

Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 19, 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 BE-
TWEEN 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 19, 2025 Twenty-ninth in Ordinary Time

Helen Watters (Mike & Sherry Byrne)

October 26, 2025 Thirtieth in Ordinary Time

Helen Hamberger (Estate)

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

Although the hours of daylight are rapidly dwindling, many people would say that these October days bring the year's most splendid weather. Americans are riders and joggers, not strollers, and so the pleasures of the season are often lost on us. This is not the case with many Jewish people, who observe an ancient rule in walking to synagogue on the Sabbath. On city streets and suburban sidewalks in many cities, we may notice around sunset the nicely dressed families walking and chatting on Friday afternoon. After a short prayer at dusk, the families stroll home again for a relaxing and festive meal. They return to synagogue in the morning, and then spend an afternoon in family leisure until three stars appear in the night sky and Sabbath ends.

Catholics, on the other hand, pile into the car and drive even a short distance to Mass; some even divide the family to participate at different hours. For Jews, the leisurely walk marks a dividing line between hectic life commitments and a day of abundant job and enrichment. Before we became an automobile culture, Catholics embraced a similar pace, and in most places walked to church. These lovely days of fall invite us to tap into an old and life-giving tradition. If you live within a mile of your church, walk next week. If you must drive, park at a good distance and walk the rest of the way. Talk about your life, greet strangers, notice the crunch of leaves under your shoes. You may be surprised at how different Sunday Mass feels when it is framed by leisure!—James Field, JS Paluch



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—As long as Moses kept his hands raised up, Israel had the better of the fight (Exodus 17:8-13).

Psalm—Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and Earth (Psalm 121).

Second Reading—Remain faithful to what you have learned and believed (2 Timothy 3:14-2).

Gospel—Will not God secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night? (Luke 18:1-8).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: Rom 4:20-25; Lk 1:69-75; Lk 12:13-21

Tues: Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21; Ps 40:7-10; Lk 12:35-38

Wed: Rom 6:12-18; Ps 124:1b-8; Lk 12:39-48

Thurs: Rom 6:19-23; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 12:49-53

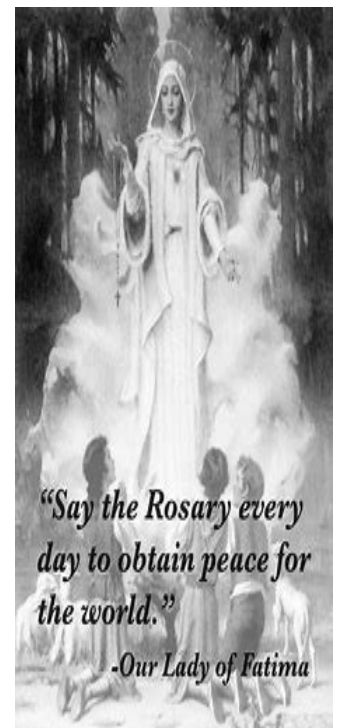
Fri: Rom 7:18-25a; Ps 119:66, 68, 76-77, 93-94; Lk 12:54-59

Sat: Rom 8:1-11; Ps 24:1b-4ab, 5-6; Lk 13:1-9

Sun: Sir 35:12-14, 16-18; Ps 34:2-3, 17-19, 23; 2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18; Lk 18:9-14

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 October 12 was \$ 2405.00 Thank you.

St. Mary's News:

Group Sessions on "The Chosen"

Blessed Mother Room Church

6:00pm-7:30pm, October 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.

OCTOBER COUNT

The Diocese has asked that parishes conduct a count of those attending Mass during the month of October.

This information will aid the Bishop and diocesan advisory bodies in pastoral planning.



The Catholic Ministries Drive target for Our Lady of Fatima Parish is \$10,200. So far, 28 donations amounting to \$5,625 has been received or 56% of our goal. \$4,575 of the goal remaining. 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. **LAST CHANCE TO BUY PASSES!!**

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19

The theme of World Mission Sunday this year—

Missionaries of Hope Among the Peoples—was chosen by Pope Francis before his death and is obviously tied to the Jubilee of Hope. That hope is the lived reality of priests, sisters, and lay faithful who are bringing the light of Christ into places darkened by suffering, war, poverty, and other existential difficulties. That hope is also a call addressed to us as shepherds, to renew in our people the fire of missionary love as together we seek to bring Christ, our Hope, to the ends of the earth.

Please be as generous as possible in supporting World Missions with your prayers and financial support. The collection will continue until November 1, 2025.

FRAGRANT FORGIVENESS

Forgiveness is the fragrance a violet shed on the heel that has crushed it. —Mark Twain

MOUNTAIN LION BACKPACK PROGRAM

The program was created to help address the food insecurity problem in the area which is at a 13.3% high. The program's volunteers pack a bag with enough food to help get a child through the weekend for 37 weeks of the school year. Last year almost 1100 bags were prepared weekly for elementary school students. It costs approximately \$6 per child per week. The program does not receive funding from local, state, or federal government sources and is not part of the AASD. The only funding is through teacher and student driven fundraising projects such as dress down days or food drives. MLBP exists solely through generous donations from individuals, businesses, and organizations.

A food drive is currently in progress to support the program. Items needed are individual applesauce servings, fruit cups, and small boxes of macaroni and cheese. These are items that get packed in the bags each week and are essential to the program's ongoing effort to feed the elementary students.

A box will be located in the back of the church for the collection, thank you in advance for your generosity.



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.

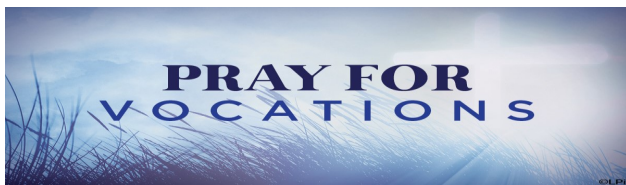
The Cathedral has a collection crib at the alley entrance of the Cathedral for non-perishable baby items (diapers, wipes, clothing, bibs, towels, blankets, etc.)

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

PERSISTENCE

Today's readings are about persistence, passionate persistence. Exodus tells of a battle won despite weariness because Moses, with help from Aaron and Hur, held his hands raised. Timothy asks that same persistence of his community and us. Luke tells of a court case won by a widow, despite the dishonesty of the judge, because she will not leave him alone. The psalm reminds us that God is everywhere, guarding us from harm day and night, coming and going, now and forever. The readings are about persistence, the relentless, unwavering pursuit of what must not be lost. The readings are about God's passionate persistence in pursuing us, seeking to win our hearts. JS

Paluch



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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One of the wonderful aspects of stewardship is its balanced approach to all areas of life. We see this balance in play as we continue to explore the Pillar of Prayer. As stewards, aware of our total dependence on God for everything, we come to Him in awe and gratitude. At the same time, we approach God with an awareness of the great dignity He has given us, creating us in His own image and likeness and calling us to join Him in the work of advancing His kingdom.

In last week's readings, we were encouraged to remain persistent and constant in our prayer life. Today, we focus on the proper attitude of a steward at prayer. We learn that a particular attitude in our approach to prayer will make our prayer lives more effective: "the prayer of the lowly pierces the clouds; it does not rest till it reaches its goal." When we pray with a humble attitude, God will respond.

The good steward knows he needs God, and that God has chosen to need him in advancing the Kingdom. His prayers pierce the clouds and God is glorified!

RESPECT LIFE MONTH Every October, the Catholic Church in the United States celebrates Respect Life Month. As Catholics, we are called to welcome, care for, and protect God's gift of human life, with special concern for those who are most vulnerable. Respect Life Month offers opportunities to highlight this precious gift through prayer, reflection, advocacy, and service. This year we are inspired by the Jubilee Year of Hope. The message, "Life: Our Sign of Hope", reflects the call to be signs of hope to all facing trials and difficulties. Through the gift of our Baptism, Our Lord calls us to be members of his body thereby demonstrating the invaluable dignity of the human person. This mystery invites us to be witnesses to the hope of the resurrection by promoting and defending the precious gift of life.

