

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**February 18, 2024**  
**Mass Intentions**

**February 18, Sunday, First Sunday in Lent**  
8:00AM+John Duffy (Kevin & Jane Byrne)  
10:00AM+Rita Beck (Spencer/McConnell Families)  
5:00PM Pro Popolo/For the People  
**Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church 11:30 AM**

**February 19, Monday, Lenten Weekday**  
12:00PM+Nick Green (Greg and Karen Querry)

**February 20, Tuesday, Lenten Weekday**  
12:00PM+Debbie Consiglio (McNelis Allstars and Friends)

**February 21, Wednesday, Saint Peter DAmian, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**  
12:00PM+Mary Alice Plummer (Bob & Joan Lozinak)

**February 22, Thursday, The Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle**  
12:00PM+William V. Bettwy, Ann. (Tim & JoAnn Bettwy)

**February 23, Friday, Saint Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr**  
12:00PM+Eddie Flanagan, Birth. (Bear & Patty McCloskey)

**February 24, Saturday, Lenten Weekday**  
12:00PM+Charles Yanchik, Birth. (Wife & Children)  
**Vigil: Second Sunday in Lent**  
5:00PM+John P. Koeck Jr. (Gary Koeck Family)

**February 25, Sunday, Second Sunday in Lent**  
8:00AM+Jack Conway (Anonymous)  
10:00AM+Francis & Eileen Lytle (Children)  
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, February 20, at 6:30 P.M.**

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

Readings for the week of February 18, 2024  
**Sunday:** Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (see 10)/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15  
**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:** 1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6/Mt 16:13-19  
**Friday:** Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 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 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 (116:9)/ Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-1



**Men's Conference**

The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown will be having a Men's Conference, Strength in Christ (Journey to Jesus) on Sunday, March 3rd, 2024, 11:30AM-5:00PM at the Mount Aloysius College Bertschi Center, Cresson. Join us for a day of faith and fellowship, which includes lunch, dynamic speakers and Mass at 5:00 P.M. with Bishop Mark.

Featuring Keynote Speaker Cooper Ray, Inspiring and Faith-Filled talks from Fr. Brian Norris and Fr. Michael Pleva. Plus a panel discussion with local Catholic men.

No cost for attendance. Open to all high school, college and adult males. Registration is required by February 23rd. Register online at [www.dioceseaj.org](http://www.dioceseaj.org) or by mail with the form at your parish. Online registration encouraged due to limited seating.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION**  
Sunday, February 11, 2024 \$ 7,723.95  
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>



**Fish Lunches**

Our parish's Annual Fish Fry Lunch is being sold on Fridays during Lent, except Good Friday. The drive-thru lunches will be available from 10:30 A.M until 1:00 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 and pre-order at 814-944-4603. Take out and cash only.

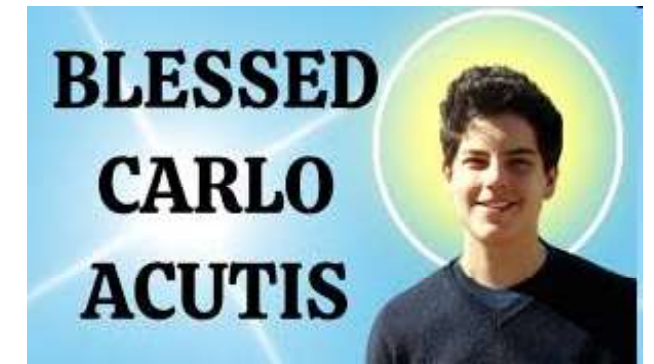


Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. All Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence. Abstinence refers to not eating meat at all on those days. Persons 14 years of age and older are to abstain. Fasting refers to one full meal, with two small meals, no eating between meals. People 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.

**Sung Evening Prayer and Benediction**

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

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



Our parish now has the entire exhibit of Eucharistic miracles prepared by Blessed Carlo Acutis (1999-2006). Portions of the exhibit will be displayed in the side chapels of the cathedral. You are encouraged to deepen your appreciation of the Eucharist by reading about the extraordinary ways the Lord has revealed Himself in the gift of the Blessed Sacrament.

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

February 18, 2024  
1st Sunday of Lent

When I feel down, I sometimes watch the famous "Double Rainbow" video on YouTube to feel better. It's hilarious. A young man camping in Yosemite Park sees two rainbows stretching across the sky. He bursts into a kind of ecstasy. "Double rainbow, all the way! Oh my God!" he announces. Then he starts to weep. He cries out, "What does it mean?" Beneath the humor of his glorious overreaction is the deep intuition we all have, I think, when we see the colorful bow in the sky. This Sunday, God sends a rainbow to Noah, and to us. What does it mean?

Long before YouTube had the double rainbow, Dante's medieval poem The Divine Comedy featured one in his image of paradise. Seeing two rainbows, he muses that one is born of the other. The bow is God's promise of peace. For Dante, it's even more: nature's encrypted image of the Trinitarian God. One visible rainbow (God the Son) is begotten of another usually invisible one (God the Father) united by invisible light between them (God the Spirit). Like invisible light, Trinitarian glory surrounds us in every moment — but Jesus has made it visible in his glorious body.

Lenten challenge: This might seem silly, but this Lent I invite you to find a rainbow and meditate on it. You might have to make one yourself, like this current desert-dweller will. Gaze on it. See there a natural gift from the Creator, saying to you, "Here I am! I will love and protect you, surrounding you in My glory." This Lent let's embrace that with confidence, rain, or shine



**Life in the Spirit Seminar**

Holy Spirit Ministry will be holding a Life in the Spirit Seminar on Saturday, March 16th, from 8:00 A.M. to 6:30 P.M. at St Mary Church, Hollidaysburg. This one day retreat includes dynamic spiritual teachings and testimonies from Fr. Brad Baldwin TOR, Msgr. Stan Carson, Mandy Conrad, Fr. David Dodd, Fr. Mike Pleva, Deacon Mike Anna, Doug Putchko and Dominic Tornatore. Spirit-filled praise and worship, small group faith sharing and much more. Donation is \$20.00 if registered by 2/26/24, \$25.00 afterwards. Students are free. Lunch and dinner provided. To register contact 814-931-0192 or e-mail holyspiritministry20@gmail.com. Deadline to register is 3/6/24. All are welcome!

**Contribution Reports**

Contribution reports for income tax purposes may be obtained by calling Paula at the Parish Office, 814-944-4603.

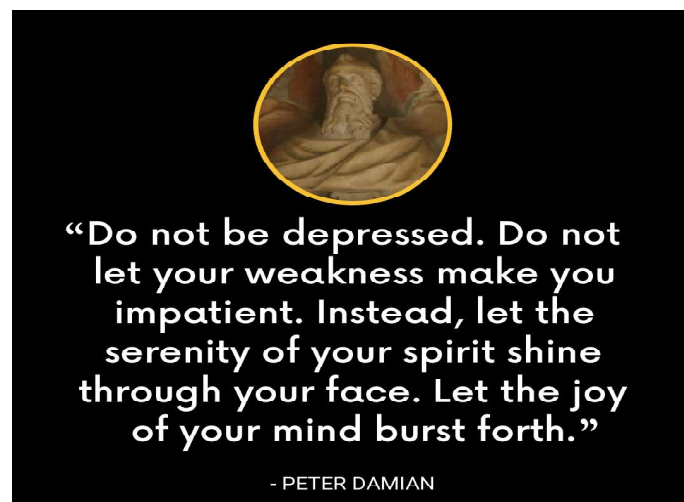
**Vienna Boys Choir**

The world famous Vienna Boys Choir will be returning to the Cathedral for a concert on Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 7:00PM. This will be ticketed for safety reasons, but tickets are free. They are available at the 13th Avenue entrance to the church after every weekend Mass until they are gone. Each person may pick up a maximum of 4 tickets. They will be available in the Parish Office during the week from 10:00AM-2:00PM only.



**Eucharistic Adoration**

On Wednesday, March 6, Cathedral Parish will have Eucharistic Adoration from after the noon Mass until the end of Confessions. A sign-up sheet is located on the cross aisle table to mark your time for visitation before the Blessed Sacrament. It is essential that there be at least two people in the Lord's presence during exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.



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

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

**FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT- FEBRUARY 18, 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 0**

**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***