Isaiah 22:19-23).

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: — Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands (Psalm 138).

SECOND READING — How deep are the riches and the wisdom and the knowledge of God! (Romans 11:33-36).

GOSPEL — Jesus asked the disciples, “Who do you say that I am?” (Matthew 16:13-20).

LITURGICAL REFLECTION - TRUST

Keys hold great significance for those who carry them. They represent the trust and authority of the owner when given to another person. We may give our house key to a trusted friend to take care of our matters while we are away. We may give keys to someone responsible for maintaining or working in a particular building. Keys to vehicles are given to people who have proven themselves responsible drivers. The readings today focus on this kind of trust—the trust that conveys authority and responsibility. In the first reading, the symbol is specifically that of a key; but the second reading and the Gospel also speak of trust and leadership as they refer to the earthly church that Jesus established.

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WEEKLY PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

MON	08/24		
TUES	08/25		
WED	08/26		
THURS	08/27		
FRI	08/28		
SAT	08/29	3:00PM	Confession
SUN	08/30		

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK: (Aug 24th – Aug 30th)

MON	8/24. 7:50AM.	+ Gerrie Tavalisky & Son Joe – (Husband & Father, Joe)
TUES	8/25. 7:50AM.	+ In Memoriam of “our little Angel”
WED	8/26. 7:50AM.	+ Agnes Malysko – (Sister, Eileen Malysko)
THUR	8/27. 7:50AM.	+ Martin & Matilda Simcic – (Family)
FRI	8/28. 7:50AM.	+ Catherine & Stephen Tavalisky – (Son, Joe)
SAT	8/29. 4:00PM.	+ (A) Anna Kris – (Family)
SUN	8/30. 7:30AM.	+ David Keafer (9 month mind) – (Marty Hammer)
	. . . 10:30AM.	+ (B) Henry Gorczycki – (Family)

Sunday, Aug 23, 2026



Stewardship Reflections: Our readings today reveal beautiful truths about our God, and they challenge us to look at the truth about ourselves as well. Our Gospel passage, from Matthew, leads us to take a serious look at whether our lives give God the glory He deserves. It comes in the form of a question that Jesus poses to the disciples. He leads up to it gently enough: "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they offer varying responses. Then, Jesus gets personal with them, "But who do you say I am?" Peter gets the answer right, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Jesus is getting personal with us today. He poses the same question to each one of us who call ourselves His stewards and modern-day disciples. Surely, we would not hesitate to answer just as Peter did, that Jesus is the Christ, Son of the living God. But do our lives truly reflect this answer?

The gifts and blessings that God has given us - our time, our talents, our material possessions - are meant to be used in a manner that says "Christ is my Savior and I am His disciple." The most eloquent praise we can offer Him is a life lived in grateful response to His unfathomable love. This is the beauty and power of a stewardship way of life.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS
(August 15th – August 16th, 2026)

Weekly		\$ 3,438.00
Building Fund		\$ 125.00

- Sept 13th First Day CCD 9AM
- Sept 23rd-Oct 1st St Therese Novena
- Sept 24th Piroghi Project - Social hall
- Oct 17th & 18th Oktoberfest
- Oct 18th Knights of Columbus Gun Bash
St Andrews
- Nov 19th Piroghi Project- Social Hall



Weather permitting, Fr Karmanocky will have Sunday Mass at 10:30 outside in the breezeway. Please bring your lawn chair.

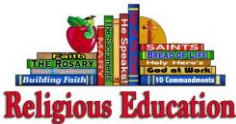


Thank you to the **74** families who have pledged as of July 31st a total of **\$11,945.00** towards our target amount of **\$23,100**. Saint Peter teaches us, "As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace" (1 Peter 4:10). Fr Bernards hope is for parishioner participation; we are now at **31.49% parishioner participation**. Please prayerfully consider making a pledge according to your means. You have until Dec 31st 2026 to pay your pledge in full.



Cash Give-a-Way. Winning number taken from first PA Pick 3 Drawing at 7PM the month of October 2026.
Tickets are \$10.

We still have a few tickets left to sell
You can purchase tickets before all Masses or call the office if you would like a couple to sell.
This is a church Fundraiser



There will be faculty meeting in the Church Hall on **TODAY Sunday, August 23rd after the 10:30Mass** for all grades. Please be present so we can discuss the up-coming year

Our Piroghi Project will be here before we know it, We are looking for volunteers to help clean up all of the pots, & etc Thursday after piroghi's. If you can help out please call the rectory, during normal business hours 9-2 Mon -Fri.



- St Therese Food Pantry needs a few items**
- Canned Vegetables
 - Canned Fruit
 - Canned soups: Chicken, Tomato, Vegetable beef
 - Knorr Side Dishes Noodles
 - Boxed or instant potatoes
 - Tuna
 - Manwich or slopping joe sauce
 - spaghetti O's, Chef Boyardee raviolis'
 - Hamburger Helper



The St. Therese prayer shawl ministry met for their third quarterly meeting on August 16th at 2:00pm in the church basement. Discussions included second quarter accomplishments as well as any ongoing and/or future projects.

For the second quarter of this year, our ministry provided 17 shawls and blankets to the Women's Help Center in Johnstown. In addition, 5 prayer shawls were given to parishioners through requests. Since January, a total of 49 blankets and shawls have been given out to individuals in need.

The next project our ministry will be working on is pink shawls for breast cancer awareness in October. We are also considering using our talents to team up with Warm Up America and Project Chemo Crochet.

If you know of someone in need of a prayer shawl who is undergoing a medical procedure, grieving a loss, or in need of comfort, please contact the church office. In addition, if you have a family member or friend who has recently been placed in a care facility please let the church office know as well.

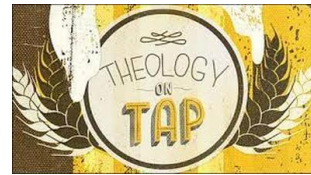
Thank you to everyone who supports the Prayer Shawl Ministry through their talent and time, Dee, Elizabeth, Helen, Roberta and Vicki, and to individuals whom have provided donations of money, yarn or gift cards. Thank you to the St. Therese Christian Mothers for their recent donation to support the prayer shawl ministry.

If you enjoy knitting or crocheting, please consider joining us at our next meeting, which will be held in December. Also, If you would like to learn more about this fulfilling ministry, you may contact contact Debi Hubbard.

A basket remains in the church vestibule for any type of donation for the prayer shawl ministry. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to Debi Hubbard at 814-421-2416 or via email at mommyhub@atlanticbb.net

Community News & Events

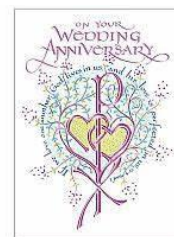
Divine Mercy Prayer Group cordially invites EVERYONE to our Anniversary Celebration
1 Hour Adoration ***Benediction***Recitation of the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy
[Wednesday](#) Sept. 9th, 3pm
St. Patrick's Church - 609 Park Ave.
Light Refreshments to follow in Church hall
Info: Cathy (814)287-1126 or Lolly (814)659-8717



Young Adult Group (18-39): We are welcoming Bishop Mark Bartchak as our next Theology on Tap on **August 26th** at the **Boulevard Grill at 6pm**. He will be speaking on 125 Years as a Diocese and be doing a question and answer. Our group continues to grow every month with attendance ranging from 30 to over 50 members per month. All young adults (18-39) are invited! There is no cost to attend. For more information contact Geoffrey Stumpo at (814) 659-7415 or geoffstumpo@gmail.com.



HITMIX MUSIC BINGO -Will be held on **Saturday, August 29th** at St Therese Social hall, hosted by the Greater Johnstown Cheerleading. Doors open at 5PM, Bingo starts at 6PM. \$25 entry fee includes 5 rounds of bingo, 50/50 and qualifiers will be sold. Food will be provided. **BYOB**
Get your tickets by calling Jackie at 814-418-8295 or tickets will be sold at the door.



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 2026** (and their families) to attend the **Annual Wedding Anniversary Liturgy**. Couples may attend Sunday, **September 13th** in **ALTOONA** at Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament or Sunday, **September 20th** in **JOHNSTOWN** at St. John Gualbert Cathedral. Both locations are handicap accessible. Liturgies in each location begin at **2:00 p.m.** 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 your parish for either celebration by Friday, September 11th.**

**DIOCESAN FAMILY CONFERENCE
CELEBRATING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE DIOCESE.** The diocesan family conference will be held on Saturday, September 19th at Bishop Carroll Catholic High School, Ebensburg. This conference has been designed for every generation, from young children and teens to parents, grandparents, clergy and parish leaders. This day includes the annual Men's and Women's Conferences, Shycon (also a discipleship event for Senior High Confirmation candidates) and Junior High Youth Day.

This day-long event will offer inspiring keynote presentations, engaging break-out sessions, opportunities for prayer and fellowship, food and the Vigil Mass for Sunday. You may register online at: dioceseaj.org or copies of the **registration booklet are available in the vestibule**, or by contacting the parish office. Please also prayerfully consider being a Sponsor for this day. Information on the day and to be a sponsor are in the registration booklet. For additional information contact Francine Swope at fswope@dioceseaj.org OR (814)317-2646.

**St Matthew's Anglican Church
Spaghetti Dinner/ Basket Party
Saturday, Sept 5th
12:30-2:30 PM**



St Therese Social Hall
Includes Spaghetti Dinner

and 25 Basket Tickets cost \$15.00.

Soft walk-through Friday 4-7 Sept 4th.
hot dogs and snacks will be available for purchase.
For tickets/information call
Arlene 814-244-3863 or Denny 814-322-6631.



St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Basket Party is hosting a walk-through basket party on the weekends of Sept. 26 & 27 and Oct. 3 & 4 from 12:00pm-5:00pm. There will be no sit-down drawing in the Church Hall. The drawing will take place on SEAS' Facebook Live Sun. Oct 4th at 5pm. Please consider donating a wrapped basket(s), baskets should have a minimum value of \$25. Baskets may be dropped off at SEAS' church office from 7am-12pm Mon-Thur. or Sun. before Mass. Deadline for basket donations is September 23rd. In addition to the walk-through basket party, there will be a Takeout Menu of baked goods while supplies last. All are welcome!



NATIONAL CENTRE
for **PADRE PIO**

Pilgrimage to Padre Pio Shrine

Saint Andrew Catholic Church in Johnstown is organizing a pilgrimage on the feast day of Saint Padre Pio to the National Centre for Padre Pio in Barto, PA on Wednesday September 23. We will plan to leave Saint Andrew Church parking lot by 6am and depart Barto at 3pm. Seats on the bus are \$55 and children are free.

We will participate in Mass celebrated with an auxiliary bishop of Philadelphia, Fr Crowe, and other priests present, outdoor procession with a statue of Padre Pio accompanied by the Italian Festival band, Confessions will also be available. We will be able to view many of Padre Pio's relics and learn more about his life. The Padre Pio Museum and Cultural center will be open for visits. A food truck will be available for lunch. We will stop for dinner on the way back home. The ticket price does not include food. Please sign up with the sign up sheet located at the St Andrew adoration chapel foyer. Signups are first come, first served, so sign up today!

Payment is due by September 7. This allows us to properly plan and pay for everything. If you would like to go but the cost of the ticket might be prohibitive, please do not let this stop you. Financial assistance may be available to help cover the cost of the ticket. Please contact Eileen Bohensky for more details or if you would like to sign up. Phone number: 814-893-5702. Email: ebohensky@comcast.net.

**Grief Support Group
You are not alone**

Join our monthly support group and meet others who are going through similar things you are. Everyone in the community is welcome!
First Friday of Every Month
Starting Friday, Sept 4th
at 2:00PM
322 Warren st Suite 220
for more information call
814-262-8305
Intertrim Healthcare- Johnstown Hospice