

JANUARY 18, 2015

Scripture Reflection

How do relationships begin? There is naturally not just one way, one place or one word needed to start a relationship. But is there a common process by which friendship is built? Some friendships begin in childhood, while others start late in life, but some factors, it seems, are essential to every friendship.

Attentive listening is essential to begin any friendship, but an introduction is often necessary, especially to God, whose voice can be mistaken, ignored or overlooked in a world that values distraction over patient listening. An introduction, however, is not enough if there is no openness to begin and maintain a relationship. We see this openness to build a relationship with two of John the Baptist's disciples. John introduced his disciples to Jesus, saying, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" John's disciples take this introduction as an opportunity to follow after Jesus. When Jesus saw them following, he asked them, "What are you looking for?" Their response tells us they were looking for a friend, for they asked Jesus where he was staying. Jesus offered them an open invitation: "Come and see." They accepted the invitation. It is time together that creates friendship.

And friendship begets friendship. We see this with Andrew, who was one of John's two disciples. After getting to know Jesus, he returned to tell his brother Simon, proclaiming, "We have found the Messiah." Andrew, who now knew Jesus, needed to share this friendship with his brother. And when Andrew brought Simon to Jesus, Jesus gave him the name Cephas, Aramaic for "rock." Jesus, of course, had intimate knowledge of Simon, for friends give nicknames based on their knowledge of who a person is. Attentiveness, openness, time and knowledge of each other create and sustain friendships.

There is no substitute in friendship for time; the more time we spend in conversation with God, the more deeply we know God. And the more God's love animates us, the more we are able to offer ourselves to others around us with love. True love makes us unable to accept any other sort of relationship, because to know someone deeply is to see God in them and to wish for them the true freedom that comes from being a friend of God.

• **Are you willing to follow and become a friend of Jesus the Lord?**

AMERICA MAGAZINE: January 5-12, 2015

Cathedral Parish in Midst of Decision Making

There is a need to provide a permanent space for Religious Education for the Parish. Last winter the furnace broke in the former school building. Since that time religious education classes have been occurring in the Cathedral Hall on a temporary basis. Renovation and upgrades to meet building codes for either the former convent building or school building have been estimated by engineers at \$1.7 million for each building. A three story building is presently for sale next to the rectory. This building could provide: (1) office space on the first floor for the parish (moving the office from the rectory into a site separate from the residency for the clergy); (2) Religious Education on the second floor for Pre-K through eighth grade along with Catechesis of the Good Shepherd; (3) the third floor (lower level) could be an activities center with a kitchen and open area to seat a large number of people. The cost of purchase and renovation of this possible building is estimated to be half of the cost to upgrade either of the two other buildings. We realize this decision will involve seeking gifts from parishioners to make this project possible. Councils from the parish continue to meet to discuss the possibility of this project. Please pray with us as we review and discuss the facts surrounding this decision.

Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School Raffle

Students from our Catholic high school will be selling the school's annual raffle tickets after Masses next weekend, January 24 - 25. Each Raffle ticket costs \$5.00. The top prize is \$10,000.00; 2nd prize is \$1,500.00; 3rd prize is \$1,000.00; and there are five \$100.00 prizes. The drawing will be February 11. Please help our students with this annual fundraiser.

Knights of Columbus Saint Bridgid Dance

The Feast of St. Bridgid Dance will be held at The Knights of Columbus, 1508 12th Avenue on Saturday, January 31, 2015 from 7:00 PM -11:00 PM. Irish food and drink and music by *Full Kilt* is included in the \$20.00 donation. Tickets must be purchased in advance and are limited so please get yours soon by calling Rick Tomlinson at 814-280-7661 A portion of the proceeds will benefit Catholic Charities. Come out for a great time supporting a great cause!

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

EUCCHARIST:

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

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 John E. Rys

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

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 18, 2015

Readings: 1 Sm 3:3-10, 19; 1 Cor 6:13-15, 17-20; Jn1:35-42

MASS INTENTIONS

January 19, Monday: Weekday

Readings: Heb 5:1-10; Mk 2:18-22

6:45 AM Msgr. Thomas Madden (Estate)

8:00 AM Mike Smith (Sally Hancock)

12:00 PM Amandus Gallagher (Ann Hudak)

January 20, Tuesday: Saint Fabian/Saint Sebastian

Readings: Heb 6:10-20; Mk 2:23-28

6:45 AM Olean Biller (Tom and Beverly Vogel)

8:00 AM Rose Grillo Skupien (Rob & Renee Luciano)

12:00 PM Francis & Eileen Lytle, Wed. Anniv (Family)

January 21, Wednesday: Saint Agnes, Virgin, Martyr

Readings: Heb 7:1-3, 15-17; Mk 3:1-6

6:45 AM Nozzie, Jennie & Sandy Calabrese (Family)

8:00 AM Ann Civiello, Anniversary (Family)

12:00 PM Irene Kelly Wood, Ann. (Daughter, Maureen)

January 22, Thursday: Day of Prayer

Giving Thanks to God for Gift of Human Life

Readings: Heb 7:25--8:6; Mk 3:7-12

6:45 AM Fred Martynuska (Gail and Fred)

8:00 AM Anastasia 'Annie' Hanlin (Joe Wiedemer)

12:00 PM Billy Geis, Anniversary (Mom and Family)

January 23, Friday: Saint Vincent, Deacon, Martyr

Readings: Heb 8:6-13; Mk 3:13-19

6:45 AM Dennis Irwin (Matthew and Melissa Kuzar)

8:00 AM Kenneth Lytle (Nancy and Skip)

12:00 PM Harold Knob (Pat Rhoa)

January 24, Saturday: Saint Francis de Sales, Bishop

Readings: Heb 9:2-3, 11-14; Mk 3:20-21

8:00 AM Benedict Kedzuff (Wife, Maureen)

12:00 PM Kimberly Kokolis Moran (Winkler/Grove Fam.)

Vigil: Third Sunday In Ordinary Time

Readings: Jon 3:1-5, 10; 1 Cor 7:29-31; Mk 1:14-20

5:00 PM Edgar A. Johnston, Anniversary (Mother)

Charismatic Prayer Group

The Charismatic Prayer Group will meet this Monday at 7:00 PM in the Cathedral. All are welcome to join us beginning with praise and worship music and prayer! Come and be blessed!

OUTREACH TO OUR HOMEBOUND

Training Sessions for parishioners participating in our newly formed Ministry to Our Homebound and Elderly Parishioners are scheduled for Tuesday, January 27. Members may attend from 12:00 Noon - 1:00 PM or in the evening 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM.



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

Liturgical Reflection ...

Thursday, January 22, all dioceses in the United States of America are observing a Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children. On this day of the anniversary of the Supreme Court decision, Roe vs. Wade (1973), the Church in America prays for the violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion, and of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee to the right to life. Members of the Diocese are encouraged to go to Mass on this day, pray the rosary, the chaplet of Divine Mercy, fast and abstain, and join the Altoona-Johnstown family in praying the following:

O, God, who adorn creation with splendor and beauty, and fashion human lives in your image and likeness, awaken in every heart reverence for the work of your hands, and renew among your people a readiness to nurture and sustain your precious gift of human life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

CELEBRATING GOD'S GIFT OF LIFE

Bishop Mark Barchak will preside over a Prayer Service Celebrating God's Gift of Life here in the Cathedral on Wednesday, January 21 at 7:00 PM. All are invited and encouraged to participate in this special Liturgy of the Hours which will include a Blessing for the Pilgrims marching in Washington, D.C. on Thursday, January 22.

Collection for the March for Life

Citizens Concerned for Human Life are accepting donations at the doors of the Cathedral this weekend to offset the costs for the March to Washington, DC on Thursday. Please be generous.

Directives With Regard to the Flu Season

Because of the seriousness of this flu season, Bishop Barchak has asked that the Precious Blood of the Lord not be offered at Mass temporarily. It is the belief of the Catholic Church that the whole Body of Christ is present under either form of consecrated bread or wine. Also, the exchange of the sign of peace should avoid bodily contact. A reverent nod with eye contact and a smile will be the temporary practice. Reception of Holy Communion on the hand is encouraged; however, reception on the tongue may not be denied. These norms are in effect throughout the winter months or until the flu season is over.

Eucharistic Ministers - Please check the revised schedule posted weekly in the Sacristy as you arrive for Mass.

BASKET BINGO PREPARATIONS CONTINUE!

Anyone interested in helping out with this special event on Sunday, April 26 at 1:00 PM in Father Kelley Hall (Saint Therese Parish) is encouraged to attend the upcoming meeting this Tuesday, January 20 at 7:00 PM in the Seton Suite. If you are unable to attend this meeting but would like to help, please contact Paula Truby at 814-931-2838 or Roberta Burns at 301-741-6467. We hope to have tickets available by the end of the month but you can call the Parish Office to reserve them at 944-4603.

CATHEDRAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sunday, January 18 - No Classes

Sunday, January 25 - Pre-k through grade 8 classes will be held in the Cathedral Hall from 11:15 AM until 12:30 PM. F.I.R.E. - Sunday, January 25, 6:15 PM - 8:30 PM for students in grades 9-11 in the Seton Suite.

Liturgical Reflection ...

General Instruction of the Roman Missal Third Edition

At Mass the People of God are called together, with a Priest presiding and acting in the person of Christ, to celebrate the memorial of the Lord in the Eucharistic Sacrifice. In an outstanding way there applies to such a local gathering of the holy Church the promise of Christ, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in their midst" (Matt. 18:20). For in the celebration of the Mass, in which the Sacrifice of the Cross is perpetuated, Christ is really present in the very assembly gathered in his name, in the person of the ordained priest, in the proclaimed word of scripture, and indeed substantially uninterruptedly under the Eucharistic species.

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal, Number 27.

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

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, January 11, 2015 - \$9,208.00

Christmas Collection 2014 - \$22,583.83

Christmas Flower Memorials 2014 - \$3,581.00

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Every year Christians throughout the world pray for unity within the Christian household. The week is annually observed from January 18 through January 25. Pray for unity among all the baptized.

ECUMENICAL SERVICE

On Sunday, January 25, 2015, Bishop Mark Barchak will host an Ecumenical Service here in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. The service begins at 3:00 PM. All are invited and encouraged to participate in this prayer. A social follows in the Cathedral Hall.

Marriage Preparation

Couples planning to celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage this year need to attend the diocesan sponsored Marriage Preparation Series 2015. Cathedral Parish will sponsor one of the diocesan series on Saturdays: January 24, January 31, and February 7 in Cathedral Hall from 9:30 AM to 12:00 Noon.* Snow date: February 21. Father Dennis Kurdziel and the Parish Marriage Preparation Team will present the various sessions. Registration is through the Diocesan Family Life Office at familylife@dioceseaj.org or 814-886-5551. All Cathedral couples are welcome at the January/February series offered here at Cathedral. Pamphlets containing the dates and places of the Marriage Preparation Series throughout the Diocese are available from the Parish Office.