

JULY 23, 2017

Scripture Reflection

In last week's Gospel reading, Matthew tried to explain why so many rejected Jesus. This week, Matthew tries to sort out how to live with them. Jesus' answer is to do nothing. "If you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them. Let them grow together until harvest..." Let nature and the harvesters do their jobs. The human tenants of God's homestead do not have the wisdom or skill to sort out the wheat from the weeds. Only divine wisdom can set things right.

It is important to note that neither Jesus nor Matthew identifies the weeds with any specific persons or community. The making of distinctions among individuals is a mystery. The passage confronts human inclinations to draw and police boundaries and construct myths of belonging. Let them grow together, Jesus counsels. The disciples will be obvious. Matthew inserts two short parables (mustard seed and yeast) into the middle of his larger reflection. Both of these are parables of abundance and they illustrate the parable of the wheat and the weeds. Jesus in comfortable letting his wheat grow because the weeds can do it no harm. God's kingdom is as unrelenting as yeast or a fast-growing shrub. It grows more powerful every day. The weeds, lacking the will of God drawing them forth, simply fail to keep up.

Weeds and wheat, bad and good, sin and grace coexist in life. News reports tend to highlight the former over the latter. People ask, "Why does God allow this?" Great minds have addressed this question. The most common answer: Without choice there is no real love. Life is what it is with both good and bad. We can choose to accept that both the weeds and wheat, the bad and good, are part of life and choose the good as much as possible. Or we can spend so much energy on the "why" that we miss the good before us. The more we feed the good, the more we rob evil of its power and grow in trust that God's merciful love will reign in the end.

● **How do you know the difference between what you need to accept and what you can change in life?**

America Magazine, June 30, 2017, "Let Them Grow Together," Michael R. Simone, S.J. Living the Word, Laurie Brink and Paul Colloton, World Library Publications, 2016, pgs. 147-148.

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

Holy Trinity Golf Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, August 12 at King Valley Golf Course. If you are interested in putting a 4 member team in or would like to be a either a Fairway Sponsor or Hole Sponsor, please call the school office for more information (814) 942-7835 or visit the school website for golf outing forms. www.holytrinitycatholic.school.

Pre-K3 and 4 REGISTRATION for 2017-2018. It all starts here in the Early Childhood! The Stronger the Start. The Better the Finish!

Our Pre-K program is designed to meet the developmental needs of the whole child, promoting spiritual, social, physical and emotional growth. Teamwork and accepting others is nurtured through cooperative activities. Children learn to respect themselves and one another.

Pre-K 3 and 4 is a full day five days a week program. Please call Elementary Campus school offices for more information. Altoona - 381-7011 Hollidaysburg 695-6112.

School Supply Lists can be found on the Holy Trinity website under each teacher's web page. **Classroom Lists** will be posted soon.

Holy Trinity Catholic School Presents
Rockin' the Key's Dueling Piano's
By Dueling Piano's International
Friday, September 22, Railroaders Museum
Tickets are \$25.00 a person.

Join us and our professional entertainers as they tickle the ivories and tickle your funny bones! Put two sharp-witted, incredibly talented musicians with two grand pianos on a stage, then add in an excited crowd of people; the result is an evening of fast, funny, and unforgettable entertainment. Tickets are on sale now. Call or stop by any of our three campuses for tickets.

Middle School - 942-7835 Altoona - 381-7011 Hollidaysburg - 695-6112.

Holy Trinity Sports

Any students in grades 1-6 who will be participating in a fall sport (football - flag or tackle, cheering, basketball) must complete the RAP form which can be found on the APL website (www.altoonaparochialleague.com) or Holy Trinity web page above. Be watching for more information about flag football.

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: ALTCATHEDRAL@DIOCESEAJ.ORG

EUCCHARIST:

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 8:00 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, 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

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 23, 2017

Readings: Wis 12:13,16-19; Rom 8:26-27; Mt 13:24-43

MASS INTENTIONS

July 24, Monday: Weekday

Readings: Ex 14:5-18; Mt 12:38-42

6:45 AM No Mass

8:00 AM Roberta Lamont (Maureen & Dave Hanekamp)

12:00 PM Thomas & Mary Irwin (Children)

July 25, Tuesday: Saint James, Apostle

Readings: 2 Cor 4:7-15; Mt 20:20-28

6:45 AM Joe Dambeck (Francis & Christina Dambeck)

8:00 AM No Mass

12:00 PM Francis A. Goss, Birthday (Family)

July 26, Wednesday: Sts. Joachim & Anne, Parents BVM

Readings: Ex 16:1-5,9-15; Mt 13:1-9

6:45 AM No Mass

8:00 AM Genevieve Hallinan (Family)

12:00 PM Paul R. Rose, Anniv. (Rose Family)

July 27, Thursday: Weekday

Readings: Ex 19:1-2,9-11,16-20; Mt 13:10-17

6:45 AM M. Virginia Jones (Rosemary Barcaro)

8:00 AM No Mass

12:00 PM Catherine Burr, Anniv. (Krish Family)

July 28, Friday: Weekday

Readings: Ex 20:1-17; Mt 13:18-23

6:45 AM Joseph A. Keirn (Mom and Dad)

8:00 AM Jack Douglas (Patty & Bear McCloskey)

12:00 PM Robert Smithmyer, Wed. Anniv. (Wife)

July 29, Saturday: Saint Martha

Readings: Ex 24:3-8; Mt 13:24-30

8:00 AM Barbara Byers (Paul & Jean Krug)

12:00 PM Barbara Riley Becker (Br. John & Sr. Marjorie)

Vigil: Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: 1 Kgs 3:5,7-12; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52

5:00 PM David Lysinger, Birth. (Mary & Family)

Daily Mass Schedule Next Week

Please note that there are only two (2) Masses scheduled Monday through Thursday. Please note the days for the 6:45AM and 8:00AM Masses; there is always a Noon Mass. The schedule reflects the presence of only one priest.

Cathedral Charismatic Prayer Group

The Cathedral Prayer Group will meet this Monday, July 24th, at 7:00 PM, here at the Cathedral. Praise and worship music will be followed by Father Mark Begley, teaching "The New Evangelization." All are welcome!

Sister Beverly, I.H.M.

Earlier this year Sister Beverly suffered a stroke which affected her arm and leg. With intense physical therapy, she has regained strength in her arm. However, she is still unable to use her leg. Her community, The Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Scranton, Pennsylvania, have asked that Sister Beverly return home to their motherhouse in Marywood. Sister continues to receive intense therapy in Scranton.

Sister has been a presence among us here at the Cathedral Parish over the past twenty plus years. She was an active participant at festivals, social gatherings, and at Liturgy. She offered her time and talent in various areas of parish life. We will miss her. Please keep Sister in your prayers asking God to give her good health. If you would like to send her a card, this is her address:

Sister Beverly Hmel, I.H.M.

Our Lady of Peace

2300 Adams Avenue

Scranton, Pennsylvania 18509.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Every Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM and every Saturday afternoon at 12:30 PM, confessions are heard in the Cathedral. This is a wonderful sacrament where the mercy and forgiveness of God are celebrated. Have you been to confession these summer weeks? Come and receive the Lord's forgiving grace to strengthen you on the daily journey.

Are You Interested?

This is an attempt to see if there is interest in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament here in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament on **Wednesdays following the Noon Mass until the conclusion of Confessions at 8:00PM**. The Sacrament would be in exposition in the Reservation Chapel, placed in the monstrance in front of the tabernacle. In order for this to happen, there must be a commitment on the part of individuals to be present before the Sacrament throughout these hours. The Sacrament is placed in exposition with the understanding that at least two people are present at all times. When there is no one present, the Sacrament is to be reposed into the tabernacle. If you are interested, please call the Parish Office at 944-4603 with your name and hours you think you would be able to be present in adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. The Parish is gathering information on the possibility of this devotion. Your participation is essential for this adoration to take place either weekly or monthly.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, July 16, 2017 - \$8,537.00

An Invitation

Have you ever considered joining the Catholic Church? Perhaps you pray regularly with us with your Catholic spouse. Maybe you have felt a leaning toward the Catholic faith. Perhaps you have some questions that need to be discussed. Know that you are invited to join others this September to enter into inquiry into the Catholic faith. We will begin gathering on Sunday, September 10 at 11:00AM, following the 10:00AM Mass, in the Seton Suite which is located beneath the rectory on Fourteenth Street. All are invited. No commitments are made at this initial stage of inquiry into the Catholic Church.

Liturgical Ministers Please Note:

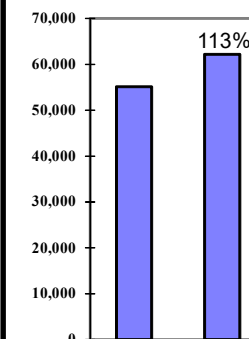
We will be preparing a new Liturgical Minister schedule which will start on Sunday, August 6. Unavailable dates and contact changes are needed by July 17. Call 932-6340, text or email Gabrielle Cronin. If you prefer, call 944-4603, or drop-off your availability schedule at the Rectory.

Religious Education News

Registration for all NEW and RETURNING students in grades PreK-11 will be held before and after all Masses on August 12 and 13 in the Seton Suite. Parents of all new students are asked to bring a copy of their child's Baptism certificate. Students MUST be registered before the start of Religious Ed on Sunday, September 10. For more information please call Chris Laraia at 312-7317.

Substitute Teachers Needed - The Religious Education Program is searching for parishioners to volunteer their time and talent as substitute teachers this year. Pennsylvania State and Diocesan clearances are required.

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE



Our Cathedral Parish Target for the Diocesan 2017 Catholic Ministries Drive is **\$55,121.00**. All Parishioners, whether you can give a lot or just a little, are encouraged to be part of this drive which will support the vital ministries offered throughout our eight county diocese. Our donations will 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 our Cathedral Parish Family are touched by these caring ministries. Funds over goal return to the Parish and will help us with our Cathedral project of repaving the upper parking lot. Thus far we have received gifts from 205 households and are at 113% of goal having raised **\$62,205.00**. All monies now received will come directly to the Cathedral Parish. We are **\$7,084.00** over the target amount set by the Diocese. Please prayerfully consider making your gift within the next few weeks. 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. All additional monies will help the cost of repaving the upper parking lot which is scheduled for this summer. Thank you for your continued generosity to parish and community.

ORDER OF CELEBRATING MATRIMONY

Liturgical Reflection ...

The scripture readings are followed by the homily. The priest or deacon breaks open the selected readings proclaimed at the Liturgy of the Word or reflects on some aspect of the ritual of holy Matrimony. When Matrimony is celebrated within Mass, the Church sees the priest giving the homily. When Matrimony is celebrated outside Mass, the priest or deacon gives the homily. Because of the various meetings between the clergy and the couple, the homily should witness to a familiarity with the bride and groom, addressing the Sacrament of Matrimony to the man and woman to be married. At the heart of the homily is the mystery of Christian marriage, the dignity of conjugal love, and the responsibilities of married people.

(Order of Celebrating Matrimony, Numbers 57, 91, and 123.)

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