

JULY 29, 2018

Scripture Reflection

Few episodes from Jesus' ministry appear in all four Gospels. Among these common traditions, the feeding of the 5,000 is the only miracle that all four Evangelists recount. This narrative probably resonated strongly with early Christians for two reasons: it spoke to their experience of the Eucharist, and it resembled their own care for the poor.

The ministries of benevolence characterized the early church. Among the non-Christians of the Roman Empire, Christians were known for feeding the hungry. Even an emperor hostile to the church noted that Christians "support not only their own poor, but ours as well." Following Christ's example and teaching, Christians always found enough to satisfy the hungry who turned to them for food.

Jesus, seated on a mountain beside the Sea of Galilee, is offered five barley loaves and two fish. Jesus uses these to feed the vast crowd. Many of the details of the story remind us of the Eucharist: the miracle occurs just before the second *Passover*. John uses the Greek word *eucharisteo* for "giving thanks" (from which comes the word "Eucharist"). A further interesting point is that the Greek word *klasma* for "fragment" was used in the early Church to refer to the Communion host.

In John's mind, this narrative is proof that the messianic era had already begun. John wrote later than the other Evangelists, near the end of the first century. Mark wrote with great expectation that Christ would come again soon. Matthew and Luke recognized that the return was delayed, but still believed it to be near. John, while never giving up hope of Christ's future arrival, turned his attention to the belief that the expected age had in fact already started. Its benefits were available to any who believed in Christ and followed his example of loving service.

- **Participating and attending Mass challenges us to go forth from our worship to care for the needs of others. Can you name how you will reach out to the poor this week?**

AT HOME with the WORD 2018, Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, pg. 113. AMERICAMAGAZINE, "Even when you feel inadequate, Christ is enough." Michael R. Simone, S.J., July 13, 2018.

2018 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE

Category	Amount
Target	\$55,357.00
Actual Received	\$60,922.00 (110%)

A second letter was sent to those parishioners who have yet to participate in this year's Catholic Ministries Drive. The Parish has received **\$60,922.00** to meet our target of \$55,357.00. Thus far 222 gifts have been received.

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.

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. Thank you for your generous response to this annual request.

Catholic Education

Have you considered a Catholic school education for your child? Not only do our schools boast of excellent academics, competitive sports, with a variety of extracurricular activities, but most importantly, Jesus Christ is at the center of our Catholic school life. Do you want your child formed in the faith in a comfortable atmosphere with children of the same age? Do you want individualized attention given to your child both academically and spiritually? Our most recent alumni say it was the sense of family they liked most about school. They were at home in their Catholic school. For more information, in grades Pre-K through 8, call Holy Trinity Catholic School at 942-7835; in grades 9 through 12, call Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School at 944-4014.

Food for the Poor

Did you remember to bring non-perishable food items or paper products? Your donations help meet the needs of the poor in our community.

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

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

Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, J.C.D., 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

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 29, 2018

Readings: 2 Kgs 4:42-44; Eph 4:1-6; Jn 6:1-15

MASS INTENTIONS

July 30, Monday: Saint Peter Chrysologus, Bp. & Dr.

Readings: Jer 13:1-11; Mt 13:31-35

6:45 AM Michael Zurilla, Birthday (Family)
8:00 AM Deceased of ACHS Class of 1956 (Dan Behe)
12:00 PM Susan Conahye (Cathedral Parish)

July 31, Tuesday: Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

Readings: Jer 14:17-22; Mt 13:36-43

6:45 AM Mike Chisko (Family)
8:00 AM Julianne Seidel (Patty and Joe Gaeto)
12:00 PM Lori Blackie, Birthday (Friend)

August 1, Wednesday: St. Alphonsus Liguori, Bp. & Dr.

Readings: Jer 15:10, 16-21; Mt 13:44-46

6:45 AM M/M Ludwig Schoch (Fran & Chrissy Dambeck)
8:00 AM Irwin and Kay Seidel Lint (Family)
12:00 PM Ed and Kitty Matulnes (Ron & Jean Sheehan)

August 2, Thursday: St. Eusebius, Bp. & St. Eymard, Pr.

Readings: Jer 18:1-6; Mt 13:47-53

6:45 AM Nancy Moffa Jenaway (Estate)
8:00 AM David Conrad (Joan and Bob Conrad)
12:00 PM Vincent Stoehr (Jim and Steph Kilcoyne)

August 3, First Friday: Weekday

Readings: Jer 26:1-9; Mt 13:54-58

6:45 AM Lavelle Family (Phyllis Sheetz)
8:00 AM Dave Hanley, Sr., Birthday (Family)
12:00 PM John Bettwy (Joan and Bob Lozinak)

August 4, Saturday: Saint John Vianney, Priest

Readings: Jer 26:11-16, 24; Mt 14:1-12

8:00 AM Mary McCall, Birthday (Family)
12:00 PM Danyll Rougeux, Birth. (Mom, Dad, Lance, Martha)
Vigil: Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Readings: Ex 16:2-4, 12-15; Eph 4:17, 20-24; Jn 6:24-35
5:00 PM Bernie Garcia (Marge Dennis)

Plan Ahead

Our annual FAMILY NIGHT in the Cathedral Hall is planned for Saturday, October 27th at 6:00 PM. This has become a great opportunity for children and adults to gather and have an enjoyable evening. There will be games for the children, chances on prizes for the adults, and delicious food for all. Place the date in your calendars now!

Is God Calling You to a Life of Service as Deacon?

All those interested in learning about the Formation, Ministry and Life of the Permanent Diaconate, are invited to join Deacon Michael Russo, Director of the Permanent Diaconate, at a special get together on Saturday, August 18th at the Carmelite Community of the Word Incarnation Center, 394 Bem Road, Gallitzin from 9:30 AM until 4:00 PM. Lunch and refreshments will be provided. Married men are expected to attend with their wives. Space is limited. Reservations are required. To make reservations, contact: Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, The Office of the Permanent Diaconate, (814) 693-9870 or email: jnoonan@dioceseaj.org, www.dioceseaj/diaconate/

Eucharistic Adoration This Week

Eucharistic adoration will be this Wednesday, **August 1** from 12:30 PM until 8:00 PM. Please note this in your schedules and plan to spend some quality time in prayer before the Sacrament in exposition. Please remember to pray for vocations to the priesthood during your time before the Blessed Sacrament. A sign-up sheet is on the table at the cross aisle.

Baptismal Preparation

There will be a Baptismal Prep Session for parents preparing to have their child baptized here at the Cathedral Parish. The date for this important catechesis is Tuesday, August 7th at 7:00 PM in the Seton Suite. You need not wait until the baby is born. Please call the Parish Office (944-4603) to register for this important meeting. The sessions last about one hour.

Interested in the Catholic Church?

Do you know someone who is interested in learning more about the Catholic Church? Perhaps you have considered becoming Catholic. Maybe you pray regularly with your spouse at Sunday Mass. Maybe you have felt a leaning toward the Catholic faith. Perhaps you have some questions that need to be discussed. You are invited to join others this September to enter into *inquiry* into the Catholic faith. No commitments are made at the beginning of this inquiry. Know that you are most welcomed to join us this fall when we meet every Sunday following the 10:00 AM Mass in the Seton Suite, located beneath the rectory on Fourteenth Street.

Pray For Our Sick

Remember our sisters and brothers who are weakened by illness in your prayers. Prayers are sometimes the best prescribed medicine.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, July 22, 2018 - \$10,763.00

Ministry to Elderly, Homebound, Sick and Grieving

There will be an important meeting on Thursday August 2 at 6:30 PM (note date change) in the Parish Center Conference Room, entrance by way of Thirteenth Avenue. The Committee has not met for a while and there needs to be discussion on the upcoming ARISE process in connection to our ministry. Thank you for supporting our efforts with your donations of stamps and cards. We need your help with names and addresses of those who would also be uplifted by a note in the mail. Please call the parish office and give their name and mailing address or email them to Jeanne Thompson at dthom71328@aol.com.

Religious Education News

Passing on the Catholic faith and being formed in the culture and traditions of our faith are very important. Parents assume the responsibility as primary educators of their child in their spiritual formation. The Cathedral Parish takes the ministry of religious education very seriously. This year's Registration Weekend will be held in the Seton Suite before and after all Masses on August 25 and 26. All new students and all returning students are asked to register before the first class on September 9. A copy of each student's Baptismal Certificate is needed for all newly registered students. Thank you.

Cathedral Charismatic Prayer Group

The Cathedral Prayer Group will NOT meet during the month of July here at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. The next Prayer Group meeting will be on Monday, August 6 at 7:00 PM.

Annual Cathedral Raffle

In early August parishioners will be asked to help with the annual late summer/early fall raffle. Each ticket costs \$5.00. There are twenty cash prizes: first prize - \$1,000.00; second prize - \$500.00; third and fourth prizes - \$250.00; fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth prizes - \$100.00; eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth, fifteenth, and sixteenth prizes - \$50.00; seventeenth, eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth prizes - \$25.00. The drawing will be after the 10:00 AM Mass on Sunday, October 7th on the Cathedral Portico. You need not be present to win.

ARISE

The Cathedral Parish along with all throughout the Diocese will be invited to participate in the ARISE program which will begin this fall. ARISE is designed to spiritually renew us while providing opportunities for us to develop a closer relationship with Christ, grow in community, and reach out in service to others. Reflection and discussion will be centered in Scripture. Our personal relationship with Jesus Christ is the foundation for us to witness to Scripture and celebrate the sacraments of the church. This fall small groups will meet for six weeks reflecting and growing in the theme, *Encountering Christ Today*. More information will be forthcoming. Plan to join a small group from the Cathedral Parish. This is a way to move into the future as a Church of hope.

New Readers

Those men and women who have volunteered to become readers at Sunday Mass are invited to a practice meeting to review tis liturgical ministry on Monday, July 30 at 6:00 PM. We are grateful for volunteering your time and talent in service of the Cathedral Parish.

Liturgical Reflection ...

PROPER BURIAL OF THE BODY AND CREMATED REMAINS

Burial in a cemetery adequately corresponds to the piety and respect owed to the bodies of the faithful departed who through Baptism have become temples of the Holy Spirit. The Church considers the burial of the dead as one of the corporal works of mercy. Burial of the faithful departed in cemeteries encourages family members and the whole Christian community to pray for and remember the dead. Through the practice of burying the dead in cemeteries, in churches or their environs, Christian tradition has upheld the relationship between the living and the dead.

Instruction Ad resurgendum cum Christo, Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, 2016, Number 3.

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