

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

December 7, 2025/ Second 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

www.bellefontecatholicchurch.org

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, December 6 St. Nicholas, Bishop

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

5:00 PM Donald and Vilma Anspauch
(Anspauch, Neidigh & Kowalski families)

Sunday, December 7

8:00 AM Betty Nastase (Doug Moerschbacher)

10:15 AM People of the Parish

Monday, December 8 Immaculate Conception of Mary

9:00 AM Nancy Palfey (David Files)

Tuesday, December 9 St. Juan Diego

8:00 AM John Rose (Rose Family)

Wednesday, December 10

8:00 AM James Ficarro (Ficarro Family)

Thursday, December 11

6:00 PM Steve Keller (Richard & Linda Struble)

Friday, December 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:00 AM Jack Dowling (Forstmeier Family)

Saturday, December 13 St. Lucy

5:00 PM Alice Buttenschon
(Doug & Sharon Johnson)

Sunday, December 14

8:00 AM People of the Parish

10:15 Kevin Smith
(Deacon Jack & Colette Orlandi)

St. Kateri Masses for the week

Sunday, December 7

12:00 PM Frank LaNasa (Millie Turner)

Monday, December 8

7:00 PM Joseph D. Kraus (His Wife)

Sunday, December 14

12:00 PM For the health of the Stecko Family
(Charlotte Stecko)

COMMUNION SERVICE There will be a Communion Service this Tuesday, December 9th at 11:00 AM followed by Adoration.

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) If you would like to lead the rosary on occasion.



ST. KATERI MINISTERS

Lector

December 7 Millie Turner

December 8 Deb Cusatis

December 14 Norma Muck

Eucharistic Minister

December 7 Shelly Ash

December 8 Sandy Rockey

December 14 kb Boomer

Hospitality

December 7: Susan Slenker and kb & Rick BB

December 14: Shelly Ash & Diane Brown

December 21: Christmas Pageant and Church Dinner

Eucharistic Minister/Lector /Altar Server/Music

Saturday, December 13 5:00 pm

Eucharistic Ministers: Sandy Kowalski/Connie McCulley

Lector: Angela Basalla

Servers: Michael Maney/AJ Cleaver

Music: Jay Zimmerman

Sunday, December 14 8:00 am

Eucharistic Ministers: Scott Burkett/Kevin Trimpey

Lector: David Harry

Servers: Alivia Smithmyer/Grayson Evans

Music: Folk

Sunday, December 14 10:15 am

Eucharistic Ministers: Kevin King/Leoni Martins

Lector: 9th Grade CCD

Servers: Blaire Lewis/Makenzie Kellogg

Music: Youth

SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

Monday Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Gen 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday, Advent Weekday

Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13; Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday, Weekday

Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10; Mt 11:28-30

Thursday, Weekday

Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab; Mt 11:11-15

Friday, Weekday

Zech 2:14-17 or Rev 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Judith 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Saturday, Memorial of Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday Third Sunday of Advent

Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

Weekly events

Sunday Dec. 7 **3:00 PM School Christmas Nativity**
Wednesday Dec. 10 **9:00 AM Healing Through Faith**
Saturday Dec. 13 **10:00 AM–1:00 PM Victorian Christmas concerts**

Dear Parish Family,

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your kind birthday wishes, prayers and blessings. Your thoughtful messages and love truly made my day special! Please be assured of my prayers for all of you. Thank you my extended family for making my birthday a memorable one! God Bless! Fr. Joshi Narisetti

ST. JOHN'S GIVING TREE

The Giving Tree gifts need to be returned to the back of church no later than 11:30 on Sunday December 14th. If you feel you may be unable to get your gifts to the church by this time, please contact Patty Correll at **814-571-8718** as soon as possible to make other arrangements. All gifts need to be delivered to various agencies the week of December 14th so they can be distributed to their clients before Christmas. *If you are unable to get to church on Sunday, drop your gift off at the church on Saturday.* If that is not possible, return the gift on Monday or as soon as possible to the church or rectory.

It is important to call the number above to let us know that that gift is accounted for. In case of inclement weather on Sunday Dec. 14th, please drop off your gift on Monday at the rectory during the day. You may also call the number above to make other pick-up arrangements.

Reminder: If your gift is a gift card in a card or envelope, please do not leave it in the back of church with all the other packages. It can be easily lost. Consider wrapping it in a larger box or bag or drop it off at the rectory.

Also, if you are unable to purchase the gifts for your angel, please call to let us know as soon as possible, so someone else can provide gifts for that person. Each year, we usually have about 4-6 angels that are not returned. Gifts still need to be bought for these angels. If you would like to give a financial donation to help with the cost of providing gifts for the ones that are not returned, please call Patty Correll or drop off your donation to the rectory. Thank you

Volunteers are needed to move gifts to the school on Sunday December 14th. If you can give an hour of your Sunday morning to help out, contact Patty Correll at 814-571-8718.



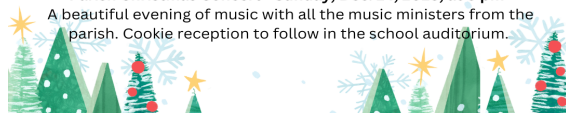
The Saint John School students and the Music Ministers of Saint John have been busily preparing for a number of upcoming concerts. Please consider joining us as we spread the good news of the season through song. All concerts will be held in the Church.

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.



Weekly Financial Report

For the Weekend of November 30, 2025

ORDINARY COLLECTION INCOME RECEIVED:

Adult Offertory (regular & online):	\$ 8,009.10
Loose Offertory:	\$ 860.00
Children's Offertory:	\$ 15.00
Special Monthly:	\$ 265.00
Votive Candles:	\$ 173.75

ORDINARY TOTAL \$ 9,322.85

EXTRA ORDINARY INCOME RECEIVED:

Maintenance:	\$ 520.00
EXTRA ORDINARY TOTAL:	\$ 520.00
ORDINARY & EXTRA TOTAL:	\$ 9,842.85

SCHOOL COLLECTION: \$ 45.00

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS: (Diocesan or Other)

Catholic Charities	\$ 115.00
Holy Name of Mary	\$ 100.00
Retirement Fund Religious	\$ 25.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 30.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 20.00
Christmas	\$ 30.00

ST. KATERI COLLECTION TOTALS (regular & online)

November 23, 2025	\$1,532.00
November 30, 2025	\$1,478.00

Thank you for your generosity!

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

Saints Peter and Paul, Philipsburg
Sunday, December 7 at 12:30 PM

Penn State University - Pasquerilla Center
Tuesday, December 9 at 6 PM

Queen of Archangels, Clarence
Wednesday, December 10 at 6:30 PM

SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST, BELLEFONTE
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14 AT 3:00 PM

Good Shepherd, Port Matilda
Tuesday, December 16 at 7:00 PM

Our Lady of Victory, State College
Sunday, December 21 at 6:00 PM

Religious Education

St. John

CCD GRADES K-8

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

Please note the following class schedule

Dec. 7th—Class, Reconciliation 3rd & 4th grades

Dec. 14th—Class, First Reconciliation 2nd grade, Reconciliation 5th & 6th grades

Dec. 21st—Class, Reconciliation 7th & 8th 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, 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

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.

BINGO WILL BE DEC. 15 th due to the Holy day Dec.8th

HEALING THROUGH FAITH MEETINGS

The holiday season is here and can be difficult for those who have lost loved ones in the last year. Or you may be experiencing another form of grief? If you are looking for an opportunity to talk about your grief with others who have similar feelings, consider taking the time to attend our gatherings as we support one another through our faith. All are welcome! The next "Healing Through Faith" meetings will be on Wednesday, December 10th at 9:00AM and on December 18th at 6:30PM. Meetings are held in the rectory. Please note that during the winter months the meetings will be canceled if the school is closed. For more information call Ed Mulfinger at (814) 280-2755, Connie Davis at 355-1280 or Barbara Materna at (814) 359-0354.

FREE SALE - Saturday, Dec. 13th, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. at Our Lady of Victory Activities Center (820 Westerly Pkwy., State College PA). What is a FREE SALE? - it is just like a yard sale except all items are FREE. Items to include tables of Christmas items, games, tools, toys, videos, camping gear, garden equipment, odds-and-ends, shells and minerals and much more! Free-will donations are accepted and all will go to support St. Rita's School in Cameroon, Africa, a school serving both handicapped and non-handicapped students. (We will also have a sales table.) For info: Dr. Andrew Sicree, 814-867-6263 or sicree@verizon.net

St. Kateri

Dec. 7—CCD

Dec. 14—No CCD

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

Dec. 28—No CCD Christmas-New Years

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

You are invited to a **Christmas Social** at **Our Lady of the Alleghenies Church** all 608 Main Street. **Lilly, PA** on Saturday, December 27, 2025, beginning at 5:30pm and ending at 10:00pm cost is \$25.00 single ticket and \$45.00 couple tickets B.Y.O.B. & must be 21 to attend dinner served at 6:00pm live band hot wax begins at 7:00pm. Contact Anna Leahey at 814-935-4501 for tickets.

2025 DIOCESAN VOCATION APPEAL

Bishop Bartchak is encouraging you to support our diocese's Vocation Appeal. Your gift will fund the diocese's renewed efforts to promote vocations to the priesthood, an especially urgent need as the number of seminarians for our diocese has been very low in recent years. To inspire more young men to consider the priesthood, the Vocation Office has developed a robust plan, which includes:

- A newly formed Vocation Team with 5 priests in different regions of the diocese who are committed to offering mentorship to young men as they discern their vocations.
- Our recent Called By Name campaign, which has already connected the Vocation Team with many incredible young men.
- Discernment Retreats & In-Person Events.
- Regional Priesthood Discernment Groups, several young men are already participating.
- Fr. Brian Norris's appointment as Vocation Recruiter, expanding the outreach of Fr. Peter Crowe (Vocations Director) and the Vocation Team.
- Revamping communications and marketing to reach more young men.
- Creating a new website with discernment resources: ajvocations.org.
- Personally accompanying men as they discern their vocations.

Our Vocation Team's overall strategy is to identify and accompany young men as they discern God's call. Bishop Bartchak is asking all parishioners to be especially generous to ensure dedicated priests for the future of our diocese. To learn more and make a gift, visit ajvocations.org/give.

St. John School News

MEMORIALS & DONATIONS:

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.

TWINKLE TUESDAYS:

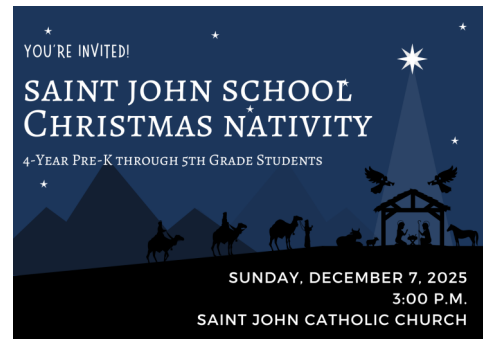
This Advent season, our students are excited to again spread joy throughout the community with our Twinkle Tuesdays initiative. Through donations, we aim to support the Food Bank and the Faith Centre. In line with our school-wide theme "From Small Seeds, Great Things Grow," we strive to live out the spirit of compassion, kindness, and service, bringing light and hope to those in need. Together, we can make a difference and reflect Christ's love to the world.

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.

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



JOIN SAINT JOHN SCHOOL
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9
6:00 - 7:00 PM



*Family Adoration Night
for Advent*

Saint John Catholic Church

Experience the peace and beauty of praying before the Blessed Sacrament, and deepen your faith as Father Brian shares the powerful gifts of Adoration. Don't miss this sacred opportunity to grow together in prayer!



VOCATION CORNER

This Second Sunday of Advent the Church invites us to reflect on the person of St. John the Baptist. St. John the Baptist stands in a privileged place among the prophets as one who "prepares the way of the Lord" to reign in the hearts of God's people. He also stands in a privileged place in relationship to Jesus and is often referred to as the "friend of the Bridegroom." Jesus is of course the Bridegroom and his Bride is the Church.



A priest once shared that one of the reasons he loves being a priest is that he helps to bring a soul and Jesus together. Have you ever thought of the priest as more than just friends with Jesus? What about the priest as Jesus' best man bringing souls and Jesus together? Seeing the priesthood through the icon of St. John the Baptist we have a glimpse into the identity of the priest as one who facilitates an encounter, as one who "prepares the way of the Lord" to reign in the hearts of his people. The priesthood, in the image of St. John the Baptist as best man, helps others fall in love with Jesus over and over again. What a gift!

"Like a shepherd he feeds his flock." Consider following Christ more closely as a priest, deacon or in consecrated life. If you are feeling God's call in your life, talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at email: vocations@dioceseaj.org.