

JUNE 30, 2019

Scripture Reflection

In our Sunday readings from Luke's Gospel account, Jesus has been teaching in Galilee. Now he turns his attention to Jerusalem. "When the days for Jesus being taken up were fulfilled, he resolutely determined to journey to Jerusalem." His decision will result in his death, yet he embraces this outcome.

Difficult challenges also face Jesus' potential followers. Three would-be followers ask to join Jesus. Before setting out, each has a request. One would like to return home to bury a father and another to bid farewell to family. Nothing could be more human than these requests, but Jesus rejects them. This shocks us until we realize that Jesus is exaggerating to get across his point. Jesus never opposes upholding family ties. After all, "Honor your father and your mother" is one of the Ten Commandments. Jesus has also criticized the Pharisees for their refusal to support their elderly parents by "dedicating their money to God" (Matthew 15:4-5).

Jesus highlights the foundational requirements for following him. Commitment to Jesus must be total. Even family bonds cannot take precedence over one's bond with God.

The same was true in Old Testament times. The people of Israel constantly turned away from following God wholeheartedly by worshipping other gods. In the First Reading, Elisha offered a similar excuse for delaying following Elijah.

Pope Francis expresses well the wholehearted demand of our relationship with Christ: "Being Christian is not just obeying orders but means being in Christ, thinking like him, acting like him, loving like him; it means letting him take possession of our life and change it, transform it" (General Audience, Wednesday, April 10, 2017)

- **Have you ever experienced your bonds with your family being in conflict with your relationship with Christ?**

Baptismal Prep Team Coaches Needed

Looking for volunteers who would like to join our Baptismal Prep Team. You would be there to contact the people, and answer any questions that they may have. And to assist in any way possible to make this a Blessed and joyous occasion for all. Please contact the Parish Office at 814-944-4603.

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.

Dorothy Day Outreach Center will hold its bi-annual TAG Sale from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM on Saturday, July 27, 2019 at the DDOC parking lot in our new address of 115 Saint Mary's Street, Loretto (*former Franciscan Mission Store*). Thank you.

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 financial life of the Parish.

Gluten Sensitivity

There may be parishioners who have found that they have physical disorders related to gluten intolerance. The spectrum of illnesses includes celiac disorder, wheat allergy, bloating, abdominal discomfort, diarrhea, muscular disturbances, and bone or joint pain. The ordinary hosts distributed at Communion contain gluten. If you have found that you are gluten sensitive, special bread is available that possess a very low gluten content. Please tell the priest before Mass, and he will consecrate the low-gluten host for you to receive at that Mass.

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 -
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.

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 12:00 Noon	Saturday:	8:00 AM 12:00 Noon
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SERVING THE PEOPLE OF GOD IN THE CITY OF ALTOONA SINCE 1851

Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, J.C.D., Bishop

Very Reverend Alan E. Thomas VG, Administrator

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

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

June 30, 2019

Readings: 1 Kgs 19:16, 19-21; Gal 5:1, 13-18; Lk 9:51-62

MASS INTENTIONS

July 1, Monday: Saint Junipero Serra, Priest

Readings: Gn 18:16-33; Mt 8:18-22

6:45 AM Bob & Kathy Cowan, Robbie Lutz (Family)

12:00 PM Thomas & Mary Irwin (Irwin Children)

July 2, Tuesday: Weekday

Readings: Gn 19:15-29; Mt 8:23-27

6:45 AM Janet Tomlinson (Donald & Mary Smithmyer)

12:00 PM Ryan D. Sheedy & Family (Mom and Dad)

July 3, Wednesday: Saint Thomas, Apostle

Readings: Eph 2:19-22; Jn 20:24-29

6:45 AM Bea Mannion (Robert & Sue Baranik)

12:00 PM Loretta Batkiewicz (Greg & Kathy Clemens)

July 4, Thursday: Independence Day.

Readings: Gn 22:1-19; Mt 9:1-8

9:00 AM Catherine Beech Fredrick, Ann. (Family)

July 5, Friday: St. Anthony Zaccaria, Priest

Readings: Gn 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67; Mt 9:9-13

6:45 AM Joe & Patty Wiedemer, Birthday (Family)

12:00 PM Guy Walter (George & Patricia Koeck)

July 6, Saturday: Saint Maria Goretti, Virgin & Martyr

Readings: Gn 27:1-5; 15-29; Mt 9:14-17

8:00 AM Herbert Kutruff (Mr. & Mrs. Tim Seasoltz)

12:00 PM BettyAnn Jenkins (M/M Francis Dambeck)

Vigil: Fourteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Readings: Is 66:10-14; Gal 6: 14-18; Lk 10:1-12, 17-20

5:00 PM Frances Pagliaro (Mr. & Mrs. Ron Miller)

Catholic Ministry Drive

We are most grateful to those who have so generously responded to the 2019 Catholic Ministries Drive. As of the end of May we have pledges totaling **\$27,530.00**, our goal for 2019 is **\$50,706.00**. Thank you for your generosity. It is most important that we receive your response as soon as possible. Monies received over our diocesan goal will help us to complete Charity Hall in The Cathedral Parish Center.

Please remember our sick in your prayers.

Mandated Reporter Training

Will be offered in the Cathedral Hall on Saturday July 13th at **8:30am - 12:30pm**. Anyone wishing to volunteer in any capacity or diocese must have clearances. For further information please contact Chris Laraia at 312-7317.

Peter's Pence Collection

Today is the Peter's Pence Collection, a worldwide collection that supports the charitable works of Pope Francis. Funds from this collection help victims of war, oppression, and natural disasters. Take this opportunity to join with Pope Francis and be a witness of charity to our suffering brothers and sisters. Please be generous today. For more information, visit (www.usccb.org/peters-pence).

Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic adoration will be the first Wednesday of next month, **July 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.

Catholics Returning Home

Have you thought about coming home to the Catholic Church? Call the Parish Office at 944-4603 for information.

Novena

Questions have arisen of the perpetual novena that has been a traditional part of our parish prayer schedule. This tradition may continue and be held before the noon mass and be (lay lead), meaning that their will not be a Priest present for it. Thank you for continuing this tradition.

Annual Cereal Collection

For many years, Mrs. Judy Savine, a member of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Altoona, has collected cereal to benefit children through the Saint Vincent dePaul Food Pantry in Altoona. Bishop Mark has once again requested that each parish in Blair County sponsor a cereal collection at all Masses the weekend of July 6 and 7.

Pray For Our Sick - Remember our sisters and brothers who are weakened by illness in your prayers. Prayers are sometimes the best prescribed medicine.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION Sunday, June 23, 2019 - \$7,166.00

Please Note!

The Cathedral Parish Office will be closed on Thursday, **July 4**, to celebrate Independence Day.

Outdoor Mass Honoring Married Couples

The Altoona-Johnstown Family is invited to participate and to pray for those living the Sacrament of Marriage at an Outdoor Mass Honoring Married Couples with Bishop Mark. The Mass will be on July 14, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Shrine of our Lady of the Alleghenies in Loretto (located next to the Basilica of Saint Michael). Bring your lawn chairs! Indoors if it rains.

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.

*Thank you, Lord,
for the many blessings
you have given and continue to give to the
Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament Family.*

St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church

Will be holding their annual Festival Sunday, July 21st, from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM. They are located on Route 53, Frugality, Pa (near Prince Gallitzen State Park and Glendale Lake). We are featuring a Turkey and Noodle Dinner with all the trimmings. Dinner served Family Style from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Adults \$10.00, Children 5 to 12 \$ 5.00, Under 5 free. MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT: St. Joan Band 12:00 noon till ?. Basket Auction at *4:00 PM* (new time). Games, Bingo, Bake Sale, Refreshments and LOTS MORE! Please come we would like to meet you!

Strengthen your friendship with God. " if you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you" (John 15:7). God wants our friendship all the time, not just when we want something. The closer we are to him, the more likely we are to ask for what is in harmony with his will.

Catholic Cruises and Tours

Shrines of Northern Italy & Rome

Take your Faith On a Journey, to Northern Italy and Rome on this 9 night experience. September 19th - 27th, 2019. You included destinations while on this journey: **Milan, Italy, Turin, Pavia, Sirmione, Padua, Pomposa, Ravenna, Rome, Italy**. Plus, Mass and Rosary will be offered throughout your journey. Land prices begin at \$1589.00 per person, based on double occupancy. Deposits of only \$400.00 per person will reserve your space. Space is VERY LIMITED. For further information or to register, contact Michelle or Eileen at 860-399-1785/ Eileen@CatholicCruisesandTours.com.

Nocturnal Adorations

Will be held hereat Our Lady of Fatima on First Friday, July 5th from 8:00 PM to 11:00 PM. We are the host church for this event. Please try to visit for an hour. You may attend anytime.

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.