

## **NOVEMBER 8, 2020**

When doing student report cards, there was a comment the teacher could choose that read: inattentive and easily distracted. Could that comment describe your spiritual life? We can become so consumed with myriad distractions and preoccupations and lose our connection to what is really significant and important. We can become dull. This happens in our human relationships, too. We can easily take the love of others for granted, whether it be a parent, spouse, friend, or a child. We assume and presume that their love will always be there and do very little to cultivate, rejuvenate, and deepen it. Presumption can become a great sin.

We do the same thing with God and our spiritual lives. We presume that God will be merciful. Because we believe that in the end God is going to forgive us anyway, then why put a lot of effort into things now? What's the point? It's far easier to find a comfortable spot, curl up and take a nap! There is no immediate urgency to staying awake and attentive, so we think, and we simply fly by the seat of our pants. Assuming and presuming too much about our relationships, especially our relationship with God, can lead to neglect and abuse. It can even lead to a sense of entitlement, where we actually believe that something is due us without much effort on our part.

Folks who are distracted and preoccupied can find their relationships, especially the primary ones, drifting away. You can actually be married to someone for many years and wake up one morning realizing that you really do not know them or truly recognize them. We have to desire God in order to recognize God. We have to open our hearts, minds, and souls to His Presence so that we can be rejuvenated and refreshed. But we cannot do this if we are distracted or napping. We have to be awake and alert! As a young child eagerly watches for and anticipates that arrival of their parent home, so too we must watch for God's presence. If the anticipation of God's arrival does not excite us and rouse us, then we need to ask why. The wise person keeps vigilant watch, knowing that in the end they will not be disappointed.

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### **A Prayer for Veterans**

Heavenly Father, King and Lord,  
You instill in all of your creation an order and value.  
You call your children "very good."  
We surrender to you the conflicts that tear your family apart.  
We pray for an end to blindness that places pride, greed, power, and selfishness above human dignity and brotherly love.  
We pray in gratitude for all of those who have defended peace, virtue, and justice with honor.  
We pray especially for those who have suffered in mind and body from the ravages of war.  
Let Your Kingdom come!  
May Your peace that surpasses all understanding reign in our hearts and in our world. Amen! ©LPi



### **In Our Midst**

One day my son came downstairs in our house and went into the kitchen to get himself a bowl of cereal. He had no idea I was in the front room quietly reading something on my smartphone. He poured his milk and reached to grab a spoon. At that moment, I simply said, "Hello." Startled, he jumped back from the silverware drawer and let out a scream. He would tell this story differently, but it certainly was a scream. He clutched his chest as if he had just seen a ghost. All I wanted to do was say hello.

We have all been startled by someone when we thought we were all alone. Sometimes that person in our midst was simply quiet and hidden from our view. Other times, we simply have our head and mind in the clouds to the point we are ignoring the fact we are not alone.

At times that person we don't see is Jesus. He might seem quieter some days, but he should never be hidden from our view. He is always there with us, in others, and sharing our everyday moments. When we fail to see him in our midst, it is easy to act in ways we wouldn't if we saw him directly in front of us. We become less giving and more self-centered. No one wants to be surprised one day when suddenly they realize they were not alone, especially if the one who startles us is our God.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

# **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>

<b>Sunday:</b>	<b>5:00 PM (Vigil)</b> 8:00 AM 10:00 AM 12:00 Noon 5:00 PM	<b>Holyday:</b>	<b>5:30 PM (Vigil)</b> 8:00 AM 12:00 Noon 5:30 PM	<b>Weekday:</b>	<b>6:45 AM</b> 12:00 Noon
				<b>Saturday:</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b> 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)**

## THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

November 8, 2020

Readings: 1 Thes 4:13-18; Mt 25:1-13

### MASS INTENTIONS

November 9, Monday: Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Readings: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9,12; 1 Cor 3:9-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-22

6:45AM + M/M Leroy Douglas(J. Donald Douglas)  
12:00PM + Catherine Madigan Connelly(M/M Ed Simanski)

November 10, Tuesday: St. Leo the Great, Pope/Dr.

Readings: Ti 2:1-8, 11-14; Lk 7-10

6:45 AM + Fay & Esther Walters (Eileen Douglas)  
12:00 PM Vocations (Anonymous)

November 11, Wednesday: St. Martin of Tours, BP

Readings: Ti 3:1-7; Lk 17; 11-19

6:45 AM + Jeanie Farabaugh (M/M Mickey Fields)  
12:00PM + Annie Bauer, Birth.(Dan Bauer)

November 12, Thursday: St. Josaphat, Bishop/Martyr

Readings: Phlm 7:20; Lk 17:20-25

6:45 AM + Derek Behe (Mom & Dad)  
12:00PM + Barry Saletnik (Rose Mary Lobre)

November 13, Friday: St. Frances Xavier Cabrini

Readings: 2 John:4-9:1; Lk 17:26-37

6:45 AM + Harry Costlow (Eileen Edwards)  
12:00PM + Tom Byrnes Sr., Birthday (Family)

November 14, Saturday: Weekday

Readings: 3 Jn:5-8; Lk 18:1-8

8:00AM + Bob Adams (Rita & Jerry Kibler)  
12:00PM + Fred & Margaret Lumadue(Tom and Cecelia)

Vigil: **Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Readings: Pvr 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; 1 Thes 5:1-6 Mt 25:14-30

5:00PM + Bob & Gertrude Lambert (Family)

November 15, Sunday:

8:00 AM + Martha Maurer (M/M Jack Kirkpatrick)  
10:00 AM + Mary Frances Moses(M/M Tim Longwill)  
12:00PM + Patricia Koeck (Pinky Newberry)  
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.

### 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.

### Workbooks for Readers and Lectors

The new 2021 workbooks are now available after all the masses and also at the Parish Office during regular hours. Monday-Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

### Gluten Sensitivity

There may be parishioners who have found that they have physical disorders related to gluten intolerance. The spectrum of illnesses includes celiac disorder, wheat allergy, bloating, abdominal discomfort, diarrhea, muscular disturbances, and bone or joint pain. The ordinary hosts distributed at Communion contain gluten. If you have found that you are gluten sensitive, special bread is available that possess a very low gluten content. Please tell the priest before Mass, and he will consecrate the low-gluten host for you to receive at that Mass.

### 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.)

### 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.

### Gospel Activity Sheets For Children

We now have Growing with the Gospel Activity pamphlets for the children in gades Kindergarden to first grade, and also second to third grade. They are located on the table in the cross aisle. They are available for the children to take, it reflects on the Gospel of each Sunday.

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION Sunday, November 1, 2020 \$6,588.00

### Book of Remembrance

There will be a Book of Remembrance in the Our Mother of Sorrows/Pieta Chapel (the chapel with the image of Mary holding the crucified body of Jesus). During the month of November, you may list the names of your relatives and friends in that book.

### The Names of Our Dead

Throughout November the names of all those who have died and were buried from the Cathedral Parish since last November, will appear in the Our Mother of Sorrow Chapel. The month of November is the traditional time we Catholics remember our dead with special prayer. Throughout this month take time to pray for our deceased brothers and sisters. Visit the cemetery and pray for those who have gone before us. May all the faithful departed know a place of light, peace and happiness. Thank you to Jean Koury who created this year's board.

### Prayer for the Faithful Departed

Good and faithful God, you have given us so many people in our lives that have given us joy and solace. On this day we ask you to remember our dearly departed. Keep them close to you as we all wait for that day when we all will come and worship in your presence.

We ask this through your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

### Stewardship Reflection

Good Stewards, like the sensible bridesmaids in today parable, are ready to share their gifts when the Master calls. The good steward is awake, alert to opportunities and actively looks for chances to make that differences.

It is the prudent use of our time, abilities, and finances that will always keep us mindful of the presence of the Risen Christ. But note: The good steward is a conscious steward, not a *guilty* steward. "Successful Catholic stewards are not hand-wringing worrywarts: 'Am I doing enough? Did I spend enough time there? Did I use my talents to the fullest? Am I as generous as I should be?'" (*Catholic update, Seven Secrets of Successful Stewards, See not obligation, but opportunity. St. Anthony Messenger Press, August 2002*)

### Apostles vs. Disciples

When we look at the gospel accounts of the life of Jesus, we see two special titles applied to his followers: apostles and disciples. At first glance, we might think that these two words are interchangeable, but when we look at what each one means, we quickly see that the evangelists were using them very specifically. When we look more closely, we see that while Jesus had many disciples, the group of apostles was much more limited and referred to Jesus' closest collaborators.

The word apostle essentially means "one who is sent forth" or, as we might think of it today, "an ambassador." The group of apostles — sometimes called the Twelve — included those twelve men who formed Jesus' inner circle (see Mark 3:13-14; Luke 6:12-13). It was this group that received the gift of the Holy Spirit and who were sent out by Jesus with the special mission of forgiving sins on that first Easter Sunday (see John 20:19-23). In time, the Catholic Tradition also recognize Saint Paul and Saint Barnabas as apostles, recognizing that they also shared the mandate of going out in the Lord's name to pray, to bless, and to preach. In 2016, during the Jubilee of Mercy, Pope Francis raised the liturgical celebration of Saint Mary Magdalene to the rank of feast, recognizing that she also received a special mandate to proclaim the good news of Jesus' resurrection to the Eleven, becoming the "apostle to the apostles." In a particular way, the bishops continue the mission of the apostles in our own time.

When we think of the word disciple, we see that it has a very different meaning. Rather than referring to those who were sent out to carry on the mission of Jesus, disciple literally means "student" or, more specially, an "apprentice learner." The task of the disciple is to learn and integrate into their lives the teachings, values, and way of life of their master teacher. Although a disciple might be called on to explain or represent aspects of their life, in light of the teachings they receive from this master teacher, Christian discipleship is ultimately about living our lives with faith and integrity, guided by the life and mission of Jesus, our Master Teacher. The call to discipleship is the common vocation of all Christians.

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### The Friar's Nook Gift Shop

Kick off your Christmas shopping by stopping at the Friar's Nook Gift Shop! Normal business hours Monday, November 2nd and hours will be Monday-Saturday 10:00 AM-4:00 PM (always closed on Sundays). The address is 793 Monastery Road, Hollidaysburg, and our phone number is 814-695-3802 if you have any questions. Please follow us on Facebook for updates!