

**TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
September 17, 2023
Mass Intentions**

September 17, The Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00AM+Barbara Knott Chisko (Linda Kutz)
10:00AM+Eleanor Fischer (Jim & Steph Kilcoyne)
5:00PM Pro Popolo/For the People
Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church 11:30 AM

September 18, Monday, Weekday

12:00PM+ David Hooper (Donna & Ernie Long)

September 19, Tuesday, Saint Januarius, Bishop and Martyr

12:00PM+Elizabeth Yauneridge, Anniversary (Family)

September 20, Wednesday, Saints Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest, and Paul Chong Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs

12:00PM+Bernie McLucas (Family)

September 21, Thursday, Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

12:00PM+Minnie Yahner (McNelis All Stars and Friends)

September 22, Friday, Weekday

12:00PM+Anna Gioiosa, Birth. (Tim & JoAnn Bettwy)

September 23, Saturday, Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest

12:00PM+Fred Drexler (Galioto Family)

Vigil: Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00PM+Marti Stefanon (Mike Vargo)

September 24, The Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00AM+Ed & Ann Flanagan (Ken & Carol McGeary)

10:00AM+Freddie Martynuska (Paul & Emma Kowalski)

5:00PM Pro Popolo/For the People

Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church 11:30 AM



Our parish's Parish Council will be meeting on Tuesday, September 19th, at 6:30 P.M. in the Cathedral Parish Center.

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

Readings for the week of September 17, 2023

Sunday: Sir 27:30—28:7/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 (8)/Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35

Monday: 1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 28:2, 7, 8-9/Lk 7:1-10

Tuesday: 1 Tm 3:1-13/Ps 101:1b-2ab, 2cd-3ab, 5, 6/Lk 7:11-17

Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 7:31-35

Thursday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Mt 9:9-13

Friday: 1 Tm 6:2c-12/Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20/Lk 8:1-3

Saturday: 1 Tm 6:13-16/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Lk 8:4-15

Next Sunday: Is 55:6-9/Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18 (18a)/Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16

High School Students Service Hours

High school students who need service hours for 2023/2024 may want to help us out during the basket bingo by emptying bags, getting cans of soda or getting bottles of water for our bingo players. If you could help us for 1 hour or all 4 hours, that would be wonderful and much appreciated. You can get in touch with your teacher or have your parents call the office 814-944-4603 and talk to Paula she will put your name and the times that you are available. Thank you in advance.



Our Trunk or Treat will be held Sunday, October 8th, from 2:00-3:30 pm in the lower parking lot. Family fun, Costumes, and Candy. Please join in the fun. Please contact the Parish Office at 814-944-4603 to register, or <https://tinyurl.com/cathedraltrunkortreat2023>, if you are going to have a decorated car.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION
Sunday, September 10, 2023, \$ 7,969.00
Thank you for your financial and spiritual support.

Inquiry Sessions of Christian Initiation of Adults

Are you interested in the Catholic Church? Do you know someone who might be interested in seeking information about our Catholic faith? Starting on Sunday, September 17th, the Cathedral Christian Initiation Team will begin weekly meetings in the Church from 11:00 AM until 12:00 Noon (after the 10:00 Mass) for all those seeking information on the Catholic Church. No commitments are made at this time. These are informal Inquiry Sessions to discuss aspects of our faith with anyone who might be thinking of joining the Catholic Church. All are welcome; bring a friend. If you are interested in joining or would like more information, please contact Carol Galioto at (814)327-4841.

Coming up! "Basket Bingo "

Time is fast approaching, only **2 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). 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.

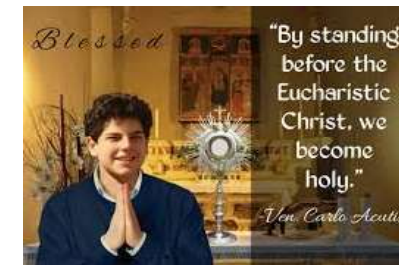
Basket Bingo Tickets

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, or email Paula at pclemens@dioceseaj.org. Tickets will also be available at the doors on the day of the event. Dobbers Up!!! Lets Play Bingo!!!



Basket Bingo Tickets

Basket Bingo tickets will be sold the week of September 17th after the Noon Mass Monday through Saturday, at the 13th Avenue door.



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 Farverny-France, Betania-Venezuela, and Onil-Spain.



Catechetical Sunday

The Church celebrates with all our catechists this Sunday, September 17. Many people come forward annually to pass on the faith to our children, adolescents, and adults. The theme for this year is **"Come to Me All You Who Labor, and Are Burdened"**. Cathedral Parish Catechists will be acknowledged and we will pray The Rite Blessing of Catechists next Sunday, September 17th, during all the Masses.

We express appreciation to the following: **Holy Trinity Catholic School:** Danielle Aikens, **Religious Education Pre-K-11:** Chris Laraia, Director, Gabriele Cronin, Helen Carper (Our Lady of Fatima), Lori Pastore, Beth Moore, Mary Ann Bell, Carol Galioto, Darlene Sinisi, Nicole Burkle, Roberta Burns, Jeanne Thompson, Karen Isenberg, Phyllis Baker, Brandon Solnosky; **First Reconciliation and First Eucharist:** Msgr. Stanley Carson, Chris Laraia, Lori Pastore; **Confirmation:** Msgr. Carson, Chris Laraia, **Baptismal Preparation:** Chris Laraia, Paula Clemens, Gabrielle Cronin, Roberta Burns; **Marriage Preparation:** Clark and Kim Adelman, Bob and Chris Laraia, Tom and Beth Moore; **Rite Christian Initiation of Adults:** Jeanne Thompson, Carol Galioto, Director, Barbara Rossi, and Tony Kibelbek.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

September 17, 2023

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

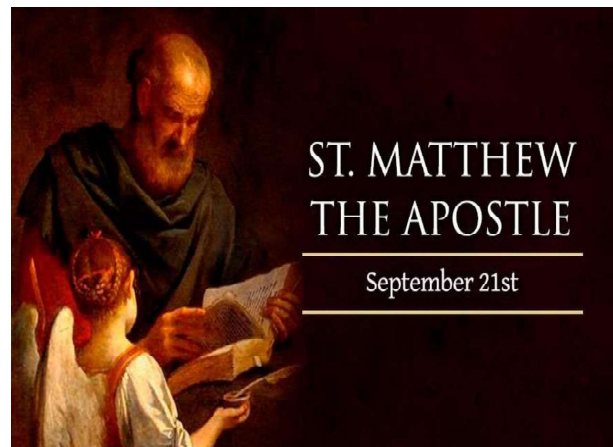
When I was in second grade, my prized possession was a metal Star Wars-themed lunch box. After school one day, another student ripped it from my hands. I helplessly watched in horror as my classmate threw it to the ground and violently stomped it into an unrecognizable heap of junk. I came home covered in tears of shame and rage. After a few months, I never thought about it again ... until I was almost thirty years old and on a retreat to prepare for ordination to the priesthood.

That childhood memory — and the attendant outrage — came back afresh. My spiritual director helped me in the process of acknowledging that I was angry because that kid owed me my lunch box. Then she helped me, through the grace of Jesus, to forgive the debt. Almost immediately I felt a new peace. I was amazed that I hadn't forgotten what I had lost, even from years before. Aren't we human beings simply amazing at remembering what people owe us?

We see this week in Jesus' parable a servant who is forgiven much but then commands another servant: "Pay back what you owe!" He can't forget or let go of how he was wronged. He remembers — and he becomes a monster because of it. If only he had remembered not only the debts owed to him, but also his greater debt owed to — and forgiven by — his master. It's natural for us to remember what others owe us. But when we contextualize those offenses in Jesus' mercy toward us and them, we're free to be merciful like the Master and less like a monster who never forgets. Father John Muir ©LPI

"Pray, hope, and don't worry. Worry is useless. God is merciful and will hear your prayer."

- Saint Padre Pio



(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

The Hateful Things We Hug Tight

At the end of "Lord of the Rings: Return of the King," Gollum fights with Frodo for possession of the One Ring. He wins the fight, but in doing so topples over the edge of the mountain ledge, falling into the cavernous fires of Mount Doom. As he falls, we see him smile, and clutch the ring to his chest. He is happy. He has won what he spent his life pursuing.

It is only in the last millisecond before his face slips below the lava that we see his eyes widen in terror as he realizes the truth: the thing he clutches to his heart is the thing that killed him. In choosing the ring, he chooses death.

Sin, and the fallen nature of this world, makes us addicted to something that kills us.

Like any addiction, it is a vicious cycle. The less we forgive, the more hardhearted we become ... and the less we seek forgiveness ourselves.

What breaks the cycle? Reconciliation with God — or, Confession, as we call it. In fact, it does more than break the cycle. It turns it backward. Not only does it detoxify our souls of sin, it weakens our addiction to sin's effects — anger, vengeance, unforgiveness. The confession of evil works is the first beginning of good works, said St. Augustine.

Ultimately, I view our whole human life as a struggle on the ledge of a mountaintop. It is certain that we will choose sin — we always do. We will tumble over the side, toward ruin. But let us be Frodo, and not Gollum. Let us cling to the rock of the sacraments and accept the hand that would drag us away from the flames.

Wrath and anger are hateful things, yet the sinner hugs them tight." — Sirach 27:30 ©LPI

**THE CHURCH OF ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN
THE CATHEDRAL
OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT**

**ONE CATHEDRAL SQUARE, ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA 16601-3315
CHURCH OFFICE: 814-944-4603**

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME-SEPTEMBER 17, 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. 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

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

Eldorado 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