

APRIL 19, 2015

Scripture Reflection

Jesus repeatedly appears to the disciples in those confusing days following their discovery of the empty tomb. The Gospel tells us they felt "incredulous for joy" as they began to develop their Resurrection faith. Jesus stands in the midst of his disciples and wishes peace to a "startled and terrified" group. As when he meets the doubtful Thomas, Jesus gently asks why they are troubled and why they have questions rising in their hearts. Then he offers both comfort and proof that he had *truly* risen (he is not a ghost). First, he suggests that they touch and see him, and second, he shows he is able to eat with them. As with the Emmaus story at the beginning of chapter twenty-four, this is a Eucharistic story in which Jesus explains the Scripture and eats with his followers.

"You are witnesses of these things," but to what are we witnesses today? None of us saw him die on the cross, or watched him eat that piece of boiled fish, feeling faint with joy and amazement as we saw him alive in our midst. We are witness to two things: the authenticity and trustworthiness of the witnesses; and the authenticity and trustworthiness of our lives.

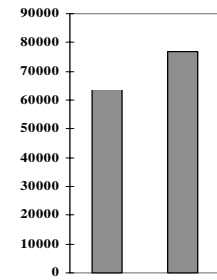
In our lives, we have choices each day. We have the ability to show the world the reality of the risen Lord through our love, our obedience, our tenderness, our mercy, our gentleness, our desire to live out and witness to Christ's victory through our daily choices. We bear witness to the one who was raised from the dead when we believe the words the apostles passed on to us. We believe in their trustworthiness about Jesus because we live out their love for Jesus. We live as Jesus asked us to, passed on to us by the tradition. How we live makes us witnesses to Jesus Christ. It is our task today to bear witness.

• **How do you bear witness to the risen Lord?**

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: April 13, 2015

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 is set at **\$66,350.00**. We have raised **\$76,835.00** and are

over Diocesan Goal with 260 of our families participating. Now, as our pledges are met, funds will be returned to the Parish and will 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.

All monies collected for this Annual Appeal go directly to help support the dozens of ministries sponsored by the Diocese. Your participation is vital to the success of ACA 2015.

You may return your gift directly to the Development Office by mail; return it to the Parish Office; or drop it in the Sunday collection. Thank you for your participation in this year's Annual Catholic Appeal.

Spaghetti Dinner

Benefits The Children's Miracle Network

Sunday, May 3, from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Unter Uns Club on Van Buren Avenue and 14th Street, Altoona. This dinner is being hosted by Miss Armstrong County, Anna Oberneder who is a former resident of Altoona. She will be competing in the Miss Pennsylvania Pageant in Pittsburgh this June. Dinner tickets are \$7.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children 4-12, three and under eat free. Call Grandma, Dot at 944-0258.

Confirmations Throughout Easter Season

The celebration of Confirmation here in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament on Thursday, April 23, will include members of the following faith communities: Prince of Peace, Northern Cambria; Saint Aloysius and Saint Francis Xavier, Cresson; Saint Benedict, Carrolltown; Saint Bernard, Hastings; Saint Nicholas, Nicktown; Our Lady of the Alleghenies, Lilly; Queen of Peace, Patton; and Saint Demetrius, Gallitzin, who will be confirmed by Bishop Mark Bartchak at 7:00 PM.

*** Confession, Wednesday, April 22, at 7:00 PM during later part of Confirmation practice.**

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

EUCHARIST:

Sunday:	5:00 PM (Vigil)	Holyday:	5:30 PM (Vigil)	Weekday:	6:45 AM
	8:00 AM		8:00 AM		8:00 AM
	10:00 AM		12:00 Noon		12:00 Noon
	12:00 Noon		5:30 PM	Saturday:	8:00 AM
	5:00 PM				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 James F. Leap, Senior Deacon

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 19, 2015

Readings: Acts 3:13-15,17-19; 1 Jn 2:1-5; Lk 24:35-48

MASS INTENTIONS

April 20, Monday: Easter Weekday

Readings: Acts 6:8-15; Jn 6:22-29

6:45 AM Deceased Relatives Sisters IHM
8:00 AM Bernie McLucas (Family)
12:00 PM Patricia Rabine (Butch & Alice Winkler)

April 21, Tuesday: Saint Anselm, Bishop, Doctor

Readings: Acts 7:51--8:1; Jn 6:30-35

6:45 AM Msgr. Thomas Madden (Estate)
8:00 AM Sadie Mullan (Nancy & Skip)
12:00 PM Bishop John McCort, Anniv. (Cathedral)

April 22, Wednesday: Easter Weekday

Readings: Acts 8:1-8; Jn 6:35-40

6:45 AM Terrence Shea (J. Hardin & S. Siedlarczyk)
8:00 AM Leroy & Irmina Helfrich (Estate)
12:00 PM Jack Leiden (Wife, Sally & Family)

April 23, Thursday: Saint George/Saint Adalbert

Readings: Acts 8:26-40; Jn 6:44-51

6:45 AM Kevin Hanlin (McAndrew Family)
8:00 AM Jim Roland (Cathedral Prayer Group)
12:00 PM Robert Smithmyer (Cindy Stellabotte)
7:00 PM Confirmation

April 24, Friday: Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen

Readings: Acts 9:1-20; Jn 6:52-59

6:45 AM Maureen Ann Wolf (Husband & Daughters)
8:00 AM Vi Franchio (Rose Roberts)
12:00 PM Amandus Gallagher (Arlene & Tony Lepore)

April 25, Saturday: Saint Mark, Evangelist

Readings: 1 Pt 5:5-14; Mk 16:15-20

8:00 AM Margaret McConnell (Mrs. Frank Wesner)
12:00 PM Helen Conrad Itle, Anniversary (Sister, Millie)
Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 4:8-12; 1 Jn 3:1-2; Jn 10:11-18

5:00 PM Lottie Gajewski (Patricia Grove)

EASTER SCHEDULE FOR THE PARISH

Communal Anointing of the Sick, Sunday,

Today, April 19 at the 10:00 AM Mass.

Parish Social follows on the portico.

Confirmation, Thursday, May 7, 7:00 PM.

Ascension Thursday, Holy Day, May 14

May Crowning, Sunday, May 17, 6:30 PM.

Ice Cream Social follows in the Parish Hall.

Anniversary

Four years ago today, April 19, 2011, Bishop Mark Bartchak was ordained bishop here in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament and installed as the eighth shepherd of the Local Church. The Cathedral Parish extends congratulations to our Bishop. May God continue to bless him, strengthen him, comfort him, and grace him with wisdom. We are honored that our Bishop has decided to reside here in the Cathedral rectory. May Bishop Bartchak know of our support and encouragement as he shepherds our Diocese.

Neophyte Gathering

On **Saturday, April 25**, at 5:00 PM those who were received into the Church at Easter throughout our Diocese gather with Bishop Mark Bartchak at Sacred Heart Parish to celebrate their new faith. The term *neophyte* identifies that person who was just baptized and welcomed into the Church at Easter. The neophytes are the newest members of the Body of Christ. We celebrate their young, fresh faith in Jesus Christ as Roman Catholics.

CONCERTS UNDER THE DOME

The Concerts Under the Dome Series will present "**The Cathedral Musicians**" in concert on **Sunday, April 26**, at **7:00 PM** here in the Cathedral. Music Directors Kevin Luke and Nina Tedeschi will be joined by Mya Bartkowiak, James Dengler and Sam Kibler. The group will perform various works on the Steinmeyer organ and Yamaha grand piano. A free will donation will be taken to help bring in more talent with our concert series.

LONGABERGER BASKET/VERA BRADLEY BINGO - Sunday April 26, 2015

Proceeds will assist our children in Catholic Schools, our Religious Education Program and Youth Activities. We are still in need of soda, water, gift cards, lottery tickets, and new items for baskets. Donations can be dropped off at the Parish Office during the week. Please contact Paula Truby at 931-2838 or Roberta Burns at 1-301-741-6467 with any questions or to reserve tickets to be picked up at Father Kelley Hall. (Doors will open at Noon and Bingo begins at 1:00 PM) We need a good count of patrons for food preparation by **Wednesday, April 22nd. Tickets are being sold at the Cathedral Square door after all Masses this weekend.**

WELCOME AND CONGRATULATIONS

In addition to our nine new members who celebrated Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil, we at Cathedral Parish now have an additional seven young parishioners. On Friday, April 10th, **Mason Daniel Slep** and **Haylee Sherryann Slep**, children of Justin and Ashley Slep, were received into the Catholic Church. **Dejiana Marie Hayes**, daughter of Kyle and Amanda Hayes and big sister to Tobias, Peter and Tahlia, was baptized at the 5:00 PM Mass on Saturday, April 11th, surrounded by family and friends. Laura Dittsworth presented her sons: **Ethyn Tylor Hanley**, **Quintin David Hanley**, and **Jacob Gaige Briggs** for baptism on April 11th. Congratulations also to Dads, David Hanley and Dustin Briggs. Finally, on Sunday afternoon, April 12th, **Carter Andrew Campbell**, was welcomed into the Cathedral Parish Family with Baptism. Carter is the son of Josh and Ashley Campbell and brother of Gianna Marie. Our children will grow in their Christian identity to the degree that family and friends model the faith. May we all set good examples.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

At the 10:00 AM Mass this Sunday morning, Monsignor Mazur will bless the newly crafted prayer shawls prepared by members of the Cathedral Prayer Shawl Ministry who would like to distribute shawls to those participating in the Parish celebration of the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick at this Mass. Anyone who knits or crochets is encouraged to join this group. For more information or to request a prayer shawl for yourself or another, please call Lorraine Beck at 942-7774 or the Parish Office 944-4603. All parishioners are encouraged to pray for the sick, the home-bound, the lonely, and all those in need of God's comfort.

AOH Meeting - The Ancient Orders of Hibernians will meet at 1:15 PM today in the Seton Suite.

Liturgical Reflection ...

General

Instruction

of the

Roman Missal

The Homily is a central part of Mass. It is necessary for the nurturing of the Christian life. It should be an explanation of some aspect of the readings from Sacred Scripture or of another text from the Roman Missal. The Homily should take into account both the mystery being celebrated and the particular needs of the listeners. The Homily is ordinarily given by the Priest Celebrant or can be entrusted to a concelebrating Priest or to the Deacon, but never to a lay person. It is especially recommended to have a Homily on the weekdays of Easter Time.

General Instruction of the Roman Missal, Numbers 65 and 66/

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

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, April 12, 2015 - \$10,828.00

Special Donation - As part of the recent dissolution of the Feminine Society of St. Anthony of Padua, remaining funds were divided among the parishes of the members. Alice Winkler belonged to the society and Cathedral Parish received a check for \$2,519.73 which will be held as a special gift in her honor.

FIRST HOLY EUCHARIST CELEBRATED

We congratulate the following children who joined us at the Eucharistic table for the first time at the 10:00 AM Mass on Sunday, April 12:

Leo Dangler	Emily Koller
Alexander DeGennaro	Larissa Little
Marvin Dufrene	Evan McCaulley
Katelyn Eckels	Nicholas McCloskey
Randy Grove, Jr.	Chance Myers
Ethyn Hanley	Emily Myers
Ava Iapalucci	Mason Slep
Courtney Irwin	Joshua Warmath
Mara Kirkpatrick	

CONFIRMATION PREP TONIGHT!

Our final session of Confirmation Prep is scheduled for **Sunday, April 19, 2015**. All **paper work is due** at this session! Eleventh Grade Candidates accompanied by Parent or Sponsor will meet in the Seton Suite from 6:15 PM - 7:30 PM.

OUTREACH TO OUR HOMEBOUND

A meeting will be held on **Tuesday, April 28** at **6:30 PM** in the Saint John Room. New volunteers are welcome. Thank-you to all who are involved in this ministry; all who are donating supplies, sending cards, and making phone calls. Our efforts have been very much appreciated.