

JULY 20, 2014

Scripture Reflection

The parable of the weeds among the wheat is found only in Matthew, and it is a parable about the Final Judgment. In Jesus' parable of the wheat and the weeds, there is a clear distinction made between the wheat, which produces the stuff of life, bread, and the weed. Weeds look a lot like wheat as it begins to grow and it is not until much later in its development that it can be distinguished from wheat.

Sometimes people ask whether this parable indicates predestination, whether some people are wheat from the beginning, but this pushes too hard against the metaphoric quality of parables. Plants are plants and people are people. The point of Jesus' parable is not that some people are made evil from the beginning, in their roots, but that the church is a body mixed of sinners and saints. It is impossible to know who represents the wheat and who represents the weeds, and human attempts to judge someone a "weed" in advance of God's judgment are bound to fail because of the partial nature of our knowledge and decisions.

It seems that in this parable the church is being cautioned to patience and tolerance with those whom we are just aching to condemn. All of us are in fact a body mixed, created good but with inclinations to our own peculiar sins. None of us are wheat without God's help, and the improper rush to create a pure church, excluding those who do not sin the same way we do, or not think like us, is bound to fail. We must patiently allow God to work in us as we prepare for the end of the age.

• What steps can you take to treat your fellow Christians with more patience and forbearance?

Parishioners at Camp Zacchaeus

Every year the Diocese sponsors a youth camp for our children in both the elementary (Camp Zacchaeus) and secondary grades (Camp Timothy). Ashton Truby attended Camp Timothy. Victoria Johnson, Josh Welteroth, Joseph Ball Christopher Ball, Caleb Crawford, Samantha Long, and Helena Shivas will be attending Camp Zacchaeus. It is a week full of activities, fun, good food, Mass with the Bishop, and time to reflect on Jesus our Lord and the faith.

Cathedral Parish Calendar of Events

Plans were initially set for the second half of this year. (1) In July and August, **Summer Raffle Tickets** will be sold replacing the Annual Festival. There will be twenty money prizes ranging from twenty-five dollars to a Grand Prize of \$2,000. Each ticket will cost \$5.00 and each family is asked to sell or purchase four tickets. (2) A **Family Night** is scheduled in September for children, families and adults. (3) A **Casino Night** is scheduled in October. (4) The **Married Couples Social** is scheduled in November. (5) And the **Calendar of Prizes 2015** is scheduled for November and December. Plans for the first half of 2015 will be announced next week.

ANNUAL RAFFLE

The Annual Cathedral Raffle takes the place of the summer festival raffle. This annual raffle will replace the quarterly raffles. There will be twenty cash prizes with over \$5,000.00 in prizes: (1) \$2,000.00; (2) \$1,000.00 (3) \$500.00; (4) \$250.00; (5) \$200.00; (6) \$150.00; (7) \$100.00; (8) \$100.00; (9) \$100.00; (10) \$100.00; (11) \$100.00; (12) \$100.00; (13) \$100.00; (14) \$50.00; (15) \$50.00; (16) \$50.00; (17) \$50.00; (18) \$50.00; (19) \$25.00; (20) \$25.00. **One ticket will cost \$5.00. Each family is asked to purchase four tickets.** This is in place of the festival donations of soda, paper products, baked goods, and hours of service. Chances will be mailed later this month. The drawing will be held Saturday, September 20th at **Family Night** in the Cathedral Hall. Four tickets will be sent to parishioners this week. Tickets are also available in the Parish Office.

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.

ANOIDING 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 11:15 AM - 12:30 PM
Pre-Kindergarten thru 8.
Sunday evening 6:15 PM - 8:30 PM
Grades 9 thru 12.

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 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
Reverend Father John J. Slovickovski, In Residence
Deacon John E. Rys
Deacon James F. Leap, Senior Deacon
Deacon John J. Szwarc, Senior Deacon

CHRISTIAN INITIATION TEAM - 944-4603

CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME - 944-4603

ALTOONA CENTRAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL
Web: www.altoonacentralcatholic.com
Elementary - 381-7011 Middle - 944-1250

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 - 943-7423

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
Kevin J. Luke - 944-2044

Web: www.altoonacathedral.org
Fax: 814-942-4337
E-MAIL: altcathedral@dioceseaj.org

Serving the People of God in the City of Altoona Since 1851

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 20, 2014

Readings: Wis 12:13, 16-19; Rom 8:26-27; Mt 13:24-43

Mass Intentions

July 21, Monday: Saint Lawrence of Brindisi, priest, doc.

Readings: Mi 6:1-4, 6-8; Mt 12:38-42

6:45 AM Harold Knob Sr. (Patty & Bear McCloskey)

8:00 AM Jerry & Mike Smith (Pat Rabine & Family)

12:00 PM Ann M. Civiello (Mary & Gary Peterson)

July 22, Tuesday: Saint Mary Magdalene

Readings: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

6:45 AM Fred Martynuska, Birthday (Sons)

8:00 AM Health of Tim Behe (Uncle Bernard/Aunt Suzi)

12:00 PM Carmelite Sisters for the Aged & Infirm

July 23, Wednesday: Saint Bridget of Sweden, religious

Readings: Jer 1:1, 4-10; Mt 13:1-9

6:45 AM Etta Pastore (Anna 'Fran' Proserpi)

8:00 AM Jim Roland (Cathedral RCIA Group)

12:00 PM Mary Christina Doyle Lauber, Birth (Sister)

July 24, Thursday: Saint Sharbel Makhluof, priest

Readings: Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13; Mt 13:10-17

6:45 AM Joseph Yerty (M/M Francis Danbeck)

8:00 AM Leroy & Irmina Helfrich (Estate)

12:00 PM Amandus Gallagher (Diana Fanale)

July 25, Friday: Saint James, Apostle

Readings: 2 Cor 4:7-15; Mt 20:20-28

6:45 AM Homer Poulos (Carol Portscht)

8:00 AM Bernie McLucas (Peggy and Family)

12:00 PM Eileen Lytle (Thomas Morning)

July 26, Saturday: Saints Joachim and Anne

Readings: Jer 7:1-11; Mt 13:24-30

8:00 AM Genevieve Hallinan (Family)

12:00 PM Francis A. Goss, Birth. (Wife & Family)

Vigil: Seventeenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Readings: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 12:44-52

5:00 PM Ann M. Civiello (Joanne Straw & Jane Kiser)

LITURGICAL MINISTERS PLEASE NOTE:

A new liturgical ministry schedule for August and September is being prepared. All are asked to submit a written list of dates unavailable and any changes of addresses, phone numbers, Mass preferences, etc. as soon as possible. Anyone interested in becoming a liturgical minister, please call the Parish Office.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL A SUCCESS!

Thank you to all the following people who helped make this year's Vacation Bible School a wonderful experience: Adults; Lyndsie Deficcio, Ashton Truby, Paula Truby, Vicki Buda, Michelle Carroll, Chris Laraia, Jean Koury, Kathy Hughes, Butch Winkler, Evan Hughes, Tony Eckenrode and Anna Rose Eckenrode; and our Teen Helpers; Greta Levine, Elliott Long, Sami Long, Yumi Cruz and Alivia Grove. Thank you also to the parents for your support in this program and to the twenty-nine youth who attended.

ALTOONA CENTRAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Our move from the middle school is complete! Our thanks goes out to the great team of parents, students and staff for their help. We could not have done it without you

ACCS is in need of a full-time custodian: 40 hour week (starting time will vary in winter for snow removal); \$10.50 per hour; Blue Cross/Blue Shield/Vision and Dental (employee pays 15%); one week Vacation (first year). Must pass a background check and drug test. Interested persons should send letter of interest/resume with references to: Principals Altoona Central Catholic School, 424 Wopsononock Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601 or email:sbuck06@atlanticbb.net.

BISHOP GUILFOYLE NOTE:

Bishop Guilfoyle introduces its *Professors in Residence Program* for the 2014-15 school year. The following college-level courses are offered to BG students: Business 101, History 195 and Statistics 101. The courses will be taught by Saint Francis University professors. To learn more about Bishop Guilfoyle's *Professors in Residence Program*, contact Amanda Walker, Director of Marketing and Enrollment at 946-3636.

Cathedral Charismatic Prayer Group

The **FIRE RALLY** continues this week with our third talk Monday at 7:00 PM in the Cathedral. Our topic this week will be Repentance given by Fr. Jonathan St. Andre, TOR. Praise and Worship will precede his presentation. Please join us! All are welcome!!

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, July 13 - \$10,340.50

Baptism Congratulations

Accel Francis Villegas Alvarez, son of Alvin and Cecille Alvarez, was baptized and welcomed into our Cathedral Parish Family at 10:00 AM Mass on Sunday, July 13. Congratulations also to brother, Ace Victor, godparents, grandparents, aunts and uncles. May the graces of the Sacrament of Baptism strengthen both our children and the adults who care for them.

Expectant Parents Please Note: Our next Session of Baptismal Prep is scheduled for Tuesday, August 5 at 7:00 PM in the Seton Suite

CATHEDRAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

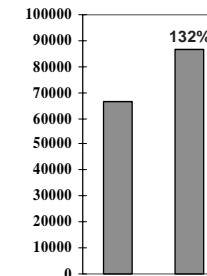
Newly registered Cathedral families and those established families with children ready to enter our Religious Education Program in the fall for the first time are asked to contact Chris Laraia at 312-7317 as soon as possible to pre-register for 2014-1015.

Mass for Vocations - Masses are offered at the Our Lady of the Alleghenies Outdoor Shrine in Loretto at 7:00 PM on Sundays through Labor Day Weekend for the increase of Diocesan priests within our Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

To be held the first Wednesday of every month starting August 6, 2014 at Catholic Charities, Altoona Office, 1300 12th Avenue, from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM. To register call: 944-9388, Ext. 205.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL 2014



An update on this year's Appeal shows **339** gifts have been received. This year the Cathedral Parish goal was set at **\$66,350.00**. We have raised **\$87,770.00** to date. We are **\$21,420.00** over goal and have received **\$5,541.00** back from the Diocese. Our next check will be over **\$2,000.00** as we continue to make our pledge payments to help us with our **special project** of replacing the sidewalk along the side and front of the Cathedral. If you have yet to participate in this year's Appeal, it is not too late. Place any envelope marked ACA in the regular Sunday collection. Thank you.

MATTHEW KELLY EVENT: 'LIVING YOUR FAITH WITH PURPOSE AND PASSION' SPONSORED BY THE ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN DIOCESE.

AN EVENT YOU WILL WANT TO EXPERIENCE.

Internationally known speaker and author, Matthew Kelly, will be coming to Saint Francis University on **Saturday, September 27**, to speak on "*Living your Faith with Passion and Purpose*". This one day event has helped tens of thousands of Catholics around the world discover a passion and purpose for their lives to become a better version of themselves. Cathedral Parishioners call the Parish Office to register at a reduced rate: \$20.00 per adult and \$10.00 per student.

Please remember our sick in your prayers.

Constitution

50th

on the

Anniversary

Sacred Liturgy

Liturgical Reflection ...

Sacred Scripture is of the greatest importance in the celebration of the liturgy. For it is from Scripture that the readings are proclaimed and explained in the homily, and the psalms are sung. The prayers, collects, and liturgical songs are scriptural in their inspiration. It is from Scripture that the actions and signs at Mass derive their meaning. The Church promotes the warm and living love for Scripture which is the ancient practice in both the eastern and western tradition. At Mass believers are nourished at the table of God's Word.

Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, Number 24.

2014, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 South Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648.