

JANUARY 20, 2019

Scripture Reflection

In today's Gospel, we learn how Jesus saves the day by miraculously providing choice wine for a poorly planned wedding feast. Jesus' ministry began because a friend needed help with a wedding. The miracle at Cana is also a lesson in discipleship. This is why the church proclaims it near the beginning of the season of Ordinary Time. In this narrative, Christians can find a lesson for their own lives as they continue Jesus' mission, which, according to John, began at this feast. John's understanding of Jesus is as simple as it is profound. God loves humanity and acted to save it from destruction.

Everything that the Son learned from the Father he taught to the disciples. This teaching can be summed up in the washing of the feet and the commandment to love one another as Jesus loved us. All who believe in the Son and pattern their lives according to his example and commandment will share in the same Spirit of divine love that Jesus knew.

God's love hits a dead end in those who do not share it. Jesus experienced that love perfectly and shared it especially through the miracles he performed for others, but it was not only in these acts of healing and deliverance that Jesus shared God's gifts. Divine love drew Jesus' attention even to commonplace needs. A shortage of wine for a wedding does not symbolize the human condition as vividly as demonic possession or fatal illness. Nonetheless, his friends' predicament gave him an opportunity to share the love that God had first shared with him.

Jesus' disciples today must seek similar opportunities to share the divine love they have received. It is not enough to place one's faith in the Son and enjoy personal confidence in the Spirit that comes from belief. Believers must let that love draw their attention to other's needs, so that through service, the divine love they have received can grow ever stronger.

- **How have you loved others the way God has loved you? How can you share God's love more fully?**

AT HOME with the WORD 2019, Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, pg. 39. AMERICAMAGAZINE, "What can we do to share the love of God?" Michael R. Simone, S.J., December 28, 2018.

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 **reliquary** 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 6:45 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 indulgence 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 holy relic of Saint John Vianney; and fourth, praying for the intentions of the Holy Father, Pope Francis, by reciting the Apostles' 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.

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 - 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@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
8:00 AM
12:00 Noon
Saturday: 8:00 AM
12:00 Noon

Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, J.C.D., Bishop

Reverend Monsignor Robert C. Mazur, Rector

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

SECOND SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 20, 2019

Readings: *Is 62:1-5; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11*

MASS INTENTIONS

- January 21, Monday: Saint Agnes, Virgin & Martyr
Readings: Heb 5:1-10; Mk 2:18-22
6:45 AM Kevin Sheets (Crouse Family)
8:00 AM Irene Kelly Wood Anniversary (Son, Matt Wood)
12:00 PM Joyce McNeal (Doug and Jan Stoehr)
- January 22, Tuesday: Mass for Peace and Justice
Readings: Heb 6:10-20; Mk 2:23-28
6:45 AM Julianne Seidel (Don Sgro)
8:00 AM Billy R. Geis, Anniversary (Family)
12:00 PM Ron Hoover (Dot Oberneder)
- January 23, Wednesday: St. Vincent, Deacon and Martyr
Readings: Heb 7:1-3, 15-17; Mk 3:1-6
6:45 AM Janet Tomlinson (Tom and Patricia Forr)
8:00 AM Stephen Flanagan (Colleen Dillon/Boyd)
12:00 PM Jim Davidson, Birthday (Family)
- January 24, Thursday: Saint Francis de Sales, Bp. & Dr.
Readings: Heb 7:25-8:6; Mk 3:7-12
6:45 AM Mary Letrich (Cathedral Parish)
8:00 AM Harry Smith (Mary Lysinger)
12:00 PM Irene Schlecht (Pete and Kathy Starr)
- January 25, Friday: The Conversion of St. Paul, Apostle
Readings: Acts 22:3-16; Mk 16:15-18
6:45 AM BeBe Milliron (Adam, Paige, Hannel, Watchey)
8:00 AM Joe Wiedemer (Murphy and Patty Montler)
12:00 PM Tom and Mary Irwin (Irwin Family)
- January 26, Saturday: St. Timothy, and St. Titus Bishops
Readings: 2 Tm 1:1-8; Mk 3:20-21
8:00 AM Brian McCaulley, Anniversary (Family)
12:00 PM Barbara Byers, Birth. (Joan & Jim Swansiger)
Vigil: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Readings: Neh 8:2-4; 1 Cor 12:12-30; Lk 1:1-4; 4; 14-21
5:00 PM Edgar Alan Johnston, Birth. (Wife, Family & Mother)

Collection for March for Life

Last week a collection was taken at the Cathedral doors after all Masses to help cover the cost of transportation to the March for Life. Cathedral Parish collected **\$942.61**. Thank you for your generous response.

Rest in Peace

This past week Alice Winkler died and was buried. May Alice know the peace that the Risen Christ offers. May her children, grandchildren, and family members be comforted in the faith.

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.

Week of Christian Unity

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity began Friday, January 18, and concludes on Friday, January 25. You are encouraged to participate in the opportunities for ecumenical prayer.

Dates for Ecumenical Services

Today, Sunday, January 20, the ecumenical service in Huntingdon, has been canceled.

On Sunday, January 27, **Bishop Gregory of Nyssa** of the Orthodox tradition will host an ecumenical service at Christ the Saviour Cathedral, 300 Garfield Street, Johnstown, 3:00 PM.

Girl Scout Gold Award

Olivia Butler, member of The Cathedral and junior at Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School, is a Girl Scout Ambassador currently working towards achieving her Girl Scout Award. The Gold award represents the highest achievement in Girl Scouting, recognizing girls who demonstrate extraordinary leadership through take-action projects that have sustainable impact in their communities and beyond.

Olivia is currently designing and will soon be installing Stations of the Cross outside of Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School. In addition to the Stations themselves, Olivia is creating and printing multi-lingual booklets to be used by all members of the community as they prayerfully wind their way through the Stations of the Cross. Olivia hopes that this project will provide the community with a special place for prayer and reflection.

To learn more about her project or how you can make a donation towards the project please contact the Bishop Guilfoyle Business Office at 814-944-5226. All donations are greatly appreciated. Those making a donation of \$150 or more may choose to have the Stations of the Cross placed in recognition or honor of a family member, friend, or group. All such honorees will have their names included on one plaque placed adjacent to the Stations of the Cross.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, January 13, 2019 - **\$6,493.79**

Christmas Collection - **\$21,056.00**

Christmas Flowers - **\$3,055.00**

Solemnity of Mary Collection - **\$2,247.75**

Contribution Reports for Income Tax purposes may be obtained by calling the Parish Office: 944-4603.

First Communion Sessions - 2019

First Communion Sessions are scheduled for Wednesdays, January 23, February 27 and March 27, 2019. All sessions are held in the Seton Suite from 6:30 PM until 8:00 PM. All students MUST be accompanied by an adult. If unable to attend a session, please call Chris Laraia at 814-312-7317. First Communion at the Cathedral will be on Sunday, May 5 at the 10:00 AM Mass. First Communion at Our Lady of Fatima Parish will be scheduled later. Practice for Cathedral students will be held on Thursday, May 2 at 4:00 PM in the Church and Confessions will be heard following practice. Group and individual pictures will be taken after the 10:00 AM First Communion Mass.

Bishop Guilfoyle Raffle

The annual raffle at Bishop Guilfoyle High School will be held **February 6th** at halftime during the Girls Basketball Game in the BG gym. Cathedral Parishioners from our Catholic high school will be selling tickets at the doors this weekend January 19 and 20 after all the masses at the Cathedral doors. **Each ticket costs \$5.00**. Prizes include: 1st Prize \$10,000.00; 2nd Prize: \$1,500.00; 3rd Prize: \$1,000.00; and five 4th Prizes of \$100.00. Help our BG students sell their raffle tickets. Thank you.

Calendar of Prizes 2019

Thank you to all who participated in this annual fundraiser for the Parish. If you have number **088**, please return it to the Cathedral Office. Thank you.

Liturgical Reflection ...

This liturgical year the weekly inserts will review the practice of Eucharistic Adoration in the life of the church. Many clergy and laity have found this devotion to be strengthening in their spiritual lives. Parishes are encouraged to set regular hours for the solemn Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament allowing time for quiet prayer and reflection. Reverence before the Blessed Sacrament is a clear and practiced tradition in our Catholic faith. In the hectic, busy schedules of life, Eucharistic Adoration gives an opportunity to pause and be still before the Divine Presence. Believers take time to make visits to the Blessed Sacrament in a church and to attend scheduled times of Eucharistic Adoration.

2019, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 South Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648.

Day of Prayer

Tuesday, January 22, all dioceses in the United States of America are observing a Day of Prayer for the **Legal Protection of Unborn Children**. January 22 is the day of the anniversary of the Supreme Court decision, *Roe vs. Wade* (1973). The Church in America prays for the violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion, and of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee to the right to life. Members of the Diocese are encouraged to go to Mass on this day, pray the rosary, the chaplet of Divine Mercy, fast and abstain, and join the Altoona-Johnstown family in praying the following:

O God, who adorn creation with splendor and beauty, and fashion human lives in your image and likeness, awaken in every heart reverence for the work of your hands, and renew among your people a readiness to nurture and sustain your precious gift of human life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Cathedral Charismatic Prayer Group

The Cathedral Prayer Group will meet on Thursday, January 31, at 7:00 PM, at Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School. "Come to his gates with thanksgiving; enter his courts with praise" (Psalm 100:4). Join us for Praise and Worship, Spirit-filled teachings and witnessing, prayer ministry, and fellowship! All are welcome!

THANK YOU

Many thanks to the parishioners who showed up after Christmas Evening Prayer last Sunday to help take down the Christmas decorations. With the help of over a dozen people, a lot of work was accomplished within a short period of time. Thank you to the men, women, and young people for sharing your time with this project.

EUCHARISTIC

ADORATION