

SEPTEMBER 1, 2019

Scripture Reflection

“My child,” writes the author of Sirach, “conduct your affairs with humility, and you will be loved more than a giver of gifts.” Humility is a distinctly Jewish virtue and one that Jesus embraces as the foundation of his teaching on the kingdom of God. Jesus often uses the image of a banquet to offer a teaching about the kingdom. The poor of Palestine could only dream of a banquet. The overflowing abundance of food and wine was beyond their hope. With this image, Jesus promises the poor that they are the chosen guests at God’s banquet. God has a preference for the lowly and only those who acknowledge their lowly status in relations to God and to others will be embraced at the banquet of eternal life.

Many places in the Scriptures show that Jesus lived humility: “Learn from me for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves” (Matthew 11:29). “The Son of the Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many” (Matthew 20:28). Humility defines Jesus’ life and teaching and so it should define Christians’ lives, too. In relationship with God, humility defines us as dependent on God for everything; in relationship with others, humility defines us as servants to others.

St. Augustine identified humility as the defining virtue of a Christian way of life, “This way consists, first of humility, second of humility, and third of humility. No matter how often you would ask me, I would say the same” (St. Augustine Letter 118).

- **Why do you think that humility is such a significant virtue for a Christian?**

“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!

Rest in Peace

This past week Karen Hazlett died and was buried from here. May she and those who mourn her loss know God’s consolation and peace.

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.

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.

Arise

Arise Group Leader Meeting... Wednesday, September 11, 2019, 6:00 PM Parish Center, Religious Education Floor.

Arise Together in Christ is a 6 week, Catholic based, small group faith-sharing program that guides Christians to know God better, grow spiritually, meet new people, improve our relationship with Christ, and put our faith into action.

Season 3, “In the Footsteps of Christ” will focus on the key themes of Catholic social teaching.

Please consider participating in this program beginning on Sunday, October 6th. Sign-up weekends will be held at the Cathedral Square door beginning September 14th.

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-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 1, 2019

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

MASS INTENTIONS

September 2, Monday: Weekday, Labor Day

Readings: 1 Thes 4:13-18; Lk 4:16-30

9:00 AM Patrick Hallinan (Family)

September 3, Tuesday: St. Gregory the Great Pope & Dr.

Readings: 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11; Lk 4:31-37

6:45 AM John Adams, Sr., Birthday (Family)

12:00 PM Kathleen Duffy, Birthday (Husband)

September 4, Wednesday: Weekday

Readings: Col 1:1-8; Lk 4:38-44

6:45 AM Derek Behe (Mom & Dad)

12:00 PM Lori Keirn (John & Pam Wertz)

September 5, Thursday: St. Teresa of Calcutta

Readings: Col 1:9-14; Lk 5:1-11

6:45 AM Dorothy Stephens (Shirley Fisher)

12:00 PM Rose Stefanon (Dr. & Mrs. Richard Gonsman)

September 6, Friday: Weekday

Readings: Col 1:15-20; Lk 5:33-39

6:45 AM Joseph Knott (Mother Orvita)

12:00 PM Josephine Behe (Cathedral Parish)

September 7, Saturday: Weekday

Readings: Col 1:21-23; Lk 6:1-5

8:00 AM Dave Baronner, Anniv. (Family)

12:00 PM Health of Ann Eger (Peg Behe)

Vigil: Twenty-Third Sunday In Ordinary Time

Readings: Wis 9:13-18; Phlm 9-10, 12-17; Lk 14:25-33

5:00 PM Jennie Calabrese, Birth. (Daughter & Family)

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 pledges 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 Anniversary of Dedication

With the permission of Bishop Mark Bartchak, the Solemnity of the Anniversary of the Dedication of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament has been transferred from September 7th to Sunday, September 8th, so that more parishioners can continue to pray for our Cathedral Parish. On this date in 1931 this singular structure was dedicated and blessed as the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament Church of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown.

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.

Religious Ed

Just a reminder that the Religious Education Pre K-8th Grade, will be resuming classes on Sunday September 8, 2019, 8:30 AM-9:45 AM. If you did not already sign up. If this is your first time please make sure that you have your child or children's Baptismal Certificate with you.

F.I.R.E Classes

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

Confirmation Prep for September

Confirmation prep for ALL students seeking Confirmation. (AAHS, BG, HLBG, Home schooled)

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 about 30 minutes.

September 15th Sunday 6:15-7:30 PM

Confirmation prep 11th Grade (only). Candidate/Parent/Sponsor meeting. Please have at least a parent or your sponsor with you.

PARKNG !

If you are doing any business at the Church office we have placed orange cones in front of the building for you to park at. The college students were parking there instead, and we are trying to restrict it for your use only.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, August 25, 2019 - \$6,986.00

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

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.

A Reminder

The Church Office will be Closed Monday September 2, to celebrate Labor Day. We will reopen Tuesday, September 3, at 9:00 AM.

Organ Concert

There will be a free will organ concert at Mount Carmel Church, 1100- 8th Avenue, Altoona, on Monday, September 9th, at 7:00 PM. This concert will feature Dr. Carol Williams as guest organist.

Catholic Charities Donations Needed

Everyday people walk into the Catholic Charities Altoona Office seeking help - help with a bill or a place to stay, a cup of coffee and a listening ear, or just a place to sit out of the summer heat or winter cold. All are welcome. Right now we are out of several items which are in most demand:

Toilet Paper, Shampoo & Conditioner, Toothpaste, Canned Soup with pull tops, Poptarts/ Toaster Pastries, Canned Beefaroni/ Spaghettios/ Raviolis/ Lasagna, Cleaning Supplies- Spray Cleaners / Disinfectant Wipes.