

**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF
THE LORD
March 24, 2024
Mass Intentions**

March 24, Sunday, Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

8:00AM+Sandy Cuomo, Anniversay (Family)
10:00AM+Bob Eger (BGHS Class of 1968)
5:00PM Pro Popolo/For the People

Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church 11:30 AM

March 25, Monday of Holy Week

11:00AM CHRISM MASS +Deceased Clergy
NO NOON MASS

March 26, Tuesday of Holy Week

12:00PM+Geraldine Rose, Anniversay (Family)

March 27, Wednesday of Holy Week

12:00PM+James P Kilcoyne (Jim & Steph Kilcoyne)

March 28, Thursday of Holy Week-Holy Thursday

7:00PM Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

March 29, The Passion of the Lord-Good Friday

9:00AM Morning Prayer
1:00PM Commemoration of the Lord's Passion

March 30, Holy Saturday

9:00AM Office of Readings
8:00PM **Easter Vigil**

Parishioners and Benefactors

March 31, Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

8:00AM+Parishioners and Benefactors
10:00AM+Parishioners and Benefactors
5:00PM NO EVENING MASS



Our parish's Easter Egg Hunt is this 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!



The 2024 *Catholic Ministries Drive* has begun. Our sacrificial gifts of prayer and treasure will make an immediate and lasting impact on our ministries that focus on evangelization, serving those in need, and the formation of priests and deacons. This year, our campaign's theme is **Encountering Christ**. During this time of the Eucharistic Revival, **Encountering Christ** is an invitation to grow in our living relationship with Christ in the Eucharist, to open our hearts to serving our brothers and sisters, and to fulfill our holy duty of supporting the Church by gifts of our time, talent, and treasure. Our diocese's ministries need our support. Our parish's target is \$45,930. All contributions beyond our parish goal will remain for use within our parish. As of March 20, 42 parishioners have pledged/contributed \$12,615.00. Thank you.



March 24, Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Palm will be blessed at the beginning of all Masses. We will gather, depending on the weather, either in the narthex or on the portico.

March 25, Monday, Chrism Mass at 11:00 A.M.

March 28, Holy Thursday, Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00 P.M.

Adoration until 10:00 P.M.

March 29, Good Friday, Morning Prayer at 9:00 A.M.

Commemoration of the Lord's Passion at 1:00 P.M. Stations of the Cross at 5:30 P.M.

March 30, Holy Saturday, Office of Readings at 9:00 A.M.

Easter Vigil Mass at 8:00 P.M.

March 31, Easter Sunday, Masses at 8:00 A.M. and 10:00 A.M.

Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church at 11:30 A.M. (There is no 5:00 P.M. Mass on Easter Sunday.)

OFFERTORY COLLECTION
Sunday, March 17, 2024 \$ 11,575.16
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.



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

Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 (2a)/Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39

Monday: Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14/Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34/Mt 26:14-25

Thursday: Chrism Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9/Ps 89:21-22, 25 and 27/Rv 1:5-8/Lk 4:16-21

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18 (see 1 Cor 10:16)/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15

Friday: Is 52:13—53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25 (Lk 23:46)/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1—19:42

Saturday: Easter Vigil: Gn 1:1—2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 (30) or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22 (5b)/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 (1)/Ex 14:15—15:1/ Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 (1b)/Is 54:5-14/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 (2a)/Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (3)/Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 (Jn 6:68c)/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 (42:2)/Rom 6:3-11/Mk 16:1-7

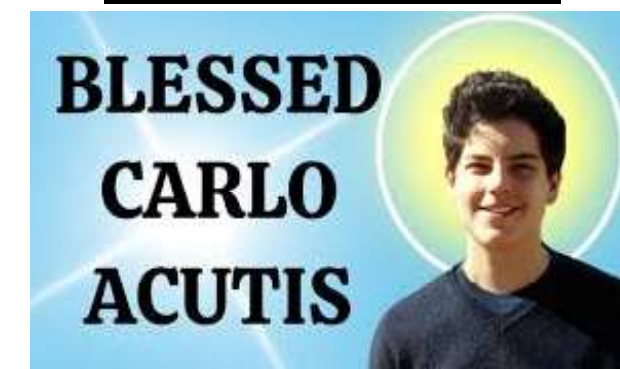
Next Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 (24)/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-



Good Friday is a day 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.



Our parish will be publishing a Pictorial Directory. Pictures will be taken the week of May 20-23. The directory will be a great opportunity to improve parish unity and fellowship. More details soon!



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

March 24, 2024

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

A few months before they married, my twenty-three-year-old sister and her fiancé planned a cross-country road trip to visit his family. My parents told them that they could only go if they slept in separate hotel rooms, offering to foot the bill. It might sound prudish, but my parents wanted the young couple to understand that their approaching unity was close, but not yet. Patience solidifies love.

What could this possibly have to do with Palm Sunday? It's usually overlooked, but the Gospels tell us that, after entering Jerusalem, Jesus "looked around ... and since it was late, went out to Bethany with the twelve" (Mk 11:11) for the night. Who cares? Why include this detail? Jews in those days believed that the new Davidic King would one day re-enter and "marry" the city. A new future marked by fidelity would begin for God's people. Israel's God would be in union with His people forever. Without over-sexualizing the metaphor, perhaps Jesus refused to sleep in Jerusalem to remind us of his marital purpose. He was entering Jerusalem as the bridegroom-king. It was almost time, but not yet. Soon he will sleep in Jerusalem in the tomb and then something new will begin: his one body, his Church.

Lenten challenge: This Holy Week, I challenge you to keep this image in your mind all the way until Easter Sunday: Jesus is the faithful bridegroom who patiently prepares his bride for their new life together. Go to the Good Friday liturgy and kiss the cross. When you do, let that gesture be the long-awaited "I do" to our faithful God, who always waits for us.



Easter Water/Holy Water

A limited number of bottles of blessed Easter Water will be available for use in the home. They will be near the baptismal font. Holy Water is a refreshing reminder of our baptism. It is also a powerful sacramental, capable of providing spiritual protection and healing.

Contribution Reports

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

Basket Bingo Coming Soon

It's that time of the year again, to start thinking about having fun. Our Basket Bingo will take place on Sunday, September 29, 2024 at the Father Kelly Hall, 5th Street and 25th Avenue. We are now taking donation, new items, gift cards, and monetary gifts.



The Blessing will take place at Noon on Holy Saturday at Our Lady of Fatima Church

A typical Eastern European Easter Basket would include a variety of symbolic foods. The basket would contain all or some of these items: bacon (a symbol of God's abundant mercy), bread (representing the staff of life given by God, Easter Bread/Paska Bread (reminiscent of the risen Lord), butter, sometimes shaped like a lamb, (symbolic of the Paschal Lamb), candles (symbolic of Jesus the Light of the world), cheese (to remind Christians of moderation), colored eggs (indicate hope, new life, and Christ rising from the tomb), ham (symbolize great joy and abundance), linked sausage/kielbasa (symbolic of the chains of death that were broken when Jesus rose from the dead), horseradish (reminds us of the bitterness and harshness of the Lord's passion), salt (adds zest to life and preserves us from corruption), sweets (suggest the promise of eternal life or the good things to come).

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

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

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD- MARCH 24, 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.

By appointment, by texting or calling 814-937-8240

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. Barchak, 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 ACADEMY

Web: www.bishopguilfoyle.org - 814-944-4014

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