

# SEPTEMBER 20, 2015

## Scripture Reflection

This Sunday tells of the second Passion prediction in Mark's Gospel account. Although the disciples had already heard Jesus' prediction once, still "they did not understand the saying, and they were afraid to question him". After traveling to Capernaum they are inside the "house" (a symbol of both the church and Jesus' inner circle). At this point, Jesus questions them about their conversation on the journey. One would expect that they were discussing the Passion prediction. But no, they were discussing which one of them was the greatest, which seems to prove the point that they did not understand Jesus' words. Jesus then sits down (the position of a teacher) and explains that in God's eyes being first is not about glory and honor but about humility and wise living.

So what is the problem with arguing, "I am not just one of the twelve, I am the greatest apostle?" Jesus presents to his apostles a spiritual world in which true greatness is measured not by human striving or boundless ambition but by servanthood. This is a gift and an ability that does not rely on pre-eminence or superiority but on presence for those in need. It is in caring for the little one, Jesus says, that his apostles live up to the call of the Gospel. The treatment of the child becomes a measure of greatness because it demands true humility and service. Loving a child does not offer prestige, honor or wealth, especially when in antiquity children were generally in the care of mothers, nurses or slaves. This was not the work of a man, certainly not the hand-picked viceroys of the Messiah.

To recognize that we are called as disciples of Jesus is to be at the service of others, especially children and all others who are vulnerable, marginalized and otherwise forgotten. Servanthood orients our relationships with others, for when our desires are out of order, as James writes, our relationships become disordered: "Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you?"

• **We all yearn to belong and to be loved, but sometimes this can become unbridled ambition, desire for human greatness and even fear that we are unlovable. How can we understand greatness in the context of the kingdom of God and God's love for us?**

AT HOME WITH THE WORD 2015. (C) 2014 ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO, LITURGY TRAINING PUBLICATIONS, 3949 South Racine Avenue CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60609. REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION. AMERICA MAGAZINE: September 14, 2015, John W. Martens.

## Annual September Tours of Cathedral

Our remaining one hour tours are scheduled for Thursday, **September 24** at 7:00 PM and Sunday, **September 27** at 1:00 PM. If you have never taken a tour of this magnificent building, plan to attend bring a friend.

## FAMILY NIGHT OCTOBER 31ST

Family Night will be October 31, 2015, in the Cathedral Hall from 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM. It will be an All Hallows Eve/All Saints Party. Ghosts, witches, action heroes, and of course, the saints of all ages are welcome to join us for a fun-filled evening of children's games, saints' scavenger hunt, prizes, pumpkin painting, photo booth, Fall foods, and more. There will be the drawing of the Annual Raffle that evening. Wear your favorite saint costume or Halloween costume to add to the fun.

## Cathedral Parish at Historic Moment

Over the past several years the Parish has assessed its needs, present and future, for religious education, parish offices, and additional space for various parish activities. Your pastor with the two councils, finance and parish pastoral, have assessed these needs in light of our present facilities. Both the former school building and convent building stood in need of serious expenditures in light of building codes as specified by the state and city. It was felt then that a new building, replacing both of these, would better serve the present and future needs of our Parish. Then, the former Kopp building became available. Both councils of the parish were unanimous for purchasing this real estate. And with the approval of the diocese, the building is now in our possession.

The Parish now faces the task of creating what was a warehouse into a religious education center, a parish activity center, and parish offices. Our children are presently being taught in the Cathedral hall. And the parish offices are presently in the residence for the clergy. This past month the parish received a generous gift from the estate of a parishioner; this gift will be a beginning to meet the challenges ahead of us to create classrooms, office space, and an activity center. As we look ahead, the entire parish will be asked to be stewards of your treasure with this historic project.

# THE CHURCH OF ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN THE CATHEDRAL OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

ONE CATHEDRAL SQUARE, Altoona, Pennsylvania 16601-3315  
Church Office: 814-944-4603

### CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS:

The process of formation for those seeking God through membership in the Catholic Christian community.

### INFANT BAPTISM:

Arrange in advance for pre-baptismal instructions.

### CONFIRMATION:

Ninth, tenth and eleventh grade students are invited to participate in the Confirmation Preparation Process.

### RECONCILIATION:

Wednesday: 7:00 PM, Saturday: 12:30 PM.  
Communal Penance Services: Advent and Lent.

### ANOINTING OF THE SICK:

Communal celebration Easter Season.

### MARRIAGE:

Arrange nine months in advance. Couples expected to participate in pre-marriage preparation program.

### DEVOTIONS:

Novena of the Miraculous Medal - Monday 7:45 AM.  
Rosary - Wednesday 6:00 PM.  
Charismatic Prayer - Monday 7:00 PM.  
Evening Prayer within Eucharistic Exposition - Advent and Christmas, Lent and Easter Seasons - Sunday 6:30 PM.  
Eucharistic Day - Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM:

September through April: Pre-Kindergarten thru 12.  
Sunday morning 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM  
Pre-Kindergarten thru 8.  
Sunday evening 6:15 PM - 8:30 PM  
Grades 9 thru 12.

WEB: [WWW.ALTOONACATHEDRAL.ORG](http://WWW.ALTOONACATHEDRAL.ORG)

FAX: 814-942-4337

E-MAIL: [ALTCATHEDRAL@DIOCESEAJ.ORG](mailto:ALTCATHEDRAL@DIOCESEAJ.ORG)

### EUCCHARIST:

Sunday:	5:00 PM (Vigil) 8:00 AM 10:00 AM 12:00 Noon 5:00 PM	Holiday:	5:30 PM (Vigil) 8:00 AM 12:00 Noon 5:30 PM	Weekday:	6:45 AM 8:00 AM 12:00 Noon
				Saturday:	8:00 AM 12:00 Noon

**SERVING THE PEOPLE OF GOD IN THE CITY OF ALTOONA SINCE 1851**

**Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, Bishop**

Reverend Monsignor Robert C. Mazur, Rector

Reverend Father Dennis M. Kurdziel, Parochial Vicar

Deacon Michael A. Anna

Deacon John J. Szwarc, Senior Deacon

CHRISTIAN INITIATION TEAM - 944-4603

CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME - 944-4603

ALTOONA CENTRAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
Web: [www.altoonacentralcatholic.com](http://www.altoonacentralcatholic.com)  
Elementary - Pre-K thru Grade 5 - 381-7011

BISHOP GUILFOYLE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL  
Web: [www.bishopguilfoyle.org](http://www.bishopguilfoyle.org) - 944-4014

DIRECTORS OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION  
Chris Laraia - Pre-K thru 8 - 946-3475  
Jean Koury - 9 thru 12 - 949-2777  
Religious Education Office: Sundays - 943-7424

MUSIC MINISTRY  
Nina M. Tedeschi  
Choir Director and Head Organist - 944-2044  
Kevin J. Luke - E-mail: [kluke@dioceseaj.org](mailto:kluke@dioceseaj.org)  
Administrative Duties and Organist - 944-2044

**TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**SEPTEMBER 20, 2015**

Readings: Wis 2:12,17-20; Jas 3:16--4:3; Mk 9:30-37

**MASS INTENTIONS**

September 21, Monday: Saint Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist

Readings: Eph 4:1-7,11-13; Mt 9:9-13

6:45 AM Jim Roland (Cathedral R.C.I.A.)

8:00 AM Bernie McLucas (Family)

12:00 PM Danyll Rougeux (Cathedral Ushers)

September 22, Tuesday: Weekday

Readings: Ezr 6:7-8,12,14-20; Lk 8:19-21

6:45 AM Shirley Hencherick (M/M Philip Hencherick)

8:00 AM Deacon John Rys (Cindy Geiner)

12:00 PM Kitty Sullivan (Donnie Rabine)

September 23, Wednesday: Saint Pius of Pietrelcina

Readings: Ezr 9:5-9; Lk 9:1-6

6:45 AM Msgr. Thomas Madden (Estate)

8:00 AM Henriette Thibault (M/M Paul Watkins, Jr.)

12:00 PM Tom Byrne (Janice Jorkasky Family)

September 24, Thursday: Weekday

Readings: Hg 1:1-8; Lk 9:7-9

6:45 AM Nozzie, Jennie and Sandy Calabrese (Family)

8:00 AM Ventura Mincin, Birthday (Susan Galant)

12:00 PM Lois Riley (Helen Force)

September 25, Friday: Weekday

Readings: Hg 2:1-9; Lk 9:18-22

6:45 AM Rob Beiswenger (Patty and Tom Forr)

8:00 AM Beverly Fabian (M/M Paul Kowalski)

12:00 PM Mildred Burchfield (Greg and Kathy Clemens)

September 26, Saturday: Saints Cosmas and Damian

Readings: 1 Tm 6: 13-16; Lk 8:4-15

8:00 AM Betty Capouellez, Birthday (Family)

12:00 PM Alfred Rutolo, Birthday (Family)

Vigil: Twenty-Sixth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Readings: Nm 11:25-29; Jas 5:1-6; Mk 9:38-43,45,47-48

5:00 PM Rita Greiner, Anniversary (Family)

**Please remember our sick in your prayers.**

**Public Recitation of Rosary**

The ninth annual Altoona Public Rosary Rally will be on Saturday, October 10 at 2:00 PM at Heritage Plaza (Eleventh Avenue and Fourteenth Street) in downtown Altoona. This event is held in over 10,000 cities over the world on the same day. Please join in this October prayer in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary as we pray for peace.

**Wedding Anniversary Liturgy Today!**

Bishop Mark and the Family Life Office of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown invited couples marking their first, 5th, 10th, 25th, 40th 50th, 55th, and 60th+ wedding anniversary this calendar year to attend this annual Wedding Anniversary Liturgy.

**ANNUAL RAFFLE**

The Annual Cathedral Raffle tickets are now available for sale at the **Parish Office** during regular business hours (9:30 AM- 5:30 PM) Monday thru Friday and after all weekend Masses at the **Cathedral Square door**. There are twenty cash prizes totaling \$5,000.00 and ranging from \$2,000.00 to \$25.00 **One ticket costs \$5.00. Each family is asked to purchase or sell at least four tickets.** The drawing will be held **Saturday, October 31 at Family Night** in Cathedral Hall. You need not be present to win.

**Our Lady of Fatima Coupon Books**

"Save Around" coupon books for the remainder of 2015 and all of 2016 are being sold for \$20 each. They contain over \$5,000 worth of coupons for Altoona, State College and Johnstown. For every five books you sell or buy you will receive a free one. Call Ellen at the Our Lady of Fatima Office: 942-0371 between 8:00 AM and Noon, Monday through Friday. They will also be available after the 10:30 AM Mass on Sundays.

**Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School**

It's time for the **4th Annual Marauder Chopper Drop** to be held on Saturday, October 10, 2015 at 4:00 PM at Tom Irwin Field! Here is your chance to win \$10,000 and enjoy a great afternoon here at Bishop Guilfoyle. Tickets are on sale and can be purchased either at the school's main office or by calling 814-944-3997. Tickets are one for \$20 or three for \$50. There are only 1,300 tickets; so get them now before they are gone!

**CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP**

The Charismatic Prayer group will NOT meet this Monday, September 21. All are welcome to participate in a Charismatic Mass with Father Bob Hiltz, TOR presiding on Monday, September 28th at 7 PM.

**Rest In Peace**

Please remember in prayer our parishioners, Edward Manna and 'Moose' Plutko, who died and were buried from the Cathedral this past week. May they rest in peace and may their families be comforted in the faith.

**CHRISTIAN INITIATION - INQUIRY**

Anyone interested in learning more about the Catholic Church is invited to Sunday morning **Inquiry Sessions** between 11:00 AM and 12 Noon in the Seton Suite. No commitments are made at this time. This is an opportunity for questions and discussions about the Catholic faith. Have you thought about joining the Catholic Church? Are there questions you have about Catholicism? This is the time to join all those making inquiry into the Catholic faith. Please accept this as a warm and open invitation.

**Parish in Need of Altar Servers**

Children from grade four and up are invited to become altar servers here at the Cathedral Parish. Parents, we are asking your children to be stewards of their time and talent, and volunteer to serve Mass. Weekly Mass attendance is part of Catholic practice. Please consider serving at the altar when coming to Saturday/Sunday Mass. Children seek to fulfill service hours throughout the year. Serving at Mass will help fulfill these service requirements. Becoming an altar server requires a commitment of responsibility. The Parish needs to enlist at least a dozen and a half additional servers. Please consider this call to serve the Church.

**SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION**

**Confirmation**

**Sunday, September 20 - Eleventh Grade Meeting: ALL** BGCHS, Religious Ed and Home schooled students each with a parent at **6:00 PM** in Cathedral Hall.

**Baptism**

**Monday, October 12** in the Seton Suite at **7:00 PM**. Attendance at Baptismal Prep is required before a baptism is scheduled at Cathedral Parish and class is offered **every other month**. You do not have to wait until your baby arrives to come to class. Godparents are encouraged to attend as well. Call the Parish Office at 944-4603 to register. Next class, **Monday, December 14.**

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

**Sunday, September 13, 2015 - \$11,167.00**

**CATECHTICAL SUNDAY**

This **Sunday, September 20**, is Catechetical Sunday throughout the United States. Here at the Cathedral Parish at the 10:00 AM Mass, all catechists are blessed for the year ahead. We are grateful for their commitment of time and talent.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (Pre K-Grade 8)**

Religious Education Classes are held in the Parish Hall on Sunday mornings from **8:30 AM - 9:45 AM** for Grades 1 - Grade 8. Pre-K and Kindergarten join Miss Gabi in the Music Room. If you are new to the Parish and need to register, please arrive a little early with a copy of your child's Baptismal Certificate. Parents of returning students are asked to update contact information: addresses, phone numbers, etc.

**HIGH SCHOOL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**F.I.R.E. Groups - Family Intergenerational Religious Education for Parents and Students** in Grades 9-11 (Religious Ed and Home-schooled) meet next week, September 27th in Cathedral Hall from **6:15 PM - 8:30 PM**. Classes for **October** are on the **11th** and the **25th**. **Service hours** will be awarded for helping with **Family Fun Night** on **October 31st** and don't forget **SHYCON** at St. Francis University on **October 25**. See Jean Koury for more details, sign-up sheets, and registration forms.

**MUSIC MINISTRY NOTE:**

Choir Practice: **Thursday** evenings; Cantors and Psalmists at 6:30 PM and All Choir Members 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM. New members are welcome. Call the Music Ministry Office at 944-2044 for more information. Call also if interested in the Children's Choir forming soon!

**Liturgical Reflection ...**

**General  
Instruction  
of the  
Roman Missal**

The Church has specific directives for the altar on which bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ. The altar clearly signifies Christ Jesus, the Living Stone. The altar should be built separate from the wall, in such a way that it is possible to walk around it easily and that Mass may be celebrated at it facing the people, which is desirable wherever possible. Also, the altar should occupy a place where it is truly the center toward which the attention of the faithful naturally turns. The altar in each church should be fixed (attached to the floor of the sanctuary) and dedicated according to the rite prescribed in the Roman Pontifical.

General Instruction of the Roman Missal, Numbers 298, and 299.

2015, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 South Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648.