

# MARCH 17, 2019

## Scripture Reflection

Today's Gospel is suggestive of the Sinai covenant. As the story unfolds we learn that Moses (representing the Law) and Elijah (representing the prophets) appeared alongside of Jesus, and the three of them converse about Jesus' "exodus" that will take place in Jerusalem. The evangelist uses this scene to prefigure Jesus' death and Resurrection, but the disciples do not understand.

"This is my chosen Son; listen to him." In this Sunday's Gospel reading, Peter, John and James catch a glimpse of Jesus as the Father saw him. Faith has already brought them to belief; now they saw clearly. Luke also draws our attention to Moses and Elijah, who show forth a glory like Jesus and discuss his mission with him. Elements of Luke's account refer back to Jesus' baptism, but they also draw our minds ahead to the resurrection and Pentecost. Luke's themes emphasize that those who accompany Jesus through his "exodus" will reflect his glory into the world.

If the transfiguration requires anything of our discipleship, it is to let go of our masks and let others catch a glimpse of God in us. Jesus' own transformation was a proclamation of the Gospel; it confirmed the faith of the disciples who joined him. Likewise, as Lent continues, Christians undertake practices that help others see God at work and help themselves catch sight of those sometimes fleeting moments when God reveals the divine face in another.

In the Transfiguration, Peter, James and John are granted a vision of Christ's glory, a foretaste of the Resurrection. In our lives, we sometimes find signs that give us hope in the promise of eternal life. In these we find encouragement to take up our cross and follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Consider how the spiritual practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, can draw us closer to God.

- **Can you name signs that have given you hope? Has anyone ever said something or done something that makes you see God in them?**

AT HOME with the WORD 2019, Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, pg. 57. AMERICA MAGAZINE, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him." Michael R. Simone, S.J., February 22, 2019.

## 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 Maria 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://goo.gl/forms/5Trvs3H3HmyAqq6y2>.

### 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](http://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.

### Stewardship Reflections

By placing our trust in God instead of earthly things, and allowing Jesus Christ to transform our lives, we as Christian stewards and disciples recognize that our ultimate "citizenship is in heaven" (Phil 3:29).

### Did You Remember?

Did you remember to bring non-perishable food items and paper products for the needy of our community? Bins are located at the three doors of the Cathedral.

# 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](http://WWW.ALTOONACATHEDRAL.ORG)**

**FAX: 814-942-4337**

**E-MAIL: [ALTCATHEDRAL@DIOCESEAJ.ORG](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](mailto:lthayer@dioceseaj.org)

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

## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 17, 2019

Readings: Gn 15:5-12, 17-18; Phil 3:17-4:1; Lk 9:28-36

### MASS INTENTIONS

March 18, Monday: St. Cyril of Jerusalem Bp. and Dr.

Readings: Dn 9:4-10; Lk 6:36-38

6:45 AM Special Intention (Grove Family)  
8:00 AM Carrie Kibler Detwiler (Mom and Dad)  
12:00 PM Andrea Sierra (Family)

March 19, Tuesday: St. Joseph, Spouse of B.V.M.

Readings: 2 Sm 7:4-5; 16 Rom 4:13,16-18; Mt 1:16, 18-21

6:45 AM Anna Mercer (Gary and Lori Moschgat)  
8:00 AM Lois Christlmeier-Hoffman (Paul McCloskey)  
12:00 PM James Joseph Luther (Justin Little)

March 20, Wednesday: Lenten Weekday

Readings: Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20:17-28

6:45 AM John Bettwy, Birthday (Bettwy Family)  
8:00 AM Michael Dennis Moore (McNelis All-Stars)  
12:00 PM Health of Mary Eger (Sister, Peg)

March 21, Thursday: Lenten Weekday

Readings: Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31

6:45 AM Lori Keirn (Jack Massar Family)  
8:00 AM John McCloskey (Patty and Bear McCloskey)  
12:00 PM Thomas and Mary Irwin (Irwin Family)

March 22, Friday: Lenten Weekday

Readings: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13, 17-28; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

6:45 AM Rosemary Seymore (Cathedral Parish)  
8:00 AM In Thanksgiving  
12:00 PM John Bauer (Hugh and Donna Kelleher)

March 23, Saturday: St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop

Readings: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

8:00 AM Herb Kutruff (Skip Cowan)  
12:00 PM Hilda Conrad (Greg and Kathy Clemens)  
Vigil: Third Sunday of Lent

Readings: Ex 3: 1-8, 13-15; 1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12; Lk 13:1-9

5:00 PM Michael Dionis (Olav and Barbara Johansen)

### 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.

### 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.

### 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 your prayer and spiritual life (especially if you think you are too busy to put anything more into an impossibly busy schedule!). (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

Will meet tonight Sunday Evening, March 17th, at 6:15 PM. 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 Evening Prayer; the Spring Session will follow in the Cathedral Hall until 8:15 PM.

### Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic adoration will be the first Wednesday of next month, **April 3** from 12:30 PM until 8:00 PM. Please note this in your schedules and plan to spend some quality time in prayer before the Sacrament in exposition.

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, March 10, 2019 - \$8,893.00

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

### 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, and monetary donations. Items can be dropped off at the Parish Office during the week between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM, or may be picked up by calling: Lorraine Beck, 942-7774. Tickets are available now at the Cathedral Square door after all masses and at the Parish Office: \$25.00 per person with value pack for an additional \$30.

### Basket Bingo Meeting

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

### CCW Sunday Sabbath

**Sunday March 24 / Can Only Imagine** This movie will encourage people in a whole new way. This inspiring, incredible and unknown true story behind the group MercyMe's beloved song is the basis for the movie. Sunday Sabbath gatherings begin at 1:30 PM and end at 4:30 PM. It includes the DVD presentation and time for prayer and reflection. There is no charge for the session but a free will donation will be welcomed. **Pre-registration is required by March 21.** To register, get directions, or for more information, call 814-886-4098.

*Please remember our sick in your prayers.*

### 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!

### The CROSS

Our beautiful ten foot CROSS has been placed at the baptismal font for the seasons of Lent and Easter. This is the cross that will be used on Good Friday for veneration. This custom-made cross holds the relic of the True Cross. Special respect is to be shown to this sacred object. As you enter and leave the Cathedral by way of the front doors, take time to show reverence to this Cross. A genuflection would be proper; one may kiss the sacred relic; one may touch the relic of the True Cross. Please make the conscious effort to show some form of respect to this very holy symbol of the faith. During the forty days, take more time and thought when signing yourself with the sign of the cross.

### Cathedral Charismatic Prayer Group

The Prayer Group will meet on Tuesday, March 19, at Bishop Guilfoyle High School at 7:00 PM. All are warmly welcome.

## EUCCHARISTIC

## ADORATION

### Liturgical Reflection ...

Plan to spend quality time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament this Lent. Pope Saint Paul VI said the faithful "should not omit making visits during the day to the Most Holy Sacrament, as a proof of gratitude, a pledge of love, and a debt of adoration due Christ the Lord who is present in it." The contemplation of Jesus present in the Most Holy Sacrament, as a communion of desire, powerfully joins the faithful to Christ, as is splendidly evident in the example of so many saints. Unless there is serious reason to the contrary, a church in which the Most Holy Eucharist is reserved should be open to the faithful for at least some hours each day, so that they can spend time in prayer before the Most Holy Sacrament.

*Instruction on the Eucharist, Chapter VI, Number 135.*