

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 5, 2025

Our Lady of Fatima Parish
2000 12th Avenue
Altoona, PA 16601
www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.org

Office Hours:
Tuesdays and Thursdays
11:00AM to 4:00 PM
Parish Office located inside the church
814-942-0371

Rev. Mariusz Gorazd, Administrator
Residing at St. Mary's Rectory, Altoona
Emergency Phone Number 814-942-2416

Administrative Assistant
Paula Hall

Eucharist: Sunday: 11:30 AM
Holy Days: 6:00PM
Confession-Sunday 11:00AM to 11:25AM
Holy Communion for the home bound-
weekly: Patty Flanagan
Religious Education-Contact St. Mary's
814-942-2416

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals will be held at Our Lady of Fatima.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be scheduled by calling the office.

Our Lady of Fatima Church is open daily from 7:30AM-5PM for visits before the Blessed Sacrament.

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.

*****IF YOU HAVE A GLUTEN ALLERGY, PLEASE RECEIVE COMMUNION FROM FR. MARIUSZ GORAZD'S LINE*****

THE FATIMA TOWERS

OUR LADY OF FATIMA MASS INTENTIONS

11:30 A.M.

October 5, 2025 Twenty-seventh in Ordinary Time

Thomas Byrne [A-10/9] (Byrne Family)

October 12, 2025 Twenty-eighth in Ordinary Time

Colleen Douglas [B 10/7] (Margaret Misitano)

ATTENTION!! FYI!!

OUR LADY OF FATIMA OFFICE IS NOW LOCATED IN THE CHURCH!!

Since the sale of the Rectory, the Church Office is now located inside the Church in the Reconciliation Room. Hours will remain the same:

Tuesdays and Thursdays

11Am-4PM

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Sometimes human relationships go awry, but Christ's choice for us is irrevocable. In marriage celebrations, the Church always recalls God's faithfulness to help prepare married couples for enduring the inevitable rough spots. The Byzantine liturgy does this by adorning the couple with crowns that remind them of the martyr's crown. The couple therefore takes on a vocation of witnessing to the sacredness of life in all of its suffering and joy, and of keeping their eyes fixed on the banquet of heaven.

In Eastern theology, people have a liturgical vocation to give God praise, and marriage fits within that plan. It is not so much saying prayers that counts, but becoming prayer. Interestingly, in this liturgy the couple never utters a word other than joining in the community's chants; there are not marriage vows as such. There is therefore not a hint of our Western Christian sense that marriage is a legal contract. Rather, it is all about living out one's baptismal vocation, embracing the cross, pouring oneself out in love, and opening to the grace of the Holy Spirit. —James Field, JS Paluch

SPEAKING OF GOD

Almost everything said of God is unworthy, for the very reason that it is capable of being said. St. Gregory the Great

Our Lady of Fatima Traveling Statue

Our Lady of Fatima traveling statue is available to sign out and take home. Please ask Chris Keagy after mass or contact the office if interested.



During October, the Sanctuary Candle
Is being lit in memory of the Tom Byrne
Family
Thank you.

*******Please Update Information*******

Parishioners are asked to please update their contact information with the parish office. If you have had a change of address, discontinued a land line phone number, or have a new cell phone number, inform the office or put a note in your envelope.

Today's Readings

First Reading—The just ones, because of their faith shall live (Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4).

Psalm—If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts (Psalm 95).

Second Reading—Bear hardship with the strength that comes from God (2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14).

Gospel—The apostles said to Jesus, "Increase our faith" (Luke 17:5-10).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: Jon 1:1—2:2, 11; Jon 2:3-5, 8; Lk 10:25-37

Tues: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 130:1b-4ab, 7-8; Lk 10:38-42

Wed: Jon 4:1-11; Ps 86:3-6, 9-10; Lk 11:1-4

Thurs: Mal 3:13-20b; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 11:5-13

Fri: Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2; Ps 9:2-3, 6, 16, 8-9; Lk 11:15-26

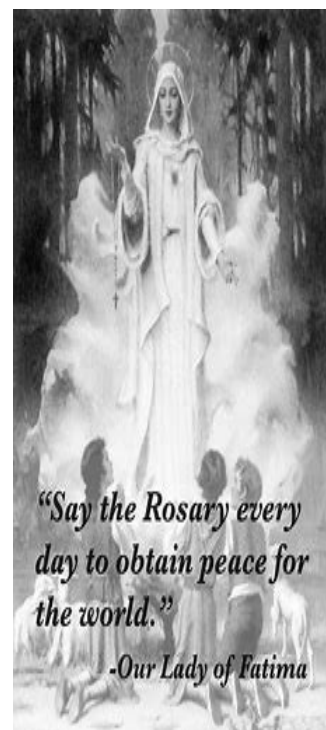
Sat: Jl 4:12-21; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Lk 11:27-28

Sun: 2 Kgs 5:14-17; Ps 98:1-4; 2 Tm 2:8-13; Lk 17:11-19

LIVING A FAITH 'Tis not the dying for a faith that's so hard—every man of every nation has done that—'tis the living up to it that's difficult. —William Makepeace Thackeray

Prayer to Our Lady of Fatima

O Most Holy Virgin Mary,
Queen of the most holy
Rosary, you were pleased to
appear to the children of
Fatima and reveal a glorious
message. We implore you,
inspire in our hearts a
fervent love for the recitation of the rosary. By meditating on the mysteries of the redemption that are recalled therein may we obtain the graces and virtues that we ask, through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer.
Amen.



Thank You Very Much

Your prayers, volunteerism, and financial support are deeply appreciated. The contributions for September 28 was \$ 1079.00 Thank you.

St. Mary's News:

Group Sessions on "The Chosen"

Blessed Mother Room Church

6:00pm-7:30pm, October 6, 13, 20, December 1, 15

Facilitator: Fr. Mariusz

If interested in attending call the rectory office.

Do you have a Last Will and Testament, Living Will, and/or Power of Attorney Prepared?

If interested, call the office, 1 or 2 attorneys are willing to offer appointments at St. Mary's if enough interest.

HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

You are invited to the first in a series of active, inspiring, age-appropriate opportunities:

A guided small group tour of Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament with Msgr Stanley Carson

Sunday, 10/26/25 from 1:30-2:30pm

This is a unique opportunity to join Msgr Carson to learn more about our beautiful Cathedral's history, architecture rich art and stained-glass that together symbolize the presence of God in a different and transformed world. Invite a friend to join you!

RSVP interest by 10/12/25: Reply to your flock note invitation, or akcrtis@verizon.net



The Catholic Ministries Drive target for Our Lady of Fatima Parish is \$10,200. So far, 27 donations amounting to \$5,425 has been received or 54% of our goal. Thank you.

The CMD is more than a fundraiser—it's a call to live out our faith through action. Every gift supports vital ministries that bring Christ's love to our neighbors in need. From nurturing vocations and strengthening the Catholic education to feeding the hungry and comforting the sick, your generosity fuels the mission of the Church in our diocese.

Please prayerfully consider making a gift to the CMD. Every dollar stays within our diocese and directly supports the ministries that touch lives every day. Together, we can build a stronger, more vibrant Church rooted in faith, hope, and love.



You are invited to help Our Lady of Fatima Parish by supporting this year's FHF fundraiser which will take place on Wednesday, October 22, from 8 AM until 11 PM. A donation of \$5.00 for a shopping pass entitles you to 25% off the lowest sale price. Our parish keeps the \$5.00 donation. More details are available on the pass. They are available in our office and following our weekend Mass.

The Catholic University of America

Starting September 7, the diocese is taking up the National Collection for The Catholic University of America. Catholic University is a national research university, in the heart of Washington, D.C., with over 5,700 undergraduate and graduate students in more than 250 academic programs. By giving to the collection, you are supporting future Catholic leaders, both religious and lay, who are being formed by an exceptional, faith-rooted education. The University's various research and training initiatives support dioceses and parishes in responding to the most pressing needs of their faithful. A few examples of how the University serves the Church and nation include The Catholic Project, an initiative that aims to heal the breach of trust many have experienced as a result of the crisis in the Church; a master's program in Ecclesial Administration and Management; and a credentialing program that prepares recent graduates to serve as campus ministers. Please give generously.

Please make all donations by October 5, 2025.

"SPONSORS OF HOPE" CAMPAIGN

The Permanent Diaconate Community of the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese is launching a "Sponsors of Hope" campaign to raise funds to continue supporting our foreign missions program. With the guidance of our dedicated contact, Pakistani priest Father Khalil Maqsood, we have opened a school for the "Brickyard Children," who work daily in the brickyards and have no opportunity to receive an education. In addition, we have been helping the many persecuted Christians who are deprived of the basic necessities of life, such as food, medicine and clothing. Hopefully, by joining our efforts to raise funds, we can not only help further the education of these impoverished children but also serve as a beacon of hope by bringing the mercy of Christ and His love into their world. Though the main thrust of our work is helping the children, our long-term goal is to continue to reach out by providing food, medical supplies, clothing, and prayerful support through the guidance of our trusted friend, Father Khalil. We also provide assistance in India and other parts of the world as the need arises. We are now open to anyone who may want to join us on this journey. For more information please see the Deacon's Website: <https://www.deaconaj.org>



The Altoona Gabriel Project is a Catholic Pro-Life ministry dedicated to helping moms and babies with supplies, as well as providing spiritual and emotional support. Cathedral parish is a part of a group effort of several Altoona area parishes.

The Cathedral has a collection crib at the alley entrance of the Cathedral for non-perishable baby items (diapers, wipes, clothing, bibs, towels, blankets, etc.)

The Cathedral will also be a site for the distribution to moms and babies in our section of the city. Items will be distributed on Thursdays from 1:30-2:30 P.M. If you would know of someone in need of support, or would like to volunteers, please call 814-440-1021

A LITTLE FAITH

Today our readings are about faith, frustration, and how much is enough. Habakkuk is a complainer having an argument with God. Timothy is encouraging a community challenged by cowardice and the apostles want more faith than they have. Things aren't happening fast enough for any of them or for us. All of them and we want God to do something sooner rather than later and we want God to give us a reason to believe that it will all work out. What does God do? God puts it back on them—and us—telling Habakkuk to describe the world he wants; telling the apostles to do more than the expected. Doing more with less is a familiar phrase today and a reminder that a little faith may be enough even for the most difficult times. JS Paluch

OPTIMISM

A cheerful frame of mind that enables a tea kettle to sing though in hot water up to its nose. —Anonymous



Loving and Generous God, it is You who call us by name and ask us to follow You. Help us to grow in the Love and Service of our Church as we experience it today.

Give us the energy and courage of Your Spirit to shape its future. Grant us faith-filled leaders who will embrace Christ's Mission of love and justice.

Bless the Church of Altoona-Johnstown by raising up dedicated and generous leaders from our families and friends who will serve Your people as Sisters, Priests, Brothers, Deacons and Lay Ministers.

Inspire us to know You better and open our hearts to hear Your call. We ask this through our Lord. Amen

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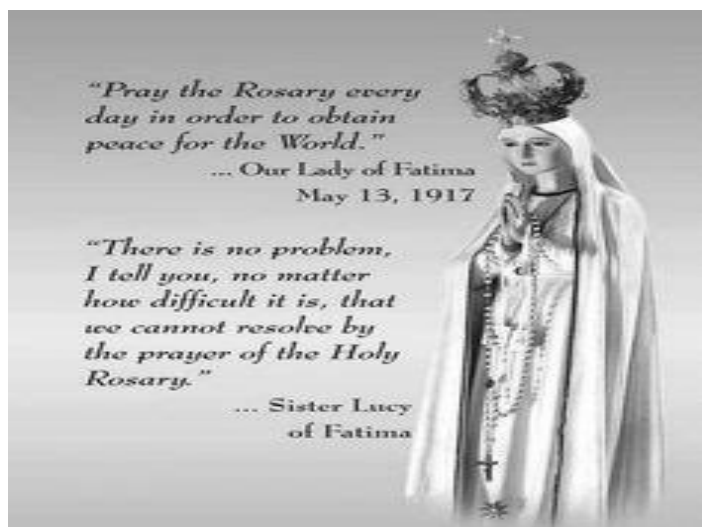
Our readings today show us that living a stewardship way of life - that is, a life focused on serving God and His Kingdom - is not easy. They also show us that our lives belong to God, not to us and that God will indeed bring about the fulfillment of His kingdom. We just need to have faith that He can do it and commit to our small part in His grand design.

Living our lives in His service is very much our responsibility, as Jesus explains through the parable of the unprofitable servant. Our Lord describes a scene in which a servant has just come in from tending to the master's affairs and asks whether it would be reasonable for the master to begin waiting on his servant. Of course it would not be reasonable. The servant would be expected to continue to serve his master until he has completed the work the master has given him that day. Jesus says we should have this same attitude before God. The time, talents, and treasure entrusted to us are all God's. Our very lives belong to God. Whatever we do on God's behalf with our lives and gifts is imply our God-given responsibility. The stewardship way of life makes the privilege and responsibility of serving Christ and His kingdom a reality.

LIFE CHAIN, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2025

2:00-3:00PM 17TH ST. and 9TH AVE, Altoona (Station Mall Medical Center)

On National Life Chain Sunday, hundreds of thousands of participants across the country silently stand in peaceful, prayerful witness to their commitment to love and protect the unborn and their mothers. Please join us!



JUBILEE 2025 PILGRIMS OF HOPE ECUMENICAL CHORAL CONCERT

St. John Gualbert Cathedral, Johnstown October 5, 2025, 2:00PM. The choirs featured will be: Diocesan High School choir: featuring students from Bishop Carroll, Bishop Guilfoyle and Bishop McCort; Westmont Presbyterian Choir, Greater Johnstown Community choir and Greater Johnstown Diocesan Festival Choir. Before and following the concert, in the Zion Lutheran Hall, next door, you can view the *Expressions of Hope* Art and Photo display and refreshments.