

# **AUGUST 27, 2017**

## *Scripture Reflection*

All three Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke) contain the confession of Peter that Jesus is the Messiah. But in today's Gospel Matthew makes significant additions. He adds Jeremiah to the list of persons that popular opinion identified with Jesus. "I, like a trusting lamb led to the slaughter, had not realized that they were hatching plots against me" (Jeremiah 12:19). More importantly, Matthew adds reflections concerning Jesus' reaction to Peter's confession, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God". Jesus blesses Simon stressing that flesh and blood had not revealed this knowledge, but the heavenly Father.

This week's Gospel reading is a complicated theological dialogue that requires some explanation. The setting, Caesarea Philippi, was a Greek colony in northern Galilee. Next to the city was a shrine called the Panion, dedicated to the Greek god, Pan. The shrine was popular with the Greco-Roman settlers of Palestine, not least because its surroundings roared with springs and were heavily wooded. The Panion provided a refreshing place to rest for travelers on the busy highway nearby. It is easy to imagine Jesus and his disciples pausing there.

The "Son of Man" referred to in the Gospel was a mighty warrior many believed to be coming soon. The title comes from Daniel 7:13-14, which prophecies a mysterious being who looks "like a son of a man". Speculation centered on Elijah, but as Peter notes, some suggested other prophets instead. Peter's faith is strong enough to profess, "You are the Christ, the son of the living God!"

Who do you say that Jesus is? Certain questions change lives, depending on our answer: "Do you take this person to be your husband/wife?" "Do you want this job?" "Can you forgive me?" The question Jesus asks today is one that certainly changes lives. Our response is not simply an academic exercise, a matter of knowing the right answer we learned from a book. Our answer must lead to a commitment that is to be lived out each day.

• **How do you in your daily living proclaim that Jesus is the Messiah, the Christ?**

Living The Word, World Library Publications, 2007, pg. 163; 2010, pg. 160. America Magazine, August 11, 2017, "You Are The One" Michael R. Simone, S.J.

## **Update and Important Information Parish Project**

The past three weeks have seen much progress with the Parish's capital project. The lower parking lot is temporarily available for parking. There will be a final paving in the weeks ahead. The upper parking lot is to be repaved and will receive new lighting. The far end of the lot has been squared to allow for additional parking. A guard rail will be placed on the upper parking lot overlooking the lower parking lot. \*There was an accident this week on the upper parking lot. No one was hurt. Repairs are needed with the wrought iron fence and the limestone caps.

Work on the new building is progressing swiftly. We are assured that occupancy on the second floor will be in time for Sunday, September 10, the first day for Religious Education 2017-2018. The top floor continues to progress with offices and classrooms. The stained glass from the convent has been installed in several of the windows. The exterior of the building continues to be completed. The bell tower to hold the 1870 bell (from the original convent) is being finished. Work is to be completed by the end of the month.

The lower floor (off the alley) will remain unfinished for the time being. This will be an activity center named Charity Hall (with an image of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton). Plumbing, electrical, and heating/air-conditioning have been installed. The smaller kitchen and bathrooms are not completed at this time.

Last year parishioners were asked to give suggestions for the name of the new building. It is now time to make a final decision on what the building will be called. The Building Committee reviewed the dozen suggestions and felt these two titles captured those ideas. We are polling the Parish to invite your choice. Please circle the name of your preference; detach from the bulletin; and place in next week's collection basket or drop off at the Parish Office.

Circle your choice; detach and return:

**CATHEDRAL PARISH CENTER**

**CORPUS CHRISTI CENTER**

# **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:**

Communal celebration Easter Season.

### **MARRIAGE:**

Arrange nine months in advance. Couples expected to participate in pre-marriage preparation program.

### **DEVOTIONS:**

Novena of the Miraculous Medal - Monday 7:45 AM.  
Rosary - Wednesday 6:00 PM.  
Charismatic Prayer - Monday 7:00 PM.  
Evening Prayer within Eucharistic Exposition - Advent and Christmas, Lent and Easter Seasons - Sunday 6:30 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 - 8:30 PM  
Grades 9 thru 12.

**WEB: WWW.ALTOONACATHEDRAL.ORG**

**FAX: 814-942-4337**

**E-MAIL: ALTICATHEDRAL@DIOCESEAJ.ORG**

### **EUCCHARIST:**

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

***SERVING THE PEOPLE OF GOD IN THE CITY OF ALTOONA SINCE 1851***

**Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, Bishop**

**Reverend Monsignor Robert C. Mazur, Rector**

**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**

**TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME  
AUGUST 27, 2017**

Readings: *Is 22:19-23; Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20*

**MASS INTENTIONS**

August 28, Monday: Saint Augustine, Bishop, Doctor

Readings: *1 Thes 1:1-5, 8-10; Mt 23:13-22*

6:45 AM Denver C. Schenk, Jr. (Peter & Barb Rossi)

8:00 AM Louise Mincin, Birth (Daughter, Susan)

12:00 PM Laura Maialo (Diana Fanale)

August 29, Tuesday: Passion of Saint John the Baptist

Readings: *1 Thes 2:1-8; Mk 6:17-29*

6:45 AM Erin Conrad Luciano (Pat Rhoa)

8:00 AM Vocations (Rita and Gerry Kibler)

12:00 PM Moose Plutko (Marie Crocetti)

August 30, Wednesday: Weekday

Readings: *1 Thes 2:9-13; Mt 23:27-32*

6:45 AM Joe Tomlinson (Tom and Patricia Forr)

8:00 AM Jerry Smith (Chet and Barbara Kowalski)

12:00 PM Genevieve Moloney, Birthday (Family)

August 31, Thursday: Weekday

Readings: *1 Thes 3:7-13; Mt 24:42-51*

6:45 AM M. Virginia Jones (Christian Mothers)

8:00 AM David Riley (Family)

12:00 PM Deacon John Rys (Eddie & Lois Simanski)

September 1, Friday: Weekday

Readings: *1 Thes 4:1-8; Mt 25:1-13*

6:45 AM Deceased Relatives of Sisters IHM

8:00 AM LeRoy & Peg Helfrich, Wed. Ann. (Family)

12:00 PM Kathleen Prendergast (Niece, Kathy Grove)

September 2, Saturday: Weekday

Readings: *1 Thes 4:9-11; Mt 25:14-30*

8:00 AM Patrick Hallinan (Family)

12:00 PM Marcella Kaplonski, Anniversary (Friends)

Vigil: Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: *Jer 20:7-9; Rom 12:1-2; Mt 16:21-27*

5:00 PM Kathleen Duffy, Anniv. (Husband, Jack)

**Please remember our sick in your prayers.**

**First Friday Communion Calls This Week**

Our clergy visit the sick and home-bound of the parish each month. Call the Parish Office at 944-4603 to arrange a visit for yourself or a loved one.

**Cathedral Charismatic Prayer Group**

The Cathedral Prayer Group will meet this Monday, August 28th, at 7:00 PM, here at the Cathedral for a Charismatic Mass celebrated by Father Bob Hilz, TOR. This is the 50th anniversary of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal.

**Annual September Tours**

Again this year the Cathedral will offer one-hour tours on four separate dates in September of the magnificent Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. September 7 will mark the 86th anniversary of the formal dedication of the Cathedral. The tour dates are: Sunday, September 3 at 1:00 P.M.; Tuesday, September 12 at 7:00 P.M.; Sunday, September 17 at 1:00 P.M.; and Tuesday, September 26 at 7:00 P.M. Light refreshments will be provided.

**Eucharistic Adoration**

Thank you to all who called to make a commitment of time to spend before the Blessed Sacrament on the first Wednesday of September. On **September 6th** there will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at **12:30 P.M.** following the noon Mass. The Blessed Sacrament will be reposed at **8:00 P.M.** following Confessions that evening. The Sacrament will be located in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel (where the tabernacle is fixed). Everyone in the Parish is asked to make time to pray before the Sacrament in exposition. The Church directs that at least two people be present at all times while the Sacrament is in exposition. We will begin this devotion monthly; Wednesday, October 4th, will be the next day for Eucharistic Adoration.

**Raffle Tickets Available**

The Annual Cathedral Raffle is now underway. There are twenty cash awards totaling \$5,000.00. Each ticket costs \$5.00; you need not be present to win. The prizes include: first prize: \$2,000; second prize: \$1,000; third prize: \$500; fourth and fifth prizes: \$200; sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth prizes: \$100; fourteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth prizes: \$50; nineteenth and twentieth prizes: \$25. The drawing will be Saturday, October 28 at 7:30 P.M. in the Cathedral Hall at the Family Night Social. This fund-raiser replaces the annual festival. Please do your best to sell your tickets and, perhaps, sell additional tickets to family, friends and neighbors. There are great chances to win \$5,000.00 in prizes for just a \$5.00 ticket.

**Congratulations!**

Nicole Beck, having committed to and progressed in the Christian Initiation process and having completed the needed work to bless her marriage, has been received into the Catholic Church. She and her husband, Joe, now join us at the Eucharistic table. Congratulations and welcome!

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

Sunday, August 20, 2017 - \$8,211.00

Assumption, August 15, 2017 - \$2,367.00

**Cathedral Religious Education**

Classes will begin on Sunday, September 10th for grades 1 thru 8 in our newly completed space. Be sure to use the Fourteenth Street side entrance (double doors). Pre-K and K will meet in the Music Room temporarily until the top floor is completed. If you have not pre-registered your children, please arrive early. Teacher Substitutes are needed! Please call Chris Laraia at 312-7317.

**Family Intergenerational Religious Education**

**F.I.R.E. Class** begins on Sunday, September 10, 2017, from 6:15 PM until 8:15 PM. Students in grades 9 thru 11 will meet in the Cathedral Hall at 6:15 PM. Please invite a parent or your sponsor to join us! The next class is scheduled for September 24, 2017.

**Confirmation Preparation** There will be a brief meeting for parents of all 9th and 10th grade students preparing for Confirmation on Sunday, September 10, following 10:00 AM Mass in the Cathedral Hall.

**Sunday, September 17 - All 11th Grade Candidates for Confirmation will meet in Cathedral Hall from 6:15 -7:30 PM along with their sponsor or a parent.**

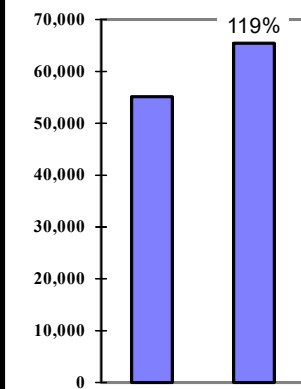
**Infant Baptismal Preparation**

There will be a baptismal preparation session for infant baptism on **Wednesday, September 13th, at 7:00 P.M.** in the Seton Suite. You need not wait until your baby is born to attend this sacramental preparation class. All parents are expected to attend this informative meeting regarding your baby's baptism.

**Our Lady of Fatima - Hoagie Sale**

There will be a hoagie sale on September 27, 2017. Orders must be in by September 20, at Noon. Pick up at the Parish Office between 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM, and 4:00 PM until 6:00 PM. All hoagies \$7.25. Choices are All American, All cheese, Italian, Ham & Cheese, Turkey, and Turkey & Ham. Call 942-0371 for more info.

**CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE**



The target for the Cathedral Parish for the 2017 Catholic Ministries Drive is **\$55,121.00**. Our donations go directly to supporting three areas of ministry: (1) strengthening families and caring for the poor; (2) nurturing our youth; and (3) forming

clergy and laity. Many members of the Cathedral Parish are touched by these caring ministries. To date we have received gifts from 216 households and are at 119% of goal having raised **\$65,468.00**. We are **\$10,347.00** over the target amount set by the Diocese. All additional monies will go to begin payment on the cost of repaving the upper parking lot which is scheduled for this summer. Please consider giving a gift to this annual drive. You may return your gift to the Diocesan Development Office by mail in the envelope provided, return it to the Parish Office during the week, or drop it in the Sunday collection. Thank you for your stewardship with this important annual drive.

**A Note From Sister Beverly**

*"I am overwhelmed by and very grateful for the many cards, prayers, and good wishes you have sent my way during the past few weeks. I miss celebrating the beautiful Sunday liturgies with you and also the early Masses with my 6:45 AM friends."*

Sister Beverly's address is:

Sister Beverly Hmel, I.H.M.

Our Lady of Peace

2300 Adams Avenue

Scranton, Pennsylvania 18509.

**Liturgical Reflection ...**

Following the blessing and giving of rings, a hymn or canticle of praise may be sung by the whole community. The Celebration of Matrimony concludes with the Universal Prayer. The ritual offers two options. In the absence of the deacon, the couple may create their own intercessions along with the suggested petitions in the rite. Perhaps there are family members or friends who are sick or in the military, or any need that invites prayer could be added to the Universal Prayer. The priest gives the invitation to prayer and prays the closing to the General Intercessions.

*(Order of Celebrating Matrimony, Numbers 69, 103A, 135, and 216-217.)*

**ORDER OF**

**CELEBRATING**

**MATRIMONY**

2017, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 South Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648.