

APRIL 26, 2020

Scripture Reflection

What does it take for our eyes to be opened? Every day, a man laboriously walks down Main Street of town. With great difficulty but graceful determination, he places one foot in front of the other, uses a crudely made staff for support, and walks. His pace is slow, but he walks. What does he hope to see? Where does he want to go? What does he find? We all walk through life. The type of “walking” life requires is not always physical but is most assuredly emotional and spiritual. We walk, we look, we encounter, and we seek. How we do these things and what we actually find is determined by what we carry and what we allow ourselves to discover along the way.

If walking is too challenging for us, we may choose to isolate and stay alone. If we are afraid to walk, we may become overly dependent on others providing for us and abandon the journey. We can walk and pay attention only to what is in front of our feet and never notice the immensity of what is happening around us. The road is never the same twice. The journey is always different. What kinds of things do you notice as you walk through life? It seems that the disciples of the Road to Emmaus missed a lot at first. We do as well.

We are called to walk with purpose, to listen, and to notice things that may not at first be apparent. We have to allow the One who has a special claim on our soul to enlighten, instruct, and inspire us. The incarnate mystery of God is pulsating in and through all of creation, where the presence of the Word who became flesh can be discovered. He has been with us all along. How could we have missed Him? Our journey brings us back to the breaking of the bread, and something begins to stir within us. We begin to understand, and things look differently. Bread, body, wine, and blood bring us to see that everyone and everything is a “Eucharistic” encounter. We become what we eat and we see what we eat. We continue to walk. Our eyes are now opened, and we recognize Him. Our hearts burn. Stay with us. Please stay with us.

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EASTER FLOWERS 2020

Pelligrino, Wolfe & Civiello Families
Mr & Mrs Richard Hollingshead
Goss Family Deceased
Lisa A. Belsey
Jim Luther
E. T. Smith Family
June & Terry Lee Talasky
Marian & Tom Swires, Louise & John Ford
Stella, Mandy Gallagher, Jim Moschella Sr.
Theresa Kuny, Jane Weidley
Dave Lysinger and Parents
Andrew Lesko Family, George Moyer Family,
Deceased Memembers of the Clay, Lasko,
Lidwell, Moyer, and the Pilarz Families
Connie Tippery
Mary Kathryn Kantoski
Paul & Dora Luke, Pat & Ellen Marlett, Clyde &
Mary Myers, Stella Faust,
Bill & Marian Clemens, Lee & Katy Young
Martino Family
Peggy & Bernie Joyce, Deceased Hallinan
Family, Deceased Joyce Family, and
Deceased Bistline Family
Rose Stefanon, Atillio Stefanon, Marti Stefanon
Carol Makdad
Mr & Mrs Charles J. Kimmel
Earl & Virginia Strohm
Deceased of Trxler, Strate, and Yeager Families
Jack & Kitty Bell, Msgr. Paul Panza, Steve Himes
Thibault, Thompson, and Kutruff Families
Matthew & Madeline Kirsch,
Clair & MaryLumadue
Robert & Ethel Brandt, George Jodon Jr,
Robert Vaughn Sr, Robert A Brandt
John & Rose Moryken, Regis & Elizabeth Dixon,
Julia Jarkiewicz, Patricia Buchanan,
Mercy Miller, and Gabby Bruno
Kathleen Duffy, John Duffy
Kathryn Mirante, Angela Trent, Marian DeCarlo,
and Bill Donnelly
Deceased Family Members
Jim & Steph Kilcoyne
Winkler-Kaspick, Pendergast- O'Malley
Paul, Jodie, and Evan Koegler
Danyell & Grace Rougeux,
Frank & Helen Radwanski
Carrie Kibler Detwiler, Mary Jane Yahner,
Maurice & Jane McNulty, Cyril & Mary Kibler
Mr & Mrs Clair Boslet, Mr & Mrs Roy Krieger
William, Elenor & John Bettwy, Danial & Anna Gioiosa
Carles, Robuck Families
Grace & George Porta, Helen & William McCloskey
Samuel & Carole Mento, Francesco & Vinceenza
Mento, Hy & Jennie Adelman, Joseph & Virginia
White, Helen & Gina Faretta, James & Josephine
Filoromo, Whitney Gutshall, Laura Shultz,
Tom Caporuscio, Barb Peters
Anthony & Helen Lavelle, Audrey Krause

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:

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: DUE TO COVID-19, THERE ARE NO PUBLIC MASSES UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

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|----------------|------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Sunday: | 5:00 PM (Vigil) | Holyday: | 5:30 PM (Vigil) | Weekday: | 6:45 AM |
| | 8:00 AM | | 8:00 AM | | 12:00 Noon |
| | 10:00 AM | | 12:00 Noon | Saturday: | 8:00 AM |
| | 12:00 Noon | | 5:30 PM | | 12:00 Noon |
| | 5:00 PM | | | | |

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 26, 2020

Readings: Acts 2:14, 22-33; 1 Pt 1:17-21; Lk 24:13-35

MASS INTENTIONS

April 27, Monday: Easter Weekday

Readings: Acts 6:8-15; Jn 6:22-29

+ M/M Richard Irwin Family (Tom & Mary Irwin Children)

+ Myra Mangiacrane (Brian, Karen, Price & Laura)

April 28, Tuesday: Sts. Peter Chanel & Louis Grignio

Readings: Acts 7:51-8:1; Jn 6:30-35

+ Rose Ciavarella (Mr & Mrs Pete Rodgers)

+ Cookie Hardin (Cathedral Parish)

April 29, Wednesday: Saint Catherine of Siena,

Readings: Acts 8:1-8; Jn 6:35-40

+ Bernadine Garcia (Stan & Susan Galant)

+ Julianne Seidel (Bernard, Susan, & Eric Behe)

April 30, Thursday: Saint Pius, V. Pope

Readings: Acts 8:26-40; Jn 6:44-51

+ Jim & Peggy Mullan (Nancy & Skip)

+ Leroy & Irma Helfrich (Estate)

May 1, Friday: St. John the Worker

Readings: Acts 9:1-20; Jn 6:52-59

+ Joseph A. Knott (Larry & Barb Savino)

+ Regis Noel (Daughter Sandra)

May 2, Saturday: Saint Athanasius, Bishop & Dr.

Readings: Acts 9:31-42; Jn 6:60-69

+ Joseph Mangiacame (M/M Frank Frucella Family)

+ John Duffy (Denis & Connie Navarro)

Vigil: FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Readings: Acts 2:14, 36-41; 1 Pt 2:20-25; Jn 10:1-10

+ Dolores Snyder (Family)

Please remember our sick in your prayers.

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

Appreciation

Thank you to Steph Kilcoyne for the beautiful needlepoint art on this year's Easter Candle.

Postponements

The Rite of Reception into Full communion with the Catholic Church, the reception of First Holy Communion, and the Celebration of Confirmation are being postponed until the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.

Pastoral Visits/Communion Calls

Clergy are to obey the protocols of health care facilities. Pastoral Visits and Communion Calls should be made only when there is a danger of death.

Contributions

Even during a pandemic, the financial support of parishioners is very important to a parish. However, due to their own financial challenges during a time like this, families might not be able to sustain their current level of giving. As a parish we will need to curtail spending and make adjustments.

Church Closures and Suspension of Services

Until further notice, due to Covid-19 and the Governor's order to stay-at-home, our churches will be closed and there is a suspension of all liturgical, sacramental, and devotional activities on church property.

Basket Bingo Postponed

The Longaberger Basket and Vera Bradley Bingo scheduled for Sunday, April 26, is being postponed until **Sunday September 20th**.

Prayer Shawl Makers Needed

Anyone wanting to and able to knit, we are in need of people to knit Prayer Shawls. Please get in touch with Lorraine Beck at 814-942-7774.

Religious Ed PK/8

Classes have ended for the year and will return on Sunday, September 13th.

Parents only, may pick up textbooks, your child's personal belongings and next year's registration form on Wednesday, April 29th from 10-12 Noon, and 3-5 PM in the R.E. location.

Please return all Rice Bowls and Service Hour forms when you pick up the texts or drop off at the Parish Office Monday thru Friday 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Any questions please call or text Chris Laraia at 814-312-7317.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

**April 19, 2020 Multiple Sundays \$7,291.60
Easter, Good Friday, Easter Flowers, \$5,076.00**

Office Hours

The office hours will be Monday-Friday 9:00 AM to Noon.

Stewardship Reflections

Mean What You Say

Missouri is known as the "Show Me" state. There seem to be differing points of view as to how this motto came into existence, but today it is said to speak of a people who operate with common sense and are not easily fooled by slick-talking or show. We would be prudent to adopt such a disposition ourselves. To be this way is not really like St. Thomas in the Gospel when he doubts what he clearly sees right in front of him. It is more about holding ourselves to a standard explained in another motto: "Say what you mean and mean what you say."

If we claim to be Christians, disciples of the risen Jesus, then those around us should be able to tell by our actions. Can someone truly be a disciple of Jesus and not be a good steward of all he has given? Jesus makes himself known to us continually in the Holy Eucharist. When we come together to break bread at Mass, Jesus shows us his love by becoming truly present to us. He is willing to show us. What are we in turn willing to show him?

Every day, Jesus calls us to respond in some way. Our response shows whether we are who we claim: his disciples. I am pretty sure Jesus is not from Missouri, but I know he is not fooled by our half-truths and misguided intentions. He also means what he says and says what he means. Shouldn't his disciples do the same?

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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A NOTE FROM MSGR. STAN CARSON: ARE WE LOOKING DOWN OR LOOKING UP?

This weekend's Gospel reading is about our Lord's encounter with the two disciples who were walking home from Jerusalem following the Feast of Passover and the events of His passion, death, and resurrection. St. Luke tells us that when Jesus interrupted their conversing and debating", the disciples looked "downcast." They were looking down; they were discouraged and disappointed. In spite of the testimony of the women, the angels, and the apostles, the disciples on the road to Emmaus refused to believe that Jesus was risen and alive. Jesus calls them "foolish" because of their lack and faith; and so, He interprets the Scriptures for them and is finally recognized at table, at Eucharist, where bread is blessed, broken, and given. The two disciples are no longer downcast, they are now looking up!

Because of the coronavirus, stay-at-home orders, the closure of so many familiar buildings, especially our churches, and the cancellation of so many events, there is a tendency to look and feel downcast...to look and feel down. The Easter season is still a time to look up and to see people who are caring for each other, homes that are comfortable, food that is sufficient, companionship that is enjoyable, and entertainment that is available. Most especially, we are still able to look up to the Risen Lord in prayer and in spiritual communion. The Resurrection is proof that hope is possible and reasonable. Someday, our familiar activities will return. One day, we will be gathered again at the table of God's Word and the table of the Body and Blood of Christ. The Risen Jesus is present in Word and in Sacrament. We are human, we need words and food...Word and Sacrament. Thank God for both. Look up and see the goodness of the Lord!

Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I Love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there, and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen