

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 10, 2020

"I am the way and the truth and the life.
No one comes to the Father except through me."

— John 14:6

*Our Lady of Fatima
Pleaded that we pray the Holy Rosary
privately from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm
Sunday thru Friday.
Saturday 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM*



**Our Lady of Fatima Parish
2010 12th Avenue**

www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.org
Rectory Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday - 11 AM - 2PM

Parish Office: 814-942-0371

Our Lady of Fatima Church

Our Lady of Fatima Parish Administrator

Rev. Msgr. Stanley B. Carson

Parish Secretary

Carol Z. Smith

Eucharist for the home bound - weekly:

Patty Flanagan 942-0371 for arrangements.

***(DISCONTINUED-due to Covid-19 virus.)**

**Our Lady of Fatima Church is open
*Sunday through Friday: 8:30 AM - 5PM,
Saturday 7:30 AM - 5 PM**

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**

**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.**

**OUR LADY OF FATIMA CLOSED DUE
TO COVID-19**



Cathedral Church Office: 814-944-4603

One Cathedral Square

Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, Bishop

Rev. Msgr. Stanley B. Carson, Administrator

PH: 814-944-4603

**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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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: lhayer@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

Masses discontinued because of covid-19 virus

Cathedral Eucharist:

Sunday: 5:00 PM (Vigil) Holy Days: 5:30 PM (Vigil) Weekdays: 6:45 AM

8:00 AM

8:00 AM

12:00 Noon

10:00 AM

12:00 Noon

12:00 Noon

5:30 PM

Saturday: 8:00 AM

5:00 PM

12:00 Noon

VOCATION

Roman Catholics in the United States spend a good deal of time speaking of “vocation” and the manner in which each of us discerns our vocation for life. In today’s apostolic letter, however, Peter gives us the “cornerstone” of our vocation, the description of what each of us is called to first and foremost by our baptism. He describes our vocation as “a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of [God’s] own, so that you may announce the praises” of Christ, who called us out of darkness into light (1 Peter 2:9). All of us, no matter what path our life’s vocation may take us down, have been chosen by God, made holy, and anointed as priests in the high priesthood of Christ through baptism. All of this, so that we may announce the praises of Christ. Vocation is given for proclamation at home, in the workplace—wherever life takes us—in service, in word, and in sacrament.

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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — To meet their growing needs, the community chooses seven reputable men to serve the new Greek believers (Acts 6:1-7).

Psalm — Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you (Psalm 33).

Second Reading — We, like living stones, let ourselves be built into a spiritual house (1 Peter 2:4-9).

Gospel — “Show us the Father,” Philip asks Jesus. To which Jesus replies: “Whoever sees me, sees the Father” (John 14:1-12).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

May 10 SAINT DAMIEN JOSEPH DE VEUSTER OF MOLOKA’I (1840-1889)

In the mid-1990s, a heavily bearded, bespectacled Robin Williams appeared on Late Night with David Letterman, whose host was clearly taken aback. Letterman inquired as to why the wild look. Uncharacteristically subdued, the usually manic comic responded that he was producing and starring in a movie about a most extraordinarily compassionate man, Damien, the Leper Priest of Moloka’i.

Some saints transcend religious and ethnic boundaries to touch the heart that beats in each human being: Francis of Assisi; Mother Teresa; and, though Williams’ film was never completed, his admiration speaks, as does Damien’s statue outside the capitol in Honolulu, of this newest saint’s universal appeal. Far from his native Flanders’ idyllic beauty and rich culture, Damien volunteered to bear Christ’s light into Moloka’i’s bleak leper colony, building decent homes, opening schools, establishing clinics, planting farms, sharing the sufferings—and the social stigma—of those with whom he delighted to identify: “We lepers,” he would proudly say when finally he contracted leprosy. Saint Damien challenges us to identify the lepers of our own day, to examine our compassion for and our identification with them.

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

HUGS

A mom’s hug lasts long after she lets go.

—Anonymous

MARY OUR MOTHER

What a joy to remember that Mary is our Mother! Since she loves us and knows our weakness, what have we to fear?

—Saint Thérèse of Lisieux



<p>MAY 10, 2020 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 10:30 AM</p> <p>OUR LADY OF FATIMA MASS INTENTIONS</p> <p>Today's Intention - All Mother's Living and Deceased Readings: Acts 6:4-9; 1 Pt 2:4-9; Jn 14:1-12</p> <p>May 13, Wednesday: Our Lady of Fatima Readings: Acts 15:1-6; Jn 15:1-8 + Kryder & Elizabeth Miller (Tom & Mary Irwin Children) + All People in Altoona (Catholic Daughters of America)</p> <p>May 17, 2020, Sixth Sunday of Easter Readings: Acts 8:5-8,14-17; 1 Pt 3:15-18; Jn 14:15-21 Frances Kasun, (Steve & Robyn Kasun)</p> <p>Cathedral Mass Intention</p> <p>May 11, Monday: Easter Weekday Readings: Acts 14:5-18; Jn 14:21-26 + Louis Wertz (Scott Galant) + Joseph M & Neil Bauer (Dan Bauer)</p> <p>May 12, Tuesday: Sts. Nereus, Achilleus & Pancras Readings: Acts 14:19-28; Jn 14:27-31 + Sadie Mullan (Nancy & Skip) + Edgar Johnston (Wife)</p> <p>May 13, Wednesday: Our Lady of Fatima Readings: Acts 15:1-6; Jn 15:1-8 + Kryder & Elizabeth Miller(Tom & Mary Irwin Children) + All People in Altoona (Catholic Daughters of America)</p> <p>May 14, Thursday: Saint Matthias, Apostle Readings: Acts 1:15-17,20-26; Jn 15:9-17 + Fred T. Lumadue(Rich Lumadue) + Betsy Cote (Tina Reighard Foltynewicz)</p> <p>May 15, Friday: Easter Saint Isadore Readings: Acts 15:22-31; Jn 15:12-17 + Sandy Cuzzolina (Family) + Marianna Mignogna Moffa (Estate)</p> <p>May 16, Saturday: Easter Weekday Readings: Acts 16:1-10; Jn 15:18-21 + Florence Moffa Brook (Estate) + Eleanor Toth, Anniversary (Husband George)</p> <p>Vigil: SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Readings: Acts 8:5-8,14-17; 1 Pt 3:15-18; Jn 14:15-21 + Leo Winkler Birthday (Family)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Jesus, Son of the Living Father, Have Mercy on Me a Sinner.</i></p> <p>OUR LADY OF FATIMA MASS Since Wednesday, May 13, is the Feast of our Lady of Fatima, Msgr. Carson will be celebrating his private daily Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church on that day.</p>	<p>SCRIPTURE REFLECTION</p> <p>MAY 10, 2020</p> <p>Looking ahead</p> <p>This passage is part of a “farewell discourse” in which Jesus tries to prepare his disciples for his death. He doesn’t want them to feel frightened and lost when he’s arrested and crucified. Because Jesus is now risen, we interpret this passage as Christ speaking to us today.</p> <p>Dwelling places</p> <p>By many dwelling places Jesus means that there is room for everyone in the divine or triune life. Everyone has a place in God’s house. People enter into union with God through Jesus, who prepares a place for them.</p> <p>This imagery about Jesus preparing a place for his followers recalls the imagery we heard last Sunday. In chapter 10 of John’s Gospel, Jesus speaks of himself as the gate. Just as Jesus is the gate for his sheep, so he prepares a place for people who yearn to enter into eternal life.</p> <p>The way, the truth, and the life</p> <p>John’s Gospel impresses upon us the relationship Jesus has with God. Jesus and God, whom Jesus readily calls his Father, are one. They are in perfect unity or communion with each other. God sent Jesus into the world, where Jesus perfectly fulfilled his Father’s will. Thus, to believe in Jesus is to believe in God, and vice versa (Jn 14:1, 10).</p> <p>Because Jesus is in perfect unity with his Father, he is the way to union with God. People come to believe in this way through the works that Jesus has done, works which include both his deeds and his testimony. These works reveal the truth about Jesus. Ultimately, those who believe Jesus enter into life with him and his Father.</p> <p>Greater works</p> <p>God reveals himself and draws people to himself through Jesus. Once Jesus is crucified and raised up he will bestow his creative power, the Holy Spirit, on his followers so that they can continue this work (v.12). Their works will seem greater because through them the now risen Christ will reach more people and will fully reveal his glory.</p> <p>The final verses of this passage remind us of Matthew 7:7 and Mark 11:24. The risen Christ stands with his Church. We, in turn, strive to ask of Christ only that which will glorify God.</p> <p>What do you wish to ask Jesus to do for you? Does your request glorify the Father?</p> <p>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.</p>

Blessing of Mothers

During the season of Easter, what a great time to remember our mothers and ask for God's blessing on them. It is God who ultimately gave us life. It is through God's unselfish love--mirrored in our mothers' willingness to associate their love with God's and take the risk to love us into life--that we have the opportunity for life. We remember our mothers this Mother's Day with much love. Let us pray for each of them: God our heavenly Father, you give to each the ability to share your generative love. Bless those women in our lives who mirror your love and bring forth life through their willingness to risk bringing new life into this world. Help us to show them our gratitude for the gift of life and the gift of a mother's love. May our life-giving God continue to bless them and show them his unfailing love. We ask this through Jesus, God's Son and our brother.

Amen.

A NOTE FROM MONSIGNOR STAN CARSON: DO NOT LET YOUR HEARTS BE TROUBLED.

This weekend's Gospel reading is from the 14th Chapter of St. John's Gospel and it is part of our Lord's final conversation with the apostles before His passion, death and resurrection. The discourse is presented as taking place while Jesus is celebrating the Passover supper which, on that night of betrayal, was filled with intimacy and intensity. Jesus is preparing His apostles for His own passing from this world to the Father. The apostles are understandably perplexed, fearful, and have questions.

Jesus seems to indicate that the apostles can decide to have troubled hearts or faith-filled hearts. He tells them ... "Do not let your hearts be troubled...have faith 14:1". In other words, don't allow your hearts to be anxious. Don't give permission to your mind to be distressed, upset, or worried. Our thinking with faith influences our emotions, the way we feel.

Recent events within the Church and within the world, including Covid-19, have been troubling for all of us. It is important for us to have faith in our heavenly Father and faith in Jesus. The Holy Spirit can influence our way of thinking so that our own hearts are not troubled and distressed. If the Spirit of God influences our thoughts, our hearts will be peaceful, hopeful, and strong. Come, Holy Spirit, Come!

Radio Mass

Our parish's live radio Mass will be on Sunday, at 10:00 A.M. on WFBG 1290 AM. Until we are able to resume public worship, the participants of the Mass will include the priest, organist, cantor and reader/s. (Due to technical difficulties at the station, COVID-19 issues, and the availability of prerecorded Masses by the bishop and by St. Benedict Parish in Johnstown, our parish's Mass has not been on the air since the beginning of March.) We are pleased to be able to provide this service once again and we are grateful to our sponsors.

Mass for Widows and Widowers

Remember your loved ones on Sunday, May 31, 2020 with a televised Mass celebrated by Bishop Mark Bartchak at 11:00 am on WATM ABC 23 and will be rebroadcast that night at 9:00 p.m. on Atlantic Broadband channel 9. All persons who have lost a spouse through death throughout the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese are invited to register by contacting Family Life Office by calling 814-317-2647/814-317-2643 or email familylife@dioceseaj.org to have your spouse acknowledged and remembered at Mass. When registering, please give your name, address, phone number and name of your spouse who had passed away. Deadline to register is May 20, 2020.

Sponsored by the Diocese Family Life Office.

Contributions

Even during a pandemic, the financial support of parishioners is very important to a parish. However, due to their own financial challenges during a time like this, families might not be able to sustain their current level of giving. As a parish we will need to curtail spending and make adjustments.

Lord God,
send forth upon us your Holy Spirit that we may be strengthened by your gift of grace.
May we excel in every virtue:
in love that is sincere,
in concern for the sick and the poor,
in self-discipline,
and in holiness of life.

May we in this life imitate your Son –
who came not to be served but to serve –
that we may one day reign with him in heaven.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



FIFTH SUNDAY OF *Easter*

MAY 10, 2020

A SPIRITUAL LIFE IN A CONCRETE WORLD

Today's readings describe the complexities of trying to live a spiritual life while still living in a world that demands concrete action. Acts tell us about disagreements beginning to emerge in the early Christian communities over divisions of labor. Some people are praying and preaching while others are feeding the hungry. In First Peter we are reminded that Jesus is the cornerstone. Jesus was rejected yet is the very foundation for building the community, and yet he is also a stumbling block for those who do not follow the path laid out by his life and works. In John we hear again the contrast of the spiritual and the concrete, of houses with many rooms, of truth and life. Is it surprising that the apostles and we are sometimes confused about how to live the life Jesus intended for us?

FINDING REALITY IN FAITH

The readings today describe a faith community struggling with the realities of preaching, teaching, praying, and spreading the word of God while others are concerned about putting food on the table and a roof over their heads. In Acts decisions are made about a division of labor. Some will preach and others will ensure that the community is fed. In First Peter there is talk of spiritual houses, builders, and cornerstones, of faith and stumbling blocks. In John, Jesus begins to prepare the apostles for his departure. Jesus talks about his Father's house but the apostles want concrete answers to their questions. They want to see the Father. They don't know the way. Jesus' response is both spiritual and concrete. His answer is both faith and works.

FINDING FAITH IN THE REAL WORLD

The tensions within the readings are tensions we feel every day between our faith and the world in which we live. We stumble over stones that litter the way, over lies that hide the truth, even over the reality of death. We want our faith to be solid, so we can test its permanence and reality. But faith is not concrete. Faith is a living thing, a leap into the unknown. Works are concrete. The works of the apostles are what sustained them even as they struggled with their own faith. We must feed the hungry and shelter the homeless even as we speak to ourselves and others of faith beyond brick and mortar. While we live in a world of harsh realities, we must remember there are realities beyond those we see but not beyond our belief. We know that the faith born of love for others and lived out in caring for the sick and sorrowful, the hungry and homeless, the poor and imprisoned is real.

Jesus said,
“I am the way and the truth and the life.
No one comes to the Father except through me.”

John 14:6

TODAY'S READINGS

Acts 6:1–7
Psalm 33:1–2, 4–5, 18–19
1 Peter 2:4–9
John 14:1–12

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