

**Sunday of Divine Mercy
April 12, 2026
Mass Intentions**

April 12, Second Sunday of Easter or Sunday of Divine Mercy

8:00AM+John Kirsch (Ron Skupien)
10:00AM+Marian Bumann (Jerry & Fran Fulare/ Vince Bumann)
5:00PM Pro Popolo/ For the People

April 13, Monday, Saint Martin I, Pope and Martyr

12:00PM+Fred Petrunak Sr. (Family)

April 14, Tuesday, Easter Weekday

12:00PM+Roger Watt (Family)
7:00PM Confirmation

April 15, Wednesday, Easter Weekday

12:00PM+Alice & Leo Winkler Sr., Wed Ann. (Family)

April 16, Thursday, Easter Weekday

12:00PM+Roberta Lamont (Dave & Maureen Hanekamp)

April 17, Friday, Easter Weekday

12:00PM+Wanda Burgmeier (Diane Luke)

April 18, Saturday, Easter Weekday

12:00PM+Theresa & Harold Cole, Wed Ann. (Families)
Vigil: Third Sunday of Easter
5:00PM+Nancy Jones (Dolly Summers)

April 19, Sunday, Third Sunday of Easter

8:00AM+Tony Alianiello/Anna Marie Jacobs (Families)
10:00AM+Sandy Cox (Carol, John & Carol Gensimore)
5:00PM Pro Popolo/ For the People



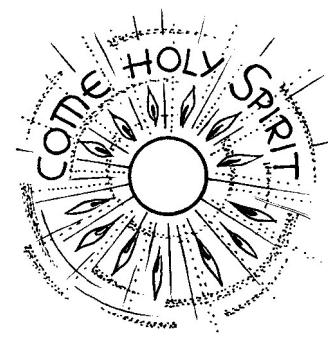
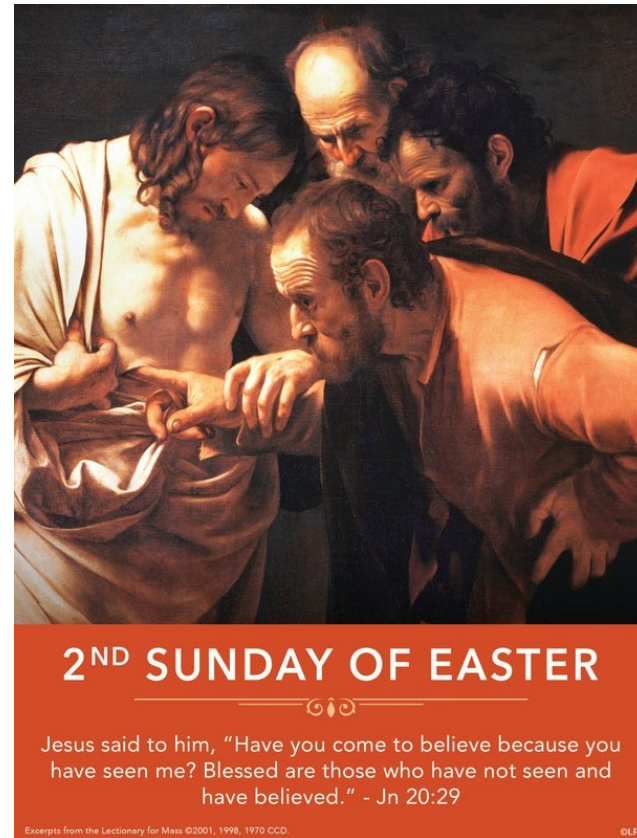
Basket Bingo

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.

OFERTORY COLLECTIONS

Easter Sunday/Sunday, April 5, 2026
\$33,283.16

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



The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on each of the Tuesdays of April at 7:00 P.M. Rehearsals will take place on Monday evenings at 6:00pm.

We are encouraged to remember the young candidates in our prayer as their lives are enriched by the gifts of God's Holy Spirit.

Christian Mothers' Meeting

The regular Christian Mothers meeting will be on Wednesday, April 15th. All women of the parish are invited and welcomed. If you would like to join us or have suggestions/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 meetings start at 6:30pm. If you would like more information about joining this ministry, please contact any Christian Mother member, Lorraine Beck (814-942-7774), Mary Gene Vogel (814-943-6431), Paula Miller (814-942-5593), Carol Galioto (814-327-4841).

Christian Mothers' Homebound Outreach-Thank You

Again, this year, Cathedral Christian Mothers delivered a special gift to our homebound parishioners for Easter. Thank you to those who have identified individuals who would appreciate a visit and a small gift.

Christian Mothers'- Upcoming events

Cathedral Christian Mothers will be showing the production of Sight and Sound's "Jesus" on Sunday April 12th in the **church hall** at 1:00pm. All are welcome to join us. On May 17th, we will host a "Tea with Mary" event. Last year's tea was a great success, and we look forward to another wonderful and insightful day of fellowship. Mark your calendars for these and other events to be announced during the year.

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. So far, \$27,535 has been pledged.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

April 12, 2026 2nd Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy)

"Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe.'" (John 20:27)

In my early 20s, I volunteered at a parish youth group. I witnessed teens encountering Jesus with a fresh, romantic wonder that reminded me of my own teenage conversion. But something had changed in me. I was quietly jaded and cynical. When teens shared stories of encountering Christ, I'd want to sarcastically murmur, "Well, good for you." I had grown suspicious of the zeal I once knew.

Then we brought the group on a pilgrimage. I was standing in an old church in France, ignoring a long-winded tour guide. I found myself before a crucifix. In that moment, I heard something, not audibly, but unmistakably in my heart: "I came to be your friend... and you wish to be my enemy? Why do you stand far from me? I suffer gladly for you. I was pierced for you. Why do you run from me?" My heart opened. I saw how cold and cynical I had become. But Jesus had not given up on me. He had returned, and his mercy broke through.

So I can relate to the scoffing — and transformation — of Thomas when the Risen Jesus presents his wounds for inspection. Thomas is not simply doubting; he is guarded, suspicious, even cynical. But Jesus comes to him. No lecture. Just understanding and mercy. He invites Thomas to touch his wounds. This burns away his cynicism like the morning mist.

Divine Mercy Challenge: This week, rejoice with someone who is newly alive in faith. If your own heart has grown skeptical or tired, ask Jesus to help you. He will.

— Father John Muir ©LPi



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.

Local Shrine Bus Trip

Holy Rosary and Saint Mark Churches are sponsoring a bus trip to the shrines of Emmitsburg, MD on Wednesday, May 13, 2026. Tour on your own the national Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes, lunch at the Mountain Gate Family Restaurant (Buffet), and a 90 minute Group Tour of the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. Price per person is \$80.00. Checks made out to "St. Mark's Catholic Church." To reserve a seat, call Robyn Murphy at 814-931-5683, or Kathleen Winter 814-591-0248. Limited number of seats available. The bus leaves St. Mark Church at 7:30 A.M.



We are pleased to welcome Father Malachi Van Tassell T.O.R., Ph. D, the President of St. Francis University, other SFU leaders, and alumni to our 5:00 P.M. Mass this Saturday, April 11th. Bishop Mark Bartchak was the main celebrant of that Eucharist. Father Malachi was the homilist.

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.

Fish Fry Volunteers

A sincere expression of gratitude is extended to the following people who made the Friday Fish Luncheon a huge success: Lorraine Beck, Mary Ann Bell, Bob Brandt, Bobbi Dixon, Jim Dixon, Tony & Anna Rose Eckenrode, Bob Jones, Matt Koeck, Mike Kuny, Anne Marie Longwill, Beth & Tom Moore, Carol & Mark Sanker, Mark Talasky, Lee Truby, Butch Winkler, Linda Yaskow.

Men's Group/Fish Fry Prep Gang

Gratitude is also extended to: Randy Clemens, Tom DeHaven, Ed Farabaugh, Jerry Fulare, Randy Isenberg, Dave Kimmel, Steve Kiser, Ethan Potter, Joe Pufka, Bill Smith, Rick Tomlinson, Tom Zilla.

Men's Group Gathering

The next Men's Group Gathering is Thursday, April 16, at 7:00 P.M. in our hall. Bishop Mark Bartchak will join us this Thursday Evening. About 40 men, parishioners, and non-parishioners, have been enjoying the presentation, 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.

Newest Members of the Cathedral Parish

At our Easter Vigil Mass, we welcomed the newest members: Ben Campbell joined us by celebrating his Baptism, Confirmation, and First Holy Eucharist and Christine Drobnoek, who was already baptized, received the sacraments of Holy Communion and Confirmation. Congratulations, Ben and Christine. Please keep them and their families in your prayers as they continue their journey as a members of the Catholic Church.

A student from Mt. Aloysius College, Brooklyn Frantz, was a guest who also received the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation).

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

ONE CATHEDRAL SQUARE, Altoona, Pennsylvania 16601-3315

SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY, APRIL 12, 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

