

Second Sunday of Advent

December 10, 2023

Our Lady of Fatima Parish
2010 12th Avenue
www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.org

Rectory Office Hours:
Tuesdays and Thursdays
11:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Parish Office: 814-942-0371
or call the Cathedral Office at 944-4603.

Our Lady of Fatima Parish
Rev. Msgr. Stanley B. Carson, Administrator

Parish Secretary
Paula Hall

Director of Music Ministry
Cathy McFee

Eucharist: Sunday: 11:30 AM

Holy Days: 5:30 PM

Holy Communion for the home bound - weekly:
Patty Flanagan 942-0371 for arrangements.

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.

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. 814-944-4603

Cathedral Church Office: 814-944-4603
One Cathedral Square

Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, Bishop
Rev. Msgr. Stanley B. Carson, Administrator
Paula Clemens, Secretary
PH: 814-944-4603

Christian Initiation Team: 944-4603
Catholics returning Home: 944-4603
Mail Ministry to Elderly, Homebound, Seriously Sick and Grieving - 944-4603

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Web: www.holytrinitycatholic.school

Holy Trinity Eldorado (Pre-K thru Grade 5) 814-942-7835
Holy Trinity Fairview (Pre-K thru Grade 5) 814-381-7011

Director of Religious Education:
Chris Laraia – Pre-K thru 8 - 312-7317

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

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

Cathedral Eucharist:

Sunday: 5:00 PM (Vigil)	Holy Days: 5:30 PM (Vigil)	Weekdays: 12:00 PM
8:00 AM	8:00 AM	Saturday: 12:00 PM
10:00 AM	12:00 Noon	
5:00 PM		

THE FATIMA TOWERS

OUR LADY OF FATIMA MASS INTENTIONS

11:30 A.M.

Today, December 10, 2023, Second Sunday of Advent

All of God's People (Altoona Catholic Daughters)

Next Sunday, December 17, 2023, Third Sunday of Advent

Special Intentions of Helen Glashauser (Patricia Byrne)

Cathedral Mass Intentions

December 10, Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM +Danyll Rougeux (Mom & Dad)

10:00 AM +Bill Anthony (Eliane Weaver)

5:00 PM Pro Popolo/For the People

December 11, Monday, Advent Weekday

12:00 PM +Deacon John Rys, Birth. (Wife & Family)

December 12, Tuesday, Our Lady of Guadalupe

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

December 13, Wednesday, St. Lucy, V. & Martyr

12:00 PM +Paul Rose, Birth. (Family)

December 14, Thursday, St. John of the Cross, P. & Dr.

12:00 PM +Carol Kepner, Birth. (Cheryl Kepner)

December 15, Friday, Advent Weekday

12:00 PM +Helen Anderson, Anniv. (Mary Lysinger)

December 16, Saturday, Advent Weekday

12:00 PM +Sandy Cuzzolina (Family)

Vigil: Third Sunday of Advent

5:00 PM +Bob Eckenrode, Jr. (Butch Winkler & Kathy Grove)

December 17, Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM +Mary Kantoski, Birth. (Family)

10:00 AM +Patrick Duffy (Michael Malligan)

5:00 PM +Pro Popolo/For the People

There is Mass at 11:30 A.M. at Our Lady of Fatima Parish.



**TABERNACLE
CANDLE**

During the month of December, the sanctuary candle is being lit in memory of John Kasun, Sr. from The Kasun Boys.



Readings for the week of December 10, 2023

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 (8)/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

Monday: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab/Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Next Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 (Is 61:10b)/ 1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Thank You Very Much

Your prayers, volunteerism, and financial support are deeply appreciated.

The contributions for Sunday, December 3, were \$1,655. Thank you.





Pilgrimage to Fatima and Lourdes & Discovery of Barcelona

Msgr. Carson will be leading a pilgrimage from September 15-24, 2024.

Pilgrimage information is available in the brochures available in the vestibule, at the Cathedral's Facebook page, and at <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1213040>.



This Sunday, St. Nicholas will be visiting the Cathedral following the 10:00 A.M. Mass and then he'll visit Our Lady of Fatima Church following our 11:30 A.M. Mass.

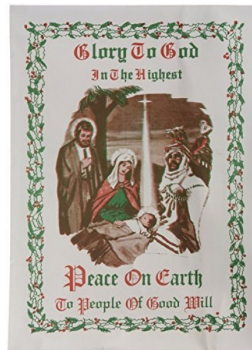
Confession & Absolution

Children will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time during the **Advent Penance Service at the Cathedral on Wednesday, December 20, at 6 P.M.**

Confessions will be heard at our Lady of Fatima Church on Sunday, December 10, at 2:00 P.M.



This year's #iGiveCatholic Giving Day campaign raised \$3,675. We will address one or more of the following projects: replacing a sacristy door, installing a safety door to the church boiler room, repoint the rectory flue, and replace the bathroom floor and add a handicap bar. Last year, donations were used to help pay for the paving of our parking lot.



Packets of Oplatki, Christmas Wafers, are available at Our Lady of Fatima Church. The suggested donation is \$2.00.



- Sunday, 12/10, 4 PM, St. Mary's, Holidaysburg
- Monday, 12/11, 6:30 PM. St Rose of Lima, Alt.
- Tuesday, 12/12, 7 PM, St. Michael, Loretto
- Thursday, 12/14, 5:30 PM, O.L. of Lourdes, Alt.
- Tuesday, 12/19, 6:00 PM. Holy Rosary, Alt.
- Wednesday, 12/20, 6:00 PM, Cathedral, Alt.
- Thursday, 12/21, 5:30 PM, Sacred Heart, Alt.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

The World Is Pregnant

There is a character, Rose of Sharon, in John Steinbeck's *Grapes of Wrath* who is pregnant with her first child. As her impoverished family migrates from their native Oklahoma to California, Rose of Sharon's all-consuming preoccupation is her unborn child. Everything she eats, every drink she lets pass her lips, every action she takes — none of it is done without thought for the child that is still so small as to make his mother's expectancy barely discernible to the naked eye.

"For Rose of Sharon was pregnant," wrote Steinbeck. "And the world was pregnant to her."

It is the same for us Christians in the Advent season. We can feel a change coming, and the hope of this change consumes us. It shapes our actions and our plans, we feel it in our hearts and in our souls and in our limbs. From the food we eat to the clothing we wear to the words we use, the unseen Child lives and breathes and works in every small part of this blessed season.

Even the commercial clamor that is the secular "Christmas holiday" cannot fully distract us from the holy sense of anticipation we have. We are baptized, and so it is inside of us, this voice that cries out in the desert. When we hear it, we cannot help but listen.

The Virgin is pregnant, and the world is pregnant to us.

"We await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells." — 2 Peter 3:13 © LPi

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

December 10, 2023
2nd Sunday of Advent

We like to think we are totally free, but the bitter truth is we simply are not. Or better put, our freedom is limited on every side — by governments, corporate giants, physical and mental frailties, genetic shortcomings, and even the boundaries of time and space, and above all, the burden of our sins and pending deaths. In our day, we are perhaps particularly aware that we are not free to disconnect from the technocratic rulers of the air. If you doubt me, try not paying your internet bill and see what happens. We are not totally free.

It's nothing new, of course. In Jesus' day, everyone felt the crushing weight of the Roman Empire. You can say you're free all you want. But try not paying your taxes to Rome and see what happens.

Once we feel this burden in our own lives — however it comes — we are ready to hear the stunning announcement that commences Mark's gospel, "**The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.**" It's not a simple perfunctory introduction, but a dramatic announcement of new freedom. The word "gospel" was a political, even military, term. It meant: a great victory has been won and a new king is in charge. This Jesus — not the Roman emperor — is God's son, and he has defeated all that crushes human freedom. It's time to follow him and be truly free. This week let's refuse to submit our freedom to false rulers — especially that of sin. And let's rejoice that Christ is coming to make us perfectly free from all our oppressors.

— *Father John Muir (c)LPi*