

OCTOBER 23, 2016

Scripture Reflection

Today's readings center on the experience of prayer. We sing and speak in prayer and we pray silently. We offer prayers of petition, praise, and thanksgiving. Prayer is our conversation with God. When we pray, and what we say when we pray, says a lot about who we are and who we think God is. In Sirach we hear that "the prayer of the lowly pierces the clouds." It is not that the lowly and the poor are closer to God by being poor and lowly, it is that they turn to God and not into themselves.

In the Gospel the Pharisee has lived a virtuous life, doing more than the Law requires of a devout person. The tax collector was, by reputation and practice, despised and fraudulent, and he readily admits he is a sinner. The conclusion of the parable reverses the expectations of Jesus' audience. The Pharisee turns inward and does not seek anything from God; it appears that he only wants God to hear him report on all the pious things he has done. His put-down of the tax collector is intended to make himself even better in the eyes of God. The favor Jesus gives to the tax collector rests on his turning outward to God, who alone can be merciful and lead him to a transformed life.

The parable is not about disagreeing on points of religious teaching or practice; it is about becoming humble before God and recognizing the dignity of other human beings, especially those with whom we disagree and whom we are so willing to treat with scorn. Perhaps there is a little of the Pharisee in each of us; we can so easily be judgmental. We might well boast of our good deeds. And we are also like the tax collector when we are honest and humble. The Lord hears the cry of all of us; our prayers pierce the clouds seeking the mercy of God.

• **Consider your own faith and your relationship to God. When have you considered yourself spiritually superior to others? How have you been able to see God's mercy active in your life and the lives of others?**

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: October 17, 2016 Issue, John W. Martens.

CATHEDRAL PARISHIONERS

There is a need for additional ministers at our weekly Sunday liturgies. Cathedral Masses are scheduled every Saturday at 5:00 PM, and on Sunday at 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, Noon, and 5:00 PM. Your stewardship of time and talent will greatly serve the needs of our Parish.

These are the various opportunities available to you and your family.

Ushers: These are men and women who extend hospitality to all; are available for emergencies; help take up the collection; and give bulletins at the end of Mass.

Altar Servers: Children (fourth grade and up) and adults who assist the priest at Mass. Servers process in and out with cross and candles; light the candles; hold the Roman Missal; dress and undress the altar; and help with the preparation of the gifts.

Readers: Adults and youth, male and female, who proclaim the first and second reading at Mass. Your ability to proclaim God's revealed Word nourishes all gathered for worship.

Choir: Men, women, and youth volunteer their voices in praise of God. Choir rehearsals are every Thursday evening. The choir regularly sings at the Sunday 10:00 AM Mass and at special diocesan events.

Cantors: Men, women, and youth who lead the assembly in song, giving praise and thanks to God. Cantors are song leaders who invite all gathered to fully participate in the Mass.

Commentators: Men, women, and youth who pray the Universal Prayer (General Intercessions) following the Creed at Mass. This ministry voices the petitions of the Church.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Fully initiated Catholics who have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist help distribute the consecrated elements of Bread and Wine to the assembly. These ministers help give the Body and Blood of Christ in the absence of the ordained priest and deacon.

Prayerfully consider your possible call to serve in any of these ministries. You may choose more than one liturgical ministry. The Parish Liturgy Committee decided not to have the usual fall workshop for all ministries, but rather to meet individually with each ministry. Before those meetings are scheduled, there is a need for additional volunteers to come forward and offer your time and talent. Please call the Parish Office at 944-4603 and let us know of your interest in any particular ministry. Your time and talent serve God, the parish community, and your own relationship with our Lord. Thank you!

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

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Web: www.holytrinitycatholic.school
Altoona Campus (Pre-K thru Grade 4) - 381-7011
Hollidaysburg 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

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OCTOBER 23, 2016

Readings: Sir 35:12-14,16-18; 2 Tm 4:6-8,16-18; Lk 18:9-14

MASS INTENTIONS

October 24, Monday: St. Anthony Mary Claret, Bish.

Readings: Eph 4:32--5:8; Lk 13:10-17

6:45 AM Delphina Rutolo, Birthday (Family)
8:00 AM Deborah Stohon, Birth (Father & Family)
12:00 PM Msgr. Thomas Madden, Anniv. (Cathedral)

October 25, Tuesday: Weekday

Readings: Eph 5:21-33; Lk 13: 13-21

6:45 AM Bernadette Weakland (Special Friend)
8:00 AM Rev. Morgan Sheedy, Anniv.(Cathedral)
12:00 PM Ken Franks, Birth (M. and C. Geishauser)

October 26, Wednesday: Weekday

Readings: Eph 6:1-9; Lk 13:22-30

6:45 AM M. Virginia Jones (Navarro Family)
8:00 AM Ray and Jane Greiner (Nancy and Skip)
12:00 PM Joseph A. Wood, Bir. (Daughter, Maureen)

October 27, Thursday: Weekday

Readings: Eph 6:10-20; Lk 13:31-35

6:45 AM Nancy Sussana Mignogna (Estate)
8:00 AM Joe Milliron (Ed and Lois Simanski)
12:00 PM Deacon John Rys (Pete & Carol Rodgers)

October 28, Friday: Saints Simon and Jude, Apostles

Readings: Eph 2:19-22; Lk 6:12-16

6:45 AM William Crouse (Pat Rhoa)
8:00 AM John Bauer (Cathedral Parish)
12:00 PM Tom Byrne (Terry and Kathy Tomassetti)

October 29, Saturday: Weekday

Readings: Phil 1:18-26; Lk 14; 1,7-11

8:00 AM Denis Burns (Dave & Maureen Hanekamp)
12:00 PM Ruby Doyle (Rabine Family)
Vigil: Thirty-First Sunday In Ordinary Time

Readings: Wis 11:22--12:2; 2 Thes 1:11--2:2; Lk 19:1-10

5:00 PM Donald Godish, Anniversary (Friend)

Please remember our sick in your prayers.

SHYCON - Senior High Youth Convention

October 23, 2016 - Thirteen students from our Cathedral Confirmation Program (two from Our Lady of Fatima) are participating in this all-day event today at the Maurice Stokes Athletic Center, St. Francis University, Loretto. Please keep them in your prayers. They travel by bus from Saint Mark parking lot with students from neighboring parishes and will return at approximately 6:30 PM.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

Today is World Mission Sunday. We are called through Baptism to be "missionaries of faith." Through our financial gifts we become partners with missionaries throughout the world who proclaim the Gospel and offer help and hope to the poor. A special envelope is provided in our October packet for this annual world-wide collection or you may use another envelope and mark it **World Mission Sunday** or **Propagation of the Faith**. Deposit with your regular offertory gift or drop off at the Parish Office during the week. Please be generous.

FIRST RECONCILIATION PREPARATION

Our second meeting of Reconciliation Prep will be held in the Seton Suite on **Tuesday, October 25th** from 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM. Each student must be accompanied by a parent, grandparent or other responsible adult. Participation in all three sessions is required of parents and second grade students in Cathedral Parish and Our Lady of Fatima whether attending Holy Trinity Catholic School, our Religious Education program, or being Home Schooled. Our third and final session of preparation required before the reception of Reconciliation in Advent is scheduled for **Tuesday, November 29th**.

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

HIGH SCHOOL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

F.I.R.E. - Family Intergenerational Religious Education
Next session, **Sunday, November 6**.

ANNUAL BOY SCOUTS AWARD MASS

We welcome area Scouts and their families to the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament on **Saturday, October 29**, to celebrate **Noon Mass** with Bishop Mark. At the end of Mass many deserving young men will receive awards for their accomplishments. Congratulations!

PATRIOTIC ROSARY WITH BENEDICTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

On **Saturday, October 29** at **2:00 PM** the Diocesan Courts of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas are sponsoring a **Patriotic Rosary** followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament here in the Cathedral. Bishop Mark Bartchak will preside and many of our civil officials will lead us in prayer. All are invited to participate.

FAMILY NIGHT OCTOBER 29th

Family Night will be held **October 29, 2016**, in the Cathedral Hall from 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM. It will be an All Hallows Eve/All Saints Party. Ghosts, witches, action heroes, and of course, saints of all ages are welcome to join us for a fun-filled evening of children's games, saints' scavenger hunt, prizes, pumpkin painting, photo booth, Fall foods, and more. Wear your favorite Saint costume or Halloween costume to add to the fun. In order to help us to plan food preparation, please RSVP by October 26 to the Parish Office 944-4603.

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 is providing a bus for the combined diocesan choir and parishioners making the pilgrimage. Our bus is now full. If you have a reservation but find you are not able to attend please call the Parish Office 944-4603. Those who have not as yet paid for the trip are asked to do so this week as everything has to be finalized two weeks before the trip. We will be leaving Cathedral parking lot at 7:00 AM and return time will depend on factors beyond our control as we will stop for dinner at the Golden Corral in Hagerstown, Maryland on the way home. If you did not sign up but would like to participate in this special Diocesan Event, please call Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish at 942-8501 as they have some seats available and are following basically the same schedule for the day.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, October 16, 2016 - \$8,005.00

FOOD FOR THE POOR - Thank You

From Deacon Dennis Bennin: "Thank you for the opportunity to share with you and your Parish Faith Community my story of Food For The Poor. It was an honor and a blessing to spend time with you. God's Blessings."

LITURGICAL MINISTERS PLEASE NOTE:

Please provide dates of unavailability and any changes of address, phone number, or email address to Sue at the Parish Office at 944-4603 or scronin@dioceseaj.org by **Tuesday, October 25**. New schedules will be sent out on Wednesday, October 26 for October 27 through November 20. Our next schedule will cover Advent/Christmas Season.

Inquiry Sessions Continue! Our Cathedral Christian Initiation Team offers weekly meetings in the Seton Suite on **Sunday mornings** from 11:00 AM until 12:00 Noon 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.

Calendars of Prizes 2017 Are Here!

Calendars of Prizes 2017 are being sold at the Cathedral Square door after all Masses. Like last year, each calendar costs \$20.00. There is a \$10.00 daily prize; an additional \$1,000.00 in special monthly prizes awarded throughout the year; and a grand prize of \$5,000.00 Family Trip or Cash Option. Due to the state regulations for small games of chance, it is necessary that all one thousand tickets be sold. Otherwise, the parish will lose money on unsold tickets. If you have a favorite three digit number, call the Parish Office (944-4603) weekdays between 9:30 AM and 5:30 PM to check on availability or stop at the Cathedral Square door after Mass. These make great gifts that last all year!

Liturgical Reflection ...

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

"O God, be merciful to me a sinner." The humble tax collector had the right disposition before God. How judgmental of the Pharisee towards the tax collector. What keeps us from seeking mercy and sharing mercy? Our judgments, resentments, and anger often stand in the way of mercy. Only the one who realizes the need for mercy will be able to share mercy with others. My dependency on God leads me to humbly receive his mercy and love. Awareness of my sinfulness turns me towards the forgiveness of the Lord. The tax collector said it perfectly; may his prayer be ours this week. "O God, be merciful to me a sinner."

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