

OCTOBER 30, 2016

Scripture Reflection

In Luke's story of Zacchaeus, Jesus fulfills the very role that he "has come to seek and to save what was lost." There is something amusing and even ridiculous about the plight of Zacchaeus. He is no ordinary tax collector (a group despised by the citizens), he is the *chief* tax collector. He must have been slightly embarrassed - a person of his position having to climb a tree to see Jesus. But he sets aside any personal inhibitions and climbs up. Then an amazing thing happens, Jesus announces that he is coming to stay at his house. Jesus becomes both guest and host at the table of a sinner.

What makes this story so appealing is the joy that both Jesus and Zacchaeus show in meeting each other. "Come down quickly," Jesus says, "for today I must stay at your house". Zacchaeus drops quickly and receives Jesus with joy. The crowd, however, does not share in their joy. They grumble about a prophet eating with a sinner! Zacchaeus holds his ground, saying that if--- notice the "if"---he has defrauded anyone, he will make amends four-fold, keeping to the strictest restitution demanded by the law. Jesus, not to be overdone in generosity, proclaims: "Today salvation has come to this house."

Zacchaeus is transformed by his encounter with Jesus, when he turns concretely from his sin and meets salvation incarnate in the person and promise of Jesus. It is precisely in the midst of human sin and misery that Jesus the Good Shepherd comes seeking us out to redeem us and our suffering. Sometimes we can find ourselves "up a tree," even in our relationship with God. Remember Zacchaeus. Jesus brought him down safely, and restored him to the community. This is why the Lord still comes into our lives: to bring salvation to our own house.

• **When have you experienced the mercy that Jesus shows Zacchaeus? What keeps you from seeing as God sees and what helps you see people's sins as doors to repentance?**

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

Living the Word, Dennis D. Sylva and James A. Wallace, World Library Publications, 2009, page 204.

AMERICA MAGAZINE: October 24, 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
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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

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OCTOBER 30, 2016

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

MASS INTENTIONS

October 31, Monday: Weekday

Readings: Phil 2:1-4; Lk 14:12-14

6:45 AM Msgr. Thomas Madden (Estate)
8:00 AM Dennis Blackie, Anniversary (Friend)
12:00 PM Betty McCabe, Birth. (Jim and Terry Riley)

Vigil of All Saints

5:30 PM For People of God

November 1, Tuesday: **ALL SAINTS**

Readings: Rv 7:2-4,9-14; 1 Jn 3:1-3; Mt 5:1-12

8:00 AM Verna Bell (Dave and Maureen Hanecamp)
12:00 PM John Moloney/Joan Nedimyer, Bir.(Family)
5:30 PM Don Godish, Anniv. (Mary Lysinger Family)

November 2, Wednesday: **ALL SOULS**

Readings: Wis 3:1-9; Rom 5:5-11; Jn 6:37-40

6:45 AM All Souls
8:00 AM All Souls - Crypt Chapel
12:00 PM All Souls
5:00 PM All Souls - Crypt Chapel

November 3, Thursday: Saint Martin de Porres, Rel.

Readings: Phil 3:3-8; Lk 15:1-10

6:45 AM Bishop J. Carroll McCormick, Ann. (Cath)
8:00 AM David Conrad, Birth (Wife and Children)
12:00 PM Thomas Bender (Wife and Family)

November 4, Friday: Saint Charles Borromeo, Bishop

Readings: Phil 3:17--4:1; Lk 16:1-8

6:45 AM Nozzie, Jennie, Sandy Calabrese (Family)
8:00 AM Jack Bauer (Patrick Duffy Family)
12:00 PM Tom Byrne (Helen Watters)

November 5, Saturday: Weekday

Readings: Phil 4: 10-19; Lk 16:9-15

8:00 AM Richard Yahner (Wife & Family) - Crypt
12:00 PM Deacon John Rys (Tom and Patricia Forr)
Vigil: Thirty-Scnd Sunday In Ordinary Time
Readings: 2 Mc 7:1-2,9-14; 2 Thes 2:16--3:5; Lk 20: 27-38
5:00 PM M. Virginia Jones (Christian Mothers)

Mass In The Crypt Chapel

On Wednesday (November 2) for the 8:00 AM and 5:30 PM Masses; and on Saturday (November 5) for 8:00 AM Mass, all are invited to the Crypt Chapel, accessible from the Cathedral Square (steps) or the alley entrance (street level). The souls of the just are in God's hands. We remember and we celebrate in this special space during November.

Liturgical Reflection ...

**HOLY
DAY**

This Tuesday, November 1, is a Holy Day of Obligation. Catholics are expected to participate at Mass on this Solemnity of All Saints. The Church keeps festival with all the men, women and children who have entered the kingdom of God who are seated as the saints in glory around the crucified and risen Christ. It is our humble prayer that some day this will also be our feast day. As for the present, the mercy of God calls us forth to be compassionate, understanding, and forgiving to others. Through the intercession of the saints, may our hearts be filled with mercy.

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

The Names of Our Dead

Throughout November the names of all those who have died and were buried from the Cathedral Parish this past liturgical year will appear in the front of the Cathedral. The month of November is the traditional time we Catholics remember our dead with special prayer. Throughout this month take time to pray for our deceased brothers and sisters. Visit the cemetery and pray for those who have gone before us. May all the faithful departed know a place of light, peace and happiness.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

No Classes are scheduled for this weekend due to our celebration of Cathedral Family Night, October 29. Thank you to all who work to make it such a special evening. **F.I.R.E. (High School Religious Education) Family Intergenerational Religious Education** for Students in Grades 9 -11 with parent or guardian, meet in the Seton Suite from 6:15PM until 8:30PM on **November 6** and **20**.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION TODAY!

1:30-2:30 PM Fall Session 9th Grade Session I
3:00-4:00 PM Fall Session 10th Grade Session II
These sessions are for **all of our High School freshman and sophomores** whether attending Altoona Area High School, Bishop Guilfoyle, private school or being home-schooled.

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 to register for the **November 2** session.

First Friday Communion Calls This Week

Our clergy visit the sick and home-bound of the parish each month. To arrange a visit for yourself or a loved one, call the Parish Office: 944-4603.

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.

Congratulations

Marriage: Lindsey Miller and Josh Gallagher of Nashville, Tennessee, celebrated their marriage surrounded with family and friends here in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament on Saturday, October 8. May they be blessed with many years of love and happiness.

Baptism:

On Sunday, October 23, at the Noon Mass Sawyer Franklin McCulloch, son of Paul and Brittney McCulloch, was baptized here in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament with permission of his pastor of Holy Rosary Parish, Altoona. Sawyer will grow in his Christian identity as family and friends model the faith.

Daylight Savings Time Ends - Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour on Saturday night (November 5) or you will be early for Mass next Sunday!

SAVE THE DATE!! Sunday, July 2, 2017
FAITH DAY 2017 at DelGrosso Park in Tipton, PA.

Liturgical Reflection ...

**JUBILEE
YEAR OF
MERCY**

Zaccheus is a chief tax collector and a wealthy man. He needs to see this Jesus so he boosts his short body up into the sycamore tree. Zacchaeus is seeking divine mercy. Mercy Incarnate invites himself into the tax collector's house. This man will never be the same after this meeting. He shares half his possessions with the poor. If there has been extortion, there is a four times repayment. The tax collector is on fire with mercy. God's mercy has forgiven his sins; so he now reaches out in mercy to others. Like this tax collector, may we seek out the Lord and receive his mercy. And like the tax collector, may we share that mercy with others.

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OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, October 23, 2016 - \$7,337.50

Update on Capital Project

The roof continues to be replaced. Completion is expected in several weeks. The Building Committee will be looking at the windows throughout the building. Rather than stained-glass in all windows, discussion needs to take place on the practicality of natural light coming into the space. So there would be a balance of stained-glass and clear glass throughout the structure. The stained-glass comes from the chapel of the second convent that was located across from the Cathedral.

Some Interesting Statistics

We are asked to prepare a General Statistics Report for the Diocese each fall. Here are a few facts we noted while comparing this year to last year. We have had eight more Baptisms of infants and seven more individuals were received into Full Communion with the Catholic Church. We added nine more families (bringing our total to 984). We have twenty-one more children but we had six less First Communicants and seven less in the Confirmation class. We had one less Marriage and three more deaths. Our membership total is 1988.

Cathedral Christian Mothers

The Cathedral Parish Christian Mothers will conduct their annual drive to help the poor and needy of our parish and community during the holidays - Thanksgiving and Christmas - on the weekend of **November 12** and **13**.

Christian Mothers Planning Meeting

Wednesday, November 9 - **6:00 PM** in Seton Suite.

Official Close of the Jubilee Year of Mercy

Bishop Bartchak will celebrate Mass here at the Cathedral on **Saturday, November 19th** at the 5:00 PM Mass to formally bring to a close the *Jubilee Year of Mercy*. Check your calendars and plan ahead to attend this special Liturgy.