

# Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 26, 2025

**Our Lady of Fatima Parish**  
2010 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
[www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.org](http://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

**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: [ltthayer@dioceseaj.org](mailto:ltthayer@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.**

### **Sunday, January 26, 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Joe Ianniello (Jonathan & Christine Ianniello)

### **Next Sunday, February 2, 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Denise Keagy (Family)

### **Cathedral Mass Intentions**

#### **January 26, Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM +Claude Michael Walls (Tom & Lisa Levine)

10:00 AM +James Weaver 9Jen & Cory Geishauser)

5:00 PM Pro Popolo/For the People

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

#### **January 27, Monday, St. Angela Merici, V. & Rel. Founder**

12:00 PM +Souls in Purgatory (Anonymous)

#### **January 28, Tuesday, St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest & Dr.**

12:00 PM +Kathryn Carosielli (Peg Behe)

#### **January 29, Wednesday, Weekday**

12:00 PM +Special Intention (Cecelia Ratzesberger)

#### **January 30, Thursday, Weekday**

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

#### **January 31, Friday, St. John Bosco, Priest**

10:00 AM BGA Catholic Schools Week Mass

12:00 PM +Msgr. Thomas Madden (Kathy & Terry Toma-Ssetti)

#### **February 1, Saturday, Weekday**

12:00 PM +Debbie Fornwalt Beiswenger, Birth. (Bob & Cathy Chirdon)

#### **Vigil: The Presentation of the Lord**

5:00 PM +Edgar A. Johnston, Birth. (Mom & Family)

#### **February 2, The Presentation of the Lord**

8:00 AM Special Intention Vincent Bumann, Birth. (Family)

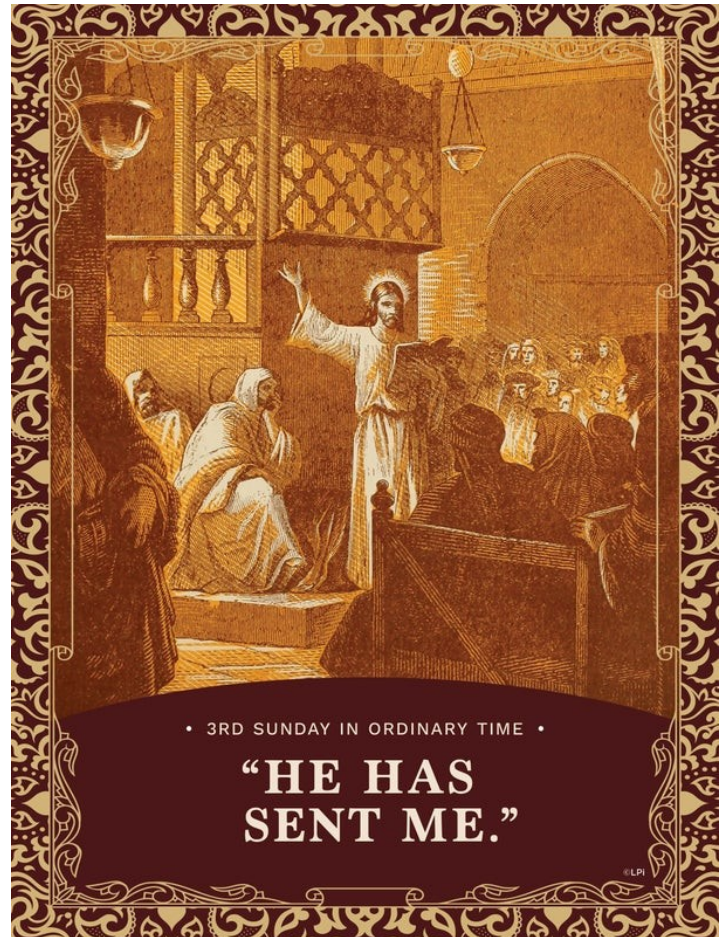
10:00 AM +Brian McCaulley, Anniv. (Family)

5:00 PM Pro Popolo/For the People

es Weaver (Jen & Cory Geishauser)



The Sanctuary Candle during the month of January is being lit in memory of Denise Keagy by the Keagy Family. In February, the candle is being lit in honor of the Burr & Lingenfelter Families by the Burr Family. Thank you.



Readings for the week of January 26, 2025

Monday: Heb 9:15, 24-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6/Mk 3:22-30

Tuesday: Heb 10:1-10/Ps 40:2 and 4ab, 7-8a, 10, 11/Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday: Heb 10:11-18/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4/Mk 4:1-20

Thursday: Heb 10:19-25/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Mk 4:21-25

Friday: Heb 10:32-39/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 23-24, 39-40/Mk 4:26-34

Saturday: Heb 11:1-2, 8-19/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75/Mk 4:35-41

Next Sunday: Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

### **Thank You Very Much**

Your prayers, volunteerism, and financial support are deeply appreciated. The contributions for January 19, were \$3,305.

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.

### **GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

January 26, 2025

3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time

Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21

A young couple in my parish told me they were expecting their second child, a baby boy. I knew that their five-year old only child Emma had been desperately wanting to be a big sister for years, so I said, "Emma must have been so happy when you told her the news." "Actually," they said, "she burst into tears. She wanted a baby sister!" How often in life God wonderfully fulfills our desires and we are sad because we don't approve of the way he does it. We want to control the gift and the delivery method.

The same thing occurs in the Gospel this week when Jesus announces in his hometown that the promise of an Anointed One bringing glad tidings to the poor is "fulfilled in your hearing" (Luke 4:21). After a moment of elation, his fellow townsfolk realize this man is the way God is fulfilling his promises, and they erupt into a violent outburst. So Jesus departs. How sad for them.

Every single Sunday at Mass, including this one, some version of this happens to many of us. God's word announces the fulfillment of God's promises in Christ, and we easily overlook or disdain it. His way is almost never according to our narrow expectations. What's required of us is to set these aside, and to embrace a new openness to God's gifts, no matter how he wishes to give them. God is fulfilling his promises the way He likes — why be sad?

— Father John Muir      ©LPi

The Jubilee logo shows four stylized figures, representing all of humanity, coming from the four corners of the earth. They embrace each other to indicate solidarity and fraternity which should unite all people. The figure in front is holding onto the cross. It is not only the sign of the faith which this lead figure embraces, but also of hope, which can never be abandoned, because we are always in need of hope, especially in our moments of greatest need.

There are rough waves under the figures, symbolizing the fact that life's pilgrimage does not always go smoothly in calm waters. Often the circumstances of daily life and events in the wider world require a greater call to hope. That's why we should pay attention to the lower part of the cross which has been elongated and turned into the shape of an anchor which is let down into the waves. The anchor is well known as a symbol of hope. Just as an anchor stabilizes a ship, hope stabilizes our lives, especially during stormy situations.

The pilgrim's journey is dynamic and communal, marked by an increasing movement closer to the cross. The cross is also dynamic as it bends down towards humanity, not leaving human beings alone, but stretching out to them to offer the certainty of its presence and the security of hope.

At the bottom of the logo is the motto of the 2025 Jubilee Year: Pilgrims of Hope.



## (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC – THESE EVIL DAYS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Mini Reflection: Jesus didn't come to fix the brokenness of the world. He came to fix our brokenness. He offers us not relief from the trials of life, but an answer to the question of how to live in joy, in love and in purpose in the midst of these evil days.

### These Evil Days

"Alas, that these evil days should be mine."

If you've ever seen "The Lord of the Rings," you might recognize this quote from "The Two Towers." The words are spoken by King Theoden at the grave of his only son and heir, as Theoden contemplates the coming war for Middle Earth, a war which has already claimed the life of his son, a war he wants no part of, a war that seems utterly hopeless and unwinnable.

These evil days. You don't have to be a fantasy enthusiast or even a Tolkien fan to identify with Theoden here. We have all experienced this same feeling of despair, perhaps increasingly in this age of technology and social media, when the ills of the whole world — violence, injustice, moral disorder and chaos — are in our faces, on our phones, looming over our days.

But when we despair like this, we forget an important truth: this is the time of fulfillment, and we are lucky enough to be living through it.

Yes, the world is broken. It was broken two thousand years ago, too, when Jesus stood up in the synagogue on the Sabbath and read the words of the prophet Isaiah: "He has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives... and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord."

Jesus didn't come to fix the brokenness of the world. He came to fix our brokenness. He offers us not relief from the trials of life, but an answer to the question of how to live in joy, in love and in purpose in the midst of these evil days.

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### Presentation of the Lord

#### **Question:**

Luke's Gospel is the only one to mention the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple. What is Luke trying to communicate here and what connection does it have with Mary?

#### **Answer:**

February 2 is exactly forty days after December 25, the nativity of Jesus. Jewish law (Ex 13:2, 12) dictated that Jesus, as the firstborn, be consecrated to God. This was done by the parents as they presented their Son in the Temple.

Jewish law further specified (Lv 12:2-8) that a mother was ritually impure after giving birth, and that she had to wait a set period of time (forty days for a boy) before she was to offer a sacrifice to the Lord for purification.

The convergence of these two Jewish regulations occasions Luke's account of both the Presentation of the Lord and the Purification of Mary. These days the liturgical emphasis is more on the Presentation of Jesus. Luke highlights the role of Simeon and Anna, two righteous Jews who recognized Jesus as the long-awaited Messiah and praised God for being able to see and experience such a marvel in their lifetimes.

Simeon's prayer concerning the special role of Jesus states that Jesus is "a light for revelation to the Gentiles." This phrase eventually originated the custom of blessing candles on this day which were to be used in the ceremonies, rituals, and processions throughout the church year. Thus February 2 is also known as Candlemas Day. This day is indeed a rich feast to be savored.

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