

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

March 31, 2019

Whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come. — 2 Corinthians 5:17

*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. Francis of Paola, April 2

Our Lady of Fatima Parish

2010 12th Avenue

www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.org

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: 6:00PM

Rosary: 10:05 AM - Rosary: 5:40 PM

Our Lady of Fatima Parish Administrator

Very Reverend Alan E. Thomas, VG

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 - 5PM Winter
9AM - 6PM Summer**

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

Very Rev. Alan E. Thomas, VG, Administrator

PH: 814-742-7075, Allison, Secretary

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

GOD FORGIVES

The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have removed the reproach of Egypt from you." After forty years of wandering in the desert, this hard-headed people have finally reached the Promised Land. No more do they eat the manna in the desert, but they partake of the fruits of their new homeland. God has kept the promise to their parents in Egypt. Even though they were a sinful people, many times questioning God and even worshiping false gods, God has forgiven them and fulfilled the promise. The "take-away" for us is that there is no sin that is unforgivable. We may have offended our neighbors, given a bad example to someone, even worshiped the false gods of money and power. But God is a merciful God, true to the words spoken to us. God forgives all and calls us back to love.

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TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Today, "Laetare Sunday," breaks the somberness of Lent for a little rejoicing, and the readings all summon us to an awareness of reconciliation. One of the best-loved stories of our tradition is today's Gospel story of the runaway son and the prodigal father. Prodigal, of course, is an adjective meaning "spendthrift or extravagant to a degree bordering on recklessness," and although the boy maxes out the credit cards, it is really the father who is prodigal with forgiveness.

Part of the excitement of this Laetare Sunday is rooted in the ancient catechumenate. Long ago, midway through Lent, the "elect" were focusing more and more on the gift of reconciliation accomplished for them by Christ and about to be realized in the Easter sacraments they were preparing to celebrate. In some places, the elect were even bedecked with roses on this day. A person bedecked with roses sticks out in a crowd; a person formed by the Eucharist and committed to living a life of reconciliation does, too. That's you!

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

GOD'S CAPACITY FOR FORGIVENESS

Where is the foolish person who would think it in his or her power to commit more than God could forgive?

—St. Francis de Sales

HAPPINESS

Happiness will never be ours if we do not recognize to some degree that God's blessings were given us for the well-being of all.

—Anonymous

Where to Turn in the Bible for Prayer

Where do you go when you want to pray with the Bible?

When you are not sure what to do.

Matt. 22:34-40; 25:31-46; Eph. 4:25-32.

When you are anxious for someone you love.

Luke 12:22-34; John 17.

When you need to forgive.

Matt 5:43-48; Luke 23:34

When you need to be forgiven

Ps 51; Isaiah 53; Matt 16:18-19

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At Home With Our Faith, Clar etian Publications

March 31, 2019
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
10:30 AM

OUR LADY OF FATIMA MASS INTENTIONS

Readings: Jos 5:9a,10-12; 2 Cor 5:17-21; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Today's Intention-Ronald Geis

Readings: Is 43:16-21; Phil 3:8-14; Jn 8:1-11

Sun., April 7, Fifth Sunday of Lent

George & Marie (Rice) Raichle, (Cathy, Rita & Barbara, Grndgtrs)

Cathedral Mass Intention

April 1, Monday: Lenten Weekday

Readings: Is 65:17-21; Jn 4:43-54

6:45 AM Regina Osmolinski (Henry)

8:00 AM Anna Matthew (John and Rose Ann)

12:00 PM Guy Walter (Mary Lysinger)

April 2, Tuesday: Saint Francis of Paola, Hermit

Readings: Ez 47:1-9,12; Jn 5:1-16

6:45 AM Anna Schoch (Mr & Mrs Francis Dambeck)

8:00 AM Patrick Cooney (Frank Fiore)

12:00 PM Mary Johnson (Stanley J. Krish Family)

April 3, Wednesday: Lenten Weekday

Readings: Is 49:8-15; Jn 5:17-30

6:45 AM Barry & Brian Elmers (Mom and Dad)

8:00 AM Joseph A. Keirn (Mom and Dad)

12:00 PM Theresa Kennedy (M/M Mark Bover)

April 4, Thursday: Saint Isidore, Bishop and Doctor

Readings: Ex 32:7-14; Jn 5:31-47

6:45 AM Barbara Byers (Jim & Patti lubelt)

8:00 AM Bobby McCabe (Tom & Lisa Levine Fam.)

12:00 PM Janet Tomlinson (Tim & Anne Marie Longwill)

April 5, Friday: Saint Vincent Ferrer, Priest

Readings: Wis 2:1, 12-22; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

6:45 AM Carrie Moffa (Family)

***8:00 AM Mim Pufka Billman (C.J.Kowalski, C. Smith)**

12:00 PM Charles Brady (Dee and Joe Shellenberger)

April 6, Saturday: Lenten Weekday

Readings: Jer 11:18-20; Jn 7:40-53

8:00 AM Helen Zurilla, Birthday (Dave Capouellez)

12:00 PM Anna Marie Jacobs, Ann. (Rudolph Family)

Vigil: Fifth Sunday of Lent

Readings: Ez 37:12-14; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45

5:00 PM Dolores Snyder, Anniversary (Family)

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

Please pray for all of our parishioners, especially for those who have illnesses great and small and our seniors who are lonely and need comfort and care.

March 31, 2019

Scripture Reflections

Today the readings from Cycle A are proclaimed at Mass. Our elect (seeking Baptism, and Eucharist) and our Candidates (seeking Confirmation) celebrate the Second Scrutiny. They are to name what keeps them blind to Christ in their lives. We too, are invited to scrutinize our lives.

Jesus saw more than the surface in the man born blind. Jesus sees both a person and an opportunity to make the works of God visible through him.

Ordinary clay, saliva, and washing heal the man's physical blindness. His openness frees him to do as Jesus as asked and so he gains physical sight. As the story unfolds, he also gains insight into who Jesus is: naming him prophet, from God, and Son of Man. He also gains the courage to speak truth to the Pharisees, blinded by seeing only what they wanted to see. By their refusal to look into the heart and really see Jesus and the healed blind man, they choose sin. To sin one must know that something is wrong and choose to do it.

The Gospel reading describes an encounter between Jesus, a blind man, and the Pharisees, which culminates in the answer to the disciples' question. "Who sinned?" In the ancient world, sickness was believed to be the manifestation of sin. In the case of the man born blind, the likely culprits would be the man's parents. But Jesus counters that not all sickness derives from sin, and in fact in this case, the man's blindness will lead not only to physical sight but spiritual vision as well. As the narrative continues, it becomes apparent that the man "sees" Jesus as a prophet and recognizes him as a man from God while the Pharisees remain blinded by their failure to recognize Jesus' true identity. The disciples' questions is answered. The sin of the Pharisees remains because they are confident in their own righteousness.

Our union with Christ gives us light to distinguish truth from falsehood, right from wrong, light from darkness. His light helps us see beyond mere appearance and preconceptions into the heart. Are we willing to see as God sees? Or does fear of rejection or change keep us blind, like the man's parents and the Pharisees? When we look into the heart, we see others and ourselves as God does, people of light and darkness, whose darkness, when named, can be healed. Turn to the light and ask the Divine Physician to open your eyes.

- If you were to name your one blindness (in a spiritual sense), what would it be ?

Living the Word, Laurie Brink and Paul Colloton, World Library Publications, 2018, p. 88. AT HOME with the WORD 2019, Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications.

Baptismal Prep Class

There will be a Baptismal Prep class on Tuesday April 9th at 7:00 PM in the Seton Suite.

MONTH OF APRIL

F.I.R.E. will meet on Sunday Evenings from 6:15 PM 8:15 PM in the Church Hall.

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CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

11th Grade Confirmation Candidates and their sponsors or parent: A session will be held this evening from 6:15 - 8:15 PM in the Hall. All paper work is due!

ALL NINTH Grade Candidates

Sunday, March 31st, 2019 Spring Session

We will meet in the Church at 6:30 PM for Evening Prayer; the Spring Session will follow in the Cathedral Hall until 8:15 PM.

First Communion at the Cathedral will be on Sunday, May 5 at the 10:00 AM Mass;

NOTE: First Communion for Our Lady of Fatima Parish will be on **Sunday, April 28 at the 10:30 Mass.**

Healing Mass, Monday, April 8, 2019, at 7:00 PM, at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. Fr. Jonathan St. Andre TOR, will be the main celebrant. All are welcome, especially those in need of physical emotional, or spiritual healing, and those who support and care for them as well. Music for the Mass will be led by the Cathedral Prayer Group Music Ministry. For more information, call 814-941-3832.

CCW Annual "Hands & Hearts Haiti Fèt"

The Carmelite Community of the Word invites you to our Annual Hands & Hearts Haiti Fèt (Paschal Festival), on Sunday, May 5, 2019, at Our Lady of Loretto Hall, 279 St. Elizabeth St., Loretto, PA 15940. Please join us for an afternoon of good food, and enriching entertainment through Haiti stories and information on the CCW Hands & Hearts Ministry efforts. The afternoon will include a silent auction and opportunity to purchase Haitian Art and Craft items. Doors open at 1:15 p.m.; Dinner and Program at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$35 for adults and \$15 for children under 13. In addition, each participate is asked to contribute an item of children's or teens new underwear or socks. Contact the CCW Incarnation Center at 814-886-4098 for tickets or for more information. Ticket deadline is April 29, 2019. All proceeds will benefit the CCW Hands & Hearts Haiti Ministry.

**EUCCHARISTIC
ADORATION**

Liturgical Reflection...

The devotion prompting the faithful to visit the Blessed Sacrament draws them into an even deeper share in the paschal mystery and leads them to respond gratefully to the gift of him who through his humanity pours divine life into the members of his Body. Abiding with Christ the Lord, the faithful enjoy the Lord's intimate friendship and pour out their hearts before him for themselves and for those dear to them, and they pray for the peace and salvation of the world. Offering their entire lives with Christ to the Father in the Holy Spirit, believers derive from the Holy Sacrament an increase in faith, hope, and charity.

Order for the Solemn Exposition of the Holy Eucharist, Introduction, Number 5.

2019, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648

2018 Contributions for Income Tax Purposes.

We will have them completed by end of the week..

Collection for MARCH 24, 2019 \$ 1235.60

BIRTHDAYS: Pauline Kawtoski, April 3rd; Kayla Scalice, April 8th -- **ANNIVERSARIES:** Emma & Paul Kowalski, April 7th



OUR LADY URGES US TO PRAY THE HOLY ROSARY

FOR

PEACE AND OFFER

SACRIFICES BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!



Out & About for March 2019



LENTEN FISH DINNERS- BEST IN TOWN!

Our Lady of Lourdes will be having their famous Lenten Fish Dinners every Friday during Lent beginning March 8 and including Good Friday, April 19. Baked or hand dipped fried haddock, fresh cut FF or homemade mac & cheese, homemade stewed tomatoes, coleslaw or applesauce, homemade dessert and drink/coffee. Adults \$10.50 and children twelve and under \$7.50. Take out begin at 3:30 and eat in 4:30-7:00PM. We are known for having the BEST FISH DINNER IN TOWN!

Saint Mary Hollidaysburg—Basket Bonanza Tickets 25 for \$5.00 Tickets will be sold in our Social Hall: March 23rd—10:00 AM to 6:00 PM; March 23rd—7:30 AM to 6:00 PM ; March 30th—10:00 AM to 6:00 PM; March 30th—7:30 AM to 6:00 PM: Drawing March 31st, in our Social Hall. Winner need not be present, winner will be notified. Light refreshments will be served.

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

Holy Trinity Summer Preschool

The Holy Trinity Catholic School is very excited to be offering Summer Preschool this year at both of our elementary locations. As we need to begin to purchase materials and supplies for the program, we are asking anyone that may be interested to call the Altoona location at 381-7011, or the Hollidaysburg location at 695-6112. The details are as follows:

Time: 8:00 Am to 3:00 PM each day. Classes begin June 17. (Themed weeks)

\$125.00 a week per child.

Ages 3-5 (Must be potty trained).

Highly qualified teachers and an aide. Must pack a lunch and Bring a change of clothes.

Carmelite Community of the Word Opportunities for Enrichment

Overnight Retreat April 12 - 13, 2019: What the "People of the Passion" teach us about Jesus Today As we journey through Lent to Holy Week, this retreat offers the opportunity to reflect on 7 people who witnessed the death of Jesus. Retreat begins on Friday evening at 7 PM; ends on Saturday at 3 PM. and will include presentations on the theme, guided prayer opportunities and time for quiet personal reflection.

Donation: \$40/person or \$60/married couple. Includes overnight accommodations, meals and all materials. Pre-registration with donation is required by April 8.

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.

STAY INFORMED AND ENGAGED IN DIOCESAN NEWS

The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown has launched an on-line newspaper Proclaim!: The Good News of Altoona-Johnstown featuring diocesan news, information, and commentary – including happenings at parishes and schools. Visit the site at proclaim.dioceseaj.org and sign up for regular e-mail updates delivered to your inbox. Beginning soon, monthly editions of The Catholic Register will be available here at the parish.

Stewardship Reflections

Through Baptism, we see the light that is Jesus Christ. May we be the light in the darkness of today's world through the wise use our time, talent, and treasure.

Garvey Manor Volunteers: At Garvey Manor and Our Lady of the Alleghenies Residence, we consider every volunteer a blessing. We are currently recruiting volunteers for a variety of positions. Even an hour or two a week or month of an individual's time can make a difference! For more information, please call Kathy La Velle, Assistant Activities Director and Volunteer Coordinator at 695-5571.

March 31 Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

We may feel like the Prodigal Son but the gospel wants us to focus on the father who was forgiving and understanding. We all make mistakes and need forgiveness. Who in your family needs your forgiveness and acceptance this Lent?

Lenten Fish Luncheons at Cathedral starting on Ash Wednesday and Fridays of Lent except Good Friday. Menu includes a Fish Sandwich, your choice of macaroni and cheese, pierogie, French fries or Haluski for \$8.00 (includes drink). Serving from 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM or till sold out. Call in take-out orders of ten or more.

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please call the Parish Office.

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