

JANUARY 27, 2019

Scripture Reflection

In Luke's Gospel, Jesus is foremost a prophet. God had a message for human society, and Jesus was the herald of God's Kingdom. Luke relates many of the same miracles one finds in Matthew and Mark, but the most memorable parts of his Gospel are actually not the actions of Jesus but his words.

The kingdom of God that Jesus revealed was hidden in plain sight. The essential component of Jesus' messianic mission was to draw attention to this. Luke found a foreshadowing of this in the prophecy of Isaiah, which Jesus quotes in today's Gospel. Liberty for captives and healing for the broken in body and spirit were the distant goal; the first step was proclaim that such things were even possible. For many, faith was a dying ember, inspiring only the faintest wisp of hope. Jesus recognized quickly that his first responsibility was to reignite that faith in the hearts of many.

Jesus proclaimed this message with boldness, and it led to the transformation of many. This boldness fascinated Luke, who identified it as key to the ministry of both Jesus and the Apostles. Speaking the good news with boldness did reignite the faith of many. Simply reminding people of God's ancient promises aroused excitement and hope.

The right word at the right moment can change a life. The right response to a devastating crisis can renew an entire world. This Sunday's Gospel offers a challenge to today's disciples, it is to remember the power of bold speech. Although we may need new words to communicate the message, Jesus' own experience shows us that God's ancient promises have an enduring power to inspire faith and excite hope. Divine grace remains active, but it requires someone with a living faith to be fully effective.

- **How do you proclaim God's promises with boldness?**

AMERICA MAGAZINE, "Jesus revealed God's kingdom was hidden in plain sight." Michael R. Simone, S.J., January 11, 2019.

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

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF GOD IN THE CITY OF ALTOONA SINCE 1851

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

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 27, 2019

Readings: Neh 8:2-4; 1 Cor 12:12-30; Lk 1:1-4; 4; 14-21

MASS INTENTIONS

January 28, Monday: Saint Thomas Aquinas Pr. and Dr.

Readings: Heb 9:15, 24-28; Mk 3:22-30

6:45 AM Kenneth Lytle & Donna Lytle Civils (Skip Cowan)
8:00 AM Jim Davidson (Cathedral Finance Council)
12:00 PM Lois Riley, Anniversary (Family)

January 29, Tuesday: Weekday

Readings: Heb 10:1-10; Mk 3:31-35;

6:45 AM Dec. Michael & Ella Gibbons Family (Irwin Family)
8:00 AM Steve Flanagan (Wiedemer Family)
12:00 PM Tom Sutton (Pat Rhoa)

January 30, Wednesday: Weekday

Readings: Heb 10:11-18; Mk 4:1-20

6:45 AM Tom Byrne (Tom and Patricia Forr)
8:00 AM David Baronner (Mike and Sherry Byrne)
12:00 PM Walter Mazur, Anniversary (Family)

January 31, Thursday: Saint John Bosco, Priest

Readings: Heb 10:19-25; Mk 4:21-25

6:45 AM Joe Tomlinson (Joe and Patty Pufka)
8:00 AM Carrie Kibler Detwiler (Mom and Dad)
12:00 PM Mary Kay Billman (Janet & Michele Belsey)
5:30 PM Alice Winkler (Cathedral Parish)

February 1, Friday: Weekday

Readings: Heb 10:32-39; Mk 4:26-34

6:45 AM Loretta Batkiewicz (Jane Davidson)
8:00 AM Barbara Byers (Liz & Leslie Ventre/Mary Leamer)
10:00 AM Catholic Schools Week (Holy Trinity Catholic)
12:00 PM Bob Smithmyer (Wife)

February 2, Saturday: The Presentation of The Lord

Readings: Mal 3:1-4; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40

8:00 AM Herbert Kutruff (Tomassetti Family)
12:00 PM Ray Plummer (Bernie and Louise Joyce)

Vigil: Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Jer 1:4-5, 17-19; 1 Cor 12:31-13:13; Lk 4:21-30

5:00 PM M. Virginia Jones (Mary Lysinger Family)

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!

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 concluded on Friday, January 25.

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.

Catholic Schools Week Insert

There is an insert in this week's bulletin regarding Catholic Schools Week.

Eucharistic Adoration

Plan to take part in next month's Eucharistic Adoration scheduled for **Wednesday, February 6th** from 12:30 P.M. until 8:00 P.M.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, January 20, 2019 - \$4,322.00

Christmas Collection - \$21,356.00

Solemnity of Mary Collection - \$2,307.75

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 26 and 27, 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.

Prayers Shawls

Anyone interested in knitting or crocheting Prayer Shawls, please contact Lorraine Beck at 942-7774.

EUCCHARISTIC

ADORATION

Liturgical Reflection ...

For several centuries, the traditional Forty Hours Devotion has been celebrated in parishes as a time of renewal and prayer. In the early 1500s at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Milan, Italy, Forty Hours Devotion began probably as a commemoration of the forty hours that Christ's body lay in the tomb between his death and resurrection. By the 1700s the form of the devotion was codified for the churches in Rome. Forty Hours Devotion was first approved for the diocese of Baltimore in 1857 and extended to all the dioceses of the United States in 1868. The Second Vatican Council encouraged the practice of solemn annual exposition in every parish.

Order for the Solemn Exposition of the Holy Eucharist, 1993, Introduction, Number 1.

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

Gluten Sensitivity

There may be parishioners who have found that they have physical disorders related to gluten intolerance. The spectrum of illnesses includes celiac disorder, wheat allergy, bloating, abdominal discomfort, diarrhea, muscular disturbances, and bone or joint pain. The ordinary hosts distributed at Communion contain gluten. If you have found that you are gluten sensitive, special bread is available that possess a very low gluten content. Please tell the priest before Mass, and he will consecrate the low-gluten host for you to receive at that Mass.

Mardi Gras Celebration

The Parish will gather for our annual Mardi Gras Party on **March 3 at 6:00 PM** in the Cathedral Hall. All parishioners are invited to join in the celebration prior to our forty day Lenten journey. The event promises great food for all and there will be games for the children. Clear your calendars and plan to join the parish family for a great evening of socializing, eating, and games.

Preparation for Infant Baptism

There will be a baptismal session for parents preparing to have their child baptized on Tuesday, February 19 at 7:00 PM in the Seton Suite (below the rectory). Please note that baptisms are normally not celebrated during the Lenten Season. Ash Wednesday is March 6, 2019. Parents are encouraged to take this class prior to the birth of your child.

F.I.R.E. Schedule

The next F.I.R.E. Class will be today, January 27 in the Cathedral Hall from 2:00 PM until 4:00 PM.

Rest in Peace

This past week Jim Luther died and was buried. May Jim know the peace that the Risen Christ offers. May his family be comforted in the faith.