How do today's readings reflect the 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 begins his prayer with an intimate address to a Father.

Jesus shows them that prayer is about the trust and love a child has for parents. Beginning with “Abba”/“Father,” a small child’s address to a Father (“Daddy”), Jesus begins his prayer with an intimate address to a Father. In the rest of the Gospel passage, Jesus continues this intimate relationship between God and his 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?
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 Kutuff)
12:00 PM Michael Zunilla, 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 Voyages (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 Mangiacarne (Phil & Mary Lou Ray)
12:00 PM Jean Frick McConnell (Pat Rhoad)
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 Lawruck)
12:00 PM Rose Kwolek (Religious Ed. Teachers)
August 2, Friday: Sts. Eusebius, Bp, Peter Eymard, Pr.
Readings: Lv 23:1,4-11,15-16,27:3-37; Mt 13:54-58
6:45 AM Dave Hanely, Sr. (Mom)
12:00 PM Joe Wiedemer (Bauer Family)
August 3, Saturday: Weekend
Readings: Lv 25:1,8,17; Mt 14:1-12
8:00 AM Lavelle Family (Phyllis Lavelle Sheetz)
12:00 PM Sr. Caroline Carlis (Kelsey Ingold) (MMH. Nagel)
Vigil: Eighteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time
Readings: Ec 1:2, 21:21-23; 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 pledges 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 Avery Brynn Paulson, was baptized and welcomed into our Cathedral Parish Family. Congratulations to parents, Josh and Caitlin. May the graces strengthen Avery 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 - $260.00

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 starting a “Young Adult Ministry”, Age 18 – 30. Our first gathering, for those not yet Confirmed or those who are Confirmed and generously offer our resources of food, clothing and shelter.

St. Benedict Church of Carrolltown Festival
The 40th Annual K of C Golf Tournament
Saturday, August 18, 2019. 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.

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.

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 schedule 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