

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
September 14, 2025
 Mass Intentions

September 14, **Sunday, The Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

8:00AM+Derek Behe (Mom, Dad and Eric)
 10:00AM+David M. Axinn (The Axinn Family)
 5:00PM Pro Popolo/For the People

September 15, **Monday, Our Lady of Sorrows**

12:00PM Deceased and Living Christian Mothers
 (Christian Mothers)

September 16, **Tuesday, Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs**

12:00PM+John Moran (McNelis All Stars and Friends)

September 17, **Wednesday, Saint Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; Saint Hildegard of Bingen, Virgin and Doctor of the Church**

12:00PM+Shirley Keirn (Joanne Straw)

September 18, **Thursday, Weekday**

12:00PM+Jane L. Koury (Butch Winkler)

September 19, **Friday, Saint Januarius, Bishop and Martyr**

12:00PM+Romeo Oga (Rich & Leonida Patrick)

September 20, **Saturday, Saints Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest, and Paul Chong Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs**

12:00PM+Anna Gioiosa (Tim and JoAnn Bettwy)

Vigil : Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00PM+Kathleen Bollinger, Ann. (Husband Ken and Family)

September 21, **Sunday, Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00AM+Libby Shea Allen (Albert Schlecht)

10:00AM+Etta Pastore (Family)

2:00PM Wedding Anniversary Mass

5:00PM Pro Popolo/For the People



OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

Sunday, September 7, 2025 \$ 9,628.70

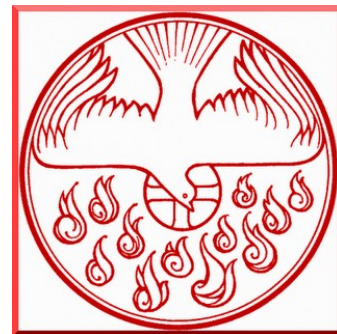
Thank you for your monetary and personal contributions to the life of our parish.

Basket Bingo

SAVE THE DATE! And mark your calendars for **Sunday, September 28, 2025**, we are now exactly 2 weeks till our basket bingo at Father Kelley Hall. Still looking for donations, and gift cards are being accepted and are appreciated.

Students who are looking to get their service hours, here is your chance to help at the basket bingo for as many hours that you would like to be there to help.

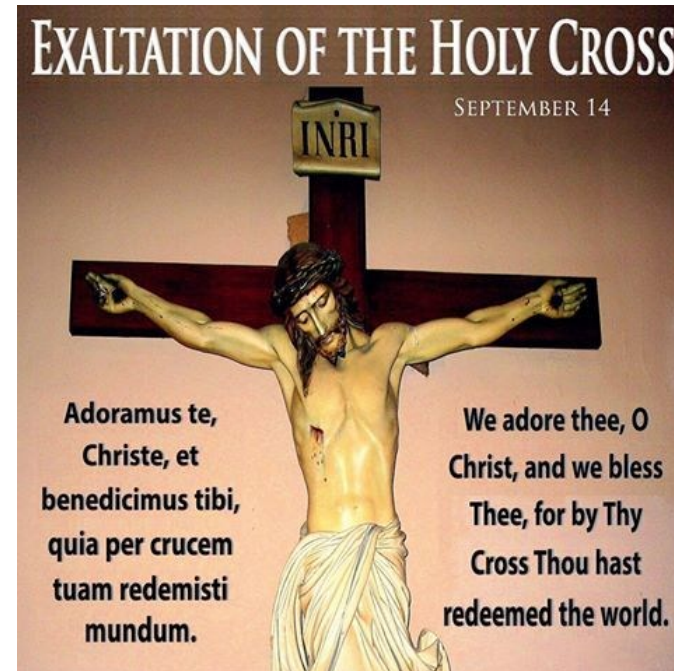
We are also asking for donations for soda and water. We are also looking for Pittsburgh Steelers and Pirates items, Gift Cards, Lottery Tickets and anything else you may want to donate. If you can't bring it to us, we will gladly pick it up call Paula 814-944-4603, 814-215-5949 or Lorraine Beck 1-240-676-6704.



Confirmation Preparation Meetings

A meeting for all Confirmation Prep candidates in grades 10, 11 will be held in the Cathedral Hall at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, September 16th and Thursday, September 18.

A parent or sponsor must attend one of these meeting with the candidate. Any forms, stewardship plans, and letters may be turned in at this time.



PRECIOUS LIFE BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

Cathedral parish collected \$1,805.11 during this year's Baby Bottle Campaign. Over 130 churches from Blair, Bedford, and Cambria counties raised \$139,110.97!

Thank you very much for participating.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE —The Exaltation of the Holy Cross John 3:13-17

One of my favorite movies is the 1991 comedy What About Bob? Bill Murray plays a troubled, paranoid hypochondriac named Bob Wiley who innocently but annoyingly hounds Dr. Leo Marvin, played by Richard Dreyfuss. Bob is paralyzed by his fear of, well, everything, and is convinced the psychologist can heal him. But Dr. Marvin's failed attempts to heal Bob end up driving the doctor to attempt to murder Bob. He fails. The surprise is that, having faced death head on, Bob is suddenly healed. He attributes his healing to Dr Marvin for breakthrough "death therapy." In facing the cause of his deepest illness and dysfunction, Bob is healed.

Underneath this light-hearted comedy is a dead-serious resonance with this week's feast: the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Christ is lifted up on the cross to force us to face the truth of sin and death. In that reckoning we find healing. Like Moses' snake on a pole, the cross says: this is what is causing your sickness – rebellion, disobedience, sin. Look at it! Don't run from it. Now seeing it exposed, we see life. We see our physician mercifully healing us. In this sense, we are all like Bob Wiley. The "death therapy" of the cross is our only hope for healing. This week I invite you to "exalt the cross." If you don't have one in your house, get one. Use it for prayer. Gaze on it frequently. It teaches us to not be afraid. It heals us.

— Father John Muir ©LPi



DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE BUS TRIP

TO WASHINGTON, DC

The Diocese is having a bus trip for a Jubilee Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on Friday, October 17, 2025. The trip will include a tour of the Shrine, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and Mass with Bishop Mark. You can purchase lunch at the Shrine cafeteria or bring your own lunch. There will be a rest stop on the way to Washington and a stop for supper on your own on the way home. To make reservations beginning August 4th, please call Paula Clemens at 814-944-4603. The cost is \$60.00 per person which includes a gratuity for the bus driver. Please make checks payable to the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, and in the memo put Bus Trip. The bus will leave at 7 A.M. from PNC Field (Altoona Curve) parking lot. **The deadline to reserve a seat (s) and make the payment is September 20th.**



St. Augustine Movie

Who is St. Augustine? Much has been recorded about this man, saint, Doctor of the Church, founder of a religious order, bishop, and son of St. Monica. All are invited to a movie about his life being shown this **Sunday, September 14, at 1:00 P.M. in the Seton Suite.**

All parishioners are welcome to attend this movie sponsored by the Christian Mothers.



THE SHRINES OF ITALY PILGRIMAGE

Msgr. Stan Carson plans to lead a pilgrimage in 2026 to Rome and some of the shrines of Italy from Monday, October 12, to Thursday, October 22.

Details can be found at

<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link1377752>

You may also call Brenda Ajay at 888-462-9299.

There will an introductory slide show in the cathedral's hall on Thursday, October 23, 2025, at 6:00 P.M.

More details and a brochure will be made available soon.

MISSION COOP APPEAL

The Congregation of Jesus Mary Joseph, a community of religious sisters, who serve in India, Ghana Africa, Germany, Austria, and the United States, was to make this year's Mission Cooperative Appeal. Since they were unexpectedly unable to provide a sister to visit and make their appeal personally, we have been asked to take up a collection on our own. A specially marked envelope is attached to this weekend's bulletin. The sisters' ministry includes education, healthcare, corporal works of mercy, and evangelization. Please be supportive.



The 2025 Catholic Ministries Drive target for Cathedral is \$51,400. **\$57,020 has been either pledged/donated. We have reached 109% of our target.** Thank you for participating. Money donated beyond our target will be returned to our parish. There have been 163 donors.



Parish Council Meeting

There will be a Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday, September 16, at 6:30PM.

LIFE CHAIN

Sunday, October 5, 2025-2:00-3:00 P.M.

17th Street and 9th Avenue, Altoona

(Station Mall Medical Center)



THE
GABRIEL
PROJECT

The Altoona Gabriel Project is currently in need of newborn diapers, newborn blankets, and newborn "onesies". You can help by placing these items in the crib provided near the alley entrance to the Cathedral. Since April, this Catholic pro-life ministry has helped 34 moms and babies. The Cathedral is one of 3 distribution sites in the city. If you know of moms who need help, call 814-440-1021

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

ONE CATHEDRAL SQUARE, Altoona, Pennsylvania 16601-3315

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS SEPTEMBER 14, 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 or by appointment, by texting or calling 814-937-8240

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

CHRISTIAN INITIATION TEAM - 814-944-4603

CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME - 814-944-4603

GABRIEL PROJECT-814-440-1021

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 9-12 Sunday evening at 6:15 A.M.

Church Office: 814-944-4603

Msgr. Carson E-mail:

scarson@dioceseaj.org

Secretary E-mail:

pclemens@dioceseaj.org

Fax: 814-942-4337

Mass Times

Sunday:

5:00 PM (Vigil)

8:00 AM

10:00 AM

5:00 PM

Weekday:

12:00 Noon

Saturday:

12:00 Noon

WEB
www.altoonacathedral.org



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www.facebook.com/cathedralofaltoona



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