

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

December 31, 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 31, 2023, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and

Joseph

John Kasun, Sr. (Dave Rito)

Next Sunday, January 7, 2024, The Epiphany of the Lord

Cathy Starr (Barbara A. Francis)

Cathedral Mass Intentions

December 31, The Solemnity of the Holy Family

8:00 AM +Geraldine Petrunak, Birth. (Family)

10:00 AM +Ann Rhodes, Birth. (Family)

5:00 PM Pro Popolo/For the People

There is an 11:30 AM Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church.

January 1, Monday, The Solemnity of Mary the Mother

Of God (Since the solemnity falls on a Monday this year, it is not a holy day of obligation.)

9:00 AM Peace in the World

January 2, Tuesday, Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bp.s & Drs.

12:00 PM +Gail Sloan, Anniv. (Family)

January 3, Wednesday, The Most Holy Name of Jesus

12:00 PM +David Seidel, Birth. (Wife)

January 4, Thursday, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

12:00 PM +Alberta Weaver, Anniv. (Weaver Family)

January 5, Friday, St. John Neumann, Bp.

12:00 PM +Mark Burns (M/M Dave Hanekamp)

January 6, Saturday, Christmas Weekday

12:00 PM +Deb Capotosti, Anniv. (Mother & Children)

Vigil: The Epiphany of the Lord.

5:00 PM +John Conti, Birth. (Family)

January 7, Sunday, The Epiphany of the Lord

8:00 AM +Sandy Cuomo (Patty & Bear McCloskey)

10:00 AM +Fred Reismeier (Dick & Becky Moran)

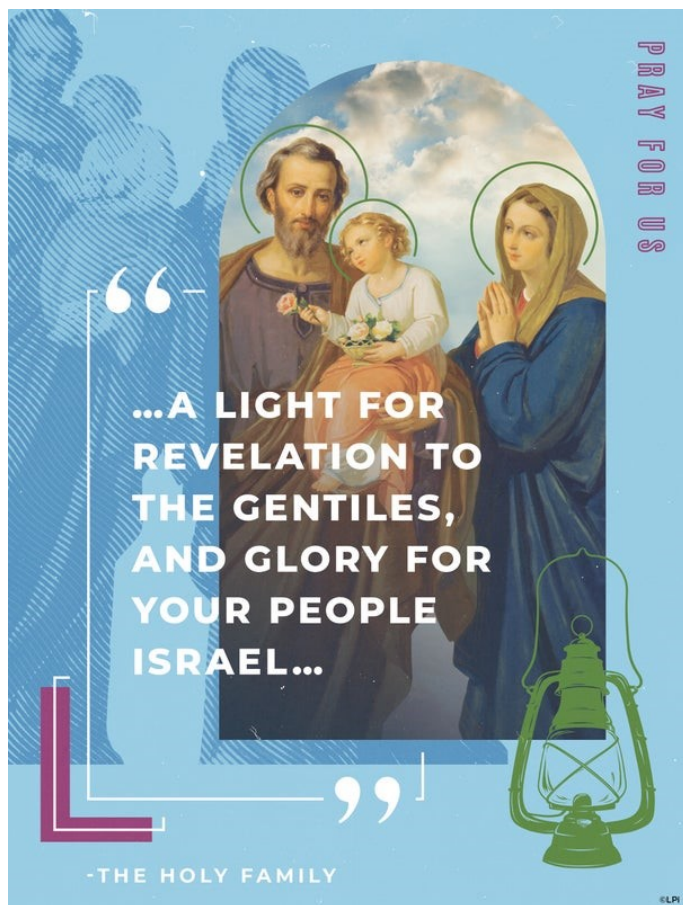
5:00 PM Pro Popolo/For the People

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



**TABERNACLE
CANDLE**

During the month of January, the sanctuary candle is being lit in memory of Tom Byrne by his Family.



Readings for the week of December 31, 2023

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/ Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

Monday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (2a)/Gal 4:4-7/ Lk 2:16-21

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1:19-28
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-34

Thursday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42

Friday: 1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Jn 1:43-51

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or

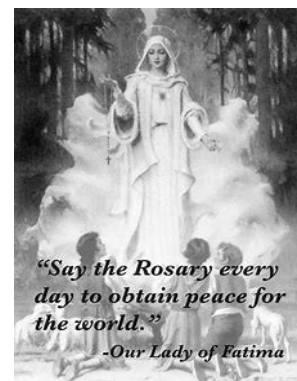
3:23, 31-34, 36, 38

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Thank You Very Much

Your prayers, volunteerism, and financial support are deeply appreciated. The contributions for Sunday, December 24, were \$3,067. The Christmas Collection will be in next week's bulletin.

Thank you.



GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEP-
ER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

December 31, 2023

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

I remember the first time my older sister asked me if I wanted to hold her newborn son. Terrified, I told her I didn't think it was a good idea. My résumé had nothing to suggest I would be a qualified baby holder. But she warmly told me, "I'll help you hold him." It struck me that she is baby's mother. She is the one who decides who is qualified to hold him. I took him in my arms and soon I began to feel comfortable with that tiny little warm cooing creature in my arms, and soon I no longer feared holding him. Now, twenty-seven nieces and nephews later, holding a newborn child is one of the great joys of my life.

Do we sometimes think that Jesus is given only to the highly qualified, special religious people? In the Gospel of Luke today we hear about the presentation of the Lord in the temple. The newborn son of God is passed around like a baton in a relay race, not guarded like a precious jewel or a breakable china dish. We can see him going from the arms of Mary to Joseph, then to the priest performing the ceremony, then to Simeon the old man, then to Anna the old widow. Each one receiving him and then handing him to the next. A tidal wave of joy and thanksgiving follows wherever he is placed.

Believe me, you are qualified to hold Jesus in your arms. How can I say that with such confidence? Because the mother decides who is qualified. The Blessed Virgin, embodied in the Church, holds him out to you and me. She rejoices to place him in our arms to hold, and to hand him on, too.

— Father John Muir

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**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>.

**Solemnity of Mary the Mother of
God**

Since the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God, January 1, falls on a Monday this year, it is not a holy day of obligation. There will be a Mass at the Cathedral at 9:00 A.M.

**ST. ELIZABETH
ANN SETON**

*"In every
disappointment,
let your heart fly
directly to your
dear Savior. Jesus
will never leave you
or forsake you."*





As we enter a new year, we need to do so with the conviction that God is worthy of our trust. Seeking to do His will, relying upon the grace He will provide, and deeply aware of His love and mercy, it is important for us to appreciate the gift of life God has given to us. Each of our lives has value and a purpose.

While we don't know what the New Year holds in store for us, God will provide sufficient grace. The awareness of God's presence is also a source of consolation. Be assured of a remembrance in my prayer on January 1st. May Mary, the Mother of God, accompany us this year with her maternal and protective care.

Msgr. Stan Carson



Gratitude is extended to the large number of volunteers who, with the leadership of Chris Keagy, decorated our church so beautifully for Christmas.

A word of thanks is also extended to the parishioners and friends who made donations to purchase poinsettias.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

The Gift of Family

What a year it has been! How will we speak of these times a decade from now? As time goes by, our impressions of this past year will certainly change. How we feel today about dealing with a killer virus and all the chaos surrounding that is still fresh for all. I would assume that most of us right now are also holding those we love a little closer and hugging them a little harder. Hopefully, even if the fears and concerns of 2020 dissipate in the future, the way we feel toward our family should never leave us.

Stewardship is certainly about everything. God has given us so much, great and small, profound and common. One of the greatest gifts that all have received is family. Families take all shapes and sizes and some look very different than others. For some, family is a caretaker or temporary guardian. For others it is a friend when everyone else seems to have vanished. The bottom line is that, to quote a song from many years ago, "people need people."

When God gave the world His only Son, the Incarnation did not come on a cloud or with a flash of light. He was born into a family. Jesus understood the gift of family all his life. Do you think that if having a family wasn't important God would have still included this in the plan of salvation?

As this year draws to a close, remember your stewardship many days begins and ends with the people closest to you. Don't misuse or take for granted this precious gift. God gives us gifts on purpose, even to His only begotten Son.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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