

The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

January 1, 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 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 sacra-
ment of healing may call the Cathedral Par-
ish Office to make arrangements. 814-944-
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 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

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

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: 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

THE FATIMA TOWERS

OUR LADY OF FATIMA MASS INTENTIONS

11:30 A.M.

This Sunday, January 1, Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

World Peace, Especially in Ukraine

Next Sunday, January 8, Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

Raymond McCall (Karen Query)

Cathedral Mass Intentions

January 1, Sunday, Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

8:00 AM +John Duffy (Patricia Byrne Family)

10:00 AM +Amelia Seiler (Jim & Steph Kilcoyne)

5:00 PM Pro Popolo/For the People

January 2, Monday, Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bps. & Drs.

12:00 PM +Raymond & Olive Miller (Mary Louise)

January 3, Tuesday, The Most Holy Name of Jesus

12:00 PM +Ron Sheehan (Wife & Family)

January 4, Wednesday, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Rel.

12:00 PM +James Kenawell, Birth. (Son, Jim)

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

12:00 P.M. +David Seidel, Birth. (Joanne Beringer)

January 6, Friday, St. Andre Bessette, Rel.

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

January 7, Saturday, Christmas Weekday

12:00 PM +Paul W. Weible, Anniv. (Wife, Edith)

Vigil: Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

5:00 PM +Barbara Noel (Marge & Don McMullen)

January 8, Sunday, Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

8:00 AM +Bernie Joyce (Family)

10:00 AM +Carrie Kibler Detwiler (Mom & Dad)

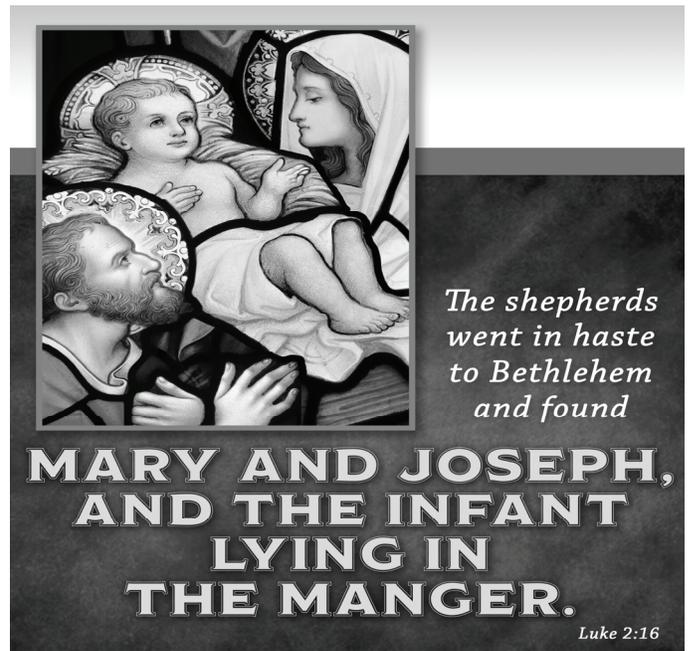
5:00 P.M. Pro Popolo/For the people

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



**TABERNACLE
CANDLE**

During the month of January, the Sanctuary/Tabernacle Candle has been donated by the Peter Starr Family for Ukraine. Thank you.



January 1, 2023 • Mary, the Holy Mother of God

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The LORD bless you and keep you! The LORD look upon you kindly and give you peace! (Numbers 6:22-27).

Psalms — May God be merciful and bless us (Psalm 67).

Second Reading — God sent the Spirit of the Son into our hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" So you are no longer a slave but an heir, through God (Galatians 4:4-7).

Gospel — The shepherds glorified and praised God for all they had heard and seen (Luke 2:16-21).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34

Wednesday: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42

Thursday: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Lk 4:14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-28 [23, 31-34, 36, 38]

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Sal 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 2:1-11

Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; 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 25, were \$2,891.00.



Mary, the Holy Mother of God (January 1) TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

On this feast, we can see how devotion to Mary has been a beacon of hope to the sick throughout history. In the new cathedral of Los Angeles, the faithful enter through a single door topped by a striking sculpture of Mary with arms stretched down in compassion. Sculpted into the massive bronze doors are the titles of Mary most treasured by various cultures. Many of them speak of how the sick are consoled by a sense of Mary's presence.

Dorothy Day once recalled St. Bonaventure's remark that after the Lord's long forty days of fasting in the desert, when he was diminished and weak from his struggle, the angels who ministered to him went first to the Blessed Mother's house. There they saw the soup that was on her stove, and took some to the Lord so that he would delight in it even more since his mother had prepared it. "Of course," said Dorothy Day matter-of-factly.

In praying the rosary and savoring the stories of Mary's steadfast love in the face of all suffering, the sick are strengthened by one of our tradition's most shining treasures, and the whole Church is enriched.

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

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

We are in the season of the Incarnation, the mystery of God's love poured out in Christ's birth. The word derives from the Latin *carnis* meaning "flesh." Throughout history, some Christians have distrusted the "flesh," and stressed a hatred of this world and its pleasures. Perhaps they have not paid enough attention to how "embodied" the sacraments are. One third-century author put it plainly in an image that may alarm diet-conscious Americans, explaining that we wash the body so the soul can be cleansed, that we anoint the body so the soul can be strengthened, and that we eat the body and blood of Christ so that "the soul can fatten on God."

Catholics "get" that God is revealed in this world. The sacraments use the "stuff" of creation: water and oil; the senses of the body, touch and taste and smell. We use the things of this world rightly. After all, God's love poured out into human flesh means the world has eternal value. Why else would Jesus describe the kingdom to come as a teeming city or a marriage banquet? Catholics are realists, and nowhere is that more evident than when we gather for a sacrament.—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Echoes of a Polish Christmas

All Saints Parish in Boswell on Sunday, January 8, at 2:00 P.M. will host their annual singing of Polish Christmas Carols (known as Kolendy) at 325 Quemahoning Street. The singing will be followed by Benediction and then refreshments in the church hall.

Our parish is selling **SaveAround** coupon booklets for the Altoona/State College & Surrounding Areas. The cost is \$25.00 per booklet. The parish makes a \$12.50 profit on each booklet sold. They are available in the vestibule on Sunday at Mass time and in the office during the week.





The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found

MARY AND JOSEPH, AND THE INFANT LYING IN THE MANGER.

Luke 2:16

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SHALOM

A Hebrew word that many people are familiar with is *shalom*, commonly translated into English as “peace.” However, the word is much richer, deeper, and broader than that. As a matter of fact, when the blessing in today’s first reading concludes with *shalom*, it serves as a summary of the entire blessing: *shalom* is God’s wholeness, well-being, longevity, harmony, as well as God’s peace. Perhaps Mary prayed this blessing while she found herself in the midst of angels, shepherds, and—quite likely, thanks to the shepherds—inquisitive neighbors who had been told of the wondrous birth. Perhaps she prayed for God’s *shalom* not only for herself, but also for her child as she reflected on his birth. As we stand at the threshold of a new year, we can likewise pray this blessing, with Mary as our example, pondering the mysteries of Christ in our hearts, praying for the richness, depth, and breadth of God’s *shalom*.

MARY THE CAREGIVER

At some point in time, most people will find themselves needing to watch over another person. This is true for parents and children of course; for others, perhaps an aging parent or spouse; a friend or neighbor living alone after surgery. At these times, along with the caregiving of the moment, there is often a focus on the future, a wondering about what will come. Quite naturally for the new mother Mary there is this future focus, with many possibilities for her to hold in her heart. She reflects quietly in the midst of the very hectic series of events that follow the birth of her child: hurrying shepherds who go and tell the wondrous news to others, then those others sharing their amazement. Luke tells us that Mary keeps all of this, and reflects on it in her heart. Mary is watching over Jesus as mothers do, watching over each and every moment.

GOD THE CAREGIVER

As Mary watches over her child, so did Israel pray for God to watch over them and one another, to bless and keep them, as Mary kept and reflected on things in her heart. Mary’s face surely shone upon the infant Jesus, as Israel prayed for God’s face to shine upon them with that graciousness we also know in her whom we call “full of grace.” At the conclusion of the blessing in today’s first reading is a prayer for God to look on us in kindness and, even more, to grant us peace. It may be in this final line of the blessing that we see God most at work in the face and the care of Mary, gazing gently on her child, wishing the fullness of God’s *shalom* for Jesus and his future. Our mission as disciples is to show the divine care we hear in the blessing prayer, and to live out the care-giving we see today in Mary.

TODAY’S READINGS

Numbers 6:22–27
Psalm 67:2–3, 5, 6, 8
Galatians 4:4–7
Luke 2:16–21

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