**HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS**

The Middle States Accreditation Team will visit Holy Trinity Catholic School March 17 through 20. Bishop will have Mass in the Cathedral with the Holy Trinity school family (students, teachers, administration, and staff) recognizing this accreditation process on Wednesday, March 20, at 10:00 A.M. All are welcome to join in this Mass.

The annual Cash Bash is scheduled for Saturday, March 23 at Marias Parish Center at the Middle School. Only 200 tickets are sold for this event. Each ticket costs $100.00; grand prize is $3,000.00, second prize is $1,500.00, and third prize is $500.00. Call the Middle School for more information at 942-7835.

**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. If you are interested in the summer preschool program, please leave your email address at the end of the survey. We will be in touch with additional information. Preschool Survey Link: https://jgcooforms/5Trva3H3HmyAqq6y2.

**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. Funds2Orgs will issue a check for the collected shoes.

The monies earned will be used to support our citizens in need. We have a box available at the front door of the Cathedral 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.

**St. Vincent dePaul - 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.

**SACRED SACRAMENTS**

**Holy Thursday:**

- 7:00 PM – Stations of the Cross
- 8:00 PM – Adoration

**Good Friday:**

- 7:00 AM – Through the Holy Night
- 7:00 PM – Stations of the Cross

**Holy Saturday:**

- 10:00 AM – Holy Saturday Mass
- 2:00 PM – Blessing of the Palms

**Easter Sunday:**

- 8:00 AM – Easter Vigil Mass
- 9:00 AM – Easter Sunday Mass
- 12:00 Noon – 80th Anniversary Mass

**Confirmation:**

- May 1 at the Cathedral

**Confirmation Preparation Process:**

- Visit https://www.sacredvocations.org/shepherdshill/ or call 814-945-1000 to register.

**Preparation for Confirmation:**

- All students are strongly encouraged to attend the Sunday School classes at the Cathedral.

**Other Events:**

- Lenten Fish Fry: March 8
- Easter Dinner at the Cathedral: March 27
- Holy Week Procession: Friday, March 31
- Easter Sunday Brunch: March 31

**Contact Information:**

-Adults: 814-944-4603
-Children: 814-944-2437
-Email: churchofaltoona@dioceseaj.org

**Parish Family**

Congratulations to parents, Gabriel and Herrera was baptized and welcomed into our Cathedral with the Holy Trinity Catholic School. Please encourage others to be a part of our family and pray for our success.

**MARCH 10, 2019**

**Scripture Reflection**

The account of Jesus’ temptation appears with slight variations in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke. The first temptation was not only for Jesus to make bread from stone, but also to use his divine authority to satisfy his own needs. The second temptation was not just a testing of trust in divine grace, but rather an abuse of God’s favor for Jesus’ own glorification. Jesus bore divine gifts, but they were for mission. As he repelled each temptation, Jesus resisted using these gifts to satisfy his own needs.


**How does it feel to overcome temptation? What are you feeling - relief, joy, apprehension, peace?**

- Relief
- Joy
- Apprehension
- Peace

- How does it feel to overcome temptation? What are you feeling - relief, joy, apprehension, peace? **Michael R. Simone, S.J., February 22, 2019.**

**Serving the People of God in the City of Altoona Since 1851**

**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.

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**Baptism Congratulations:**

On Sunday, March 3, Nicole Alexandra Fuentes Herrera was baptized and welcomed into our Cathedral Parish Family. Congratulations to parents, Gabriel and Lizeth, and godparents, Juan Rodriguez Santacruz and Ma de los Angeles Fuentes Rodriguez.
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 10, 2019

Readings: Dt 26:4-10; Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13

MASS INTENTIONS

March 11, Monday: Lenten Weekday
Readings: Lev. 19:1-2, 11-18; Mt 25:31-46:
6:45 AM Joseph A. Moffa (Estate)
8:00 AM Anna Mercer (Agnes Yatta)
12:00 PM Theresa Kennedy (MM J. Mark Bover)
March 12, Tuesday: Lenten Weekday
Readings: Is 55:10-11; Mt 16:7-15
6:45 AM Prayer and Thanksgiving (Grove Family)
8:00 AM Anna Matthew (Sandra Martin)
12:00 PM Janet Tomlinson (Patty and Bob Hopfl)
March 13, Wednesday: Lenten Weekday
Readings: Jon 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32
6:45 AM Rosemarie Fedeli (Family)
8:00 AM Joe Wiedemer, Anniversary (Family)
12:00 PM Mim Pufka Billman (C.J. Kovaleski/Casey Smith)
March 14, Thursday: Lenten Weekday
Readings: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Mt 7:7-12
6:45 AM Florence Moffa Brook (Estate)
8:00 AM Mary Joyce Wustrow (Bear and Patty McCloskey)
12:00 PM Mildred Brandt Dill (John and Ann Wolf)
March 15, Friday: Lenten Weekday
Readings: Ez 18:21-28; Mt 5:20-26
6:45 AM Barbara Byers (Jim and Patti ibelhub)
8:00 AM Tom Welteroth (Family)
12:00 PM Alma Reismeier (Husband, Fred)
March 16, Saturday: Lenten Weekday
Readings: Dt 26:16-19; Mt 5:43-48
8:00 AM Norm “Red” Drenning (Mike and Sherry Byrne)
12:00 PM Henry Shields (Querry Family)
Vigil: Second Sunday of Lent
Readings: Gn 15:5-12, 17-18; Phil 3:17-14; Lk 9:28-36
5:00 PM Alice Winkler (Cindy Nicholson)

Lenten Evening Prayer
This evening and every Sunday in Lent, there will be Evening Prayer at 6:30 PM within Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Everyone is invited to participate in this special Lenten Liturgy.

PRAYING THE STATIONS
Stations of the Cross will be prayed this Friday evening, March 16 at 7:00 PM and every Friday of Lent.

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 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 and His Father.

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.

Basket Bingo Meeting
There will be a Basket Bingo meeting Thursday, March 21, in the Cathedral Hall at 6:30 PM.

An Idea for Lenten Season
Lent began 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 that is getting in the way of your relationship with God. (3) Deny yourself something you really like or are attached to.

FIRE CLASS FOR March 2019
Sunday, March 24th 2:00-4:00
CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

ALL Tenth 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 8:30 PM for Evening Prayer, the Spring Session will follow in the Cathedral Hall until 8:15 PM.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION
Sunday, March 3, 2019 - $3,328.00
Ash Wednesday Collection $2,370.00

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

LENT HAS BEGUN

The forty days of Lent prepare us for the Three Days. Our ashes this past Wednesday reminded us that like Jesus who died on the cross, we too will die. The blessed ashes also called us to repentance. We must turn away from sin Through Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving, we prepare to commemorate the Three Days - Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter. The spiritual quality of our Lent will reflect the spiritual quality of our Easter. The serious, penitential days of Lent have arrived. The Cathedral is simply decorated - no flowers, no plants. The Cross is placed next to the baptismal font; the purple hangings are displayed, and only two candles stand on each side of the altar. There are no Alleluias and no Gloria to God. As we pray the Confess at the beginning of Mass, the Church asks that we strike our chest once with our hand at the words “through my greatest fault”. Sinfulness and the need for God’s mercy are before us. Intensely prayer, fasting, and giving alms to the poor. Baskets are placed at the church doors for your donations of non-perishable food items or cleaning and paper products throughout the Lent and Easter seasons. Plan to go to Confession during these Lenten days. The parish Communal Penance Service is scheduled for Wednesday, April 10 at 6:30 PM.

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

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). Lunches are served 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!

Thank you
The three boards at the Cathedral doors exhibiting photos and names of our candidates for the Easter Sacraments were prepared by Jim Seiler and Jean Koury. The three boards present: (1) adult candidates for Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist; (2) eleventh grade parishioners seeking to celebrate Confirmation; and (3) our second graders who will celebrate their First Communion. Thank you Jim and Jean for the beautiful boards at the three doors of the Cathedral. These will remain throughout Lent and the Easter Season.

Prayer Partners for Lent
Forms are available at the church doors. Everyone is invited to participate in the Prayer Partner activity this Lent. You will receive by mail the name of a parishioner along with the name of someone preparing to receive Baptism, Confirmation or Eucharist during the Easter Season. Remember them in prayer.

Please remember our sick in your prayers.

Lent is a rich season to take time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. One may pray before the tabernacle or participate in Eucharistic Adoration with the Blessed Sacrament in Exposition within the monstrance. The celebration of the Eucharist in the Sacrifice of the Mass is truly the origin and end of the worship given to the Eucharist outside the Mass. The reservation of the Eucharist permits the practice of adoring and praying this great Sacrament, offering the Reserved Sacrament the worship due to God. Accordingly, forms of adoration that are not only precious but also public and communal in nature, as approved by the Church, are strongly promoted.

Instruction on the Eucharist, Chapter VI, Number 129.