

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
March 23, 2025
Mass Intentions

March 23, Third Sunday of Lent

8:00AM+Gerri Rose, Ann. (Kathleen Davies)

10:00AM+Susan Bauer (Regina Damiano)

5:00PM Pro Popolo/ For the People

Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church 11:30AM

March 24, Monday, Lenten Weekday

12:00PM+Karen Triana, Anniversary (Vogel Sisters)

March 25, Tuesday, The Annunciation of the Lord

12:00PM+Sandy Cuzzolina, Anniversary (Family)

March 26, Wednesday, Lenten Weekday

12:00PM Special Intention Health and Welfare
G.W. ((Friend))

March 27, Thursday, Lenten Weekday

12:00PM+David Lysinger (Mary Lysinger)

March 28, Friday, Lenten Weekday

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

March 29, Saturday, Lenten Weekday

12:00PM+Pete & Jimmy Banholzer (Peggy & Bernie Joyce Family)

Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Lent

5:00PM+Edgar L. Johnston, Ann. (Wife & Family)

March 30, Fourth Sunday of Lent

8:00AM+Steve Pellegrine (Ruth Slippey)

10:00AM+Helen Watters, Birthday (Children)

5:00PM Pro Popolo/ For the People

Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church 11:30AM

Easter Egg Hunt

Our parish's Easter Egg Hunt is on Sunday, **April 13th, beginning at 2:00P.M.**, in the lower parking lot. Bring your own basket. There will be a special appearance by the Easter Bunny. Hop on over for egg-cellent fun! Anyone wishing to donate candy for the Easter Egg Hunt may drop off their donations at the Church Office Monday-Thursday 9:00AM-4:30PM, and Friday 9:00AM-3:00PM.

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 SESSION:

April 8th, 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

Christian Mothers Up Coming Event

On Sunday, April 6th, "Queen Esther" A Sight and Sound production with intermission. Clark & Kim Adelman to speak about the Jewish connection (biblically and today). In the Seton Suite at 1:00PM. With refreshments. All are welcome. For more information about events Carol Galio to at 814-327-4841.

Bishop Guilfoyle Academy

Bishop Guilfoyle Academy invites you to attend our Open Houses, Open Houses, Monday, April 7th from 5:30-7:30PM at our PreK3 through grade 5 campuses: Hollidaysburg (321- Spruce Street), Eldorado (5519-6th Avenue) and Fairview (424 Wopsononock Avenue).

Spend some time with us, meet our teachers and administration, tour our facilities, and discover how we personalize instruction for each child.

RSVP at bishopguilfoyle.org/open house call 814-942-7835. RSVP's not required, but encouraged. BG also offers individual tours, as well as shadow days to fit your schedule.

Catholic students receive special scholarships. See how affordable a BG education can be by looking at our household income chart to see tuition ranges. Visit: bishopguilfoyle.org.

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

Sunday, March 16, 2025, \$ 7,492.00

Thank you for your monetary and personal contribu-

Stewardship Reflections

Today's readings capture the essence of God's Lenten message to us, His people, offering words of compassion and mercy as well as warning of the need to repent and make most of the gift of time He has given us.

Jesus offers the parable of the unfruitful fig tree to further illustrate this truth. The owner of the orchard came searching for the fruit on a fig tree he had planted in his orchard. Finding no fruit on the tree after three years, he told the gardener to cut it down. But the gardener intercedes and ask for one more year to cultivate and fertilize the tree in hopes it would bear fruit in the future. The fig tree was not dying, it simply wasn't doing much of anything at all. Can this be said of us and our lives at times as well?

The season of Lent is a time to reflect carefully on the way we spend our time. Do we give first priority to God, tending to our spiritual growth and sacramental life with diligence? Do we give next priority to our loved ones, focusing intentionally on them each day without distractions from phones, screens, or thoughts of work? If not, now is the moment to repent of our waste of time or of misplaced priorities on our use of time. God is merciful but just. Let's turn to Him and ask Him to make our lives fruitful while we still have time to do so.



The current ICF newsletter is available at our entrances. The ICF stewards our parish's three endowments (Cathedral Parish, Music Ministry, and Education) and provides long-term financial support to parishes, schools, cemeteries, and ministries throughout the diocese.



Be Sure To Attend!

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.

The concert is free, but tickets are required. They will be available following weekend Masses and in the office during the week, from Monday- Friday until all tickets are gone. This is an official Jubilee 2025 event!



The 2025 Catholic Ministries Drive target for Cathedral is \$51,400. We'll be receiving a letter from Bishop Mark. Please be supportive. This year's Theme is "Follow Me" (Mt. 16:24).

This is Commitment Weekend. Our sacrificial gift 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 our priests and deacons.

COURTESY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Shroud of Turin Lenten Day Retreat

St. Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church, Ramey, PA, Saturday, April 5, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The day begins with coffee and donuts and lunch will be served. A donation of \$10.00 would be appreciated. RSVP by calling Darlene Davidson at 814-592-8321 The speaker is Bill Lauto, a Shroud of Turin Scientist certified by the Science and Faith Institute in Rome. Divine Liturgy will be at 5:00 p.m.

An Update and Special Thank You

The Gabriel and Levine Families are happy to share that Gwendolyn Gabriel, our brave little heart warrior, has successfully received her 2nd heart transplant after one year of waiting. The surgery took place on March 2nd and was a complete success thanks to the incredible team of surgeons, doctors, and nurses who have been caring for Gwen every step of the way.

Though Gwen is still in the early stages of recovery, the family is hopeful and optimistic that her biopsy, which will take place soon, will show no signs of heart rejection and she can come home within a month of so.

Gwen's families wish to thank all who have prayed for Gwen and her family, expressed words of kindness, kept her in her in their thoughts, donated money, gift cards, and household items, participated in fundraising and simply supported them during this challenging time. They would especially like to thank the 7th grade CCD students for their time, energy, and creative fundraising effort as well as the facetime! Thank you for being a part of their journey and continue to keep Gwen and her family in your prayers.

Bus Trip to Wind Creek Casino Bethlehem, PA

Mt. Carmel Parish is sponsoring a Casino trip on Saturday, April 26. Leaving from the church parking lot at 8:30 a.m. and departing the Casino at 7 p.m. There will be one stop coming and going. The cost of the trip is \$45.00 per person. The Casino Bonus is \$25.00 slot play. To receive this bonus, please bring to the Casino a valid photo ID. There are outlets and a food court attached to the Casino complex. Call the office at 814-942-8501 during the week to make a reservation.



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

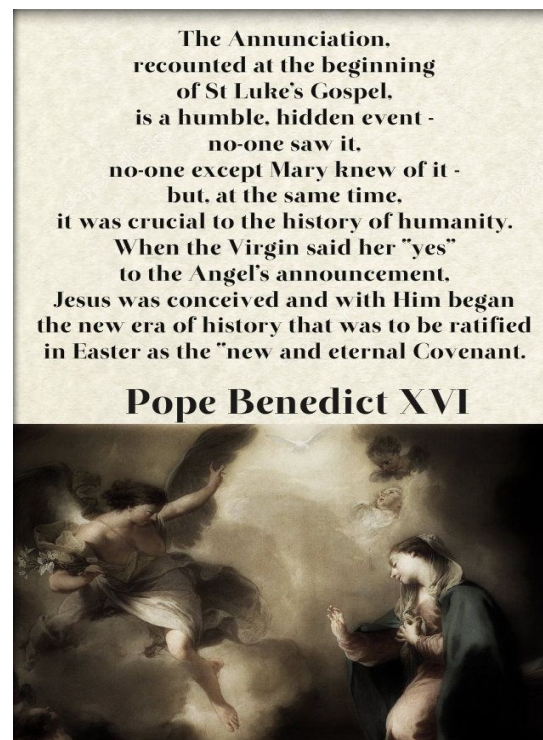
Drive-thru Fish Fry Luncheons on Fridays, except Good Friday, from 10:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. Only \$10.00 for a Fish Sandwich, M & C, and Coleslaw.

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.



The Annunciation, recounted at the beginning of St Luke's Gospel, is a humble, hidden event - no-one saw it - no-one except Mary knew of it - but, at the same time, it was crucial to the history of humanity. When the Virgin said her "yes" to the Angel's announcement, Jesus was conceived and with Him began the new era of history that was to be ratified in Easter as the "new and eternal Covenant."

Pope Benedict XVI

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

ONE CATHEDRAL SQUARE, Altoona, Pennsylvania 16601-3315

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT, MARCH 23, 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