

# AUGUST 9, 2020

## *Scripture Reflection*

Be still and know that I am God. Silence is sacred. Silence speaks the language of the soul and is the foundation of all life and eternity itself. Silence takes us beyond the limits of our minds and allows us to seek and to love the essence of all love, perfect love, and being. In silence, we can be non-verbally present to things and to God in ways that words cannot accomplish. We can discover, encounter, and be present to truths that our minds struggle to conceive and then set aside the boxes we put around things when comprehending them is challenging. We can know the unknowable and touch eternity when we encounter the core silence in our souls.

We can do this even on a noisy street and in the midst of the greatest distraction. Once we have made friends with silence, the rambling noise of the world no longer seems to matter, and we can carry a deep forgiving peace within us, even when physical silence cannot be found. We know that we are loved, cared for, sustained, nourished, embraced, and carried. There is nothing to fear in silence, and I can be present to myself in the same way that God is present to me. I can see myself as God sees me. All of my faults, weaknesses, imperfections, failings, and sinfulness melt away in the abundance of God's mercy. All of the worldly things we see as being important no longer are.

It is in silence that all of the barriers that divide us disappear. There is no more "yours" and "mine" but only the oneness of "ours." There is no longer a need to "figure things out," and we tap into our desire to simply let things be. Silence is creative and powerful and gives us hope. Silence is God's greatest blessing. God became one with humanity in silence. It allows us to be one with all of creation, with the moon and the stars and all of the creatures God has made. The smallest particle of creation radiates with beauty. Silence allows us to soar beyond ourselves and connect in ways that the mind can only imagine. When all is quiet, we begin to see that it is only our fear that keeps us from the Lord. It is our fear that causes us to sink and to fail. We can hear the gentle whisper that tells us to reach for God's hand. We discover that we yearn for the salvation and wholeness that only God can give to us. Be still my soul and be at peace.

©LPi



## 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. Our official page will gradually become a convenient way to keep people informed and post notices. (Please do not use the link at the bottom on the page.)

## Benevolent Fund

Thanks to the generosity of several benefactors, and with the approval of our Finance Council, our parish has created what will be called a Benevolent Fund to provide financial assistance to parishioners who find themselves in less-than-fortunate circumstances. Persons requesting help will normally be asked to meet with Jean Johnstone, parishioner and Director of Catholic Charities, who will then provide direction to Msgr. Carson. Individuals who would like to contribute to the fund may do so by writing Benevolent Fund on their check's memo line.

## Religious Education

Registration for all students, grades PK4-11 will be held in the Education Center at 14th Street entrance before and after all Masses August 15/16 and August 22/23. **Parents only**, are asked to register all students at this time and receive your child's textbook. Facial covering is required.

PK/8 will be resuming classes on September 13th through the use of an online program. More information will be available at registration times. If you are new to our Religious Ed program please bring a copy of your child's baptismal certificate.

Please contact Chris Laraia (814-312-7317) or Jean Koury (814-949-2777) if you have any questions or concerns.

## Pray For Our Sick

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

## Parish Mailing Address

Since we have discontinued the use of our post office box, please send mail to either: One Cathedral Square, Altoona Pa 16601 or 1405- 13th Avenue Altoona Pa 16601.

# 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)  
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](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)

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



## NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 9, 2020

Readings: 1 Kgs 19:9, 11-13 Rom 9:1-5; Mt 14:22-33

### MASS INTENTIONS

August 10, Monday: St. Lawrence, Deacon & Martyr

Readings: 2 Cor 9:6-10; Jn 12: 24-26

6:45 AM +Verna Bell (Mr.& Mrs. Dave Hanekamp)

12:00 PM +Beverly Woodring (Mr. & Mrs. Rick Pulcino)

August 11, Tuesday: Saint Clare, Virgin

Readings: Ez 2: 8-3:4; Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14

6:45 AM + Joe Tomlinson (Joe Resig)

12:00 PM + Robert Smithmyer, Anniversary (Wife)

August 12, Wednesday: St.Jane Frances de Chantall

Readings: Ez 9:1-7; 10: 18-22; Mt 18:15-20

6:45 AM + Msgr. Paul Panza (Dana Tomlinson)

12:00 PM +Jim Davidson (Barbara Karl)

August 13, Thursday: Saints Pontian, Hippolytus

Readings: Ez 12:1-12; Mt 18: 21-19:1

6:45 AM + Leroy & Irmina Helfrich (Estate)

12:00PM + Jack Bauer (Rosemarie Fedeli)

August 14, Friday: St. Maximilian Kolbe, Priest & Martyr

Readings: Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63; Mt 19:3-12

6:45 AM + Salvator Michael Moffa (Estate)

12:00 PM + Barbara Byers (M/M Robert DeFazio)

August 15, Saturday: The Assumption of the BVM

Readings: Rv 11:19; 12:1-6, 10; 1 Cor 15:54-57 Lk 1:39-56

8:00 AM + Carrie Detwiler (Mom & Dad)

12:00PM + M/M Michael Gibbons Fam.(M/M Tom Irwin Children)

Vigil: Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: 1s 56: 1, 6-7 Rom 11:13-15, 29-32; Mt 15:21-28

5:00 PM + Edgar L.Johnston Birthday (Wife)

August 16, Sunday

8:00 AM + Frances Pagliaro (M/M Robert DeFazio)

10:00 AM + Janet Tomlinson (Kathy Grove)

12:00 PM + Rose Ciavarella (McNelis Teachers)

5:00 PM Pro Popolo/ For the People

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

### 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 does Mary have so many feast days and names?

Christians first began celebrating feast days in honor of Mary, the Mother of Jesus, in the fifth century. That celebration (originally called the Feast of the Dormition and now known by Roman Catholics as the Solemnity of the Assumption) was celebrated on August 15. Very soon, however, other special days dedicated to Mary began to appear in Jerusalem, Rome, and other major cities of the Christian world. These days of feasting became important parts of the life of the community. But, more importantly, each of these unique celebrations became an opportunity to focus on a different facet of the Christian faith, as believers focused their attention on specific events or mysteries of the lives of Mary and her Son.

Over the centuries, some of these celebrations became universal (such as the Assumption on August 15, the Immaculate Conception on December 8, and the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God on January 1). Other celebrations were more closely tied to certain religious orders (such as the Carmelites celebration of "Our Lady of Mount Carmel" on July 16 or the Servite Friars feast of the "Seven Sorrows of Mary," which is now celebrated as the Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows on September 15).

In more recent times, Marian apparitions (like Guadalupe, Lourdes, and Fatima) have inspired special liturgical celebrations. Pope Francis has added two new celebrations of Mary to the Church's calendar: The Memorial of Mary, Mother of the Church (on the Monday after Pentecost) and the Commemoration of Our Lady of Loreto (on December 10). The various titles of Mary (like those we find in the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary) help us to reflect on different aspects of Mary's faith and the ways that the Holy Spirit is at work in her and through her, especially as the Mother of Jesus.

In the end, whatever the event or mystery being celebrated in a particular liturgy or the title of Mary being used, we are invited to always see Mary in connection with the saving work of her Son. She is, of course, a patroness and protector for every Christian, but she is also a model of discipleship and contemplation: "Having entered deeply into the history of salvation, Mary, in a way, unites in her person and re-echoes the most important doctrines of the faith: and when she is the subject of preaching and worship she prompts the faithful to come to her Son, to his sacrifice and to the love of the Father" (Lumen Gentium, 65).

### Annual Wedding Anniversary Liturgy

Bishop Mark Bartchak and the Family Life Office cordially invites all couples celebrating 1, 5, 10, 25, 40, 50, 55, and 60 + Wedding Anniversary in 2020 (and their families) to attend the **Annual Wedding Anniversary Liturgy**. Couples may attend Sunday, September 13 in ALTOONA at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament or Sunday, September 20 in JOHNSTOWN at St. John Gualbert Cathedral. Both locations are handicap accessible. Liturgies in each location begin at 2:00 p.m. Bishop Mark will be the celebrant and the homilist at each celebration. .

**Reservations must be made through your parish for either celebration by August 19.**

## OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, August 2, 2020 \$

### 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, simply 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.

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

### The Assumption of Mary into Heaven

Since the Solemnity of Mary's Assumption into Heaven, August 15, falls on a Saturday this year, it is not a holy day of obligation. There will be no Vigil Mass on Friday. Mary's entrance, body and soul, into heaven will be celebrated only during the 8:00 A.M. and Noon Masses on Saturday.



We are pleased to have so many of our children welcomed to our altar table. Gratitude is extended to Chris Laraia, our catechists, catholic school teachers, and the parents of our children. Since the Eucharist is such an essential part of our lives, the presence of our children is such a hopeful sign.

### CATHEDRAL OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

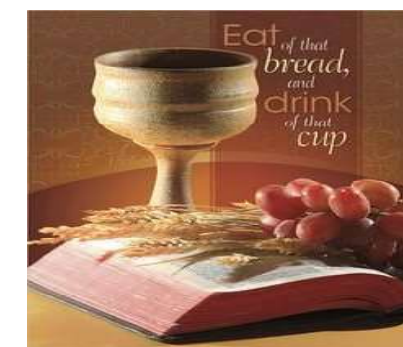
Nicolas Acuna  
Tommy Bautista-Ortiz  
Alayna Bott  
Hailey Camberg  
Kelan Chirdon  
Tyler Davis  
Hailie Dufrene  
Lauren Elvey  
Garrett Garlick  
James Hoyne  
Erika Irwin  
Antonio Jiminez

Jayson Jiminez  
Mason Klock  
Charlotte Lantzy  
Emma Metzgar  
Lucas Muccitelli  
Emily Nachtman  
Tyson Pattillo  
Dominic Pyo  
Liam Roland  
Sean Roland  
Olivia Sapp  
William Stadtmiller

### OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

Killian Keagy

Josh Starr



### Cross Catholic

We welcome Father Bernard Olszewski of Cross Catholic Outreach who is speaking this weekend at all Masses on behalf of the poor in developing countries. Cross Catholic Outreach was founded to create a meaningful link between parishes in America and the priests and nuns in the Church overseas in the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, Central and South America.