

JULY 28, 2019

Scripture Reflection

Today's readings provide the insight that our image of God influences how we pray. In the First Reading, Abraham bargains with God over the number of people needed to save all the inhabitants in the city. God emerges as a kind and patient negotiator.

In Paul's Letter to the Colossians, God is kind and compassionate. God has "forgiven us all our transgressions; obliterating the bond against us, . . . nailing it to the cross." God's forgiveness is total. Both readings contain the foundational dimension of the Christian image of God as kind, generous, and completely forgiving.

Luke's Gospel account presents Jesus as a man of prayer. Inspired by Jesus' example, his disciples ask him to teach them how to pray. In the prayer he gives them (a shortened version of Matthew's account of the Lord's Prayer), Jesus deepens their image of God as generous and forgiving. Beginning with "Abba"/"Father," a small child's address to a Father ("Daddy"), Jesus issues an invitation to approach God with the trust and love a child has for parents. Jesus shows them that prayer is about forming a relationship with God.

In the rest of the Gospel passage, Jesus continues this intimate relationship between God and God's children. "Would a parent offer a child a snake when they asked for a fish? . . . How much more will the Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask?" In prayer God knows his children's needs better than they know themselves. Prayer will establish the most intimate of relationships between the believer and God through "the Holy Spirit" of love.

- **How do today's readings reflect the image of a generous and compassionate God?**

Baptismal Prep Team Coaches Needed

Looking for volunteers who would like to join our Baptismal Prep Team. You would be there to contact the people, answer any questions that they may have, and assist in any way possible to make this a blessed and joyous occasion for all. Please contact the Parish Office at 814-944-4603.

Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School

The Bishop Guilfoyle Athletic Office is selling lottery calendars for \$25 based on the evening daily number. Lottery calendars start September 1st and run until August 31, 2020. If you would be interested in purchasing any calendars, or have any questions please contact the BG Athletic Office at 944-8847. Thank you in advance for your support.

Prayer Shawls

If anyone feels that they need some comfort in their troubled times, please feel free to contact Lorraine Beck at 814-942-7774 for one of our Prayer Shawls. These shawls have been Blessed and may bring you the comfort that you need.

Catholic Charities

Catholic Charities is in need of donations for soup to assist the needy. Many of our clients come to Catholic Charities for assistance with food; and, soup is a very popular item. There are bins are all three of the doors. Thank you for your donation to Catholic Charities.

Nocturnal Adoration

Will be held at St. Therese of the Child Jesus on First Friday, August 2nd from 8:00 PM to 11:00 PM. They are the host church for this event. Please try to visit for an hour. You may attend anytime.

Gluten Sensitivity

There may be parishioners who have found that they have physical disorders related to gluten intolerance. The spectrum of illnesses includes celiac disorder, wheat allergy, bloating, abdominal discomfort, diarrhea, muscular disturbances, and bone or joint pain. The ordinary hosts distributed at Communion contain gluten. If you have found that you are gluten sensitive, special bread is available that possess a very low gluten content. Please tell the priest before Mass, and he will consecrate the low-gluten host for you to receive at that Mass.

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 -

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 6:15 PM- 8:15 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
12:00 Noon
Saturday: 8:00 AM
12:00 Noon

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

Very Reverend Alan E. Thomas VG, Administrator

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

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

July 28, 2019

Readings: Gn 18:20-32; Col 2:12-14; Lk 11:1-13

MASS INTENTIONS

July 29, Monday: Saint Martha

Readings: Ex 32:15-24, 30-34 ; Jn 11:19-27

6:45 AM Joseph A. Knott (Regina Kuttruff)

12:00 PM Michael Zurilla, Birthday (Family)

July 30, Tuesday: St. Peter Chrysologus, Bp. and Dr.

Readings: Ex 33:7-11; 34:5-9, 28; Mt 13:36-43

6:45 AM Dan & Mirian Burns (Dave & Maureen Hanekamp)

12:00 PM For Vocations (Jerry and Rita Kibler)

July 31, Wednesday: Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

Readings: Ex 34:29-35; Mt 13:44-46

6:45 AM Joseph Mangiacame (Phil & Mary Lou Ray)

12:00 PM Jean Frick McConnell (Pat Rhoa)

August 1, Thursday: Saint Alphonsus Liguori Bp. & Dr.

Readings: Ex 40:16-21, 34-38; Mt 13:47-53

6:45 AM Catherine Hardin (Olga Lawruk)

12:00 PM Rose Kwolek (Religious Ed. Teachers)

August 2, Friday: Sts. Eusebius, Bp, Peter Eymard, Pr.

Readings: Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34-37; Mt 13:54-58

6:45 AM Dave Hanely, Sr. (Mom)

12:00 PM Joe Wiedemer (Bauer Family)

August 3, Saturday: Weekday

Readings: Lv 25:1, 8-17; Mt 14:1-12

8:00 AM Lavelle Family (Phyllis Lavelle Sheetz)

12:00 PM Sr. Caroline Caritas (Kelsey Ingold) (M/MH. Nagle)

Vigil: Eighteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Readings: Eccl 1:2, 2:21-23; Col 3:1-5, 9-11; Lk 12:13-21

5:00 PM Bernadine Garcia (Stanley Krish Family)

Catholic Ministry Drive

We are most grateful to those who have so generously responded to the 2019 Catholic Ministries Drive. As of the end of May we have pledged totaling **\$29,375.00**, our goal for 2019 is **\$50,706.00**. Thank you for your generosity. It is most important that we receive your response as soon as possible. Monies received over our diocesan goal will help us to complete Charity Hall in The Cathedral Parish Center.

Stewardship Reflection

God knows his children's needs even before they are aware of it themselves. We as Christians have a choice in the manner in which we give and share. May we see as God does and prudently and generously offer our resources of food, clothing and shelter.

Do others see that you are faithful steward and disciple of Jesus without having to tell them? Do others see the love of God in us as we help to answer the prayer of those in need, "Give us each day our daily bread."

Baptism Congratulations!

Today Averey Brynn Paulson, was baptized and welcomed into our Cathedral Parish Family. Congratulations to parents, Josh and Caitlin. May the graces strengthen Averey and the adults who care for her.

Altoona Flea Market

St. Therese Conference of the

St. Vincent DePaul Society.

Annual Flea Market and Bake Sale

Friday August 9 and Saturday, August 10,

from 8:00 AM until 1:00 PM at

Father Kelly Hall

corner 25th Ave and 5th St., Altoona Pa.

Proceeds will be used to help the mission of St. Vincent DePaul Society in our area. If you have any questions please call Sandra Lear 814-215-4970 or email cslear@gmail.com.

Help Needed!!

Can you help prepare the mailing for the Annual Cathedral Summer Raffle on Wednesday July 31st, from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM in the Cathedral Parish Center. Volunteers are needed to prepare the letters and tickets. All are welcome.

Missionary Cooperative

Father Matthew thanks the Cathedral Parish Family for our warm welcome and kind hospitality. Father spoke on behalf of his Archdiocese of the Country of Liberia. Please return your envelope (attached to last week's bulletin) in the regular collection. Thank you for your generous response.

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 21, 2019 - \$6,206.00

Healing Patch Volunteers Needed

1 in 7 children will lose a parent or sibling by the age of 20. Behind this statistic are real children- who are struggling with difficult emotions like loneliness, fear, and anger. At the Home Nursing Agency Healing Patch, these children find hope and healing are possible through connecting with others. New volunteers are needed to meet the growing number of families finding support at the Healing Patch. While volunteers must understand they are unable to "fix" what has happened, they are able to facilitate activities to help children and adults connect and share their feelings in a safe and welcoming environment. Volunteers are essential for group nights, which occur two evenings a month from September thru May. New volunteers receive comprehensive training and have assistance in obtaining necessary clearances. For more information, contact Melody Ray, Volunteer Coordinator/Grief Specialist, at 814-947-7200 or raym@upmc.edu.

Young Adult Ministry

The Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament will be starting a "Young Adult Ministry", Age 18 – 30. Our first gathering, for those not yet Confirmed or those young adults feeling the need to learn more about the Catholic Religion, will be on Sunday, September 15th after the 10:00 AM Mass in the St. John's Room. Any young adult youth interested in joining our Young Adult Ministry or being a part of this new endeavor (TEAM) please call Tammy Datri at 934-2441. There will be younger individuals organizing this group on a monthly basis.

St. Benedict Church of Carrolltown Festival

The **62nd Home-Coming Festival** is being held on July 26th, 27th, 28th. Entertainment daily with bingo, large basket auction, games live music, bake sale, ethnic foods and refreshments. Dunking Booth all three days. **Friday** 26th grounds open at 5 pm with Ethnic Foods and Wing Night specials. **Saturday** July 27th grounds open at 12 noon with our **Third Annual Cruise-In** from 12:00-5:00 pm. Mass at 4:00 pm. Sunday July 28th **Chicken Dinner with home-made noodle soup**, served from 11 am to 2 pm, the cost for Adults is \$10; Children 5-12, \$5; Children 4 and under, free. Take-out dinners available.

Religious Education

Registration for Grades PK-11 will be held in the Parish Center Education floor, 14th St. entrance, before and after all masses on **August 17 and 18**. If you are new to the program please bring a copy of your child's baptism certificate. All students must be registered before the start of classes on September 8th. Please call Chris Laraia (312-7317) for PK/8, or Jean Koury (934-7316) for 9-11.

The PK/8 program is in need of a 3rd grade catechist. If interested please call Chris Laraia at 312-7317.

Blair Garden Club Trip / Longwood Gardens

Saturday September 7th. Leaving Lowe's parking lot at 12:00 noon. Arrive at Longwood Gardens appx 5:00 pm. Fountains and Lights at 8:15 pm. Approximate return time to Lowe's is midnight to 1:00am.

Cost is \$60.00... includes bus, admission and tip for driver. Food is available at Longwood... or you may bring with you. No lunch or dinner stop. Contact Emma Kowalski at 942-0202 home or 932-0375 cell.

Infant Baptismal Preparation

There will be a baptismal preparation session for infant baptism on **Thursday, August 1st**, at **7:00 P.M.** in the Seton Suite. Parents need not wait until your baby is born to attend the class. All parents are expected to attend this informative meeting regarding your baby's baptism. Please call the Office at 944-4603.

Save the Date

The Catholic Daughters of Altoona Pennsylvania Court Prince Gallitzin #2625 will be celebrating their **Tenth Anniversary!** Sunday August 18, 2019. Morning Mass with a Brunch Reception After. Additional information will follow.

Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic adoration will be the first Wednesday of next month, **August 7th** 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.

Golf Anyone!

The **40th Annual K of C Golf Tournament**, just around the corner. It will be Saturday August 17, 2019 at Shadow Lakes in Aliquippa, Pa. For more information please contact:

Stephen J. Franchak

911- Acri Road

Mechanicburg, Pa. 17050

1-717-695-3506