

**Third Sunday in Lent
March 8, 2026
Mass Intentions**

March 8, Sunday, Third Sunday in Lent

8:00AM+Doris Smith (Richard & Marcia Smith)
10:00AM+Paul Luke (Jim & Terri Riley)
5:00PM Pro Popolo/For the People

March 9, Monday, Saint Francis of Rome, Religious

12:00PM+ Peter Rossi (Sue Calwell)

March 10, Tuesday, Lenten Weekday

12:00PM Special Intention Pat & Alan Bell & Family
(Dave & Maureen Hanekamp)

March 11, Wednesday, Lenten Weekday

12:00PM+Joseph Anthony Moffa, Anniversary (Estate)

March 12, Thursday, Lenten Weekday

12:00PM+Josephine Moloney (Richard & Shirley Books)

March 13, Friday, Lenten Weekday

12:00PM+David Seidel, Anniversary (Wife)

March 14, Saturday, Lenten Weekday

12:00PM+Alphonse Chinnappan (Anonymous)

Vigil : Fourth Sunday in Lent

5:00PM+Sue Berglund, Ann. (Anonymous)

March 15, Sunday, Fourth Sunday in Lent

8:00AM+John Bettwy, Ann. (Tim & JoAnn Bettwy)
10:00AM+Angie Auerbeck (Cathy & Kerry Hallinan)
5:00PM Pro Popolo/For the People



Cathedral's Lenten Schedule

Stations of the Cross: Fridays at 5:30 P.M.

Sunday Evening Prayer: at 4:00 P.M. on March 1, 8, 15, and 22.

Communal Penance Service: Wednesday, March 25, at 6:00 P.M.

OFERTORY COLLECTIONS

Sunday, March 1, 2026 \$ 11,207.57

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



First Communion Preparation will take place during a parent/child session on Tuesday, March 17. The meeting/session will be held in the Cathedral basement from 6:30-8:00 P.M. A parent must accompany your child to the meeting. A copy of your child's baptismal certificate is required. Please contact Chris Laraia (814-312-7317 or claraia@dioceseaj.org.) if you are unable to attend a meeting so that make-up work can be assigned.

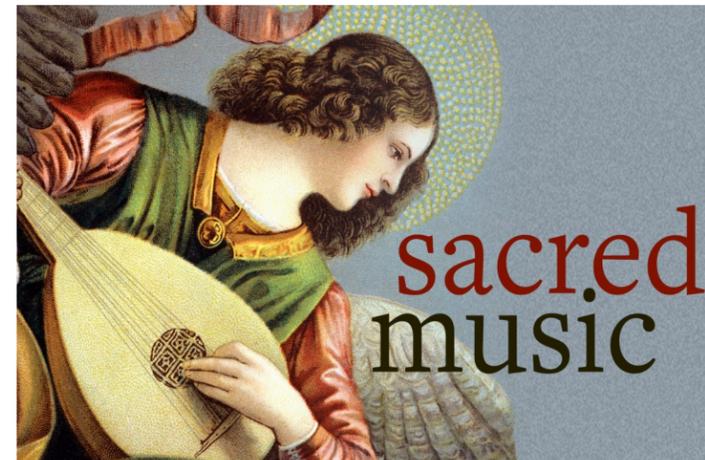
First Communion will take place on Sunday, April 26, at the 10:00 A.M. Mass.



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 between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast. In addition to these obligations, additional forms of fast and abstinence may be observed.



The next Men's Group Meeting is Thursday, March 19, at 7:00 P.M. in our hall. It's the Solemnity of St. Joseph, the spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. About 25-30 men, parishioners and non-parishioners, have been enjoying the presentations, fellowship, and food. To be on the contact list and receive more information and reminders contact Randy Isenberg at 814-931-5021 or email him at randyisenberg@yahoo.com



Cathedral Candlelight Concert

All ages are warmly invited to join Altoona-area young adult Catholics for a free Lenten concert, at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. The event will take place on Friday, March 13, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

This evening will feature local Catholic young adult vocalists, musicians, and the Cathedral's historic Steinmeyer organ. The program includes Be Thou My Vision, Pie Jesu, Adagio for Strings, Ave Maria, Attende Domine, and other sacred works. A social and time of fellowship in the parish hall will follow the concert. All are welcome.



Our Parish's Lenten Drive-Thru Fish Fry Luncheon is served starting Ash Wednesday, and Fridays, except Good Friday. The cost is \$12.00 for a fish sandwich, mac and cheese and coleslaw. The meal is available from 10:30 A.M. until 1:00 P.M. Orders of 10 or more will be delivered, if you call ahead 814-944-4603. If you are getting more than 10 dinners, for a pick-up please call ahead to order at 814-944-4603.

Basket Bingo

SAVE THE DATE! Mark your calendars for **Sunday, September 27, 2026**, for our basket bingo at Father Kelley Hall. It is never too early to drop off donations for the baskets at the Parish Office. Paula is there from 8:30AM to 4:30PM, except Fridays till 3:00PM.

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE 2026

The 2026 *Catholic Ministries Drive* has begun throughout our diocese. This year's theme, ***Sent To Serve***, reminds us that, by virtue of baptism, each of us has been *Sent to Serve*, entrusted with gifts that are meant to be shared for the good of others.

Please reflect on Bishop Mark's invitation to prayerfully consider supporting nine of our diocesan ministries

The 2026 Catholic Ministries Drive target for the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament is \$53,700. Dollars raised over our goal will be returned to our parish.



THE SHRINES OF ITALY PILGRIMAGE

Msgr. Stan Carson will be making a pilgrimage 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.

The 61st Annual Novena

In Honor of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus will be held from Monday, March 16 to Tuesday, March 24, 2026, at Sacred Heart Church (6th Avenue and 20th Street, Altoona Pa). **Solemn Opening Mass will be celebrated on Monday, March 16, at 7:00PM.** A complete schedule will be available on the first night of the novena in the church.

Christian Mothers Meeting

The regular Christian Mothers meeting will be on Wednesday, March 11th. All women of the parish are invited. We will be discussing upcoming projects. If you have ideas for future activities, please join us. Meetings are held in the Education Center in the lower part of the Parish Center. Rosary is recited at 6:00pm and meeting starts at 6:30pm. If you would like more information about joining this ministry, please call Carol Galioto at (814)327-4841.

Christian Mother's Homebound Outreach

Again this year, Cathedral Christian Mothers will be delivering a special gift to our homebound for Easter. If you know of a parishioner who would appreciate a visit and a small gift, please let us know. Contact any Christian Mother or Lorraine Beck (814-942-7774), Mary Gene Vogel (814-943-6431), or Carol Galioto (814-327-4841) before March 11th.



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.



Kids Club Dino-mite Adventure

Inviting all children ages 3-8 to a FREE ROAR and EXPLORE hands-on experience in science and art, featuring dinosaurs. Tuesday, March 10 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. @ Bishop Guilfoyle Academy-Hollidaysburg Campus, 321 Spruce St. Space limited. At least one parent or guardian must be present with their child (ren). RSVP strongly encouraged. Call 814-695-6112. *Kids Club is a community outreach program sponsored by BGA*

2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR @ BISHOP GUILFOYLE ACADEMY REGISTRATION INFORMATION: visit bishopguilfoyle.org for more information, including financial help. Schedule a tour by calling 814-944-4015.

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

ONE CATHEDRAL SQUARE, Altoona, Pennsylvania 16601-3315

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT, MARCH 8, 2026

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

Sunday:

5:00 PM (Vigil)

8:00 AM

10:00 AM

5:00 PM

Weekday:

12:00 Noon

Saturday:

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