

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 22, 2021

MASS INTENTIONS

August 23, Monday: Saint Rose of Lima, Virgin

6:45 AM Vocation to Priesthood/Rel. Life(Anonymous)
12:00 PM + Dec. Members Yanchik Family
(Marie & Sharon)

August 24, Tuesday: Saint Bartholomew, Apostle

6:45 AM + To End Abortion (Chris McNelis)
12:00 PM Ruth Novack, Health(George & Dot Smith)

August 25, Wednesday: Sts. Louis;

Joseph Calasanz, Priest

6:45 AM + Jeannie Farabaugh (Mike & Sherry Byrne)
12:00PM + John Duffy (Walter & Connie Tomassetti)

August 26, Thursday: Weekday

6:45 AM + Don Ware (Mary Conrad)
12:00 PM + Betsy Cote (Jim & Steph Kilcoyne)

August 27, Friday: Saint Monica

6:45 AM + Richard Anthony (Kathy Baronner)
12:00 PM + Alice Winkler (Marge Moschella)

August 28, Saturday: St. Augustine, Bp. & Dr.

8:00 AM + David A. Baronner (John Cuzzolina)
12:00PM In Thanksgiving (Anonymous)

Vigil: Twenty-Second Sunday In Ordinary Time

5:00PM + Marti Stefanon (Husband)

August 29, Sunday,

8:00 AM + Jim Davidson (Linda Settle)

10:00AM + Tony Alaniello(Family)

12:00 PM+ Mary Ann Eger (Mr. & Mrs Sonny Carosilli)

5:00 PM Pro Popolo / For the People

Families and the Gospel

Even though many found the teachings of Jesus "difficult", He did not back down. In our families, it is important to say what is difficult to hear, to speak the truth with kindness, to correct with love and guide with understanding.

Social Gatherings

On Sunday, September 5, there will be fellowship with refreshments after the 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM Masses. You are invited to join us. Gratitude is extended to our parish's Social Committee for hosting this event.

Readings for the week of August 22, 2021

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 6:60-69

Monday: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18 [12]/ Jn 1:45-51

Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13/Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab [1]/Mt 23:27-32

Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13/Ps 90:3-5a, 12-13, 14 and 17 [14]/Mt 24:42-51

Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12 [12a]/Mt 25:1-13

Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9 [9]/Mt 25:14-30

Next Sunday: Dt 4:1-2, 6-8/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 [1a]/ Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27/ Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-2

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.

Eucharistic Adoration

On Wednesday, September 1, Cathedral Parish will have Eucharistic Adoration from 12:30 P.M. until the end of Confessions. A sign-up sheet is located on the cross aisle table to mark your time for visitation before the Blessed Sacrament. The Church asks that at least two people be present at all times when there is Exposition of the Sacrament.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION
Sunday, August 15, 2021 \$4,769.00



Bishop Mark Bartchak will celebrate a Mass here on Saturday, September 11, at 10:00 a.m. to commemorate the 20th anniversary of 9/11 and to honor first responders, healthcare professionals, and civil servants. You are encouraged to join us in thanking God for being a comforting source of healing, an encouraging companion of strength, and a faithful reason for hope.

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 are selling Basket Bingo tickets 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 had purchased a ticket last year it is still good for this year. 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 on Friday evening at 6:30PM to set up or on Sunday after 5:00 PM to tear down. 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.

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!**

Stewardship Reflections

In today's Gospel, we hear that many of Jesus' disciples cannot accept his teachings and instead return to their former way of life, abandoning Him altogether. Jesus asked the Apostles, "Do you want to leave too?" Peter speaks up for the twelve responding "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."

Peter came to the realization (to paraphrase), "I don't really see any better options, Lord. I've tried life with you and it's hard. But I've tried life without you and it's harder. It doesn't satisfy me. Where else am I going to? I choose You, Lord." And, so he humbly chooses to rely on God.

How can we keep going when it gets tough? Peter's honest answer to the choice Jesus poses show us a way to stay true to a stewardship way life. The demands of a stewardship way of life can be difficult. And the teachings of Christ can be hard to accept. Remembering blessings and relying on Him are two keys to this beautiful way of life.

(*Stewardship Reflection*, Catholic Stewardship Consultants, Inc. (2018/08/09)

Helpers Needed

Volunteers are needed to help clean the Cathedral on Wednesday, September 8th, at 9:00 AM. It takes one to two hours to dry mop, dust, and vacuum. Please bring your buckets and join us.

Pray the Rosary

Fridays at the Basilica of Saint Michael, Loretto at 3:00 PM- Please join us as we gather to pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and the Rosary for our country, world and religious freedom.



AUGUST 15, 2021

“Far be it from us to forsake the Lord for the service of other gods.” We struggle with our gods. They appear in the forms of things like money, power, prestige, popularity, privilege, and self-fulfillment. We like these “gods” because they make us feel good and ask very little of us in return. When we worship them, we worship ourselves. How can you go wrong with that? We buy into the illusion that if something can give us a comfortable life, free of want and need, then it is worth setting other things aside to pursue it. In essence, we sell our souls. Our struggle with “who is God” and to whom do we belong is a real one and one that can easily find us empty and experiencing disillusionment.

The devil tempted Jesus in the desert and promised him more. We are promised “more.” But in pursuing the more and the satisfying we lose track of the cost, and the cost is great. We sacrifice our very life in pursuit of something disguised as life. We sacrifice truth for something that only “feels” true. While the true and real God certainly promises us many things, many things are also required. It is not about the warm and secure feelings and self-absorption the world wants to provide, but of giving back. There can be no lukewarm stance with regard to faith. If we are in, then faith in Jesus Christ asks us to do some difficult things: work in service of God’s kingdom (not our own), love our enemies, offer no resistance to injury, that we must die to ourselves in order to find ourselves, and trust that Jesus truly gives us his flesh and blood to eat and drink. These are hard things to accept and even harder to put into practice. It is no wonder that many, who may be attracted to Jesus at first, walk away in pursuit of the more self-satisfying gods.

But truth is truth. If we cannot accept it from the lips of Jesus Christ, then where else will we find it? To whom can we go? There is only one source of truth and life, Jesus Christ. Jesus has the words of eternal life and if we do not go to him, then where else will we find this gift? But we must be faithful and buy into the whole package deal that requires sacrifice and fidelity. When we do, we find ourselves, through the Body and Blood of Christ, connected to the Source of all life and then intimately bound with our brothers and sisters. We all have to decide whether we want to stay or go and if we can accept what Jesus has to say. It’s a choice we will have to make.

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The Year of Saint Joseph

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

During the return journey, “When Joseph heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. He went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in town called Nazareth.” (Mt. 2:22-23) Joseph taught Jesus to walk, taking him by the hand: he was like a father who raises an infant to his cheeks, bending down to him, and feeding him.

As head of the family, Joseph taught Jesus to be obedient to his parents. During the hidden years in Nazareth, Joseph being a craftsman surely transmitted his modest trade to his Son, according to the customs of the time, as a master to his apprentice. Thanks to Joseph’s workshop, work takes on great worth, since Jesus dedicated to it much time. Jesus learned at the school of Joseph, (not only the Carpenter’s trade) to do the will of the Father.

All that makes it clear that Saint Joseph was called by God to serve the person and mission of Jesus directly through the exercise of his fatherhood, and in this way he cooperated in the fullness of time and in great mystery of salvation and is truly a minister of Salvation. **St. Joseph, obedient father, obedient father, teacher of children, 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.**

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.

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: ALTACATHEDRAL@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

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

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

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