

## MAY 2, 2021

“Spiraling out of control,” is a phrase that can easily describe the current display of human existence. In addition to the violence, unrest, uneasiness and turmoil that are common elements of our daily news, other essential pieces are misplaced or missing. Many lack an objective center around which to order and structure their lives or a clear set of definable goals or mores to act as guideposts and life directives. It appears that “feelings” have become a “new god” and traditional structures and ideals set aside. It is almost as if history only shows that we got this whole thing wrong and many are determined to finally set things right. The real truth, however, is that while wrongs and errors are certainly a part of our often-checked past, it is hardly the case that all was wrong. It is not our task to rewrite the history of our lives, but to learn from mistakes that were made, and preserve the perennial wisdom at the root of our successes. Learning is an essential part of being human.

The question becomes, however, from whom do we learn? Some have such a hard time placing God in that position, but that is precisely where God needs to be. God is the Master Teacher from whom all of humanity learns and gets its cues. It is in and through this relationship with the Gardener of Life that we are fashioned and pruned into the people we are intended to be and can be. It is only in God that we are able to find our best selves. Sadly, many think that religion too, as well as history in general, has also gotten all this wrong. Yet, our resurrection faith tells us differently. We are reminded, today especially, that we are meant to remain in Christ as Christ remains in us. We are also reminded that Jesus, the Incarnate God, is the vine upon which we grow, the branches that flow from the source of God’s life.

Giving up our will to God’s can be a painful endeavor. It is not easy to set our own desires and wants aside and allow God to step in and direct and guide our growth. But this is the only way to prevent deadly weeds from overtaking us and bringing us to a place of self-destruction. God’s commandments are the very guideposts and benchmarks we need, yet many seek to remove them from all public view because they appear to limit self-expression and suppress what is considered by many to be “human freedom.” They are the only way we can find freedom, however. And, until we learn this fundamental lesson, we will continue to spiral out of control, never really knowing who we are, what our potential can be or how life really can be lived. We will not know peace.

©LPi

### The Year of Saint Joseph

The month of May begins the series of reflections on Pope Francis Apostolic Letter, *Patris Corde (With A Father’s Heart)* released on December 8, 2020.

**WITH A FATHERS’S HEART:** that is how Joseph loved Jesus, whom all four Gospels refer to as “the son of Joseph”. Matthew and Luke, the two evangelists who speak most of Joseph, tell us very little, yet enough for us to appreciate what sort of father he was, and the mission entrusted in him by God’s providence.

**Saint Joseph, Model of Workers, pray for us.**

Pope Pius XII proposed Saint Joseph as Patron of Workers. [3] Each year the Catholic Church celebrates the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker on May 1. We know that Joseph was a carpenter (Mt 13:55) who was always ready to carry out God’s will. In his Apostolic Letter, *Patris Corde*, Pope Francis states, “there is a renewed need to appreciate the importance of dignified work, of which Saint Joseph is an exemplary model.” *Patris Corde*, December 8, 2020, 1. 2. **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, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that by Saint Joseph’s intercession your Church may constantly watch over the unfolding of the mysteries of human salvations, whose beginnings you entrusted to his faithful care. 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](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

**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)

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 2, 2021

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### May 3, Monday: Saints Phillip and James, Apostles

6:45AM + Dorothy Stephens (Robert Farabaugh)  
12:00PM + Tom Byrnes Sr. Birthday (Wife & Children)

#### May 4, Tuesday: Easter Weekday

6:45 AM + Bishop Adamec (Anonymous)  
12:00PM + Msgr. Paul Panza (Ed & Lois Simanski)

#### May 5, Wednesday: Easter Weekday

6:45 AM + To End Abortion (Chris McNelis)  
12:00PM + Tom Boslet (Ellen Rahm)

#### May 6, Thursday: Easter Weekday

6:45 AM + Jane Davidson (Tom & Patricis Forr)  
12:00PM + Karl Burgmeier Birthday (Daughter Carol)

#### May 7, Friday: Easter Weekday

6:45 AM + Priests (Anonymous)  
12:00 PM + Barry Saletnik (Rose Mary Lobre)

#### May 8, Saturday: Easter Weekday

8:00 AM + Martha Maurer (Patricia Rhoa)  
12:00 PM + John Duffy (Mike & Sherry Byrne)  
**Vigil: SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
5:00 PM + Fran Moses (Mr & Mrs Tony Eckenrode)

#### May 9, Sunday

8:00 AM + Anna Marie Jacobs (Family)  
10:00 AM + Eleanor Fischer (Ray & Jackie Voltz)  
12:00 PM + Mary Catherine Moran Aigner  
(Peg & Joe Serra)  
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 May 2, 2021

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

**Monday:** 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Jn 14:6-14

**Tuesday:** Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21  
[cf. 12]/Jn 14:27-31a

**Wednesday:** Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5  
[cf. 1]/Jn 15:1-8

**Thursday:** Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10 [3]/Jn 15:9-11

**Friday:** Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12 [10a]/Jn 15:12-17

**Saturday:** Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21

**Next Sunday:** Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1,  
2-3, 3-4 [cf. 2b]/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-1

#### Religious Ed PK-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.

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, April 25, \$9,117.53

#### YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH

The diocese has prepared a leaflet for the year of St. Joseph which includes prayers, pilgrim information, and information about the indulgence that is available. The tri-fold leaflet is on the tables in the back of the church.

#### Precious Life, Inc.

Is a faith based, non-profit organization which offers practical help to those impacted by unplanned pregnancies through our pregnancy care centers. We are dedicated to meeting the emotional, physical and spiritual needs of women and their families, empowering them to make positive life-affirming choices.

#### The Baby Bottle Campaign

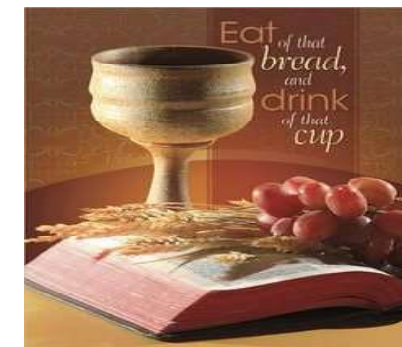
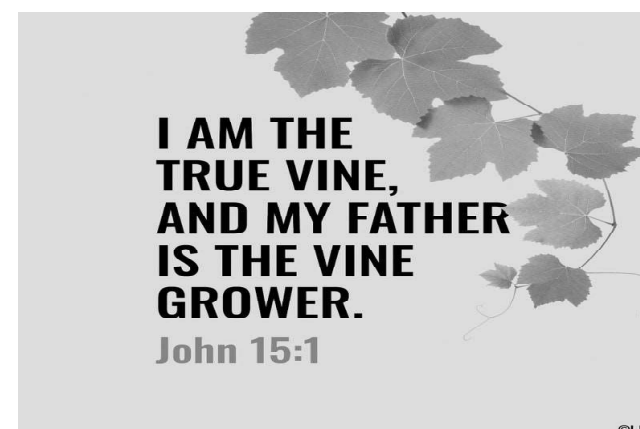
This runs from Mother's Day to Father's Day. You are invited to take an empty baby bottle and fill it with change, cash, or checks to support pro-life ministry. The bottles are available at the church entrances.

#### Job Opening

All Saints parish in Boswell has an opening for a part-time Administrative Assistant with a work schedule of 16 hours per week. To view a full list of responsibilities and qualifications, and to apply online go to [www.dioceseaj.org/employment](http://www.dioceseaj.org/employment). Resumes must be submitted to 2713 West Chestnut Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601 Attn: Director of Human Resources or emailed to [lmcevoy@dioceseaj.org](mailto:lmcevoy@dioceseaj.org) by May 07, 2021.

#### Families and the Gospel

"Like the vine grower in today's Gospel, parents must prune and cleanse" the branches in their family if their children are going to be rooted. Discipline, limits and setting goals are a necessary part of parenting so our children will grow and "bear fruit."



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 24/25:

#### Cathedral Parish

Mikayla Geishouser  
Tamara Miller

Hannah Gregg  
Lucas Weaver

#### 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](mailto:stjosephmissionchurch1830@gmail.com),

#### 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](mailto: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!