

# 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 and Doctor of the Church

12:00P.M. +Charlie Moore (Peg Behe)

### February 28, Tuesday Lenten Weekday

12:00P.M. +Joe "Junior" Jaronieski, Jr. (Anonymous)

### March 1, Wednesday Lenten Weekday

12:00 PM +Albert Evangelisto (Mary Louise Hooper)

### March 2, Thursday Lenten Weekday

12:00 PM +Geraldine Petrunak, Anniversary (Family)

### March 3, Friday Saint Katharine Drexel, Virgin

12:00 PM +Jane Davidson (Jim And Steph Kilcoyne)

### March 4, Saturday Saint Casimir

12:00 PM +Robert Haller, Birthday (Cousin)

### Vigil: Second Sunday of Lent

5:00 PM+Prayer & Thanksgiving(The Grove Family)

### March 5, Second Sunday of Lent

8:00 AM +Robert Beck and Frances Pagliaro (Family)  
10:00 AM +Michael McElheny (Brian and Sherry Himes)  
5:00 PM Pro Popolo/For the People  
**Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church is at 11:30 AM.**



### Contribution Reports

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

### 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:** Lv 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)/2 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.

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

### Church Budget Envelope and Mailing Company

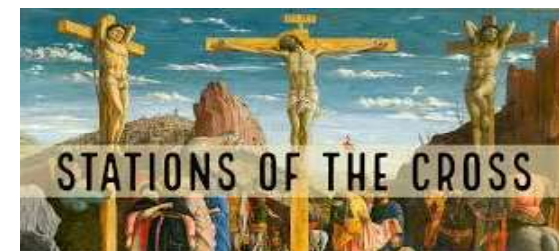
Some of you may be aware of delays in the offering envelope mailings over the past couple months. Due to supply chain and the inability to add employees at the rate necessary has created a slow draw on production and shipping. Recently, both of those issues have been solved. However, the "catchup" would 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.

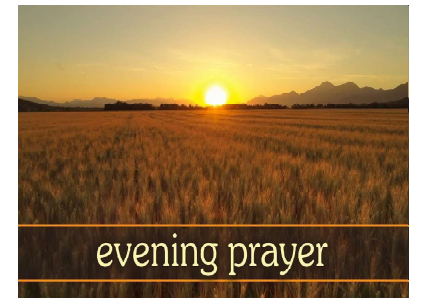
If you do not have an envelope for Sunday's, put in a regular envelope and please write your name on the envelope.



Good Friday is a day of fast and abstinence. All Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence. Abstinence refers to not eating meat at all on those days. Persons 14 years of age and older are to abstain. Fasting refers to one full meal, with two small meals, no eating between meals. People who have reached their 18th birthday and up to their 59th are obligated to fast. In addition to these obligations, additional forms of fast and abstinence may be observed.



**Stations of the Cross will be prayed during Lent on Fridays at 5:30 P.M.**



You are encouraged to pray sung evening prayer before the Blessed Sacrament on the Sundays of Lent at 6:30 P.M. Vespers will be concluded with Benediction.



Almsgiving is an essential part of the Lenten season. Our use of Catholic Relief Services' Rice Bowl provides a convenient way to assist those who are in need. They are available at the church entrances. Be sure to take one.



### 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.



**February 29, 2023**

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 can help us regain this firm hold of our lives, which makes it more difficult for the devil to tempt us. But take it one more step. Fasting also teaches us to finally hold fast to Jesus, the Word of God in flesh. “Man does not live by bread alone,” he says, “But by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.” Jesus’ fasting reveals his fast hold to the Father in everything. May our fasting help us to grasp ourselves more firmly, and then to hold fast to Jesus alone.

**Father John Muir**

**@LPi**



**From Monday to Friday from 7:45 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. you are asked not to park in the spaces reserved for Catholic Charities. Those spaces are needed for staff and clients.**

**LIVE FROM THE  
CATHEDRAL OF THE  
BLESSED SACRAMENT  
10:00 AM SUNDAY MASS  
on radio WFBG 1290 AM  
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*  
*Bettwy 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*



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.

# **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:**

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

**FAX: 814-942-4337**

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

<https://www.facebook.com/cathedralofaltoona>

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

Weekday: 12:00 Noon  
Saturday: 12:00 Noon

**Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, J.C.D., Bishop**

**Reverend Monsignor Stanley Carson, Administrator**

**Paula Clemens, Parish Secretary**

**DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Chris Laraia - Pre-K thru 12 - 814-312-7317  
Religious Education Office: Sundays - 814-943-7424  
E-mail: [claraia@dioceseaj.org](mailto:claraia@dioceseaj.org)

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY**

Leslie C. Thayer, MM, CAGO  
Music Ministry Office - 814-944-2044  
E-mail: [lthayer@dioceseaj.org](mailto:lthayer@dioceseaj.org)

**CHRISTIAN INITIATION TEAM - 814-944-4603**

**CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME - 814-944-4603**

**MAIL MINISTRY TO ELDERLY, HOMEBOUND,  
SERIOUSLY SICK, AND GRIEVING - 814-944-4603**

**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) - 814-944-4014**

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