

**Second Sunday in Advent
December 7, 2025
Mass Intentions**

December 7, Sunday, Second Sunday of Advent

8:00AM+Steve Pellegrine (Jim & Betty Carriere)
10:00AM+Doris Carson Eget (Tim & Anne Marie Long-will)
5:00PM Pro Popolo/For the People

December 8, Monday, The Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary-A Holy Day of Obligation

8:00AM+Tom Andros (Gabe & Roberta Pellegrine)
12:00PM+Ray Kelly, Birthday (Wife & Family)
5:30PM Pro Popolo/For the People

December 9, Tuesday, St. Juan Diego

12:00PM+Fred Petrunak (Regina Pagliara)

December 10, Wednesday, Our Lady of Loretto

12:00PM+Nancy Sassana Mignogna (Estate)

December 11, Thursday, Saint Damasus I, Pope

12:00PM+Deacon John Rys, Birthday (Family)

December 12, Friday, Our Lady of Guadalupe

12:00PM+Bernard G. Plank, Birth./Ann. (Family)

December 13, Saturday, Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

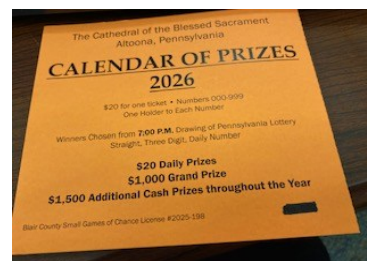
12:00PM+Paul Rose, Birthday (Kathleen Davies)

Vigil : Third Sunday of Advent

5:00PM+Doris Carson Eget (Kathy Grove)

December 14, Sunday, Third Sunday of Advent

8:00AM+Minnie Yahner (Kevin Byrne)
10:00AM+James Patrick Kilcoyne (Steph & Jim Kilcoyne)
5:00PM Pro Popolo/For the People



Our Calendar of Prizes is currently on sale. The cost is \$20.00 per ticket for a year's worth of opportunities to win cash prizes. Please be supportive. The tickets are available after the weekend Masses and in the parish office.

OFERTORY COLLECTIONS

Sunday, November 30, 2025, \$ 11,178.32

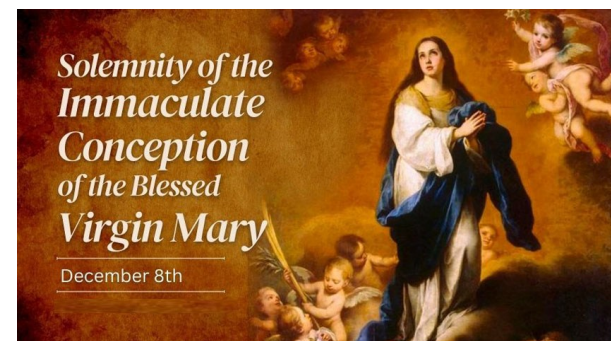
Thank you for your monetary and personal contributions to the life of our parish.

Stewardship Reflections

As we begin the second week of Advent, let us recall our motto for the season: we are climbing God's holy mountain. Our readings inspire us and help us focus on this journey towards holiness.

Our first reading from the prophet Isaiah continues the theme of a journey towards the holy mountain, the Kingdom of God. The prophet gives us a beautiful glimpse of this mountain, where Christ will reign forever. It will be a place of peace, justice, and harmony among all God's creatures. "There shall be no harm or ruin in all my holy mountain. (This) dwelling shall be glorious."

As we straighten the paths of our own hearts and minds, we become more hospitable people, better stewards of God's grace and mercy, and far more open and ready to invite others into our lives, homes and parishes. We climb farther up God's holy mountain and attract others to join us on the path toward holiness. This is preparation fitting for our merciful Savior.



The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary is Monday, December 8. Since it is a holy day of obligation we will have Masses at the Cathedral at 8:00 A.M., Noon., and 5:30 P.M.

For December, we will have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from after the noon Mass until Benediction at 5:15 P.M



Church Cleaning

We will be cleaning the church on Wednesday December 10th, at 9:00AM. If there is a funeral, we will meet on Thursday same time.



In December, we will have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Monday, December 8th, from after the noon Mass until Benediction at 5:15 P.M.



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, 2026 . Brochures are at the entrances of the cathedral. Details can also be found at

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

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



Gratitude is extended to Kathleen Winter, Connie Novak, Gretchen Packard and benefactor Dr. Russell Packard from Bullard, Texas for the beautiful Thanksgiving cornucopia.

As we journey through Advent, we encounter a threefold sense of Christ's coming in history, mystery and majesty.



Cathedral Festival Choir under the direction of Robert J. Long will present an Advent concert entitled ***History, Mystery, Majesty: Preparing for the Comings of Christ*** on Friday, December 12, at 7:00 P.M. The concert will include music, readings, and dance.



We will have a bus going to **Holiday Lights on the Lake** on **Tuesday, December 16.** The bus will leave our parking lot at 5:30 P.M. Call the office (814-944-4603) to reserve your seat/s. The trip is always enjoyed by people of all ages.

Priests for the Future

This Sunday our diocese is conducting a special Vocation Appeal. Bishop Bartchak is asking for your support in funding our renewed efforts to promote vocations to the priesthood.



Randy Isenberg has facilitated the formation of the Cathedral's Men's Group. The group will gather together on the third Thursday of the month. 28 men attended the first gathering! It was a great evening. Come be a member of our group.

The next gathering will be Thursday, December 18th, 7:00pm to 9:00pm in the Hall. The goal is to make new friends and renew old friendships. A time to tell stories, play cards, have a snack and something to drink, watch sports, maybe a game of chess or checkers.

The group will decide the purpose for each gathering, special gatherings, or service projects.

Randy wants to develop an email list to send reminders and information about the next meeting or maybe a special gathering or a service project. Send him your email at randyisenberg@yahoo.com If you do not have an email call him at 814-931-5021. It will be a great evening of fellowship!



Thursday, **December 11**, Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 5:30 P.M.

Wednesday, **December 17**, Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, 6:00 P.M.

Thursday, **December 18**, Sacred Heart Church, 5:30 P.M.

In addition to regularly scheduled Confessions, Msgr. Carson will also be available on Sunday, December 21, at 2:00 P.M., Monday, December 22, at 12:30 P.M. and Tuesday, December 23, at 8:30 A.M. and 5:00 P.M.



THE
GABRIEL
PROJECT

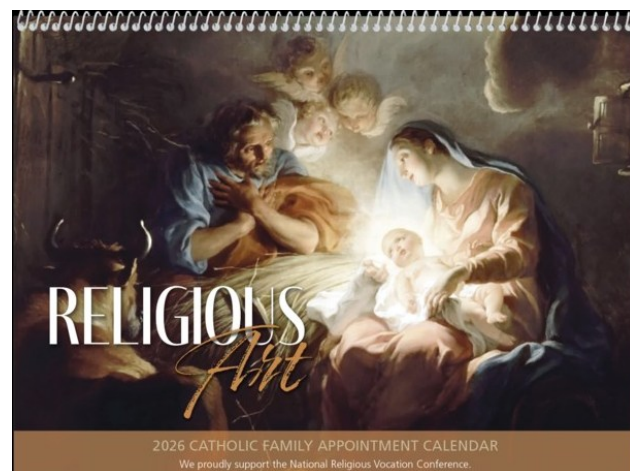
The Altoona Gabriel Project is a Catholic Pro-Life ministry dedicated to helping moms and babies with supplies, as well as providing spiritual and emotional support Our parish has a collection crib at the alley entrance for non-perishable baby items (diapers, wipes, clothing, bibs, towels, blankets, etc.).

The Cathedral is a distribution site on Thursdays from 1:30-2:30 P.M..

If you know of moms who need help, call 814- 440-1021.

Special Advent/Christmas Project

Gift cards are attached to our collection crib. During Advent you're invited to pick one up and purchase an item for the Altoona Area Gabriel Project .The tags include requests for diapers (size newborn-3) nail kits, diaper rash cream, infant snowsuits, personal hygiene items for moms, baby wipes, pacifiers, teething items, socks, hats, etc. Monetary donations can be placed in the collection basket marked *Christmas Crib* donation.



Thanks to Garrett L. Anderson and Rose Hill Funeral & Cremation Care, Inc., our parish's 2026 Religious Art calendars are available at our entrances. At this time, please take on one per household. You may also take one to a homebound parishioner.

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

ONE CATHEDRAL SQUARE, Altoona, Pennsylvania 16601-3315

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DECEMBER 7, 2025

CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS:

The process of formation for those seeking God through membership in the Catholic Church.
Call 814-944-4603

INFANT BAPTISM:

Arrange in advance for pre-baptismal instructions.

CONFIRMATION:

Ninth, tenth and eleventh and twelfth 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.

Church Office: 814-944-4603

Msgr. Carson E-mail:

scarson@dioceseaj.org

Secretary E-mail:

pclemens@dioceseaj.org

Fax: 814-942-4337

Mass Times

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

Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, J.C.D., Bishop
Reverend Monsignor Stanley Carson, Rector
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

Mr. Bob Long 814-944-2044, rlong@dioceseaj.org

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 P.M.

WEB
www.altoonacathedral.org

Facebook
www.facebook.com/cathedralofaltoona



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