

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

March 9, 2025

Mass Intentions

March 9, First Sunday of Lent

8:00AM+Shawn Kennedy (Friends)

10:00AM+Wayne Madden (Choir)

5:00PM Pro Popolo/ For the People

Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church 11:30AM

March 10, Monday, Lenten Weekday

12:00PM+Alfred Rutolo, Anniversary (Family)

March 11, Tuesday, Lenten Weekday

12:00PM Special Intention for Matt (Mom & Dad)

March 12, Wednesday, Lenten Weekday

12:00PM+Joe Wiedemer, Anniversary (Family)

March 13, Thursday, Lenten Weekday

12:00PM+Karl Burgmeier, Ann. (Daughter Carol Talley)

March 14, Friday, Lenten Weekday

12:00PM+John Bettwy (Tim & JoAnn Bettwy)

March 15, Saturday, Lenten Weekday

12:00PM+Dino Persio (Ed & Lois Simanski)

Vigil: Second Sunday of Lent

5:00PM+John P Koeck Jr. (Maryann Hofer)

March 16, Second Sunday of Lent

8:00AM+Jim Weaver (Ed Stoltz)

10:00AM+Patricia Vargo, Birthday (Family)

5:00PM Pro Popolo/ For the People

Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church 11:30AM



Liturgical Ministers Schedules

The schedule and assignment of liturgical ministers will be done by our parish office.

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 and 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

A “Warm” Parish Thank You

Our annual parish “Winter Coat Drive” was overwhelmingly successful! The past few months have been extremely cold. With your help many in our community were able to receive such a “gift of warmth” this year. Over 2 dozen women were gifted new coats at a Christmas Party at the local women’s shelter and 50 coats were given to 2 warming centers locally. Additionally, dozens of jackets and coats were given to the project “Ben Blessed”, a non-profit ministry focused on meeting the basic needs of people who are homeless in Altoona. Thank you Cathedral family for helping those most in need.

Christian Mothers Meeting

The regular Christian Mothers Meeting will be on March 12th. We will be discussing upcoming projects and ideas. All women of the parish are invited. If you would like more information about joining this ministry, please call Carol Galioto at (814)327-4841.

Church Cleaning

We will be cleaning the church on Wednesday, March 12, at 9:00 AM. If there is a funeral, we will meet on Thursday same time.



OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

Sunday, March 2, 2025, \$ 11,397.00

Thank you for your monetary and personal contributions to the life of our parish.

Stewardship Reflections

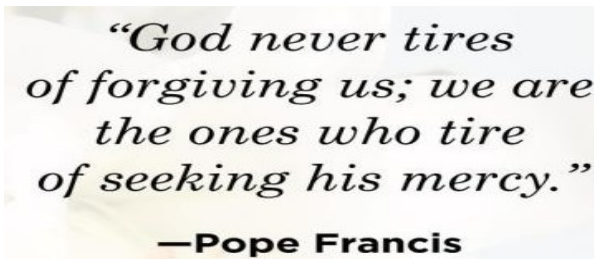
And so it begins, the holy and, for some, daunting season of Lent. This is the season in our liturgical year when the Church encourages us to increase our prayer, fasting, and almsgiving to enter more deeply into the mystery of our Lord’s Passion and Death and to celebrate more fully His Resurrection. Our outlook as Christian stewards can help us embrace this season with enthusiasm and even joy.

As grateful stewards ourselves, we can look at these 40 days as “soil” that God is giving us as a gift to grow closer to Him and become more like Him. We can choose to use each of the days intentionally to make a generous response to our God, who sent His only Son to deliver us from the affliction and oppression caused by sin.

If we find this difficult sometimes, then we’re doing it right! It means that we will have some wonderful ‘first fruits’ to present to our Lord at the close of the season; we will be prepared to enter into the grace-filled days of the Triduum and we will, through the power of the Holy Spirit, be resurrected as a new creation with our Lord come Easter. Let us begin!



Our Parish’s Lenten Drive-Thru Fish Fry Luncheon is served on Fridays, except Good Friday. The cost is \$10.00 for a fish sandwich, mac and cheese and coleslaw. The meal is available from 10:30 A.M. until 1:00 P.M. If you are getting more than 10 dinners, please call ahead to order at 814-944-4603.



SAVE THE DATE!

The world-famous Westminster Cathedral Choir of Boys & Men, London, England will present a concert here in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament on Thursday, April 3, 2025, 7:00 pm.

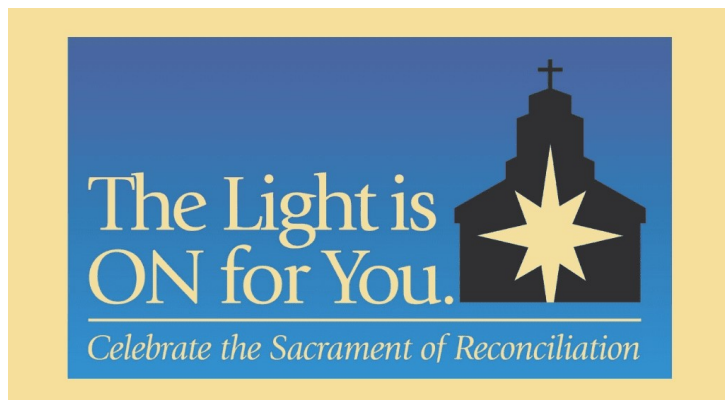
Founded in 1901, the Choir of Westminster Cathedral remains the only Catholic cathedral choir in the world to sing daily Mass and Vespers, whilst performing concerts at home and abroad. Comprised of up to 20 boy trebles and altos, aged 8-13, and ten professional Lay Clerks, the Choir is known internationally through its tours and recordings.

The concert is free, but tickets are required. They will be available following weekend Masses and in the office during the week, from Monday– Thursday 9:00AM-4:30PM. Friday 9:00AM-3:00PM until they are all gone. This is an official Jubilee 2025 event!



Men’s Conference: Strength in Christ!

Sunday, March 30, from 11:30 AM to 5:30 PM at Mount Aloysius College, Cresson. The day includes lunch, talks from local priests, personal testimonies, a panel discussion, and Sunday Mass. There is no cost to attend. Visit www.dioceseaj.org to register online. Paper registration forms are also available at our entrances. The deadline to register is March 21st.



In addition to the regularly scheduled weekly opportunities and the Lenten Communal Reconciliation Services, during this Jubilee Year parishes have scheduled Confessions at various times the week of March 17th.

Monday, March 17, at Mt. Carmel Church from 5:00-6:30 P.M. and at St. Rose Church from 5:00-7:00 P.M.

Tuesday, March 18, at Holy Rosary Church from 6:00-8:00 P.M. and at St. Therese Church from 8:00-10:00 P.M.

Wednesday, March 19, at St. John the Evangelist Church from 5:30-6:00 P.M., at St. Mary Church, Hollidaysburg from 5:30-6:00 P.M., at St. Catherine Church from 6:30-8:00 P.M., and at Cathedral from 7:00-8:00 P.M.

Thursday, March 20, at St. Mary Church, Hollidaysburg from 12:00-1:30 P.M., at Sacred Heart Church from 4:00-6:00 P.M., and at St. Mark Church from 6:00-8:00 P.M.

Friday, March 21, at St. John the Evangelist Church from 5:00-6:00 P.M. and at St. Michael Church in Hollidaysburg from 7:00-9:00 P.M.

ADDITIONALLY

That week, Msgr. Carson will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation following the noon Mass on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and from 8:00-9:00 A.M. on Tuesday and Thursday.



Stations of the Cross will be prayed at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament on the Fridays of Lent at 5:30 P.M.

The Cathedral Communal Penance Service is on Wednesday, April 8, at 6:00 P.M.

Sung Evening Prayer and Benediction will take place on Sundays during Lent at 6:30 P.M.

Day of Fasting and Abstinence

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 birthday are obligated to fast. In addition to these obligations, additional forms of fast and abstinence may be observed.



Eucharistic Revival Spring Priest Presentations

The last of the Eucharistic Revival Year presentations will on Saturday, March 29th, at St. Francis University, JFK Center in Loretto. From 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM. You may register online at dioceseaj.org/spring, priest, presentations or by mail. Forms are available at our entrances. The speakers are : Father Jozef Kovacik, Father George Jakopac, and Father Brian Saylor.

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

ONE CATHEDRAL SQUARE, Altoona, Pennsylvania 16601-3315

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT, MARCH 9, 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:	Weekday:
5:00 PM (Vigil)	12:00 Noon
8:00 AM	
10:00 AM	Saturday:
5:00 PM	12:00 Noon

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