FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT  
February 26, 2023
MASS INTENTIONS

February 26, First Sunday of Lent  
8:00 AM +Terry Joyce (Family)  
10:00 AM +Mark & Matt Burns (Dave & Maureen Hanecamp)  
5:00 PM Pro Popolo/For the People  
Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church is at 11:30 AM.

February 27, Monday St Gregory of Narek, Abbot  
12:00 PM +Jane Davidson (Jim And Steph Kilcoyne)

February 28, Tuesday Lenten Weekday  
12:00 PM +Charlie Moore (Peg Behe)

March 1, Wednesday Lenten Weekday  
12:00 PM +Albert Evangelisto (Mary Louise Hooper)  
12:00 PM +Geraldine Petrunak, Anniversary (Family)  
12:00 PM +Joe "Junior" Jaronieski, Jr. (Anonymous)

March 2, Thursday Lenten Weekday  
5:00 PM +Prayer & Thanksgiving(The Grove Family)

March 3, Friday Saint Katharine Drexel, Virgin  
12:00 PM +Esther Bartchak as the Celebrant and Homilist. A complete schedule will be available on the first night of the novena

March 4, Saturday Saint Casimir  
12:00 PM +Robert Haller, Birthday (Cousin)

March 5, Sunday Saint Thomas Aquinas  
5:00 PM +Michael McElheny (Brian and Sherry Himes)

March 6, Monday Lenten Weekday  
5:00 PM +Charlie Moore (Peg Behe)

March 7, Tuesday Lenten Weekday  
12:00 PM +Mark & Matt Burns (Dave & Maureen Hanecamp)  
5:00 PM Pro Popolo/For the People  
Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church is at 11:30 AM.

Readings for the week of February 26, 2023  
Sunday: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17 (see 3a)/Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/ Mt 4:1-11  
Monday: Lk 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mt 25:31-46  
Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19/Mt 6:7-15  
Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/ Lk 11:29-32  
Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/Mt 7:7-12  
Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 507a, 7bc-8/Mt 5:20-26  
Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/Mt 5:43-48

Next Sunday: Gn 12:1-4a/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22 (22)/Tm 1:8b-10/Mt 17:1-9

Men’s Turkey Dinner  
The Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel in Loretto will be holding their Annual Men’s Turkey Dinner, on Sunday, March 12th as a drive-thru and take out dinner. From 11:00 AM till sold out. Turkey dinner with all the trimmings cost is $14.00. Hope you enjoy and thanks for the support!

Annual Novena  
The 58th Annual Novena in HONOR OF THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS will be held from Monday, March 20 to Tuesday, March 28, 2023, at Sacred Heart Church (6th Avenue and 20th Street, Altoona, PA), Solemn Opening Mass will be celebrated on Monday, March 20, at 7:00 PM, by Bishop Mark L. Bartchak as the Celebrant and Homilist. A complete schedule will be available on the first night of the novena in the church.

Our parish’s Annual Lenten Fish Fry Lunch is on the Fridays of Lent, except Good Friday. The drive-thru lunches will be available from 11:00 A.M. until 1:30 P.M. The cost is $10.00 for a large fish sandwich, mac & cheese, and cole slaw. For ten or more lunch purchases, delivery is available but you need to call ahead at 814-944-4603. Take out and cash only.

CONTRIBUTION REPORTS
Contribution reports for income tax purposes may be obtained by calling Paula at the Parish Office: 944-4603.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION
Sunday, February 26, 2023 $ 8,913.90  
Thank you for your financial and spiritual support.

Church Budget Envelope and Mailing Company  
Some of you may be aware of delays in the offering envelope mailings over the past couple months. Due to supply chain and the inability to add employees at the rate necessary has created a slow draw on production and shipping. Recently, both of those issues have been solved. However, the “catchup” would jeopardize long term delivery.

In order to get back to expected levels of timely deliveries, we are forced to suspend the production of your February envelopes. The offering envelopes will resume first Sunday in March.

If you do not have an envelope for Sunday’s, put in a regular envelope and please write your name on the envelope.

Life in the Spirit  
Holy Spirit Ministry will be hosting a diocesan-wide Life in the Spirit Seminar on Saturday, March 25, at St. Mary’s Church, Hollidaysburg. The retreat, which focuses on the power and presence of the Holy Spirit, will include dynamic teachings and testimonies by Fr. Natan Malavolti TOR, Fr Alan Thomas, Andre McCarville, Fr. Brad Baldwin TOR, and others. It will also include praise and worship, small group faith sharing and more. Lunch and dinner provided. To register call 814-931-0192. Registration deadline is March 15.
The Spirit leads Jesus into the desert to be tempted by the devil, and we hear this: “He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was hungry.” Seems like a questionable battle preparation plan. When I fast, I usually feel grouchy at best, and at worst, like I might pass out from longing for a hamburger. Isn’t it better to be well-fed and fully hydrated, especially to face spiritual struggles? Why fast?

This might help. The origin of the word “fast” means to “hold firmly.” We still use it that way when we say, “I held fast to my original decision.” We human beings are a bundle of desires which vie for our attention: food, drink, comfort, safety, sex, laughter, beauty, and so on. If we can’t manage to have firm grip on them, in short order they’ll have a firm grip on us. By fasting from our lower desires, we learn to firmly grip on to what is greater. Fasting leads to us to a firmer hold on our body and mind.

Jesus fasts for us. He’s showing us that his grace makes it more difficult for the devil to tempt us. But ultimately he’ll have a firm grip on us. By fasting from our lower desires, we learn to firmly grasp ourselves, which will help us regain this firm hold of our lives, which is our original decision. By fasting from our lower desires, we learn to firmly grasp on to what is greater. Fasting leads to us to a firmer hold on our body and mind.

Father John Muir

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We are in need of candy to fill plastic eggs for this year’s Easter Egg Hunt which will be on Sunday, April 2, from 2:00 P.M.-3:00 P.M. Candy donations are asked to be dropped off at the parish office before Sunday, March 5, since some of our teenagers will be filling the eggs on that day. Thank you for your generosity.

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**LIVE FROM THE CATHEDRAL OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**
10:00 AM SUNDAY MASS on radio WFBG 1290 AM
February 29, 2023

Please support the following sponsors of the weekly broadcast of our Sunday Mass. We are extremely grateful for their generous assistance.

The Altoona Curve Baseball Club
Allegheny Glass & Mirror
An Anonymous Sponsor
Betty Electric, Inc.
Garvey Manor &
Our Lady of the Alleghenies Residence
Irwin Financial/Raymond James
Jones Funeral Home
Stanley J. Krish Funeral Home
McCloskey Builders
Quality Services
Riley Plumbing & Heating
Warner’s Florist, Gifts, Greenhouses
Young, Oakes, Brown & Company

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**CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS:**
The process of formation for those seeking God through membership in the Catholic Christian community.

**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.

**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:**
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.

**HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL**
Web: www.holytrinitycatholicschool.org
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 - 814-944-4014

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