

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

August 15, 2021

MASS INTENTIONS

August 16, Monday: Saint Stephen of Hungary

6:45 AM Sylvester Taylor (Dr. Dennis & Betsy Flynn)
12:00 PM + Donna Ruggery Pagliara, Ann. (Mom, Sons and Brother)

August 17, Tuesday: Weekday

6:45 AM + Dec. Members of Frank Kirk Family (Kirk Dodson)
12:00 PM + Walt Beech, Birthday (Family)

August 18, Wednesday: Weekday

6:45 AM + John Gority (McNelis All Stars)
12:00PM + Sandy Cuzzolina, Birthday (Family)

August 19, Thursday: St. John Eudes, Priest

6:45 AM + James E. Davidson (Family)
12:00 PM + Sally McNelis (Family)

August 20, Friday: St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church

6:45 AM + Salvatore Michael Moffa (Estate)
12:00 PM + Derek Behe (Mom & Dad)

August 21, Saturday: Saint Pius X, Pope

8:00 AM + Rudy Seidel, Ann. (Jim & Elaine Weaver)
12:00PM + Robert Smithmyer, Ann. (Family)
Vigil: Twenty-First Sunday In Ordinary Time
5:00PM + M. Virginia Jones, Ann. (Hymie Antikol)

August 22, Sunday,

8:00 AM + Madeline Vogel, Birthday (Vogel Families)
10:00AM + Dick Cowan (Wife)
12:00 PM + Patricia Koeck (Mr. & Mrs. Tom Vinglas)
5:00 PM Pro Popolo / For the People

Office Closed

The Office will be closed on Friday, August 20, 2021, will reopen on Monday, August 23, at 9:00 AM.

Parish Finance Council Meeting

There will be a Finance council meeting on Monday, August 16, at 4:00 pm in the Cathedral Parish Center.

Readings for the week of August 15, 2021

Sunday: Vigil: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2/Ps 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14 [8]/ 1 Cor 15:54b-57/Lk 11:27-28 Day: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/ Ps 45:10, 11, 12, 16 [10bc]/1 Cor 15:20-27/Lk 1:39-56

Monday: Jgs 2:11-19/Ps 106:34-35, 36-37, 39-40, 43ab and 44 [4a]/Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday: Jgs 6:11-24a/Ps 85:9, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. 9b]/Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday: Jgs 9:6-15/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [2a]/Mt 20:1-16

Thursday: Jgs 11:29-39a/Ps 40:5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [8a and 9a]/Mt 22:1-14

Friday: Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22/Ps 146:5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a, 9bc-10 [1b]/Mt 22:34-40

Saturday: Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17/Ps 128:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 [4]/Mt 23:1-12

Next Sunday: Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b/Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21, 22-23 [9a]/ Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32/Jn 6:60-6

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Confirmation Preparation

9th, 10th, 11th grades Baptism/Gifts of the Spirit Retreat, August 28th, 9AM-5:00 PM in the Cathedral Parish Hall, parents and students.

Please call or email Chris Laraia, DRE for more information at 814-312-7317 or claraia@dioceseaj.org.

Religious Education News

All registrations for Religious Ed PK4-11 MUST be completed by first day of class, Sunday, September 12th. Please call Chris Laraia for more information.

Sacrament Prep News

First and Second grader parents must attend a mandatory session on Thursday, September 23rd from 6-8 pm in the Cathedral Parish Hall. Please bring a copy of your child's baptism certificate.

First Reconciliation Prep

Oct. 5th, Nov. 9th, and Nov. 30th, 6-8 pm in the Cathedral Parish Hall, parents and students.

Worried about a loved one?

Saint Leonard's Personal Care Home in Hollidaysburg provides medication management, personal hygiene assistance, socialization, meals, housekeeping and a 24 hour staff in a home-like environment. We serve men and women 62+ for whom it is no longer safe to live alone. To tour our beautiful Victorian mansion or for more information, call Mrs. Connie Cretin, at 814-695-9581 ex. 107 during weekday business hours. We are a faith based facility but accept all eligible applicants, and will assist with financial aid applications where applicable.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION Sunday, August 8, 2021 \$7,870.16

Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass

Bishop Mark Bartchak and the Family Life Office cordially invite all couples celebrating **1, 5, 10, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60+** years of marriage in 2021 (and their families) to attend the **Annual Wedding Anniversary Liturgy**. Couples may attend Sunday, **September 12** in **ALTOONA** at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, or Sunday, **September 19** in **JOHNSTOWN** at St. John Gualbert Cathedral. Both locations are handicap accessible. Liturgies in each location begin at 2:00 p.m. Bishop Mark will be the celebrant and homilist at each celebration. Refreshments/snacks will be provided after the mass for anniversary couples and their families, as COVID safety measures permit.

Reservations must be made through your parish for either celebration by Monday, August 23.

Basket Bingo Update

Our Basket Bingo is being planned for Sunday, September 26. Now we are looking for donations of gift cards, lottery tickets, gift baskets, and monetary contributions. Bottles of water and cans of soda would also be appreciated. They may be dropped off at the Cathedral Parish Center Office during the hours of 9:00AM-5:00PM.

Basket Bingo Tickets

We will start selling Basket Bingo tickets on Saturday, August 7th and Sunday, August 8th, they are available now at the Cathedral Square door after all masses and at the Parish Office: \$25.00 per person with value pack for an additional \$30. If you have any questions please call Lorraine Beck at 1-240-676-6704, or the Parish Office at 814-944-4603. Dobbers Up!!! Lets Play Bingo!!!

High School Students Service Hours

High School Students, if you are looking to help get your service hours for the 2021/2022 for Religious Education. You may want to help us out during the basket bingo, emptying bags, getting cans of soda or getting bottles of water for our bingo players. If you could help us for 1 hour or all 4, that would be wonderful and much appreciated. You can get in touch with your teacher or have your parents call the office and talk to Paula she will put your name and the times that you are available. Thank you in advance.

Fall Classes Announced

Faith formation is a life-long endeavor. By virtue of our baptism, we are called to continually grow closer to Christ through a life of prayer, service, and knowledge of our faith. The Office of Adult Enrichment and Lay Ecclesial Ministry has announced their 2021-2022 class schedule. For a description of classes, locations, times, registration forms and to learn more about our programs please visit www.dioceseaj.org/lay-ecclesial-ministry/ or contact Marybeth at 814-361-2000/ mheinze@dioceseaj.org. **All are welcome!**

Wisdom Literature & Psalms Zoom Class

Deacon Michael Russo will be teaching the course **Wisdom Literature & Psalms**. This six week Zoom course study the biblical Wisdom Literature and Psalms with a focus on their underlying message and the literary contribution of ancient Israel to world literature. The registration fee is \$45.00 and the required book can be purchased online at Amazon.com. For registration and book information, please contact Marybeth at (814)361-2000 or by email at mheinze@dioceseaj.org. Also registrations and information are available at www.dioceseaj.org/lay-ecclesial-ministry/. **All are Welcome!**

Blessing of Backpacks

All Students, Teachers, School Personnel, Bus Drivers- **WE WANT YOU!!** For Blessing of the Backpacks. Bring your backpacks to any Mass next Saturday, August 21st or Sunday, August 22nd, to be lifted up and dedicated for a blessed year. Blessings will take place at all Masses. Stop at the back of the church to receive your very own Our Lady, Seat of Wisdom, Patroness of scholars, school, faculty, staff and students.



PRECIOUS LIFE BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

Cathedral parish raised **\$3,069.94** during this year's campaign. Thank you so much for being so generous.

Families and the Gospel

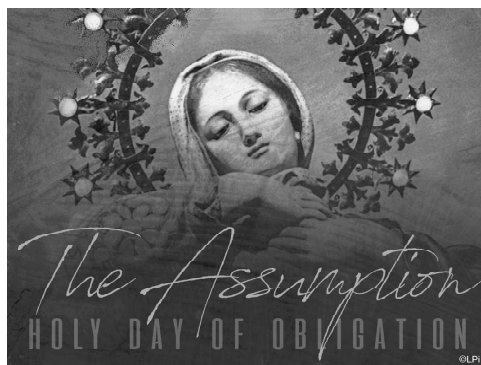
"Blessed is the fruit of your womb" can be said of all mothers, because every child is "blessed" and a child of God upon whom God "looks with favor." This is our deepest identity and destiny. We do not earn this blessing. God's love is a free gift to each of us.

AUGUST 15, 2021

They are courageous, wise women who ground us, focus us, and inspire us. They are the good mothers who walk with us and light our way. They teach us life lessons and help us heal and navigate through challenges and difficulties. We need people to point the way. Sometimes, these wise ladies are not our biological mothers but women in our lives, who through their strong and faithful presence, anchor us and remind us that we are loved. We need these women. Human beings do their best when they have cheerleaders in their lives. They show us that even when facing despair there is always a brighter tomorrow.

Jesus needed his mother. She had to be that faithful anchor, that guiding presence, in his life. Jesus needed to be affirmed and encouraged just like any other human being and Mary had to be there, right by his side, doing precisely that. Even when her heart was pierced as he was nailed to a tree, she did not give up hope. Most certainly, she continued to wait, watch, hope, and love until he took his final breath. That's what mothers do. Even when their heart breaks, they persevere.

Today, our Blessed Mother is our cheerleader once again. Taken up to heaven in body and soul, she points to and directs us toward our final destiny. Life eternal waits! Any disappointment, fear, or anxiety can be set aside as she gently reassures us of God's love and promise. Always a mother filled with grace and hope, she calls us to reaffirm our faith in God and in the gifts we have each been given. We can persevere and do what we need to do to live life well, with faith, hope, and love as our guiding lights. Knowing who we are and who we will one day become helps us to better chart the course and direction of our earthly lives. Looking to the example of our Blessed Mother, we receive the assurance we need. ©LPi



The Year of Saint Joseph

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Ordinary Time. **Patris Corde 3. An Obedient Father, Model of Patience.**

While in Egypt, Joseph awaited the angel's notice that he could safely return home. In the third dream, the angel told Joseph that those who sought to kill the child were dead and ordered him to rise, take the child and his mother, and return to the land of Israel. Once more, Joseph promptly obeyed—he got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. Again, it was a long and dangerous trip.

In the Gospel of Luke, it is specifically written that Jesus' parents observed all the prescriptions of the Law: the rights of the circumcision of Jesus, the purification of Mary after childbirth, the offering of the firstborn to God and attending the annual celebration of the Feast of the Passover. This would have involved many journeys to the holy city of Jerusalem to the temple.

St. Joseph we ask you to intercede to Jesus and Mary for as we journey in our spirituality and in our humanity. May our patient obedience to God's commands be our goal too. **St. Joseph, obedient father, obedient father, model of patience, pray for us.**

(Pope Francis Apostolic Letter Patris Corde, 3. Dec. 8, 2020; **2021, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown Liturgy Committee, Liturgy Office, Mary, Mother of the Church Pastoral Center, 2713- West Chestnut Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601.**

Stewardship Reflections

The Blessed Virgin Mary, is not only the model Christian disciple but also the model Christian steward. Mary had heard the word of God; she believed it; and she observed in her willingness to obey. "May it be done according to your word," she said to the angel (Luke 1:38), accepting the vocation God has prepared for her. Her vocation shows us the pattern of a good steward. She offered her time to spend with her divine Son at his birth, in the years of his youth, at his death, and at prayer with the Apostles after the Ascension. She gave talent when she offered a mother's care.

What earthly treasure she possessed was of secondary importance compared to her service to God. Her desire for material security was not enough to keep from fleeing to Egypt with Joseph to protect their Son or to stop her from coming to Jerusalem for his Crucifixion. Our own sacrifices seemed minor compared to hers. (Stewardship Reflection, Catholic Stewardship Consultants, Inc. 2010/08/10)

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>

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| 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

Altoona Campus (Pre-K thru Grade 4) - 381-7011

Holidaysburg 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

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Chris Laraia - Pre-K thru 12 - 312-7317

E-mail: claraia@dioceseaj.org

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