

NOVEMBER 25, 2018

Scripture Reflection

On this final Sunday of the liturgical year, we celebrate Jesus Christ as ruler over ourselves and the universe. In the opening words of Mark's Gospel, Jesus calls us to accept the Kingdom: "The Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." Christians believe that God's rule took a leap forward when the Son of God became human, but it will only reach fulfillment at the end of time. Today's readings celebrate the culmination of God's plan. When Christ returns, everything, even death itself, will be subjected to him.

"My kingdom is not of this world." When, after the multiplication of the loaves, the hungry crowds tried to make Jesus king, he fled into the mountains. When they caught up with him again, he tried to explain that God gave him such abilities not to take on security and wealth but to reveal a plan for human salvation.

Jesus pushed his contrast with human kingship even further at the Last Supper. When he washed his disciples' feet and then ordered them to do the same, he subverted centuries of carefully constructed hierarchical thinking. Kings come to be served, not to serve. Their ability to make others see to their needs was an essential symbol of their power. This was the opposite of everything Jesus stood for. When he washed the disciple's feet, he toppled these human delusions.

In John's Gospel, the deepest truth is that we must love one another the way God first loved us. Acting and preaching out of this belief gave Jesus' words their power. At our baptism, Christ clothed us with his own royal nature. Building our lives around the same divine love will give our words the same power to heal, to deliver and to save.

- **In the Gospel, Jesus says his kingdom is not earthly, and that he came into the world to testify to the truth. Can you name that truth?**

AT HOME with the WORD 2018, Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, pg. 149. AMERICA MAGAZINE, "How can we speak the truth in love?" Michael R. Simone, S.J., November 2, 2018.

In Thanksgiving

We are grateful to God for all the blessings received this past Year of Grace 2018. This is the final week in the Church's liturgical calendar. As we look back over this year, we celebrate God's goodness to us as a Parish and each member of our faith community.

All seven sacraments were celebrated this year at the Cathedral— Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, Marriage, and Holy Orders. These sacramental encounters have been moments of God's divine presence among us as a Parish and as a Diocese. The Sacraments of Initiation, Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist, have brought sisters and brothers into full membership with the Church. Our children and our adults received these three sacraments, giving them the strength to bear the name Christian. Thousands have received forgiveness by making good, holy confessions this Year of Grace. Those sick in the Parish received the strengthening grace of Anointing to help them through their illness. Couples were joined in the Sacrament of Matrimony and a number had their civil marriage sacramentally blessed. Two men were ordained to the diaconate for the Local Church. We give thanks to God for these sacred events celebrated here in the Cathedral.

The new Cathedral Parish Center is nearly one year old. In gratitude to the continued generosity of the Cathedral Parish Family, we now have a space for the religious education of our children. New office space along with meeting rooms allow for the varied activities that take place daily in the life of our Parish. We also have a space for the safe keeping of our archives dating back to 1851. We look forward to the completion of Charity Hall in the lower level of the Parish Center. We also are so grateful that we now have additional parking space next to the Cathedral. With the many activities that occur in the Diocese and the Parish, parking has always been a challenge.

Eucharistic Adoration is celebrated on the first Wednesday of each month. This gives the Parish an opportunity to gather before the Blessed Sacrament in quiet prayer. It is the Eucharist that sustains us on the journey of life. We need to reserve time in our schedules on this day to review our lives and ask that the Bread of Life strengthen us and guide us. This peaceful time before the Sacrament in Exposition is a great opportunity to recollect and be renewed in our faith life.

For all that God has given us, we are thankful!

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.

ANOINTING 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

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

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

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST KING OF THE UNIVERSE

NOVEMBER 25, 2018

Readings: Dn 7:13-14; Rv 1:5-8; Jn 18:33-37

MASS INTENTIONS

November 26, Monday: Weekday

Readings: Rv 14:1-3, 4-5; Lk 21:1-4

6:45 AM Bud Seidel, Anniv. (Jim and Elaine Weaver)
8:00 AM Dan & Miriam Burns (Dave & Maureen Hanekamp)
12:00 PM Joanna Tetanich (Ray and Mary Lutchko)

November 27, Tuesday: Weekday

Readings: Rv 14:14-19; Lk 21:5-11

6:45 AM Msgr. Paul D. Panza (Tom and Patricia Forr)
8:00 AM Jim Davidson (David Hallinan Family)
12:00 PM Mildred Brady, Birth. (Joe & Dee Shellenberger)

November 28, Wednesday

Readings: Rv 15:1-4; Lk 21:12-19

6:45 AM Jodie Murray (Dave & Maureen Hanekamp)
8:00 AM M. Virginia Jones (Mary Ann & Linda Wharton)
12:00 PM Anthony Ingold (Family)

November 29, Thursday

Readings: Rv 18:1-2, 21-23, 19:1-3, 9; Lk 21:20-28

6:45 AM Mike Chisko (Family)
8:00 AM Anne Madden, Birthday (Donna and Pat Gildea)
12:00 PM Ron Fiocchetta (Mark and Diane Moschella)

November 30, Friday: Saint Andrew, Apostle

Readings: Rom 10:9-18; Mt 4:18-22

6:45 AM Joe Tomlinson (Ken and Kathie Civils)
8:00 AM John Capouellez, Anniversary (Family)
12:00 PM Anthony Kibelbek, Anniversary (Son)

December 1, Saturday: Weekday, Blessed Virgin Mary

Readings: Rv 22:1-7; Lk 21:34-36

8:00 AM Herbert Kutruff (John & Mickey Beiswenger)
12:00 PM Derek Behe (Cathedral Parish)
2:00 PM Wedding

Vigil: First Sunday of Advent

Readings: Jer 33:14-16; 1 Thes 3:12-4:2; Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

5:00 PM John Bauer (Bill and Lynann Adams)

Gifting the Cathedral Parish

As wills and insurance policies are established with your attorney, remember the Cathedral Parish as a beneficiary of your estate. Perhaps you would like to direct your gift to a particular ministry or project at the Parish. Please realize that Mass Stipends go directly to fulfilling that canonical wish and do not aid the financial life of the Parish.

ARISE

Thank you to the group leaders and those parishioners who participated in this first session of ARISE. The next gathering will be Lent of 2019. Plan to join in this six-week reflection on scripture and your personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Inquiry

Anyone interested in the Catholic Faith is invited each Sunday morning at 11:00 A.M. to meet in the Seton Suite. Maybe you pray regularly with us each Sunday. Perhaps your spouse is Catholic. Maybe you have some questions that need to be discussed. Perhaps you have felt a leaning toward Catholicism. At *Inquiry* no commitments are made. Know you are most welcome to join the Christian Initiation Team on Sunday mornings.

Rite of Acceptance of Catechumens Rite of Welcoming of Candidates

Today, November 25th at the 10:00AM Mass, Cathedral Parish will formally accept our Catechumens on their journey to receive Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist; and we will formally welcome our Candidates, those already one with us in Baptism, who are seeking Confirmation and/or Eucharist.

Calendars of Prizes 2019 Are Here!

Calendars of Prizes 2019 are being sold at the Cathedral Square door after all Masses. Each calendar costs \$20.00. There is a \$10.00 daily prize; an additional \$1,000.00 in special monthly prizes awarded throughout the year; and a grand prize of \$5,000.00. Due to the state regulations for small games of chance, it is necessary that all one thousand tickets be sold. Otherwise, the parish will lose money on unsold tickets. If you have a favorite three digit number, call the Parish Office (944-4603) weekdays between 9:00AM and 4:00 PM to check on availability or stop at the Cathedral Square door after Mass. These make great Christmas gifts that last all year!

Advent/Christmas Mailing

All registered members of the Cathedral Parish Family were mailed the annual Advent/Christmas letter this past week. If you did not receive this important mailing, please call the Parish Office.

Thank you to Paula Clemens, Paulette Farabaugh, Paula Miller, Linda Nelson, Bill and Grace Smith who helped prepare the mailing. Friends of Cathedral may also request a copy of this seasonal mailing.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, November 18, 2018 - \$8,343.00

First Reconciliation Schedule

First Reconciliation is scheduled at the Parish Advent Penance Service on Wednesday, December 19, 2018, at 6:30 PM. There will be a meeting on December 5 in the Seton Suite from 6:30 PM until 8:00 PM. All students must be accompanied by an adult. Please bring a **COPY** of your child's baptism certificate. Call Chris Laraia at 814-312-7317 if you are unable to attend.

Eucharistic Adoration

Plan ahead! Cathedral will have monthly adoration before the Blessed Sacrament here in the Cathedral on Wednesday, December 5th from 12:30 PM to 8:00 PM. Make time to pray for the Sacrament in exposition, and remember to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

Become Adult Education Volunteer

Volunteer opportunities are available to become a Tutor or Classroom Aide.

Assist adults to prepare for their High School Equivalency (GED or HiSET) exam, learn English, or brush up on their math and reading skills to enter postsecondary education, training, or employment.

Assist at various sites in Altoona and Hollidaysburg. No experience necessary! Training is provided. AASD Community Education Center.

Call Barbe at (814) 946-8495.

Have You Been Caught?

Did anyone see you in the midst of a random act of kindness? Know that the Lord sees everything and our Lord welcomes us to share love, warmth, and compassion.

2018 Catholic Ministries Drive

Cathedral Parish received pledges the targeted goal of ~~\$55,357.00~~ for the fiscal year. To date we have received **\$63,812.00** in gifts. Your generosity is most appreciated.

Religious Education

F.I.R.E. Classes for December 2018

Class will be on Wednesday, December 5th from 5:00 PM until 7:00 PM in the Church Hall.

F.I.R.E. make-up class will be on Wednesday, December 12th, 2018 from 5:00 PM until 7:00 PM.

Confirmation Preparation for December 2018

All Ninth Grade Candidates will meet on Sunday December 2nd in the Church at 6:30 PM for Evening Prayer. The *Fall Session* will follow in the Cathedral Hall until 8:00 PM.

All Tenth Grade Candidates will meet on Sunday, December 9th in the Church at 6:30 PM for Evening Prayer. The *Fall Session* will follow in the Cathedral Hall until 8:00 PM.

Families Needed

If your family would like to carry the Advent candles on a particular Advent Sunday, please call Chris Laraia at 814-312-7317, or the Parish Office at 944-4603.

Holy Trinity Catholic School

Our parochial elementary school will participate in the city's *Spirit of Christmas Parade* on Thursday, November 29 at 6:00 PM. The theme of this year's float is *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens. The tree lighting ceremony and fireworks will take place after the parade at the Heritage Center.

HTCS Weekly Mass Schedule

You are always welcome to join our students and faculty each week for Mass. The regular weekly Mass schedule is as follows: Altoona Campus every Wednesday at 9:00 AM; Hollidaysburg Campus every Thursday at 8:30 AM; and the Middle School Campus every Friday at 8:30 AM.

Please remember our sick in your prayers.

Liturgical Reflection ...

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN FUNERALS

Throughout this liturgical year the inserts have reviewed the funerary rites of the Church with special attention to the care and final disposition of the body. The deceased Catholic normally has the following rites prayed at death: Vigil for the Deceased, Funeral Mass, and Committal Rites. If cremation was chosen, the Church asks that the body of the deceased be present for the Vigil and Funeral Mass. Both the body and the cremated remains of the deceased Catholic are to be formally buried in a cemetery accompanied with the Committal Rites.

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