

NOVEMBER 10, 2019

Scripture Reflection

Today's readings reinforce our faith that beyond death there is life with God forever. In the First Reading, taken from the book of Maccabees, a mother and her seven sons are put to death because of their loyalty to their Jewish faith. The mother is forced to watch as the seven sons are put to death on the day before she is killed. The sons' conviction in the resurrection of the dead enables them to remain faithful to their beliefs.

Not all Jews at the time of Jesus believed in the resurrection of the dead. The Sadducees were one such group and that is the pretext for posing their absurd question to Jesus in today's Gospel. Jesus' answer is concise and to the point, "The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob; and he is not God of the dead, but of the living, for to him all are alive." Jesus is referring to the story of Moses, who encounters God in the burning bush. God reveals his name to Moses as "I am . . . the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." The point Jesus makes is that God did not say, "I was their God," but that "I am their God." They are still alive because God is the God of the living, not of the dead. The very name of God "I AM." continues to hold them in existence. They are eternally alive because of God's eternal "I AM." God's name is assurance that our faithful departed are alive in God.

- **How does God's name, "I AM," assure us that our faithful friends and relatives are alive in God?**

Stewardship Reflections

As stewards we are called to be responsible caretakers of the time, talent, and treasure we have been blessed with on our journey. We are asked to put God first in our lives and to give in a deeper way than we have been asked before.

Many of us need to be reminded that the concept of Christian stewardship is not new. "Christ has no body on earth but yours; no hands but yours; no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which He is to go about doing good; yours are the hands with which He is to bless people now." St. Theresa of Avila.

Charismatic Prayer Group Dates

Cathedral Charismatic Prayer Group and Alive in the Spirit student group. Sunday, December 1st. All will be held at Bishop Guilfoyle High School from 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM.

On Sunday, November 17th at 6PM, join us at The Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel, Loretto, PA, for a Festival of Praise. Praise and Worship, prayer ministry and witness talks.

Weekly Mass at Our Catholic School

Holy Trinity Catholic School regularly celebrates Mass with our children each week. At the Altoona Campus, Mass is celebrated on Wednesday at 9:00AM at St. Therese Church. At the Hollidaysburg Campus, Mass is celebrated on Thursdays at 8:30AM at St. Michael Church. And at the Middle School Campus, Mass is celebrated on Friday at 8:30AM at St. Rose Church. All are welcome to join our children at Mass. This is a central and essential time that our Catholic School provides for our children each week.

Friar's Nook

Start off your Christmas shopping with a stop at The Friar's Nook Gift Shop Pre Black Friday Sale Nov. 16th -23rd! The entire store will be 20% off, with great savings on nativities, gifts, flags, cards, and much more! The shop is located at 793- Monastery Road, Hollidaysburg (on St. Bernadine Monastery campus), and the hours are Monday-Saturday 10:00 AM-4:00 PM. Please call 814-695-3802 with any questions.

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: ALTACATHEDRAL@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

Reverend Monsignor Stanley Carson, 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

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

November 10, 2019

Readings: 2 Mc 7:1-2,9-14; 2 Thes 2:11-16-3:5; Lk 20:27-38

MASS INTENTIONS

November 11, Monday: Saint Martin of Tours Bishop

Readings: Wis 1:1-7; Lk 17:1-6

6:45 AM + Kevin Sheets (Mom and Dad)

12:00 PM Annie Bauer Birthday (Son Daniel)

November 12, Tuesday: St. Josaphat, Bishop & Martyr

Readings: Wis 2:23-3:9; Lk 17:7-10

6:45 AM + Derek Behe Birthday (Mom & Dad)

12:00 PM + Tom Byrne Sr. Birthday (Pat & Family)

November 13, Wednesday: St. Frances Xavier Cabrini

Readings: Wis 6:1-11; Lk 17:11-19

6:45 AM + Monica Gimo (Gerry Rose)

12:00 PM + Sally Colledge (Pete Colledge & Family)

November 14, Thursday: Weekday

Readings: Wis 7:22-8:1; Lk 17:20-25

6:45 AM + David Baronner (Cliff & Jennifer Plank)

12:00 PM + Poor Souls (Anon)

November 15, Friday: St. Albert the Great, Bp. & Dr.

Readings: Wis 13:1-9; Lk 17:26-37

6:45 AM Lavelle Family (Phyllis Lavelle Sheets)

10:00 AM + Father Anthony Legarski Funeral Mass

12:00 PM + Trudy Eicher (Family and Friends)

November 16, Saturday: St. Margaret & St. Gertrude

Readings: Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9; Lk 18:1-8

8:00 AM + Salvatore Moffa (Estate)

12:00 PM + Peggy & Bernie Joyce (Family)

Vigil: Thirty-Third Sunday In Ordinary Time

Readings: Mal 3:19-20; 2 Thes 3:7-12; Lk 21:5-19

5:00 PM + Dave Lysinger (Mary Lysinger)

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 September we have pledges totaling **\$40,308.14**. 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.

FIRE CLASSES for November, 2019

Sunday November 17th 6:15 PM-8:15 PM

November 24, 2019 Sunday 6:15-7:30 PM

Eleventh Grade Confirmation Prep Session

All Catholic School, Home Schooled and

Religious Ed students and sponsor (or parent).

ADVENT CANDLES

Anyone interested in carrying the Advent Candles during the Opening Procession before Mass, please contact Chris Laraia, before November 24th at 814-312-7317.

Ministry to the Elderly, Seriously Ill and Grieving

We will be approaching the fifth year which began as a simple Thanksgiving Card to our parishioners who were on the First Friday visitation list and those residing in elder care homes. Our twenty person committee has been sending cards, making phone calls and visiting with some men and women who invited us into their homes. We are thankful for your support but want to tell you that committee members feel as they are receiving more than what they are giving. Paula Miller who began by praying a simple Hail Mary with a resident over four years ago shared, "I cannot begin to tell you how enriched my life has become since joining this ministry. After each visit, I would leave more blessed than when I arrived. Our homebound so appreciate that we, as a member of their parish family, remember them either with a card or a visit. Their smiles are priceless!"

If you can please call the office 814-944-4603, with the name and address of a family member or friend who you know would welcome a kind word and a prayer through the mail we would be able to reach out to many more. If you would like to join this ministry please call the office at 814-944-4603, or Jeanne Thompson at 814-317-2672. And we can always use stamps!

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.

Think Basket Bingo

Our first Basket Bingo meeting will be held on Thursday November 14, 2019, at 6:30 in the Cathedral Hall. **All are welcome!**

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, November 3, 2019 - \$8,413.00

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 Dattris 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 Dattris, Director of RCIA at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. We look forward to you joining us!

Annual Christian Mothers Collection

Christian Mothers will collect for the poor and needy in our Community the weekend of November 9th and 10th at all entrances after all the masses.

Christian Mothers Meeting

There will be a Christian Mothers Meeting November 13th at 6:30 PM in the Seton Suite entrance.

Final Live Training

Mandated Reporter and Protecting God's Children.

Saturday November 19, 2019 at Saint Patrick's in Newry, from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Contact Justin Kirkland@dioceseaj.org or call 814-317-2606.

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.

Book of Remembrance

In addition to the list of parishioners displayed in the vestibule who have died since last November, there will be a Book of Remembrance in the Our Mother of Sorrows/Pieta Chapel (the chapel with the image of Mary holding the crucified body of Jesus). You may list the names of your relatives and friends in that book during the month of November.

Remembering Our Dead

The following men and women were buried from the Cathedral Parish during the Year of Grace 2019. Please remember the following in prayer who are listed on our board of the deceased in the front of the Cathedral. We pray for the following: Mary Letrich, Robert Watkins, Mary Alice Winkler, Hilda Conrad, James Luther, Msgr. Roy Kline, Peter and Tom Lynam, Angeline Mangiacarne, Dorothy Stephens, Alberta Rapsky, Most Reverend Joseph Adamec, Rose Stefanon, Josephine Behe, Jean Herbert, Joseph Knott, Edward Wolfe, Dorothy Berger, Elmira Larue Johnson, John Adams Sr., Jane Davidson, Deacon John J. Szwarc, Karen Wachter Hazlet, Patricia Koeck, Marti Stefanon, Ida Davis, Charles Craig, William Boslet, Robert Wojcik, Elizabeth Consalvo, Louis Probst, Joseph Mercer Jr., Patricia Leap, Frances Nancy Speckhart, Gina Strayer, John E. Denis.

Gentle Reminder

In Catholic practice, whenever Mass is celebrated, the Church requests that the readers be members of the Catholic Church. At a wedding, at a funeral, at a baptism, any celebration taking place within Mass, the Church asks that the reader(s) be members of the Catholic family. When any of these specific liturgies take place outside of Mass, a non-Catholic baptized Christian may read the scripture.

Pray For Our Sick - Remember our sisters and brothers who are weakened by illness in your prayers. Prayers are sometimes the best prescribed medicine.

Gifting the Cathedral Parish

As wills and insurance policies are established with your attorney, remember the Cathedral Parish as a beneficiary of your estate. Perhaps you would like to direct your gift to a particular ministry or project at the Parish. Please realize that Mass Stipends go directly to fulfilling that canonical wish and do not aid the financial life of the Parish.