

**Bulletin # 102656**

**Our Lady of Fatima  
2010 12th Avenue  
Altoona, PA 16601**

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**Special Instructions:**

# TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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Twenty-First Sunday in O. T.  
Aug. 25, 2019

Strengthen your drooping hands  
and your weak knees. Make  
straight paths for your feet, that  
what is lame may not be disjointed  
but healed. — Hebrews :12-13

## Our Lady of Fatima

*Pleaded that we pray the Holy Ro-  
sary before Sunday Mass and  
privately from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm daily.*

St. John the Baptist August 29



## **Our Lady of Fatima Parish**

2010 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue

[www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.org](http://www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.org)

Rectory Office Hours:

Monday – Friday 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Parish Office: 814-942-0371



Cathedral Church Office: 814-944-4603

One Cathedral Square

Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, Bishop

Very Rev. Alan E. Thomas, VG, Administrator

PH: 814-742-7075, Allison, Secretary

Rev. Father Dennis M. Kurdziel, Parochial Vicar

Christian Initiation Team: 944-4603

Catholics returning Home: 944-4603

Mail Ministry to Elderly, Homebound, Seriously Sick  
and Grieving - 944-4603

## Our Lady of Fatima Mass Schedule

Sunday: 10:30 AM - Holy Days: 6:00 PM

Rosary: 10:05 AM - Rosary: 5:40 PM

Our Lady of Fatima Parish Administrator

Very Reverend Alan E. Thomas, VG

Parish Secretary

Carol Z. Smith

## HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Web: [www.holytrinitycatholic.school](http://www.holytrinitycatholic.school)

Altoona Campus (Pre-K thru Grade 4) - 381-7011

Hollidaysburg Campus (Pre-K thru Grade 4) - 695-6112

Middle School Campus (Grades 5 thru 8) - 942-7835

Directors of Religious Education:

Chris Laraia – Pre-K thru 8 - 312-7317

Jean Koury – 9 thru 12 – 949-2777

Religious Education Office: Sundays – 943-7424

Director of Music Ministry

Leslie C. Thayer, MM, CAGO

Music Ministry Office - 944-2044

E-Mail: [lthayer@dioceseaj.org](mailto:lthayer@dioceseaj.org)

Reconciliation @ Cathedral: 7:00 PM Wednesday

12:30 PM Saturday

Religious Education @ Cathedral: Pre-K through 11

Sacramental Formation @ Cathedral: First Reconciliation

First Communion

Confirmation

Sacramental Formation @ the Cathedral: Baptismal Prep

Marriage Prep

Christian Initiation

Hospital Visitation: Call the Cathedral: 944-4603

**Eucharist for the home bound - weekly:**  
Patty Flanagan 942-0371 for arrangements.

Our Lady of Fatima Church is open  
Monday through Friday: 9AM - 5PM  
for visits before the Blessed Sacrament.

**Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals will be held  
at Our Lady of Fatima.**

Preparation for Baptism, and Weddings will be held at  
the Cathedral. 944-4603

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick  
Parishioners wishing to receive the sacrament of  
healing may call the Cathedral Parish Office to  
make arrangements. 944-4603

OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH IS A RESULT OF THE  
MERGER BETWEEN THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHES  
OF SS. PETER & PAUL AND ST. LEO THE GREAT IN 1995.

Cathedral Eucharist:

Sunday: 5:00 PM (Vigil) Holy Days: 5:30 PM (Vigil) Weekdays: 6:45 AM

8:00 AM 8:00 AM 12:00 Noon

10:00 AM 12:00 Noon

12:00 Noon 5:30 PM Saturday: 8:00 AM

5:00 PM 12:00 Noon

**WELCOME THE STRANGER**

*We have become accustomed to seeing pictures in the media and stories on the news about immigrants from Latin America and refugees from Syria fleeing violence and destruction in their own countries, trying to make their way to a safe place. We have also seen the reactions of people who want to keep them away from their countries, who fail to welcome the stranger and the helpless children. Have we forgotten Jesus' call to comfort the homeless and the stranger? "They shall bring all your brothers and sisters from all the nations . . . to Jerusalem, my holy mountain, says the LORD."*

*In the three readings for this day, we are told that we are to welcome these strangers, to welcome the discipline of the Lord, which leads to peace, and to "strive to enter through the narrow gate" into the glory of God's own homeland, the reign of God.*

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**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

*The wonderful diversity of life and worship among Roman Catholics of East and West is an example of God writing straight with crooked lines. The steady hand of the villainous Emperor Diocletian drew a line across Europe and Africa that split the empire in two, and for the most part determined how Christians would worship two thousand years later.*

*Italy's heel and the far northern city of Trieste fell on the Eastern side, and have had a form of Eastern liturgy ever since. Constantinople, which soon became the seat of the Roman Empire, became a base for Christianizing the East up to Russia and Poland. Poland was on the Eastern side, but a series of wars and medieval mayhem pushed the religious boundary back to the Ukraine, and Poland remains an outpost of the Latin Church to this day.*

*An old rule of thumb declared that whatever religion was observed by the local prince, the people had to follow. This gave rise to persecution and migration as people sought toleration for their expressions of faith. In the United States, we are accustomed to peaceful collaboration among Christians of East and West, a situation that challenges churches that still feel the pinch of age-old division.*

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

**GRACE AND STRUGGLE**

*The gift of grace increases as the struggles increase.*

—St. Rose of Lima

**ACTS OF THE APOSTLES**

*I never heard anything about the resolutions of the apostles, but a great deal about their acts.*

—Horace Mann

**HOW TO PRAY**

*Grant us grace, Almighty Father, so to pray as to deserve to be heard.*

—Jane Austen

**Prayer to St. John the Baptist**

**I.** O glorious Saint John the Baptist, greatest prophet among those born of woman, although thou wast sanctified in thy mother's womb and didst lead a most innocent life, nevertheless it was thy will to retire into the wilderness, there to devote thyself to the practice of austerity and penance; obtain for us of thy Lord the grace to be wholly detached, at least in our hearts, from earthly goods, and to practice Christian mortification with interior recollection and with the spirit of holy prayer.

*Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be*

**II.** O most zealous Apostle, who, without working any miracle on others, but solely by the example of thy life of penance and the power of thy word, didst draw after thee the multitudes, in order to dispose them to receive the Messiah worthily and to listen to His heavenly doctrine; grant that it may be given unto us, by means of thy example of a holy life and the exercise of every good work, to bring many souls to God, but above all those souls that are enveloped in the darkness of error and ignorance and are led astray by vice.

*Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be*

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## Prayer to St. John the Baptist

**III. O Martyr invincible, who, for the honor of God and the salvation of souls didst with firmness and constancy withstand the impiety of Herod even at the cost of thine own life, and didst rebuke him openly for his wicked and dissolute life; by thy prayers obtain for us a heart, brave and generous, in order that we may overcome all human respect and openly profess our faith in loyal obedience to the teachings of Jesus Christ, our divine Master.**

***Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be***

**V. Pray for us, Saint John the Baptist**

**R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**

***Let us pray.***

**O God, who hast made this day to be honorable in our eyes by the commemoration of blessed John the Baptist, grant unto Thy people the grace of spiritual joy, and direct the minds of all Thy faithful into the way of everlasting salvation. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Annual Wedding Anniversary Liturgies

***Bishop Mark Bartchak and the Family Life Office cordially invite all couples celebrating 1, 5, 10, 25, 40, 50, 55, and 60+ Wedding Anniversary in 2019 (and their families) to attend the Annual Wedding Anniversary Liturgy. Couples may attend Sunday, Sept. 15 in ALTOONA at Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament or Sunday, Sept. 22 in JOHNSTOWN at St. John Gualbert Cathedral. Both locations are handicap accessible. Liturgies in each location begin at 2:00 p.m. Bishop Mark will be the celebrant and homilist at each celebration. Refreshments/snacks will be available after the mass for anniversary couples and their families. Reservations must be made through your parish for either celebration by Thursday, Aug. 22.***

## Padre Pio Family Fest at Saint John the Baptist New Baltimore

***All are invited to Saint John the Baptist Parish and Retreat Center in New Baltimore on Sunday, September 8 for an exciting program of prayer, music, games and food. There will be an outdoor Mass at noon. During the afternoon there will be music and games. At 5PM there will be a healing prayer service in honor of Padre Pio. Relics of Padre Pio, including a glove he wore and blood from his stigmata will be available for veneration. The Fest is sponsored by the Capuchin Franciscan Friars. Padre Pio who died in 1968 had on his body the wounds of Christ. Padre Pio is well known as an intercessor. God has granted many healings and miracles through Padre Pio's prayers. At 5 PM there will be a special prayer service where all are invited to ask for healing and for other favors.***

***Adult catechesis promotes mature adult faith: the faith of the disciple who has been saved by Christ's redemptive love and who is being continually converted to him. Adult catechesis fosters this discipleship by providing "a comprehensive and systematic presentation and exploration of the core elements of Catholic faith and practice—a complete initiation into a Catholic way of life."***

***---From the National Directory for Catechesis***

***The Office of Adult Enrichment and Lay Ecclesial Ministry has announced classes for 2019-2020 which begin this fall. For class information and registration forms please visit us online at [www.dioceseaj.org/lay-ecclesial-ministry/](http://www.dioceseaj.org/lay-ecclesial-ministry/) or contact us directly at (814) 361-2000 or by email at [mheinze@dioceseaj.org](mailto:mheinze@dioceseaj.org). All are welcome!***