

Today’s Gospel is part of Jesus’ “farewell discourse.” He instructs the disciples that to remember him is to love him. Their remembering is not simply a calling to mind of his Word but a real and active life of love. Jesus assures them that they will receive the help of the Spirit that the Father will send in his name. His parting words are a blessing, “my peace I give to you” and an assurance that they need not let their “hearts be troubled or afraid.”

Christ’s peace does not inoculate us from the reality of the world and its warfare, not from psychological or physical pain, not from arguments and bruised feelings; nor will it mimic the sappy sentimentality of greeting cards or TV movies and make certain every day is sunshiny and happy. The peace of Christ is the gift of eternal life (John 10:28) and the gift of joy (John 15:11) that transcends the trials and losses of this life, because it offers the deep joy of salvation, which God gives and the world cannot snatch away.

The Holy Spirit has not abandoned the church and will not do so but offers ongoing insight into what Jesus taught in order to guide the church into the truth. It is only after the promise of the gift of the Paraclete that Jesus offers his peace. This peace is unlike the world’s peace precisely because the gift of peace is the gift of eternal life. Guided into all truth by the Paraclete, the church must be untroubled and fearless in the midst of the challenges of contemporary life.

Faith is more than an intellectual feat and adherence to rituals and actions. Deep faith begins in relationship with the person, Jesus Christ. “Whoever loves me will keep my word.” Jesus told his disciples. He promised that Father, Son, and Spirit---a loving community---would always dwell with such a person. To develop your relationship with God, begin as you would with any friend---communicate frequently and openly. Spend time together.

• **Think about Christ’s promise of peace. When troubled or afraid, do you call upon the Spirit-filled gift of peace?**

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: April 25, 2016 Issue, John W. Martens.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL 2016

Year	Amount Raised	Percentage of Goal
2016	\$50,776.00	117%

Every registered family is asked to participate in the 2016 Annual Catholic Appeal. A gift of any amount will be appreciated. This year the Cathedral Parish goal is set at **\$43,522.00**. We have raised **\$50,776.00** and are **over Diocesan Goal** with 188 of our families participating. Now, as our pledges are met, funds will be returned to the Parish and will help with special projects. All monies collected for this Annual Appeal go directly to help support the dozens of ministries sponsored by the Diocese. Thank you for your participation in this year's Annual Catholic Appeal.

Christian Mothers Meeting - Wednesday, May 11 at 6:30 PM in the Seton Suite. All ladies of the parish are welcome to attend.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
Cathedral Social Hall “Cave Quest”
June 6-10, 2016, 8:45 - 11:30 AM Ages 3-10

Join us as we go spelunking through *Cave Quest*, led by the light of Jesus. Registration is \$5.00 per child to cover cost of T-shirt. Adult and teen helpers are needed. Those over 18 must have Diocesan and PA State Child Protection Clearances. Please call Chris Laraia at 312-7317 for more information. **Registration deadline is May 16.** No exceptions!

Charismatic Healing Mass

The Charismatic Prayer Group will not meet this Monday. Meetings will resume on Monday, May 9. There will be a Healing Mass on **Monday, May 23, 2016 at 7:00 PM** here in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. Fr. Bill Kiel, from the Diocese of Greensburg, will be the main celebrant. All are welcome, especially those in need of physical, emotional, or spiritual healing, and those who support and care for them as well. Music for the Mass will be led by the Cathedral Charismatic Prayer Group Music Ministry. For more information, please call 814 941-3832.

ST. MARK’S SCHOOL REUNION MASS

Saturday, June 18, at 4:30 PM. Light reception to follow in the Church Hall. Questions: 932-5188

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

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 1, 2016

Readings: Acts 15:1-2,22-29; Rv 21:10-14,22-23; Jn 14:23-29

MASS INTENTIONS

May 2, Monday: Saint Athanasius, Bishop, Doctor

Readings: Acts 16:11-15; Jn 15:26-16:4

6:45 AM Sam Coen (Jim & Elaine Weaver)
8:00 AM Michael F. Zacek, Birthday (Carol Smith)
12:00 PM M/M Fred Petrunak, Sr., Wed. Anniv. (Family)

May 3, Tuesday: Saints Philip and James, Apostles

Readings: 1 Cor 15:1-8; Jn 14:6-14

6:45 AM Eleanor Toth (Rita Sangiorgi)
8:00 AM Dick Cowan (Wife, Skip)
12:00 PM Ruby Doyle (John and Barb Fischer)

May 4, Wednesday: Easter Weekday

Readings: Acts 17:15, 22--18:1; Jn 16:12-15

6:45 AM Mildred Mauceri (A. Breslin/R. Simelbauer)
8:00 AM Frank Auerbeck (Karen and Dave Rhoa)
12:00 PM Vince Adams, Jr. (Rita Adams and Family)

Vigil of Ascension (Holy Day of Obligation)

5:30 PM For God's People

May 5, Thursday: **The Ascension of the Lord**

Readings: Acts 1:1-11; Eph 1:17-23; Lk 24:46-53

8:00 AM Patty Geis, Birthday (Family)
12:00 PM Jane Nishimura (Blazewicz Family)
5:30 PM M. Virginia Jones (Barbara Rhoa Family)

May 6, Friday: Easter Weekday

Readings: Acts 18:9-18; Jn 16:20-23

6:45 AM Carl Frank (Jeanne Strate)
8:00 AM Deacon John Rys (Pete and Carl Rodgers)
12:00 PM Sepcial Intention for Dan Hallinan

May 7, Saturday: Easter Weekday

Readings: Acts 18:23-28; Jn 16P23-28

8:00 AM Stella Gallagher (Mark and Diane Moschella)
12:00 PM Edward Moloney, Birth. (Madeline Vogel Fam.)
Vigil: Seventh Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 7:55-60; Rv 22:12-14, 16-17,20; Jn 17:20-26

5:00 PM Rose Ann Himmelein (Randy and Jean Koury)

Ordination Anniversaries

Both Monsignor Mazur and Father Kurdziel will be celebrating their anniversary of priesthood ordination this following week. Please pray for your priests and for all clergy.

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.

Liturgical Reflection ...

HOLY DAY

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

This Thursday, May 5, is the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord. It is a holy day of obligation in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown. Forty days have passed since the glorious resurrection of the crucified Lord from the dead. On this day the Church remembers the return of the Son of God to the Father's right hand. When all things are made new and Christ comes in his glory, all will be united in the kingdom of God. Please check the Mass schedule for this Thursday's holy day.

May Crowning Within Evening Prayer Tonight! Sunday, May 1, at 6:30 PM.

All who received Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil, families who have had children baptized, all of our parishioners who have made their First Communion and our young adults who received Confirmation are encouraged to attend this parish celebration with their families and friends. Everyone in the assembly is invited to bring a fresh flower to present to the Blessed Mother during this Evening Prayer. Following May Crowning we will gather in the Cathedral Hall for an Ice Cream Social.

Sacramental Prep - Confirmation

All Tenth Grade High School Students are to attend their Confirmation Prep Session II on **Sunday, May 1**, at 7:15 PM in the Seton Suite following Evening Prayer.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

A Bereavement Support Group meets on the first Wednesday of every month at Catholic Charities, next to the Cathedral, from 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Call 944-9388, ext. 205 to register for the May 4 session.

No Electricity

On Sunday, April 17, around 6:15 PM the Cathedral Church and rectory lost power for four days. Smoke started to bellow out of the manhole covers (ten to fifteen feet high) in the alley beside the Cathedral. In fact one manhole cover flew into the air about eight feet. While without electricity, the three daily Masses continued. Thanks to Bear McCloskey and Tim Bettwy who provided generators to keep our food refrigerated and frozen. Electricity was restored Wednesday evening, April 20, around 10:30 PM.

Nocturnal Adoration - Friday, May 6, at UPMC Friends Chapel from 8:00 PM until 11:00 PM. Cathedral hour is 9:00 PM - 10:00 PM.

Intercession for Universal Prayer

Bishop has asked that the following intercession be prayed at all Masses: *For victims and survivors of sexual abuse in our parishes, communities, and families; may they be healed of their pain: and for the whole Church community; that we may be committed to safeguarding our children and those who are vulnerable; let us pray to the Lord.*

Prayer Service For Healing

Bishop Mark will preside at a Diocesan Prayer Service for victims of abuse and their families here in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament on **Tuesday, May 17 at 7:00 PM**. The service will include Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Evening Prayer and a homily by Bishop Mark. Reconciliation will also be available.

Altoona Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court Prince Gallitzin #2625 Fundraiser

Help us help our Altoona community and beyond by going to Hoss's in Altoona for dinner 11:00 AM until 9:00 PM **TODAY, Sunday, May 1**. Our Hoss's **Group number** is **#36478**. **Valid only at the Hoss's at 621 Valley View Boulevard**. You will need to take this bulletin with you.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, April 24, 2016 - \$7,242.00

Easter Collection and **Easter Flower Memorial** totals will be reported at the end of the Easter Season as we continue to receive additional gifts.

Thank You! - Hours upon hours were given to the planning for this year's Longaberger Basket and Vera Bradley Bingo. It was a great success. Many thanks to all who gave so much time to this fund-raiser. We are blessed with so many people coming forward and sharing your time, talent, and treasure. A financial report will be given in a few weeks after we are sure all bills have been paid. Mark your calendar for **May 7, 2017** when we will have our **Third Annual Basket Bingo**.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS PLEASE NOTE:

A new liturgical ministry schedule for May 3rd through June 13th was mailed this past week. If you did not receive a copy, please call the Parish Office as soon as possible. Please call also, if you need a new phone list for your ministry.

Baptism Congratulations

On Sunday, April 24, Jason Le Nguyen, son of Nhut and Tam Le Nguyen, was baptized and welcomed into our Cathedral Parish Family at the 10:00 AM Mass. Congratulations also to brothers, Phap and Andrew; and sisters Nhu and Sophia. And at Noon Mass, Kenneth and Rachael Doyle presented their sons, Donavyn Blayne Cassidy and Alexander Bernard Doyle for Baptism. Best wishes also to Grandparent and Godparents; Kenneth Doyle, Sr., Sheila Evans, John Fischer and Cynthia Doyle. May the graces of the Sacrament of Baptism strengthen both our children and the adults who care for them.

Liturgical Reflection ...

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

On this Sixth Sunday of Easter we look at the Spiritual Work of Mercy to **bear wrongs patiently**. Believers are called to be patient with those who annoy us and who trespass against us. If it were not for Christ's death and resurrection, we would just as soon strike back at our trespassers and get even with those who have hurt us or those we love. The virtue of patience grounds us to endure hardships and turn to the merciful Lord for strength. By bearing our wrongs we witness to God's mercy. Christ patiently endured his suffering and death on the cross - from the cross has come the source of all mercy, Jesus Christ. So the next time we are ready to respond in like fashion with a cruel word or harsh action, remember to patiently bear the wrong that has come your way. Your example of mercy will be a true witness as a disciple of Christ. Be Merciful, Bill Huebsch, Twenty-Third Publications, 2015, pgs. 14-16.

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