

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
January 7, 2024
Mass Intentions

January 7, Sunday, The Epiphany of the Lord
8:00AM+Sandy Cuomo (Patty & Bear McCloskey)
10:00AM+Fred Reismeier (Dick and Becky Moran)
5:00PM Pro Popolo/For the People
Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church 11:30 AM

January 8, Monday, The Baptism of the Lord
12:00PM All God's People (Altoona Catholic Daughters)

January 9, Tuesday, Weekday
12:00PM+Patty Wiedemer, Anniversary (Family)

January 10, Wednesday, Weekday
12:00PM+Father Paul Turnbull (Ed & Jeanine McCloskey)

January 11, Thursday, Weekday
12:00PM Special Intention Joe Gibbons, Birth.(Susan Crooks)

January 12, Friday, Weekday
12:00PM+Michael J. Ronan Jr.(Paula Schimminger Dent)

January 13, Saturday, Saint Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
12:00PM+Charles Z. Walker U.S.N. (Tom Byrne)
Vigil: The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
5:00PM+Frances Pagliaro/Robert Beck (Family)

January 14, Sunday, The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00AM+Rosemary Plank Grieg (Albert Schlecht)
10:00AM+Pat & Bernadine Farrell (Family)
5:00PM Pro Popolo/For the People
Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church 11:30 AM

Confirmation Annoucement

There will be a 11th grade Session. Cathedral Hall Sunday, January 14, 2024 from 2:30-4:30 PM. Sponsor and parent must attend with student. Please bring folder.

Church Cleaning

The cleaning crew will be meeting Wednesday, January 10th, at 9:00 AM. They normally meet on the second Wednesday of the month. If there is a funeral, they will meet on Thursday.

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

Readings for the week of January 7, 2024

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
Monday: Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 (3)/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11
Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39
Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45
Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12
Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 2:13-17
Next Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4 7-8, 8-9, 10 (8a, 9a)/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/ 1 Jn 1:35-42

Additional Christmas Flowers

Peter Rossi
Robert M. Jones Sr., Virginia Jones, Douglas Egan
John J. Nagle, MARion Nagle, John Nagle, Jean Hair,
Joel Kyle, Sue Frye, Bishop Joseph Adamec
Bearer & Kirkpatrick Families
June & Donald Dodson, Jim Stoehr, Richard Taylor
Jim & John Novack, Ed & Marie Smith & Deceased
Family Members
Benjamin & Christen Jones
Anthony & Liang Bartkowiak



OUR 2024 CALENDAR OF CASH LOTTERY TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE OFFICE DURING THE WEEK. THIS IS THE LAST WEEKEND THEY WILL BE AVAILABLE FOLLOWING MASSES. THE COST IS \$20.00. SO FAR WE HAVE SOLD 883 CALENDARS. IF YOU STILL HAVE CALENDARS OUT, COULD YOU PLEASE RETURN THEM EITHER IN THE COLLECTION OR DROPPING THEM OFF AT THE OFFICE!

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, December 24, 2023 \$ 10,407.81
Christmas Day December 25, 2023 \$ 18,706.06
Sunday, December 31, 2023 \$ 7,381.09
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? 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.



Pilgrimage to Fatima & Lourdes & Discovery of Barcelona

Msgr. Carson will be leading a pilgrimage from September 15-24, 2024.

Pilgrimage information is available in the brochures at our entrances, at our Facebook page, and at

<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1213040>



The Christmas Season ends with the Feast of Our Lord's Baptism on Monday, January 8.



The Cathedral's *I Give Catholic* campaign target was \$10,000. Our goal was to raise money to replace our office computers and upgrade our parish software. \$11,565 has been received. Thank you!

Thank You!

A word of thanks is extended to the volunteers who decorated the cathedral's interior and exterior: Mary Ann Bell, Maryann Bistline, Scott Culp, Tony and Anna Rose Eckenrode, Janet Hammond, Ronnie Helfrich, Karen, Matthew, and Randy Isenberg, Patty and Nova Jurcik, Chris Keagy, Jim and Steph Kilcoyne, Paul Luke, Bobby Martino, Karen and Steve Martynuska, Paula Riley, Mark Talasky, Herb Tomlinson, and Linda Yaskow. They did a fine and beautiful job!

Gratitude is also extended to the gracious volunteers who prepared a lunch: Mary Ann Bell, Tony and Anna Rose Eckenrode, Butch Winkler, and Linda Yaskow.



Volunteers will be needed to take down the Christmas decorations following the noon Mass on Monday, January 8.

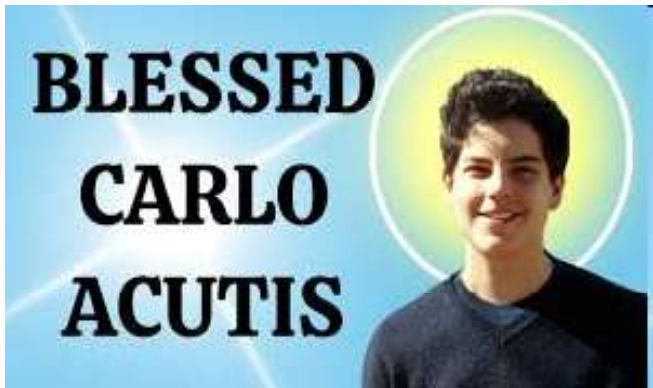
**GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER
UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

January 7, 2024

The Epiphany of the Lord

A stranger in a foreign land, I was exhausted and homesick as my summer Spanish immersion ended in Guatemala. The rusty minivan arriving outside my small residence filled me with joyful hope. I was flying home to the U.S. and would be, at long last, completely happy. Or so I thought. After about half an hour of being home, I thought to myself, "This place is boring. I want to go somewhere." So, I hopped in my car and left to see my friends. As I drove, I wistfully wondered, "Where am I truly at home?"

The feast of Epiphany has a lot to do with our notion of home. Where is our origin? Where are we going? When is our wandering done? Saint Matthew tells us of the Magi, "They were overjoyed at seeing the star." This star will bring them home, to a place where their questing will end, and they will be satisfied. Their real home is neither in the East nor in the earthly Jerusalem. Somehow, their home is wherever this boy and his parents are.



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, has been on display in our cathedral. The balance of the exhibit has been purchased for use within our cathedral for months and years to come.

**EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE
GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS**

Wise Men See God in the Simple Things

If you're on social media, you have probably seen a meme going around that features this quote: "God has a plan for your life. The enemy has a plan for your life. Be ready for both. Just be wise enough to know which one to battle and which one to embrace."

There were certainly two competing plans for the Magi: God's and Herod's. And, wise as they supposedly were, it wasn't entirely easy for the Magi to discern which was which.

After all, Herod posed as a friend. He offered the Magi hospitality and kindness. Though the Gospel doesn't say so, he probably flattered them and appealed to every moral weakness he could observe in them. In his palace, they must have felt great physical comfort — rest and tables of plenty on what was an otherwise long and treacherous journey.

But if the Magi were honest with themselves, I'll bet they would have admitted that, regardless of Herod's charm, they felt a gnawing sense of doubt while in his presence. When they looked upon the Christ Child, born in a stable without any of the comforts of the world or protections of wealth, they probably felt the opposite. They probably felt safe.

The Magi were lucky enough to have the right plan spelled out for them in a dream, but for the rest of us, it's enough to remember this: God's plan is often the one that leads us to places of great simplicity, great humility and great love. Let's have the wisdom to view power with suspicion, and innocence with admiration.

— *Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS (c)LPi*

Healing Mass

There is Healing Mass at St. Michael Church in Hollidaysburg, on Tuesday, January 9, at 7:00 P.M. Fr. Brad Baldwin will be the main celebrant. Praise and worship will precede the Mass at 6:30 P.M.

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

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

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD-JANUARY 7, 2024

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

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

Weekday: 12:00 Noon

Saturday: 12:00 Noon

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