

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 26, 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 26, 2025 Thirtieth in Ordinary Time

Helen Hamberger (Estate)

November 2, 2025 Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed

(All Souls' Day)

Parishioners and Benefactors

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

Saturday's Solemnity of All Saints and Sunday's Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed fit well at the beginning of November. The liturgical readings of this final month in the Church year are keyed to the end of time and the fulfillment of Jesus' saving acts. Nowhere is this more fully celebrated than in Mexico, where November 2 is the "Day of the Dead." Missionaries moved an ancient Aztec festival from midsummer to November, linking the festival to Christian themes. Today, it is a time for remembering the dead and celebrating the continuity of life, principally by festive picnics in cemeteries. There are special foods and games, and people socialize with other families and tell favorite stories about their dear ones. The sweetness of life is honored by sugary desserts and treats. Flowers, music, lights, and feasting assure that the day is not at all morbid. Traditionally, the day begins with Mass, a procession to the cemetery, and a morning feast. Most families have a special dinner with the *pam de muerto*, or "bread of the dead." A toy skeleton is baked into the loaf, and the one who bites into it is considered lucky indeed. The dead are not feared, but deeply loved, and this joyful family feast points both to age-old customs and Resurrection faith.—James

Field, JS Paluch

HEARTFELT JUDGEMENT

When you meet someone, you judge them by their clothes, when you leave them, you judge them by their heart. —

Russian proverb



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 Lord is not deaf to the wail of the orphan, nor to the widow when she pours out her complaint (Sirach 35:12-14, 16-18).

Psalms—The Lord hears the cry of the poor (Psalm 34).

Second Reading—The Lord will rescue me from every threat (2Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18)

Gospel—All who exalt themselves will be humbled; all who humble themselves will be exalted (Luke 18:9-14).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: Eph 2:19-22; Ps 19:2-5; Lk 6:12-16

Tues: Rom 8:18-25; Ps 126:1b-6; Lk 12:18-21

Wed: Rom 8:26-30; Ps 13:4-6; Lk 13:22-30

Thurs: Rom 8:31b-39; Ps 109:21-22, 26-27, 30-31; Lk 13:31-35

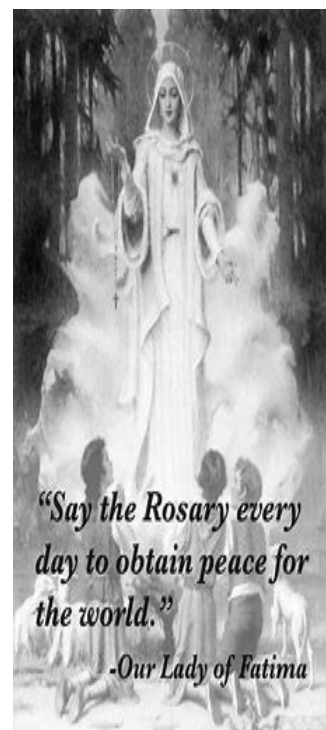
Fri: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14; Ps 24:1-6; 1 Jn 3:1-3; Mt 5:1-12a

Sat: Wis 3:1-9; Ps 23:1-6; Rom 5:5-11 or 6:3-9; Jn 6:37-40, or any readings from no 668 or from the Masses for the Dead, nos. 1011-1016

Sun: Wis 11:22-12:2; Ps 145:1-2, 8-11, 13-14; 2 Thes 1:11-2:2; Lk 19:1-10

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 19 was \$ 1442.00 Thank you.

St. Mary's News:

Group Sessions on "The Chosen"

Blessed Mother Room Church
6:00pm-7:30pm, December 1, 15
Facilitator: Fr. Mariusz

If interested in attending call the rectory office.

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.

BUSINESS

Perpetual devotion to what a man calls his business is only to be sustained by perpetual neglect of many other things.

—Robert Louis Stevenson

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.



NEEDED:

**STRONG, INTELLIGENT,
COMPASSIONATE,**

**GOOD-HUMORED, WELL-ADJUSTED,
FAITHFUL CATHOLIC MEN.**

THE PEOPLE OF GOD NEED PRIESTS
WITH A SINCERE LOVE FOR CHRIST,
WILLINGNESS TO SERVE SELFLESSLY,
AND HUMBLE HEARTS TO EXTEND
GOD'S MERCY TO OTHERS.

THE GABRIEL PROJECT

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.

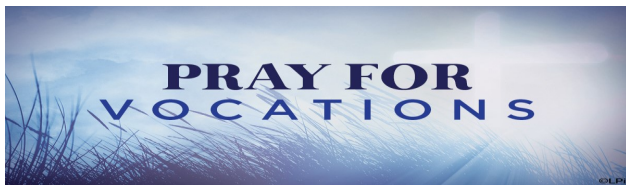
The Cathedral has a collection crib at the alley entrance of the Cathedral for non-perishable baby items (diapers, wipes, clothing, bibs, towels, blankets, etc.)

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.

RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

Today's readings invite us into prayer, into relationship with God. Because relationships feel more natural when we know one another well, Sirach encourages us to know God better. In his wisdom, Sirach tells us what God is like: fair, open-minded, compassionate, and attentive. "The Lord will not delay," he says. Knowing that God's help comes right on time, whenever we need it, calms our hearts and helps us trust the Lord. In his second Letter to Timothy, Saint Paul demonstrates his own trust in God. Despite the grueling struggles Saint Paul has faced because of his Christian faith, he praises the Lord for rescuing him time and again.

Today's Gospel draws us close to Jesus too, revealing his special love for the poor and humble. As Jesus tells his parable about the prayer habits of a Pharisee and a tax collector, our hearts long to become as gentle as Christ's.



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

October 26, 2025 Thirtieth in Ordinary Time

One of the wonderful aspects of stewardship spirituality 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 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!

SANCTUARY CANDLES 2026 UPDATE

The months of June and December 2026 are still available to be lit in memory or honor of someone special in your life. The cost is \$30.00 per month. A check or cash can be submitted to the office for a special month through the Sunday collection, through the mail or dropped off to the office with the month and intention clearly marked on the envelope.

Thank-you in advance for your support.

