

# 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 3, 2023

**Our Lady of Fatima Parish**  
2010 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
[www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.org](http://www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.org)  
**Rectory Office Hours:**  
Tuesdays and Thursdays  
11:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.  
**Parish Office:** 814-942-0371  
or call the Cathedral Office at 944-4603.

**Our Lady of Fatima Parish**  
Rev. Msgr. Stanley B. Carson, Administrator

**Parish Secretary**  
Paula Hall

**Director of Music Ministry**  
Cathy McFee

**Eucharist: Sunday: 11:30 AM**

**Holy Days: 5:30 PM**

Holy Communion for the home bound - weekly:  
Patty Flanagan 942-0371 for arrangements.

Our Lady of Fatima Church is open  
Sunday through Saturday: 7:30 AM - 5PM  
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.

**Cathedral Church Office: 814-944-4603**  
One Cathedral Square

**Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, Bishop**  
Rev. Msgr. Stanley B. Carson, Administrator  
Paula Clemens, Secretary  
PH: 814-944-4603

Christian Initiation Team: 944-4603  
Catholics returning Home: 944-4603  
Mail Ministry to Elderly, Homebound, Seriously Sick and Grieving - 944-4603

## HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Web: [www.holytrinitycatholic.school](http://www.holytrinitycatholic.school)

Holy Trinity Eldorado (Pre-K thru Grade 5) 814-381-7011  
Holy Trinity Fairview (Pre-K thru Grade 5) 814-942-7835

Director of Religious Education:  
Chris Laraia – Pre-K thru 8 - 312-7317

Religious Education Office: Sundays – 943-7424

Director of Music Ministry  
Leslie C. Thayer, MM, CAGO  
Music Ministry Office - 944-2044  
E-Mail: [lthayer@dioceseaj.org](mailto:lthayer@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

Cathedral Eucharist:

Sunday: 5:00 PM (Vigil) Holy Days: 5:30 PM (Vigil) Weekdays: 12:00 PM  
8:00 AM 8:00 AM Saturday: 12:00 PM  
10:00 AM 12:00 Noon  
5:00 PM

THE FATIMA TOWERS

**OUR LADY OF FATIMA MASS INTENTIONS**

**11:30 A.M.**

**Today, September 3, 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

John Kasun, Sr. (David Dumm)

**Next Sunday, September 10, 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

John Kasun, Jr., Birth. (Kathy Kasun & Family)

**Cathedral Mass Intentions**

**September 3, 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM +Kathleen Duffy, Birth. (Husband, Jack)

10:00 AM +Jim Weaver, Anniv. (Family)

5:00 PM Pro Popolo/For the People

**September 4, Monday, Weekday, Labor Day**

9:00 AM +Al Evangelisto, Jr. (Sisters)

**September 5, Tuesday, Weekday**

12:00 PM +Ron Sheehan, Birth. (Wife, Jean)

**September 6, Wednesday, Weekday**

12:00 PM +Bill Orr (Henry Martin)

**September 7, Thursday, Solemnity of the Anniversary of**

***Dedication of the Cathedral***

12:00 PM Pro Popolo/For the People

**September 8, Friday, Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

12:00 PM +Dan & Miriam Burns (Dave & Maureen Hanekamp)

**September 9, Saturday, St. Peter Claver, Priest**

12:00 PM +Audrey Krause (Phyllis Lavelle Sheetz)

**Vigil: Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

5:00 PM +Robert Beck (Butch Winkler)

**September 10, 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM +Mary Alice Plummer (Anthea Germano)

10:00 AM +David Baronner, Anniv. (Wife & Family)

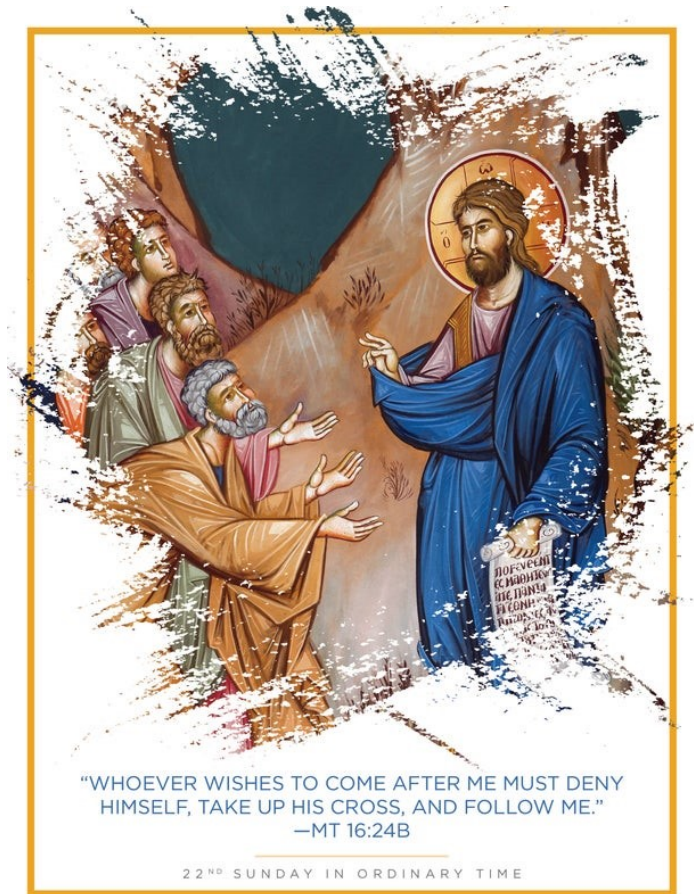
5:00 PM +Pro Popolo/For the People

There is Mass at 11:30 A.M. at Our Lady of Fatima Parish.



**TABERNACLE  
CANDLE**

During September, the candle is being lit for the intentions of Rick Summers by his family. Thank you.



"WHOEVER WISHES TO COME AFTER ME MUST DENY HIMSELF, TAKE UP HIS CROSS, AND FOLLOW ME."  
—MT 16:24B

22<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

**Readings for the week of September 3, 2023**

Sunday: Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 (2b)/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27

Monday: 1 Thes 4:13-18/Ps 96:1 and 3, 4-5, 11-12, 13/Lk 4:16-30

Tuesday: 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Lk 4:31-37

Wednesday: Col 1:1-8/Ps 52:10, 11/Lk 4:38-44

Thursday: Col 1:9-14/Ps 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6/Lk 5:1-11

Friday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c/ Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23

Saturday: Col 1:21-23/Ps 54:3-4, 6 and 8/Lk 6:1-5

Next Sunday: Ez 33:7-9/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 (8)/ Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20

**Thank You Very Much**

Your prayers, volunteerism, and financial support are deeply appreciated.

The contributions for Sunday, August 27, were \$2,217. Thank you.



"Say the Rosary every day to obtain peace for the world."

-Our Lady of Fatima

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE  
DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIP-  
TURE

September 3, 2023. 22nd Sunday in Ordinary  
Time

Isn't it easy to relate to Peter? One moment Jesus announces Peter's deep communion with God the Father. The very next, when he rejects the logic of Jesus' suffering and death, Jesus calls Peter Satan. We Christians shouldn't be too shocked when we experience both spiritual highs and lows, when we perceive breathtaking contradictions in our hearts.

Like the great apostle, you and I are recipients of unfathomable graces. God dwells in us, calls his beloved children, and takes care of our every need. And we also continually fail to embrace our sufferings with trust in Jesus. We know the truth of the creed, but we easily scorn the weight of the cross.

The good news is that, like Peter, we are never abandoned by the Lord even at our worst moments. Peter will eventually learn the beauty of the cross when he is willingly crucified. But it took time for him to get there. And it takes time for us, too. This week let's not be too shocked at these divisions in our hearts but accept them and patiently seek to be more obedient to Jesus' cross-shaped plan for us. — Father John Muir

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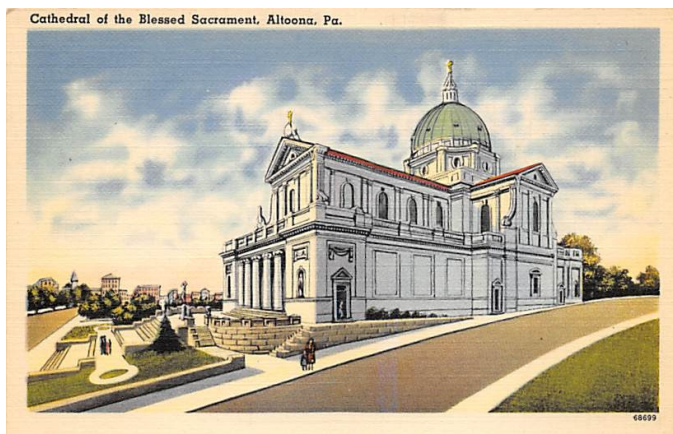
The 2023 Catholic Ministries Drive target for **Our Lady of Fatima Parish** is \$9,224. The target is calculated as 10% of our regular offertory averaged over the previous three years (2020-2022).

Please be supportive. Thank you for helping our parish hit this year's target. **\$7,680 or 83% of our goal has been pledged or donated.** If you haven't already done so, please contribute. Our balance is \$1,544.



**Boscov's-Friends Helping Friends**

Our parish is participating in the annual Friends Helping Friends event that will take place on Wednesday, October 18, from 8 AM to 11 PM. If you purchase a one-day shopping pass for \$5.00 supporters get 25% off their lowest sale prices (exclusions apply). Our parish keeps 100% of the \$5.00 shopping pass donation.



Since Thursday, September 7, is the anniversary of the Dedication of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, which took place in 1931, Bishop Mark will be celebrating the noon Mass on that day. You are invited to join him as we praise and thank God for such a magnificent house of prayer; and, acknowledge the faith and generosity of those who made it possible.

**Birth of Mary Celebration**

A birth of Mary celebration is taking place at St. Catherine of Siena Church in Duncansville on Friday, September 8. Msgr. Saly will celebrate Masses in the church at 7:45 A.M. and 12:05 P.M. At 5:30 P.M. Father Brian Norris will celebrate a Mass and rosary procession at the shrine. Exhibits will be on display in the church hall. The kitchen will be open from 11:30 A.M. till 4:00 P.M. The day concludes with cake and beverages in the hall.

## (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

### Choosing the Cross

I've been called a lot of things in my life, but I've never been called "Satan," at least not to my face.

It seems to me the worst name you could call a person, and today we hear it straight from the lips of Jesus. It's just one of the many small reminders strewn throughout Scripture that Jesus preaches meekness, but he is not mild — not when mildness serves no purpose, anyway.

And here, when Peter is trying to deter Jesus from making the right choice, mildness serves no purpose at all.

Can we blame Peter? I certainly can't. I'm sure I would have said the same thing to my own dear friend. He is, in today's Gospel, wholly unwilling to embrace the cross — he's afraid of it, even — but aren't we all, in the end, afraid of our cross? I am. It's no sin, it's only human. Fear is natural. Self-preservation is a reflex.

What Christ speaks of today is a choice, one we are all faced with, again and again, just as Peter is. We will not always respond perfectly; Peter does not respond well today. He does not respond well on Holy Thursday.

But on his last day, on the day of the ultimate choice? On that day, he chooses the cross.

We marvel at first responders who put themselves in harm's way for the sake of others, because to do so is not human, it is divine. I have to believe that if even a firefighter's loved one threw themselves in his way, he would still charge toward the flames, crying, "Get behind me."

Christ runs into the burning building for us, shaking off not only his own fear (and he had it, I promise you — he was human, too) but the fear of everyone who loved him. "Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God..." — Romans 12:1. LPi

### **Question: What does the Church say about suicide?**

#### **Answer:**

Unfortunately, despite the Church's clear teachings in resources like the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* and the *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults*, there are still many people who are confused about what the Church teaches regarding the tragic reality of suicide.

While we hold that all life is sacred, we are also all-too aware that psychological, emotional and even physical illness — as well as extreme anxiety, fear, and abuse — can lead individuals to take their own lives. Speaking to this, the *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults* reflects, "Although suicide is always objectively sinful, one should not despair of the eternal salvation of persons who have taken their own lives. By ways known to him alone, God can provide the opportunity for salutary repentance. The Church prays for persons who have taken their own lives" (pg. 294). The text also states the reality of illness or other extreme influences can "diminish the responsibility of one committing suicide" (pg. 293).

Parishes and grief support groups should show special care and concern for those families that have lost a loved one to suicide. And, communities should always try to be mindful of those who might be at risk of suicide or self-harm.

If someone is contemplating suicide, please know that help is available, including the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (1-800-273-8255).