

**JUNE 7, 2020**

*Scripture Reflection*

A well-choreographed dance can be truly inspirational. Each movement and step are interconnected, each contributing a piece of the unfolding artistic story. The beholder is caught up in the rhythms, music, and gestures, realizing that none are dispensable and all are necessary. The same is true of the Divine Dance of the Trinity. Each Person plays a part, using unique gestures and movements that are connected to the other Divine Partners. They tell a story of love. Every movement and step is born of love and flows on into eternity. The Divine Dance never ends.

God the Creator powerfully, yet with gentle love, leads. Creating and recreating, birthing and sustaining, He dances with the compassionate incarnate Son, guided by the breath of the Holy Spirit. They are three distinct Persons but move as One. On one hand, the cascading flow of their Presence appears motionless, yet on the other, flows and moves with effortless attention. They share one heart, one goal, and one purpose and invite all of creation to join in their dance, their joy.

The energy of the Trinity flows through all created things. It is a dance of the heart, not of the mind. It has to be experienced, not dissected, and contemplated, not understood. We stand in awe of the Divine Dance and find ourselves watching in amazement all that God creates and sustains. The dance continues in the majesty of a mountain, the power and wonder of an ocean, and the vastness of the universe. It moves in the cry of a newborn infant and in the soul of one who has been forgiven. It flows in the cry for justice and in the wounds of the oppressed. It circles through the changing of seasons, the cycles of birth and death, and the wisdom that one acquires when they love God.

The Dance never ends. Its movements and rhythms go on forever. The Trinitarian Dance sustains all things, endures all things, and brings hope. You are invited to dance. Don't just watch as if you were simply a spectator. Join in the dance and move as they move.



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**Contributions**

Even during a pandemic, the financial support of parishioners has been very important to our 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. Gratitude is extended to those who have been able to drop off, mail, or electronically submit your offering. God bless you.

**Radio Mass**

Our parish's live radio Mass will be on Sunday, at 10:00 A.M. on WFBG 1290AM. We are pleased to be able to provide this service and we are grateful to our sponsors.

Why do Catholics have a Pope?

To answer the question of why Catholics have a pope, we have to pull the lens back and think about the very nature of the Church herself. According to the Nicene Creed (which is the statement of beliefs that we recite each Sunday at Mass), we profess that the Church is "one, holy, catholic, and apostolic." These adjectives are called the marks of the Church, and they help us see that the Church is bigger than just our individual parish communities or even the Christians living in a particular region or country.

To help ensure that the community of disciples would remain united in a communion of love, Jesus entrusted the Apostles with special authority to teach, heal, and forgive sins in his name. And from among this group, Jesus chose Simon Peter to play a special role, designating him as the "rock" on which the Church was to be built (see Matthew 16:18-19; John 21:15-17). Peter "the Rock" became the visible sign of union within and among the Apostles. In time, as Peter and the other Apostles passed away, other men were chosen to take their place. The successors of St. Peter — who we honor as the first Bishop of Rome — and the successors of the other Apostles (the bishops) continued the work entrusted by Jesus to that first generation of Church leaders.

According to long-standing tradition, the successor of Peter was Linus, who was followed by Cletus, who was followed by Clement I, etc. This line of succession continues to Pope Francis in our own time.

Over the centuries, these Bishops of Rome — who came to be known as the "pope" (from papa, which means "father" in Latin) — still continue to act as the "rock" of the Church and as the visible sign of unity for all the Catholic Christians. The pope, more than any other bishop, stands as the Church's primary teacher and as pastor of the Church throughout the world, helping to ensure that the Church remains what Jesus intended her to be: one, holy, catholic, and apostolic. To learn more, see the "Catechism of the Catholic Church" (no. 857-862 and 880-882).

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

**FAX: 814-942-4337**

**E-MAIL: [ALTCATHEDRAL@DIOCESEAJ.ORG](mailto:ALTCATHEDRAL@DIOCESEAJ.ORG)**

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

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

**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](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)**

## THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

June 7, 2020

Readings: Ex34:4-6,8-9; 2 Cor 13: 11-13; Jn 3:16-18

### MASS INTENTIONS

June 8, Monday: Weekday Ordinary Time

Readings: 1 Kgs 17:1-6; Mt. 5:1-12

Spiritual/Temp. Welfare of Msgr Mazur (Dana Miller)  
+ Jane Davidson Birthday (Family)

June 9, Tuesday: Saint Ephren, Deacon and Doctor

Readings: 1 Kgs 17:7-16; Mt 5:13-16

+ Fred Fedeli (Rosemary Fideli)  
+ Jane Davidson Birthday (Family)

June 10, Wednesday: Weekday

Readings: 1 Kgs 18:20-39; Mt 5:17-19

+ Joseph Knott (Mother Orvita)  
+ Kate Conahan (Debbie Ball)

June 11, Thursday: Saint Barnabas, Apostle

Readings: Acts 1; 12-26; Mt 5:20-26

+ Msgr. Roy Kline (Diane Fanale)  
+ Rose Stefanon (Kathy Grove)

June 12, Friday: Weekday

Readings: 1 Kgs 19:9, 11-16; Mt 5:27-32

+ Bishop Joseph Adamec (Pat & Tom Foor)  
+ Dorothy Berger (Patsy Rodosky)

June 13, Saturday: St. Anthony of Padua, Pr. & Dr.

Readings: 1 Kgs 19:19-21; Mt 5:33-37

+ Thomas Reighard (Tina Reighard Foltyniewicz)  
+ Eleanor Bettwy Ann. (Tim & JoAnn Bettwy)

Vigil: THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

Readings: Dt 8:2-3, 14-16; 1 Cor 10: 16-17; Jn 6:51-58

+ Brian McCaulley Birthday (Family)

**Please remember our sick in your prayers.**

#### Facebook

Our parish has created an official Facebook page and the address is <https://www.facebook.com/cathedralofaltoona> The link is found at the top of our parish's webpage. The link at the bottom of the page was evidently created by Wikipedia and is an unofficial page. Our official page will gradually become a convenient way to keep people informed and post notices.

#### Office Hours

The office hours are Monday through Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

### NEXT SUNDAY, WELCOME HOME: THE SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

It will be wonderful for us to return for the public celebration of Mass on the weekend of our parish's feastday, The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. Since the Eucharist is "the source and summit" of our lives as Catholic Christians, the opportunity for us to gather together again as a community of faith is such a blessing.

The masks we wear will not hide the delight shown on our faces. The distances we keep will not diminish the intimate bond of communion we have with one another as members of the Body of Christ, the Church.

In addition to participating in the Eucharist, we will also have the privilege of being able to spend some time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament from after the Noon Mass until a simple benediction at 4:45 P.M. During that time, you are also invited to join us in praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:00 P.M.

When we gather for public Masses, you'll notice a few things being done differently. In the sanctuary there will be only the celebrant, a cantor, reader, and one server. The celebrant will normally not wear a mask during the whole Mass since he will be at a distance from others. Those who attend will still need to wear facial masks and do social distancing, though people living in the same household may sit together. The celebrant and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will be wearing masks or facial shields while they distribute. A disposable worship aid will be available. You may take a missalette and reuse it. There will be no missalettes left in the pews. You will place your offering into baskets as you come up for Communion. There will be no presentation of gifts. For the sign of peace, simply say "Peace be with you." Sanitizing stations will be available in the Communion lines for your use before reception. Communicants should receive Communion on the hand if possible. Given the size of the cathedral, there should be enough room to accommodate everybody; however, if there are people waiting to receive Communion outside, a minister will take Communion to them immediately following Mass.

While it will be important to follow these protocols, we also need to be prayerful, polite, and relaxed. In due time, we will feel very much at home once again...here where God dwells among us and within us.

Parishioners who are not able to come to Mass, but would like to receive Holy Communion at home, may call the office (944-4603) to make arrangements.

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION Sunday June 3, 2020 \$4,389.35

#### RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENT

Where is that guy with the rainbow wig holding a "John 3:16" sign in the end zone at NFL football games? Younger readers may not have any idea what I am talking about! You used to see this guy on TV all the time wearing "Jesus Saves" shirts and holding his sign. Most thought he was a harmless guy, but now he is serving multiple life sentences for taking hostages at a hotel near LAX in 1992. His name is Rollen Stewart and he believed — and continues to believe while in prison — that Jesus' second coming is imminent. His extreme actions were meant to make people take notice and listen to him. Now he sits behind bars, and most in the world see his name as nothing more than an answer to a trivia question.

It is a sad story when people hurt others or use extreme methods in the name of God. Mr. Stewart's belief that simply getting people to listen to his message is the most important step in their salvation is misguided. His poor stewardship should stand in stark contrast to our good stewardship. Our actions, seasoned at times with our words, should be the evidence people need to see the transformative power of Jesus Christ. We do believe that he is indeed coming again. But once you have committed yourself to him and live in his life on earth, when he returns is not our main concern. We are ready whenever that time comes, and hopefully, we can help others be ready as well by our example.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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#### CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE

Gratitude is extended to the 104 donors who have pledged \$28,781 towards our parish \$51,796 Catholic Ministries Drive target. If you have not contributed and are able to do so, please help us support the valuable ministries that enable us to be the Church Jesus calls us to be. Thank you.

#### CATHEDRAL WILL BE OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

The cathedral will be open for private prayer, for 25 people or less, from 7:00 A.M. until 5:00 P.M. Visitors may enter only through the doors at 13th avenue and the alley. Designated seating will be available at the Blessed Sacrament Chapel and at the Chapel of our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament. Facial masks are to be worn, social distancing is to be observed, and persons are asked to self-sanitize their seating area before and after their visit.

### A NOTE FROM MSGR. STAN CARSON: GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD.

God loves. As we celebrate the solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, our brief passages from Scripture this weekend remind us of a rather simple truth, God loves. And even before God revealed his love by sending his Son, the Book of Exodus tells us that our loving God is merciful, gracious, patient, rich in kindness, and faithful. Since God loves, he has revealed himself so that we can enter into a relationship with him. We can have a relationship with God because the grace of the Son, the love of the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit are with us.

Take a moment to give glory and praise to God by simply praying the "Glory be..."

The sign of the cross we make is a reminder that God is with us and we belong to him.

Thank God for the loving relationships that are a part of your life.

Be loving, merciful, gracious, patient, kind, and faithful.

#### Ministry to the Elderly, Seriously Ill and Grieving

We will be approaching the fifth year which began as a simple Thanksgiving Card to our parishioners who were on the First Friday visitation list and those residing in elder care homes. Our twenty person committee has been sending cards, making phone calls and visiting with some men and women who invited us into their homes. We are thankful for your support but want to tell you that committee members feel as they are receiving more than what they are giving. Our homebound so appreciate that we, as a member of their parish family, remember them either with a card or a visit. Their smiles are priceless!"

If you can please call the office 814-944-4603, with the name and address of a family member or friend who you know would welcome a kind word and a prayer through the mail we would be able to reach out to many more. If you would like to join this ministry please call the office at 814-944-4603, or Jeanne Thompson at 814-317-2672. And we can always use stamps!

#### THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

The distribution of Holy Communion without Mass will take place beginning on Monday, June 1, at 7:30 A.M. and Noon from Monday to Friday, June 1-5, on Saturday, June 6, at 8:00 A.M., Noon and 5:00 P.M. and on Sunday, June 7, at 8:00 A.M., 11:00 A.M., Noon and 5:00 P.M. Individuals are to wear masks, observe social distancing, be prepared spiritually, and should receive in the hand.