

# SEPTEMBER 13, 2015

## Scripture Reflection

Today's Gospel reading marks a decisive point in Mark's portrayal of Jesus. Up to now, Jesus has preached and healed throughout Galilee and even made trips into the Gentile territory. He has fed the multitudes of Jewish and Gentile listeners. Those who experienced healing or exorcism were commanded not to tell anyone who he was, yet in today's reading Jesus asks the question of his disciples: "Who do people say that I am?" To the people, he is a prophet. To his disciples, he is the messiah. In the first century, different Jewish groups anticipated different types of messiahs: a Davidic king, a warrior, an apocalyptic figure. Jesus explains exactly what kind of messiah he is. Like the Suffering Servant, Jesus is the Son of Man who will suffer and be rejected, be killed, and be raised after three days. Peter's reaction demonstrates that this was not the type of messiah that he had anticipated.

At the beginning of today's account, Mark presents the disciples as examples of hearing the Word and living it fully. However, as the story progresses, we see another side of the disciples. They begin to miss the point of Jesus' teachings; they misunderstand and even protest about what Jesus tells them. This Sunday's selection is an example of their failure to understand the depth of Jesus' message. He asks his disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" Initially, Peter answers correctly, "You are the Christ." However, as soon as Jesus explains that being the Christ means suffering, rejection, death, and resurrection, Peter begins to backpedal. He even rebukes Jesus for saying such things. However, Jesus confirms that the difficult road that he will walk is the same road that all true disciples travel. Each will find the way to eternal life through denial of self, picking up the cross, and following Jesus.

Mark says that the witness to Jesus' suffering on our behalf (the cross) and to his resurrection links us to the pattern of continuing reform leading to eternal life. Every believer, each one of the baptized, is claimed for the crucified and risen Christ. We are called daily to die and rise with Christ. The rising part is easy; the dying part is the challenge.

• **Jesus asks, "Who do you say I am?" Take time to seriously reflect before answering the question. Your answer must involve the cross.**

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Living the Word, Laurie Brink, O.P., and Deacon Frederick Bauerschmidt, 2014, page 181. Living the Word, Dennis D. Sylva and Rev. James A. Wallace, CSsR, 2008, page 182.

## 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.

### Baptism Congratulations

Anika Celine Villegas Alvarez, daughter of Alvin and Cecille Alvarez, was baptized on Sunday morning, September 6. Congratulations also to brothers, Ace Victor and Accel Francis, and Godparents, Michael and Meia Warmath. May the graces of the Sacrament of Baptism strengthen both our children and the adults who care for them.

### Baptismal Preparation

**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 scheduled class, Monday, December 14.

### Bag and Basket Bingo

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, **September 20th**; \$25.00 and \$55.00 Ticket Packages; Doors open Noon; Bingo starts 1:30 PM; more information contact Charlotte 814-943-6185.

**CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP** - There will be a **Eucharistic Festival of Praise** this Monday, September 14th at **7:00 PM** in the Cathedral. Father Jonathan St. Andre, TOR is the speaker. Come adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament with Praise and Worship Music included. Prayers for healing will follow. All are welcome.

### Speaker at Cathedral September 23rd

**Gary Foote**, a National Catholic Evangelist, will be speaking at the Cathedral on Wednesday, September 23rd at 7:30 PM. All are encouraged and welcome to come! For more information his website is [www.Garyfoote.com](http://www.Garyfoote.com).

# 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)

### EUCHARIST:

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-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**SEPTEMBER 13, 2015**

Readings: *Is 50:5-9; Jas 2:14-18; Mk 8:27-35*

**MASS INTENTIONS**

September 14, Monday: Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Readings: *Nm 21:4-9; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17*

6:45 AM Monsignor Thomas Madden (Estate)  
8:00 AM Special Intention (Mary Boslet)  
12:00 PM Don Eastbourn (Vogels)

September 15, Tuesday: Our Lady of Sorrows

Readings: *1 Tm 3:1-13; Jn 19:25-27*

6:45 AM Jim Roland (Frances Ruprick Family)  
8:00 AM Pat Laret (McNelis All-Stars)  
12:00 PM Bill Conrad, Anniv. (Frieda and Family)

September 16, Wednesday: Ss Cornelius and Cyprian

Readings: *1 Tm 3:14-16; Lk 7:31-35*

6:45 AM Nozzie, Jennie, Sandy Calabrese (Family)  
8:00 AM M. Virginia Jones (Rita and Bernie Yetsko)  
12:00 PM Special Intention (Joyce Family)

September 17, Thursday: Saint Robert Bellarmine

Readings: *1 Tm 4:12-16; Lk 7: 36-50*

6:45 AM In Prayer and Thanksgiving (Grove Family)  
8:00 AM Janet Pufka (Pat Byrne and Family)  
12:00 PM James J. Adams, Anniv. (Wife and Family)

September 18, Friday: Weekday

Readings: *1 Tm 6:2-12; Lk 8:1-3*

6:45 AM Bernadette Weakland (Eileen Edwards)  
8:00 AM Hubert 'Pete' Clark (Skip Cowan Family)  
12:00 PM Mildred Burchfield (Greg and Kathy Clemens)

September 19, Saturday: Saint Januarius, Bishop, Mytr.

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

8:00 AM Rob Beiswenger (Merlann Malloy)  
12:00 PM Jack Lieden, Anniversary (Sally and Family)  
Vigil: Twenty-Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time  
Readings: *Wis 2:12, 17-20; Jas 3:16-4:3; Mk 9:30-37*  
5:00 PM Monsignor Thomas Mabon (Jim Kelly)

**Rest In Peace** - Please remember in prayer our parishioner, Doris Green, who died and was buried from the Cathedral this past week. May she rest in peace and may her family be comforted in the faith.

**Planning Ahead**

**Cross Catholic** will be present at all Masses on the weekend of October 10 and 11. Father Jim Quinlan will preach at the Masses asking for our assistance with the work of Cross Catholic.

**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 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.

**Wedding Anniversary Liturgy Next Sunday!**

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 the annual Wedding Anniversary Liturgy. We have registered fourteen Cathedral couples for the celebration to be held here at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament on **September 20th** at 2:00 PM. A light reception will follow in Cathedral Hall after Mass for the couples and their families.

**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!

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

**Sunday, September 6, 2015 - \$8,690.88**

**Winner of Calendar of Prizes 2015**

The grand prize of \$5,000.00 has gone to Cathy Rougeux, one of our Eucharistic Ministers for Sunday 5:00 PM Mass, who along with her husband, Regis, help with counting and depositing our offertory gifts on a regular basis. Congratulations!

**Christian Initiation - Inquiry Sessions Begin!**

Are you interested in the Catholic Church? Do you know someone who might be interested in seeking information about our Catholic faith? Today, the Cathedral Christian Initiation Team will meet in the Seton Suite at 11:00 AM with all those seeking information on the Catholic Church. No commitments are made at this time. This is the first Inquiry Session to discuss aspects of our faith with anyone who might be thinking of joining the Catholic Church.

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

**Today - First day of Class** We will meet in the Parish Hall from **8:30 AM - 9:45 AM**. Pre-K and Kindergarten will join Miss Gabi in the Music Room. Please arrive at 8:10 AM with a copy of your child's Baptismal Certificate to register new students. Parents of returning students are asked to update contact information: addresses, phone numbers, etc. also.

**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 in Cathedral Hall following 5:00 PM Mass from **6:15 PM - 8:30 PM** on two Sunday evenings each month. Sessions for September are **tonight** and **September 27th**.

**Catholic Daughters of the Americas**

Court Prince Gallitzin #2625 will meet on Monday, September 14, in the St. Rose of Lima Social Hall at 6:30 PM for a social followed by a 7:00 PM meeting. New members are welcome!

**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.

**CONFIRMATION PREPARATION (Grade 9-11)**

**MEETING DATES: Mandatory Parent Attendance**

Ninth Grade: **ALL** BGCHS, Religious Ed and Home schooled students each with a parent.

**September 13th, 2015 - Today at 11:00 AM**

(Following the 10:00 AM Mass) in the Hall.

Tenth Grade: **ALL** BGCHS, Religious Ed and Home schooled students each with a parent.

**September 16th, 2015 - Wednesday** evening in the Seton Suite at **7:00 PM**.

Eleventh Grade: **ALL** BGCHS, Religious Ed and Home schooled students each with a parent.

**September 20th, 2015 - Sunday at 6:00 PM**

(Following the 5:00 PM Mass) in the Hall. Families with more than one student need only attend once.

**BISHOP GUILFOYLE NEWS**

**Collin Welteroth** was among eleven Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School students selected to receive the President's Education Award. The criteria for the award is based on cumulative grade point average, discipline and drive to excel academically, characteristics that positively reflect Bishop Guilfoyle, and recommendation by 75 percent of the recommending faculty. We are Cathedral proud Collin!

**Liturgical Reflection ...**

**General  
Instruction  
of the  
Roman Missal**

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal directs that there be at least two candles for Mass. There may be four or six altar candles, reflecting the solemnity of the season or the day. The candlesticks with candles are appropriately placed either on the altar or around it, according to the design of the altar and sanctuary, so that the whole may be harmonious and the faithful should not be impeded from a clear view of what takes place on the altar or what is placed upon it. Candles may be used in the opening procession and the Gospel procession.

General Instruction of the Roman Missal, Numbers 117, 120, and 307.

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