

AUGUST 5, 2018

Scripture Reflection

On each of the Sundays of August, the church reflects on a portion of the sixth chapter of John's Gospel, a reflection often called the "Bread of Life" discourse. John crafted this lengthy address, unique to his Gospel, as a response to a specific event. The crowd that Jesus had miraculously fed followed him through the night back to Capernaum with the intention of making him king.

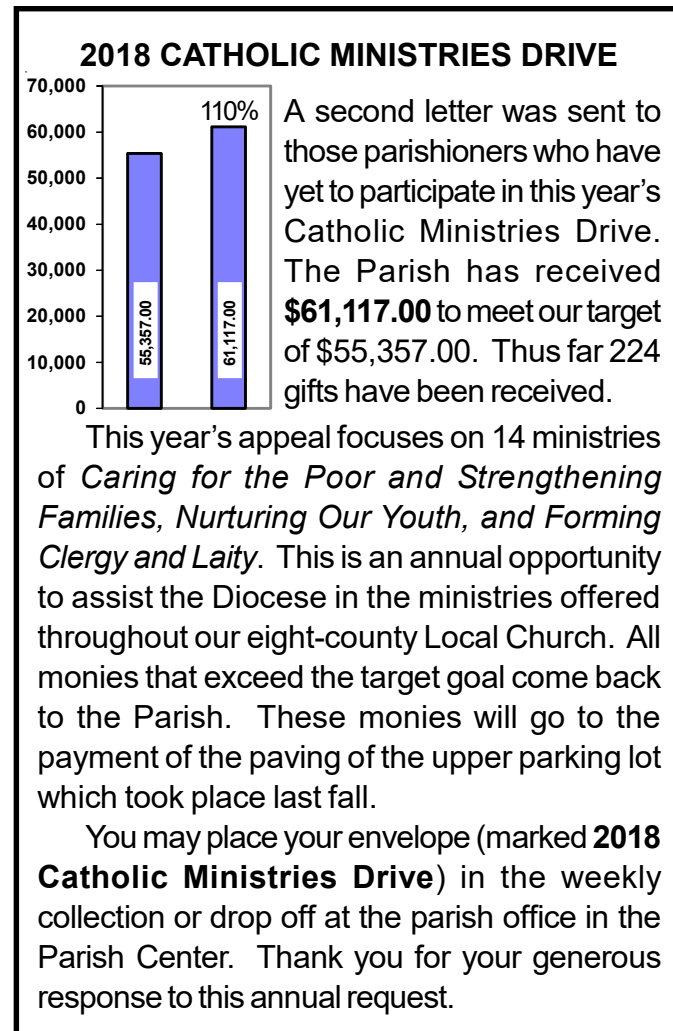
The Gospel continues John's narrative, setting the stage for a discourse in which Jesus explains the symbolism and significance of the miracle of the feeding of the five thousand. He challenges his hearers about their motivations. They followed him because they focused on the material gift he had given them--namely, bread to eat. Instead, Jesus focuses on the deeper spiritual meaning they should seek, "the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you."

When they point to the gift of manna their ancestors ate in the desert, Jesus reminds them that it was not Moses who gave them manna, but the Father who "gives you the true bread from heaven." When Jesus says "I am the bread of life," he shows how the manna in the desert foreshadowed his own coming.

As "the bread of life," Jesus is the one who gives bread that is eternal life. The crowd pursued him for his miraculous food, but this was not his true gift. Although his miracles alleviated the suffering of many, their purpose was to reveal the love he shared with the Father and offered to his disciples. Divine love was the "bread" that kept him going and the food that would sustain his disciples for eternal life. Jesus wanted disciples who pursued him for this gift, not for the symbols that only pointed to its reality. Real hunger can only be satisfied through a personal relationship with Jesus.

- **Can you name the "bread" the Lord has given you that witnesses to God's great love for you?**

AT HOME with the WORD 2018, Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, pg. 115. AMERICA MAGAZINE, "How has the "bread of life" strengthened you?" Michael R. Simone, S.J., July 13, 2018.



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. 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.

Parish Finance Council Meeting

There will be a meeting of the Cathedral Parish Finance Council on Thursday, August 16 at 4:00 PM in the Parish Center Conference Room.

Rest in Peace

Kristina Giblock and Monica Gimo died and were buried from the Cathedral Parish. May they be at peace in the mercy of God. May their families be comforted in the faith. May the new life of resurrection belong to all!

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

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 5, 2018

Readings: Ex 16:2-4, 12-15; Eph 4:17,20-24; Jn 6:24-35

MASS INTENTIONS

August 6, Monday: The Transfiguration of the Lord

Readings: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Mk 9:2-10

6:45 AM Janet Tomlinson (Cathedral Parish)

8:00 AM Paul Cassarly, Birthday (Family)

12:00 PM Robert Smithmyer, Anniversary (Wife)

August 7, Tuesday: St. Sixtus II, Pope; St. Cajetan, Priest

Readings: Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22; Mt 14:22-36

6:45 AM Dec'd of Michael & Ella Gibbons Fam. (Irwin Fam)

8:00 AM NO MASS

12:00 PM Amandus Gallagher (Mark & Diane Moschella)

August 8, Wednesday: Saint Dominic, Priest

Readings: Jer 31:1-7; Mt 15:21-28

6:45 AM NO MASS

8:00 AM Verna Bell (Dave & Maureen Hanekamp)

12:00 PM Marlene Sheets, 80th Birth. (Veronica Shaffer)

August 9, Thursday: St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross

Readings: Jer 31:31-34; Mt 16:13-23

6:45 AM Prayer and Thanksgiving (Grove Family)

8:00 AM NO MASS

12:00 PM Nancy Kennedy (John Kennedy)

August 10, Friday: Saint Lawrence, Deacon & Martyr.

Readings: 2 Cor 9:6-10; Jn 12:24-26

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

8:00 AM BeBe Milliron (Theresa Heasley)

12:00 PM Pat Vierkorn (Pinky Newberry)

August 11, Saturday: Saint Clare, Virgin

Readings: Hb 1:12--2:4; Mt 17:14-20

8:00 AM Rose Marie Simanski, Birth. (Husband, Robert)

12:00 PM Billy C. Geis, Birthday (Geis Family)

Vigil: Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: 1 Kgs 19:4-8; Eph 4:30--5:2; Jn 6:41-51

5:00 PM Jack Leiden, Birthday (Family)

Note Weekly Mass Schedule

There will be one priest available for Mass this Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday; there will be two Masses on these days. Please note that there will be 6:45 AM Mass on Tuesday and Thursday, and there will be 8:00 AM Mass on Wednesday. There will be Noon Mass on each of these days.

Please remember our sick in your prayers.

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.

Baptismal Preparation this Tuesday

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.

Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic adoration will be the first Wednesday of next month, **September 5** 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.

The Friar's Shop

For many decades the Friar's Shop has served the local community providing religious gifts for every occasion. Through the years we have often sold both baptism and wedding gifts for the same recipient. It has been a true pleasure to build relationships with so many faithful, regular customers. However, times have changed a great deal. It is hard for any brick and mortar store to compete with the online giants. It is with great sadness that we must announce that the Friar's Shop is closing. Our last day of operation will be Saturday, September 15. We will be offering storewide discounts to help reduce inventory. We thank you all for your friendship and support through the years! May God Bless you all.

Cathedral Charismatic Prayer Group

The Cathedral Prayer Group meeting will be on Monday, August 6, at 7:00 PM. "Come to His gates with Thanksgiving; enter His courts with praise (Ps 100:4)." Bob Sutton will be our speaker. All are welcome!

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, July 29, 2018 - \$9,229.00

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.

Annual September Tours

Again this year the Cathedral will offer one-hour tours on four separate dates in September of the magnificent Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. September 7 will mark the 87th anniversary of the formal dedication of the Cathedral. The tour dates are: Tuesday, September 11 at 7:00 P.M.; Sunday, September 16 at 1:00 P.M.; Tuesday, September 25 at 7:00 P.M.; and Sunday, September 30 at 1:00 P.M. Light refreshments will be provided.

Fatima Devotions

The Franciscan Friars, T.O.R., from Loretto, invite you to participate with them in celebrating the Fatima Devotions on Monday, August 13, at 6:30 PM in the Sunken Gardens. (In case of inclement weather, the devotions will be at the Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel). The singing will be led by the choir from Prince of Peace in Northern Cambria and the sermon will be delivered by Deacon Richard Golden. We would like to extend a cordial welcome to all.

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.

Baptism Congratulations!

On Sunday, July 29, Isabella Ba Nguyen was baptized and welcomed into our Cathedral Parish Family. Congratulations to parents, Nhut Ba and Tam Le and brother Jason Le. May the graces of the Sacrament of Baptism strengthen Isabella and the adults who care for her.

PROPER BURIAL OF THE BODY AND CREMATED REMAINS

Liturgical Reflection ...

Cremation is sometimes chosen as an option because of sanitary, economic or social considerations. The Church raises no doctrinal objection to this practice, since cremation of the deceased's body does not affect his or her soul, nor does it prevent God, in his omnipotence, from raising up the deceased body to new life. Cremation does not negate neither the Christian doctrine of the soul's immortality nor that of the resurrection of the body. The Church continues to prefer the practice of burying the body of the deceased, because this shows a greater esteem towards the deceased. Instruction, Ad resurgendum cum Christo, Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, 2016, Number 4.

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