

APRIL 25, 2021

Any builder worth his or her salt knows the value and importance of a cornerstone. Properly laying and securing this primary unit determines how the rest of the project unfolds and its success. Cornerstones are necessary elements not only of buildings but of lives as well. Many human beings conduct the business of their lives paying little attention to a grounding reference or starting point. Hence, what unfolds is a tapestry of relativism, with few anchors or guideposts and many impulsive choices. Some consider love to be their cornerstone. While this may sound attractive and useful, the pursuit of love without a simultaneous pursuit of its source can be shallow and self-focused. Just because a person chooses to do no harm and love others does not mean that they are living in truth and properly anchored to the real cornerstone.

Jesus is the true and authentic cornerstone and shepherd. It is only in following the Risen One as the way, the truth, and the life that we can move from being well grounded ethical people to properly focused moral ones. Proper conduct, a true sense of justice, wisdom, virtue, moral principles, faith, hope, and love will be difficult to find unless we listen to the right Voice. It is when we learn to listen to the voice of God that we begin our journey on the road to salvation. It is only the Good Shepherd, the authentic and solid cornerstone, who can guide us through life's questions and challenges and bring us to the safe and proper pasture.

A person's life only has meaning when the cornerstone is properly selected and set. Understanding themselves only as random acts of creation, existing without intent or purpose, will color their choices and influence their decisions. The foundation of their lives will be simply a matter of preference and choice, leaving benchmarks of growth and higher ideals optional to pursue. Whereas people who believe that they are fashioned and loved into existence by a God who purposely made them, have this incredible unconditional relationship at their source which has tremendous significance. Their allegiance is not to themselves but to their Creator. Life, then, is an adventure in search of this Creator God and a journey of self-discovery that seeks to unite their will to His. There is a cost. We have to give up our life in order to gain our life. As ironic as that sounds, it is true. It is only when we finally figure this out that the true cornerstone of our lives will be properly laid and we can, with God's help, get about the business of properly constructing a temple that endures.

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The Year of Saint Joseph

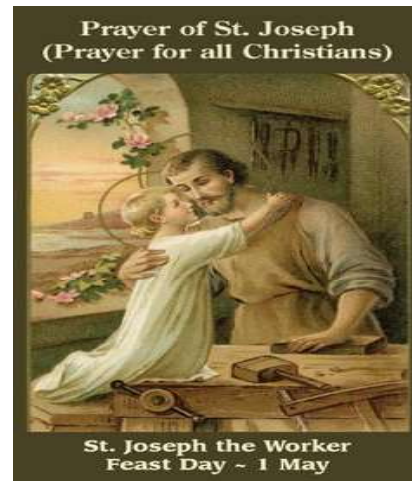
“After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was named Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. When the time came for purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord...When they had finished everything required by the laws of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.”

In his Apostolic letter *Patris Corde*, 2021, the Pope describes many of St. Joseph's qualities as “a true husband and father, the fiance' who accepted Mary unconditionally and the man whom Jesus saw the tender love of God.” Pope Francis has a practice of placing his concerns under a statue of Sleeping St. Joseph. He speaks of the saint saying, “Joseph is a man that goes unnoticed, who welcomes the mystery and puts himself at its service, never putting himself at the center, but who resolves things that are impossible.”

This devotion to the Sleeping Joseph was made public by Pope Francis while on a Papal visit in 2015 to the Philippines at a meeting with families in Manila, “Even when he is asleep, he is taking care of the Church! Yes!” June 12, 2015, Valerie Schmalz CSF, Catholic San Francisco; <https://catholic-sf.org/news/pope-francis-popularizes-devotion-to-sleeping-st-joseph>. **2021 Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown Liturgy Committee, Liturgy Office, Mary, Mother of the Church Pastoral Center, 2713-West Chestnut Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601**

Saint Joseph the Worker

O God, Creator of all things, who laid down the human race the law of work, graciously grant that by the example of Saint Joseph and under his patronage, we may complete the works you set us to do and attain the rewards you promise. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



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.

ANOINTING 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)	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

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 25, 2021

MASS INTENTIONS

April 26, Monday: Easter Weekday

6:45 AM + Lavelle Family (Phyllis Lavelle Sheetz)
12:00 PM + Daniel Shade (Family)

April 27, Tuesday: Easter Weekday

6:45 AM + Stephen Hiner, Anniversay (Mary Ann Bell)
12:00 PM + Edward Matosziuk II (Denis & Connie Navarro)

April 28, Wednesday: St. Peter Chanel, Pr. & Martyr; St. Louis Grigon de Monfort, Pr.

6:45 AM + John Moloney, Anniversary (Family)
12:00 PM + Anna Marie Mullen (Aunt Louise)

April 29, Thursday: St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of Church

6:45 AM + Janet Tomlinson (Kathy Clapper)
12:00 PM + Reed Anderson (Diane Luke)

April 30, Friday: Saint Pius V, Pope

6:45 AM + Rose Ciavarella (Ann and Family)
12:00 PM + Tom Boslet, Anniversary (Wife)

May 1, Saturday: Saint Joseph the Worker

8:00 AM + Alice Winkler (Ron and Anita Stoop)
12:00 PM + Bobby Homan (PennDot Maintenance Dept)
Vigil: FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
5:00 PM + Marti Stefanon (Sister Denise Williams)

May 2, Sunday

8:00 AM + Robert Beck (Pat Slogan)
10:00 AM + Jim & Peggy Mullan (Nancy and Skip)
12:00 PM + Henry Magiacarne Anniversary (Family)
5:00 PM Pro Popolo/ For the People

Please remember our sick in your prayers.

Basket Bingo Meeting

We will be holding a meeting regarding our Basket Bingo on Thursday May 13th at 6:30 PM at the Cathedral Parish Center in the Conference Room. We are going to pray that this year's Basket Bingo can take place on Sunday, September 26th, 2021. If anyone interested or has any ideas please come and join us, there is plenty of room for social distancing. All are welcome.

Readings for the week of April 25, 2021

Sunday: Acts 4:8-12/Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29 [22]/1 Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18

Monday: Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4 [cf. 3a]/Jn 10:1-10

Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7 [117:1a]/Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday: Acts 12:24—13:5a/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8 [4]/Jn 12:44-50

Thursday: Acts 13:13-25/Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27 [2]/Jn 13:16-20

Friday: Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab [7bc]/Jn 14:1-6

Saturday: Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/Jn 14:7-14 St. Joseph the Worker: Gn 1:26-2:3 or Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24/ Ps 90:2, 3-4, 12-13, 14 and 16 [cf. 17b]/Mt 13:54-58

Next Sunday: Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 [26a]/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8

Parish Council Meeting

There will be a Parish Council Meeting Tuesday, April 27, 2021 at 6:30 pm, in the Cathedral Parish Center.

Religious Ed PK-8

Service Hours forms are due by May 1st for grades 1-8. Final online class is May 23rd.

First Reconciliation/First Communion

Registration forms and copies of Baptism certificates are due by June 1st for those who will be receiving 1st Reconciliation/First Communion 2021-2022.

Spaghetti Dinner

The Knights of Columbus of St. John's Parish in New Baltimore is sponsoring a Spaghetti Dinner on Sunday, May 16th from 10:30AM to 1:00PM. **TAKE OUT ONLY.** The dinner includes spaghetti and meatballs, salad, bread and dessert. Adults (12 and over) \$9.00, Children (3-11) \$3.00, Pre-order on line by sending email to dwambaugh@dioceseaj.org, or call 814-733-2210. Please leave your name, phone number, preferred time of pick-up and the number of children and adults orders. Meals can be picked up at St. John's hall in New Baltimore. Payment should be made at time of pick-up. All proceeds are donated to local food banks and local charities!

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, April 18, \$5,477.00

Rice Bowl Collection

The Religious Ed Department would like to thank all parishioners for their stewardship in contributing to the Lenten RCL Rice Bowl project. This year we collected over \$1,000.00 to be given to countries in need around the world, including the United States. These monies will help to supply clean water systems, food, clothing, education, and medicine. RCL has had a larger need for help this year due to Covid-19 pandemic and this contribution is greatly appreciated.

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, May 5, 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 Scheduled

There is a Baptismal Prep class scheduled for Tuesday, May 4th, at 6:30 PM in the Cathedral Parish Center Education Room on 14th Street entrance. **Masks** are required. Need not wait till the baby is due.

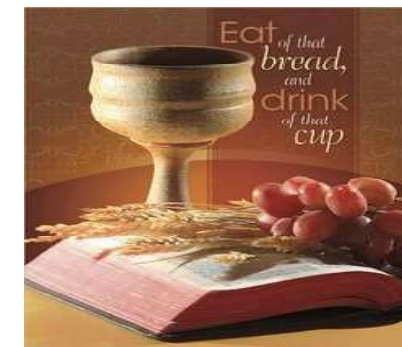
YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH CELEBRATIONS:

Local Pilgrimage Liturgies and Schedules: May 1 and May 2:

Saint Joseph the Worker Church, 628 West 1st Street, Williamsburg is Hosting a Special Day of Prayer on May 1, the Feast Day of Saint Joseph the Worker. Schedule: 9:00 AM Morning Prayer; 9:30 AM and Beginning of Recitation of the Rosary: Joyful Mysteries; 11:30 AM Sorrowful Mysteries; 1:30 PM; Luminous Mysteries; 3:30 PM – Glorious Mysteries; 4:00 PM Confessions; 5:00 PM Vigil Mass of the 5th Sunday of Easter. Full Mass schedule and directions: <https://discovermass.com/church/st-joseph-williamsburg-pa/>

Saint Joseph Mission Church, Hart's Sleeping Place, Carrolltown

This historic Church, Blessed by Servant of God, Demetrius Gallitzin himself on October, 10, 1830, will be opening once a month for visitation and self-guided tours beginning after May 1, Feast of St. Joseph the Worker. Schedule: The Church will be open from Noon-3:00 PM on Saturday, May 1, then on Sundays: May 2, June 6th, July 4th, and September 5th. A Special outdoor Mass with Bishop Mark Bartchak as Main Celebrant, will be held on Sunday, August 1 at 4:00 PM. The Church will be opened from Noon-3:30 PM, with Confessions from 1:00 PM-3:00 PM Curator: Marian Farabaugh: stjosephmissionchurch1830@gmail.com,



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.

The following children made their First Holy Communion the weekend of April 17/18:

Cathedral Parish

Khloe Barr
Sophie Heverly

Our Lady of Fatima Parish

Chase Keagy

Mass for Widows and Widowers to be Televised

Remember your loved ones on Sunday, May 30, 2021 with a televised Mass Celebrated by Bishop Mark Bartchak at 11:00 am on WATM ABC 23 and will be rebroadcast that night at 9:00 p.m. on Atlantic Broadband channel 9. All spouses will be acknowledged and remembered at Mass. All persons who have lost a spouse through death throughout the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese are invited to register by contacting the Family Life Office at 814-317-2643 or email familylife@dioceseaj.org. When registering, please give your name, address, phone number and the name of your spouse who has passed away. Deadline to register is May 24, 2021. Sponsored by the Diocesan Family Life Office.

Contribution Reports

Reports for Income Tax purposes may be obtained by calling the Parish Office at 944-4603. Office hours are 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

Nocturnal Adoration

The Nocturnal Adoration for this month will take place at the U.P.M.C. Chapel, on Friday May 7, 2021. From 8:00 PM to 11:00 PM. It is located on the fourth floor of the Tower Rotunda. Masks are required.