

SEPTEMBER 22, 2019

Scripture Reflection

The Liturgy's readings today challenge us to view our world through God's eyes. Paul's Letter to Timothy contains valuable advice worthy of deep reflection. Firstly, Paul calls on Timothy, and by extension us, to pray for our leaders so that we may live a peaceful existence. Secondly, Paul reminds us that God wills the salvation of all people: "God our savior, who wills everyone to be saved and to come to knowledge of the truth." Finally, as Son of God and Son of Man, Jesus Christ is the only mediator between God and us. Jesus is the one to whom we owe sole allegiance.

The prophet Amos speaks out against those who oppress the poor. Because the poor have no voice, God becomes their advocate. God is the God of the poor.

The Gospel reading continues the prophet's stance as Jesus draws attention to the dishonest use of wealth. This parable is disturbing since at first it appears that Jesus is praising dishonesty when he says, "I tell you, make friends for yourselves with dishonest wealth." A deeper look at the parable helps us discover its true meaning. The manager is a smart operator and to save his situation, he makes his master's debtors an offer they cannot refuse and acquires the money his master is owed.

Jesus uses this story of the dishonest manager to teach that just as those in our materialistic world work so hard and sacrifice so much, to attain material results that last only a few years, so Jesus' followers should work and sacrifice even more because they have as their goal eternal results. Nothing could be greater than the inheritance promised Jesus' followers so they should be dedicated and willing to sacrifice everything for it.

- **What implications do you see in Paul's words that "God wills everyone to be saved"?**

Books

We are most grateful to an anonymous donor for providing a timely booklet for each family of the parish. "Letter to a suffering Church" written by Bishop Robert Barron, seeks to address the devastating sexual abuse crisis, may be picked up at each door as you exit the church today.

Annual Cathedral Raffle

All parishioners are 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 and at the Parish Office.

Arise

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 will be held at the Cathedral Square door beginning September 14th.

Hurricane Dorian Collection

There will be a special collection this weekend at all masses throughout the Diocese. Checks may be made payable to Catholic Charities. All contributions will be forwarded to Catholic Relief Services and Catholic Charities USA who will see that financial assistance will go to those in need.

Silver Rose Pilgrimage

The Pilgrimage of the Silver Rose sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, is stopping here at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament Monday September 30th at 7:00 PM for a program. The Rose travels from Canada through the United States on to its final destination of Mexico City, to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe on her feast day December 12th. Please plan to attend this program to honor all life.

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-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 22, 2019

Readings: Am 8:4-7; 1 Tm 2:1-8; Lk 16:1-13

MASS INTENTIONS

September 23, Monday: St Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest

Readings: Ezr 1:1-6; Lk 8:16-18

6:45 AM Bishop Joseph Adamec (Pat & Tom Forr)

12:00 PM Rev. Paul E. Turnbull (Dave & Maureen Hanekamp)

September 24, Tuesday: Weekday

Readings: Ezr 6:7-8, 12, 14-20; Lk 8:19-21

6:45 AM Rose Hart (Rosemarie Fedeli)

12:00 PM Dorothy Berger (Kathy & Marge Moschella)

September 25, Wednesday: Weekday

Readings: Ezr 9:5-9; Lk 9:1-6

6:45 AM Benita Jorkasky (Elverda Holtz)

12:00 PM Kathleen Krug (Mary Schnaubelt)

September 26, Thursday: Sts. Cosmas & Damien, Martyrs

Readings: Hg 1:1-8; Lk 9:7-9

6:45 AM Betty Capouellez, Birthday (Family)

12:00 PM Alfred Rutolo, Birthday (Family)

September 27, Friday: St. Vincent de Paul, Priest

Readings: Hg 2:1-9; Lk 9:18-22

6:45 AM Monica Gimo (Geraldine Rose)

12:00 PM Albert & Sara Ann Rhoa (M/M Dave Rhoa)

September 28, Saturday: Sts. Wenceslaus, Ruiz, Martyrs

Readings: Zec 2:5-9, 14-15; Lk 9:43-45

8:00 AM Loretta Zeth (Gail & Herb Tomlinson)

12:00 PM Rebecca Hoover (Thomas Sciabica)

Vigil: Twenty-Sixth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Readings: Am 6:1, 4-7; 1 Tm 6:11-16; Lk 16:19-31

5:00 PM Joseph Pagliaro, Anniversary (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 **\$38,535.00**. 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 of the magnificent Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. The last tour date is Sunday, September 22 at 1:00 PM. Light refreshments will be provided. Please call the Parish Office (944-4603) to make reservations.

F.I.R.E Classes

Sunday, September 22nd, in the Cathedral Hall 6:15-8:15 PM.

Confirmation Prep Class- Fall Session

Sunday September 29th, ALL 10th graders will meet in the Cathedral Hall from 6:15-7:30 PM

First Reconciliation Prep

Students and parents will meet for the first session on October 2nd at 6:30 PM in the Seton Suite. Please call Chris Laraia, (814-312-7317) if you have any questions.

Rest in Peace

This past week Charles "Charlie" Craig died and was buried from the Cathedral. May he rest in the peace and the love of the risen Christ; may his family be comforted in faith.

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 Sundays, after the 10:00 AM Mass in the St. John's Room. Any young adult interested in joining our Young Adult Ministry or being a part of this new endeavor (TEAM) please call Tammy Datris at 934-2441. There will be younger individuals organizing this group on a monthly basis.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

RCIA is a process (a journey) through which people enter the Catholic Church. This includes people who have not been baptized (called catechumens) and people who have been baptized in another Christian Church now seeking full Communion with the Catholic Church (referred to as candidates). If you are interested in learning more about RCIA, join us Sunday from 11:00am - Noon in the Seton Suite. Please reach out to Tammy Datris, Director of RCIA at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. We look forward to you joining us!

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, September 15, 2019 - \$7,078.00

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 worldwide 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.

Charismatic Prayer Group Dates

Cathedral Charismatic Prayer Group and Alive in the Spirit student group. 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, the Prayer Group will be held at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament Church at 7:00 PM. Father Alan Thomas will be the speaker. All are welcome to join us. On Sunday, November 17th at 6PM, join us at The Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel, Loretta PA for a Festival of Praise. Praise and Worship, prayer ministry and witness talks. Stay tuned via emails and newspaper for additional 2019 dates.

Youth Protection Program

A live Safe Environment Training session will be held on October 19th from 8:30 AM -12:30, at St Rose of Lima Parish Hall, 5514 Roselawn Avenue, Altoona PA 16602. To register visit: Virtuonline.Org or call Justin Kirkland at 814-317-2606 or email: jkirkland@dioceseaj.org.

Thank You

Thank you to the following people who have come forward of their time and talent, Jean Koury, Danette Lee, Bill Smith, Paulette Farabaugh, Paula Miller, Patty McCloskey, Sue Dandrea, Audrey Breslin, Rich & Cheryl Williams, Dave Kimmel, Geraldine Rose, Jennifer Batisti Ortiz and Sharlene Kirsch. We are still in need of helpers to continue this cleaning effort and will meet every Wednesday at 9:00 AM. We are so blessed that so many have come forward to help. Please bring buckets and rags and join us.

Farewell

Father Alan Thomas would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Cathedral Parish and Our Lady of Fatima Parish for their kindness and patience with me during the last several months. I have been blessed to come to know so many good and faithful people, and I pray that your days ahead may bring growth and peace. I will continue to keep you in my thoughts and in my prayers. Sincerely in Christ Fr. Alan Thomas.

Remembrance

In the name of both parishes, I wish to offer a farewell to Sister Beverly Hmel, IHM, who died Friday September 13, 2019, at Our Lady of Peace Residence in Scranton. Sister Beverly was an Altoona native who spent many years both teaching and serving in the administration of Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School. She was also very involved in the Cathedral Parish. She made use of skills at calligraphy in many different ways and frequently led the Universal Prayer of the Faithful at daily masses. She was always willing to lend a hand whenever she could. May God give her the reward of her labors and allow her to participate in the heavenly liturgy.

Welcome

Monsignor Stanley Carson. Monsignor Carson has had many years of experience as a priest and pastor. He has served admirably as Vicar General of our Diocese, and he has respect of Bishops, Priests, and Deacons. Please give him your prayerful support.

Did You Remember?

Did you remember to bring non-perishable food items and paper products for the needy of our community? Bins are located at the three doors of the Cathedral.