

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 17, 2025

Our Lady of Fatima Parish
2000 12th Avenue
www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.org
Office Hours:
Tuesdays and Thursdays
11:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.
Parish Office: 814-942-0371

Our Lady of Fatima Parish
Rev. Mariusz Gorazd, Administrator
Residing at St. Mary's Rectory, Altoona
Emergency Phone Number 814-942-2416

Administrative Assistant
Paula Hall

Eucharist: Sunday: 11:30 AM
Holy Days: 5:30 PM
Holy Communion for the home bound - weekly:
Patty Flanagan 942-0371 for arrangements.
Religious Education—Contact St. Mary's at
814-942-2416

Our Lady of Fatima Church is open
Sunday through Saturday: 7:30 AM - 5PM
for visits before the Blessed Sacrament.

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

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick
Parishioners wishing to receive the sacrament of
healing may call the office.

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

******IF YOU HAVE A GLUTEN ALLERGY,
PLEASE RECEIVE COMMUNION FROM
FR. MARIUSZ GORAZD'S LINE*****

THE FATIMA TOWERS
Cathedral Eucharist:

OUR LADY OF FATIMA MASS INTENTIONS

11:30 A.M.

August 17, 2025 Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Special Intention Helen Glashauser (Patricia Byrne)

August 24, 2025 Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Bruce Bracken (Patricia Byrne family)

ATTENTION!! FYI!!

OUR LADY OF FATIMA OFFICE IS NOW LOCATED IN THE CHURCH!!

Since the sale of the Rectory, the Church Office is now located inside the Church in the Reconciliation Room. Hours will remain the same:

Tuesdays and Thursdays

11Am-4PM

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

In recent weeks, we have reviewed how the Churches of East and West have enriched one another, and this past Thursday's solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary was born in the Eastern Church. It is a gift from the ancient Church of Jerusalem, a commemoration of the death of Mary, and a feast charged with the deep sense of the Resurrection. Mary, the first disciple, is the first to share fully in Christ's victory over death. In the tradition of the East, August 15 is the "Dormition of the Theotokos" or the "Falling Asleep of the God-bearer." There is no shadow of death or gloom in the theology, since this is seen as a transformation of Mary's life into a heavenly and immortal existence. There is a sense in the tradition that she who made earth heavenly and exalted the human race by her faithfulness is glorified today.

A persistent legend among Orthodox Christians tells how all the disciples, except Thomas, who was preaching in India, were present at Mary's death and burial, and sat by the tomb for three days. On the third day, Thomas saw Mary's body rising to heaven. She greeted him as "my friend," and he was escorted by angels to proclaim her assumption to the others, who then realized her tomb was empty. Thus Thomas, the one who expressed doubt at the resurrection of Christ, received a gift from Mary: the chance to proclaim resurrection faith to the disciples.

James Field, Copyright J.S. Paluch Co.

Our Lady of Fatima Traveling Statue

Our Lady of Fatima traveling statue is available to sign out and take home. Please ask Chris Keagy after mass or contact the office if interested.



During August, the Sanctuary Candle is being lit in memory of Tucker Keagy by Chris, Kelly, Killian, Chase and Caroline

Keagy

Thank you.

Please Update Information

Parishioners are asked to please update their contact information with the parish office. If you have had a change of address, discontinued a land line phone number, or have a new cell phone number, inform the office or put a note in your envelope.

Today's Readings

First Reading—They took Jeremiah and threw him into the cistern (Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10).

Psalm—Lord, come to my aid! (Psalm 40).

Second Reading—Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the leader and perfecter of faith (Hebrews 12:1-4).

Gospel—I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing (Luke 12:49-53).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: Jgs 2:11-19; Ps 106:34-37, 39-40, 43ab, 44; Mt 19:16-22

Tues: Jgs 6:11-24a; Ps 85:9, 11-14; Mt 19:23-30

Wed: Jgs 9:6-15; Ps 21:2-7; Mt 20:1-16

Thurs: Jgs 11:29-39a; Ps 40:5, 7-10; Mt 22: 1-14

Fri: Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22; Ps 146:5-10; Mt 22:34-40

Sat: Rv 21:9b-14; Ps 145:10-13, 17-18; Jn 1:45-51

Sun: Is 66:18-21; Ps 117:1-2; Heb 12:5-7, 11-13; Lk 13:22-30

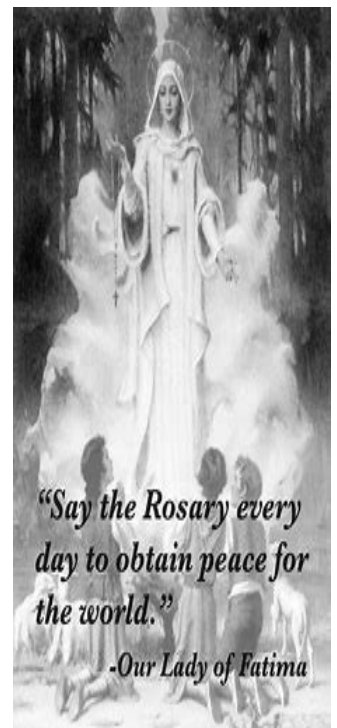
BUILDING PLANS

Whatever your lot in life, build something on it.—Anonymous

Prayer to Our Lady of Fatima

O Most Holy Virgin Mary, Queen of the most holy Rosary, you were pleased to appear to the children of Fatima and reveal a glorious message. We implore you, inspire in our hearts a fervent love for the recitation of the rosary. By meditating on the mysteries of the redemption that are recalled therein may we obtain the graces and virtues that we ask, through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer.

Amen.



Thank You Very Much

Your prayers, volunteerism, and financial support are deeply appreciated. The contributions for August 10 were \$1,378.00.

Thank you.



Our Lady of Fatima Church's parish picnic will be on Sunday, August 24, at St. Stan's Hall from 1-3 P.M. The parish will provide chicken and hot dogs, soda and water. You're asked to bring a covered dish. There's a sign-up sheet in the vestibule.



The Catholic Ministries Drive target for Our Lady of Fatima Parish is \$10,200. So far, 25 donations amounting to \$5,195 has been received or 51% of our goal. Thank you.

The CMD is more than a fundraiser—it's a call to live out our faith through action. Every gift supports vital ministries that bring Christ's love to our neighbors in need. From nurturing vocations and strengthening the Catholic education to feeding the hungry and comforting the sick, your generosity fuels the mission of the Church in our diocese.

Please prayerfully consider making a gift to the CMD. Every dollar stays within our diocese and directly supports the ministries that touch lives every day. Together, we can build a stronger, more vibrant Church rooted in faith, hope, and love.

2025 Annual Wedding Anniversary Celebration
Bishop Mark Bartchak and the Family Life Office cordially invite all couples celebrating 1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60+ years of marriage in 2025 (and their families) to attend the Annual Wedding Anniversary Liturgy. Couples may attend Sunday, September 21 in ALTOONA at Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament or Sunday, September 28 in JOHNSTOWN at St. John Gualbert Cathedral. Both locations are handicap accessible. Liturgies in each location begin at 2:00PM. Most Rev. Bishop Mark will be the celebrant and homilist at each celebration. Refreshments/shacks will be available after the mass for anniversary couples and their families. Reservations must be made through your parish for either celebration by Friday, September 12th.

BISHOP'S NIGHT OF VOCATIONS 2025

Who do you know that's hearing the call...maybe it's you?

Is God calling you to a life of service as a Permanent Deacon?

Deacons are leaders in identifying the needs of others and calling God's people into service.

The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown invites you to a special evening of inspiration, discernment, and fellowship.

Meet current Deacons, Candidates, their wives, as well as others who are discerning their vocation.

Location: U.S. Hotel & Tavern-401 S. Juniata Street, Hollidaysburg

Date: Wednesday, October 8, 2025

Time: 7:00PM

Light refreshments will be served.

RSVP BY SEPTEMBER 2, 2025-CALL 814-361-2000



You are invited to help Our Lady of Fatima Parish by supporting this year's FHF fundraiser which will take place on Wednesday, October 22, from 8 AM until 11 PM. A donation of \$5.00 for a shopping pass entitles you to 25% off the lowest sale price. Our parish keeps the \$5.00 donation. More details are available on the pass. They are available in our office and following our weekend Mass.



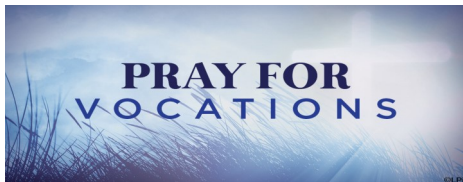
The Altoona Gabriel Project is a Catholic Pro-Life ministry dedicated to helping moms and babies with supplies, as well as providing spiritual and emotional support. Cathedral parish is a part of a group effort of several Altoona area parishes.

The Cathedral has a collection crib at the alley entrance of the Cathedral for non-perishable baby items (diapers, wipes, clothing, bibs, towels, blankets, etc.)

The Cathedral will also be a site for the distribution to moms and babies in our section of the city. Items will be distributed on Thursdays from 1:30-2:30 P.M. If you would know of someone in need of support, or would like to volunteer, please call 814-440-1021.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN JOINING ST. MARY'S CHOIR(S)

Members of Our Lady of Fatima are invited to join the St. Mary's Bell Choir and/or St. Mary's Marian Choir. Bell Choir practices are Wednesday 6:00pm. Marian choir practices are Thursday 6:00pm, both in the church balcony. Practices normally last 1 to 1 1/2 hours. If interested, contact the Rectory @ 814-942-2416.



Loving and Generous God, it is You who call us by name and ask us to follow You. Help us to grow in the Love and Service of our Church as we experience it today.

Give us the energy and courage of Your Spirit to shape its future. Grant us faith-filled leaders who will embrace Christ's Mission of love and justice.

Bless the Church of Altoona-Johnstown by raising up dedicated and generous leaders from our families and friends who will serve Your people as Sisters, Priests, Brothers, Deacons and Lay Ministers.

Inspire us to know You better and open our hearts to hear Your call. We ask this through our Lord. Amen

August 17, 2025-20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's readings set a high bar for us Christian stewards, reminding us that a stewardship way of life is meant to be a challenging way of life.

The stewardship way of life helps us to stay in good racing shape. By putting God first in all areas of our lives, we rid ourselves of the burden and sinfulness of over-attachment to ourselves and our things. We get lean and fit and strong for the long race to Heaven. We begin to look and act more like Jesus, the leader and perfecter of faith.

The stewardship way of life sets a high bar indeed. But deeply embraced, this way of life focused on God and others will make us the saints we are called to be.

The Jubilee 2025 Pilgrim's Passport needs to be returned or postmarked by September 8 and sent to: Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown Pastoral Center 2713 West Chestnut Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601 to be eligible for prizes: Overnight stay in Washington DC the weekend of the Pilgrimage, October 17, an overnight stay in Pittsburgh, or the monetary amounts, and various gift cards. There are several weeks left to travel and visit Holy Sites in our five deaneries!

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO THE BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

October 17, 2025, Friday—Bishop Mark will celebrate Mass in the upper church at 2:00PM and visitors will be able to tour this historic Catholic landmark throughout the day.

Registration and busing information:

Those interested in participating are welcome to travel on their own OR register and pay to ride on one of the diocesan-organized busses that will be leaving from Altoona, Johnstown, Ebensburg, Somerset, and State College. *Credit cards are not accepted for the bus reservation payment.

REGISTRATION IS DUE BY SEPTEMBER 20.

Contact Jeanne Thompson with further questions jthomspon@dioceseaj.org or 814-695-5579.

You can also visit the Pilgrimage Page on the Diocesan Website.

BLESSINGS

As my service as the administrator of Our Lady of Fatima Parish comes to an end, be assured of the affectionate remembrance in my prayer. May the Lord hold you close to His heart, and may the maternal intercession of Mary be a source of graceful comfort.

Blessings, Msgr. Stan Carson

(reprint as part of Msgr's message was missing from the bulletin).