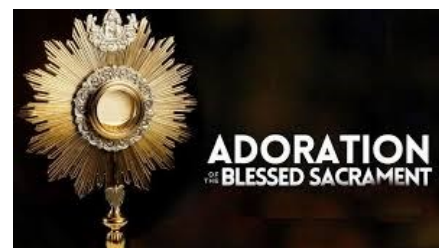
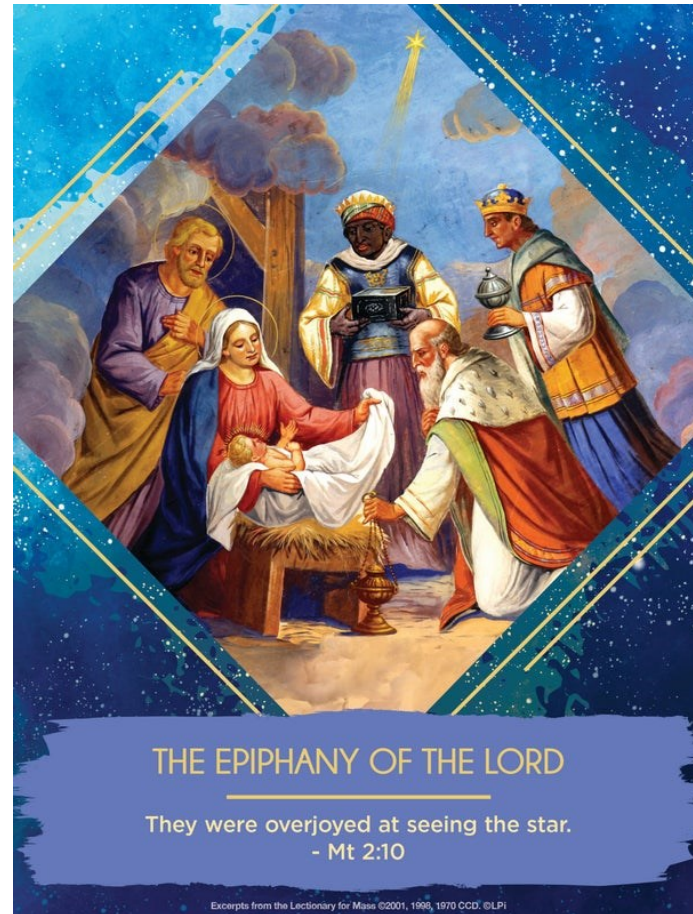


EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
January 5, 2025
 Mass Intentions

- January 5, The Epiphany of the Lord
 8:00AM+Regis McCloskey (Barbara Caracceos and Family)
 10:00AM+Alberta Weaver, Ann. (Weaver Family)
 5:00PM Pro Popolo/For the People
Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church 11:30AM
- January 6, Monday, Saint Andre Bessette, Religious
 12:00PM+Deb Capotosti, Ann. (Mother & Siblings)
- January 7, Tuesday, Saint Raymond of Penafort, Priest
 12:00PM+Neil G. Bauer (Uncle Dan B. Bauer)
- January 8, Christmas Weekday
 12:00PM+Jane Byrne (Tom Byrne)
- January 9, Thursday, Christmas Weekday
 12:00PM+Patty Wiedemer, Anniversary (Family)
- January 10, Friday, Christmas Weekday
 12:00PM+We Are One Body Radio Listener Prayer Request (We Are One Body Radio)
- January 11, Saturday, Christmas Weekday
 12:00PM+Patty Seidel Howard, Ann. (Weaver Family)
 Vigil: Baptism of the Lord
 5:00PM+Frances Pagliaro/Robert Beck (Family)
- January 12, Baptism of the Lord
 8:00AM+Dave Behe (Wife, Sons and Families)
 10:00AM+James S. Cole (Jane Kiser)
 5:00PM Pro Popolo/For the People
Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church 11:30AM



Our Eucharistic Day of Adoration in January will be on Wednesday, January 8. There is a sign-up in the cross aisle.



Guided by a star, the magi made a pilgrimage in search of a newborn king. They found Jesus not in a palace, but in a house with his mother in the tiny town of Bethlehem. If we love one another with faith-filled hearts, Jesus will be found in each of our homes.

FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION

All meetings/sessions will be held in the Cathedral basement from 6:30-8:00PM. A parent must accompany your child to the meetings. Please contact Chris Laraia if you are unable to attend a meeting so that make up work can be assigned.

PARENTS / STUDENT SESSIONS:

March 11, 2025

April 8, 2025

First Communion will be celebrated at the 10:00AM Mass May 4, 2025. If you have any questions please call Chris Laraia, 814-312-7317 or email me at claraia@dioceseaj.org

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

Sunday, December 29, 2024, \$ 9, 282.92

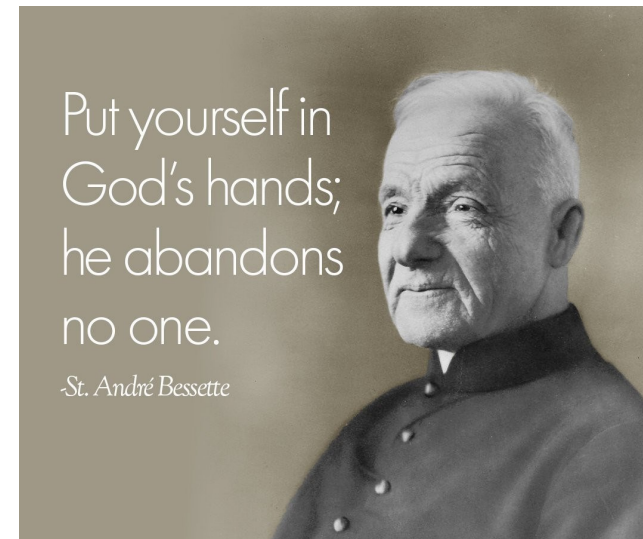
The Christmas Collection amount will be listed in next week's bulletin since envelopes are still coming in.

Thank you for your financial and spiritual support.

RADIO MASS

Following consultations with our Parish Council and Finance Council, it has been decided to discontinue broadcasting our 10:00 A.M. Sunday Mass on the radio. Gratitude is extended to our generous sponsors.

As you know, there has been a significant increase in Masses that are available on television and the internet.



Liturgical Ministers Schedules

The schedule and assignment of liturgical ministers will be done by our parish office. Early in the new year we will begin to recruit additional liturgical ministers for all of our liturgies.



Gratitude is extended to those who participated in our Advent Season Winter Coat Drive. The new and gently used winter coats will be greatly appreciated.



Every 25 years the Church celebrates a special Holy Year called the Jubilee Year. Jubilee Year 2025 began with the opening of the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome on Christmas Eve 2024.

On Sunday, December 29, Bishop Mark opened the Jubilee in our diocese with a special Mass in the Cathedral.

The Holy Year offers opportunities to grow spiritually in a variety of ways, especially through prayer and acts of service.

Gratitude is extended to those who attended the opening Mass and acted as liturgical ministers. A particular word of thanks is extended to Randy Isenberg who made our Jubilee Year Cross that is present near our ambo.

Pilgrimage Passports, prayer cards, and leaflets with prayers, information about indulgences, and the Jubilee Year schedule are available at the entrances.

COURTESY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holy Spirit Ministry

1. Carol Steffen, Executive Director of Every Life Matters (ELM) Pregnancy Support Center, Tyrone, will share her testimony at Holy Spirit Ministry's Night of Worship on Tuesday, January 7, 2025, 7 PM, at St. Michael Church in Hollidaysburg. Carol will share her riveting personal story of redemption, healing, and God's great mercy, and what led her to her passionate ministry in Pro-Life Crisis Pregnancy work. Carol's testimony will be preceded by praise and worship music. Individual prayer for healing and Confessions will follow. Everyone is most welcome!
2. Holy Spirit Ministry will hold a special Mass on Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at 7:00 P.M. at St. Michael Church in Hollidaysburg. This powerful night of hope and healing is for all who are suffering physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Fr. David Dodd, TOR will be the main celebrant Praise and worship will precede Mass at 6:30 PM and prayer ministry will follow the Mass. If you are suffering in any way, including from an addiction, come and experience the healing power of Jesus and be set free!

Annual Respect Life March

The march on Sunday, January 19, begins at noon with a prayer service at St. Matthew Church, Tyrone. Then there is a 1.25 mile walk to Oak Grove Cemetery to the grave of Baby Agnes Doe for another short prayer service. A hot lunch will be served in the parish hall after the march. Bring a sign.

Bridges Out of Poverty

January is the month of National Poverty Awareness. Please consider joining a virtual overview of **Bridges Out of Poverty: Strategies for Professionals and Communities** to have a better understanding of a comprehensive approach to the dynamics that cause and maintain poverty, from the individual to the systemic level. Catholic Charities will have two options to share this information virtually: Friday, January 10, from 10 AM until Noon or Thursday, January 23, from 6 PM to 8 PM.

To register please RSVP coconnor@dioceseaj.org.

Stewardship Reflections

As we continue our celebration of the Christmas season, We observe today the great Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord. The word 'epiphany' means manifestation and throughout the Christmas readings we have seen that the newborn King is eager to reveal Himself to all those willing to accept His presence in their lives. From poor and humble shepherds to the international group of magi featured in today's Gospel passage, Jesus makes it clear that He offers Himself as a gift to everyone.

We also see throughout the scriptures that God uses what is familiar to us to draw us to Himself, like using a star for the magi. Our Lord speaks to each of us daily, but we must be alert to 'hear' and 'see' Him our lives. To become better attuned to the ways God is speaking to us, we must strengthen our spiritual 'senses' by spending time with the Lord in prayer.

When we establish a regular, intentional, time for prayer daily, we will find that the Lord continues to speak to us throughout the day. We will more easily recognize the signs He places before us to draw us into a closer relationship with Him. We will begin to see that He is indeed present in our lives at every moment.



The Epiphany household blessing is an ancient practice in the Church. This tradition is a beautiful way to observe the coming of the magi while invoking God's blessing our your home and all who enter it. All that is needed is chalk and a prayerful heart. [A piece of chalk and a blessing are available in packets at our entrances this weekend.]

The essence of the ritual is always the same: a member of the household calls down God's blessing and an inscription is made above the door in chalk.

The inscription reads: the first two digits of the year 20+ C + M + B +25 the last two digits of the year. The initials C, M and B represent the names of the magi — Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar — and also signify the Latin phrase *Christus mansionem benedicat*: "May Christ bless the house." ©LPi

The Church of Altoona-Johnstown THE CATHEDRAL OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

ONE CATHEDRAL SQUARE, Altoona, Pennsylvania 16601-3315

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD, JANUARY 5, 2025

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.

PRO-LIFE ROSARY

Sponsored by the Christian Mothers on Thursdays after the noon Mass.

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM:

September through April: Pre-Kindergarten thru 12.

Sunday morning 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM Pre-Kindergarten thru 8. Grades 9-11 Sunday Evening at 6:15.

Church Office: 814-944-4603

E-MAIL: altcathedral@dioceseaj.org

Fax: 814-942-4337

WEB

www.altoonacathedral.org



Facebook

www.facebook.com/cathedralofaltoona



Mass Times

Sunday: 5:00 PM (Vigil) 8:00 AM 10:00 AM 5:00 PM	Weekday: 12:00 Noon
	Saturday: 12:00 Noon

Serving the People of God in the City of Altoona Since 1851