

FEBRUARY 9, 2020

Scripture Reflection

In the verses preceding today's Gospel, Jesus begins the Sermon on the Mount with the Beatitudes. As Moses formed God's people by giving them the old law on Mount Sinai, so Jesus, the new Moses, forms a new people by giving them his new law.

"You are the salt of the earth," says Jesus. As salt permeates food and brings out its flavor, so as Christians we are called to permeate the world and transform its values. "You are the light of the world," continues Jesus. In the Gospel of John, Jesus proclaims: "I am the light of the world" (8:12). As Jesus' followers, we are called to let his light shine through our lives, drawing others to this light.

In the letter to the followers in Corinth, Paul shows how his life witnessed to the light of Christ. He tells the Corinthians that when he came back to them, he did not preach using great rhetorical gifts. Instead, he allowed the Spirit to speak through him. Physically, Paul came "in weakness and fear and much trembling his human inadequacies to communicate the message of the crucified and Risen Christ.

Paul argues that God's power, God's grace, works through the lives of believers by attracting many to follow and except the Good News. The prophet Isaiah offered the same idea. The witness of an authentic life attract attracts people to the message. The prophet affirms this vision: "If you bestow your bread on the hungry/and satisfy the afflicted; / then your light shall rise you for you in the darkness.

• **How does Matthew's Gospel account present Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount as a new Moses?**

ARISE

Arise, Together in Christ is a six week, Catholic based, small group, faith-sharing program that guides Christians to know God better, grow spiritually, meet new people, improve our relationship with Christ, and put our faith into action.

Season 4, "New Heart, New Spirit" will focus on key themes of our faith and social teaching.

Please consider participating in this program for Lent, beginning on Sunday, February 23rd. Sign up weekends will be held at the Cathedral Square, 13th Avenue door beginning this weekend.

First Communion Sessions - 2020

First Communion Sessions are scheduled for Tuesdays, February 11, March 10, and March 31, 2020. All sessions are held in the Cathedral hall from 6:30 PM until 8:00 PM. All students MUST be accompanied by an adult. If unable to attend a session, please call Chris Laraia at 814-312-7317. First Communion at the Cathedral will be on Sunday, April 19 at the 10:00 AM Mass. First Communion at Our Lady of Fatima Parish will be Sunday May 3rd at the 10:30 Mass. Group and individual pictures will be taken after the 10:00 AM First Communion Mass.

Ministry to the Elderly, Seriously Ill and Grieving

Thank you for to every one who has donated stamps for this ministry.

Please continue to call the office with the names and addresses of a family member or friend who you know would appreciate a kind word and a prayer through the mail. We would like to be able to reach out to as many people as we can . If you would like to join this ministry call the office 814-944-4603 or Jeanne Thompson at 814-317-2672.

Ash Wednesday Fish Dinner

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church will be hosting a Fish Dinner on February 26, 2020, 4:00-7:00 PM in the school cafeteria on 8th Avenue. The cost is \$9.00- Baked or Fried Fish. Tickets will be sold in advance at the Parish Office, 806- 11th Street. Take outs available.

UPMC

The Pastoral Care Department at UPMC Altoona are looking for a volunteer Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion for Wednesdays. If you are interested, please contact Tony Conrad at 889-2177 or email him at conradaw@upmc.edu.

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:

Upon Request and Communal celebration

MARRIAGE:

Arrange nine months in advance. Couples expected to participate in pre-marriage preparation program.

DEVOTIONS:

Charismatic Prayer - Normally 3rd Monday of the Month

Eucharistic Adoration - First Wednesday - 12:30 PM - 8:00 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 Evening 6:15 PM - 8:15 PM

Grades 9 thru 12.

WEB: WWW.ALTOONACATHEDRAL.ORG

FAX: 814-942-4337

E-MAIL: ALTCATHEDRAL@DIOCESEAJ.ORG

EUCHARIST:

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

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

Reverend Monsignor Stanley Carson, 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

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

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

February 9, 2020

Readings: Is 58:7-10; 1 Cor 2:1-5; Mt 5:13-16

MASS INTENTIONS

February 10, Monday: Saint Scholastica, Virgin
Readings: 1 Kgs 8:1-7,9-13; Mk 6:53-56
6:45 AM + Madeline Seidel Ann. (Weaver Family)
12:00 PM + Regis Noel (Daughter Sandra)

February 11, Tuesday: Our Lady of Lourdes
Readings: 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30; Mk 7:1-13
6:45 AM + John Duffy (Jim & Elaine)
12:00 PM + Derek Behe (Mom & Dad)

February 12 Wednesday: Weekday
Readings: 1 Kgs 10:1-10; Mk 7:14-23
6:45 AM Good Health of Susan Bauer (Children)
12:00 PM + Murphy Montler (Jennifer & Cliff Plank)

February 13, Thursday: Weekday
Readings: 1 Kgs 11:4-13; Mk 7:24-30
6:45 AM + Steve Flanagan (Janet Azeles)
12:00 PM + Koby Bryant (Mike Crossman)

February 14, Friday: Sts. Cyril, Monk & Methodius BP
Readings: 1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19; Mk 7:31-37
6:45 AM + Lavelle Family (Phyllis Lavelle Sheets)
12:00 PM + Debbie Capotosti (Jean Koehle)

February 15, Saturday: Weekday
Readings: 1 Kgs 12:26-32; Mk 8:1-10
8:00 AM + Lori Crilley, Birth. (Sisters Pam & Vicki)
12:00 PM + Irene Schlecht (Mr & Mrs Bernie Behe)
Vigil: SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Readings: Sir 15:15-20; 1 Cor 2:6-10; Mt 5:17-37
5:00 PM + Bernadine Garcia

Please remember our sick in your prayers.

Stewardship Reflections

Who are the hungry, the oppressed, the homeless, and the naked in the midst? How can you uncover your gifts so you can become a "light of the world" for them? As Christian stewards, we view our resources of time, talent, and treasures as gifts from God. We don't possess or own these resources, but we entrusted with them to nurture their growth and use them wisely. Disciples and stewards allow their love of Jesus Christ to shine through their words and deeds so God may be revealed to others.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

RCIA is a process (a journey) through which people enter the Catholic Church. This includes people who have not been baptized (called catechumens) and people who have been baptized in another Christian Church now seeking full Communion with the Catholic Church (referred to as candidates). If you are interested in learning more about RCIA, join us Sunday from 11:00am - Noon in the Seton Suite. Please reach out to Tammy Dattris, Director of RCIA at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. We look forward to you joining us!

Think Spring, Think Basket Bingo!

Our next Basket Bingo meeting will be held Thursday **February 6th at 6:00 PM** in the Cathedral Basement. We are now accepting any donations that you may have. If you have any questions, or to drop off donations please call Lorraine Beck at 942-7774, or call the Parish Office 944-4603 from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM from Monday-Friday.

Soda And Water Please!

With the upcoming **Mardi Gras Party** (February 22) and the Fish Luncheons throughout Lent, parishioners are asked to donate soda-cans or bottles and also water. This will deter the cost. You can bring the soda and place it in the bins at all the Cathedral doors, or you can drop it off at the Cathedral Parish Center between 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM. Thank you.

Mardi Gras Celebration

The Parish will gather for our annual Mardi Gras Party on **February 22 at 6:00 PM** in the Cathedral Hall. All parishioners are invited to join in the celebration prior to our forty day Lenten journey. The event promises great food for all and there will be games for the children. Clear your calendars and plan to join the parish family for a great evening of socializing, eating, and games and fun.

Helpers Needed

Volunteers meet every Wednesday at 9:00 AM, to tidy up the Cathedral. Please bring buckets and rags and join us.

Calendar of Prizes 2020 Are Here!

Calendar of prizes 2020 are still being sold at the Parish Office, weekdays between 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM. Each calendar costs \$20.00. There is a \$20.00 daily prize; an additional \$1,000.00 in special monthly prizes awarded throughout the year; and a grand prize of \$1,500.00. We still have 144 left. Still a chance to win the BIG MONEY!

OFFERTORY COLLECTION Sunday, January 19, 2020 - \$7,373.00

Contibution Reports

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

February 9th and 23rd

F.I.R.E. class 6:15-8:15 PM in the Cathedral Church Basement.

Confirmation Prep

11th Grade Christian Retreat Saturday February 22nd from 9:00 AM -4:30 PM.

Annual Sponsors for Cathedral Mass

Thank you to the following institutions who have again sponsored the weekly Sunday 10:00 AM Mass from the Cathedral on radio WFBG 1290AM. These donations have made the broadcast available to the homebound and ill who are unable to join us for Mass.

2020	LIVE FROM THE CATHEDRAL OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT 10:00 AM SUNDAY MASS on radio WFBG 1290 AM	2020
Please support the following sponsors of this weekly broadcast for those unable to attend Sunday Mass. There may be a few more.		
The Altoona Curve Baseball Club Garvey Manor & Our Lady of the Alleghenies Residence ARC Federal Credit Union Bettwy Electric, Inc. Irwin Financial/Raymond James isb BANK Riley Plumbing & Heating Stanley J. Krish Funeral Home Allegheny Glass & Mirror Quality Services McCloskey Builders Jones Funeral Home Beck's Maintenance Warner's Florist, Gifts, Greenhouses Young, Oakes Brown & Company Anonymous Donor		
2020		2020

Charismatic Prayer Group

2020 Winter/Spring Schedule

Location: Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday, February 17th - 7:00 PM

Monday March 16th - 7PM Healing Mass

Very Rev. Fr. Alan Thomas- Celebrant

Monday, April 13th - 7PM

Monday, May 18th - 7PM

Prayer Ministry to follow all meetings

The Cathedral Charismatic Prayer Group and The Bishop Guilfoyle Alive in the Spirit Student Group

Location: Bishop Guilfoyle

Sunday, February 9th - 6PM

Sunday, March 29th - 6PM

Sunday, April 5th - 6PM

Citizens Concerned for Human Life

Cathedral Parish contributed \$1,008.50 to aid and assist in paying for the buses and the materials obtained for this year's March for Life. A thank you letter was recently received acknowledging our generosity.

Pierogi/Gnocchi Sale

Our Lady of Fatima Parish, 2010- 12th Avenue, Altoona Pa. Is having a Pierogi/Gnocchi sale from now until Monday, February 17, 2020; (cutoff is NOON). Pick up will be at the Rectory, from Noon until 5:00 PM on Ash Wednesday, Feb 26th. If the time doesn't suit call and make other arrangements with Carol, 942-0371 after 11:00 a.m. Mon-Fri. Potato Pierogi are mixed with the following items: cheddar, pepper-jack, white American, and Sauerkraut, along with the gnocchi are 15oz. bags @ \$6.00 each. Fruit pierogi, are available in Apple, Blueberry, Prune at \$7.00 per 15oz. bag. Cherry pierogi are \$7.50 per 15 oz. bag. A 15 oz. bag of 6 cheeses Ravioli's are \$8.00 each. All pasta is frozen. Read directions on the bag, drain and then saute' in butter, onions and garlic; if you wish add your own favorite ethnic sauce.

Religious Education News PK-8

Classes have resumed on Sundays, at 8:30 AM. Until further notice, all classes will be dismissed from the Parish Center lower level alley doors. PK/K parents please continue to go to the classroom to pick up your child.

Stations of the Cross

There will be Stations of the Cross starting Friday March 6th, at 5:30PM.