Scripture Reflection

The integrity and credibility of a person is evident in the words that he or she speaks. Today’s readings help us reflect on our tendency to overlook our faults but judge others. These Scriptures provide an opportunity to examine our need to act harshly towards others while kindly to ourselves.

Luke structures the text in this Sunday’s Gospel passage around two proverbs, which he calls “parables.” The First, “Can a blind person guide a blind person?” Encourages self-scrutiny. Jesus is especially severe with the disciples. If they learn well, they will become like him; but if they fail prey to self-deception, they will fail and drag others down too.

In the second proverb, “A good tree does not bear rotten fruit,” Jesus reminds his followers of the dangers of hypocrisy. The word hypocrite originally came the language of the theater and referred to an actor skilled in mimicry. A hypocritical disciple can say all the right words and can even perform certain highly visible actions, but only those with true commitment and perseverance will live according to the Gospel. The pattern of their consistent deeds will reveal the nature of their inner character.

Jesus offers God’s own example as a model for transformation and character. In this, Jesus reveals the roots of his teaching in the traditions of Israel. It is not enough for his disciples to believe that God loves them or that God acted to overlook our faults but judge others. These Scriptures provide an opportunity to examine our need to act harshly towards others while kindly to ourselves.

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.

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.

St. Vincent de Paul - Altoona Thrift Store
The Altoona Thrift Store is in need of furniture donations. We sell what we can to help people in need in the community with utilities, rent, oil, etc. There are also individuals and families that receive furniture at no cost. Call for more information, 814-943-1981, ext. 102.

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

Thank You! High School F.I.R.E. Students
Last Sunday our High School F.I.R.E. Students fed 125 dinners to the needy in our community. Thanks to the Kitchen Staff, F.I.R.E. students, and parents who helped serve these meals.
**EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**MARCH 3, 2019**

**Readings:**  
Sir 27:4-7; 1 Cor 15:54-58; Lk 6:39-45

**MASS INTENTIONS**

March 4, Monday: Saint Casimir  
**Readings:** 17:20-24, Mk 10:17-27

6:45 AM Marianna Mignogna Moffa (Estate)  
8:00 AM Susan Conahye (Debbie & Ron Crammer)

12:00 PM Joseph, Anne & Neil Bauer (Son, Daniel)

March 5, Tuesday: Weekday  
**Readings:** Sir 35:1-12; Mk 10:28-31

6:45 AM Joe Tolumnin (Patty Koch)  
8:00 AM Joe Wiedemer (Della Skupien)

12:00 PM John Betwby (Stephen Krish Family)

March 6, Wednesday: Ash Wednesday  
**Readings:** Jl 2:12-18; 2 Cor 5:6-20; 6:1-6, 16-18

6:45 AM Julianne Seidel (Jean Fornwalt)  
8:00 AM Hilda Conrad (Jeff and Elaine Spencer)

12:00 PM Sally Collode (Pete Collode & Family)

5:30 PM Rose Ciavarello (Steve & Kim Krawick)

March 7, Thursday: Sts. Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs  
**Readings:** Dt 30:15-30; Lk 9:22-25

6:45 AM Mike Chisko (Family)  
8:00 AM Pat Ratchford (Skip Cowan Family)

12:00 PM Myra Mangiacarne (Richard & Marcia Smith)

March 8, Friday: Saint John of God, Religious  
**Readings:** Is 58:1-9; Mt 9:14-15

6:45 AM Dwight Dittsworth (Fred & Gail Martynowska)  
8:00 AM Charles Brady (Doe & Joe Shellenberger)

12:00 PM Bernia Garcia (Barb Kari)

February 9, Saturday: Saint Frances of Rome, Religious  
**Readings:** Is 58:9-14; Lk 5:27-32

8:00 AM Joseph Knott (Larry and Kathy Knott)  
12:00 PM Howard Peachman (Mike and Sherry Byrne)

Vigi: First Sunday of Lent  
**Readings:** Dt 26:4-10; Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13

5:00 PM Alfred Rutolo, Anniv. (Daughter and Family)

Please remember our sick in your prayers.

**Lenten Easter Mailing**

Parishioners were mailed the schedule for the Cathedral’s annual twenty-day journey of Lent, the Three Days, and Easter Season this past week. If you did not receive this mailing, please call the Parish Office and a copy will be forwarded.

**ARISE**

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 them 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.

**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, themes, 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.

**An Idea for Lenten Season**

Lent will begin on Wednesday, March 6th. Give serious thought to the 1-1-1 Plan: one sin, one add-in, one give-up. (1) Concentrate or focus on one sin or fault that is getting in the way of your relationship with God. (2) Add one positive activity that will deepen your prayer and spiritual life (especially if you think you are too busy to put anything more into prayer, fasting, and almsgiving). (3) Deny yourself something you really like or are attached to.

**Station of the Cross**

There will be Stations of the Cross starting Friday March 8, at 7:00 PM.

**St. Leonard’s Home**

St. Leonard’s Home will host its 4th Annual Fundraiser - Art Sale on Tuesday, March 5th and will include traditional Lenten devotional items including Magnificat Lenten Companion, books, CDs, and much more! The shop is located across from St. Bernadine Monastery at 703 Monastery Road, Hollidaysburg. The shop hours are Monday- Saturday: 10:00 AM-4:00 PM and for questions, please call 814-695-3802.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

**Sunday, February 24, 2019 - $7,476.00**

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

**Eucharistic Adoration, March 6**

Our monthly day of Eucharistic Adoration will be Wednesday, March 6, which is Ash Wednesday. What a great opportunity for prayer as we begin the forty day journey to the Three Days of the Lord’s death and resurrection. Monthly Eucharistic Adoration at the Cathedral is from 12:30 P.M. until 8:00 P.M. Note: The Blessed Sacrament will be reserved for the 5:30 P.M. Mass with the distribution of ashes; the Blessed Sacrament will be placed in exposition after that Mass. As Lent begins plan to make time (a half hour to an hour) in quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in exposition. Come to the Blessed Sacrament Chapel and reflect on the beginning of your Lenten journey of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

If you wish, you can stop in the Cathedral Hall and enjoy one of our delicious Fish Lunche, served from 11:00 A.M. until 1:30 P.M., before going up into the Cathedral for prayer.

**Friars’ Nook Gift Shop-Mardi Gras Bake Sale**

Celebrate Mardi Gras at the Friar’s Nook Gift Shop! The Friar’s Shop will be holding a Mardi Gras bake sale on Tuesday, March 5th and will include traditional Fat Tuesday pastries. The Friar’s Nook also carries a wide variety of Lenten devotional items including Magnificat Lenten Companion, books, CDs, and much more! The shop is located across from St. Bernadine Monastery at 703 Monastery Road, Hollidaysburg. The shop hours are Monday- Saturday: 10:00 AM-4:00 PM and for questions, please call 814-695-3802.

**FIRE CLASS for March 2019**

Sunday March 24th, 2:00-4:00

**CONFIRMATION PREPARATION**

ALL Eighth Grade Candidates  
**Sunday March 17th Spring Session**

We will meet in the Church for Evening Prayer at 6:15 PM. Our Spring Session will follow, in the Cathedral Hall until 8:15 PM.

**ALL Ninth Grade Candidates**  
**Sunday March 31st 2019 Spring Session**

We will meet in the Church at 6:30 PM for the Evening Prayer, the Spring Session will follow in the Cathedral Hall until 8:15 PM.

**Collection of Last Year’s Palm**

Baskets are placed at the three doors of the Cathedral to collect last year’s blessed palms. Ashes are symbols of penance and reconciliation. The ashes come from the burning of the palms used on Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord of the previous year. The Christian use of ashes is rooted in the Jewish custom of sprinkling ashes on the head as a sign of repentance.

**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. Men to purchase this 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!

**LITURGICAL REFLECTION**

This Wednesday, March 6, is Ash Wednesday when the Church begins the forty day journey toward the Triudum (The Three Days) with the annual discipline of fasting, praying and giving alms. Ash Wednesday (March 6) and Good Friday (April 19) are days of fast and abstinence. All Fridays in Lent (March 8, 15, 22, 29; April 5, and 12) are days of abstinence. FASTING refers to only one full meal, with two small meals and no eating otherwise for the day. ABSTINENCE refers to not eating meat at all during the day. All who have reached their 14th year are obliged to ABSTAIN. The Church directs the holy FAST to all those in the 18th year until their 60th year (Canon 1252). The ancient practice of fasting and abstaining can occur throughout other days in Lent. This is not obligatory and can take a variety of forms distinct from food.