

**JUNE 21, 2015**

*Scripture Reflection*

There is one thing Catholic thought insists on: God is the beginning of all things, the one from whom and through whom all existence emerges. Christians maintain that we are finite creatures and God is the infinite being, the master builder, who created all out of nothing. Human beings function as co-creators with God, attempting to understand nature, work with nature and harness nature. Yet even as human knowledge and technology increases, the tools of human ingenuity are often overwhelmed by the depth of creation, as was Job, not just by how it surprises us with its majesty but because of the limits of our understanding.

Creation is an ongoing work sustained by God. God the creator is not a reminiscence of past events but an affirmation of God as the sustainer of all creation, the one who cares for creation and the one who continues to do new things, even now. God's work in creation is often pronounced in the beauty and power of nature, the vistas of ocean waves, rolling prairies or soaring mountains. This is the natural world and God is revealed here. God dwells in people, working graces unseen. He came to earth out of love.

But God's supernatural presence also reveals the God beyond comprehension. The apostles experienced one aspect of God's presence when Jesus in the midst of a storm, woke to his disciples' anguished cries, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" Jesus then "woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Peace! Be still!' Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm." The apostles were shocked---an appropriate response, for the might of God rests beyond all human calculation.

Each of us is a miracle not only in the womb but at every stage of our lives. We are new creations, for God is working in each of our lives even now. The creator beyond all human imagining loved us into being and makes each of us new.

• **We marvel at God's creation. God's greatest creation is ourselves, male and female. Do you see God in his creation?**

**FAITH DAY AT DELGROSSO'S 2015**

Come! Join Catholics from across the Diocese to celebrate our faith and enjoy a day of rides and slides!! Or just come and enjoy America's best amusement park food!! **SUNDAY, JUNE 28, at DelGrosso's Amusement Park in Tipton, PA.**

Highlights of the day include: a collection of nonperishable food items or a free-will offering for Catholic Charities in our Diocese; Liturgy at 3:00 PM with Bishop Mark; a Picnic in the Diocesan Pavilion, #2 at 5:00 PM; and over 30 different park rides, games, Tipton Rapids Waterslides and Tipton Waterworks. At the **Parish Office** you may obtain; (1) **Diocesan Faith Day Vouchers** which when presented at the park will allow you to purchase **All-Day Ride & Slide Passes** for a reduced price of \$12 (a \$19.95 value)! Additionally, \$3 for each pass sold will be donated to the Angel Fund for Camp Zaccheaus and Camp Timothy; (2) **Tickets** for the **Picnic after Mass**; Adults \$8.25, Children \$7.25. For more information, contact Francine Swope the in the Diocesan Youth Ministry Office at 317-2646 or on the web [www.dioceseaj.org](http://www.dioceseaj.org).

**Meal tickets must be ordered by 10:00 AM tomorrow, Monday, June 22.**

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

**Marriages** - Julie Wiedemer and Matthew Criste began their new life as husband and wife here in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament on Saturday, June 6. And on Saturday, June 13 Courtney Wentz and Matthew Kantoski celebrated their marriage surrounded with family and friends here in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. Congratulations to these newly married couples. May they be blessed with many years of love and happiness, and may they find support and affirmation here among us.

**Baptism** - With permission of his pastor from St.. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in the Diocese of Pittsburgh, Isaiah Tyler Franklin was baptized and welcomed into the Catholic Church on Sunday, June 14, at the 10:00 AM Mass here in the Cathedral, his father's home parish. Isaiah is the son of Tyler Anthony Franklin and Yasmin Haiderali Rajpar. Congratulations also to Godparents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends. Isaiah will grow in his Christian identity to the degree that family and friends model the faith.

**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](mailto:ALTCATHEDRAL@DIOCESEAJ.ORG)**

**EUCHARIST:**

<b>Sunday:</b>	5:00 PM (Vigil) 8:00 AM 10:00 AM 12:00 Noon 5:00 PM	<b>Holyday:</b>	5:30 PM (Vigil) 8:00 AM 12:00 Noon 5:30 PM	<b>Weekday:</b>	6:45 AM 8:00 AM 12:00 Noon
				<b>Saturday:</b>	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 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



**TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**JUNE 21, 2015**

Readings: Jb 38:1,8-11; 2 Cor 5:14-17; Mk 4:35-41

**MASS INTENTIONS**

June 22, Monday: St. John Fisher and St. Thomas More

Readings: Gn 12:1-9; Mt 7:1-5

- 6:45 AM Stephen Hammond (Bernice Rittner Family)
- 8:00 AM Bernard J. Joyce (Family)
- 12:00 PM Francis Lytle (Joe and Judi Nocito)

June 23, Tuesday: Weekday

Readings: Gn 13:3,5-18; Mt 7:6,12-14

- 6:45 AM Patty Hmel (Barbara and Mike Chisko)
- 8:00 AM Mildred Burchfield (Tom and Vicky McGraw)
- 12:00 PM Henriette Thibault (Butch Winkler)

June 24, Wednesday: The Nativity of John the Baptist

Readings: Is 49:1-6; Acts 13:22-26; Lk 1:57-66,80

- 6:45 AM Deceased Relatives of Sisters, I.H.M.
- 8:00 AM Pat Rabine (Tony and Anna Rose Eckenrode)
- 12:00 PM Danyll Rougeux (David & Jeanne Thompson)

June 25, Thursday: Weekday

Readings: Gn 16:1-12,15-16; Mt 7:21-29

- 6:45 AM Dorothy Crocetti (M/M Mike Mazur)
- 8:00 AM Kimberly Kokolis Moran (Peggy McLucas)
- 12:00 PM Carol Taylor (Pat and Walt Beckel)

June 26, Friday: Weekday

Readings: Gn 17:1,9-10,15-22; Mt 8:1-4

- 6:45 AM George Seidel (Jim, Elaine and Family)
- 8:00 AM Betty Capouellez, Anniversary (Family)
- 12:00 PM Dick Huber (Joe Wiedemer)

June 27, Saturday: Saint Cyril of Alexandria, bish., doc.

Readings: Gn 18:1-15; Mt 8:5-17

- 8:00 AM Margaret McConnell (M/M Frank Plutko)
  - 12:00 PM Amandus Gallagher (Ann Hudak)
- Vigil: Thirteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time
- Readings: Wis 1:13-15;2:23-24; 2 Cor 8:7,9,13-15; Mk 5:21-43
- 5:00 PM Josephine Hicks, Birth (Daughter, Jacqueline)

**Father's Day Weekend - Cereal Collection**

On this weekend of **June 20-21** we are encouraged to bring boxes of cereal to help stock the shelves of the Saint Vincent dePaul Food Pantry for the summer months. Perhaps we could ask relatives and friends to join in the collection occurring throughout Blair County this weekend. If you forgot today, donations will be accepted at the Parish Office throughout the week. Thank You.

**FORTNIGHT FOR FREEDOM**

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops will once again sponsor a **Fortnight for Freedom** from June 21 to July 4. The theme this year is **"Freedom to Bear Witness"** to the truth of the Gospel. In observance of this fortnight, Bishop Mark Bartchak will preside at a **Holy Hour on Thursday, June 25, at 7:00 PM** in the Cathedral. The Holy Hour will include Evening Prayer, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, a Homily from the Bishop, and Benediction. Plan to join in our unified prayer for the preservation of religious liberty.

The fortnight is commemorated between June 21 and July 4, a time when our liturgical calendar celebrates a series of great martyrs who remained faithful in the face of persecution by political power - St. Thomas More and St. John Fisher, St. John the Baptist, SS. Peter and Paul, and the First Martyrs of Rome. This year's prayer will focus on the "freedom to bear witness" to the truth of the Gospel. Archbishop Lori (Chairman, AdHoc Committee for Religious Freedom) says. "Keeping the spirit of the Gospel means that Catholic institutions are to bear witness in love to the full truth about the human person by providing social, charitable, and educational services in a manner that fully reflects the God-given dignity of the human person."

**Vacation Bible School Thank You**

**Camp Discovery** was a huge success. Just ask any of the forty some kids who attended! Thanks to all the many team members and helpers: Planning Team - Kathy Hughes, Jean Koury, Chris Laraia, Nina Tedeschi, Paula Truby, Ashton Truby and Butch Winkler; Set-up/Maintenance Team - Dwight Drexler, Fred Drexler and Pat Duffy; Kitchen Team - Janet Hammond and Tony Eckenrode; Student Helpers - Kaydee Dambeck, Kaybia Dufrene, Karen Duffy, Nicole Duffy, Gretta Levine, Elliot Long, Samantha Long, Giovanna Roefaro and Eliza Wilson; and Parents/Grandparents/Adult Helpers - Anna Bistline, Roberta Burns, Amanda Chirdon, Marie Francois, Jeanne Thompson and Stephane Tonello. Thank you also to those who made donations to help pay for the bright orange shirts and the yummy snacks.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

**Sunday, June 14, 2015 - \$8,097.00**

**Parish Council/Finance Council Social Monday**

Barbeque on the Rectory Loggia at 6:00 PM, June 22.

**Parish Summer Events**

**BUS TRIP** - A day trip of your choosing for singles, widowed, and all members of the Parish Family on Tuesday, July 21. Sign-up sheets are at the Cathedral Square door if interested in joining in this event. Once we have a group signed up, together we will choose the destination. Suggestions include: theater, gambling, site-seeing, or ???

**CASINO NIGHT** - Saturday, August 8, in Cathedral Hall, 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM. This is an adult evening with various booths along with beverages. Parishioners are asked to come forward to volunteer help with the various booths. This event will be advertised in other parish bulletins and is open to friends of the Cathedral Parish. Plan ahead and place in your August calendar.

**ANNUAL RAFFLE** - This replaces the summer festival raffle. Throughout August, September, and October the parish will sponsor the annual raffle with \$5,000.00 in cash prizes. One ticket costs \$5.00. The drawing will be at Family Night, October 31 in the Cathedral Hall. You need not be present to win.

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS PLEASE NOTE:**

A new liturgical ministry schedule for July 11th through August 30th is being prepared. Please submit any requests, changes, vacation dates etc. as soon as possible. If you have unavailable dates for September or October, it would be good to have that information now also. Thank You.

**Liturgical Reflection ...**

**General Instruction of the Roman Missal**

The Priest possesses within the Church the sacred power of Orders to offer Sacrifice in the person of Christ. The ordained priest presides by this fact over the faithful people gathered here and now, presides over their prayer, proclaims to them the message of salvation, associates the people with himself in the offering of the Sacrifice through Christ in the Holy Spirit to God the Father, and gives his brothers and sisters the Bread of eternal life and partakes of it with them. The priest by his bearing of dignity, humility and reverence, conveys to the faithful the living presence of Christ in our midst.

General Instruction of the Roman Missal, Number 93.

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

**Happy Father's Day**

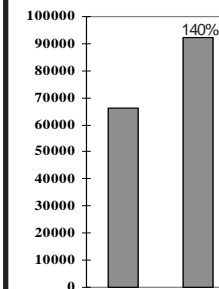
Thank you, Dad. You provide for us, share your wisdom, and gave us life. We remember all fathers, living and dead, with the following prayer:

*God our Father, in your wisdom and love You make all things. Bless these men, that they may be strengthened as Christian fathers. Let the example of their faith and love shine forth. Grant that we, their sons and daughters, may honor them with a spirit of profound respect. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**Charismatic Prayer Group**

The Charismatic Prayer Group will meet this Monday, June 22 at 7:00 PM in the Cathedral for a Eucharistic Festival of Praise. Father Bob Hilz, TOR will be the homilist. There will be Eucharistic Adoration with worship music and prayers for healing. All are welcome!

**ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL 2015**



Every registered family is asked to participate in the 2015 Annual Catholic Appeal. A gift of any amount will be appreciated. This year the Cathedral Parish goal was set at **\$66,350.00**. We have raised **\$92,790.00** and with

only 355 of our 958 families participating, our cash exceeds goal, so all funds received now will be returned to the Parish to help with our **special Parish Project** of replacing the steps in the front of the Cathedral going down to the alley and the adjoining steps going down the front (alley side) of the Cathedral.