

OCTOBER 2, 2016

Scripture Reflection

There are two parts to today's Gospel reading from Luke, which readers sometimes struggle to connect. In one, the apostles ask for faith from Jesus; the other is a parable about a master and slaves that is found only in Luke's Gospel. Jesus' teaching on inclusiveness went against the social norms (master/servant) that the disciples knew. They were struggling to understand, and they felt inadequate for the task that Jesus asked of them. They clearly needed more of something to do these things; they thought it was faith that they were missing.

Jesus' response to the disciples uses the ridiculous to teach the obvious. Why would anyone transplant a mulberry tree into the sea? And only one mustard seed is needed for a great bush. Jesus tells them they have all the faith they need to do the things he has been teaching them. They can indeed transform the world around them; the vision is not unreachable.

The shocking language of "worthless" (unprofitable) disciples--I find it shocking every time I read it--might indicate that performing one's duty does not guarantee salvation. But it is more likely that we are being instructed that we cannot save ourselves regardless of what we do and accomplish, it is God who saves us. Faith is essential to enter into God's domain, but it is God who graces us with faith. Once we enter the kingdom, we respond to that faith through the work that we do, but it is God who has empowered us to accomplish our tasks. Boasting is excluded: "We have done only what we ought to have done!"

• **Ponder the Gospel passage. Have you asked for your faith to increase? How have you experienced faith growing?**

AT HOME WITH THE WORD 2016. (C) 2015 ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO, LITURGY TRAINING PUBLICATIONS, 3949 South Racine Avenue CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60609. REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION.

AMERICA MAGAZINE: September 26, 2016 Issue, John W. Martens.

PILGRIMAGE TO NATIONAL SHRINE

As the *Jubilee Year of Mercy* comes to an end, the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese will be making pilgrimage to the National Shrine of the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. The pilgrimage is scheduled for **Saturday, November 12**. Cathedral Parish will provide a bus for those making pilgrimage - this includes those wishing to sing in the choir and any parishioner planning to attend this day as a pilgrim. The cost is \$25 for Cathedral parishioners and \$40 for those of neighboring parishes. Members of the Diocesan Festival Choir will not be charged. (Call Cathedral Music Ministry @ 944-2044.) The tentative schedule for the day is as follows. Plans will be finalized in the near future:

11:00 AM - Arrival

12:00 PM - Midday Prayer

12:45 PM - Lunch

1:30 PM - Reconciliation Opportunity

3:00 PM - Mass with Bishop Mark as celebrant and homilist

4:30 PM - Departure

The Plenary Indulgence attached to the Jubilee Year will be available with our visit to the Basilica. We will also be stopping in Hagerstown, MD for dinner on the return trip. Please call the Parish Office @ 944-4603, weekdays between 9:30 AM and 5:30 PM, to reserve a seat on the bus. Checks should be made payable to Cathedral Parish. Other parishes invited to join us are: Our Lady of Fatima, Holy Rosary, Saint Mark, and Saint Catherine of Siena.

Gracious Appreciation

Thank you to Jean Koury and her team of tour guides and ministers of hospitality, Mary Ellen Kelly, Stephanie Kilcoyne, Marlene Sheets, Bill Smith, Grace Smith, and Mary Gene Vogel who gave four tours of our magnificent Cathedral this past September. Over 110 people came to see this singular structure. We are grateful for the sharing of time and talent.

Catholic Life Day of Prayer - October 22nd

Mount Aloysius College, Bertschi Center, Cresson, 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM. The Diocesan Catholic Life Day of Prayer is an opportunity for faithful adults of the diocese to participate in a day of spiritual growth and enrichment featuring Sister Janet Fuffing, R.S.M. Cost: \$20 per person. Registration forms, available at Cathedral Parish Office, are due by October 14.

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.

ANOIDING 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 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM

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

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

CHRISTIAN INITIATION TEAM - 944-4603

CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME - 944-4603

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Web: www.holytrinitycatholic.school

Altoona Campus (Pre-K thru Grade 4) - 381-7011

Holidaysburg Campus (Pre-K thru Grade 4) - 695-6112

Middle School Campus (Grades 5 thru 8) - 942-7835

BISHOP GUILFOYLE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Web: www.bishopguilfoyle.org - 944-4014

DIRECTORS OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Chris Laraia - Pre-K thru 8 - 312-7317

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

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OCTOBER 2, 2016

Readings: Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4; 2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14; Lk 17:5-10

MASS INTENTIONS

October 3, Monday: Weekday

Readings: Gal 1:6-12; Lk 10:25-37

- 6:45 AM Nozzi, Jennie, & Sandy Calabrese (Family)
- 8:00 AM Janet Pufka (George & Ann Mae Shevenock)
- 12:00 PM Herbert J. Kutruff, Wed. Ann. (Pam Seasoltz)

October 4, Tuesday: Saint Francis of Assisi

Readings: Gal 1:13-24; Lk 10:38-42

- 6:45 AM Msgr. Thomas Madden (Estate)
- 8:00 AM Pat Rabine (Bernie & Peggy Joyce Family)
- 12:00 PM Paul Koepler (Wife, Joyce)

October 5, Wednesday: Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos

Readings: Gal 2:1-2, 7-14; Lk 11:1-4

- 6:45 AM Delphina Rutolo, Anniversary (Family)
- 8:00 AM Jerry Smith (Banalzer & Wagner Families)
- 12:00 PM Joseph Pagliaro, Anniv, (Wife, Frances)

October 6, Thursday: Saint Bruno, Priest

Readings: Gal 3:1-5; Lk 11:5-13

- 6:45 AM David Riley (Carol Riley)
- 8:00 AM Leroy and Irmina Helfrich (Estate)
- 12:00 PM Danyll Rougeux (Tom and Patricia Forr)

October 7, Friday: Our Lady of the Rosary

Readings: Gal 3:7-14; Lk 11:15-26

- 6:45 AM Poor Souls
- 8:00 AM Msgr. Paul D. Panza (Cathedral Parish)
- 12:00 PM Jim Davidson (Frieda Conrad Family)

October 8, Saturday: Weekday

Readings: Gal 3:22-29; Lk 11:27-28

- 8:00 AM Tim O'Leary (Jim and Steph Kilcoyne)
- 12:00 PM John Hupert, Anniversary (Family)
- Vigil: Twenty-Eighth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Readings: 2 Kgs 5:14-17; 2 Tm 2:8-13; Lk 17:11-19

- 5:00 PM Moose Plutko (Dick and Cindy Lascoli)

Please remember our sick in your prayers.

First Friday Communion Calls This Week

Our clergy visit the sick and home-bound of the parish each month. Call the Parish Office at 944-4603 to arrange a visit for yourself or a loved one. Please also call, or have a family member call, if you are admitted to the hospital so that Father can visit as soon as possible. The hospital does not provide us with the names and room numbers of Cathedral parishioners, so your call is very important to us.

LIFE CHAIN TODAY! - Sunday, October 2nd

Citizens Concerned for Human Life invites you to join the chain along Seventeenth Street and Ninth Avenue (at Station Mall Medical Center) from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM, this afternoon (rain or shine). Life Chain is a peaceful and prayerful public witness of pro-life individuals standing for 60 minutes praying for our nation and an end to abortion. Please come out and take a stand.

Parish Liturgy Committee Meeting - Thursday, October 6, at 12:45 PM in the Seton Suite.

FOOD FOR THE POOR

Deacon Dennis Bennin will be visiting our parish next weekend, **October 8 and 9**, to speak at all Masses asking for our assistance with the work of **Food For The Poor, Inc.** Brochures will be distributed at Mass to further explain their mission. Please be as generous as you are able. Thank you.

Expectant Parents Please Note:

Our next Session of **Baptismal Preparation** is scheduled for **Monday, October 10** at **7:00 PM** in the Seton Suite. This required class is offered every other month and you don't have to wait until your child is born to attend class. Godparents are encouraged to attend as well. Next date, Monday, December 5.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER

The Charismatic Prayer Group will meet this Monday, October 3 at 7:00 PM in the Cathedral. Jason Morse will be giving a witness talk. On **October 17** there will be a **HEALING MASS** with Father Bill Kiel from the Diocese of Greensburg. Mass will begin at 7:00 PM with music by the Cathedral Prayer Group's Music Ministry. All are welcome! Come feel the healing touch of our Lord!

Nocturnal Adoration

The Nocturnal Adoration Society will meet at Saint John the Evangelist, Lakemont on Friday evening, October 7. Cathedral hour is 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM. New members are welcome.

Two Inserts This Week

One Insert shows the drawing for the lower parking lot, along with other pertinent Parish news. The other Insert advertises the *Concerts Under The Dome* series with Hans Uwe Hielscher on Saturday, October 15 at 2:00 PM, along with sponsorship information to help support the annual concerts.

Inquiry Sessions Continue!

Are you interested in the Catholic Church? Do you know someone who might be interested in seeking information about our Catholic faith? Our Cathedral Christian Initiation Team offers weekly meetings in the Seton Suite on **Sunday mornings** from 11:00 AM until 12:00 Noon with all those seeking information on the Catholic Church. This is an informal Inquiry Session to discuss aspects of our faith with anyone who might be thinking of joining the Catholic Church. No commitments are made at this time. All are welcome; bring a friend.

ALTOONA PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY RALLY HERITAGE PLAZA (11th Avenue and 14th Street)

Join in the praying of the Rosary on the 99th Anniversary of the 'Miracle of the Sun' at Fatima on **Saturday, October 15th, 2016 at NOON** at the Heritage Plaza, Altoona. This event is celebrated in over 15,000 cities around the world on this same day. Invite a friend. We will be praying for our nation, veterans and troops. Go to www.anf.org

CONCERTS UNDER THE DOME

On **Saturday, October 15th** at **2:00 PM**, *Concerts Under the Dome* will present Hans Uwe Hielscher, Hans is the organist at the Lutheran Cathedral in Wiesbaden, Germany. He has performed thousands of recitals, many of which included performances on Steinmeyer organs. Come hear Hans perform on our own German built Steinmeyer organ. There will be a free will offering.

MUSIC MINISTRY NOTE:

Choir Practice: Thursday evenings; Cantors and Psalmists at 6:30 PM and All Choir Members 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM. New members are welcome. For more information, call 944-2044.

Did Your Remember to bring a non-perishable food item or paper product for the needy?

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, September 25, 2016 - \$7,638.50

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL UPDATE

We received four new gifts in September and have now raised **\$55,041.00**. Our cash gifts and pledge payments now total **\$52,228.52** and we are **\$11,519.00** over goal. It is not too late to participate. New gifts will come directly back us and no gift is too small. Thank you for your stewardship

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (Pre K-Grade 8)

Religious Education Classes are held in the Parish Hall on Sunday mornings from **8:30 AM - 9:45 AM** for Grades 1- Grade 8, Pre-K and Kindergarten in the Music Room.

HIGH SCHOOL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

F.I.R.E. Groups Meet TONIGHT, October 2

Family Intergenerational Religious Education for Parents and Students in Grades 9-11 (Religious Ed and Home-schooled) meet in Cathedral Hall from **6:15 PM - 8:30 PM**. Our second class for **October** is scheduled for the **16th**.

SHYCON - Senior High Youth Convention

October 23, 2016 - All 9th - 12th Grade Students are invited to attend this All Day Event. We will be taking a bus leaving Bishop Guilfoyle Parking Lot at **10:00 AM**. Returning at **6:30 PM**. Registration forms are due tonight Sunday, October 2, so get your friends together and talk it up! **There is no fee and lunch is provided** so plan to attend - you'll be glad you did! Forms can also be picked up at the Parish Office on Monday for late comers. For more information contact Jean Koury at 949-2777.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION - October 30

1:30-2:30 PM Fall Session 9th Grade Session I
3:00-4:00 PM Fall Session 10th Grade Session II

JUBILEE

YEAR OF

MERCY

Liturgical Reflection ...

"When you have done all you have been commanded to do, say, '...we have (simply) done what we were obliged to do.'" Believers are called to live obedient lives to the will of God. We pray that our faith increase. We reach out to others in mercy because we know that our faith impels us to en flesh what we believe. A deep faith insures that compassion, forgiveness, and love are shared with others. During this Jubilee Year of Mercy may we intensify our care for the needs of our sisters and brothers. May mercy ground our actions. With increased faith, may our love of neighbor bear abundant fruit.

2016, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 South Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648.