

AUGUST 25, 2019

Scripture Reflection

The journey to Jerusalem is a characteristic feature of Luke's Gospel account. For ten chapters (9:51-19:28), Luke presents Jesus on a journey to Jerusalem with his disciples. The symbolism of a journey was instructive to Luke's audience. They knew that during the course of the Hebrew people's travel from Egypt to the Promised Land, God formed them into people. Against this background, Luke reminds us that Jesus is the guide leading his disciples purposefully on the path to Jerusalem, where he will bring salvation to them through his death on the cross.

This passage offers a series of sayings through which Jesus instruct his disciples about the conscious decision that must be made to become a member of his kingdom. Jesus also draws attention to the fact that one cannot claim to be a member of his kingdom simply because of Jewish heritage. Consequently, the places at the table in Jesus' kingdom are extended to the Gentiles who "come from the east and the west, and from the north and the south." The Gentiles, who have been called last, will go ahead of those who were first invited, the Jews. God's kingdom is opened to all humanity, to everyone who embraces Jesus and his message.

Today's reading from the prophet Isaiah shows how Jesus' message of inclusivity was foretold centuries before by the prophet. Jesus has come to bring God's plan to fulfillment.

- **Where have you experienced God's presence with you on your journey of faith?**

"Inquiry"

Anyone interested in learning more about the Catholic Church, or just seeking information, you are welcome to join us for "Inquiry" which will begin Sunday, September 15th from 11:00-12:00 in the Seton Suite. Please call Tammy Datris, Director of RCIA, 934-2441, if you are interested in joining!

Blair Garden Club Trip / Renziehausen Park

The Garden Club of McKeesport Rose Garden and Aboretum and tea Thursday, September 12th. Leaving Lowe's parking lot at 9:30 AM. Arrive at McKeesport for luncheon and tea approximately 12 Noon. Guided tour of garden after luncheon.

Cost is \$60.00... includes bus, luncheon and tip for driver. Appx. return time to Lowe's is 6:00 PM. Contact Emma Kowalski at 942-0202 home or 932-0375 cell.

Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday, September 4, Cathedral Parish will have Eucharistic Adoration from 12:30 P.M. until 8:00 P.M. A sign-up sheet is located on the cross aisle table to choose your time for visitation before the Blessed Sacrament. There are still times in late afternoon and early evening that need people present for adoration. The Church asks that at least two people be present at all times when there is Exposition of the Sacrament.

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.

Annual Cathedral Raffle

All parishioners will be 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 6th on the Cathedral Portico. You need not be present to win. Tickets are available after all Masses.

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 Evening 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

TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 25, 2019

Readings: *Is 66:18-21; Heb 12:5-7, 11-13; Lk 13:22-30*

MASS INTENTIONS

August 26, Monday: Weekday

Readings: *1 Thes:1-5, 8-10; Mt 23:13-22*

6:45 AM Michael & Alan Bell (Dave & Maureen Hanekamp)
12:00 PM Trudy Eicher (Family and Friends)

August 27, Tuesday: Saint Monica

Readings: *1 Thes 2:1-8; Mt 23:23-26*

6:45 AM Paul Cooney (Pat Rhoa)
12:00 PM For Vocations (Jerry & Rita Kibler)

August 28, Wednesday: St. Augustine, BP and DR.

Readings: *1 Thes 2:9-13; Mt 23:27-32*

6:45 AM Irene Schlect (Karen & Greg Querry)
12:00 PM Alice Winkler (Tim & Anne-Marie Longwill)

August 29, Thursday: The Passion of St. John the Baptist

Readings: *1 Thes 3:7-13; Mk 6:17-29*

6:45 AM Hilda Conrad (Cathedral Parish)
12:00 PM Madeline Vogel (Carole Clemens)

August 30, Friday: Weekday

Readings: *1 Thes 4:1-8; Mt 25:1-13*

6:45 AM Msgr. Roy Kline (M/M Joseph Clarke Family)
12:00 PM Genevive Moloney, Birth. (Mary G. & Maureen)

August 31, Saturday: Weekday

Readings: *1 Thes 4:9-11; Mt 25:14-30*

8:00 AM James Joseph Luther (Mary Lysinger)
12:00 PM Ray Plummer (Dave & Karen Rhoa)

Vigil: *Twenty-Second Sunday In Ordinary Time*

Readings: *Sir 3: 17-18,20,28-29; Heb 12:18-19,22-24; Lk 14:1, 7-14*

5:00 PM Edgar L Johnston, Birthday (Wife)

Please remember our sick in your prayers.

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 July we have pledged totaling **\$36,390.00**. 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.

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 88th anniversary of the formal dedication of the Cathedral. The tour dates are: Sunday, September 1 at 1:00 P.M.; Tuesday, September 10 at 7:00 P.M.; Tuesday, September 17 at 7:00 P.M.; and Sunday, September 22 at 1:00 P.M. Light refreshments will be provided. Please call the Parish Office (944-4603) to make reservations.

BLUE MASS

There will be a Blue Mass, honoring first responders for their service at 11:00 AM, Sunday, September 8th at Saint John Gualbert Cathedral in Johnstown. This event is open to all police, law enforcement, public safety, firefighters and EMT's and their families. The Blue Mass celebration will be open to the general public and honors those who serve our community in a most outstanding way as first responders. Anyone wishing to attend, plus those seeking further information, can contact (814) 659-6240, or evyanz@hotmail.com.

Stewardship Reflection

There is a difference between hearing God's word and actually practicing it. In beckoning us to enter the kingdom "by the narrow door," Jesus directs us to live as wise stewards and disciples and travel lightly, unburdened by possessions. We are to narrow our focus so only the heart of Christ fills our vision.

As a family considers making a basic and practical stewardship action plan for the next week. For example: help an elderly neighbor take out their trash or help with their yardwork; call or send a card to a homebound person, or someone who lives alone; invite a busy working single parent family, or someone who is living alone, to join your family at a meal. "It is more blessed to give than receive." (Acts 20:35)

Padre Pio Family Fest

Sunday September 8, 2019, Saint John the Baptist Church, 101- Findley Street, New Baltimore, PA. 15553. From 12 Noon-7:00 PM. Mass on the Mountain at 12 PM, Live Music, Outdoor Games, Praise & Worship, Food Vendors. Youth Hour, Adoration and Confession, Padre Pio Healing Service with Relcs @ 5:00 PM. For further information please call 814-733-2210.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, August 18, 2019 - \$6,955.00

Save the Date!

"Concerts Under the Dome" Performance!

The world-famous **Vienna Boys Choir** will be passing through Pennsylvania from Allentown to West Virginia on their US tour in October, and will present a concert in the Cathedral on Sunday, October 27, 7:00 pm. The concert is free, but a free-will donation would be appreciated.

The Touring Choir consists of 25 boys, ages 10-14, who spend 6 months of the year on tour world-wide before returning to Vienna, Austria, and then another group of 25 leave for their 6-month experience. The Choir School is made up of only 100 boys who audition at age 8 and live full-time at the school until their voices change. In addition to the obvious musical skills they must hone, their academic study is equally important and they tour with instructors who hold "school" each day, even as they travel.

If you or your business or employer would like to help support this very special concert, there will be a form in the bulletin the weekend of September 8. Thank you to the individuals, businesses, and foundations who have stepped forward already to make this concert possible! Feel free to contact our Music Director, Leslie Thayer, with questions.

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 Datrix at 934-2441. There will be younger individuals organizing this group on a monthly basis.

Parish Meeting

Sunday, August 25 at 1:00 PM, there will be a Parish Meeting in the Cathedral Hall. All parishioners are invited. We want to discuss ways to involve parishioners more deeply in the life of the Cathedral Parish. The meeting will not last any longer than one hour. Father Alan will be available for anyone who wants to talk to him after the meeting.

Charismatic Prayer Group Dates

Cathedral Charismatic Prayer Group and Alive in the Spirit student group. Sunday, September 8th, Sunday October 6th, Sunday November 3rd, and Sunday December 1st, all will be held at Bishop Guilfoyle High School from 6:00PM - 7:00PM.

Monday September 23rd, and Monday November 18th, will be held at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament Church at 7:00 PM. All are welcome to join us.

Family Sacramentality Workshop

There is still time to register for the Center for Ministry Development workshop day, "Connecting Families to Sacramental Ministries for Children and Youth," sponsored by the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown. It is scheduled for Saturday, September 7, 2019. At Mount Aloysius College, Cresson Pa 16630. This day is being offered for Clergy and Administrators, Lay Leaders, Directors and Coordinators of Faith Formation and Sacramental Preparation, Catechists, Principals and Teachers in Catholic Schools, Directors, Coordinators and Team Members of Christian Initiation, Youth Ministers, and Music and Liturgical Ministry Leaders. For more information, a brochure, or to register, contact Jeanne Thompson, (814) 317-2672 or Francine Swope (814) 317-2646.

Religious Ed

Just a reminder that the Religious Education Pre K-8th Grade, will be resuming classes on Sunday September 8, 2019.

F.I.R.E Classes

Sunday September 8th, and September 22nd, 6:15-8:15 PM.

Confirmation Prep for September

First class is September 8th, 2019. **(ALL) Ninth and Tenth Grade Candidates and Parent meeting. Following the 10:00 AM Mass in the Cathedral Hall.** We will begin 11:05 AM lasting 30 minutes.