

# JANUARY 28, 2018

## *Scripture Reflection*

In today's Gospel, we hear of Jesus' first miracle as told in Mark's Gospel--the story of Jesus driving an unclean spirit out of a man. Ancients believed that certain diseases were caused by unclean spirits inhabiting the person. Mark shapes the meaning of this story by giving it a rather lengthy introduction and conclusion. "What is this? A new teaching with authority?"

Someone who speaks with authority combines clarity of vision and compelling experience. This is what Mark describes in this week's Gospel passage. Jesus did not have scribal training; he did not have the full knowledge of the traditions and interpretations that surrounded the Scriptures. Scribes had carefully compiled these for centuries, and they took a lifetime to learn.

Jesus saw a problem. He also knew the Scriptures, and he applied them at home, in his workshop and among his family, friends, neighbors and employers. He recognized that although scribal traditions could open one to grace, they could also be a source of vanity, manipulation and snobbery. Jesus' teaching, based on the same Scriptures, electrified his hearers. As Jesus spoke with authority, many came to believe that he was the fulfillment of these prophecies.

Jesus' authority extended to power over illness. In this is guidance for our own discipleship. We all know leaders who speak of values but fail to embody them, who promise clear guidance but use their power instead to serve their ego. It is easy to wonder what to believe and to let a sense of anxious confusion affect all aspects of life. Those disciples who can live in Christ with authenticity will, through word and example, deliver others from this anxiety and all the trouble it brings. Then we, like Christ, can teach and heal with God's own authority.

- **What authority does Jesus have in your life? Can you be specific, and name those areas where Christ's authority is strong?**

AT HOME with the WORD 2018, Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, pg. 41. AMERICA MAGAZINE, "He Speaks With Authority" Michael R. Simone, S.J., January 16, 2018.

## **Welcome!**

On Sunday, January 14, the Parish celebrated the Rite of Welcoming and Acceptance. The following Catechumens (to receive Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist) were formally welcomed at the 10:00 AM Mass: Jennifer Battista-Ortiz, Ian Carter, and Robyn Durgin. The following Candidates (already baptized, seeking full membership in the Catholic Church) were also formally accepted: Stephanie Barr, Elliott Long, Gabrielle MacAllister, and Stevie Sommerville. The following children will be baptized at the Easter Vigil: Ricky, Tommy, and Jesse Battista-Ortiz, and Piper and Kendall Durgin.

We warmly welcome these individuals who are on journey to the Easter Sacraments. Cathedral Parish offers hospitality and warmth to these individuals who have come forth seeking membership in the Catholic Church.

## **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK**

January 28 to February 3

### **All Schools Mass**

Bishop Mark will celebrate Mass with Holy Trinity Catholic School here at the Cathedral on Friday, February 2, at 9:30 AM. This Liturgy is a special observance for Catholic Schools Week.

## **HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL EVENTS**

### **Holy Trinity Open House**

Holy Trinity will host an Open House for prospective parents and students on Tuesday, January 30th from 9:00 AM until Noon at all three campus locations. This is a great opportunity for families to tour our campuses and meet teachers, parents and students. Prospective families can visit classrooms while in session.

## **Official Move**

The parish offices have officially moved to the Cathedral Parish Center. Finally telephones and computers have been installed. All parish business will now take place in the new Center. Business hours are from 9:00AM to 4:00PM, Monday through Friday. Former offices in the rectory will return to become parlors where priests and individuals may meet for counseling and meetings. Thank you to all in the Parish who made this a reality through the capital campaign. We are grateful for your generosity and your continued commitment to your pledges.

# **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.

Charismatic Prayer - Monday 7:00 PM.

Eucharistic Adoration - First Wednesday - 12:30 PM - 8:00 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](http://WWW.ALTOONACATHEDRAL.ORG)**

**FAX: 814-942-4337**

**E-MAIL: [ALTCATHEDRAL@DIOCESEAJ.ORG](mailto: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

**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**

**MAIL MINISTRY TO ELDERLY, HOMEBOUND,  
SERIOUSLY SICK, AND GRIEVING - 944-4603**

**HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

Web: [www.holytrinitycatholic.school](http://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](http://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

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY**

Leslie C. Thayer, MM, CAGO

Music Ministry Office - 944-2044

E-mail: [lthayer@dioceseaj.org](mailto:lthayer@dioceseaj.org)

***SERVING THE PEOPLE OF GOD IN THE CITY OF ALTOONA SINCE 1851***

## FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 28, 2018

Readings: Dt 18:15-20; 1 Cor 7:32-35; Mk 1:21-28

### MASS INTENTIONS

January 29, Monday: Weekday

Readings: 2 Sm 15:13-14,30,16:5-13; Mk 5:1-20

6:45 AM Rev. Ildephonse J. Denny, Ann. (Cathedral Parish)

8:00 AM Vocations for Religious Life (Rita & Jerry Kibler)

12:00 PM Bea Mannion (Jim & Steph Kilcoyne)

January 30, Tuesday: Weekday

Readings: 2 Sm 18:9-10,14,24-25,30-19:3; Mk 5:21-43

6:45 AM Loretta Batkiewicz (Cathedral Parish)

8:00 AM Bernard Frederick (Robert Frederick Family)

12:00 PM Walter Mazur, Anniv. (Family)

January 31, Wednesday: Saint John Bosco, Priest

Readings: 2 Sm 24:2,9-17; Mk 6:1-6

6:45 AM Poor Souls

8:00 AM Rose Ciavarella (Alex & Barb Franco)

12:00 PM Fred Hunter, Jr. (Cooney Family)

February 1, Thursday: Weekday

Readings: 1 Kgs 2:1-4,10-12; Mk 6:7-13

6:45 AM Joseph A. Keirn (Mom & Dad)

8:00 AM Joe Milliron (Dr. & Mrs. Peter Starr)

12:00 PM Robert Smithmyer, Birthday (Wife)

February 2, Friday: The Presentation of the Lord

Readings: Mal 3:1-4; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40

6:45 AM Poor Souls

8:00 AM Anna Mercer (Paul & Family)

9:30 AM Holy Trinity Catholic School

12:00 PM Tom Byrne (Patty & Joe Pufka)

February 3, Saturday: Saint Blaise, Bishop & Martyr

Readings: 1 Kgs 3:4-13; Mk 6:30-34

8:00 AM Herbert Kutruff (Tony & Sue Conrad)

12:00 PM Anthony Kibelbek (John & Alice Joyce)

Vigil: Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Jb 7:1-4,6-7; 1 Cor 9:16-19,22-23; Mk 1:29-39

5:00 PM Patrick & Nancy Jones, 51st Anniv. (Family)

**Please remember our sick in your prayers.**

**F.I.R.E. Classes for January, 2018**

**January 28, 2018.** Class will be held in the Church Hall at 6:15 PM.

**Confirmation Preparation Reminder**

An 11th Grade Retreat will be held on Saturday, February 3, 2018, from 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM at Saint Francis University.

### Mass of Thanksgiving

Today at the 10:00AM Mass, Father Athanasius joins his home parish to celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving on the occasion of his ordination to the priesthood. Richard Fornwalt was ordained a Franciscan friar on June 6, 2017 by Bishop Olmsted of the Phoenix Diocese. Father comes home to the parish of his early sacraments (Baptism, Penance, Eucharist, Confirmation). This is where he grew in his faith through the love of his parents, sister, grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins. He grew and matured in his faith among us here at the Cathedral Parish. We are proud of our native son. And we praise God for the gift of his vocation.

### Lenten Fish Luncheons

On Ash Wednesday, February 14, and all the Fridays of Lent (February 16, 23, March 2, 9, 16, and 23), Cathedral will offer delicious Lenten lunches. A fish sandwich with choice of macaroni and cheese or French fries for \$7.00. You may eat your lunch in the Cathedral Hall or take out. (There is no lunch on Good Friday, March 30.)

### Congratulations!

O'rion Steven MacAllister was baptized at the 5:00PM Mass last Saturday. Congratulations to Mom, Gabby; godparents, Christopher and Michaela; grandparents along with family and friends. O'rion will grow in his Christian identity through the example and love at home and here at our parish community.

### Rest in Peace

Paul Leiden, Jr. died and was buried from the Cathedral this past week. May Paul be at peace in the mercy of God. May his family be comforted in the faith. May the new life of resurrection belong to all!

### Cathedral Charismatic Prayer Group

The Cathedral Prayer Group will meet on Monday, February 12th, at 7:00 PM, here at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. Join us for Praise and Worship, Spirit-filled teachings and witnessing, prayer ministry, and fellowship! All are welcome!

### Calendar of Prizes 2018

There are still six (6) Calendars of Prizes outstanding that need to be returned. The numbers are: **204, 313, 528, 608, 612, and 810**. If you have these numbers, please return the stub to the raffle ticket at your earliest convenience. Thank you.

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, January 21, 2018 - \$8,193.00

**Contribution Reports** for Income Tax purposes may be obtained by calling the Parish Office: 944-4603.

### Eucharistic Adoration

Cathedral Parish will hold our monthly **Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesday, February 7**, from 12:30PM until 8:00PM. Please schedule prayer time before the Blessed Sacrament in exposition in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel of the Cathedral. A sign-up sheet is available on the cross aisle table in the Cathedral. The Church directs that at least two people always be present before the Blessed Sacrament in exposition. Make quality time this month to pray before the Blessed Sacrament. Among your prayer intentions remember to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

### Looking Ahead

Cathedral Parish will host our annual Vacation Bible School June 18 through 22. The theme is "24/7 – Jesus Makes a Way Every Day". Adult and high school help is needed. More information to follow. Call Chris Laraia at 312-7317, or Cathedral Parish Office at 944-4603.

### Mardi Gras Celebration

The Parish will gather for our annual Mardi Gras Party on Saturday, February 10, at 6:00PM in the Cathedral Hall. All parishioners are invited to join in the celebration prior to our forty day Lenten journey. The event promises great food for all and there will be games for the children. Clear your calendars and plan to join the parish family for a great evening of socializing, eating, and games.

### Married Couples Weekend Get-Away

The **Mission of Marriage** will be held at St. Joseph Convent, 1872 Munster Rd., Portage, PA from Friday, February 9 at 5:30 PM to Sunday, February 11 at Noon. The presenter for the weekend will be Dr. John R. Wood, the author of, "Ordinary Lives, Extraordinary Mission: 5 Steps to Winning the War Within," one of Dynamic Catholic's bestselling books. Since the release of the book in December 2012, Dr. Wood has addressed people of all ages at more than 100 parishes and schools across the country. A suggested donation of \$75.00 Weekend / \$35.00 Day is being requested to cover meals and costs. Please register by Wednesday, February 7 by contacting Sister Jacinta [sisterjacinta@gmail.com](mailto:sisterjacinta@gmail.com) or 814-886-4459. Organized by the Sister Servants of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

### First Communion Sessions Schedule

First Communion sessions will be held Wednesday, February 21, and Wednesday, March 7. All sessions are held in the Seton Suite from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM. All students **MUST** be accompanied by an adult. First Communion will be held at the 10:00 AM Mass on Sunday, April 15 for the Cathedral students. Our Lady of Fatima students will be scheduled later. Practice for Cathedral students will be held on Thursday, April 12 at 4:00 PM in the Church and Confessions will be heard following practice. Group and individual pictures will be taken after the 10:00 AM First Communion Mass.

### Prayer Shawls

Anyone interested in knitting or crocheting Prayer Shawls, please contact Lorraine Beck at 942-7774.

### Liturgical Reflection ...

## ORDER OF CHRISTIAN FUNERALS

The Catholic believer is usually assisted with three distinct prayers at the time of death. The Church initially gathers with the family at the **Vigil for the Deceased**. This prayer is grounded in Holy Scripture. The central prayer at the time of death is the **Funeral Mass**. At the funeral liturgy the deceased is given over to the mercy of God. We gather celebrating the Sacred Mysteries of the Lord's death and resurrection, asking that our beloved dead rest in the peace of Christ. Finally the family gathers graveside for the prayers of **Committal**. We pray that our dead rest in their graves until the Lord calls them forth at his coming again in glory. **Order of Christian Funerals**, 1998-1989.

2018, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 South Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648.