

JULY 26, 2015

Scripture Reflection

The pairing of the story of Elisha feeding a hundred people from twenty barley loaves with John's account of Jesus sharing five barley loaves and two fish with five thousand men surely prompts us to reflect on the similarities and differences. The similarities - miraculous sharing of barley loaves, abundance of leftovers - show Jesus to be in the tradition of Israelite prophets addressing physical hunger, but the differences - Jesus feeds more people starting with less bread - show Jesus to be a much greater prophet. Both the prophet Elisha and Jesus understand the essential human need to eat. Both feed large, hungry crowds. All were fed and no one was left hungry.

There is no question that Jesus' actions and the stories that recount them, found in all four Gospels, are modeled on the account of Elisha feeding a hungry crowd. There is also no question that in both stories there is a spiritual meaning that runs deeper than the simple physical act of nourishing the body. Elisha gives the people the food dedicated to God as the first fruits; Jesus will offer himself as the spiritual bread from heaven. But the spiritual truth does not negate the meaning of the material bread and the necessary sustenance it offers.

It is the act of giving what is needed physically that allows people to see with the eyes of the soul, to look beyond this world to the world eternal, from the barley bread to the bread of heaven. God's abundance, poured out over the whole earth, is intended for everyone. All are called to participate in this richness, to be a part of the one body and one Spirit, sharing in the material and the spiritual bread. If our economics do not make room for feeding everyone, with some left over, it is not because the church's science is faulty but because of our hardened hearts. There is enough for everyone and no one should have nothing.

• **Reflect on the crowds around Jesus. What can you share from your abundance, both materially and spiritually?**

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AMERICA MAGAZINE: July 20-27, 2015 John W. Martens

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL 2015

An update on this year's Appeal shows **365** gifts have been received. This year the Cathedral Parish goal was set at **\$66,350.00**. We have raised **\$95,850.00** to date. We are **\$29,500.00** over goal and have now received **\$14,412.52** back from the Diocese. Our next check will be almost **\$4,000.00** 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.

Gifting the Cathedral Parish

As wills and insurance policies are established with your attorney, remember the Cathedral Parish as a beneficiary of your estate. Perhaps you would like to direct your gift to a particular ministry or project at the Parish. Please realize that Mass Stipends go directly to fulfilling that canonical wish and do not aid the financial life of the Parish.

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.

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.

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: ALT CATHEDRAL@DIOCESEAJ.ORG

EUCHARIST:

Sunday:	5:00 PM (Vigil) 8:00 AM 10:00 AM 12:00 Noon 5:00 PM	Holyday:	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

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

Elementary - Pre-K thru Grade 5 - 381-7011

BISHOP GUILFOYLE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Web: 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

Administrative Duties and Organist - 944-2044

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

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 26, 2015

Readings: 2 Kgs 4:42-44; Eph 4:1-6; Jn 6:1-15

MASS INTENTIONS

July 27, Monday: Weekday

Readings: Ex 32:15-24,30-34; Mt 13:31-35

6:45 AM Dennis Irwin, Wed. Ann. (Matt & Melissa Kuzar)
8:00 AM Genevieve Hallinan (Family)
12:00 PM Francis Goss, Birthday (Wife & Family)

July 28, Tuesday: Weekday

Readings: Ex 33:7-11; 34:5-9,28; Mt 13:36-43

6:45 AM Peter Moran (Cathedral Parish)
8:00 AM Karen Cowan Dougherty, Birthday (Mom)
12:00 PM Bob Davis (Friend)

July 29, Wednesday: Saint Martha

Readings: Ex 34:29-35; Jn 11:19-27

6:45 AM Nozzie, Jennie, Sandy Calabrese (Family)
8:00 AM Mike Zurilla, Birthday (Family)
12:00 PM Birthday Inten. Mary Ellen Kelly (Husband,Jim)

July 30, Thursday: Saint Peter Chrysologus, Bis., Doc.

Readings: Ex 40:16-21, 34-38; Mt 13:47-53

6:45 AM Msgr. Thomas Madden (Estate)
8:00 AM Joan Hill (Phyllis Sheetz)
12:00 PM Robert Smithmyer, Wed. Ann. (Wife, Joan)

July 31, Friday: Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

Readings: Lv 23:1,4-11,15-16,27,34-37; Mt 13:54-58

6:45 AM Margie McConnell (Dusty and Sandy Young)
8:00 AM Health of Lisa Zacher (Alley Cats)
12:00 PM Pete Rhoa, Anniversary (Wife, Pat)

August 1, Saturday: Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bis., Doc.

Readings: Lv 25:1,8-17; Mt 14:1-12

8:00 AM Jim Roland (Bill and Norma Foose)
12:00 PM Rob Beiswenger (Barry and Dee Bradfield)
Vigil: Eighteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time
Readings: Ex 16:2-4,12-15; Eph 4:17,20-24; Jn 6:24-35
5:00 PM Edgar L. Johnston (Children)

Please remember our sick in your prayers.

Cathedral Charismatic Prayer Group

The Charismatic Prayer Group will meet this Monday, July 27 at Mount Carmel Church, Altoona, for a Eucharistic Festival of Praise, from 7-8 PM. The evening of prayer is sponsored by the Secular Franciscans. The Cathedral Prayer Group is leading the music. Father Christopher Panagoplos, TOR will be the homilist. All are welcome for this beautiful night of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.

Parish Summer Event

The Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament will be hosting **CASINO NIGHT** in Cathedral Hall on **Saturday, August 8**, from **6:00 PM to 10:00 PM**. This is an adult evening with the following games: poker, roulette, over/under, chuck-o-luck, money plates, paddle wheel, 50/50 drawing and bingo tips. Food and beverages will be available: pulled pork sandwich platter, roast beef sandwich, meatball sandwich, pig-in-the-blanket, and french fries. Music will be provided by DJ. All are welcome! Several parishioners have come forward to volunteer help with the various booths. Please call the Parish Office to sign up to help with the various booths. This event is being advertised in other parish bulletins and is open to all adult friends of the Cathedral Parish. Plan to attend.

OUTDOOR MASSES With BISHOP BARTCHAK Mass Honoring Married Couples

-The Altoona-Johnstown Diocesan Family is invited to participate and to pray for those living the Sacrament of Marriage at an Outdoor Mass honoring Married Couples on **Sunday evening, August 2**, at **7:00 PM** at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Alleghenies in Loretto. Bring a lawn chair. Indoors if rain. Bishop Mark is the celebrant and homilist. This is a wonderful way to celebrate, encourage and support married couples! Come early, bring food and picnic together. Singers needed for the choir. One rehearsal at 6:00 PM before the Mass. Contact choir director, Kevin Luke at 814 944-2044.

Mass For College Students - Bishop Mark Bartchak will celebrate an outdoor Mass for students entering or returning to college this fall and their families. The Liturgy will be celebrated on **Sunday, August 9**, at **7:00 PM**, at the Our Lady of the Alleghenies Shrine in Loretto. The 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.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

A Bereavement Support Group meets on the first Wednesday of every month at Catholic Charities, next to the Cathedral, from **6:00 PM - 7:00 PM**. Call 944-9388, ext. 205 to register for the **August 5** session.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, July 19, 2015 - \$8,088.00

Donations for the **Missionary Co-op** are still being accepted in the collection or at the Parish Office.

Stewardship of Time

Help is needed on Thursday morning, July 30, to prepare a parish mailing. If you are available to help, please drop by the Seton Suite between 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM. Thank you.

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 will be mailed his week to all adult parishioners. The drawing will be held **Saturday, October 31** at **Family Night** in Cathedral Hall.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PRE K-11

Registration for 2015-16 for all students, both current and new, will be held after all Masses on Saturday/Sunday, August 29-30 in the Seton Suite. New members are asked to bring a copy of the student's Baptismal Certificate.

Liturgical Reflection ...

The faithful can proclaim the sacred readings at Mass, except for the Gospel. This person is truly suited to proclaim the reading and is carefully prepared. The reader's ministry aids the faithful to conceive in their hearts the sweet and living affection for Sacred Scripture. In the absence of the Deacon, the reader carries in the *Book of the Gospels*, slightly elevated. He or she places this book on the altar and takes his/her own place in the sanctuary. The reader proclaims Scripture from the ambo. The United States Bishops have recommended a separate reader for each reading. After the second reading, the readers return to their seats. Each faith community decides the age of the reader, the Diocese directs the reader to have received Baptism and Eucharist.

General Instruction of the Roman Missal, Numbers 101 and 194.

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

Baptism Congratulations

Ava Sophia Rhodes, was baptized and welcomed into our Cathedral Parish Family on Saturday evening, July 18 at the 5:00 PM Mass. Congratulations to parents, Christopher and Sarah Laraia Rhodes, along with brother, Xavier Andrew; godparents, Jim Riley and Lisa Lavine and grandparents, Bob and Chris Laraia. Ava will grow in her Christian identity to the degree that family and friends model the faith.

Novena for the Priests of Our Diocese

All are invited to a nine day retreat at **Our Lady of Fatima Parish** here in Altoona. The novena will be made through the intercession of Saint John Maria Baptist Vianney (Patron of Diocesan Priests) for the priests serving the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown. Important information: August 1st through August 9th; 6:30 PM each evening; Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament; five decades of the rosary; Novena prayers; and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. All are welcome!

High School Substitute Teachers Needed!

Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School is accepting applications for substitute teachers for the 2015-2016 school year. PA Instructional I or II Certificate, Act 151, Act 34, and FBI Fingerprint Clearances are required. Send letter of interest, PA Standard Teaching Application, copy of instructional certification, copy of clearances, transcripts, and letter of recommendation by July 31, 2015 to: Joan Donnelly Principal, Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School, 2400 Pleasant Valley Boulevard, Altoona, PA 16602. You may also E-mail: jdonnelly@bguilfoyle.org. EOE