

OCTOBER 11, 2020

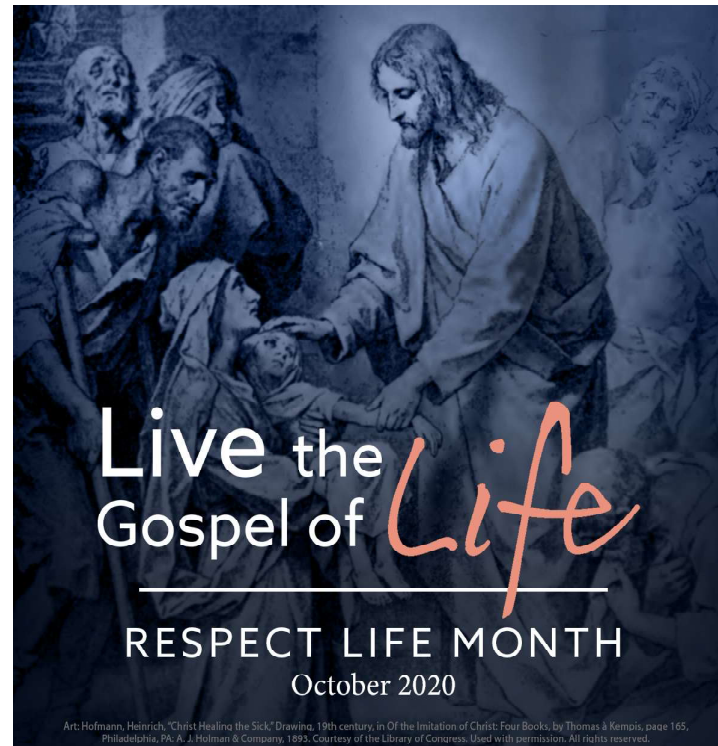
God gives us an invitation to have an abundant life. The banquet is ready, and the tables are set. Come! There is so much to attend to in the everydayness of our lives. We have plans, after all. There is never enough time and so much that needs to be done. There is work, children, and grandchildren, paying the bills, planning for retirement, figuring out the details of our next vacation, making sure we are on top of our game with work, planning social engagements, answering emails, texts, and getting our latest pictures on Facebook. There is always something. What is this about some banquet?

I need another party and commitment like a hole in the head. I can't manage what I already have, and someone is asking me to do more! Seriously? I saw the invitation; I think it came in the mail the other day. Did I leave it on the table? Oh wait, it may have gotten thrown away. I can't remember. In any case, I'm managing things pretty well on my own, I think. Thanks for thinking of me, but no thanks. My life is only as good as I make it and I have to be sure that all is in order! Oh, another invitation came today! This guy's being persistent. Now, I'm getting angry. I wish he would just leave me alone and stop with this invitation nonsense.

I woke up feeling a bit unsettled this morning. The kids have left the house, the grandchildren are busy with their lives, my retirement fund is losing ground, I'm worried about my health, folks have moved away, and I find myself alone. I am unhappy. I remember getting an invitation some time ago to a banquet promising new life and life in abundance. Did I miss something? I think I may have. I am finally discovering that life is not about me and my world. I think I've ignored the God who made me and the God who is the reason for my life, my hope, and my joy. It's always been about me. I have not really discovered Eternal Love.

Is the invitation still open? Can I come to the banquet? I think I'd like to come.

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The Gospel of Life

Twenty-five years ago, Pope St. John Paul II wrote that the Gospel of life is at the heart of Jesus' saving message to the world (*Evangelium vitae* 1). In taking of human flesh, dwelling among us, and sacrificing his very life for our redemption, Christ reveals the profound dignity of every human person. This God-given dignity does not change with our stage of life, abilities, level of independence or any other varying circumstance. Rather, it is rooted in the permanent fact that each of us is made in the image and likeness of God, created to share in the very life of God himself. The human person is a "manifestation of God in the world, a sign of his presence, a trace of his glory"(EV34). @U.S.C.C.B

Christopher Columbus

Christopher Columbus was an Italian explorer and navigator who completed four voyages across the Atlantic Ocean, opening the way for European exploration and colonization of the Americas. Wikipedia
Born: 1451, Genoa, Italy
Died: May 20, 1506, Valladolid, Spain
Spouse: Filipa Moniz Perestrelo (m. 1479)
Children: Diego Columbus, Ferdinand Columbus
Place of burial: Catedral de Sevilla, Seville, Spain, Faro a Colon, Santo Domingo Este, Dominican Republic



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

<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
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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

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

**TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
October 11, 2020**

Readings: Is 25:6-10; Phil 4:12-14, 19-20; Mt 22:1-14

MASS INTENTIONS

October 12, Monday: Weekday

Readings: Gal 4:22-24, 26-27, 31-5:1; Lk 11:29-32

6:45 AM + Mary Chuckley (M/M Dave Hanekamp)
12:00PM + Janet Tomlinson(Alice & Butch Winkler)

October 13, Tuesday: Weekday

Readings: Gal 5:51-6; Lk 11:37-41

6:45 AM + Msgr. Paul Panza (The Bell Family)
12:00PM + James Joseph Luther(M/M Dave Brennan)

October 14, Wednesday: St. Callistus I, Pope & Martyr

Readings: Gal 5:18-25; Lk 11:42-46

6:45 AM + Bernadine Garcia (Jean Koury)
12:00PM + Madeline Vogel(Dave & Karen Rhoa)

October 15, Thursday: St. Teresa of Jesus, Virgin & Dr

Readings: Eph 1:1-10 Lk 11:47-54

6:45 AM + Joseph Knott (Alan & Mary Dodson)
12:00PM + Christina Flanagan (Marge Dennis)

October 16, Friday: Sts. Hedwig, Margaret Mary Alacoque

Readings: Gal 3:7-14; Lk 11:15-26

6:45 AM + David Baronner(Tom Byrne & Bev Woodring)
12:00 PM + Joe Tomlinson (Mary Smithmyer)

October 17, Saturday: St Ignatius of Antioch, BP

Readings: Eph 1:15-23; Lk 12:8-12

8:00AM + Carrie Detwiler (Mom & Dad)
12:00PM + Fred & Margaret Lumdue (M/M Jeff Spencer)
Vigil: **Twenty- Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Readings: Is 45:1, 4-6; 1 Thes1:1-5; Mt 22:15-21
5:00PM + M. Virginia Jones (M/M James Davidson)

October 18, Sunday:

8:00 AM + Hilda Conrad (Chris Vogel Wolf)
10:00 AM + Betsy Cote (Matt & Weez Seidel)
12:00PM + Trudy Eicher (Family & Friends)
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.

Can We Chew Gum at Mass?

Question: Does chewing gum break the fast before Communion?

If you look in Canon Law or in the Catechism, there is no mention of chewing gum. I guess it does not rate the attention of the universal church! The Church requires us to fast for one hour before we receive the Eucharist. Basically, we are to refrain from food and drink, not including water or medicine. There are also exceptions for people who are ill. Overall, the fast is intended for us to prepare ourselves to receive the Eucharist and in some small way to literally as well as spiritually hunger for what we are about to receive. Chewing gum, while not really food, does at least break the spirit of the fast. Besides that, it is a distraction and rude. What do you do with the gum when it is time to receive Communion? People have actually come to the altar chewing away, oblivious to what they were doing or Who they were receiving. At best, it is distracting and irreverent. At worst, it adds a barrier to giving our best to receiving God's best.

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Rite of Christian Initiation

Congratulations goes out to Dee Lawson for coming through the RCIA and receiving the Holy Eucharist and Confirmation on Wednesday, October 7th, 2020. Due to COVID the team has been meeting with Dee on Sundays and helping her to fulfil her dreams. We are pleased that you are now a member of our parish.

A Prayer for Our Common Home

God of all creation, you have given us the responsibility of a steward, one who cares for something. Our stewardship is to care for our common home, the earth. We look to your goodness shown to us by all the good gifts the earth bestows upon us: The rain to water the ground. The crops that spring from the ground. The animals that roam the fields. The medicines that come from the plants. We also look to you for the wisdom to care for this creation of yours: Give us wisdom to know how and when this good earth needs our special attention. Helps us not to be shortsighted and assume that the earth can heal itself without our help. You created us from the earth and we depend upon it for our health. We ask all from you, and give all back to you. This we do.

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**OFFERTORY COLLECTION
Sunday, October 4, 2020 \$6,589.00**

Respond with Love

Do you remember a time when you spent much time or money on a surprise or gift for someone else and they failed to appreciate it? We do open ourselves up to disappointment if our expectations do not match the response. Perhaps we reached down deep to share a part of ourselves only to encounter apathy and insensitivity. That can hurt even if the person ignoring our gesture meant no ill will toward us.

What must God feel like when we fail to respond to what He has done for us. We probably do not purposefully slight God, but perhaps we are so busy and mindless that it becomes impossible to be responsive and mindful. We can miss the gift of God which is right before our eyes.

It is very difficult to be a good steward if we do not intentionally choose to be mindful. We miss the important stuff in life, and we neglect those placed in our path as gifts to enrich our lives. If we are to live as Jesus asks, we must work on focusing our eyes of faith on the things that matter and the gifts we have been given. If we are made in the image of God, I suppose we can guess how God might feel when His gifts are not acknowledged, or His love not returned. If I reflect on the One who loves me more than anyone, how can I choose to not offer my love in return?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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Basket Bingo

Due to the COVID-19 we are sorry to say that the basket bingo that was scheduled for September 20, 2020 had to be canceled. We are going to reschedule for Sunday April 25th, 2021. DAUBBERS UP!!!!!! We are still taking donations. Please call the Parish Office at 814-944-4603 from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday thru Friday, or Lorraine Beck at 814-942-7774.

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.

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 Shawls

If you or anyone that you know would like to have a prayer shawl for comfort during a rough time please call the Parish Office at 814-944-4603 the hours are from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Also you may call Lorraine Beck at 814-942-7774.

The Friar's Nook Gift Shop – Fall Harvest Sale

Looking to add some Fall Foliage to your home? Need a little Tom Turkey for your tabletop? Stop in at The Friar's Nook Gift Shop Harvest Sale and save 20% off all fall items including flags, door décor, decorations and more through the month of October! The Friar's Nook Gift Shop is located at 793 Monastery Road, Hollidaysburg, and the shop hours for October are Fridays and Saturdays 10:00 AM-4:00 PM.

1st Reconciliation Prep

There will be a mandatory **Parent Only** meeting on Tuesday evening, October 27th from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM in the Cathedral Hall.

Please bring a copy of your child's baptismal certificate if you have not already done so. **Masks** are required.

Old Testament Classes

This is being offered by the Office of Adult Enrichment and Lay Ecclesial Ministry. Beginning Tuesday October 27th, this 8 week class will be offered by Fr. Brian Saylor at St. Rose of Lima, Altoona. Class times are 6:30-8:30 PM. **This class may be taken for continuing education hours.** The cost of this class which includes registration and book fee is \$65. You may register online at www.dioceseaj.org/lay-ecclesial-ministry or by calling or emailing Marybeth at (814)361-2000/ mheinze@dioceseaj.org. **All are welcome!**

Thanksgiving Pie Sale

St. Rose of Lima Parish (5514- Roselawn Avenue, Altoona) is holding a Thanksgiving Pie Sale. Available Pies: Apple, Cherry, or Blueberry with a top crust or crumb top for (\$12.00 each); Pumpkin (\$10) each; Coconut Cream, Lemon Meringue or Chocolate Meringue (\$14 each). Orders and payment due by Monday, November 16, 2020. Orders can be picked up Tuesday, November 24, 2020, Noon to 3:00 PM or 5:00 to 7:00 PM. To place an order, call the St Rose of Lima Parish office at 814-944-8509.

ARISE !

Season 5 will **not** be held until Easter 2021. Those who wish to continue to read and discuss weekly topics, through Zoom featured on Proclaim!, may contact Chris Laraia at 814-312-7317 for more information.