

**TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY
TIME
August 20, 2023
Mass Intentions**

**August 20, The Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary
Time**

8:00AM+David Seidel (Rae & Joseph Kapfhammer)
10:00AM+Carrie Kibler Detwiler (Mom and Dad)
5:00PM Pro Popolo/For the People

August 21, Monday, Saint Piux X,

12:00PM Special Intention Rosemarie Fedeli
(Anonymous)

**August 22, Tuesday, The Queenship of the
Blessed Virgin Mary**

12:00PM+Rene A. Thibault, Ann. (David and Jeanne
Thompson)

**August 23, Wednesday, Saint Rose of Lima,
Virgin**

12:00PM Special Intention Kim Capouellez (Family)

**August 24, Thursday, Saint Bartholomew,
Apostle**

12:00PM+Kirk Kling, Anniversary (Family)

**August 25, Friday, Saint Louis; Saint Joseph
Calasanz, Priest**

12:00PM+Miriam Jacobs (Dave Taddy)

August 26, Saturday, Weekday

12:00PM+Elizabeth Yauneridge (Family)

Vigil: Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00PM+Prayers and Thanksgiving (The Grove
Family)

**August 27, The Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary
Time**

8:00AM+Joseph Pagliaro, Birthday (Family)

10:00AM+Dorothy Smith & E.T. Smith Family (George
Smith)

5:00PM Pro Popolo/For the People

Religious Ed Registration Weekend

Registrations for 2023-2024 Rel. Ed PK4-11
will be held in the Parish Religious Ed Center
before and after all Masses on Sat/Sun, August
26/27. New students, please bring a copy of your
baptismal certificate.

**WEEKLY READINGS AND OBSERVANCES -
ENGAGE PARISHIONERS IN DAILY MASS AND
PRAYER**

Readings for the week of August 20, 2023

Sunday: Is 56:1, 6-7/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (4)/Rom 11:13-
15, 29-32/Mt 15:21-28

Monday: Jgs 2:11-19/Ps 106:34-35, 36-37, 39-40, 43ab
and 44/Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday: Jgs 6:11-24a/Ps 85:9, 11-12, 13-14/Mt 19:23-
30

Wednesday: Jgs 9:6-15/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 20:1-
16

Thursday: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/Jn
1:45-51

Friday: Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22/Ps 146:5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-
9a, 9bc-10/Mt 22:34-40

Saturday: Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17/Ps 128:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/
Mt 23:1-12

Next Sunday: Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8 (8bc)/
Rom 11:33-36/Mt 16:13-2



Coming up! "Basket Bingo"

Time is fast approaching, only 6 more weeks until
Basket Bingo, that will be taking place on Sunday,
September 24, 2023 at Father Kelly Hall. We are still
taking Basket Fillers, Monetary, and gift cards (with
activation receipt please). Also donations of bottled
water, and cans of soda, that can be dropped off at the
office. If you have any questions you can call Paula
Clemens at the Parish Office 814-944-4603, 8:30AM to
4:00PM, or Lorraine Beck 1-240-676-6704.

Basket Bingo Tickets

Basket Bingo tickets are on sale, at the Cathedral
Square door after all masses and at the Parish Office:
\$25.00 per person, with a value pack for an additional
\$30.00. If you have any questions please call Lorraine
Beck at 1-240-676-6704, or the Parish Office at 814-
944-4603. Tickets will also be available at the doors on
the day of the event. Dobbers Up!!! Lets Play Bingo!!!

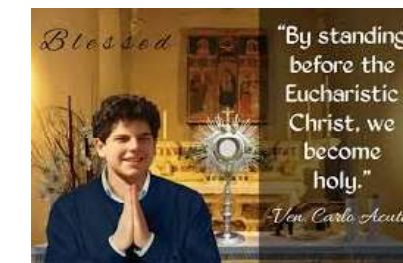


There will be a meeting for
our ushers on
Sunday, August 27, at 1:00
P.M.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION
Sunday, August 13, 2023, \$
Thank you for your financial and spiritual
support.



COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND
When taking Holy Communion to homebound
parishioners, please be sure to carry the
consecrated host in a pyx and, if available, a
burse (a carrying case that is hung from the
neck). Otherwise, the pyx should be placed in a
shirt, blouse, or jacket pocket close to one's
heart.



Blessed Carlo Acutis (1999-2006) was a
teenager who prepared a website about
international Eucharistic miracles. A portion of
his exhibit, thanks to the kindness of the Altoona
Catholic Daughters of the Americas, will be on
display in the cathedral during the summer
months. Current posterboards describe
Eucharistic miracles that took place at
Lanciano, Italy and Legnica, Poland.



**Birth of Mary Celebration 42nd Anniversary,
Friday, September 8th at Saint Catherine of Siena
Church, Duncansville. Masses 7:45 a.m.-
12:05p.m. celebrant and homilist Msgr. Bob Saly.
5:30 p.m. Mass and Rosary Procession at the
Shrine (please bring a lawn chair) celebrant and
homilist Rev. Brian Norris. Continuous Rosary
between Masses, food and exhibits in the church
hall. Kitchen open 11:30 a.m. till 4:00 p.m.
Conclude the day with cake and beverages in the
hall. Petitions to Birth of Mary Celebration, P.O.
Box 88, Duncansville Pa 16635.**

Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass

Bishop Mark Bartchak and the Family Life Office
cordially invite all couples celebrating **1, 5, 10, 15, 20,
25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60+** years of marriage in
2023 (and their families) to attend the **Annual Wedding
Anniversary Liturgy**. Couples may attend Sunday,
September 10 in **ALTOONA** at the Cathedral of the
Blessed Sacrament, or Sunday, **September 17** in
JOHNSTOWN at St. John Gualbert Cathedral. Both
locations are handicap accessible. Liturgies in each
location begin at **2:00 p.m.** Most Bishop Mark will be
the celebrant and homilist at each celebration.
Refreshments/snacks will be provided after the mass
for anniversary couples and their families.

Family members of the couple, children,
grandchildren, siblings, nieces and nephews etc. are
encouraged to participate in the liturgy as ushers and
altar servers, if they currently serve (or have served) in
their home parish.

**Reservations must be made through your parish
for either celebration by Tuesday, August 29th.**

Strength in Christ---Be Not Afraid

The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown is hosting its
2nd Annual Women's Conference on Saturday,
September 16, from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. at
Mount Aloysius College in Cresson. The day
begins with Mass celebrated by Bishop Mark and
includes internationally known speakers, the
Sacrament of Reconciliation, and lunch.
The cost is \$20.00 for adults and \$10.00 for
college and high school students.
Registration forms are at the cathedral's
entrances.



Gratitude is extended to those who contributed
cereal to provide breakfast for students in our
school district. The response was terrific.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

August 20, 2023

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The suffering of a child symbolizes uniquely terrible evil as well as despair about the future. This week's Gospel gives a "limit" case in which Jesus encounters this evil in the form of a mother with a suffering daughter. What he does is stunning and massively helpful for us if we bravely ponder the details.

The Canaanite woman comes to Jesus and begs his mercy. "My daughter is tormented by a demon," she declares to him. Shockingly, he responds first with silence, then with a dismissive comment, and only then finally accedes to her third request. Is this simply a lesson in perseverance in our petitions to God, who is like a genie in a bottle? Does that justify the humiliation and pain this woman suffers? Is the Lord cruel?

I don't think so. Notice how the encounter ends. She compares herself to a dog at the table of a master. Jesus responds by praising her great faith and fulfills her deep desire. Somehow this non-Israelite woman intuits that this harrowing situation is not dumb suffering. She senses that the door of God's family is, in Jesus, being opened to her and her loved ones. She trusts she is at the Lord's table, and her desires will be fulfilled and that all her sufferings — and her daughter's, too — will lead a great banquet. In our sufferings this week, the Lord wants us to treat him less like a genie in a bottle and more like the Master who has taken us — lost little dogs that we are — into his home forever. Trust that and keep praying in the face of evil. Father John Muir ©LPi



Cathedral Parish's Finance Council will meet on Tuesday, August 22, at 4:00 P.M. Our Parish Council will meet the same day at 6:30 P.M.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

The Prayers God Always Answers

When I was a child, my mother bought a book called "The Prayers God Will Always Answer." I remember my anticipation as I cracked the spine and turned to the first page.

I had been spending a lot of time asking God — begging God, actually — over and over again for some specific things that were not materializing. Frankly, it was beginning to feel a lot like that time I asked Santa Claus for a new house, only to wake up on Christmas morning to find ordinary, non-house-shaped presents under the tree — and a growing sense of suspicion that my faith had been ill-placed.

To the great disappointment of my pre-teen heart, my mother's book was not a directory of magical phrases God is compelled to obey. It was a list that included things like "Forgive me" and "Help me." I tossed it aside, disappointed.

I marvel at the wisdom and the confidence of the Canaanite woman who persists in begging Jesus to heal her daughter. She is ignored, and still she will not be deterred. The disciples try to dismiss her — still, she presses on. Christ himself challenges her, and her faith makes her ready with a reply.

Somehow, I am sure that even if Christ had said, "No, it cannot be done for you as you wish," she would have still dropped to her knees and worshiped him, because she knew what I did not: God is not a vending machine, and he's not the genie from "Aladdin." Prayer is not a negotiation, but a relationship.

The story of the Canaanite woman is not a story about how to get God to give you what you want. It is a story about the prayers God always answers.

"Then Jesus said to her in reply, 'O woman, great is your faith!'" — Matthew 15:28

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THE CHURCH OF ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN

THE CATHEDRAL

OF THE

BLESSED SACRAMENT

ONE CATHEDRAL SQUARE, ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA 16601-3315

CHURCH OFFICE: 814-944-4603

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME-AUGUST 20, 2023

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

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

Weekday: 12:00 Noon

Saturday: 12:00 Noon

Most Reverend Mark L. Barchak, 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

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY

Leslie C. Thayer, MM, CAGO

Music Ministry Office - 814-944-2044

E-mail: 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

Elderado Campus (Pre-K thru Grade 5) - (814)942-7835

Fairview Campus (Pre-K thru Grade 5) - (814)381-7011

BISHOP GUILFOYLE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Web: www.bishopguilfoyle.org - 814-944-4014

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