

# AUGUST 30, 2020

## *Scripture Reflection*

Secular pursuits only bring a temporary amount of satisfaction and fulfillment. As much as we may think that achieving worldly success, economic security, personal well-being, and self-fulfillment are worthy goals to obtain, they all are dependent on external variables and can lead to emptiness. We are trained to be very pragmatic and productive. Unless we are able to check off all of the boxes or comply with specific measurable requirements, our value and worth becomes questionable. Corporations, educational institutions, systems, structures, and secular ideology rarely consider deeper, more spiritual, and human contributions a person can and needs to make.

To the secular mind, the wisdom and ideals of the Gospel are making less and less sense. Consider for a moment this question: "What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?" While Jesus is asking this very challenging question to people who are considering his message, many in our world are in a quite different place. Whether we realize it, many folks are asking a much different question. Why would you not want to gain the whole world and secure your life? If you look at where a lot of folks are investing their time, energy, and resources, it becomes obvious where current priorities rest.

Modern day comforts and possibilities are backing us out of our relationship with God. The fire burning in every human heart is trying to find its satisfaction in the things that humans have created and not God. Being altruistic and offering compassion for those most in need becomes a political responsibility or responsible gesture. We realize that our hearts need to be centered on something and someone who calls us out of ourselves, but we struggle and battle with naming the source of that call. God places the desire to seek, find, and love Him in the core of every soul. We are not abandoned and left to fend for ourselves. But we can easily get confused. We know that when we extend ourselves to another self-sacrificially, we are doing what is just and right. We know that we can work through suffering and loss and come out better and more whole on the other side.

Our minds need to be renewed so that they can begin to understand that there is much more to who we are, and that faith plays a pivotal role in achieving our true and everlasting goals. It is when we see that it is only faith that can bring us to this heightened awareness of ourselves and God that it will begin to make sense. Then, we can put things in proper perspective and consider being a disciple.

## 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.

## 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.

## Birth of Mary Celebration

The 39th Anniversary of the Birth of Mary Celebration on Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at Saint Catherine of Siena Church, Old Rt. 22, Duncansville Pa. Limited seating & masks worn.

7:15 a.m. Joyful Mystery of the Rosary in the Church

7:45 a.m. Mass in the Church

11:30 a.m. Joyful Mystery of the Rosary in the Church

12:00 noon Mass in the Church

5:00 p.m. Joyful Mystery of the Rosary at the Shrine  
without the Procession

5:30 p.m. Mass at the Shrine some chairs; participates bring own chairs, **Masks must be worn. There is to be proper physical distancing including the line for the reception of the Holy Eucharist.** Celebrant/Homilist: Msgr. Bob Saly. **NO PROCESSION after the evening Mass around the mysteries of the rosary. NO CONTINUOUS ROSARY, NO FOOD NOR EXHIBITS.**

Address petitions to: Birth of Mary Celebration, P.O. Box 88, Duncansville, Pa. 16635



# 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)

## TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 30, 2020

Readings: Jer 20: 7-9; Rom 12:1-2; Mt 16:21-27

### MASS INTENTIONS

August 31, Monday: Weekday

Readings: 1 Cor 2:1-5; Lk 4:16-30

6:45 AM + Hilda Conrad (John & Martha Coffman)

12:00PM Rosemarie Fedeli (Family)

September 1, Tuesday: Weekday

Readings: 1 Cor 2:10-16; Lk 4:31-37

6:45 AM + Lori Keirn (Suzie Behe)

12:00PM + Jack Bauer (Wife)

September 2, Wednesday: Weekday

Readings: Cor 3:1-9; Lk 4:38-44

6:45 AM + Patrick Hallinan (Family)

12:00 PM Tom & Mary Boslet, Ann. (Ellen Rahm)

September 3, Thursday: St. Gregory the Great Pope

Readings: 1 Cor 3:18-23; Lk 5:1-11

6:45 AM + Tom Boslet Birthday (Wife)

12:00PM + Kathleen Duffy Birthday (Husband Jack)

September 4, Friday: Weekday

Readings: 1 Cor 4:17-25; Lk 5:33-39

6:45 AM + Dorothy Berger (Gerald Fleck)

12:00 PM + Fred T Lumadue (Edmund Greinader)

September 5, Saturday: Saint Teresa of Calcutta

Readings: 1 Cor 4:6-15; Lk 6:1-5

8:00 AM + Alice Winkler (Bob & Chris Laraia)

12:00PM + Dick Cowan (Wife Skip)

Vigil: Twenty- Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Ez 33: 7-9; Rom 13:8-10; Mt 18:15-20

5:00 PM + Michael Dionis (M/M Jim Carrieri)

September 6, Sunday:

8:00 AM + Dorothy Stephens (M/M Dave Francis)

10:00 AM + Theresa Elaine Vaught (Family)

12:00 PM + Rose Stefanon (Stephen & Mary Prove)

5:00 PM Pro Popolo/ For the People

### Thank You

Cross Country Outreach wishes to thank you for the welcome you extended to Father Carson on our recent visit to your parish. On behalf of the poorest of the poor, we thank you for having shared in their lives. May our Lord continue to bless all of you for your love and support.

### How many times a day can a person receive communion?

To find an answer to this question, we need to turn to the Church's Code of Canon Law. Here we read, "One who has received the blessed Eucharist may receive it again on the same day only within a Eucharistic celebration in which that person participates ..." (no. 917). This tells us that the standard answer would be that we can receive communion twice in a day.

Having said that, we also want to be sure that we pay attention to the entire instruction. The phrase "within a Eucharistic celebration in which that person participates" is important. It means a) that we always have to think of receiving communion as being within a celebration of the Mass and b) we have to be participants in that celebration – we can't simply show up "in time" for communion.

So, when would this rule apply?

For example, if you attend Mass on a Saturday morning and then take part in the Sunday Vigil Mass on Saturday evening, you could licitly receive communion at both celebrations. Or, another example, if you receive communion at a wedding or funeral Mass, you could also receive communion at a daily Mass or Sunday Vigil celebrated on the same day. We always want to be sure that we observe the rules for fasting from food and drink before receiving the eucharist (see Code of Canon Law, no. 919).

We should also remember that the Code of Canon Law instructs that anyone who is in danger of death or seriously ill may also receive communion a second time (no. 91, §2).

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### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

You are invited to spend some time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament from after the noon Mass on Wednesday, September 2, until after the 7:00 P.M. confessions. There is a sign-up sheet on the table at the center of the Cathedral.

### Baptismal Prep Class

There will be a Baptismal Prep Class, Tuesday September 1, 2020 at 6:30pm, in the Education Room on 14th Street. You can call Paula at the Parish office 814-944-4603 and sign up.

### Nocturnal Adoration

Will take place at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament Church on Friday, September 4, 2020, from 8:00 PM to 11:00 PM.

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, August 16, 2020 \$5,388.00

Sunday, August 23, 2020 \$4,621.30

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### High School Graduates

I am so sorry for this being in here so late in the year, but I just received this information. Our High School Students that graduated in the year of 2020 are as follows:

### Altoona Area High School

Blaine Carlheim, Nicole Duffy,

### Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School

Glenn Bartkowiak, Olivia Butler, Amanda Jones, Joshua Krish, Fionna McConnell, and Joshua Weltheroth.

### Hollidaysburg Senior High School

Elle MacGregor, and Dylan Eckard.

### Home Schooled

Samuel Gormont, Nicole Conrad

### Our Lady of Fatima

Gretta Levine

Best of luck to all the Seniors, as you achieve your goals, hopes, and dreams. May God Bless you on your journey.

### 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.)

### Prayer for Students

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for the gift of learning! I want to grow closer to you in everything I do at school. In math and science, help me to see your beautiful plan in the world. Help me to discover new stories and values as I read and write. In arts and music, help me to be creative. In sports, help me to treat my teammates and my opponents fairly. Help me to learn new skills in technology. Jesus, you are the perfect teacher.

Help me to listen with open ears, an open heart, and an open mind to all my teachers at school. Help me to treat my classmates with care, kindness, and respect. Thank you, Jesus, for school!  
Amen.