

**APRIL 15, 2018**

*Scripture Reflection*

Throughout the centuries, Jesus' teaching on forgiveness has been difficult for Christians to live out. To forgive as God forgives might appear intuitively correct, but the sheer difficulty of doing this causes many to stumble. Hints throughout the New Testament suggest that the first Christians also found this teaching difficult. In this week's second reading, John, who believes that Christians must love others as Jesus loved them, has no trouble dismissing those who do not forgive as utter frauds. Luke writes his Gospel to confirm that the teachings his audience had received were in fact the true teachings of Jesus. Only Luke gives us parables like that of the two debtors (7:41-43) or the prodigal son (15:11-32). Only in Luke's Gospel does Jesus forgive those who crucified him. In Luke's mind, Jesus' command to forgive included no conditions or exceptions.

Forgiveness is a major theme in Luke's account of Jesus' passion. As Luke reflects on Jesus' death, he discerns a call for human acceptance of divine mercy. In this Sunday's first reading, for example, Peter teaches that the suffering and death of Jesus, as foretold in the prophets, opened up a path for the salvation of all. "Repent, therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be wiped away". Luke's resurrection account, which appears in today's Gospel reading, takes up the theme from a different perspective. Jesus sends the apostles out so that "repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem."

In Luke's mind, asking for forgiveness is essential to the Christian life; calling others to do the same is crucial to evangelization. The light of the resurrection frees us from death's shadow, the rich pool of hate, control, isolation, fear and pride. Our message is credible only when our words and example reveal that we are truly free to give to others the gift that God first gave us.

- **When you struggle to forgive, what holds you back?**

AMERICA MAGAZINE, "Free to Forgive" Michael R. Simone, S.J., April 2, 2018.

**2018 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE**

The Cathedral Parish has been given the target goal of **\$55,357.00** for 2018. Your generosity is being requested. This year's appeal focuses on 14 ministries of *Caring for the Poor and Strengthening Families, Nurturing Our Youth, and Forming Clergy and Laity*.

This is an annual opportunity to assist the Diocese in the ministries offered throughout our eight-county Local Church. All monies that exceed the target goal come back to the Parish. These monies will go to the payment of the paving of the upper parking lot which took place last fall.

To date, we have received 123 gifts at \$34,360. Thank you for your generous response to this request. You may place your envelope (marked **2018 Catholic Ministries Drive**) in the weekly collection or drop off at the parish office in the Parish Center. Your past generosity has always seen the Cathedral exceed our goal with monies returning to the Parish.

**Bulletin Inserts**

1. Holy Trinity celebrating National Teacher Appreciation Week.
2. Registration Form for Cathedral's Vacation Bible School, June 18-22.

**Art Classes for Kids**

Cory Geishauser will offer a five week **ART CLASS** for 1st and 2nd Graders from 6:00P.M. to 7:00 P.M. and for 3rd and 4th Graders from 7:15P.M. to 8:15P.M. in the Cathedral Seton Suite on these Mondays: April 23, 30, May 7, 14, and 21. Students are encouraged to bring their own art supplies. Paper will be provided. Sign-up is by Friday, April 20th. The cost for the Art Class is \$25.00 for the five weeks; checks are made payable to *Cory Geishauser*. For more information, please contact [corbengeis@gmail.com](mailto:corbengeis@gmail.com).

**HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS**

**Now Accepting Applications for 2018-2019**

Applications are available at the school office and on the school website (See front of bulletin).

**Elementary Shadow Day**

Our 4th graders will spend the day at the Middle School this month. HTCS Altoona will visit on Monday, April 23. HTCS Hollidaysburg will visit on Tuesday, April 24.

# 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.

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**

**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

**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**

## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 15, 2018

Readings: Act 3:13-15, 17-19; 1 Jn 2:1-5; Lk 24:35-48

### MASS INTENTIONS

April 16, Monday: Easter Weekday

Readings: Acts 6:8-15; Jn 6:22-29

6:45 AM Bill Crouse (Marlene and Paul Sheets)

8:00 AM Joe Wiedemer (John and Shelly Wolf)

12:00 PM Myra Mangiacarne (Colleen Sheehan)

April 17, Tuesday: Easter Weekday

Readings: Acts 7:51-8:1; Jn 6:30-35

6:45 AM Tim Bartek (Dan and Agnes Mazur)

8:00 AM J.J.Riley (McNelis All-Stars)

12:00 PM Tim Nagle (John Conti)

7:00 PM Confirmation

April 18, Wednesday: Easter Weekday

Readings: Acts 8:1-8; Jn 6:35-40

6:45 AM Marian Clemens, Birth. (Daughter, Carole)

8:00 AM Jerry Smith (Betty Schimminger)

12:00 PM Jim Davidson (Bob and Joan Lozinak)

April 19, Thursday: Easter Weekday

Readings: Acts 8:26-40; Jn 6:44-51

6:45 AM Lavelle Family (Phyllis Sheetz)

8:00 AM David Conrad (Kate Burr and Family)

12:00 PM Thomas and Mary Irwin (Irwin Children)

April 20, Friday: Easter Weekday

Readings: Acts 9:1-20; Jn 6:52-59

6:45 AM Monsignor Paul Panza (Ron Muldoon)

8:00 AM Derek Behe (M/M Richard Mangiacarne)

12:00 PM Tom Byrne, Anniversary (Wife and Children)

April 21, Saturday: Saint Anselm, Bishop & Doctor

Readings: Acts 9:31-42; Jn 6:60-69

8:00 AM Bishop John J. McCort, Ann. (Cathedral Parish)

12:00 PM Janet Tomlinson (Bill and Jen Crawford)

Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Easter

Readings: Act 4:8-12; 1 Jn 3:1-2; Jn 10:11-18

5:00 PM Frances Pagliaro (Kathy Grove)

### Cathedral Charismatic Prayer Group

The Charismatic Prayer Group will meet for Mass on Monday, April 23, at 7:00 PM. Father Bob Hilz, TOR will be the celebrant.

The Charismatic Prayer Group will meet on Monday, May 14, at 7:00 PM, here at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament for a Healing Mass. Father Bill Kiel, will be the celebrant. *"I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly"* (John 10:10). Music led by Cathedral Prayer Group Music Ministry. All are welcome!

### ANOINTING OF SICK AT EASTER MASS

On **Sunday, April 22**, at the **10:00 AM Mass**, Cathedral Parish will celebrate the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Catholics of any age (having reached the age of reason - seven years old) who are suffering from serious illness are encouraged to participate in this healing Sacrament of the Church. Only those whose health is seriously impaired by sickness or old age are proper subjects for this Sacrament. Physical illness, addictions such as alcohol and drug abuse, along with psychological illness are reasons to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. If you have questions as to whether you are a proper candidate for this Sacrament, please call the Parish Office (944-4603) and ask to speak to one of the priests. Health care professionals will be in attendance for this healing rite. Call the Parish Office to register to receive this important Sacrament and to arrange transportation if needed. Also, Prayer Shawls will be blessed and distributed at this annual Easter Liturgy.

### Confirmation News

The following parishes celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation on April 10: Saint Patrick, Newry; Saint Thomas More, Roaring Spring; Saint Mary, Hollidaysburg; Saint Michael, Hollidaysburg; Saint Stephen, McConnellsburg; Immaculate Conception, Dudley; Saint Catherine, Duncansville; and, Most Holy Trinity, Huntingdon.

The following parishes celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation on April 12: Prince of Peace, Northern Cambria; Saint Aloysius, Cresson; Saint Nicholas, Nicktown; Saint Bernard, Hastings; Saint Francis Xavier, Cresson; and Saint Benedict, Carrolltown.

The following parishes will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on April 17: Saint Rose of Lima, Altoona; Saint John the Evangelist, Altoona; Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Altoona; Saint Mary, Altoona; Saint Joseph, Bellwood; Our Lady of Lourdes, Altoona; and Sacred Heart, Altoona.

### F.I.R.E. Classes Scheduled

F.I.R.E. Classes will be held on Sunday, April 22, in the Church Hall from 6:15 to 8:30 PM. This will be the final FIRE class. All service hours are due at this class.

### F.I.R.E. Students Feed the Hungry

On Sunday, April 8, from 1:30 PM until 3:00 PM, Cathedral F.I.R.E. students served over 125 dinners to people in our community. Thank you to all who helped serve, especially Butch Winkler and his kitchen crew, parents, and our students.

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, April 8, 2018 - \$8,238.00

The **Easter Collection** and the collection for Sunday, April 1, will be noted at the end of the Easter Season, May 20, 2018.

### Infant Baptismal Preparation

There will be a baptismal preparation session for infant baptism on **Thursday, April 19th**, at **7:00 P.M.** in the Seton Suite. Parents need not wait until your baby is born to attend the class. All parents are expected to attend this informative meeting regarding your baby's baptism.

### Liturgical Ministers Please Note:

We will be preparing a new Liturgical Minister schedule which will start on Sunday, May 5. Unavailable dates and contact changes are needed by April 24. Call 932-6340, text of email Gabrielle cronin. If you prefer, call 944-4603, or drop-off your availability schedule at the Parish Office.

### Easter Celebrations during the Fifty Days

Easter Season begins today, Easter Sunday, and concludes fifty days from now on Pentecost Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. These are significant celebrations during that time here at the Cathedral: Communal Anointing, Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 10:00 A.M. Mass; Social follows on Portico Confirmation, Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 P.M. Mass Neophyte Mass, Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 P.M. Mass; Bishop celebrates; Dinner in the Hall May Crowning, Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 P.M.; Ice Cream Social follows in Hall Ascension Thursday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, Holy Day of Obligation Holy Trinity Catholic School, Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 A.M., Mass with May Crowning; Bishop celebrates Evening Prayer (Exposition/Benediction), Sundays, April 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20.

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

**Easter Evening Prayer** - Every Sunday in the Easter Season the Cathedral Parish gathers at 6:30 PM for Evening Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in exposition. This liturgy concludes with Benediction. All are invited to participate in this prayer tonight. Bring the family, bring a friend.

### Grief and Loss Support Group

This is a ten-week support group for adults, facilitated by Home Nursing Agency's Center for Counseling. It is an opportunity to meet other people who are grieving and share experiences of useful coping strategies. Join us in a safe, supportive and confidential setting to learn about resources and explore the grief process. Wednesdays from May 2 until July 11. Group meets from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM at the Home Nursing Agency, Room B, 500 E. Chestnut Avenue, Altoona. For more information and to register, contact Ryan Navarro at 814-940-7425.

### Additional Easter Flower Memorials

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Roberts; Catherine Burr; Gerald and Rita Kibler; Mr. & Mrs. Justin McCaulley; John and Barb Byers, Gene and Patty Datrix, Ed and Ruth Weiland; Mr. and Mrs. Jason Strohm; Charles Hall; Connie Tippery; Wanda Thompson-Watkins.

### THINK BASKET BINGO - SUNDAY, MAY 6, 2018

It's that time of year again for our **4th Annual Basket Bingo**. We're asking for your support. All kinds of items are needed. They can be dropped off at the Parish Office during the week between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM, or may be picked up by calling: Roberta Burns, 1-301-741-6467, or Lorraine Beck, 942-7774. Please plan to attend. **Basket Bingo tickets are being sold at the Cathedral Square door: \$25.00 per person with value pack for an additional \$30. If you purchase your ticket by April 15th, you will get a bonus card.**

## ORDER OF CHRISTIAN FUNERALS

### Liturgical Reflection ...

In today's gospel, the Risen One appears with the greeting, "Peace be with you!" The Easter Jesus eats with the disciples in the upper room. At the Funeral Mass, the community turns for spiritual nourishment to the table of the Eucharist. When a brother or sister dies, we gather to be nourished with the Bread of Life. In partaking of the Body of Christ, all are given a foretaste of eternal life in the risen Lord. The priest with the community offers to the Father the sacrifice of the New Covenant and shares in the one bread and the one cup.

**Order of Christian Funerals**, 1998/1989, Number 143.

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