

**TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
September 24, 2023
Mass Intentions**

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

September 25, Monday, Weekday

12:00PM+Betty Capouellez, Birthday (Family)

September 26, Tuesday, Saints Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs

12:00PM+Alfred Rutolo, Birthday (Family)

September 27, Wednesday, Saint Vincent DePaul, Priest

12:00PM+Bennie Plunket, Birthday (Bob & Cathy Chirdon)

September 28, Thursday, Saint Wenceslaus, Martyr; Saint Lawrence Ruiz and Companions, Martyrs

12:00PM Souls in Purgatory (Anonymous)

September 29, Friday, Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels

12:00PM+Ernest Tomassetti (Wife)

September 30, Saturday, Saint Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church

12:00PM+Orvita Knott (Joe and Dan Angeski & Marcy Yurinko)

Vigil: Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00PM+Edgar A. Johnston, Ann. (Mother)

October 1, The Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00AM+Debbie Sadler (Linda Kutz)
10:00AM+Amelia Seiler (Kathy & Greg Clemens)
5:00PM Pro Popolo/For the People
Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church 11:30 AM



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

Readings for the week of September 24, 2023

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

Monday: Ezr 1:1-6/Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6/Lk 8:16-18

Tuesday: Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday: Ezr 9:5-9/Tb 13:2, 3-4a, 4befghn, 7-8/Lk 9:1-6

Thursday: Hg 1:1-8/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Lk 9:7-9

Friday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5/Jn 1:47-51

Saturday: Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13/Lk 9:43b-45

Next Sunday: Ez 18:25-28/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9, (6a)/Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5/Mt 21:28-3

First Reconciliation Prep Schedule

There will be a Parent /Student Session on Tuesday, October 3, 2023, in the basement of the Cathedral church from 6:30-8:00PM.

A parent must accompany your child to the meetings. A copy of your child's Baptism certificate is required. Please contact Chris Laraia if you are unable to attend, so that make up work can be assigned.



TODAY IS THE DAY!! We will have our Basket Bingo. Doors open at Noon, bingo starts at 1:00PM. There will be tickets available at the door, \$25.00 per person, with a value pack for an additional \$30.00. Daubers Up!!! Lets Play Bingo!!!

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.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION
Sunday, September 17, 2023, \$ 11,527.48
Thank you for your financial and spiritual support.

Inquiry Sessions of Christian Initiation of Adults

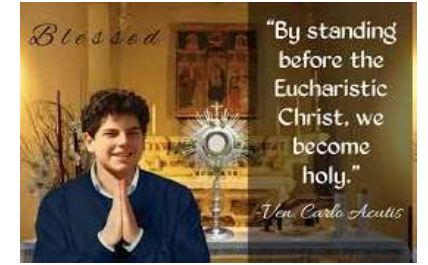
Are you interested in the Catholic Church? Do you know someone who might be interested in seeking information about our Catholic faith? Starting on Sunday, September 17th, the Cathedral Christian Initiation Team will begin weekly meetings in the Church from 11:00 AM until 12:00 Noon (after the 10:00 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.



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.

Stewardship Reflections

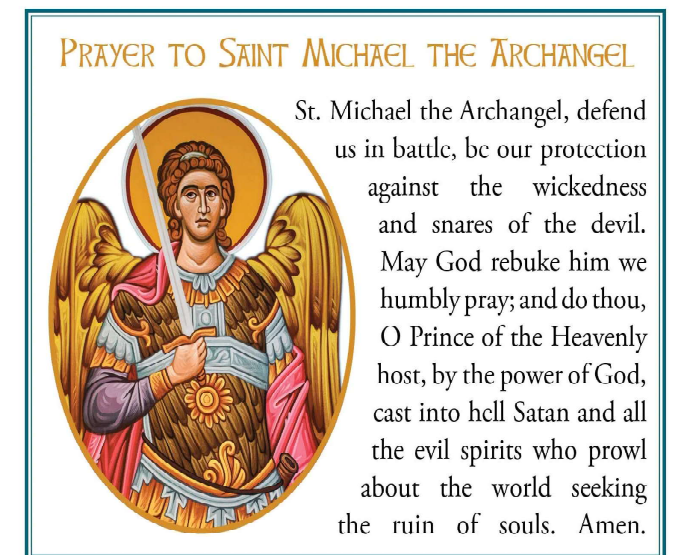
As stewards, the way we prioritize our time will often be at odds with the world's priorities. Jesus offers us a glimpse of the "Godly logic" of the Father. The laborers were relying on human logic and human calculations. Christian stewards can grumble and complain too. When we compare ourselves to others and believe that not everyone is contributing as much as we are to the parish, the neighborhood, or even within our family, we do not think clearly. We must remember that it is a great privilege to have been called by the Father to work in His vineyard. Living the stewardship way of life brings us meaning, depth and purpose. Let's embrace this Godly thinking and thank Him for calling us to this way of life. (CatholicSteward.com 2020/09/18)



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 miracles that took place in Tixtla, Mexico, Tumaco, Columbia, and Chirattakonam, India.



There is a PREP session this Sunday evening, September 24, in the Religious Center for teenagers in the 9th, 10th, and 11th grades from 6:00 P.M.-7:15 P.M. The teachers have a surprise for the students.



GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

September 24, 2023

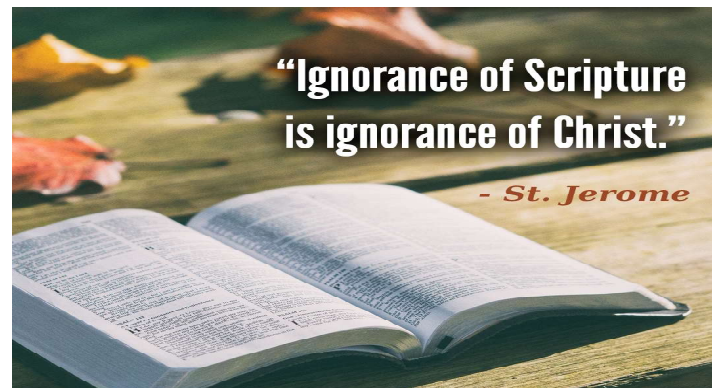
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Once I gave my three-year-old niece a certain toy for Christmas. When she opened it, she was happy. Shortly thereafter her five-year old sister opened another present from me: the same toy, along with some play jewelry. The three-year-old cried out: "That's not fair! Why'd she get the jewelry, too?!"

Let's face it: there's something about God's grace in our religion which bugs us. We love to look at others' blessings and cry out: "That's not fair!" Catholicism is not fair in the sense that it is a religion founded on God's grace which is unmerited favor. God pours his mercy, love, and divine life upon us not because we're good but because He is infinitely good.

If you think the "not fair" quality of grace is easy to accept, consider how typically angry we get when we hear the parable of the workers who get paid way more than they deserve. The hyper-generous landowner says to the indignant hard workers, "Are you envious because I am generous?" Well, yes, they are, and so are we! Therefore, we have to reckon with this painful truth in order to move into the divine sphere of gifts, which is the world of Christ and his Church. Then we are able to move beyond a tit-for-tat world and into one where gifts are poured forth on those who don't deserve it — namely, upon us.

— Father John Muir ©LPI



(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

The Invitation to the Vineyard

I have been working since I was 17, and in that time, I've encountered my fair share of bosses who don't like being, well, fair.

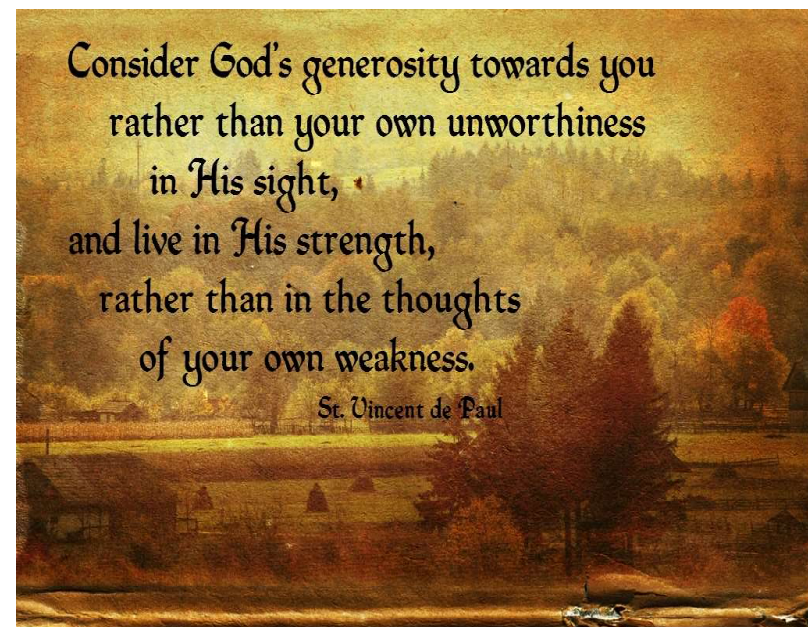
There was the retail gig that paid me less than the official minimum wage because I was a minor and scheduled me for long shifts because it meant cheaper labor. There was the restaurant manager who tried to convince me to leave seventh period early so I could waitress on a busy dinner shift (totally illegal, by the way). There was the unpaid internship with the editor who had no sense of work/life balance.

Our resumes are all full of these experiences — it's capitalism, after all. It conditions us to look out for ourselves, because we know no one else will. And it breeds an attitude of suspicion that often blooms into jealousy when we encounter the reckless mercy of God.

Most of us work hard for what we have in this life, and so we make the mistake of thinking we deserve the good things that come our way. That's all right and good when we're talking about a just wage. But sometimes we get our lines blurred and we begin to think we deserve, or have done something to earn, the salvation offered by Christ.

I am not the laborer who has borne the heat of long hours in the sun. I am the straggler, the lost one, the idler at the marketplace as the day draws to a close.

"As high as the heavens are above the earth, so high are my ways above your ways, and my thoughts above your thoughts." — Isaiah 55:9 ©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-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME-SEPTEMBER 24, 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