Scripture Reflection

The First Reading draws upon a long tradition in the Old Testament where God has been preparing for the outpouring of the gift of the Holy Spirit. In the creation account, God’s Spirit hovers over the waters of the chaos and brings about the creation of the world. Now with the outpouring of the Spirit on the first Apostles, God brings to birth a new world. When God created the human person, God breathed on the clay he had formed and became a living human being. In today’s reading, the Apostles gathered as a strong wind rocks the room. This symbolizes God’s breath transforming these scared followers into courageous missionaries. At the Tower of Babel, the quest to become equal with God resulted in disharmony. The numerous languages of humanity symbolize their inability to communicate with each other, resulting in alienation. With the appearance of the tongues of fire, a reversal takes place: God grants the Spirit, God restores human beings to unity with humanity, now unites them. In this gift of the Spirit, God’s Spirit in your life?

On what occasions have you experienced the presence of God’s Spirit in your life?

Holy Trinity Summer Preschool
The Holy Trinity Catholic School is very excited to be offering Summer Preschool this year at both of our elementary locations. As we need to begin to purchase materials and supplies for the program, we are asking anyone that may be interested to call the Altoona location at 381-7011, or the Hollidaysburg location at 695-6112. The details are as follows:

Time: 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM each day.
Classes begin June 17. (Themed weeks)
$125.00 a week per child.
Ages 3-5 (Must be potty trained).
Highly qualified teachers and an aide.
Must pack a lunch.
Bring a change of clothes.

Family Day Retreat
“Love in the Age of Loneliness” Don’t miss this opportunity to reflect on marriage, and family life with well-known speakers and authors Kimberly Hahn and Mike Aquilina. Includes with Bishop Mark, Confession, Adoration, and lunch. Saturday, June 22, starting at 9:00 AM at St. Joseph’s Catholic Academy in Boalsburg, Pa. The first 100 to register will receive a free copy of The First Society by Scott Hahn. Spaces are limited. Register at: https://sjoeacad.org/love-in-an-age-of-loneliness/

Father’s Day Idea
The 15th Annual Central Pennsylvania Rodeo will take place Friday June 14th at 7:30 PM and Saturday June 15th at 7:30 PM, at the Huntingdon County Fairgrounds. Advance tickets are: Adults: $13, Children: ($4-12) $5. Gate tickets: Adults: $17, Children (4-12) $7, Children (3 and under are Free). This year’s specialty is The Rawhide & Dusty Show. Advance tickets are available online at www.CentralPARodeo.com and at ACE Fixit Hardware stores (Tyrone, Huntingdon, Duncansville) and all Reliance Bank locations. You may also bring a copy of your bulletin announcement and get $2 off each ticket you buy at the gates which open 3 hours prior to the events. Parking is free. All proceeds support Saint Matthew Catholic School in Tyrone Pa.

Outdoor Mass
This Sunday May 26, 2019, Mass will be said on the lawn of Saint Michael Basilica, 321- St. Mary Street, Loretto at 6:30 PM, and every Sunday through Labor Day. Bring a lawn chair.

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.
ANOINTING 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 - 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 6:15 PM - 8:15 PM
Grades 9 thru 12.

WED: www.altoonacathedral.org
EMAIL: altocathedral@dioceseaj.org
FAX: 814-942-4337

Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, J.C.D., Bishop
Very Reverend Alan E. Thomas VG, Administrator
Reverend Father Dennis M. Kudziel, 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.holytrinityschool.org
Altoona Campus (Pre-K thru Grade 4) - 381-7011
Hollidaysburg Campus (Pre-K thru Grade 4) - 695-6112
Hollidaysburg 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: lsthayer@dioceseaj.org

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

The Church of Altoona-Johnstown
OFFERTORY COLLECTION
Sunday, June 2, 2019 - $8,436.00
Easter Collection 2019 - $11,262.00
Easter Flower Memorials 2019 - $2,402.00
Ascension Thursday 2019 - $1,630.00

Gentle Reminder
In Catholic practice, whenever Mass is celebrated, the Church requests that the readers be members of the Catholic Church. At a wedding, at a funeral, at a baptism, any celebration taking place within Mass, the Church asks that the reader(s) be members of the Catholic family. When any of these specific liturgies take place outside of Mass, a non-Catholic baptized Christian may read the scripture.

Society of St. Vincent dePaul
We are dedicated to helping the poor and the suffering. Through our local Council we provide various services to the needy in our community. Our Financial needs department is located in our Altoona Thrift Store. The services we provide vary greatly. We provide financial help for the following situations and more.
* To prevent loss of electricity, heat and water to their residence when they receive a termination notice.
* To help with obtaining housing or to avoid loss of housing.
* To shelter homeless temporarily in motels until housing can be found.
* To provide beds and furniture for people who were homeless.
* To provide gas for people who have no money and are looking for a job or providing transportation for a sick family member.
We provide food for residents in emergency situations, serve meals when Sister Paula’s kitchen is closed for the holidays and help in special situations such as help repair a vehicle for the resident to obtain employment, etc.
Thank you for your donation. It is greatly appreciated and will help us to do our mission.

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.

Gifting the Cathedral Parish
As wills and insurance policies are established with your attorney, remember the Cathedral Parish as a beneficiary of your estate. Perhaps you would like to direct your gift to a particular ministry or project at the Parish. Please realize that Mass Stipends go directly to fulfilling that canonical wish and do not aid the Parish. Please realize that Mass Stipends go directly to fulfilling that canonical wish and do not aid the Parish. Please realize that Mass Stipends go directly to fulfilling that canonical wish and do not aid the Parish. Please realize that Mass Stipends go directly to fulfilling that canonical wish and do not aid the Parish. Please realize that Mass Stipends go directly to fulfilling that canonical wish and do not aid the Parish.

Prayer Shawls
If anyone feels that they need some comfort in their troubled times, please feel free to contact Lorraine Beck at 814-942-7774 for one of our Prayer Shawls. These shawls have been Blessed and may bring you the comfort that you need.

Easter Celebrations during the Fifty Days
The Easter Season began on Easter Sunday, and concludes on Pentecost Sunday, June 9th. These are significant celebrations during that time here at the Cathedral:
Evening Prayer (Exposition/Benediction), Sunday, June 9.