

MAY 20, 2018

Scripture Reflection

Pentecost celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit. The Hebrew word for Spirit is *ruah*, meaning "breath or wind." Speak the word *ruah* aloud and you will hear its meaning! In the opening verse of the Bible the writer uses this image of wind to capture God's creating power. "When God created the heavens and the earth . . . a mighty wind was sweeping over the waters" (Genesis 1:1).

The Gospel reading is part of a larger section of John's Gospel that scholars refer to as Jesus' farewell speech. Typically, within this literary genre, the speaker would announce his departure (John 13:33; 14:2-3; 16:16), evoking a response in the listeners (John 14:1, 27; 16:6-7, 22). In other Old Testament farewells the speaker would recount the deeds of God, but here Jesus recalls what he has previously told the disciples. But Jesus does not leave the disciples orphaned. Where the Synoptics (Matthew, Luke, Mark) prefer the term "Holy Spirit," John uses "Advocate," which in the Greek also means "helper." This "helper" is the Spirit of Truth, who proceeds from the Father and will guide the disciples in Jesus' absence. The disciples are, in essence, to partner with this Advocate, since both the Spirit of Truth and the disciples testify to Jesus (15:26-27).

The Holy Spirit, the Advocate, helps us to become men and women for others. How often must we experience an event like a mighty wind that knocks the breath out of us before we let in the breath of the Spirit? How often does it take a fire to burn away our self-centeredness to become other-centered? Story after story of conversion tell that someone else's witness has led them to say, "You look so happy and peaceful. I want some of that." It is by the help of the Holy Spirit, the Advocate, that peace is found in the midst of pain, happiness in the midst of sadness, and forgiveness in the midst of sin.

- **How has God stirred the Spirit in you to continue Jesus' mission?**

AT HOME with the WORD 2018, Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, pg. 91. *Living the Word*, Laurie Brink and Paul Colloton, World Library Publications, 2017, pgs. 117 and 118.

2018 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE

Category	Amount
Target Goal	\$55,357.00
Amount Received	\$47,065.00 (85%)

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 173 gifts at \$47,065. 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.

Holy Trinity Catholic School - Yard Sale

We will be holding our second annual Holy Trinity Yard Sale, Saturday, June 2nd. We have already started collecting those unwanted treasures. Items can be dropped off anytime between now and the end of May at the Maria Parish Center. If you are unable to drop items off there, we will also accept items at any of the three HTCS campus locations. Please keep in mind we will not be selling clothing. Our Yard Sale funds will be used for student-centered activities throughout the new school year. Students in grades 5 thru 8 can work towards service hours. For information, call 814-942-7835.

Baptismal Preparation

There will be a Baptismal Prep Session for parents preparing to have their child baptized here at the Cathedral Parish on Tuesday, June 19, 2018. You need not wait until the baby is born. Please call the Parish Office (944-4603) to register for this important meeting. The session begins at 7:00 P.M. in the Seton Suite and last about one hour.

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: ALTICATHEDRAL@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

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

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY

Leslie C. Thayer, MM, CAGO

Music Ministry Office - 944-2044

E-mail: lthayer@dioceseaj.org

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

PENTECOST SUNDAY

MAY 20, 2018

Readings: Acts 2:1-11; 1 Cor 12:3-7,12-13; Jn 20:19-23

MASS INTENTIONS

May 21, Monday: St. Christopher Magallanes, Priest, Comp.

Readings: Jas 3:13-18; Mk 9:14-29

6:45 AM NO MASS

8:00 AM John Hallinan (Family)

12:00 PM Bernadette Weakland (Jim Reilly)

May 22, Tuesday: Saint Rita of Cascia, Religious

Readings: Jas 4:1-10; Mk 9:30-37

6:45 AM Joe Tomlinson (Marie and Bill Crawford)

8:00 AM NO MASS

12:00 PM Michael Zurilla, Anniversary (Family)

May 23, Wednesday: Weekday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Jas 4:13-17; Mk 9:38-40

6:45 AM NO MASS

8:00 AM Our Mothers (McNelis All-Stars)

12:00 PM Jim Davidson (Shilling Family)

May 24, Thursday: Weekday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Jas 5:1-6; Mk 9:41-50

6:45 AM Mary Beth Banks (M/M Francis Dambeck)

8:00 AM NO MASS

12:00 PM Bernadine Garcia (Stanley Krish Family)

6:00 PM Holy Trinity Catholic School Graduation Mass

May 25, Friday: St. Bede the Venerable, St. Gregory VII, Pope

Readings: Jas 5:9-12; Mk 10:1-12

6:45 AM NO MASS

8:00 AM John Capouellez, Birthday (Family)

12:00 PM Patty Geis (Dolly Foor)

May 26, Saturday: Saint Philip Neri, Priest

Readings: Jas 5:13-20; Mk 10:13-16

8:00 AM Marian Clemens (Daughter, Carole)

10:00 AM Ordination of Permanent Deacons

12:00 PM NO MASS

Vigil: The Most Holy Trinity Sunday

Readings: Dt. 4:32-34, 39-40; Rom 8:14-17; Mt 28:16-20

5:00 PM Frances Pagliaro, Birthday (Family)

Note Saturday Mass Schedule

Because there are ordinations of permanent deacons this Saturday at 10:00 AM, there will be NO Noon Mass on Saturday, May 26. Confessions will be heard at 12:30 PM.

NOTE Daily Mass Schedule

Because of Father Dennis's absence, there will be two Masses scheduled daily. There will always be the Noon Mass each day; the 6:45 AM and 8:00 AM will alternate each week. Thank you for your understanding.

Father Dennis Kurdziel - Update

One week after his car accident, Father Dennis returned to Altoona. Within twelve hours of his return this past Monday, he was life-flighted back to Presbyterian Hospital in Pittsburgh. The doctors continue to deal with heart issues. And the good news is that Father is getting stronger form his very serious accident. If you would like to send Father prayers, good wishes, and good health, please send your card to the rectory and we will forward them to him:

Father Dennis Kurdziel
Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament
One Cathedral Square
Altoona, Pennsylvania 16601-3315

Parish Feast Day - June 3

The Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament will celebrate our Parish Feast Day on Sunday, June 3, the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. It is the day our parish celebrates our annual Eucharistic Day. From 1:00 PM until 4:45 PM the Blessed Sacrament will be in exposition on the main altar. Particular prayer is scheduled on the hour at 1:00 PM, 2:00 PM, 3:00 PM, and 4:00 PM. Parishioners are encouraged to come to the Cathedral and pray at one of these hours. Bishop Bartchak will preside at the 10:00 AM Mass with a social following on the Cathedral portico. Bishop McCort named his new Cathedral under the title of the Blessed Sacrament. The annual solemnity of Corpus Christi has become the occasion for the Cathedral parish family to gather for special prayer on this day.

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. Bring the family, bring a friend.

Cathedral Charismatic Prayer Group

The Cathedral Prayer Group will meet on Monday, June 4th, at 7:00 PM, here at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. All are welcome! Join us for Praise and Worship, Spirit-filled teachings and witnessing, prayer ministry, and fellowship!

Eucharistic Adoration

On Wednesday, **June 6**, Cathedral Parish will observe our monthly Eucharistic Adoration from **12:30 P.M. until 8:00 P.M.** in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Make this day a special time of prayer. Come and pray before the Blessed Sacrament in exposition.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, May 13, 2018 - \$9,177.00

The Easter Collection will be noted at the end of the Easter Season on next Sunday May 27, 2018.

Vacation Bible School

The theme this Summer will be Shipwrecked

Venture onto an uncharted island where kids survive and thrive and are rescued by Jesus!

June 18-22, 2018, 8:30-11:30 AM. Ages 4-10, \$5.00

Adult and teen help is needed. For more information call: Chris Laraia @312-7317. **Final day for registration is Wednesday, May 30th.**

Ladies Retreat: August 10-11-12, 2018

A Ladies Retreat will be held at Mount Saint Ann Retreat Center, 1120 N. Center Street, Ebensburg, PA 15931. Spiritual Director will be The Rev. Leon Hont, OSB, Pastor of St. John the Baptist Church and Immaculate Conception Church, Summerhill, PA. The Retreat is open to commuters. To reserve a place please call the Sisters of Saint Ann, 814-472-9354 or email: sistersann35@gmail.com.

Men's Retreat: June 22-23, 2018

St. John the Baptist Retreat Center in New Baltimore, PA will be offering a retreat for men. The retreat director will be Father Larry Richards. The retreat will begin at 6:00 PM on Friday, June 22 and will conclude the afternoon of Saturday, June 23. The cost for the retreat is \$80 for a single room, \$75 for a double occupancy, and \$45 for those who wish to attend the meals and conferences but do not desire overnight accommodations. The retreat includes three talks, Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, and opportunities for Confession as well as quiet time and fraternal camaraderie. To register, or for questions, please call the retreat center at 814-733-2210 or email Fr. Aron Maghsoudi at amaghsoudi@dioceseaj.org.

Confirmation Congratulations!

On Saturday, May 5, Jack Duffy received the Sacrament of Confirmation. Our congratulations to Jack. May the graces of the Sacrament strengthen him as he lives his life in the Church.

Baptism Congratulations!

On Sunday, May 13, Avana Brooke Forney was baptized and welcomed into our Cathedral Parish Family. Congratulations to parents, Brian and Adora and big brother, Roman. May the graces of the Sacrament of Baptism strengthen those who care for Avana.

Pie Sale - Thank You

Cathedral Christian Mothers wish to thank everyone who supported our pie sale. The pies will be available for pick-up inside the front doors of the Cathedral on Saturday, May 26, after 3:00 PM. Extra pies and cinnamon rolls will be available after Masses next weekend.

Cathedral Christian Mothers

Today, you are invited to the Cathedral Christian Mothers "Afternoon Tea with Our Mother, Mary" at 2:00 PM in the Seton Suite. Join us as we celebrate our Blessed Mother in prayer and conversation. All are welcome to join us.

Graduations

Our Catholic schools celebrate graduation here at the Cathedral. This past Thursday and Friday, Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School celebrated Mass and Graduation with the Class of 2018. This Thursday, Holy Trinity Catholic School will have Mass and Graduation at 6:00 PM with the graduating eighth graders.

Mailing this Week

A second letter will be mailed to parishioners who have yet to participate in the annual Catholic Ministries Drive. Anyone wishing to volunteer to help with this mailing can meet in the Seton Suite on Wednesday, May 23, at 8:30 AM. Thank you.

Liturgical Reflection ...



This is Pentecost Sunday and the fifty days of the Easter Feast conclude. Today we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit who reveals faith in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is the Holy Spirit that enlightens the minds of believers to go forth and share the good news of the dying and rising of the Lord. Christians are people of life. We boldly proclaim our shared faith in Christ's saving death and resurrection. With 1.3 billion Catholics we proclaim with certitude and trust our faith in God's abiding love, the Lord's salvific death and resurrection, and the Spirit's guiding presence in our lives.

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