

SEPTEMBER 16, 2018

Scripture Reflection

This Sunday's Gospel reading is a crucial text in the divine "rescue mission" Mark outlines in his Gospel. Up to now, Mark has focused on the "rescuer," describing Jesus' messianic characteristics. From this point on, Mark focuses instead on the characteristics of the "rescued," those who wish to follow after Christ when he comes again. Any who wish to do so, Mark explains, must follow the example of Isaiah's suffering servant, the example that Jesus himself embodied on his way to the cross.

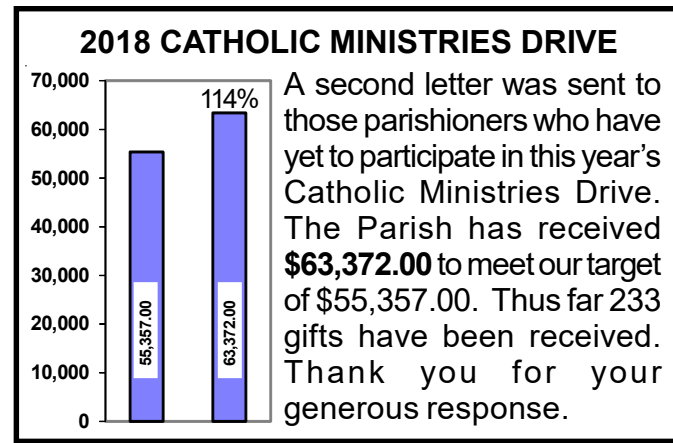
Jesus was working from a fuller reading of Isaiah than the disciples had imagined. They saw the deaf hear and the mute speak and the blind see, but they did not realize that only because Jesus had accepted the role of the suffering servant described in this Sunday's first reading was he able to perform these works. Jesus' journeys took him past crucifixion sites on every Roman road. He identified with the criminals exposed there, recognizing that his own actions would lead to the same fate.

"Who do people say that I am?" Jesus poses this question to his disciples on his journey through Caesarea Philippi. It elicits Peter's acknowledgment that Jesus is the Messiah. For centuries Israel had looked forward to God fulfilling his promise to King David by raising up another great leader to restore Israel's kingdom. These hopes had become clouded in political and earthly expectations.

Peter's response, in unambiguous terms, "You are the Christ (or the Messiah)," gives Jesus the opportunity to offer a different understanding. Jesus says that he has come not to establish an earthly kingdom in power, but rather a spiritual kingdom in weakness. God's Kingdom will be established through Jesus' Death and Resurrection.

- **How would you answer Jesus' question, "Who do you say that I am?" How have you taken up your cross and followed the Christ?**

AT HOME with the WORD 2018, Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, pg. 129. AMERICA MAGAZINE, "If you want to follow Christ, you must first accept a cross." Michael R. Simone, S.J., August 24, 2018.



Benefit Dinner

Our brother, Jim Luther, has stage-four cancer. There will be a benefit Spaghetti dinner at Saint Patrick Catholic Church Hall, Newry, on Sunday, September 30, 2018, from 1:00 PM until 5:00 PM. Tickets are \$10.00 per person; eat in or take out. Join us for a great time while we raise money to help Jim with his fight. All proceeds will aid Jim's expenses. Any questions, please call: Theresa Chandler at 502-7316 or Ann Makowiecki at 329-6927. Monetary gifts may be sent: Jim Luther, 1071 Mill Road, Duncansville, PA 16635.

Insert in Today's Bulletin

ARISE will begin this October. Registration forms are enclosed in this week's bulletin. Please become part of this important spiritual process to take place over the next two and half years here at the Cathedral Parish. Return the green form in the collection basket or drop off at the Parish Center. There will be sign-up sheets at the Cathedral Square door the weekends of September 29th and 30th, and October 6th and 7th. Days and times for small group meetings will be available.

Cathedral Charismatic Prayer Group

The Cathedral Prayer Group meeting will be on Monday, September 24, at 7:00 PM. All are welcome to attend!

Annual Wedding Anniversary Congratulations

Bishop Mark and the Family Life Office invited couples celebrating their 1st, 5th, 10th, 25th, 40th 50th, 55th and 60th+ Wedding Anniversary in 2018 to attend the Annual Wedding Anniversary Liturgy, held last Sunday, September 9th here at the Cathedral. Cathedral parishioners celebrating their anniversaries are as follows: 63 years - Joseph and Elizabeth Cote; 40 years - Daniel and Joan Donnelly; 50 years - John and Patricia Gebhardt; 50 years - Richard and Carol Hollingshead; 50 years - Robert and Carol Irwin; 55 years - Sam and Judy Kokolis; 55 years - James and Amelia Seiler; 55 years - Edward and Lois Simanski; 50 years - William and Grace Smith.

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

EUCHARIST:

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

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 16, 2018

Readings: *Is 50:5-9; Jas 2:14-18; Mk 8:27-35*

MASS INTENTIONS

September 17, Monday: Saint Robert Bellarmine, Bp. & Dr.

Readings: *1 Cor 11:17-26, 33; Lk 7:1-10*

6:45 AM Maureen Martynuska Wolf (Family)
8:00 AM Kitty Bell Anniversary (Mary Ann Bell)
12:00 PM David Baronner (Cathedral Parish)

September 18, Tuesday: Weekday

Readings: *1 Cor 12:12-14; Lk 7:11-17*

6:45 AM Butch Martz (Jim & Elaine Weaver)
8:00 AM Phyllis Cribari (Patty & Bear McCloskey)
12:00 PM Christina Flanagan (Mike & Sherry Byrne)

September 19, Wednesday: St Januarius, Bishop/ Martyr

Readings: *1 Cor 12:31--13:13; Lk 7:31-35*

6:45 AM Joe Tomlinson (Marie & Bill Crawford)
8:00 AM Deceased Family & Friends (McNelis All Stars)
12:00 PM Derek Behe (Uncle Dave & Aunt Chris)

September 20, Thursday: Korean Martyrs

Readings: *1 Cor 15:1-11; Lk 7:36-50*

6:45 AM Good Works of Sr. Paula's Food Kitchen
(Kevin & Becky Winkler)
8:00 AM Bernie McLucas (Family)
12:00 PM M. Virginia Jones (Kevin & Jane Byrne)

September 21, Friday: St Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

Readings: *Eph 4:1-7, 11-13; Mt 9:9-13*

6:45 AM Rev. Paul E. Tumbull (Dave & Maureen Hanekamp)
8:00 AM Tom Welteroth (Brian and Tina Welteroth)
12:00 PM Thomas and Mary Irwin (Irwin Family)

September 15, Saturday: Weekday, Blessed Virgin Mary

Readings: *1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49; Lk 8:4-15*

8:00 AM Jim Davidson (Eugene and Leann Ehredt)
12:00 PM Barbara Dively, Birthday (Family)
Vigil: Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Readings: *Wis 2:12, 17-20; Jas 3:16-4:3; Mk 9:30-37*
5:00 PM Edgar Anna (Jim and Mary Ellen Kelly)

Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic adoration will be the first Wednesday of next month, **October 3** 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.

Pray For Our Sick

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

Catechetical Sunday

The Church celebrates with all our catechists today. Many people come forward annually to pass on the faith to our children, adolescents, and adults. The theme for this year is **Enlisting Witnesses for Jesus Christ**. Cathedral Parish Catechists will be acknowledged and we will pray *The Rite Blessing of Catechists* at today's 10:00AM Mass. We express appreciation to the following: **Holy Trinity Catholic School:** Danielle Aikens and Nicole Ickes; **Religious Education Pre-K-8:** Chris Laraia, Director, Gabriele Cronin, Beth Moore, Cathy Hughes, Kathie Civils, Helen Carper (Our Lady of Fatima Parish), Kristin John, Carol Galioto, Debra Leberfinger, Darlene Sinisi, Mary Ann Bell, Nicole Burkle, Jeanne Thompson, and Melinda Summers (Our Lady of Fatima Parish); **Family Intergenerational Religious Education (F.I.R.E.) 9th through 12th:** Jean Koury, Director, Fr. Dennis Kurdziel; **Infant Baptismal Preparation:** Msgr. Mazur, Chris Laraia, Judy Kokolis, Paula Clemens, Gabrielle Cronin; **First Reconciliation and First Eucharist:** Msgr. Mazur, Chris Laraia; **Confirmation:** Jean Koury, Fr. Kurdziel; **Marriage Preparation:** Fr. Kurdziel, Clark and Kim Adelman, Bob and Christ Laraia, Jesse and Nicole Ickes; **Christian Initiation of Adults:** Msgr. Mazur, Jeanne Thompson, Diocesan Director, Tammy Datres, Parish Director, Bob Datres, Peter and Barbara Rossi, Carol Galioto, Joe Dzuranko, Marge Dennis, Gary Long, Mark and Janine Golden; **Mail Ministry to Elderly, Homebound, Seriously Sick, and Grieving:** Jeanne Thompson, Director, Kim Adelman, Sue Berglund, Chrissy and Francis Dambeck, Emily Davis, Jo Dennis, Judy DeStefano, Paulette Farabaugh, Karen Isenberg, Deborah Jeffco, Jim and Stephanie Kilcoyne, Jeanette Labriola, Sally Leiden, Jennifer Long, Joyce Koegler, Carol Martino, Deborah Matosziuk, Paula Miller, Beth Moore, Connie Navarro, Matt Pulcinello, Cathy Rougeux, Mark Spinazzola, Theresa Vaughn, David Ward, Michael Warmath, Courtney Wessner, and Lisa Wolf.

Congratulations!

Friday, September 7th, was the annual date for the drawing of the Grand Prize of the *2018 Calendar of Prizes*. This date is the annual anniversary of the dedication of our magnificent Cathedral on September 7, 1931. This year's winner is our parishioner, Jack Kirkpatrick. Congratulations, Jack!

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, September 9, 2018 - \$7,537.00

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 marked the 87th anniversary of the formal dedication of the Cathedral. The remaining tour dates are: today, 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.

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.**

F. I. R. E. Classes are as follows:

Religious Education Students -

September 16th, 2018, 2:00 - 4:00 PM.

September 30th, 2018, 2:00 - 4:00 PM.

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.

Annual Cathedral Raffle

Parishioners are asked to help with the annual 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. 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. To date we have received monies to cover the twenty prizes. All sales will now profit the Parish.

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* is today, **Sunday, September 16th at 11:00 AM in the Seton Suite** (below the Rectory; entrance from Fourteenth Street).

Rest in Peace

This past week Dave Baronner died and was buried from Cathedral Parish. May his wife, Peach, and son, Brandon, and granddaughter, Olivia, be comforted in the faith. May Dave know peace as he journeys to the kingdom of God. The Parish supports those who mourn with our prayers and presence.

Liturgical Reflection ...

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN FUNERALS

Although cremation is now permitted by the Church, it does not enjoy the same value as burial of the body. The Church clearly prefers and urges that the body of the deceased be present for the Funeral Mass, even when cremation follows. The presence of the human body better expresses the values which the Church affirms in the funerary rites. The body of Jesus was laid in the tomb and, on the third day, the Lord's body rose from the dead. When the Lord comes again in all his glory, our bodies will be reunited with our souls.

Order of Christian Funerals, Cremation, 1998, Introduction, Numbers 413 and 414.

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