

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

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March 4, 2018

I, the Lord, am your God . . .

You shall not have other gods
besides me.

— Exodus 20:2a, 3

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.*

Feast Day March 8th
St. John of God



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

Secretary's Assistant

Ellen Kelly

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**

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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: ltayer@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

MARCH 4, 2018
THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT, FOLLOW PG.51 (YEAR A), FOR TODAY'S MASS

Miracles of St. John of God
Feast Day, March 8th

During his lifetime, St. John of God accomplished miracles both small and large. Daily he went out into the streets of Granada, providing help for the poor, the sick and the mentally disturbed. He would often give the cloak off his back to someone who had no cloak. The home he rented was a place of refuge for many.

According to Merriam-Webster's dictionary a miracle is defined as, "an extraordinary event manifesting divine intervention in human affairs," and "an extremely outstanding or unusual event, thing or accomplishment."

St. John's daily activities of providing a place for unwanted people to feel loved and safe can be described as daily, small miracles for the people who needed help. In the book Saints for Sinners by Alban Goodier, he writes about St. John. "He could wash his patients and dress their sores; he could kiss their feet and let them feel that somebody cared; he could put them to bed and give them a sense of home."

Keep in the mind, that the Granada of St. John's time was not the modern city it is today. Roads were unpaved, and people walked everywhere. Their feet were most likely the dirtiest parts of their bodies. By kissing them, St. John imitated Jesus' actions toward his disciples and showed complete humility and compassion for these individuals.

St. John lived out the commands of our savior to love one another and to love your neighbor as yourself. Jesus says in Matthew 26:40, "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." Despite his earnest desire to serve Christ, St. John faced oppression and had enemies who did not believe he was sincere in his service. He would often care for his patients during the day and beg for alms at night. Even though he faced hardships, his needs were always met, and God always provided for his cause (another miracle).

Perhaps the grandest and best known of St. John of God's miracles was his rescuing of the patients from a fire in the hospital of Granada, and yet escaping from the flames unscathed. For this reason, he is the patron saint of firefighters. Considered an impulsive man, one night, St. John heard that the Royal Hospital of Granada was on fire. When he rushed to the scene, he saw that people were just standing there watching the fire burn. All the patients were inside the burning building. This non-action was unthinkable to St. John, and he rushed inside, leading all the patients to safety.

Once he knew that all the patients were safe, St. John ran back into the building and started throwing items such as blankets and mattresses out the windows of the hospital. In his mission, St. John knew the importance of these goods for caring for the sick. He wanted to salvage as much as possible.

By this point, the city had brought a canon to try to destroy and separate the burning part of the hospital from the non-burning portion, in its best efforts to contain the fire. However, St. John could not accept this. He ran up to the roof and started separating the two parts of the hospital with his axe.

Although he was successful, he fell through the burning roof. Bystanders thought he had perished in the fire, until he appeared out of the smoke and ashes unharmed.

In an essay titled "St. John of God, Founder of the Order of Charity," written by Fr. Francis Xavier Weninger in 1877, Weninger wrote, "The flame of Divine love which burned in his heart surpassed the intensity of the material fire."

In addition to performing great miracles, St. John of God was also the recipient of divine intervention and spiritual favors. Throughout his lifetime, he received assistance from heavenly beings including the Holy Mother and the Archangel Raphael. His name of St. John of God comes from a vision he had of the infant Jesus, who bestowed the name upon him.

Another time, St. John experienced a heavenly vision when he found a dying beggar on the streets of Granada. St. John carried the man to the hospital, and began washing the beggar's feet. While doing so, the man became transfigured with a shining light and brightness enveloped both himself and St. John. Later as St. John was walking through the hospital alone, patients saw such a bright light surrounding him that they thought he was on fire. He had a difficult time convincing the patients that all was well.

St. John of God was canonized by Pope Alexander VIII on October 16, 1690, over 140 years after his death. Today he remains the patron saint of hospitals, the sick, nurses, firefighters, alcoholics and booksellers. His legacy and miracles live on through the Hospitaller Brothers and all of the good works they are accomplishing in our world today.

MARCH 4, 2018
THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
10:30 AM

OUR LADY OF FATIMA MASS INTENTIONS

Readings: Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2,5-8; Jn 4:5-42

Today's Intention - Coy R. Smith, Sr.

Readings: 1 Sm 16:1,6-7,10-13; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41

March 11th, Mary Wozniak, (Children)

CATHEDRAL MASS INTENTIONS

March 5, Monday: Lenten Weekday

Readings: 2 Kgs 5:1-15; Lk 4:24-30

6:45 AM Bernadine Yarnell (Cathedral Parish)

8:00 AM Mike Chisko (Family)

12:00 PM Myra Mangiacarne (Colleen Sheehan)

March 6, Tuesday: Lenten Weekday

Readings: Dn 3:25,34-43; Mt 18:21-35

6:45 AM M/M Andrew Lesko (Fran & Chrissy Dambeck)

8:00 AM Patrick J. Cooney (L. & R. Cunningham Fam.)

12:00 PM Janet Tomlinson (Tim & JoAnn Bettwy)

March 7, Wednesday: Sts. Perpetua & Felicity, Martyrs

Readings: Dt 4:1,5-9; Mt 5:17-19

6:45 AM Carrie Moffa (Estate)

8:00 AM Louise Beam (Bear & Patricia McCloskey)

12:00 PM M. Virginia Jones (Bauer Family)

March 8, Thursday: Saint John of God, Religious

Readings: Jer 7:23-28; Lk 11:14-23

6:45 AM Michael & Ella Gibbons Fam. (Irwin Fam.)

***8:00 AM BeBe Milliron (Janet Frank)**

12:00 PM Betty McCabe (Jane Davidson Family)

March 9, Friday: Saint Frances of Rome, Religious

Readings: Hos 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34

***6:45 AM David Riley (Carol Riley)**

8:00 AM Health of Shirley Williams (Sister, Sandra)

12:00 PM Bill & Kathleen Hoff, Anniv. (Justin McCaulley)

March 10, Saturday: Lenten Weekday

Readings: Hos 6:1-6; Lk 18:9-14

***8:00 AM BeBe Milliron (John & Lisa Karl)**

12:00 PM Alfred Rutolo, Anniv. (Daughter & Family)

Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Lent

Readings: 1 Sm 16:1,6-7,10-13; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41

5:00 PM John Bauer (Rosemarie Fedeli)

MARCH 4, 2018
Scripture Reflection

A canticle from Isaiah sings that we shall draw water joyfully from the well-springs of salvation (Isaiah 12:3). Water bookends our readings and our lives of faith. The Israelites grumble in their thirst. Moses cries out to God in exasperation. God gives the people water from a rock. In today's Gospel story, the woman who came to the well that day also was thirsty, in many ways. She needed water to stay alive, but her soul was also thirsting. Jesus came with his thirst; that is probably where they first connected. Both were thirsty.

Perhaps the metaphor of thirst, even more than the metaphor of hunger, conveys the desperation of the soul's need for God. We might pass a day or two without food and experience only mild discomfort. But cut off from water, we are quickly afflicted with thirst; we experience it as an immediate threat to our life and health. Like the Israelites in the desert, we soon begin to grumble. The Samaritan woman must already feel the pangs of spiritual thirst. Though initially disconcerted by being addressed by a Jewish man, she engages him in conversation, yearning for the living water that he offers, bringing relief to her life of spiritual longing. Lent is an opportunity to let ourselves feel our spiritual thirst and to welcome the living water that Jesus offers.

Jesus gives a Samaritan woman more than water by ordinary means --- dialogue and presence. The story is not ordinary. Why? Jews considered Samaritans to be less than human. Men did not speak to women in public. But Jesus spoke to this Samaritan woman in a public place. His request, "Give me a drink," put himself in need of her and began a conversation that satisfied her deeper thirsts for God and acceptance. Transformed, she returns to the people she tried to avoid and shares her experience. She leads them to Jesus. Their encounter with him transformed them. They came to know that the Savior, the Lord, was in their midst.

- Can I name my spiritual thirst? Wisdom? Understanding? Mercy? Something else?

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

Please Remember Our Sick and our Shut-ins in your Daily prayers.

Living the Word, World Library Publications, Dennis Sylva and James Wallace, 2008, pg. 80; Laurie Brink and Frederick Bauerschmidt, 2014, pg. 72; Laurie Brink and Paul Colloton, 2017, pg. 66.

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Liturgical Reflection...

Today the Elect (those seeking the Easter Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist) hear the Gospel of the woman at the well. She is thirsting for something in her life; sin has taken her to the wrong places. She discovers that Christ is the living water who leads us from sin to new life. When we celebrate the Funeral Mass for a sister or brother, we call upon God's mercy to forgive whatever sinful offenses may stand in the way of salvation. As one of the prayers at the Funeral Mass begins, "O God, who are mercy for sinners...", we are reminded that both the living and dead stand in need of Gods' mercy and compassion.

Roman Missal, Masses for the Dead, I. For the Funeral, B, Outside Easter Time.

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

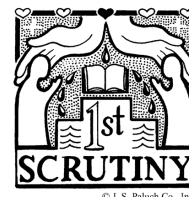
March 4

John 2:13-25

Today's gospel says Jesus chased the merchants out of the temple, it doesn't say He was angry. Jesus teaches us to act from conviction and not from anger. He didn't condemn the merchants, only their business practice. Attack the behavior and not the person.

3rd Sunday of Lent – (March 4) First Scrutiny

In today's Gospel, Jesus calls us to worship God in all that we are and all that we do, regardless of the place in which we find ourselves. Through our thoughts, words, and deeds, we become disciples of Jesus Christ as the Samaritan woman did. Let us speak of our ongoing conversion with deep conviction.



Adult Religious Education Classes

Adult Religious Education nurtures the lifelong development of the whole person – body, mind, heart, and spirit. The following classes are being offered this spring that provide the opportunity for study, exploration, reflection and spiritual development. These classes also can be used for continuing education credit.

Christian Prayer and Spirituality (8 weeks)

St. Catherine of Siena, Duncansville

Wednesdays from 6:30-8:30 PM

March 7, 14, 21, 28; April 4, 11, 18, 25

St. Patrick Church, Johnstown

Tuesdays from 6:30-8:30 PM

March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 3, 10, 17, 24

Church History (10 weeks)

St. Catherine of Siena, Duncansville and St. John Vianney, Mundy's Corner

Tuesdays from 6:30-8:30 PM

March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 3, 10, 17, 24; May 1, 8

For more information regarding registration visit www.ajdiocese.org/lay-ecclesial-ministry/ or contact Marybeth at (814) 361-2000 or email: mheinze@dioceseaj.org. All are welcome!



Our Easter/Christmas Flower Offering serves three purposes. First, it allows our parishioners to remember their families, friends and loved ones, living and deceased, by placing their names in our Easter bulletin. Second, it defrays the cost of our decorations during the Easter/Christmas Season. Third, those who have purchased a memorial may take the flowers home to plant sometime after Easter/Christmas. The decorations themselves keep getting more expensive with each

season. We try to limit the purchases according to what we receive from the memorials. The greenhouses we deal with give us discounts on a few items if they can. At Christmas we were a little over our budget. We are asking you to increase your donation for the decorations to \$15.00 per Family or individual names. If you cannot afford the \$15.00 we will still accept the \$10.00 memorial purchases. Please be as generous as you can. Envelopes are on the heating units.

PALM SUNDAY APPLE DUMPLING/BROWNIE SALE...

Our Lady of Fatima is having an Apple Dumpling/Brownie sale starting today. Apple dumplings come in regular or sugar free at \$5.00 each. Brownies are Chocolate Chunk Peanut Butter @ \$6.50 per (9 pack). Pieces are oversized. Sign up sheets are in the pews and on the back tables. Deadline for orders is Friday, March 16 at noon. Pickup is Friday, March 23rd at Our Lady of Fatima rectory, 2010 12th Avenue. Please call 942-0371 or e-mail: olfoff10@hotmail.com to place your order.

Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament Lenten Lunch Fish Fry - 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM...

Beginning on Ash Wednesday, continuing each Friday of lent. NO Lunch on Good Friday. \$7.00 includes Fish Sandwich with Macaroni and Cheese or French Fries. Take outs available. Large orders should be called in after 9 AM to the Cathedral Rectory @ 944-4603.



Lenten Retreat for Women: Do you know a woman who feels over-tasked, anxious, burdened, distracted, fragmented, frayed, tossed or turbulent? Maybe all of the above? Could that be you? Let's dive together into the story of Martha and Mary (Luke 10:41) and reflect on what is essential. Join us for the **Women's Retreat for Lent** at Good Shepherd Catholic Church (on Grays Woods Blvd just off Rt. 99 at State College). We are excited to welcome **Dr. Joanne Cahoon**,

professional Spiritual Director and Consultant, to lead our 2018 Women's Retreat day. Mark your calendars for: **Saturday, March 17**, 8:30 am (doors open) - 3:30 p.m. Take a day during lent to readjust focus and renew your heart in preparation for Easter glory. For more information or to register contact Good Shepherd by email: goodshepherd@dioceseaj.org or call (814) 238-2110. Register by March 5th for \$25. (March 6th, \$30 per person.) Lunch will be provided.

FEBRUARY COLLECTIONS 2018

February 25, 2018	Env used	70/150
Weekly		1820.21
Christmas Club		25.00
Easter		100.00
Votives		64.00
Children's		9.50
Shrine		20.00
Music		13.00
Fuel		50.00
Register		8.00
Init Offering		10.00
Holy Land		10.00
<u>Holy Thursday</u>		<u>10.00</u>

Dep. For Week 2139.71



03/09 Francis Barroner

03/10 Bert Bravin



ANGEL FUND 2018

Consider giving a gift now that will enrich the life of a young camper in the Summer of 2018!
Camp Zacchaeus Grades 4-9 and Camp Timothy Grades 10-12 (and newly graduated seniors 2018)

We are looking for people, groups, parishes or organizations to sponsor a child to attend

Camp Zacchaeus 2018 or Camp Timothy 2018 through the *Angel Fund*.

We will accept full or partial sponsorships of any amount to help cover the cost of camp – **(100 PERCENT of the funds collected through Angel Fund donations are dispersed to needy campers)**! If you are interested in sponsoring a child, or for more information, please contact Francine Swope at the Diocesan Youth Ministry Office (814)317-2646, or mail your contribution directly to:

Camp Zacchaeus or Camp Timothy Angel Fund, 933 S. Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648.

Become an Angel Fund sponsor and help send a needy child to camp to experience a wonderful faith-filled week in the great outdoors!

DIOCESAN SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITIES 2018

Registrations for our diocesan summer camps, Camp Timothy (Grades 10-12 and newly graduated seniors) and Camp Zacchaeus (Grades 4-9) and are being accepted. Camp “Z” and Camp “T” offer our young people an opportunity to supercharge their faith in a wonderful outdoor setting of faith, fun and friendship!

Due to the generosity of many of the faithful in our diocese there are Angel Fund scholarships available to help offset the cost of Camp for any family who is eligible. Every year we have had a pool of donors that continue to support the Angel Fund. We have been very blessed that we have never have had to turn any down any family that wanted to send their child to Camp Zacchaeus or Camp Timothy. We do not want ANY child to miss camp because of financial concerns. Scholarship forms are available through the Youth Ministry Office.

DATES: Camp Timothy – June 17-21 Camp Zacchaeus – Week 1-July 22-27 and Week 2-July 29-Aug 3

For more information or an application, contact Francine Swope in the Youth Ministry Office (814) 317-2646.

Prayer and Luncheon for Widows and Widowers throughout our Diocese

Remember your loved ones on **Wednesday, March 21 with Mass at 11:00 am.** Theme of the day: “New Beginnings.” All spouses will be mentioned and remembered at Mass. Luncheon to follow. Widows and widowers throughout the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese are invited to attend. Sponsored by the Diocesan Family Life Office and hosted by the Immaculate Conception Church, 1640 New Germany Road, Summerhill. **Reservations required by March 15. A \$5 donation is suggested. Contact the Family Life Office at 814-886-5551 or familylife@dioceseaj.org.**

Carmelite Community of the Word Opportunities for Enrichment

Sunday Sabbath Series Sunday, March 11, 2018 They Killed Sr. Dorothy

A documentary on the killing of 73-year-old Catholic nun and activist Sister Dorothy Stang in February 2005, in the Brazilian rain forest, where she, for 30 years, fought along with environmentalists and the underprivileged local communities against the exploitation of powerful loggers and landowners.

Sunday Sabbath gatherings begin at 1:30 PM and end at 5:00 PM. It includes the DVD presentation and time for prayer, reflection and discussion. There is no charge for the session but a free will donation will be welcomed.

Pre-registration is requested 5 days before each session.

Sessions will be held at Carmelite Community of the Word Incarnation Center, 394 Bem Rd., Gallitzin, PA.

To register, get directions, or for more information, call 814-886-4098.



**OUR LADY URGES US TO PRAY THE HOLY ROSARY FOR
PEACE AND OFFER
SACRIFICES BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!**

KEEP HOLY THE SABBATH

There's no better way to deepen our Lenten practice than to review the Ten Commandments. The first three, having to do with our right relationship to God, get the most ink. The one we busy people probably have the most problem with is keeping holy the Sabbath.

If we take this commandment literally, babies will go undiapered and dishes will stay on the table, or perhaps meals will not be served. The sick will go unattended and nothing that has anything to do with physical labor will be done. Is mental labor really work? How about changing that dirty diaper (poor baby!)?

We need to depend on God to discern how to observe real Sabbath time in our lives. The point of this commandment is that God has given us a great gift: one whole day per week when we are free to rest, worship God, sing, feast, love, and rejoice. As Psalm 19 proclaims: "The law of the LORD is perfect, / refreshing the soul" (19:8). Our Sabbath rest is a great gift, to be received from God with joy, not with nitpicking.

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TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

If your parish is reading from Year B of the Lectionary today, and not Year A, as is normally done when there are elect present for the scrutinies and preparing for Easter baptism, you hear about Jesus driving the money-changers from the temple. If you wished to get as close as possible to this site today, you would in fact be at a Muslim shrine, the Dome of the Rock, built on the ruins of Herod's temple. Archeologists believe that this striking, gold-domed crown of a shrine is set precisely where the Holy of Holies once was. Jews believe that the rock is the exact spot where Abraham was prepared to sacrifice Isaac. It is not a mosque, as some think, but a shrine, the oldest one in the Muslim world. For them, the rock is the place from which the Prophet Mohammed ascended on a visit to heaven. The Crusaders mistook the shrine for the actual Temple of Solomon, and the infamous Knights Templar used it as their headquarters and model for their churches elsewhere. The geometric perfection of the shrine is a mathematician's dream. The inscriptions are not exactly hospitable though, since they encourage Christians to "depart from error" and declare that "Jesus son of Mary was only a messenger of God." In ancient times, those who prayed here after walking around the rock were given a certificate entitling the bearer to admission to paradise. The ticket had to be buried with them.

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

FORGIVENESS

If a bad person wrongs you, forgive the person, lest there be two bad people.

—Anonymous

THE SURLY BIRD

Some doctors say that cheerful people resist disease better than grumpy ones. The surly bird catches the germ.

—Anonymous

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