

FEBRUARY 17, 2019

Scripture Reflection

In today's Gospel, we encounter Jesus and a large crowd of Jews and non-Jews gathered on a plain in Galilee to hear him speak. He goes on to deliver the Beatitudes, which are about trust in God who cares for those who suffer. Jesus also includes a matching series of "woes" that focus on those who have turned away from God by refusing to do their part in alleviating these sufferings.

Every culture develops false notions of righteousness; in this the world of first-century Judaism is not different from that of 21st-century Christianity. In Jesus' culture many assumed that wealth, prosperity, happiness and social inclusion were signs that one's life was right in the eyes of God. Jesus insists that poverty, hunger, grief and exclusion are not signs of the absence of God's love.

Luke's Jesus insists, you rich might have a problem: Where did your money come from? Likewise, you who are satiated and overweight. Who grew your food? Who brought it to you and prepared it for you? Did they have enough to eat? You who laugh now, look around you! Do you think God is as entertained as you are by the world you have built? And you who everyone loves, what has happened to others who have shared similar fame? God does not see with human eyes, so call happy only those who live according to divine instruction.

Twenty-first-century society has a nearly inexhaustible supply of false righteousness. Woe to you well-educated, for you will find no work. And woe to you who lead sheltered lives, for you will not see Christ arrive among the outcasts. But happy you high-school dropouts; someday you will achieve your goals. Happy you drug addicts, someday you will be clean. Happy you migrants and refugees and you who have no place to call home. Rejoice and leap, for you will recognize the Son of Man, who when he came also found no place to lay his head.

- **If you are experiencing difficulties, how does today's Gospel comfort you?**

AT HOME with the WORD 2019, Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, pg. 47. AMERICA MAGAZINE, "The Beatitudes remind us of our own false righteousness." Michael R. Simone, S.J., January 25, 2019.

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

Holy Trinity Catholic School Preschool

The Holy Trinity Catholic School is looking to expand our preschool and we want to make sure that it fits the needs of our families and community. Below is a link to the survey. Please complete the survey as soon as possible. We would like to gather as much information as possible from everyone. If you are interested in the summer pre-school program, please leave your email address at the end of the survey. We will be in touch with additional information. Thank you for your help. Preschool Survey Link:

<https://goo.gl/forms/5Trvs3H3HmyAqq6y2>.

THINK BASKET BINGO-SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2019

It's that time of year again for our **5th Annual Basket Bingo**. We're asking for your support. We are in need of Gift Cards, new items such as home decor, non-perishables, theme baskets, household items, lottery tickets, and monetary donations. Items can be dropped off at the Parish Office during the week between 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM, or may be picked up by calling: Lorraine Beck, 942-7774.

Baptism Congratulations!

On Sunday, February 10, Samuel Joseph Ickes was baptized and welcomed into our Cathedral Parish Family. Congratulations to parents, Jesse and Nicole. May the graces of the Sacrament of Baptism strengthen Samuel and the adults who care for him.

Shoe Collection Drive

SAINT VINCENT DePAUL Financial Needs Office is conducting a shoe drive fundraiser to raise funds to support our citizens in need of financial support. We will earn funds based on the total weight of the pairs of gently worn, used and new shoes collected, as [Funds2orgs](#) will issue a check for the collected shoes. The monies earned will be used to support our citizens in need. [Funds2orgs](#) works with micro-entrepreneurs in helping them create small businesses in developing countries such as Haiti. It's a win-win for everyone. We will have a box available for collection of these shoes at the back of your church starting Sunday Feb. 10th until March 30th. By donating your gently worn, used and new shoes, you can make a difference in peoples' lives around the world. Thank you and may God reward you richly for your generosity.

Prayer Shawls

If anyone needs Prayer Shawls, please contact Lorraine Beck at 942-7774.

Please remember our sick in your prayers.

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

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 17, 2019

Readings: Jer 17:5-8; 1 Cor 15:12,16-20; Lk 6:17, 20-26

MASS INTENTIONS

February 18, Monday: Weekday

Readings: Gn 4:1-15, 25; Mk 8:11-13

6:45 AM Milt & Dottie Cupples (Patricia & Tom Forr)
8:00 AM Edward Flanagan Ann.(Patty & Bear McCloskey)
12:00 PM Janet Tomlinson (Joshua Walker)

February 19, Tuesday: Weekday

Readings: Gn 6:5-8, 7:1-15, 10; Mk 8:14-21

6:45 AM Peggy Joyce (Family)
8:00 AM Anna Mercer (Charles Angermeier Family)
12:00 PM M. Virginia Jones (Colette & T.J. Evangelisto)

February 20, Wednesday: Weekday

Readings: Gn 8:6-13, 20-22; Mk 8:22-26

6:45 AM Nicholas John Moffa (Estate)
8:00 AM George Strobert (McNelis All-Stars)
12:00 PM Msgr. Roy Kline (Joseph & Rebecca Clark Family)

February 21, Thursday: St. Peter Damian, Bsp. & Dr.

Readings: Gn 9:1-13; Mk 8:27-33

6:45 AM Michael & Ella Gibbons Family (Irwin Family)
8:00 AM Dick, Rick Cowan, Karen Dougherty (Family)
12:00 PM James Joseph Luther (William Tremmel)

February 22, Friday: The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

Readings: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Mt 16:13-19

6:45 AM Peter Lynam (Cathedral Parish)
8:00 AM William V. Bettwy (Tim & JoAnn Bettwy)
12:00 PM Wanda Watkins (Russ & Loretta Wharton)

February 23, Saturday: St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr

Readings: Heb 11:1-7; Mk 9:2-13

8:00 AM Joyce David (Mike and Sherry Byrne)
12:00 PM Herb Kuttruff (Betty Ann Johnson)

Vigil: Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: 1 Sm 26:2,7-9,12-13,22-23; 1 Cor 15:45-49; Lk 6:27-38

5:00 PM William and John Drass (Bart & Eileen Hmel)

Mardi Gras Celebration

The Parish will gather for our annual Mardi Gras Party on **March 2 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.

ARISE

Sign-up sheets for the Lenten journey with ARISE are on the table at the Cathedral Square door. The Lenten theme is Change Our Hearts - discussion groups begin to gather the week of March 3rd. Those that gathered in the fall are invited back. Those who did not join then are invited back to become part of a group this Lent.

This Lent the theme is CONVERSION- both as a turning from and as turning toward. This is an invitation to encounter and rediscover Christ in new ways. This is an opportunity to reinvigorate our faith, to recognize the Holy Spirit as the empowerment that anchors our daily lives. We are called to be disciples of the Lord, to attempt to live each day more in the image of Jesus Christ.

Soda, Please !!

With the upcoming **Mardi Gras Party** (March 2nd) and the Fish Luncheons throughout Lent, Parishioners are asked to donate soda - cans or bottles. This will deter costs. You can bring the soda and place it in the bins at the Cathedral doors or drop off at the Parish Center. Thank you.

Blessed Candles

On February 2, the Presentation of the Lord all candles to be used this liturgical year were blessed at Mass. If you wish to have blessed candles in your home, these sacramentals are located on the table in the Blessed Mother Chapel. A box containing two (2) blessed candles costs \$5.00; and a glass votive candle costs \$5.00. Make sure to use these blessed candles on those special occasions in your family when there is a birthday, anniversary, or someone is ill.

Religious Education Community Service Project

Cathedral Parish Religious Education Program is offering a service opportunity to make **non-sew knotted lap quilts** for the Residents at Garvey Manor. Only 7 quilts are now needed. You can bring one home to make, or come in between Religious Education Sunday class and the 10:00 AM Mass. The fleece fabric and instructions will be provided.

If you would like to help, please contact Chris Laraia at 312-7317, or Jeanne Thompson at 934-2510, or the Church Office at 944-4603. If you would like to help by making a \$8.50 donation to defray the cost of the fabric for a quilt that would be greatly appreciated too! We would like the quilts to be returned by February 24.

Help Needed

Help is needed for our Lenten mailing here at the Cathedral Parish Center, on Thursday February 21st at 9:00 AM. Use the 13th Avenue door, ring the bell to be left in. Hope to see you there.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, February 10, 2019 - \$8,123.00

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, 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.

Precious Blood of the Lord

Because of the seriousness of this flu season, Bishop Bartchak has asked that the Precious Blood of the Lord not be offered at Mass temporarily. It is the belief of the Catholic Church that the whole Body of Christ is present under either form of consecrated bread and wine. Also, the exchange of the sign of peace should avoid bodily contact. A reverent nod with eye contact and a smile will be the temporary practice. Reception of Holy Communion on the hand is encouraged; however, reception on the tongue may not be denied. These norms are in effect throughout the winter months or until the flu season is over.

Flower Lovers and Gardeners!

The Blair Garden Club will be traveling to the Philadelphia Flower Show on Wednesday March 6th. Anyone interested should call Emma Kowalski at 814-942-0202. The cost is \$ 70.00.

Lenten Fish Lunches

Cathedral Parish Social Committee will again offer the delicious Fish Lunches on Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent. (There is no Fish Lunch offered on Good Friday.) The menu includes a Fish sandwich, your choice of macaroni and cheese or pierogie or french fries or haluski for \$8.00 (includes drink). They will be serving this from 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM or till sold out. Call in take-out orders of ten or more. Plan to participate in this annual Lenten project. Do you know someone who is homebound and would appreciate a delicious fish sandwich this Lent? Plan to reach out to others this Lent. Spread the great news with others about our unbelievably delicious Fish Lunches!

Confirmation Preparation

A session will be held this evening for 11th Grade Confirmation Candidates and their sponsors, from 6:15 PM until 7:15 PM in the Church Hall. Your Saint Paper is due. A photo of candidates will be taken.

Looking for Service Hours? Sign up to help at the Mardi Gras Saturday March 2nd, 6:00 PM - ?

F.I.R.E. Class

Sunday February 24th. Class will be feeding the Hungry in the Cathedral Hall from 1:30 PM until 3:30 PM. Students should in the hall by 12:30 PM.

Next **F.I.R.E.** Class will be on Sunday March 3, 2019 in the Cathedral Hall.

Rest in Peace

This past week Angeline Mangiacarne died and was buried from the Cathedral. Angeline died at the age of 102. She was the oldest parish member. Angeline received the Blessed Sacrament every First Friday. And she always had a smile to share. We thank God for gracing her with a long life; may God now grace her with eternal peace.

Eucharistic Adoration

Plan to take part in next month's Eucharistic Adoration scheduled for **Wednesday, March 6th**.

EUCCHARISTIC

ADORATION

Liturgical Reflection ...

In the celebration of the Mass the chief ways in which Christ is present in his Church emerge clearly one after the other. First, Christ is present in the very assembly of the faithful who has gathered in his name. Next, he is present in his word, sacred scripture, proclaimed and broken open. Also, he is present in the person of the ordained minister. Finally, and above all, Christ is present in the Eucharistic elements of his very Body and Blood. In a way that is completely unique, the whole and entire Christ, God and man, is substantially and permanently present in the Blessed Sacrament.

Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist Outside Mass, 1975, Number 6.

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