

JUNE 26, 2016

Scripture Reflection

One quality is essential for being a disciple--commitment. When Elisha asks the prophet's permission to kiss his parents good-bye, Elijah answers somewhat ambiguously, but Elisha realizes this is the hour of decision. He not only kills and cooks his oxen but burns the plow they came with, wiping out all connection to his past trade. There is no report on how his parents felt about this, but it signals Elisha's commitment.

Somewhere in the course of our personal lives each of us comes to face the question of commitment, to its risks and its unknowns. Some, out of fear, turn away. Others, because they seek comfort, refuse the challenge. Still others, too enamored of the banquet of choices before them, never decide and so never commit. Finally there are also those who step into the swirling darkness and say yes, simply because they realize only too well that if they do not, a life of any significance will be less likely from that moment onward.

Jesus outlines the fitness program his disciples must measure up to: an ability to live without the comforts of home, a freedom from any ties to family that might prevent preaching the kingdom of God, and the ability to live such a life with total commitment and without any regret. All this is the work of the Spirit within us, liberating us from what can hold us in place and helping bring God's kingdom into the world.

For Jesus, the call to do the work of the Father is an urgent and critical decision; it means accepting the mission of the Kingdom without condition or hesitation. Jesus offers this choice to all of us; not just once but many times.

- **Make a list of your commitments, the ones that entail a cost on your part. Do you like what you see? In what ways and to what extent are you committed to God? To the Lord Jesus?**

Living the Word, Dianne Bergant and James Wallace, World Library Publications, 2012, page 144.

Living the Word, Ralph Kuehner and Joseph Juknialis, World Library Publications, 2006, page 157,

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

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

This year the Cathedral Parish goal was set at **\$43,522.00**. We have raised **\$54,226.00**. Our cash gifts and pledge payments now total **\$46,850.38**. We received our first check (\$1,300.00) back from the diocese last week, and our check for this months pledge payments will be over **\$2,000.00**. It is not too late to participate. New gifts will come directly back to the Cathedral.

FREE BG YOUTH FOOTBALL CLINIC

On Tom Irwin Field at Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School. Camp is run by head varsity coach Justin Wheeler, his staff and the 2X State Championship Players. Any and all students entering grades 1-8 are welcome! Awards, Prizes, plus FREE ICE CREAM! **July 11**, from **5:00-8:00 PM**. Players should wear shorts, T-shirts and spikes. Please bring your own water bottle. Call Kim Irwin @312-2323 for registration.

VOCATIONS EVENT

At Saint Francis University, Loretto, PA Sunday, July 17 to Wednesday, July 20, 2016 *Quo Vadis Days*, or "Where are you going", is a retreat for men (18 and above) that covers talks on prayer, discernment, marriage, priesthood, and religious life with plenty of time for recreation and prayer. Call 695-5579 ext.2681 for more information.

IN OTHER PARISHES

Outdoor Summer Masses 2016

Mass is celebrated at the beautiful Shrine of Our Lady of the Alleghenies, in Loretto, each **Sunday evening at 7:00 PM** through Labor Day weekend, September 4. Bring your own lawn chair. In the event of rain, Mass will be celebrated inside the Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel.

St. Joan of Arc Church Parish Festival

St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, Route 53, Frugality, PA will be holding their annual Festival, **Sunday, July 17th from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM** featuring a Turkey and Noodle Dinner served Family Style from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Adults \$10, Children 5 to 12, \$5. Music by D.J., Bob Taylor begins at 11:30 AM and the Basket Auction that begins at 5:00 PM. Also, Games, Bingo, Bake Sale, Refreshments and lots more.

Recruiting: Loving Hearts & Caring Hands

Garvey Manor and Our Lady of the Alleghenies Residence has many opportunities for volunteers, call Kathy LaVelle at 695-5571 ext: 4009.

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 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

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

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

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JUNE 26, 2016

Readings: 1 Kgs 19:16,19-21; Gal 5:1,13-18; Lk 9:51-62

MASS INTENTIONS

June 27, Monday: Saint Cyril of Alexandria, Bish., Doc.

Readings: Am 2:6-10,13-16; Mt 8:18-22

6:45 AM No Mass

8:00 AM Josephine Hicks, Birth (Daughter, Jacqueline)

12:00 PM James J. Adams, Birthday (Family)

June 28, Tuesday: Saint Irenaeus, Bishop, Martyr

Readings: Am 3:1-8; 4:11-12; Mt 8:23-27

6:45 AM Ventura Mincin, Anniversary (Susan Galant)

8:00 AM No Mass

12:00 PM Mary Petrunyak, Anniversary (Family)

June 29, Wednesday: Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles

Readings: Acts 12:1-11; 2 Tm 4:6-8,17-18; Mt 16:13-19

6:45 AM No Mass

8:00 AM Rick Cowan/Karen Cowan Dougherty (Mom)

12:00 PM Pat Rabine (Karen Brady)

June 30, Thursday: First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church

Readings: Am 7:10-17; Mt 9:1-8

6:45 AM Audrey Krause (Phyllis Lavelle Sheetz)

8:00 AM No Mass

12:00 PM George Dean Barry (Nikki Snyder)

July 1, Friday: Saint Junipero Serra, Priest

Readings: Am 8:4-6, 9-12; Mt 9:9-13

6:45 AM No Mass

8:00 AM Health of Kirk Kling (Family)

12:00 PM Deacon John Rys (Chuck & Sherry Ahearn)

July 2, Saturday: Weekday

Readings: Am 9: 11-15; Mt 9:14-17

8:00 AM Jim and Elaine Weaver, Wedding Anniversary

12:00 PM Jerry Smith (Jim and Stephanie Kilcoyne)

Vigil: Fourteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Readings: Is 66:10-14; Gal 6:14-18; Lk10:1-12,17-20

5:00 PM Kenneth Franks (Cathedral Parish)

Please remember our sick in your prayers.

Please note this week's Mass Schedule:

This week Father Kurdziel will be on vacation. Note the curtailed daily Mass schedule. There will be no 6:45 AM Mass on Monday, Wednesday or Friday; and Mass will not be celebrated at 8:00 AM on Tuesday or Thursday. Please pass this information along to those from neighboring parishes who pray with us daily but may not see this bulletin announcement. Thank you.

Establishment to Liturgical Status of Feast ...

The Church's liturgical calendar celebrates with Saint Mary Magdalene every July 22. This commemoration, previously a memorial, has been raised to the status of a Feast. Pope Francis made this decision in the context of the Jubilee of Mercy to highlight the relevance of this woman who showed great love for Christ and who was much loved by Christ. While most liturgical celebrations of individual saints during the year are known as memorials, those classified as feasts are reserved for important events in Christian history and for saints of particular significance, such as the Twelve Apostles. Known as the "apostle of the Apostles" because she is the first to witness the empty tomb and the first to listen to the truth of the resurrection, Jesus had a special consideration and mercy for this woman, who manifests her love for him, looking for him in the garden with anguish and suffering. Saint Mary Magdalene's feast day is a call for Christians to reflect more deeply on the dignity of women, the new evangelization, and the greatness of the mystery of divine mercy.

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

IMPORTANT MEETINGS

Finance Council: Monday, June 27 at 4:30 PM in the Saint John Room.

Building Committee: Monday, June 27 at 5:00 PM in the Seton Suite.

Parish Council members and Finance Council members are welcome to attend the 5:00 PM Building Committee meeting.

FAITH DAY AT DELGROSSO'S TODAY!

Come! Join Catholics from across the Diocese celebrate our faith and enjoy a day of rides and slides!! Or just come and enjoy America's best amusement park food!! **SUNDAY, JUNE 26 - DelGrosso's Amusement Park in Tipton, PA.** At the Diocesan Pavilion you can obtain Faith Day Vouchers which when presented at the Park Office will allow you to purchase the All-Day Ride and Slide Passes for a reduced price of \$20, or order your tickets online before heading to the park and save yourself the walk. Highlights of the day include: **Liturgy at 3:00 PM** with Bishop Mark; a **Picnic in the Diocesan Pavilion, #2 at 5:00 PM** for those who pre-ordered tickets and over 30 different park rides and games. New for 2016 the opening of **LAGUNA SPLASH** with a wave pool, the Lazy River, a variety of other water features and of course the Tipton Rapids and Waterslides! Please bring a free-will offering for Catholic Charities.

Charismatic Prayer - The Charismatic Prayer Group will meet this Monday, June 27 at 7:00 PM in the Cathedral for a Charismatic Mass. Fr. Bob Hilz will be the main celebrant. Music will be provided by the Charismatic Prayer Group's Music Ministry. All are welcome!!

MINISTRY TO OUR ACTIVE SENIORS, OUR ELDERLY AND THE HOMEBOUND

- Members send cards or notes, make phone calls and visit. If you know someone who you feel would benefit from this ministry, or if you would like to become a committee member, please contact the Parish Office at 944-4603 or Jeanne Thompson at 317-3672.

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.

Nocturnal Adoration

The monthly Vigil of Prayer scheduled by the Nocturnal Adoration Society for **Friday, July 1**, will be held at Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Altoona from 8:00 PM until 11:00 PM. Cathedral hour is 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM. New members are always welcome.

Liturgical Reflection ...

Jesus is resolutely determined to journey to Jerusalem. But on the way there are some who are not so resolute. "Let me go first and bury my father" or "First let me say farewell to my family at home." Jesus demands a definite, clear, and absolute commitment to follow him. Today the Lord calls us to follow. May we follow Jesus resolutely. We live our commitments to the Lord today not later or somewhere down the road. As we set ourselves towards God's kingdom, may we do so with hearts full of mercy. James and John wanted to call down fire from heaven on the Samaritans. Jesus rebuked them. When on the road with the Lord, show mercy. Mercy alone is all we need as followers of Christ.

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

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, June 19, 2016 - \$7,522.50

Peter's Pence Collection This Weekend

Be a pilgrim of charity and support the works of the Holy Father through the Peter's Pence Collection **June 25 and 26**. This collection provides emergency assistance to those most in need, including victims of oppression, natural disaster, and war. A special blue envelope labeled HOLY FATHER is provided in our June offertory set or you may mark any other with your intention. If you forgot your gift this weekend, you may drop it off at the Parish Office during the week. Please be generous.

CATHEDRAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Newly registered Cathedral families and those established families with children ready to enter our Religious Education Program in the fall for the first time are asked to contact Chris Laraia at 312-7317 as soon as possible to pre-register for 2016-2017.

Mount Aloysius College Free Summer Camps Health Care Explorations Day Camp

Who: Students entering 7th and 8th grade. When: July 6-7 Time: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Where: Mount Aloysius College. Cost: FREE! Why: To learn more about career options. For more information contact; Dr. Merrilee Anderson at manderson@mtaloy.edu or 814 886-6501.

Journalism Camp

Who: Students entering 10th, 11th and 12th grade. When: July 6-8 Time: Varies. Where: Mount Aloysius College. Cost: FREE! Why: To sharpen writing, reporting, and research skill as well as learning about careers in journalism. For more information contact; Dr. Michael Jones at mjones@mtaloy.edu or 814 886-6501.