Relic Pilgrimage of Saint John Vianney’s Incorrupt Heart

The Shrine of Ars, France, has entrusted to the Knights of Columbus the major relic of Saint Jean Vianney’s incorrupt heart for a national tour of the United States from November 2018 through June 2019. The Knights of Columbus will provide this special opportunity to venerate a major relic of the patron of parish priests, whose holiness and integrity is a model for clergy and laity alike.

The relicary holding Father Vianney’s heart will be in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Altoona, on Thursday, January 31st. Veneration will occur throughout the day from 7:30 A.M. through 7:30 P.M. The regular daily Mass schedule will be observed: Masses at 8:45 A.M., 8:00 A.M., and Noon. Bishop will be the main celebrant at a concelebrated Mass at 5:30 P.M.

Confessors will be available for confessions throughout the day. Father Vianney was renowned for his gift as a confessor in the Sacrament of Penance. This holy priest undertook a life of heroic penance and prayer to draw his people away from sin and closer to God. Known for his wise spiritual counsels and the gift of reading hearts, he soon became a “prisoner” of the confessional, hearing confessions for up to eighteen hours a day. Thousands came from across Europe and beyond to seek this holy confessor. Pilgrimage to the Altoona Cathedral on this day will allow all to seek sacramental forgiveness in Christ.

At Bishop Bartchak’s request the Apostolic Penitentiary has granted permission to receive an Indulgence attached to the pilgrimage to the relic of Saint John Vianney. An indulgence is the remission of temporal punishment for sin, in response to prayers or good works. It is God, through the Church, who remits the temporal punishment. Receiving the indulgences requires: first, celebrating the Sacrament of Penance leading to a genuine conversion of heart; second, receiving Holy Communion while fully participating at Mass; third, venerating the relic of Saint John Vianney; and fourth, praying for the intentions of the Holy Father, Pope Francis, by reciting the Litany of Saints, Creed, Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory be.

Throughout the morning and afternoon, school children and adults will be able to venerate this first class relic of Saint John Vianney. The Knights of Columbus will stand as honor guards. Plan to be present this last day of January to venerate the relic of a holy parish priest. It will be an opportunity for grace and a special day to pray for vocations to the priesthood – a particular priority for the Knight of Columbus.

Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, J.C.D., Bishop
Reverend Monsignor Robert C. Mazur, Rector
Reverend Father Dennis M. Kurzdziel, Parishioner 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.bishopg Guilfoyle.org - 944-4014

DIRECTORS OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Chris Laraja - 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 - 944-2844
E-mail: lthayer@dioceseaj.org

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 P.M., Saturday: 12:30 P.M.

COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICES: Advent and Lent.

ANTONING 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 - Monday 7:45 AM.
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 afternoon 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Grades 9 thru 12.

Web: www.altoonacathedral.org
Fax: 814-942-4337
E-mail: altcathedral@dioceaj.org

Eucharist:

Sunday: 5:00 PM (Vigil)
8:00 AM
10:00 AM
12:00 Noon
Sunday: 5:00 PM (Vigil)
Weekday: 6:45 AM
8:00 AM
12:00 Noon
5:30 PM
Saturday: 8:00 AM
12:00 Noon

Serving the People of God in the City of Altoona Since 1851
January 1, Tuesday Christmas Day
Readings: 1 Jn 5:1-13, Lk 2:11-12, 14-16
8:00 AM Bernardine Garcia (Kathleen Krug)
12:00 PM Madeline Vogel (Sister Clementine O’Friel)

January 2, Wednesday Christmas Day
Readings: 1 Jn 4:19-21; Lk 2:44-48
7:00 AM Raymond McCall, Anniv. (Karen Querry)
8:00 AM Patty Wiedemer, Anniversary (Family)
6:45 AM Lew Fulare (Mr. and Mrs. Francis Dambeck)
12:00 PM Myra Mangiacarne (Wes & Patricia Heilman)

January 3, Thursday Christmas Day
Readings: 1 Jn 3:22-4:6; Mk 4:12-17, 23-35
7:00 AM St. Raymond of Penafort, Priest
Readings: 1 Jn 3:2-3, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12
6:45 AM Joseph Mangiacarne (Janet and Bob Nearhood)
8:00 AM Joseph Knoth (Ricki and Cammy Pulcino)
12:00 PM M. Virginia Jones (John Conti and Family)

January 4, Friday Christmas Day
Readings: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Lk 5:12-16
6:45 AM Raymond McCall, Anniv. (Karen Querry)
8:00 AM Kimberly Kokolil Moran, Anniv. (Parents)
12:00 PM Madeline Vogel (Sister Clementine O’Friel)

January 5, Saturday Christmas Day
Readings: 1 Jn 4:19-21; Lk 4:14-22
6:45 AM Raymond McCall, Anniv. (Karen Querry)
8:00 AM Patty Wiedemer, Anniversary (Family)
6:45 AM Bernie J. Joyce (Family)
12:00 PM Madeleine Vogel (Sister Clementine O’Friel)

January 6, Sunday Christmas Day
Readings: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Lk 5:12-16
6:45 AM Raymond McCall, Anniv. (Karen Querry)
8:00 AM Kimberly Kokolil Moran, Anniv. (Parents)
12:00 PM Madeline Vogel (Sister Clementine O’Friel)

January 7, Monday Christmas Day
Readings: 1 Jn 5:29-30; Lk 4:14-23
6:45 AM Joseph Mangiacarne (Janet and Bob Nearhood)
8:00 AM Joseph Knoth (Ricki and Cammy Pulcino)
12:00 PM M. Virginia Jones (John Conti and Family)

January 8, Tuesday Christmas Day
Readings: 1 Jn 4:19-21; Lk 2:44-48
7:00 AM Raymond McCall, Anniv. (Karen Querry)
8:00 AM Patty Wiedemer, Anniversary (Family)
6:45 AM Bernie J. Joyce (Family)
12:00 PM Madeleine Vogel (Sister Clementine O’Friel)

January 9, Wednesday Christmas Day
Readings: 1 Jn 4:19-21; Lk 2:44-48
7:00 AM Raymond McCall, Anniv. (Karen Querry)
8:00 AM Patty Wiedemer, Anniversary (Family)
6:45 AM Bernie J. Joyce (Family)
12:00 PM Madeleine Vogel (Sister Clementine O’Friel)

January 10, Thursday Christmas Day
Readings: 1 Jn 4:19-5:4; Lk 4:14-22
6:45 AM Raymond McCall, Anniv. (Karen Querry)
8:00 AM Kimberly Kokolil Moran, Anniv. (Parents)
12:00 PM Madeline Vogel (Sister Clementine O’Friel)

January 11, Friday Christmas Day
Readings: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Lk 5:12-16
6:45 AM Raymond McCall, Anniv. (Karen Querry)
8:00 AM Rose Hart (Daughter, Rose Marie)
12:00 PM Bernadine Garcia (Kathleen Knug)

January 12, Saturday Christmas Day
Readings: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 3:22-30
8:00 AM Herbert Kuttruff (Greg and Kathy Clemens)
12:00 PM Howard Peachman (Mike and Sherry Byrne)
Vigil: THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD
Readings: Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Tt 2:11-14, 3:4-7; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22
5:00 PM Frances Pagliaro, Anniversaries (Family)

Christmas Eve Liturgy
On the Sunday of Christmas season, we will gather at 6:30 PM to pray the Hours of the Church. Families are encouraged to make this a part of their Christmas prayer. We are the Parish Family of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, and all those with a deep love of the Eucharist are invited to be present before the Sacrament in exposition on the altar.

Calendar of Prizes 2019
Thank you to all who participated in this annual fundraiser for the Parish. The goal was to sell 1000 calendars and to collect $20,000.00 with half of the monies going to prizes. We have succeeded in reaching our goal. Please note: there are four outstanding calendars that have not been returned. The numbers are 088, 159, 290, and 677. If you have these numbers, please return them to the Cathedral Office. We do have request to purchase these calendars. Thank you.

Annual Sponsors for Cathedral Mass
Thank you to the following institutions who have again sponsored the weekly Sunday 10:00 AM Mass from the Cathedral on radio WFDB 1290AM. These donations have made the broadcast available to the homebound and ill who are unable to join us for Mass. The Cathedral Parish has received notes of appreciation from many listeners who tune in every Sunday morning for Mass. Also note that these donations have been a source of revenue for the Parish. We are grateful.

Mass Intentions
JANUARY 6, 2019

December 31, 2018 - $8,329.00
Christmas Season concludes with the Baptism of the Lord on Sunday, January 13th. The Christmas totals of the Christmas Collection will be provided in the January 20th bulletin as the Cathedral continues to receive your generous gifts.

ARISE
Cathedral Parish will begin a journey of prayer and reflection during the season of Lent. For six weeks you will be invited to gather in small groups to break open scripture and discuss how to live the faith in our daily lives. If you were unable to join the ARISE process in the fall, give some serious thought to joining a small group this Lent.

Basket Bingo Meeting
The first Basket Bingo meeting will be held on January 17, at 6:00 PM in the Cathedral Hall. Contact Lorraine Beck at 942-7774.

Sacrment Preparation
First Communion students and parents will meet in the Seton Suite on Wednesday, January 23rd at 6:30 PM. All students and a parent must attend. Please contact Chris Laraia at 312-7317 if you will not be able to attend this session.

Diocesan Marriage Preparation
Marriage Preparation sessions will be held in the Cathedral Parish Hall on Saturday, January 19th at 9:00 AM. Please call the parish office at 944-4603 for more information.

Liturical Ministers, Parish Council, Finance Council and Catechists
If you have not already received your Christmas gift, please come up to the ambulatory across from the main sacristy. Thank you for all you do in service to the Cathedral Parish. Your time and talent are acknowledged and appreciated.

Please remember our sick in your prayers.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION
Sunday, December 31, 2018 - $8,329.00

Eucharistic Adoration
Plan to take part in next month’s Eucharistic Adoration scheduled for Wednesday, February 6th from 12:30 PM until 2:30 P.M.

Annual March for Life
Again this year there will be a bus provided for the March for Life to the nation’s capital on Friday, January 18th. The cost is adults: $15.00, and students: $10.00. For reservations please call Patricia or Marko at 946-0681; Roxann Blazewicz at 656-8008; Anne Zelinsky at 942-2723.

Annual Prayer Service for Life
The Cathedral will again sponsor a prayer service on the eve of the March for Life. All are invited to pray on Thursday, January 17th at 7:00 P.M. Bishop presides at Evening Prayer. There will be a special blessing for the pilgrims going to Washington, D.C. the following day.

F.I.R.E. Classes
F.I.R.E. classes start today, January 6, from 2:00 PM until 4:00 PM in the Cathedral Hall. Next class is January 27.

Religious Education News PK-8
Classes resume on Sunday, January 6th at 8:30 AM. Until further notice, all classes will be dismissed from the Parish Center lower level alley doors. PK-K parents please continue to go to the classroom to pick up your child.

Memorials for Christmas Flowers
In memory of
Deceased of the Miller and Ball Families
Joseph and Bernice Wahl
Joseph and Bernice Wahl
In memory of

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Gifts to the Cathedral Parish
As wills and insurance policies are established and as the New Year begins, I urge you to consider the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament 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 the needs of the Church. If you have not already received your Christmas gift, please come up to the ambulatory across from the main sacristy. Thank you for all you do in service to the Cathedral Parish. Your time and talent are acknowledged and appreciated.

Please remember our sick in your prayers.

Liturical Reflection ...
Today we join the three men from the east who have come to acknowledge the presence of divinity on this earth. The infant child is indeed the Eternal Word of God. And this divine gift is just not for God’s holy people Israel. The Savior has arrived on this earth for the redemption of all peoples. These foreign travelers stand for all of us who are not members of God’s chosen people Israel. Nonetheless, God has sent his Savior Child for the redemption of all people.