

SEPTEMBER 2, 2018

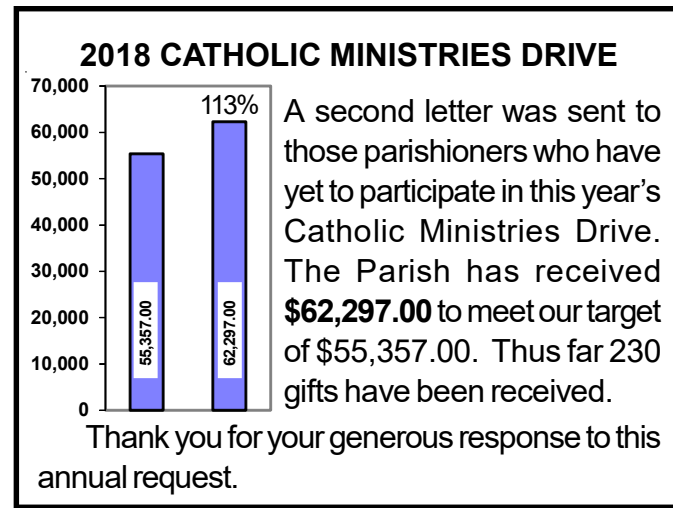
Scripture Reflection

Today's readings challenge us to think about the motivations for our actions, reminding us that God calls us to lead lives of integrity. The Book of Deuteronomy calls the Israelites to keep the commandments of the Lord so that all the nations will consider Israel's laws as a true gift: "This great nation is truly a wise and intelligent people." Wisdom in the ancient world embraced practical insight and knowledge about how to act and how to make the right decisions in difficult situations. The commandments are God's ultimate gift of wisdom, inspiring his people to decide according to God's will.

Today we begin reading from the Letter of James for the next four weeks. This letter is a true wisdom writing in that it offers practical advice on how to lead one's life. The source of this wisdom is divine: "All good giving and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights." Living a good life, James insists, must also include caring for "widows and orphans"---truly the most vulnerable members of society.

In the Gospel, Jesus takes on the scribes and Pharisees, who have forgotten that the laws and commandments are a source of wisdom and insight for leading their lives. They have come to see them legalistically as ends in themselves rather than as guidance for actions. The Pharisees were concentrating on externals, but unless one's interior dispositions are guided by God's Word and laws, one's actions will tend toward selfish and evil interests. Wise decisions and good actions come from hearts that have steeped themselves in God's wisdom.

- **How might the understanding of God's laws as a gift of God's wisdom help us in leading a good Christian life?**



Labor Day - Human Rights and Equality

Monday, September 3, is a Day of Prayer in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown. On Labor Day the Local Church will observe the intention for **Human Rights and Equality**. Please pray the following for all who seek just and rewarding work.

*God of compassion and love
guardian of the oppressed and lover of the poor,
watch over and protect our brothers and sisters
who seek work that meets the needs of their families.
Provide labor that offers just wages and dignity of life
so that all may live comfortably and in peace.
On this Labor Day we ask your blessings
through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

ARISE

The **ARISE** program will begin this October. **ARISE** is designed to spiritually renew us while providing opportunities for us to develop a closer relationship with Jesus Christ, grow in community, and reach out in service to others. Reflection and discussion will be centered in Scripture. Our personal relationship with the Lord is the foundation for us to witness to Scripture and celebrate the Sacraments of the church. This October small groups will meet for six weeks reflecting and growing in the theme, *Encountering Christ Today*. Sign-up for the small groups will begin next week at the Cathedral Square door. Cathedral Parish has over twelve group leaders to lead us. Groups will meet at different times during the week and in different places.

The Friar's Nook Gift Shop - Garage Sale

Please join us for our second annual Garage Sale held at The Friar's Nook Gift Shop, 793 Monastery Road, Hollidaysburg, on Saturday, September 15 at 10:00 AM. The Garage Sale will include a variety of items including clearance items from the gift shop, and refreshments will also be available for purchase.

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 afternoon 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Grades 9 thru 12.

WEB: WWW.ALTOONACATHEDRAL.ORG

FAX: 814-942-4337

E-MAIL: ALTCATHEDRAL@DIOCESEAJ.ORG

EUCCHARIST:

Sunday:	Holyday:	Weekday:
5:00 PM (Vigil)	5:30 PM (Vigil)	6:45 AM
8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM
10:00 AM	12:00 Noon	12:00 Noon
12:00 Noon	5:30 PM	Saturday: 8:00 AM
5:00 PM		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

**TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
SEPTEMBER 2, 2018**

Readings: Dt 4:1-2,6-8; Jas 1:17-18,21-22,27; Mk 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

MASS INTENTIONS

September 3, Monday: St Gregory the Great, Pope & Doctor

Readings: 1 Cor 2:1-5; Lk 4:16-30

9:00 AM Kathleen Duffy, Birthday (Husband, Jack)

September 4, Tuesday: Weekday

Readings: 1 Cor 2:10-16; Lk 4:31-37

6:45 AM Julianne Seidel (Bernard, Susan, & Eric Behe)

8:00 AM Benita Jorkasky (Cathedral Parish)

12:00 PM Catherine Matulnes (Ron and Jean Sheehan)

September 5, Wednesday: Saint Teresa of Cacutta, Rel.

Readings: 1 Cor 3:1-9; Lk 4:38-44

6:45 AM Mary Kay Moran (Jim and Elaine Weaver)

8:00 AM Irwin & Kay Seidel Lint (Family)

12:00 PM Vincent Stoehr (Helen Watter Family)

September 6, Thursday: Weekday

Readings: 1 Cor 3:18-23; Lk 5:1-11

6:45 AM M/M George Moyer (Fran & Chrissy Dambeck)

8:00 AM Carrie Detwiler (Greg and Kathy Clemens)

12:00 PM Msgr. George B. Flynn, Anniversary (Family)

September 7, First Friday: Weekday

Readings: 1 Cor 4:1-5; Lk 5:33-39

6:45 AM Mike Chisko (Family)

8:00 AM Jerry Smith (Anne and Dick Williamson)

12:00 PM Christina Flanagan (Pete and Cathy Starr)

September 8, Saturday: Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Readings: Mi 5:1-4; Mt 1:1-16, 18-23

8:00 AM Audrey Krause (Phyllis Sheetz)

12:00 PM Dan & Marian Burns (Dave & Maureen Hanekamp)

Vigil: Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Is 35:4-7; Jas 2:1-5; Mk 7:31-37

5:00 PM Eva E. Ruggery, Anniversary (Children)

Did You Remember?

Did you remember to bring non-perishable food items and paper products for the needy of our community? Bins are located at the three doors of the Cathedral.

Parish Offices Closed Labor Day

Cathedral Parish Offices will be closed on Monday, September 3, to commemorate the Labor Day holiday.

Cathedral Charismatic Prayer Group

The Cathedral Prayer Group meeting will be on Monday, September 10, at 7:00 PM. "Come to his gates with thanksgiving; enter his courts with praise" (Ps 100:4). Father Jonathan St. André, TOR, will be our speaker. All are welcome!

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. The first gathering for *Inquiry* will be **Sunday, September 16th at 11:00 AM in the Seton Suite** (below the Rectory; entrance from Fourteenth Street).

Christian Initiation Team

The Christian Initiation Team will meet on Monday, September 10th at 5:30 PM for dinner.

Confirmation Preparation

Confirmation Preparation is a three year process that begins with our ninth grade students and continues through tenth and eleventh grades. This includes all our Catholic school, public school and home schooled students coming together as a parish Community. Meeting date is Sunday, September 9. Times for various grades are as follows:

Ninth Grade: All BGCHS, Religious Education and Home schooled students and a parent will meet at **11:00 AM in the Church Hall.**

Tenth Grade: All BGCHS, Religious Education and Home schooled students and a parent will meet at **1:00 PM in the Church Hall.**

Eleventh Grade: All BGCHS, Religious Education and Home Schooled students and a parent will meet at **6:00 PM in the Church Hall.**

Blue Mass at Cathedral

Next Saturday, September 8th at the 5:00 PM Mass, Bishop will preside at the Blue Mass remembering the tragic events that took place in our country on September 11, 2001. Local firefighters, police officers, and emergency medical technicians have been invited to take part in this special Mass. We remember the many lives that were lost, those who were injured, and the many who still continue to mourn the events of that painful September day. Here in our Diocese we especially remember the tragic loss of lives with the crash of Flight 93 in Shanksville, Somerset County.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, August 26, 2018 - \$7,997.00

Eucharistic Adoration This Week

Eucharistic adoration will be this Wednesday, **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. 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.

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. Please call the Parish Office (944-4603) to make reservations.

Annual Wedding Anniversary Liturgy

Bishop Mark and the Family Life Office cordially invite couples celebrating their 1st, 5th, 10th, 25th, 40th 50th, 55th and 60th+ Wedding Anniversary in 2018 (and their families) to attend the **Annual Wedding Anniversary Liturgy** to be held **Sunday, September 9th** here in the **Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament**. The Liturgy begins at 2:00 PM and light refreshments will follow in the Cathedral Hall..

Cemetery Plots

An out of town family is inquiring to sell five (5) cemetery plots here in Altoona at Calvary Cemetery. If interested please call the Parish Office for additional information.

Annual Missionary Cooperative

On the weekend of September 1st and 2nd Father Benjamin Franklin, OCD will speak at all Masses. Father Franklin is a Carmelite missionary from Tamilnadu, southern India. Father will speak to us of his religious community's missionary activities in northern India and the Sri Lanka missions. Among the many ministries are: providing ongoing formation and education of priests, seminarians, and faithful in remote and rural areas; educating children of new converts, who due to unjust religious discrimination are forced to return to Hinduism in order to seek education and employment; organizing self-help groups for rural women and their empowerment; sheltering the homeless and destitute aged with food, clothing, and livelihood. As is our custom, an envelope is attached to this week's bulletin and you are asked to place the envelope in the next week's collection.

Annual Cathedral Raffle

Parishioners are 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. If you did not receive your tickets in the mail, please stop by the Cathedral Square Door after all Masses. If, able, please sell additional tickets to family, friends and co-workers. You need not be present to win.

Please remember our sick in your prayers.

Liturgical Reflection ...

**ORDER OF
CHRISTIAN
FUNERALS**

The Christian faithful are unequivocally confronted by the mystery of life and death when faced with the presence of the body of one who has died. Moreover, the body which lies in death naturally recalls the personal story of faith, the loving family bonds, the friendships, and the words and acts of kindness of the deceased person. Indeed, the human body is inextricably associated with the human person, which acts and is experienced by others through the body. It is the body whose hands clothed the poor and embraced the sorrowing.

Order of Christian Funerals, Cremation, 1998, Introduction, Number 411.

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