

**JUNE 21, 2020**

*Scripture Reflection*

There are many things of which we can be afraid: being rebuked, rejection, anger, being challenged, having to defend ourselves, standing alone, insecurity, failure, and even death. For some, identifying and overcoming their fears is a daunting task. Regardless of how much they may want to break the cycle of fear, they find that they remain close friends with old and dysfunctional behavioral habits and norms. Maybe what they really fear is change. There are many who gravitate to the familiar and comfortable, and find safety and security in doing so, even if they remain mired in mediocrity. Human beings have to learn that there is life beyond the "what has always been" and that happiness and depth are possible when old structures and systems have to be left behind.

Can you leave the near and dear, the comfortable and familiar, the safe and secure, and discover new opportunities? The sheer thought of doing so can bring on feelings of apprehension, intense anger, resentment, defensiveness, reluctance, resistance, and even apathy. If we have to be responsible for making the change, cowardice can creep in. If someone else is to blame for making the change, any number of possible negative reactions are possible. In the end, only one thing is required and that is God. If I can rely on and deepen my relationship with God, especially in the Eucharist along with a community of believers, then little else is of great concern. We have to figure out what is really important. It is not always what we think.

The Gospel calls us to stretch ourselves and try new things, not to remain stuck and stagnant in familiar ways. We are asked to live life more deliberately, radically, and intentionally. We are asked to leave the familiar behind and learn to live with changing, and often limiting, human structures. We cannot get too caught up in the physical, ideological, or structural systems we are used to. The Holy Spirit always leads and guides us. If we trust this, we will find ourselves doing things we never thought we could do. Always seek the path to joy and love. They keep us from falling victim to our fears and from seeking the nostalgic crutches we think we need to achieve a sense of well-being and happiness.

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

**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.

**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.

**Happy Father's Day**

Thank you, Dad. You provide for us, share your wisdom, and gave us life. We remember all fathers, living and dead, with the following prayer: God our Father, in your wisdom and love You make all things. Bless these men, that they may be strengthened as Christian fathers. Let the example of their faith and love shine forth. Grant that we, their sons and daughters, may honor them with a spirit of profound respect. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen!



**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.

**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.

# 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)**

<https://www.facebook.com/cathedralofaltoona>

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				

***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)**

## TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

June 21, 2020

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

### MASS INTENTIONS

June 22, Monday: Saints Palinus, John & Thomas

Readings: 2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15, 18; Mt 7:1-5

6:45 AM + Bernard Joyce (Family)

12:00 PM + Agnes Shaffer (Family)

June 23, Tuesday: Weekday

Readings: 2 Kgs 19:9-11, 14-21, 31-36; Mt 7:6, 12-14

6:45 AM + Fred Lumadue (George Koeck)

12:00 PM + Carrie Kibler Detwiler (Bob & Chris Laraia)

June 24, Wednesday: The Nativity of St. John the Baptist

Readings: Is 7:10-14, 8-10; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

6:45 AM + Sr. Beverly Hmel IHM (M/M Ed Simanski)

12:00 PM + Father Bill Kiel (Friends)

June 25, Thursday: Weekday

Readings: 2 Kgs 24:8-17; Mt 7:21-29

6:45 AM + David Petrak (Bill & Grace Smith)

12:00 PM + John & Joy Denis (Tom & Patricia Forr)

June 26, Friday: Weekday

Readings: 2 Kgs 24:1-12; Mt 8:1-4

6:45 AM + Betty Capoullez (Family)

12:00 PM + Jeanne McCartney (M/M Terry Tomassetti)

June 27, Saturday: St. Cyril of Alexandria, BP

Readings: Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19; Mt 8:5-17

8:00 AM + M/M George Moyer (M/M Fran Dambeck)

12:00 PM + James Gardner (Jerry & Mary Neugebauer)

Vigil: Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16; Rom 6: 3-4, 17-18, Mt 10:37-42

5:00 PM + Marti Stefanon (Rose Ann Del Coco)

June 28, Sunday: Thirteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Readings

8:00 AM + Daniel Gioiosa Ann. (Tim & JoAnn Bettwy)

10:00 AM + Kyle Duffy (Beth Moore)

12:00 PM + Gerry Rose (Mary Lysinger)

5:00 PM Pro Popolo/For the People

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

### CCD Teacher Needed

We are in need of a 2nd Grade CCD teacher. If interested or have any questions please contact Chris Laraia at 814-312-7317.



### The Sign of Peace

Why do Catholics give the sign of peace to one another at Mass?

The sign of peace is a part of the Mass that takes place immediately after we offer the Lord's Prayer. Inspired by the Jesus' words to his first followers, we stand together in a spirit of communion to pray as Jesus taught us: "Our Father who art in heaven..." In this prayer, we call for the coming of God's kingdom in all its fullness and ask that God provides for our needs — "Give us, this day, our daily bread" — to forgive our sins and to bring us to the joy of heaven.

It is almost natural, then, that the rite of peace would follow. As the celebrant prays that Christ's peace will fill our hearts, our communities, the Church, and the whole world, we extend to those around us a sign of peace as a symbol of the communion that we experience now and will experience forever in the fullness of the reign of God.

We are also reminded of Jesus' teachings that if we are at prayer and remember that a brother or sister is holding something against us, then we are to go and seek reconciliation with them before we continue our prayer (see Matthew 5:23). And so, the sign of peace also reminds us of the need to truly be in communion — united in love and peace — with God and one another before we approach the altar to receive the Eucharist.

So, the next time you're at Mass and the time comes for the sign of peace, remember that this is a moment to celebrate the gift of Christ's peace that each of us has received from God and to pass that peace along to those around us. We need this moment to practice, because this is also the same peace of Christ that we are instructed to carry out into the world at the end of Mass when the priest or deacon says to us, "Go, in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life."

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OFFERTORY COLLECTION  
Sunday June 14, 2020 \$7,183.00

### WELCOME BACK

It is so good to return to the public celebration of the Eucharist. Please remember to wear a facial mask or shield and to keep a safe social distance. Cooperating with these protocols is in many ways an act of charity and a help in the prevention of spreading the coronavirus.

As we gather for public Masses, you'll notice a few things being done differently. In the sanctuary there will normally be only the celebrant, a cantor, a 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. Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will be wearing masks or facial shields. A disposable worship aid will be distributed as you enter the cathedral and is to be disposed of as you exit or may be taken home. Missalettes will be available for individual use but are not to be left in the cathedral, keep it for future use. You will place your offerings into containers as you exit following liturgy. There will be no procession of gifts. For the sign of peace, simple say "Peace be with you." Sanitizing stations will be available in the Communion lines for your use before reception. Communicants should receive in the hand if possible. Given the size of the cathedral, there should be enough room to accommodate everybody; however, if there are people waiting outside, a minister will take Holy Communion to them immediately following Mass.

While it will be important to follow these protocols, we also need to be patient, 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 rectory (944-4603) to make arrangements.

### Finance Council Meeting

There will be a Finance Council Meeting on Monday June 22nd at 4:00 PM in the Conference Room in the Cathedral Parish Center.

### Parish Council Meeting

There will be a Parish Council Meeting on June 30th at 6:30 PM in the conference room in the Cathedral Parish Center.

## RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

### Will You Say Yes?

You find yourself in the difficult situation of being accused of blasphemy and confronting possible execution. Your crime is believing in Jesus Christ. The question is then asked of you, "Are you a Christian, a follower of the one named Jesus Christ?" Your answer may very well dictate what happens to you next. What is your answer?

It is probably easier to answer this question when the scenario is make-believe. All of us want to believe that we would say yes to the question of belief in Jesus, but strange things happen when humans panic in the face of extreme stress. As we reflect on what we would say, there are those all over the world who are being asked that very same question. It is a question that was asked of many in the first centuries of the Church. Those who respond "yes" are considered martyrs and saints.

We might not usually think of all this in terms of good stewardship living. However, our faith is also a gift we have received from God to cultivate, grow, and share with others. The more interesting question than the one posed above is, "Would an accuser even think of asking you such a question?" Would you have cultivated, grown, and shared your faith enough that anyone would even consider you worthy of asking the question? They might assume you don't know Jesus Christ at all. I don't like conflict and do not seek out conflict, but I would rather someone ask the first question posed than assume there is no reason to confront me in the first place

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Since we will not be celebrating the reception of Holy Communion as a whole large group, our children will be receiving either individually or in small groups of two to four. As you might expect, the children and their families are excited about having the opportunity to receive our Lord in the sacrament of His Body and Blood.

### SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Bishop Mark will be celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation for our parish's candidates on Tuesday, July 14, at 7:00 P.M. By receiving the special gift of the Holy Spirit and completing the process of being initiated into the Christian life, our teenagers will be strengthened with the power of the Holy Spirit so that they will live as witnesses and disciples of Jesus in word and deed. It is also hoped that they will be more involved in the life of the Church which will be enriched by their personal talents and gifts.