

JUNE 12, 2016

Scripture Reflection

The First Reading and Gospel present people who have faced their sins, who are deeply sorry, and who receive forgiveness. King David, so beloved by God, who had been living a righteous life, suddenly committed grave, shocking sins. David understands fully and is horrified by what he has done. But as Nathan reveals, God has forgiven David.

When the sinning woman crashed Simon the Pharisee's dinner party, Simon was taken aback: "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him--that she is a sinner." The flip side of defining this woman as a sinner is the implicit claim that Simon does not consider himself a sinner. Jesus' lavish acceptance of the woman known as a sinner is essential for each of us because everyone, Simon included, is a sinner. If Jesus were to reach out only to the people who were worthy of God's forgiveness, no one would find an outstretched hand. It is we who define ourselves as "worthy" by creating distinctions between those whom we consider "real" sinners and those whom we judge basically "righteous." God sees all of us as we are and is aware of our great need for forgiveness.

Since our salvation emerges from God's mercy and God's mercy, thankfully, never ceases, we are able to return to Jesus with tears and repentance over and over. God is never done with us, though we might sometimes feel done with ourselves. Faith in Christ is not a one-time event, however, but a sustained growing in holiness. The Christian life is marked not just by sinful stumbling but by getting up, dusting ourselves off and walking home to Christ as often as we need to repent. And when we walk into the house to encounter Jesus, we receive the same acceptance that the sinful woman did: a welcome home.

• **Think about the nature of sin, your own sins in particular. Have you talked to God about them? When was the last time you went to the Sacrament of Reconciliation?**

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: June 6-13, 2016 Issue, John W. Martens.

CONGRATULATIONS HIGH SCHOOL GRADS!

We offer our continued support, encouragement, prayers, and best wishes to the following members of the **Class of 2016** from Cathedral Parish: Tristan Brown, *Hannah Crawford, *Sophia Griffin, *Tevin Grove, Benjamin McConnell and *Collin Welteroth graduated from **Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School** on Friday, May 27. Allan Axinn, *Alexandra Conrad, *Katarina Flores, Amber Genua, *Cassandra Hall, Darren Hall, *Noah Lebgerfinger, *Evan Lingafelt and Michael Sarbo graduated from **Altoona Area High School** on Saturday, June 4.

***Receiving Recognition for Academic Excellence, Scholarships and Awards.**

At Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School, **Hannah Crawford** was awarded the Women's Club of Altoona Scholarship. **Sophia Griffin** received the Edgar & Maureen Smithe Scholarship and the Monsignor Harkins Award Sponsored by the Ancient Order of Hibernians. **Tevin Grove** was the recipient of the Point Park University Vice Presidential Scholarship, the Altoona Rotary Scholarship Award, the Music Department Award and the McEldowney Scholarship. And **Collin Welteroth** received the President's Award for Educational Excellence and is a member of the National Honor Society.

At Altoona Area High School, **Alexandra Conrad** received the Janet C. Yon Memorial Scholarship. **Katarina Flores** was awarded the Altoona Area High School Homecoming Scholarship and Recognition for Academic Excellence. **Cassandra Hall** and **Noah Leberfinger** are members of the National Technical Honor Society. And **Evan Lingafelt** was awarded the David McGrath Memorial Scholarship, the Earl Strohm Memorial Scholarship and the Charlie Weston Memorial Scholarship. Many of our graduates have served Cathedral Parish as Altar Servers and several now serve as Lectors or Eucharistic Ministers. Congratulations, graduates!

Vocations Event at Saint Francis University 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.

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

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

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

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 GULFOYLE 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

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JUNE 12, 2016

Readings: 2 Sm 12:7-10,13; Gal 2:16,19-21; Lk 7:36--8:3

MASS INTENTIONS

June 13, Monday: Saint Anthony of Padua, Priest, Doctor

Readings: 1 Kgs 21:1-16; Mt 5:38-42; Lk 10:1-9

6:45 AM No Mass

8:00 AM Patty Geis (Jim and Connie Snow)

12:00 PM Joe Tomlinson (Bob and Chris Laraia)

June 14, Tuesday: Weekday

Readings: 1 Kgs 21:17-29; Mt 5:43-48

6:45 AM Nancy Moffa Jenaway (Estate)

8:00 AM No Mass

12:00 PM Bishop James J. Hogan, Anniv. (Cathedral)

June 15, Wednesday: Weekday

Readings: 2 Kgs 2:1,6-14; Mt 6:1-6,16-18

6:45 AM No Mass

8:00 AM Mary Jean Dodson (M/M Anthony Hallinan)

12:00 PM Billy Geis, Birthday (Family)

June 16, Thursday: Weekday

Readings: Sir 48:1-14; Mt 6:7-15

6:45 AM Myron Yeager (Bob and Jean Jones)

8:00 AM No Mass

12:00 PM Paul Rose (Geis Family)

June 17, Friday: Weekday

Readings: 2 Kgs 11:1-4,9-18,20; Mt 6:19-23

6:45 AM Esther M. Dorazio (Jim and Elaine Weaver)

8:00 AM Rose Hart (Daughter, Rose Marie Fedeli)

12:00 PM Good Health of Gary Doyle (Jeanne Green)

June 18, Saturday: Weekday

Readings: 2 Chr 24:17-25; Mt 6:24-34

8:00 AM Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown (Devoted Mem.)

12:00 PM Birthday Inten. of Nathaniel Hockenberry (Fam.)

Vigil: Twelfth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Readings: Zec 12:10-11; 13:1; Gal 3:26-29; Lk 9:18-24

5:00 PM Moose Plutko (Joe and Jean Bettwy)

Please remember our sick in your prayers.

Please note this week's Mass Schedule:

This week Father Kurdziel will be on his annual retreat. Note the curtailed daily Mass schedule. The schedule will be the same as last week. Please continue to pray for your priests as we will remember the parish and the diocese during our week of serious prayer and reflection. Bishop-Emeritus Donald Trautman of the Diocese of Erie will be the retreat master.

FORTNIGHT FOR FREEDOM

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops will once again sponsor a **Fortnight for Freedom** 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. The theme this year is **"Witnesses to Freedom"**. And we will look at the lives of more than 14 women and men of faith, from all over the world, who bear witness to authentic freedom in Christ.

In observance of this fortnight, Bishop Mark Bartchak will preside at a **Holy Hour on Thursday, June 23, at 7:00 PM** here in the Altoona Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. The Holy Hour will include; Evening Prayer, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, a Homily by Bishop, and Benediction. Plan to join in our unified prayer for the preservation of religious liberty.

Baptism Congratulations!

Madison Ann Kantoski was baptized and welcomed into our Cathedral Parish Family at 10 AM Mass on Sunday, May 22. Congratulations to parents, Matthew and Courtney (Wentz) Kantoski, along with Godparents; Cousin Quintin and Aunt Tai; Grandparents; Jim and Kathy Kantoski and Robert and Jodi Wentz; and all the other aunts, uncles and cousins. Madison will grow in her Christian identity as family and friends model the faith.

Next Session of Baptismal Preparation

This Monday, June 13 at 7:00 PM in the Seton Suite. Attendance at Baptismal Prep is required before a baptism is scheduled at Cathedral Parish. Class is offered every other month. You do not have to wait until your baby arrives to come to class. Godparents are encouraged to attend as well. Call the Parish Office at 944-4603 to register.

Parents of First Communicants Please Note:

Four sets of photos have yet to be picked up! The Parish Office hours are 9:30 AM until 5:30 PM Monday through Friday.

Charismatic Prayer - The Charismatic Prayer Group will meet this Monday, June 13 at 7:00 PM in the Cathedral for a Eucharistic Festival of Praise, Father Christopher Panagoplos TOR, will be preaching. All are welcome!

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, June 5, 2016 - \$9,668.00

Save the Date - Monday, June 20 - 6:00 PM

Parish Council Social/Barbeque on the Loggia.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

This year the Cathedral Parish goal was set at **\$43,522.00**. We continue to receive new gifts and have now raised **\$54,226.00**. Additionally, our cash gifts and pledge payments now total **\$44,931.38** and we can expect our first check (**\$1,300.00**) back from the diocese to arrive soon!

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.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Prince Gallitzin #2625, will meet on Monday, June 13 at 6:30 PM for a social followed by a meeting at 7:00 PM in the St. Rose of Lima Social Hall.

Knights Of Columbus Council 551

Joseph D. Tomlinson Memorial Golf Tournament

This event will be held **Saturday, June 18** at **King Valley Golf Course**, Imler, PA. Registration begins at 7:15 AM, with tee-off at 8:00 AM. The cost is \$75 per player and includes 18 holes of golf, riding cart, goody bags, lunch, snacks, beverages, prizes and awards. For more information/registration contact Terry Anderson at Topsail5@atlanticbb.net. Proceeds will fund two Council 551 scholarships in Joe's name - one \$500 scholarship to a student entering Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School, and one \$500 scholarship to a Bishop Guilfoyle graduating Senior to attend Saint Francis University; as well as donations to Catholic Charities and the St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry.

Father's Day Weekend - Cereal Collection

Next weekend, **June 18-19**, we are encouraged to bring boxes of cereal to help stock the shelves of the St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry for the summer months. Perhaps we could ask friends and relatives to join in this collection. Throughout the school year students from Catholic and non-Catholic schools in Blair County help with this project but donations drop off dramatically during the summer months. The program is spearheaded by Judy Savine who can be reached at 934-3124 or 931-4919 if you will be away that weekend and would like an early pick-up.

FAITH DAY AT DELGROSSO'S 2016

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 26 - DelGrosso's Amusement Park in Tipton, PA.** Highlights of the day include: **Liturgy at 3:00 PM** with Bishop Mark; a **Picnic** in the diocesan pavilion at **5:00 PM**; and over 30 different park rides and games. New for 2016 the opening of **LAGUNA SPLASH** with a wave pool, the Lazy River, and a variety of other water features and of course the Tipton Rapids and Waterslides! At the **Parish Office** you may reserve (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 \$20 (a \$29.95 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. Please bring a free-will offering for Catholic Charities. For more information, contact Francine Swope the in the Diocesan Youth Ministry Office at 317-2646 or on the web www.dioceseaj.org.

Liturgical Reflection ...

JUBILEE

YEAR OF

MERCY

There was a sinful woman who learned that Jesus was at table in a certain Pharisee's house. Bringing a flask of ointment, she stood behind him at his feet weeping and began to bathe his feet with her tears. We have been given an example of forgiveness when Jesus says to her, "Your sins are forgiven." Forgiveness and mercy lead us to be more loving. When we show forgiveness we show the face of God. This Jubilee Year may we be open to the varied opportunities to offer forgiveness and mercy to those who trespass against us. We pray to be instruments of God's mercy.

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