

**AUGUST 9, 2015**

*Scripture Reflection*

As infants, prior to the coming of speech, we communicate with sounds, gestures and facial expressions. Long before we can speak to our mothers, fathers or older siblings, we fall in love with them. It is a tactile love, based upon the senses of touch, hearing, smelling, tasting and seeing. What if this is how we fall in love with God?

These sorts of tactile images abound in Scripture, in which the physical senses are used to describe our relationship with God. Theologians refer to these descriptions as "spiritual senses". Spiritual senses are not always used in the Bible as a metaphor, they argue, but analogically as a way to describe how we discern the presence of God, actual spiritual senses by which we communicate and enter into relationship with God. The connection between the physical senses and the spiritual senses is always present, for the physical senses are the means by which we become sensitive to spiritual realities and grounded in the reality of God's presence

In response to the crowd's request for something like the miraculous feeding that their ancestors experienced with Moses in the wilderness, Jesus responds that he brings something better: he himself is bread from heaven, and receiving him as sent by the Father will give them more than the satisfaction of physical hunger; it will give the eternal life that their hearts desire. And so we touch, taste, hear, smell and see God who is bread for life. We move from the physical to the spiritual level. All who come to him, not only Israel, shall be taught by God. As he says, "I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world."

• **Reflect on how your five senses reveal the mystery of God?**

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: August 3-10, 2015, John W. Martens.

**ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL 2015**

An update on this year's Appeal shows **369** gifts have been received. This year the Cathedral Parish goal was set at **\$66,350.00**. We have raised **\$96,495.00** to date. We are **\$30,145.00** over goal and have now received **\$14,412.52** back from the Diocese. Our next check will be almost **\$5,000.00** as we continue to make our pledge payments. If you have yet to participate in this year's Appeal, it is not too late. Place any envelope marked ACA in the regular Sunday collection. Thank you.

**NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING**

*Does your method of family planning...strengthen your emotional intimacy with your spouse?...work with (not against) the gift of your fertility?...nurture a loving relationship with God and the Church?...increase your self-respect and growth as a person/couple?* The Billings Method of NFP ([www.boma-usa.org](http://www.boma-usa.org) or [www.familyplanning.net](http://www.familyplanning.net)) is the result of decades of scientific research by medical researchers. NFP honors the Church's respect for the unitive and procreative purpose of married love-making. If you haven't checked out NFP, you haven't made an informed choice. Certified diocesan instructors are located throughout our diocese. Introductory presentations to groups are also available. Contact our diocesan Family Life Office, [familylife@dioceseaj.org](mailto:familylife@dioceseaj.org). or call 814-886-5551.

**Ministry To Homebound and Elderly Meeting**

There is a scheduled meeting for **Thursday, August 20** at **6:30 PM** in the Saint John Room.

**Anniversary Liturgies**

Bishop Mark and the Family Life Office of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown invite couples marking their first, 5th, 10th, 25th, 40th 50th, 55th and 60th+ wedding anniversary this calendar year to attend either of the annual Wedding Anniversary Liturgies. Please call the Parish Office to make your reservation for the celebration here at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament on **September 20th** at 2:00 PM. The deadline is August 25.

**Charismatic Prayer Group**

The Charismatic Prayer Group meet this Monday evening in the Cathedral at 7:00 PM. Please join us for Praise and Worship followed by a presentation by Lois Bergamaschi entitled "An Attitude of Gratitude." All are welcome!

**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 11:15 AM - 12:30 PM  
Pre-Kindergarten thru 8.  
Sunday evening 6:15 PM - 8:30 PM  
Grades 9 thru 12.

**WEB: WWW.ALTOONACATHEDRAL.ORG**

**FAX: 814-942-4337**

**E-MAIL: 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

Reverend Father John J. Slovickovski, In Residence

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 GULFOYLE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**

Web: [www.bishopgulfoyle.org](http://www.bishopgulfoyle.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

**NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**AUGUST 9, 2015**

Readings: 1 Kgs 19:4-8; Eph 4:30--5:2; Jn 6:41-51

**MASS INTENTIONS**

August 10, Monday: Saint Lawrence, Deacon, Martyr

Readings: 2 Cor 9:6-10; Jn 12:24-26

- 6:45 AM Nozzie, Jennie, Sandy Calabrese (Family)
- 8:00 AM Kimberly Kokolis Moran (Tom and Beth Moore)
- 12:00 PM Fr. Louis Mulvehill (Mike and Sue Jones)

August 11, Tuesday: Saint Clare, Virgin

Readings: Dt 31:1-8; Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14

- 6:45 AM Michael Febbo (Jim and Elaine Weaver)
- 8:00 AM Walter Joyce (Davidson Family)
- 12:00 PM Bill Geis, Birthday (Patty and Family)

August 12, Wednesday: Saint Jane Frances de Chantal

Readings: Dt 34:1-12; Mt 18:15-20

- 6:45 AM Margaret McConnell (Kevin and Jane Byrne)
- 8:00 AM Rick Cowan, Birthday (Mom)
- 12:00 PM Jack Leiden, Birthday (Wife and Family)

August 13, Thursday: Saints Pontian and Hippolytus

Readings: Jos 3:7-10, 11, 13-17; Mt 18:21--19:1

- 6:45 AM Fred Martynuska (Fred and Gail)
- 8:00 AM Pat Rabine (Dave and Carolyn English)
- 12:00 PM Jacqueline Sheehan, Anniv. (Ron and Jean)

August 14 Friday: Saint Maximilian Kolbe, Priest, Martyr

Readings: Jos 24:1-13; Mt 19:3-12

- 6:45 AM Jim Roland (Dave Madden)
- 8:00 AM Martha and Dick Tragan (Rosemarie Fedeli)
- 12:00 PM Edgar L. Johnston, Birthday (Family)

August 15, Saturday: The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin

Readings: Rv 11:19, 12:1-6, 10; 1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56

- 8:00 AM Deceased Family Members (McNelis All-Stars)
- 12:00 PM Eileen Lytle (Bonnie Johnson)
- Vigil: Twentieth Sunday In Ordinary Time
- Readings: Prv 9:1-6; Eph 5:15-20; Jn 6:51-58
- 5:00 PM Rose Marie Simanski (Daughter, Mary Ann)

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

**Mass For College Students Tonight!**

Bishop Mark will celebrate Mass for students entering or returning to college this fall this **Sunday, August 9**, at **7:00 PM**, at the Our Lady of the Alleghenies Shrine in Loretto. Bishop will offer a special blessing to the students and enjoy fellowship with them after the Mass. In the event of rain, the Mass will be celebrated inside the Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel.

**PARISH ACQUIRES BUILDING**

The former National Cash Register building and, most recently, the former Kopp Drug Office building at 1405 Thirteenth Avenue is now the property of the Cathedral Parish. The purchase of this three story building was formally contracted on July 31, 2015. This transaction follows the strong recommendation of the Finance and Parish Pastoral Councils.

The third floor of the building (entrance on Thirteenth Avenue) will become Parish Offices. The second floor (entrance on Fourteenth Street, across from the rectory) will become Religious Education classrooms. The ground floor (entrance by alley) will become a future space for parish activities and meetings.

The main reason for this project is needed space for Religious Education. The Parish feels blessed to have this property in our possession. We will need to create appropriate space for the various needs of the parish. Funds will need to be raised to make the proper adjustments to this former warehouse.

**PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL MEETING**

This **Thursday, August 13**, at **4:30 PM** in the St. John Room.

**Baptismal Preparation - Monday, August 10**

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, October 12.

**Altoona Central Catholic School Notes:**

**FIRST DAY BACK TO SCHOOL - AUGUST 26 OPEN HOUSE** on August 24, from 5:30 PM until 6:00 PM in the school, followed by a delicious **DINNER** in Father Kelley Hall, starting at 6:15 PM. (Meatball sub, salad, fruit and drinks) Please R.S.V.P. by August 17 at 381-7011.

**ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS!!**

Due to the new Pennsylvania State Mandates on Youth Protection, all current or future volunteers at the parish **MUST** obtain new clearances. Please call Chris Laraia at 312-7317 for more information.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

**Sunday, August 2, 2015 - \$10,198.00**

**Bequest to Cathedral Parish**

The Cathedral received a gift of \$1,000 this week from the *Estate of Margaret H. McConnell*. We are most appreciative of Margie's stewardship to the parish.

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS PLEASE NOTE:**

A new liturgical ministry schedule for September and October will be prepared shortly. Unavailable dates for service and/or changes in contact information are needed by **4:00 PM**, on **Monday, August 31**. If you have holiday plans for November or December, it would be good to have that information as soon as possible also. Thank you to all who call substitutes when unable to meet an assignment. If you need a new phone list, please call the Parish Office: 944-4604.

**ANNUAL RAFFLE**

The Annual Cathedral Raffle **tickets are available** for sale at the **Parish Office!** We are now looking for individuals who would like to take responsibility for group sales at work, in neighborhoods, or at family gatherings, and also volunteers to sell tickets after weekend Masses. There will be twenty cash prizes with \$5,000.00 in prizes: (1) \$2,000.00; (2) \$1,000.00 (3) \$500.00; (4) \$200.00; (5) \$200.00; (6) \$100.00; (7) \$100.00; (8) \$100.00; (9) \$100.00; (10) \$100.00; (11) \$100.00; (12) \$100.00; (13) \$100.00; (14) \$50.00; (15) \$50.00; (16) \$50.00; (17) \$50.00; (18) \$50.00; (19) \$25.00; (20) \$25.00. **One ticket will cost \$5.00. Each family is asked to purchase or sell at least four tickets.** Chances were mailed this week to all adult parishioners. The drawing will be held **Saturday, October 31** at **Family Night** in Cathedral Hall. You need not be present to win.

**Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

This Saturday, August 15, is the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Because this feast falls on a Saturday this year, it is NOT a holy day of obligation. Faith communities are encouraged to offer a Mass on this day (morning or at noon) to commemorate Mary's body and soul assuming into heaven. The faithful are invited to participate at this Mass in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary under the title of the Assumption. The Saturday evening Mass will be the Vigil for the Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

**Gathering of Cathedral/McNelis School Alumni**

On **Saturday, August 22, 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM** alumni of Cathedral School and McNelis School will meet to share memories and stories of their years at our former parochial school. In addition to your memories, perhaps you would like to bring some memorabilia - pictures, yearbooks, papers, etc. The gathering will take place in the parking lot. A picture will be taken of all participants on the Thirteenth Street steps of the school. Following this reunion, all are invited to the 5:00 PM Mass in the Cathedral.

**Altoona Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court Prince Gallitzin #2625 Fundraiser**

Help us help our Altoona community and beyond by going to Hoss's in Altoona for dinner **11:00 AM until 9:00 PM on Sunday, August 16**. Our Hoss's Group number is #28227. You must clip this entire ad and give it to your server when you pay your bill, or we will not get credit for your meal purchase. Valid only at the Hoss's at 621 Valley View Boulevard, Altoona on Sunday, August 16. Questions . . . call Mary at 946-3449.

**Liturgical Reflection ...**

**General Instruction of the Roman Missal**

The music ministry of Cantor and Choir exercise their own liturgical function. When properly carried out, the cantor and choir foster the active participation of the faithful by means of the singing. It is fitting that the cantor and choir director guide and support the people's singing. Especially when there is no choir, the cantor has the responsibility to direct the different pieces of music, with the people taking the part proper to them. The cantor needs to practice regularly in preparation for Mass. Tone quality, diction, projection, and a confidence with the musical selections are necessary for this ministry.

General Instruction of the Roman Missal, Numbers 103 and 104.

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