

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

January 2, 2022

MASS INTENTIONS

January 3, Monday: Holy Name of Jesus

6:45 AM + Richard Anthony (Mike & Mary Malligan)
12:00 PM + Kimberly Kokolis Moran, Ann. (Mom & Dad)

January 4, Tuesday: St. Elizabeth Ann Steon

6:45 AM + Carrie Moffa (Estate)
12:00 PM + Vacations to the Religious Life (Rita Kibler)

January 5, Wednesday: Saint John Neumann

6:45 AM + Alverta Weaver, Ann. (Jim & Elaine Weaver)
12:00 PM + Mary Louise Forr (Dan, Sandy, Theresa, Joanne, Kevin & Casey)

January 6, Thursday: St. Andre' Bessette

6:45 AM + Dorothy Stephens (Robert Farabaugh)
12:00 PM + Deb Captosti, Ann. (Mother & Children)

January 7, Friday: St. Raymond of Penafort

6:45 AM + Bishop Joseph Adamec (Anonymous)
12:00 PM + John Adams (Bill & Crystal Lidwell)

January 8, Saturday: Christmas Weekday

8:00 AM + Bernard J. Joyce (Family)
12:00 PM + John Duffy (The Pleva Family)
Vigil : BAPTISM OF THE LORD
5:00 PM + Patricia Koeck (Bob & Josh Hofl)

January 9, Sunday: BAPTISM OF THE LORD

8:00 AM + Patty Wiedemer, Anniversary (Family)
10:00 AM + Herbert Kutruff, Birthday (Family)
5:00 PM + Pro Popolo/For the People

Eucharistic Adoration

On Wednesday, January 5, 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.

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Effective the weekend of December 12, the 10:30 A.M.

Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Parish will be at 11:30 A.M. and there will be no Sunday Noon Mass at the Cathedral.

Readings for the week of January 02, 2022

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/ Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52

Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/ Lk 4:14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b/Jn 3:22-30

Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Beginning Jan. 2nd,

All religious education children will be dismissed from the ally door (lower level) in anticipation of inclement weather.

Confirmation Prep

All 11th grade candidates will meet in the Cathedral Hall on Sunday, January 15th from 2-4 PM for Spring Session. Sponsors do not need to attend. Please bring your folder, eligibility form, and Saint paper.

Photos will be taken for the Easter sacrament prep candidates board to be displayed at the church doors.

Additional Christmas Flowers

Anthony & Christine Bartkowiak
Plutko, Bethany, Brennan, Todd, Rose & Mike & Billy Kathy Duffy

Maria, Luigi, June, Lucy, Attilio, Arther Martino
Deceased Members of the Moran Families
Moloney- Zenghardt Family, Capouillez Families
The Seidel & Behe Families
Marian & Tom Swires, John & Louise Ford

The original list of flower contributions was in last weekend's bulletin. Copies are available at the entrances.

The Cathedral Adult Choir

Choir rehearsals are held on Thursday evenings 7:00-8:30 in the Cathedral Church in front of Mary's Shrine. Use the Cathedral Square side door. All voice parts are welcomed and needed.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, December 26, 2021 \$8,824.53

Christmas Collection \$11,670.00

Thank you for your financial and spiritual support.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults "Inquiry"

Anyone interested in learning more about the Catholic Church, or just seeking information, you are welcome to join us for "Inquiry" which will begin Sunday, January 2nd, 2022 from 11:00-12:00 in the Seton Suite. Please contact Carol Galioto at (814) 327-4841, if you are interested in joining.

Ordinary Time

After next weekend's Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, Ordinary Time begins. Ordinary Time is the ordered or numbered time of 33 or 34 weeks in which no particular aspect of the mystery of Christ is celebrated, but rather the mystery of Christ is honored in all its fullness, especially on Sundays.^(Universal Norms #43)

Praying for Icons Zoom Class

Icons are not simply art; they are a way into contemplative prayer, and therefore one way to let God speak to us. **Praying with Icons** focuses on the Festal Icons (the major events in the life of Christ) and the Sacred Scripture that speaks to us through the sacred images. This class will be taught as a **Zoom Class** by Deacon Michael Russo. The registration fee is \$35. The dates and times are TBD. If you are interested in attending this class, please email Marybeth at mhein@dioceseaj.org or call (814) 361-2000. All are welcome!

Stewardship Reflections

We observe the great Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord. From poor and humble shepherds to the international group of the magi, Jesus makes it clear that He offers Himself as a gift to everyone. We also learn through the Gospel of Matthew that God uses what is familiar to us to draw us to Him. Our Lord continues to speak to each one of us.

How can we attune to "hear" and "see" with our spiritual senses? As stewards we **must** spend time with the Lord in prayer. In the same way that we set professional goals or goals for better health, we need to set spiritual goals to ensure that we are taking the time to **listen intentionally** to God. We will find that the Lord continues to speak to us throughout the day. We will more easily recognize the "stars" He places before us to draw us into a closer relationship with Him. (*Stewardship Reflection*, Catholic Stewardship Consultants, Inc. 01/03/2019)

Calendar of Prizes 2021 Are Here!

Calendar of prizes 2021 are being sold at the Cathedral Square Door after all masses starting this weekend. Each calendar costs \$20.00. There is a \$20.00 daily prize; an additional \$1,000.00 in special monthly prizes awarded throughout the year; and a grand prize of \$1,000.00. Due to the state's regulations for small games of chance, it is necessary that we sell all one thousand tickets are sold. If you have a favorite three digit number, call the Parish Office at 814-944-4603 weekdays between 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM to check for availability or stop by the Cathedral door after Mass on the weekends. These make great Christmas gifts and stocking stuffers.

Gifting the Cathedral Parish

As wills and insurance policies are established with your attorney, or financial advisor, remember the Cathedral Parish as a beneficiary of your estate. Perhaps you would like to direct your gift to a particular ministry or project at the Parish. Please realize that Mass Stipends go directly to fulfilling that canonical wish and do not aid the financial life of the Parish.

Ministry to the Elderly, Seriously Ill and Grieving

We will be approaching the fifth year which began as a simple Thanksgiving Card to our parishioners who were on the First Friday visitation list and those residing in elder care homes. Our twenty person committee has been sending cards, making phone calls and visiting with some men and women who invited us into their homes. We are thankful for your support but want to tell you that committee members feel as they are receiving more than what they are giving. Paula Miller who began by praying a simple Hail Mary with a resident over four years ago shared, "I cannot begin to tell you how enriched my life has become since joining this ministry. After each visit, I would leave more blessed than when I arrived. Our homebound so appreciate that we, as a member of their parish family, remember them either with a card or a visit. Their smiles are priceless!"

If you can please call the office 814-944-4603, with the name and address of a family member or friend who you know would welcome a kind word and a prayer through the mail we would be able to reach out to many more. If you would like to join this ministry please call the office at 814-944-4603, or Jeanne Thompson at 814-317-2672. And we can always use stamps!

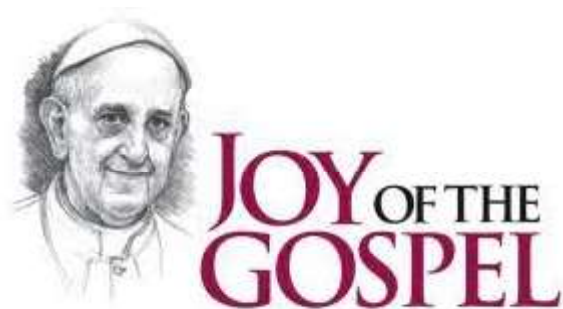
January 2, 2022

In his Apostolic Exhortation, The Joy of the Gospel, Pope Francis references a thought from Pope Benedict XVI: "Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction." Today we celebrate an encounter with the Person of Jesus Christ! This simple but holy event in time dramatically changes human life, pointing it toward a new horizon and giving it a decisive direction. This is a message and truth that is not meant to be shared with only a select few who qualify but with the entire world. Pope Francis continues saying, "Thanks solely to this encounter or renewed encounter with God's love, which blossoms into an enriching friendship, we are liberated from our narrowness and self-absorption. We become fully human when we become more than human, when we let God bring us beyond ourselves in order to attain the fullest truth of our being."

Look around at people. Where is life heading for them? What gives them direction? Even we who are people of faith can get distracted and lose our focus. God, in all of His fullness, is revealed in Jesus Christ and we can encounter Him! God is tangible, real, vulnerable, poor, and full of wonders, surprises, and opportunities. For those who are struggling and lost, today is a day of great joy. All they have to do is reach out and touch the truth of Christ. This presence is revealed in the poor, exploited, and vulnerable ones who cry out for compassion and love. But it is also found in the faithful ones who see in the Epiphany of God a liberation from structures and systems that hurt us, a narrowness of mind and heart that constricts us, and an absorption in our self-agenda that prevents us from seeing anything other than ourselves as important.

We have been given the charge of preaching this Good News. If only we could find a way to be more effective, it might stand a chance of doing what God intended it to do. There is always tomorrow and our memory of that bright new light that shone so brilliantly that Bethlehem night pointing us to truth and reminding us that we are loved.

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Did you know that text messages have a 99% open rate? It's true! In addition to emails, text messaging is the most effective way to reach parishioners— more effective than an app, a paper bulletin, or a Facebook page. With Flocknote, a parish can text all members, just a specific group or ministry, or an individual, and capture replies and respond. Flocknote's church texting makes it simple.

Cathedral parish has slowly begun to use Flocknotes. Soon, we will be asking parishioners to participate by either texting or registering online. It's fast and easy.

To keep you in touch with what's going on in our parish in a more timely fashion, please sign up to receive emails and texts at <https://altoonacathedral.flocknote.com> Your participation will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

EMERGENCY LIGHTING

You are encouraged to participate in our efforts to raise funds to install emergency lighting in the cathedral by placing your contribution in a specially marked envelope. So far, \$6,900 has been received. Gratitude is extended to those who have contributed.

The emergency lighting project is estimated to cost \$37,000.

Prayer Shawls

If anyone feels that they need some comfort in their troubled times, please feel free to contact Lorraine Beck at 814-942-7774 for one of our Prayer Shawls. These shawls have been Blessed and may bring you the comfort that you need.



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:

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>

Sunday: 5:00 PM (Vigil)
8:00 AM
10:00 AM
5:00 PM

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

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