

NATIVITY OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

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NATIVITY OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST
JUNE 24, 2018

*“Behold, one is coming after me;
I am not worthy to unfasten the sandals of his feet.”*

—Acts 13:25

*Our Lady of Fatima
Pleaded that we pray the Holy Rosary
before Sunday Mass and
privately from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm daily.*

ST. ALOYSIUS GONZAGA

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Our Lady of Fatima Parish
2010 12th Avenue
www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.com
Rectory Office Hours:

Monday – Friday 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Parish Office: 814-942-0371

Our Lady of Fatima Mass Schedule
Sunday: 10:30 AM - Holy Days: 6:00 PM
Rosary: 10:05 AM - Rosary: 5:40 PM

Our Lady of Fatima Parish Administrator
Reverend Monsignor Robert C. Mazur

Parish Secretary
Carol Z. Smith

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

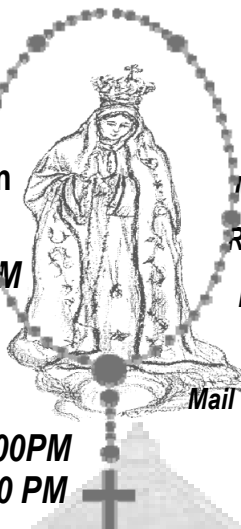
Our Lady of Fatima Church is open
Monday through Friday: 9AM - 6PM
for visits before the Blessed Sacrament.

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. 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
Reverend Monsignor Robert C. Mazur, Rector

Rev. Father Dennis M. Kurdziel, Parochial Vicar
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

Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School:
Web: www.bishopguilfoyle.org – 944-4014

Directors of Religious Education:
Chris Laraia – Pre-K thru 8 - 312-7317
Jean Koury – 9 thru 12 – 949-2777

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 8:00 AM

10:00 AM 12:00 Noon 12:00 Noon

12:00 Noon 5:30 PM Saturday: 8:00 AM

5:00 PM 12:00 Noon

June 24, 2018



Feast of St John the Baptist

JOHN THE BAPTIST

Since June 24 falls on a Sunday this year, the Church has the opportunity for a more intense celebration of the birth of John the Baptist, who is often described as the last of the Old Testament prophets and the bridge between Judaism and Christianity. More commonly, John is known as the “precursor” of our Lord Jesus Christ. All the Gospels report John’s basic message: Repent, the kingdom is near at hand. One greater than I is coming.

Though he was a wandering preacher who dressed in camel skins and ate grasshoppers, John’s legacy is one of true royalty. His origins are similar to those foretold by God through the prophet Isaiah: “You are my servant, he said to me, Israel through whom I show my glory” (Isaiah 49:3). John’s humility—“I am not he”—was surpassed only by that of his Lord Jesus, the humble servant who followed.

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TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

It’s midsummer day! We have the advantage of celebrating one of the great hidden treasures of our liturgical calendar on a Sunday this year. There are only three “nativity” feasts on our calendar: for the Lord, the Blessed Mother (September 8), and today’s birth of the Baptist. Today’s date is anchored by the Annunciation (March 25), when Mary learns not only of her own child’s advent, but of Elizabeth’s child. We are exactly half a year away from Christmas Eve. There are strong traditions around this feast. Just as the winter solstice provides a rich vocabulary for Christmas, so does the abundance of light at midsummer inform this celebration. Just as at Christmas, a religious festival spills over into culture. As summer light reaches its peak, the sun-drenched zones of northern Europe see people staying up all night, lighting “St. John’s fires” in the long summer twilight. Bonfires seem to be the unifying force in all these celebrations, kindled along the shores of the St. Lawrence in Quebec and Montreal, with harbor illuminations in France. You may be most interested in the custom in San Juan, Puerto Rico, the Baptist’s own city. People there will leap into the sea between midnight and dawn to honor John. Why not find your way to a pool, a lake, or a sandy beach today and plunge in to recall your baptism? It’s a tradition!

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

DECEIT

Reason deceives us; conscience, never.

—Jean Jacques Rousseau

THE GREATEST NEED

The world’s greatest need is not more Christians but more Christians who practice their Christianity.

—Anonymous

June 24, 2018: Solemnity of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist

Christian stewards strive to live God’s will, regardless of the consequences. They have faith that His plan for their lives will always lead them to live as a disciple of Jesus Christ. How far are you willing to go to share your time with those in need?

June 24, 2018
NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
10:30 AM

OUR LADY OF FATIMA MASS INTENTIONS

Readings: Is 49:1-6; Acts 13:22-26; Lk 1:57-66,80

***Today's Intention - Suzie Pendergrast, B/day, July 3rd**

Readings: Wis 1:13-15,2:23-24; 2 Cor 8:7,9,13-15; Mk 5:21-43

***Sun, July 1, Father James Damian Zatalava, Months' Mind Mass**

CATHEDRAL MASS INTENTIONS

June 25, Monday: Weekday (12th Week in Ordinary Time)

Readings: 2 Kgs 17:5-8,13-15,18; Mt 7:1-5

6:45 AM Souls in Purgatory

8:00 AM NO MASS

12:00 PM Billie Baker (John and Anita Jubas)

June 26, Tuesday: Weekday

Readings: 2 Kgs 19:9-11,14-21,31-36; Mt 7:6,12-14

6:45 AM NO MASS

8:00 AM Betty Capouellez, Anniversary (Family)

12:00 PM Msgr. Paul D. Panza, Birth. (Mary Ann Bell)

June 27, Wednesday: St. Cyril of Alexandria, Bp. & Dr.

Readings: 2 Kgs 22:8-13,23:1-3; Mt 7:15-20

6:45 AM Mark Chuff Family (Kathy Kantoski)

8:00 AM NO MASS

12:00 PM Rosemary Shay (Ed and Lois Simanski)

June 28, Thursday: Saint Irenaeus, Bishop and Martyr

Readings: 2 Kgs 24:8-17; Mt 7:21-29

6:45 AM NO MASS

8:00 AM Mary Petrunyak (Family)

12:00 PM Barbara Byers (Adam and Jean Thur)

June 29, Friday: Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles

Readings: Acts 12:1-11; 2 Tm 4:6-8,17-18; Mt 16:13-19

6:45 AM George Seidel, Anniv. (Jim and Elaine Weaver)

8:00 AM NO MASS

12:00 PM Joseph Knott (Richard and Connie Steinbeiser)

June 30, Saturday: Weekday, First Martyrs, BVM

Readings: Lam 2:2,10-14,18-19; Mt 8:5-17

***8:00 AM Jerry Smith (Jim and Steph Kilcoyne)**

12:00 PM Howard Peachman (Mike and Sherry Byrne)

Vigil: Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Wis 1:13-15,2:23-24; 2 Cor 8:7,9,13-15; Mk 5:21-43

5:00 PM John Bauer (Greg and Judy Cardone Fam.)

NOTE: Daily Mass Schedule

Because of Father Dennis's absence, there will be two Masses scheduled daily. There will always be the Noon Mass each day; the 6:45 AM and 8:00 AM will alternate each week. Thank you for your understanding.

Please keep the sick and handicapped of our parish in your prayers.

*Jesus, Son of the Living Father,
Have Mercy on Me a Sinner*

June 24, 2018
Scripture Reflection

Birth of John the Baptist

As we celebrate the birthday of John the Baptist, the readings focus on John's role of inspiring people to prepare for the coming of the Messiah. The first-century Jewish historian Josephus confirms the identity and ministry of John the Baptist who is depicted in all our Gospels. He wrote that the destruction of Herod's army, according to some Jewish people, came from God as a just punishment for what he (Herod) had done against John the Baptist --having him killed, though he was a good man who had urged the Jewish people to live lives of virtue, as a sign of justice to each other and in reverence to God. John's "washing" was a sign that they had truly done so (see Antiquities 18:5.2.116).

The gospel reading from Luke narrates events surrounding John's birth--focusing on his name. For the People of Israel, a person's name expressed an aspect of their identity. The name, John, a common one among the people of Israel, was not found in his family's lineage. It means "the Lord has been gracious" because the elderly parents, Elizabeth and Zechariah, had lost all hope of conceiving a child in their old age. God had certainly favored them.

Most of us are not prophets like John. Called from our mother's wombs, we are formed to be servants of God, to announce the gospel of the Lord. Our lives herald Jesus Christ when we imprint the gospel, the good news of Jesus Christ, in our words, actions, and attitudes. Meeting us, people meet Jesus. Seeing us, they see Jesus. Encountering us, they encounter Jesus the Christ. By living Jesus, we prepare and point the way to the Lord, like John. Open your ears to hear God's will. Open your mouths and let God free your tongue to proclaim the Gospel. Allow the hand to God to calm your fears and give you the confidence and trust that Zechariah and Elizabeth exhibited. Then praise God that you have been wonderfully made to imprint the gospel with your life.

- Name ways in which you announce the Gospel of the Lord each day.

AT HOME with the WORD 2018, Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, pg. 103. AMERICA MAGAZINE, "Does your life reveal God's compassion to others?" Michael R. Simone, S.J., June 1, 18. Living the Word, Laurie Brink and Paul Colloton, World Library Publications, 2017, pg. 136.

2018 Catholic Ministries Drive (Goal = 9602, Cash received = 7075, To reach Goal = 2527)

Altoona Thrift Store, 1215 -7th Ave, Altoona, Ph: 943-1981

The St. Vincent de Paul (SVDP) thrift store in Altoona is very fortunate to have such an outpouring of giving from the community. The proceeds from the donations stay local to help families in need. They also need volunteers, specifically clothing sorters, so the items can be put out for purchase as quickly as possible.

Outdoor Mass honoring Married Couples with Bishop Mark

The Altoona-Johnstown Diocesan Family is invited to participate and to pray for those living the Sacrament of Marriage at an Outdoor Mass honoring Married Couples on Sunday evening, July 15 at 7:00 pm at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Alleghenies in Loretto. Bring a lawn chair. Indoors if rain. Bishop Mark is the celebrant and homilist. This is a wonderful way to celebrate, encourage and support married couples!

Peter Pence collection--July 1, 2018

Enclosed in your Pack of envelopes please find an envelope for Pope Francis's "Peter's Pence Collection". Through this gift, you join in solidarity with him as a witness to charity. To learn more, please visit www.usccb.org/peters-pence. Please be most generous in your contribution.

June 24 *Luke 1:57-66, 80*

Decisions shape our lives. In today's gospel Elizabeth and Zechariah decided to name their son John as the Lord had instructed them. Their neighbors thought they were crazy and "talked about them all throughout the hill country." We face similar decisions: to follow the will of God or the comfort of our culture. If we don't live as we believe then we will soon believe as we live.



Liturgical Reflection...

The name John means "the Lord has been generous". Indeed God had been abundantly generous to Elizabeth and Zechariah, elderly parents who had lost hope in conceiving a child in their old age. God had certainly favored them. And the child grew and became strong in spirit. The greatest prophet who would announce Jesus as the Lamb of God! At each Mass we hear the Baptist proclaim, "Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world." We celebrate the generosity of God towards us.

2018, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648

JUNE COLLECTIONS 2018

June 17, 2018	Env used	58 /150
Weekly		1455.00
Christmas Club		15.00
Votives		74.00
Children's		8.00
Shrine		0
Music		0
<u>Fuel</u>		<u>0</u>
Dep. For Week		1552.00

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER KURDZIEL

*I have finally returned from my month long, recuperation from the effects of my accident on May 7th. I am truly overwhelmed by the many acts of kindness and promises of prayer I have received from our wonderful parishioners and so many friends of our Cathedral Parish during my absence. A special word of thanks to Bishop Mark and Monsignor Mazur for all their personal kindness to me. Please pray for my continued recovery. You are and will continue to be in my prayers.
Father Dennis*



- 06/30 Greg Brannan
- 07/02 Brayo Bradford
- 07/02 Gary Koeck
- 07/03 Barbara Little
- 07/03 Eleanor Noye
- 07/03 Suzie Pendergrast

St. Aloysius Gonzales

Feast Day June 21

The Theological Virtues

Faith

Faith is a common term in ordinary language, but for Catholics, faith as a theological virtue takes on a special definition. According to the Catholic Encyclopedia, theological faith is the virtue "by which the intellect is perfected by a supernatural light." By this definition, faith is not at all contrary to reason or intellect but is the natural result of an intellect that is influenced by the supernatural truth given to us by God.

Hope

In Catholic custom, hope has as its object eternal union with God in the afterlife. The Concise Catholic Encyclopedia defines hope as "the theological virtue which is a supernatural gift bestowed by God through which one trusts God will grant eternal life and the means of obtaining it providing one cooperates." In the virtue of hope, desire and expectation are united, even while there is recognition of the great difficulty of overcoming obstacles in order to achieve everlasting union with God.

Charity (Love)

Charity, or love, is considered the greatest of the theological virtues for Catholics.

The Modern Catholic Dictionary defines it as the "infused supernatural virtue by which a person loves God above all things for his [that is, God's] own sake, and loves others for God's sake." As is true of all the theological virtues, genuine charity is an act of free will, but because charity is a gift from God, we cannot initially acquire this virtue by our own actions. God must first give it to us as a gift before we can exercise it.

A Prayer to Be Said by Young Men (to St. Aloysius Gonzaga)

O most glorious Saint Aloysius, who hast been honored by the Church with the fair title of "angelic youth," because of the life of utmost purity thou didst lead here on earth, I come before thy presence this day with all the devotion of my mind and heart. O perfect exemplar, kind and powerful patron of young men, how great is my need of thee! The world and the devil are trying to ensnare me; I am conscious of that ardor of my passions; I know full well the weakness and inconstancy of my age. Who shall be able to keep me safe, if not thou, O saint of angelic purity, the glory and honor, the loving protector of youth? To thee, therefore, I have recourse with all my soul, to thee I commit myself with all my heart. I hereby resolve, promise, and desire to be especially devout toward thee, to glorify thee by imitating thy extraordinary virtues and in particular thy angelic purity, to copy thy example, and to promote devotion to thee among my companions. O dear Saint Aloysius, do thou guard and defend me always, in order that, under thy protection and following thy example, I may one day be able to join with thee in seeing and praising my God forever in heaven. Amen.



OUR LADY URGES US TO PRAY THE HOLY ROSARY FOR

PEACE AND OFFER

SACRIFICES BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!

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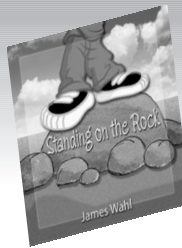
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