

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
April 28, 2024
Mass Intentions

April 28, Fifth Sunday of Easter

8:00AM+Fred Drexler (Tim & JoAnn Bettwy)
 10:00AM+Evelyn Callisto, Ann. (Daughters Karen & Renee Julian)
 5:00PM Pro Popolo/For the People
Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church 11:30AM

April 29, Monday, Easter Weekday

12:00PM+Lavelle Family (Phyllis Lavelle Sheetz)

April 30, Tuesday, Easter Weekday

12:00PM+Tom Boslet, Anniversary (Family)
 7:00PM Confirmation

May 1, Wednesday, St. Joseph the Worker

12:00PM+Linda Cacciotti, Wed. Ann. (Carl and Family)

May 2, Thursday, St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

12:00PM+Geraldine Petrunak (Family)

May 3, Friday, Saints Phillip and James, Apostles

12:00PM+Roberta Lamont (Dave & Maureen Hanekamp)

May 4, Saturday, Easter Weekday

12:00PM+Souls in Purgatory (Anonymous)
Vigil: Sixth Sunday of Easter
 5:00PM+Thomas Riggelman Sr., Birthday (Carol and Family)

May 5, Sixth Sunday of Easter

8:00AM+Patty & Joe Wiedemer (Family)
 10:00AM+Douglas J. Farrell (Pat Farrell Family)
 5:00PM Pro Popolo/For the People
Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church 11:30AM



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. Our diocese's ministries needs our support. Our parish's target is \$45,930. All contributions beyond our parish goal will remain for use within our parish. As of April 14, 126 parishioners have pledged/contributed \$30,905. We've reached 67% of our target. Thank you.



Thursday, May 9, is the Solemnity of our Lord's Ascension into Heaven. Since it is a holy day of obligation, there will be Masses at the cathedral at 5:30 P.M. on Wednesday, May 8, and on May 9, at 8:00 A.M. and Noon. There will be a Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church on Ascension Thursday at 5:30 P.M.

Healing Mass

Holy Spirit Ministry will hold a special Healing Mass on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 7:00PM, at St. Michael Church, Hollidaysburg. This powerful night of hope and healing is for all who are suffering physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Fr. Brad Baldwin TOR will be the main celebrant. Praise and worship will precede the Mass at 6:30PM and prayer ministry will follow the Mass. If you are suffering physically, or from addiction, or hurting or struggling in any way, come and experience the healing power of Jesus and be set free! All are welcome!

OFFERTORY COLLECTION
Sunday, April 21, 2024 \$10,062.75
 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.

Bishop Guilfoyle Academy

OPEN HOUSE, Sunday, April 28, 1-3 pm.

Eldorado (St. Rose), Fairview (St. Therese), Hollidaysburg (St. Michael)

We invite you to learn about our Catholic school Bishop Guilfoyle Academy where joyful students, Pre K-through Grade 12, are equipped to succeed in the world and shape our communities for the better.

Come to any of our Open Houses on April 28 (Pre K through Grade 5. Can't make the Open House? Call and schedule a personal tour of any of our sites where you can meet the Principal, shadow a student, and witness our safe and virtuous environment. Offering Monday through Friday full-day school, before and after school program available.

NEW 2024! Hollidaysburg Early Education Campus, Pre K & Kindergarten, growing to Grade 5, full-day, Monday through Friday, before and after school program, and summer options available.

For more information, call 814-942-7835 or visit bishopguilfoyleacademy.org
Automatic scholarship for Catholic students; additional financial aid available.



Our parish will be publishing a Pictorial Directory.

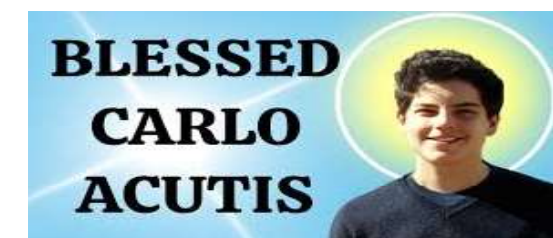
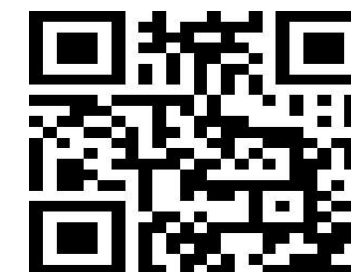
Pictures will be taken the week of May 20-23.

The directory will be a great opportunity to improve parish unity and fellowship. A pictorial directory is a powerful tool in our parish to help each of us know each other better.

We want everyone to get a new picture made so that our new directory will be complete.

IT WON'T BE COMPLETE WITHOUT YOU!

You can make your appointment online by going to our webpage, facebook page, or the code below. Be sure to do that today. Roberta Burns will also be available at the 13th avenue entrance to sign you up following weekend Masses. So far, over 100 households have signed up.



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.

PRIESTS, BROTHERS, NUNS.
THEY NEED US.
WE NEED THEM.

Vocations Are Everybody's Business

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

April 28, 2024

5th Sunday of Easter

My friend and fellow pastor, Father Paul, noticed unsightly, overgrown trees near his parish church. He asked the maintenance crew to cut back the growth, which they happily did, telling him the trees would be much healthier and even fuller after a good pruning. A few days later, Father Paul received a letter from an irate man in the neighborhood who wrote, "Jesus would never prune trees like that. He loves trees, unlike you."

I suspect that the neighbor was not familiar with this week's Gospel in which Jesus says of his Father, "He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit" (John 15:2) I don't mean to pick too much on that fellow. He was perhaps ignorant of arboriculture. But I'd wager his main confusion was the pruning and removing quality of God's love. That confusion afflicts us all to some degree, doesn't it? It is just so darn easy to react negatively when God cuts something out of our lives and assume it's not his work at all. In the moment, all we see is the loss, and not the loving desire for future flourishing.

The cross is the great pruning of Christ's body. Jesus' rising is the brand-new growth. It is God's promise to us that all the painful pruning in life is leading us somewhere beautiful. What has been cut back or out in your life? A friend, an opportunity, a sense of certainty, a job, health, a relationship? This week, offer those dry branches to the one who lovingly prunes us in order to make our lives burst with verdant growth. Father John Muir [@LPI](#)

Stewardship Reflections

Our readings today teach us what it means to bear fruit as disciples of Christ. We hear in each of our readings that it is from the Lord that good effects will be produced in our lives. And Jesus clearly tells us how to do this in our Gospel, as He says, "I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear fruit, because without me you can do nothing." We can remain in Christ by staying faithful to His commandments and frequently receiving the sacraments. And our day to day moments should be a reflection of those commitments.

Let us begin this week reflecting on these questions, 'how is God bearing fruit in my life?' and 'have I invited the Holy Spirit to work in my life?' Then let us consider the areas of our days that we can be more fully invite the Lord into. May we strive to stay connected to the Vine.

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.

Basket Bingo Donations

We are starting to take donations for Basket Bingo already. Looking for Basket Themes such as; Picnic Basket, Baking Basket, Women's Basket, Bedroom Basket accessories just to name a few. Or if you have a theme in mind that would be wonderful also.



This Wednesday, May 1, is a Eucharistic Day of Prayer from after the noon Mass until Benediction at 6:45 P.M. There is a sign-up sheet on the table at the cross aisle. It is essential that there be people in adoration while the Blessed Sacrament is exposed.

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

Readings for the week of April 28, 2024

Sunday: Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 (26a)/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8

Monday: Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16/Jn 14:21-26

Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21/Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122: 1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Jn 15:1-8

Thursday: Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10/Jn 15:9-11

Friday: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Jn 14:6-14

Saturday: Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21

Next Sunday: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 (see 2b)/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-11

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

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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER- APRIL 28, 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 - Normally, the First Wednesday - 12:30 PM - 6:45 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 O

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. 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

BISHOP GUILFOYLE ACADEMY

Web: www.bishopguilfoyle.org

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

Weekday: 12:00 Noon

Saturday: 12:00 Noon

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