

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Observance of the 100th Anniversary of the Apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Fatima, Portugal

May 7, 2017

The year 2017 marks the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary to three shepherd children in Portugal from May to October 1917. The message of Fatima includes a call to conversion of heart, repentance of sin, prayer (especially the Rosary), and devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Pope Francis has encouraged the faithful to take advantage of the spiritual benefits at Marian celebrations during this centennial observance. In the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Bishop Bartchak will lead the FIRST celebration on:

Saturday, May 13, Memorial of Our Lady of Fatima, 11:30 A.M., Rosary and Mass, at Our Lady of Fatima Church, 2010 12th Ave, Altoona.

*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.*

Our Lady of Fatima Parish
2010 12th Avenue
www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.com
Rector 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
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 to make 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

RSacrament 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

SOUR 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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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: ltaylor@diocesaj.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

The dogma of the Immaculate Conception (Continued)

What does this doctrine mean?...

Ordinarily, when a human soul is created at conception, it lacks the indwelling of the Trinity and sanctifying grace (that is, the theological virtues of faith, hope, and charity), and is wounded by disordered passions and desires, called “concupiscence,” which darken the intellect, weaken the will, and incline us to sin. Why? Because of the Fall of Adam and Eve. The absence of sanctifying grace and presence of concupiscence in the human soul comes from original sin.

There is a remedy for our condition, however. In Baptism, we are washed clean of all stain of original sin, and in Confession, we are forgiven any sins we have committed since Baptism. Why do these Sacraments have such power? Because in them and through them, we are forgiven by Jesus, who frees us from sin by His Precious Blood poured out for us on the Cross.

That’s how it works for ordinary human beings.

But Mary’s conception was an extraordinary event. Because of the role she was created to play—namely, to be the Mother of God—Mary was preserved from all stain of original sin (including concupiscence, the disordered tendency to sin) from the moment of her conception. Grace was fully present in Mary at conception—she lacked no grace. Further, she never sinned throughout her life on earth. She had free will, just as Adam and Eve were immaculate, sinless and had unfettered free will before the Fall. But Mary, the New Eve was obedient where the first Eve had been disobedient. Mary’s loving obedience thus preserved the fullness of grace within her soul and allowed her to grow in sanctity to a greater degree than any other creature. This is why the angel Gabriel calls her “kecharitomene,” or “full of grace” (Lk 1:28). The Blessed Virgin Mary never lacked grace in her soul.

Another Scriptural support of this dogma is found in Genesis 3:15, when God said to the serpent, Satan: “I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel” (RSVCE). This prophesied woman must be Mary, because it is her virginal seed, Jesus, who ultimately has victory over Satan. To have complete enmity with Satan, she must be completely free from his dominion, which is spread by sin. Therefore, she must have been free from all stain of sin from the first moment of her existence; hence, she must have been immaculately conceived.

How can she be preserved from original sin through the merits of Jesus Christ when He hadn’t even become incarnate at the time she was conceived?

Mary was in the same situation as all the other faithful servants of God who lived before the coming of Jesus. All grace comes through Jesus Christ, even grace given in the time of the Old Testament.

It is a great mystery to us how this can be — all the grace given before the historic events of the Incarnation comes through something that hadn’t happened yet? But God is eternal, outside of time, and so all the events of Jesus’ Incarnation are, in a certain sense, eternal, since they involved an eternal Person, the Son of the Father. Thus, all humanity back to the beginning received whatever grace God provided them through Jesus, the incarnate Son of God. For more on this great mystery, see the “One Thing” is Three by Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC. (Product Code: ONE).

Why does Mary need a redeemer if she’s immaculate and stays sinless from the moment of her conception?

Because she is sinless only through the grace of God given through Jesus Christ. Where we are forgiven our sins, she was preserved from sin. Both are a work of God.

Consider this example: A small child is running along a path and trips over a rock. The father of the child, runs over, picks up the child, brushes him off, and the child goes on his way.

This is our situation: We have fallen into sin. The Father forgives us and washes us clean by the Precious Blood of Jesus.

Now imagine another child running down the same path. Her father sees the rock ahead and runs to remove it so that the child never trips and falls.

This is Mary’s situation: The Father applied the merits of the Precious Blood of Jesus to Mary at her conception, preserving her from all sin, so that she could fulfill the task the Father had for her — to be completely sinless, and become the Mother of God and Savior of the world, to be born of a pure and spotless virgin, one who has complete enmity with the devil and in whom sin never found a home.

Rather than detracting from what Christ did for us on the cross, the Immaculate Conception is the pinnacle of Christ’s redeeming work. The gift of Mary’s Immaculate Conception does not come through any merits of her own, but only through the merits of Jesus Christ who suffered on Calvary and gained this marvelous grace for her.

Continued on last page—

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 7, 2017

OUR LADY OF FATIMA MASS INTENTIONS 10:30 AM

Readings: Acts 2:14,22-23; 1 Pt 1:17-21; Lk 24:13-35

Today's Intention = Charles Hennigan

May 13, Saturday: Memorial of 100th Ann. of Our Lady of Fatima's /First Apparition in Portugal

Readings: Acts 13:44-52; Jn 13:7-14

11:30 AM – Holy Rosary and Mass with Bishop Mark
Intention = Our Lady of Fatima Parish and her Parishioners

May 14, Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Easter & May Crowning

Readings: Acts 6:1-7; 1 Pr 2:4-9; Jn 14:1-12

*10:30 AM M/M Morgan Smithmyer

CATHEDRAL MASS INTENTIONS

May 8, Monday: Easter Weekday

Readings: Acts 11:1-18; Jn 10:11-18

6:45 AM Regina Osmolinski (Kathy Clapper)

8:00 AM Anne Lusardi (Lois Duncan)

*12:00 PM Lois J. Riley (Vicki and Don Riley)

May 9, Tuesday: Easter Weekday

Readings: Acts 11:10-26; Jn 10:22-30

***6:45 AM David Conrad (Tom and Patricia Forr)**

8:00 AM Pat Rabine (Alice and John Joyce)

12:00 PM Moose Plutko (Mary Gene Vogel)

May 10, Wednesday: Saint Damien de Veuster, Priest

Readings: Acts 12: 24--13:5; Jn 12:44-50

6:45 AM Deceased of Richard & Dorothy Irwin Family

8:00 AM Derek Behe (Parents)

12:00 PM Mary Dodson (Maureen A. Halerz)

May 11, Thursday: Easter Weekday

Readings: Acts 13:13-25; Jn 13:16-20

6:45 AM Marcella Glowgowski (M. & D. Hanekamp)

*8:00 AM Jerry Smith (Bill Boslet)

12:00 PM Bea Mannion (Larry and Elaine Burk)

7:00 PM Confirmation

May 12, Friday: Saints Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs

Readings: Acts 13:26-33; Jn 14:1-6

6:45 AM Dennis Blackie, Birthday (Friend)

8:00 AM Ann Frendzel, Ann. (Mother, Barb Cowan)

12:00 PM Danyll Rougeux (Mona & Jim Greco)

May 13, Saturday: Our Lady of Fatima

Readings: Acts 13:44-52; Jn 13:7-14

*8:00 AM Teresa G. Mincin, Birth/Anniv. (Anna Miller)

12:00 PM Joseph Hallinan (Frances and Family)

Vigil: Fifth Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 6:1-7; 1 Pr 2:4-9; Jn 14:1-12

5:00 PM Lois Sanker, Ann/Son, David, Birth (Family)

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

MAY 7, 2017

Scripture Reflection

Jesus uses figures of speech to make his points. Characterizing himself as a shepherd, he contrasts himself with those who try to steal into the sheepfold. He seeks to guide, guard, and nurture the sheep; strangers want to snatch the sheep. The true shepherd will be recognized by both the gatekeeper and the sheep. Then, using the technical phrase "I am", he characterizes himself as the gate. Those who go through Jesus will be safe within the pen. As both shepherd and gate, Jesus shows concern for the welfare of the sheep. He insists that he has come so that they may have life and have it more abundantly.

The relationship of shepherd to sheep may be difficult for people if flocks are in the thousands and herders are on motor bikes controlling these animals that seem to be unmotivated and rather stupid! But in the Palestine of Jesus' day, and still in many other countries today, there is an intimacy of naming, calling, and leading between the shepherd and his sheep, and the shepherd needs his sheep for his livelihood. Pet nicknames, special whistling or tonal calls enable the sheep that have been herded into a common sheepfold and guarded by a night gatekeeper to respond to their own shepherd and follow him out to morning pastures.

Christ is described as the shepherd and guardian of our souls. As we have just sung, even if we are called to walk in the valley of darkness, we need have no fear, for the Shepherd's rod and staff are there to comfort and protect us, as well as gently prod us on. The task of a shepherd could mean the difference between life and death for the flock. Jesus presents himself both as the shepherd and the gate to the sheepfold. Both images express the commitment of the shepherd to lay down his life for the sheep. He guards the sheep by day and at night he lays across the gate to the sheepfold to guard against intruders. The mission of the shepherd and of Jesus is the same: that we might have abundant life.

- From what dangers and predators do you need the Shepards protection?

Living the Word, Diane Bergant and James Wallace, World Library Publications, 2010, page 110. Building on Rock, Verna Holyhead, Liturgical Press, 2007, pages 71-73. AT HOME WITH THE WORD 2017. (C) 2016 ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO, LITURGY INING PUBLICATIONS, 3949 South Racine Avenue CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60609. RERINTED WITH PERMISSION.

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Liturgical Reflection...

The entire Church life bears the mark of the spousal love of Christ and the Church. Already Baptism, the entry into the People of God, is a nuptial mystery. Baptism is the nuptial bath which precedes the wedding feast, the Eucharist. Each Sunday in Easter we are sprinkled with Easter water to remind ourselves of our baptismal identity. In the bath of Baptism we were wedded to Christ and the Church. The divine wedding feast takes place every time we gather for Mass. Christ, the Bridegroom, shares his Body and Blood with the people, his bride, for whom he died and rose (Catechism of the Catholic Church Number 1617).

2017, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648

4th Sunday of Easter (May 7)

Jesus came so that we "might have life, and have it more abundantly." May we allow Jesus to serve one another through our abundance.



05/12 Joseph Knott	05/14 Pete Colledge
05/13 Kathy Starr	05/16 Dan Stitt, Jr



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Turkey & Ham = Turkey, Provolone Cheese

Turkey & Ham = Turkey, Ham, Provolone Cheese

All hoagies come with lettuce, tomatoes, onions, banana peppers and Ultimate Sub Shop Signature House Dressing

Effective use of "Adult Time-Outs"
Positive Self-Talk to use during Time-Outs
*I will be peaceful.
 I have choices. I choose to stay calm. I'm Okay. I'm a good person. We're going to figure this out.*
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April 2017 Contributions

April 30, 2017	Env Used	63 / 150
Weekly		\$1633.55
Easter		242.00
Holy Thursday		205.00
Ascension		10.00
Cmas Club		15.00
Votives		56.00
Children's		4.25
Holy Land		12.00
CRS Rice Bowls		57.36
<u>Cath. Home Miss</u>		<u>10.00</u>
Total Dep		\$2245.16

St. Mary's Golf Tournament...

The 14th annual golf tournament will be held on Sunday, June 4th at the King Valley Golf Course beginning at 8:00 A.M. Cost is \$70.00 per golfer and includes green fees and cart, prizes and a homemade spaghetti dinner. For additional information or to register, contact: John Carnicella at 946-0672 or Terry Anderson at 941-1991.

2017 Catholic Ministries Drive...

Bishop Mark explains the New Catholic Ministries Drive and how the monies are implemented on page 5 and 6 of today's bulletin.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER...

As Pope Francis emphasizes the importance of marriage and family, why not take this opportunity to enrich your marriage and family life by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend? The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will be held June 23-25, 2017. Early registration is advisable as space is limited. Registration and information can be found by visiting: www.yourmarriageworthit.org

Praying With Icons Class Offered...

Icons are not simply art; they are a way into contemplative prayer, and therefore one way to let God speak to us. The class, Praying With Icons, focuses on the Festal Icons (the major events in the life of Christ and the Theotokos) and the Sacred Scripture that speaks to us through the sacred images. Deacon Michael Russo will be presenting this eight week course Tuesday evenings from 6:30 - 8:30 PM at St. Rose of Lima Parish, Altoona beginning May 16th. The cost of the course is \$35. For the complete schedule of class dates and registration, please contact Marybeth at the Office of Adult Enrichment and Lay Ecclesial Ministries at (814) 361-2000 or by email at mheinze@dioceseaj.org. All are welcome!

OUTDOOR MASSES-Father John D. Byrnes, Rector, and the Parish Family of St. Michael the Archangel Basilica, Loretto, invite the faithful to join us each Sunday evening at 7:00p.m. for the outdoor Sunday Mass at the beautiful Shrine of Our Lady of the Alleghenies in Loretto. The first Mass of the season will be celebrated on Sunday, May 28, 2017 and will continue through Labor Day Weekend, September 3, 2017. Please bring a lawn chair. In the event of inclement weather, the Mass will be held in the Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel.



Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown

Office of the Bishop

927 South Logan Boulevard

Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

Phone: 814-695-5579

Faxsimile: 814-695-8894

www.dioceseaj.org

April 21, 2017

Rev. Msgr. Robert Mazur
Our Lady of Fatima
2010 12th Ave
Altoona, PA 16601

Dear Monsignor Mazur and Parishioners,

It's a new day for us in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown as we begin the **2017 Catholic Ministries Drive**. Several months ago I established a special committee to examine the effectiveness of the Annual Catholic Appeal and to recommend the best way to fund vital ministries while reducing the burden on parishes.

Listening sessions were held in various locations. Input was sought from pastors, parish pastoral and finance councils. It was determined that the vital ministries would be divided into three categories: Caring for the Poor and Strengthening Families; Nurturing Youth; Forming Clergy and Laity.

The **2017 Catholic Ministries Drive** will provide 100% of the funding of these vital ministries, which impact people in parishes and communities throughout the diocese. The Catholic Ministries Drive Committee will continue to provide oversight of allocations to these vital ministries.

Your Parish will be asked to achieve a target amount of \$10,973, but there will no longer be penalties for exceeding or not making the target. At the same time, we will continue to keep our diocesan administration expenses to a minimum, while maintaining the support services that are necessary to assist parishes, schools and the people of our diocese.

I know of your generosity in giving. It inspires me to be guided by the saying, "When we know more, we can do more." I need your support and your contribution, and our fellow parishioners and neighbors need our help. At the same time **2017 Catholic Ministries Drive** will allow Our Lady of Fatima Parish to do more at the parish level. Please look for more information through Parish announcements and by mail.

Thank you for your generous support and participation in the mission and ministries of our diocese. Please join me in praying for those who benefit from our **2017 Catholic Ministries Drive**. It can and will be a sign of a new day of hope and promise for all.

With gratitude and prayerful best wishes,

Most Rev. Mark L. Bartchak
Bishop of Altoona-Johnstown

The Catholic Ministries Drive Case for Support

The “Catholic Ministries Drive” will provide 100% of revenue for a specific group of vital ministries in the fiscal year beginning on July 1. The ministries are entirely dependent upon contributions received through the Catholic Ministries Drive.

These ministries are divided into three categories:

Caring for the Poor & Strengthening Families

**Catholic Charities, Family Life, Fulton County Catholic Mission,
Mandeville Diocese in Jamaica**

Nurturing Our Youth

**Campus Ministry, Educating Youth, Sacramental Preparation,
Youth Ministry**

Forming Clergy & Laity

**Adult Enrichment, Christian Initiation (RCIA), Evangelization,
Lay Ecclesial Ministry, Priests’ Vocations, Ongoing Formation
of Priests & Deacons**

Only 1.5% of the total target goal will be budgeted for campaign expenses.

The proceeds from the drive do not support core administrative offices of the diocese (i.e., finance, human resources, stewardship and development, etc.).

Each parish is asked to achieve a “target” amount. Contributions exceeding the parish’s target will be refunded to the parish free from assessment.

Contributions to the 2017 Catholic Ministries Drive will be allocated during the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2017 and ending on June 30, 2018.

The Catholic Ministries Drive Committee will provide oversight of fund allocations to the above ministries, ensuring that contributions fulfill the mission of the bishop to proclaim the Gospel message of Jesus Christ.

Continued from page 3...

So what does the Immaculate Conception mean for us?

Mary, in her Immaculate Conception, is a constant sign of hope and joy. She demonstrates that it is possible to live without sin. It is possible to become a great saint — not because of anything we have done or merited, but because of what Jesus Christ has done and what He has merited. The Immaculate Conception teaches us that the redemption accomplished by Jesus Christ is infinitely fruitful.

Our goal is to be like Mary, to live immaculate lives of love and conform our wills to the will of God. At Baptism, we were cleansed from sin and made immaculate like Mary (which is why we are clothed in a white baptismal garment). But unlike Mary, we retain concupiscence — the disordered inclination to sin — even after Baptism, and unless we resist temptation by the grace of God, we will fall into sin daily.

So we are to imitate Mary Immaculate, trusting in the grace of God, and conforming our wills to God's will in order to preserve our souls in purity. When we fall into sin, we reclaim that purity by cleansing our souls through Confession and sustaining them by receiving Communion in the state of grace, coming again and again to the Sacraments until we enter Heaven.

We should pray to Mary, the Immaculate Conception, asking her to intercede for us so that we, too, may become holy and without sin. The Marian Fathers pray every day, "By your Immaculate Conception, O Mary, may my body be pure and my soul holy."

May we pray to our Mother this day and always in the words of the prayer on the Miraculous Medal, saying, "O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee."

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MAY 13, 2017
100TH
ANNIVERSARY
OF
OUR
LADY
OF
FATIMA'S
FIRST
APPARITION

COVA DA IRIA, PORTUGAL



JUNE 29, 2017
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ANNIVERSARY
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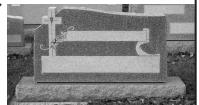
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