

# JANUARY 22, 2017

## Scripture Reflection

Isaiah describes a reversal of fortunes for the Israelites. The "darkness" metaphor might be interpreted as their oppression by other nations, as a perception that God had abandoned them, or as a more general sense of despair. But a great light has shone upon them and they have been rescued, called out of that darkness by God. Their joy is compared to the rejoicing at a good harvest; the rod and yoke of oppression have been lifted.

In the Gospel, we find two different calls. Jesus begins his ministry in northern Galilee. That is the area referred to in the Isaiah reading as the place where people had walked in darkness, and now Jesus will be the new light for them. In the second half of the reading, Jesus calls the first disciples and we witness their dramatic response. They leave their familiar lives for the unknown, and we are pressed to ponder that discipleship always involves trust in the Lord.

John the Baptist seems to have been a significant influence in the ministerial life of Jesus. But Jesus doesn't continue to baptize as John did. Jesus' work is proclamation and healing. The preaching has only begun when Jesus calls others to join him. The first four disciples---Peter, Andrew, James, and John---are all fishermen. Jesus invites them to come after him and their response is immediate.

"The people who sit in darkness have seen a great light" (Matthew 4:16). That light was needed in Isaiah's time, in Matthew's time, and even in Paul's time after Jesus walked the earth. It is still needed today. God uses us to fill the world's abyss with the light of Christ. We become instruments of light by heeding Jesus' call to repent, which means reorienting our lives to live the way of Jesus. He offers hope and life. Rather than viewing the world through glasses of doom and gloom, Christ helps us see that change is possible. Evil does not have the last word. Stand in Christ's light. Recharged, spread that light as the fishers of people we are called to be.

• **How do you walk in the light? Can you name what keeps you from following the call of Christ?**

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[Living the Word](#), Laurie Brunk and Frederick Bauerschmidt, World Library Publications, 2013, page 47.

[Living the Word](#), Laurie Brunk and Paul Colloton, World Library Publications, 2016, page 47.

## HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

**St. Vincent DePaul Cereal Drive** (*Kids Helping Kids*): Holy Trinity Catholic School will continue the Cereal Drive through **January 30** to benefit St. Vincent DePaul.

**Catholic Schools Week** will be celebrated the week of **January 28th - February 5th**. The theme will be "*Catholic Schools, Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service*". Members of our Catholic School have been invited to **5:00 PM Mass on Saturday, January 28**, here at the Cathedral to begin this special week's activities. All Cathedral parishioners at Holy Trinity Catholic School are encouraged to attend this Mass with their families.

**All-School Mass - Friday, February 3rd**  
Holy Trinity Catholic School will celebrate their *Catholic Schools Week Mass* in the Cathedral the Blessed Sacrament at 9:30 AM. All HTCS families and friends are invited to participate.

### HELP WANTED:

**Holy Trinity Catholic School Altoona Campus** is looking for a **Full-time Custodian/Maintenance Person**. Please call: 814 942-7835 for interview.

**The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown** has an opening for a **Part-time Housekeeper for Dmitri Manor**, Hollidaysburg. Responsibilities include assisting with basic housekeeping duties for up to 12 occupants based upon a 25-hour work week. Cooking experience is required. Resumes must be submitted to 927 South Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648; Attn: Human Resources.

### CHRISTIAN INITIATION

Following the Universal Prayer at 10:00 AM Mass each Sunday, our Catechumens and Candidates are dismissed to reflect on the Scriptures proclaimed and to learn more about our Catholic faith and tradition. Please remember these individuals in your daily prayers.

### Cathedral To Host Diocesan Meeting

On Wednesday, January 26 at 6:30 PM representatives from all Parishes celebrating Confirmation here in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament this Spring will gather in the Seton Suite to plan the various celebrations. Cathedral Students will be Confirmed on Thursday, May 11.

### Catholics Returning Home

Have been thinking about coming home to the Catholic Church? We would welcome your call to the Parish Office at 944-4603 for information on the date and time of the next *Catholics Returning Home* informal listening session.

# 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](http://WWW.ALTOONACATHEDRAL.ORG)

FAX: 814-942-4337

E-MAIL: [ALTCATHEDRAL@DIOCESEAJ.ORG](mailto: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](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

MUSIC MINISTRY

Nina M. Tedeschi

Choir Director and Head Organist - 944-2044

Kevin J. Luke - E-mail: [kluke@dioceseaj.org](mailto:kluke@dioceseaj.org)

Administrative Duties and Organist - 944-2044

**THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**JANUARY 22, 2017**

*Is 8:23--9:3; 1 Cor 1:10-13,17; Mt 4:12-23*

**MASS INTENTIONS**

January 23, Monday: USA Day of Prayer  
"Giving Thanks to God for The Gift of Human Life"  
Readings: Sir 50:22-24; Lk 1:39-55  
6:45 AM Rita Kantoski (Claire and George Buck)  
8:00 AM M. Virginia Jones (Cathedral Parish)  
12:00 PM Jim Davidson, Birthday (Wife and Family)

January 24, Tuesday: Saint Francis deSales, Doctor  
Readings: Heb 10:1-10; Mk 3:31-35  
6:45 AM Walter Inboden (Paul & Adaline Cassarly)  
8:00 AM Harry Smith, Birth. (Mary Lysinger & Fam.)  
12:00 PM Barbara Dively, Anniversary (Family)

January 25, Wednesday: Conversion of Saint Paul  
Readings: Acts 22:3-16; Mk 16:15-18  
6:45 AM Msgr. Thomas Madden (Estate)  
8:00 AM Chester J. Kowaksi (Barbara Woznick)  
12:00 PM Moose Plutko (Bob and Lala Rahm)


January 26, Thursday: Saints Titus and Timothy, Bish.  
Readings: 2 Tim 1:1-8; Mk 4:21-25  
6:45 AM Nozzie, Jennie, Sandy Calabrese (Family)  
8:00 AM Thomas Stoltz, Jr. (Rose Keranen)  
12:00 PM Michael Febbo (Rita Adams & Family)

January 27, Friday: Saint Angela Merici, Virgin  
Readings: Heb 10:32-39; Mk 4:26-34  
6:45 AM Fr. Louis J. Mulvehill (Tom Forr Family)  
8:00 AM Frank Auerbeck (M/M James Kilcoyne)  
12:00 PM Carl Drexler (Bernie and Rita Yetsko)

January 28, Saturday: Saint Thomas Aquinas, Doctor  
Readings: Heb 11:1-2,8-19; Lk 4:35-41  
8:00 AM Msgr. Ildephonse Denny, Ann. (Cathedral)  
12:00 PM Patricia Nemarich (Lois Duncan)  
Vigil: Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Readings: Zep 2:3; 3:12-12; 1 Cor 1:26-31; Mt 5:1-12  
5:00 PM Brian McCaulley, Anniv. (Wife & Sons)

**Pray For Our Sick** - Remember our sisters and brothers who are weakened by illness. Prayers are sometimes the best prescribed medicine.

**Eternal Peace** - Please remember in prayer Frances Pagliaro, mother of Lorraine Beck and Grandma of Roberta Burns and Joe Beck, who died and was buried this past week. Frances enthusiastically helped with preparations for our Basket Bingos the last few years and will be dearly missed by all. May she rest in peace.



**Liturgical Reflection ...**

On Monday, January 23, all dioceses in the United States of America are observing a Day of Prayer for the **Legal Protection of Unborn Children**. January 22 is the day of the anniversary of the Supreme Court decision, *Roe vs. Wade* (1973), the Church in America prays for the violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion, and for the full restoration of the legal guarantee to the right to life. Members of the Diocese are encouraged to go to Mass on this day, pray the rosary, the chaplet of Divine Mercy, fast and abstain, and join the Altoona-Johnstown family in praying the following:

*O, God, who adorn creation with splendor and beauty, and fashion human lives in your image and likeness, awaken in every heart reverence for the work of your hands, and renew among your people a readiness to nurture and sustain your precious gift of human life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

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

**ECUMENICAL SERVICE TODAY!**

Today, **January 22 at 3:00 PM** here in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, mid-way through the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Bishop Mark Bartchak will host the first of two ecumenical services with our friends in the Lutheran and Orthodox traditions. A social will follow in the Cathedral Hall. The second will be held on Sunday, January 29 at **2:00 PM** in Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, Johnstown. All are invited to attend.

**Collection for the March for Life**

Citizens Concerned for Human Life are accepting donations at the doors of the Cathedral this weekend **January 21-22** to offset costs for the March to Washington, DC on **Friday, January 27**. Please be generous. Buses will be leaving the Altoona area at 7:00 AM and should return to this area about 9:30 PM. The cost for the bus will be \$15 per person, \$10 for students. Participants are asked to bring their lunch and enough money to cover the cost of their supper. Call Patricia Forr at 946-0681 or Roxann Blazewicz at 695-8008 for more information and registration.

**BGCHS Raffle** - Tickets were sold after Masses last weekend. If you still need tickets please call Sue Conrad at 941-3832. Each ticket costs \$5.00. Cash prizes are: first- \$10,000; second- \$1,500; third- \$1,000, and fourth - five prizes of \$100 each. The drawing will be held February 9th at halftime during the Girls Basketball game, but you need not be present to win.

**CELEBRATING GOD'S GIFT OF LIFE**

All are encouraged to participate in a special Liturgy of the Hours with Bishop Mark Bartchak in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament this **Thursday, January 26 at 7:00 PM** our annual **Prayer Service Celebrating God's Gift of Life** which will include a Blessing for Pilgrims marching in Washington, D.C. on Friday, January 27. Bring the family to pray together and offer

**Parish Liturgy Committee Meeting**

**Wednesday, February 8 at 12:45 PM** in the Seton Suite. Lunch will be provided and we will discuss Lent/Easter plans for Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament Parish.

**Charismatic Prayer** - Our Cathedral Charismatic Prayer Group will meet this **Monday, January 23**, in the Cathedral at **7:00 PM**. Brother Vince Yeager, TOR will be giving an inspiring spiritual talk. Please join us for Praise and Worship. All are welcome!

**ORDER OF  
CELEBRATING  
MATRIMONY**

**Liturgical Reflection ...**

In a time when the Sacrament of Marriage is not celebrated as often as in preceding decades, the Church holds up the holiness and dignity of the sacramental covenant between a man and a woman. The matrimonial covenant, by which the two spouses establish a life-long partnership between themselves, derives its force and strength from creation as proclaimed in the Book of Genesis. And for the Christian faithful it is raised up to a higher dignity, since it is numbered among the Sacraments of the new covenant.

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

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

**Sunday, January 15, 2017 - \$9,657.00**

**Contribution Reports** for Income Tax purposes may be obtained by calling the Parish Office: 944-4603.

**CATHEDRAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**Sundays, January 22, 29 - Regular Classes** for **Pre-K - Grade 8, 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM.**

**No F.I.R.E. Session** on Sunday, January 22.

**F.I.R.E. for February - Sundays, February 5 and 19,** 6:15 - 8:30 PM in Cathedral Hall.

**SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION**

**CONFIRMATION - Eleventh Grade Session** for all students to be confirmed this spring, **Sunday, January 29** at **6:15 PM** in Cathedral Hall. Photos will be taken! Saint Papers are due! The **Tenth Grade Confirmation Prep Retreat** has been rescheduled for **Saturday, February 18.** Please put this date on your calendar. The day will end with the **"Rite of Commitment"** at **5:00 PM Mass.**

**FIRST EUCHARIST** - Our first of three sessions of preparation for students and parents is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 8,** from **6:30-8:00 PM** in the Seton Suite. Please note our additional meeting dates: Wednesday, March 8 and Wednesday, April 5.

**OUR LADY OF FATIMA PIEROGI SALE**

Order pierogi by **Wednesday, February 22** for Pick-up on **Ash Wednesday, March 1** at the Parish Office, 2010 Twelfth Avenue, Altoona, between 1:00 PM and 6:30 PM. Product will be frozen, you may drop off a cooler prior to pick-up if you wish. \$7.00 a dozen for potato only, potato with cheddar, cooked cabbage or sauerkraut with dill. \$9.00 for cottage cheese with chives. Call 942-0371 or email: [oloff10@hotmail.com](mailto:oloff10@hotmail.com) by 12:00 Noon on Wednesday, February 22. Thank you for your support.

**THINK SPRING  
THINK BASKET BINGO  
MAY 7, 2017**