

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
February 25, 2024
Mass Intentions

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

February 26, Monday, Lenten Weekday

12:00PM+Raymond Ruggery, Birth. (Sister Mae & Family)

February 27, Tuesday, Lenten Weekday

12:00PM+Stanley Galant (Cathy Rougeux)

February 28, Wednesday, Lenten Weekday

12:00PM+Souls in Purgatory (Anonymous)

February 29, Thursday, Lenten Weekday

12:00PM+Betsy Mehan (Jim & Steph Kilcoyne)

March 1, Friday, Lenten Weekday

12:00PM+Kathleen Bollinger (Husband Ken & Family)

March 2, Saturday, Lenten Weekday

12:00PM+Nancy Foster (Clair Robertson)

Vigil: Third Sunday in Lent

5:00PM+Terry Holmberg (Pat Farrell Family)

March 3, Sunday, Third Sunday in Lent

8:00AM+James & Alice Wharton (McGough & Families)

10:00AM+Intentions We Are One Body Radio

Listener Prayer Request (We Are One Body Radio)

5:00PM Pro Popolo/For the People

Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church 11:30 AM



Our parish's Easter Egg Hunt is on Sunday, March 24th, beginning at 2:00 P.M. in the lower level parking lot. Bring your own basket. There will be a special appearance by the Easter Bunny.

Hop on over for egg-cellent fun!



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 in this weekend's bulletin, at our Facebook page, and at <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1213040>



The new 2024 Catholic Ministries Drive begins throughout our diocese this weekend. This year's theme is Encountering Christ. During this time of our Eucharistic Revival, Encountering Christ through our Catholic Ministries Drive is an invitation to grow in our relationship with Christ and to open our heart to serve Him through serving our brothers and sisters.

Our Catholic Ministries Drive supports 10 ministries which fall into one of our three main focuses of evangelization, serving those in need, or the formation of our priests and deacons.

Please reflect on Bishop Mark's invitation when it arrives in your mail, and prayerfully consider supporting our diocesan ministries. You may return your pledge card and donation through the mail, make your payment online, or return your pledge card and donation to our parish through the collection.

Our parish's target is \$45,930. All contributions beyond our parish goal will remain for use within our parish.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION
Sunday, February 18, 2024 \$ 8,559.35
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.



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.

Readings for the week of February 25, 2024

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 9:2-10

Monday: Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16/Mt 20:17-28

Thursday: Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 16:19-31

Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Next Sunday: Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 (Jn 6:68c)/1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25

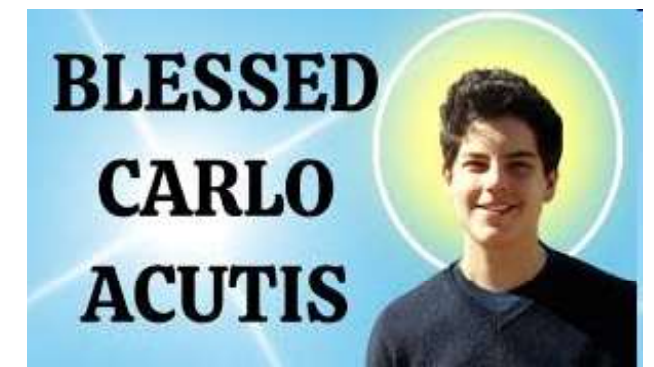


Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. All Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence. Abstinence refers to not eating meat at all on those days. Persons 14 years of age and older are to abstain. Fasting refers to one full meal, with two small meals, no eating between meals. People 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 25, 2024
2nd Sunday of Lent

As a college student, my prized possession was an after-market car stereo. It was my pride and joy: glorious audio, eye-catching display screen, and multi-disc CD changer. It drained my hard-earned dollars, but it was totally worth it. It drenched me in music everywhere I drove. On Ash Wednesday of my senior year of college, Father Tom, the Jesuit priest at my university said, "Pray for God to tell you what he wants you to sacrifice for Lent." I did. In my heart, the answer came: "Give up listening to your car stereo for forty days." I winced. Not possible, I thought. Can't do it. I made other plans. The next morning, I was stunned to find that my car had been broken into, and my fancy stereo ripped out and stolen.

God's command to sacrifice what we love is no joke. This week in Genesis 22, God says: "Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, whom you love — Isaac — and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you." Believe me, I know. We like to be in control. It chafes us that God sets the terms of what we must sacrifice, and how. But this is no impersonal, tyrannical process. Remember that God uses their names, Abraham and Isaac. God knows each one of us and the precious gifts He commands us to offer. Finally, our sacrifices are for our own good. Do we trust this enough to do what Father Tom asked me to do?

Lenten challenge: This week, I dare you to ask God: "What do you want me to give up?" He may ask for that which you love most. It will be something precious to you: time, money, a relationship, a dream, an opportunity. What matters is we trust Him and act sacrificially in line with His command. Whatever we sacrifice will of course come back to us as surely as the Risen Jesus — but that doesn't make it easy

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!

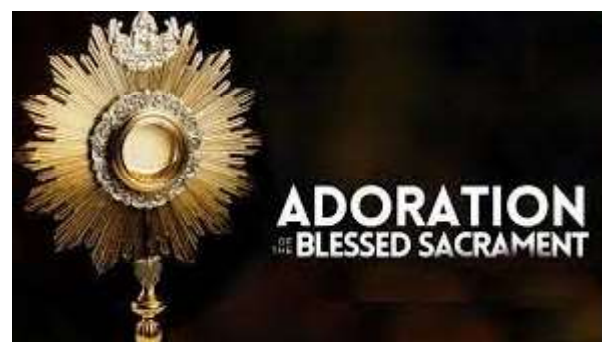
Contribution Reports

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. All of the general admission tickets have been distributed.

If you would like to contribute toward the concert and be recognized in the program, or purchase an ad in the program, please fill out a VBC form located at all the entrances and turn in at the parish office or give to one of the following VBC Committee Members: Music Director Leslie Thayer, Anne Marie & Tim Longwill, Randy & Karen Isenberg, Drs. Tony & Liang Bartkowiak, Dave Kimmel, and Mary Ann Bell.



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.

Theology of Tap

Young adults (ages 21-39) are invited to a talk and opportunity to build community on Thursday, March 7, at 6:00 P.M. at Jethro's in Altoona. The event will be a social time and then a brief theological talk ("Death to Life in the Desert of Lent: Why We Mortify Our Passions During Lent") by Father Brian Norris. The plan is for this to be a monthly event with new speakers each month. Andrew Potopa will host the event.

If you have questions contact
APOTOPA@GMAIL.COM

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

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

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT- FEBRUARY 25, 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

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