

# 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 17, 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 17, 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Joe Jaronieski, Jr. (Steve & Robyn Kasun)

**Next Sunday, September 24, 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Colleen Douglass (Mr. & Mrs. John Horon)

**Cathedral Mass Intentions**

**September 17, Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM +Barbara Knott Chisko (Linda Kutz)

10:00 AM +Eleanor Fischer (Jim & Steph Kilcoyne)

5:00 PM Pro Popolo/For the People

**September 18, Monday, Weekday**

12:00 PM +David Hooper (Donna & Ernie Long)

**September 19, Tuesday, Weekday**

12:00 PM +Elizabeth Yauneridge, Anniv. (Family)

**September 20, Wednesday, St. Andrew Kim Tae-gon, priest, and Paul Chong Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs**

12:00 PM +Bernie McLucas (Family)

**September 21, Thursday, St. Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist**

12:00 PM +Minnie Yahner (McNelis All Stars)

**September 22, Friday, Weekday**

12:00 PM +Anna Gioiosa, Birth. (Tim & JoAnn Bettwy)

**September 23, Saturday, St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest**

12:00 PM +Fred Drexler (Galioto Family)

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

5:00 PM +Marti Stefanon (Mike Vargo)

**September 24, Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM +Ed and Ann Flanagan (Ken & Carol McGeary)

10:00 AM +Freddie Martynuska (Paul & Emma Kowalski)

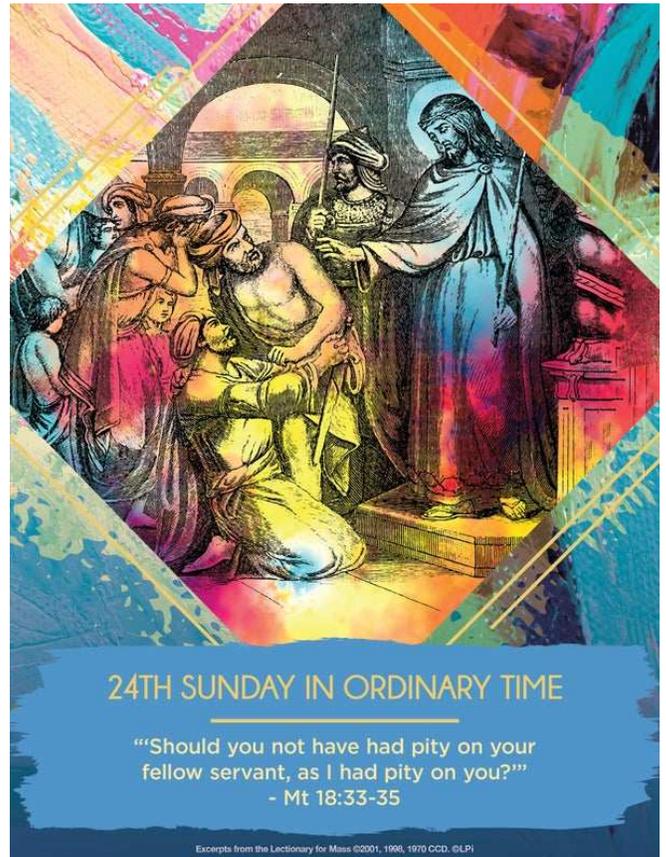
5:00 PM +Pro Popolo/For the People

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



**TABERNACLE  
CANDLE**

For the month of August, the sanctuary candle in front of the tabernacle is being lit in memory of Tucker Keagy by the Chris Keagy Family. Thank you.



**Readings for the week of September 17, 2023**

Sunday: Sir 27:30—28:7/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 (8)/Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35

Monday: 1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 28:2, 7, 8-9/Lk 7:1-10

Tuesday: 1 Tm 3:1-13/Ps 101:1b-2ab, 2cd-3ab, 5, 6/Lk 7:11-17

Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 7:31-35

Thursday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Mt 9:9-13

Friday: 1 Tm 6:2c-12/Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20/Lk 8:1-3

Saturday: 1 Tm 6:13-16/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Lk 8:4-15

Next Sunday: Is 55:6-9/Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18 (18a)/Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a

**Thank You Very Much**

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

The contributions for Sunday, September 10, were \$1,520. Thank you.



## Catechetical Sunday

The Church celebrates with all our catechists this Sunday, September 17. Many people come forward annually to pass on the faith to our children, adolescents, and adults. The theme for this year is **“Come to Me All You Who Labor, and Are Burdened”**. Catechists will be acknowledged and we will pray The Rite Blessing of Catechists this Sunday, September 17th, during all the Masses.

We express appreciation to the following: **Holy Trinity Catholic School:** Danielle Aikens, **Religious Education Pre-K-11:** Chris Laraia, Director, Gabriele Cronin, Helen Carper (Our Lady of Fatima), Lori Pastore, Beth Moore, Mary Ann Bell, Carol Galioto, Darlene Sinisi, Nicole Burkle, Roberta Burns, Jeanne Thompson, Karen Isenberg, Phyllis Baker, Brandon Solnosky; **First Reconciliation and First Eucharist:** Msgr. Stanley Carson, Chris Laraia, Lori Pastore; **Confirmation:** Msgr. Carson, Chris Laraia, **Baptismal Preparation:** Chris Laraia, Paula Clemens, Gabrielle Cronin, Roberta Burns; **Marriage Preparation:** Clark and Kim Adelman, Bob and Chris Laraia, Tom and Beth Moore; **Rite Christian Initiation of Adults:** Jeanne Thompson, Carol Galioto, Director, Barbara Rossi, and Tony Kibelbek.



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). The CMD supports programs and services beyond the resources of any single parish.

**Thank you for helping our parish hit this year's target. \$9,400 or 100.1% of our goal has been pledged or donated from 33 parishioners.**

## 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.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

**September 17, 2023**  
**24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

When I was in second grade, my prized possession was a metal Star Wars-themed lunch box. After school one day, another student ripped it from my hands. I helplessly watched in horror as my classmate threw it to the ground and violently stomped it into an unrecognizable heap of junk. I came home covered in tears of shame and rage. After a few months, I never thought about it again ... until I was almost thirty years old and on a retreat to prepare for ordination to the priesthood.

That childhood memory — and the attendant outrage — came back afresh. My spiritual director helped me in the process of acknowledging that I was angry because that kid *owed* me my lunch box. Then she helped me, through the grace of Jesus, to forgive the debt. Almost immediately I felt a new peace. I was amazed that I hadn't forgotten what I had lost, even from years before. Aren't we human beings simply amazing at remembering what people owe us?

We see this week in Jesus' parable a servant who is forgiven much but then commands another servant: "Pay back what you owe!" He can't forget or let go of how he was wronged. He *remembers* — and he becomes a monster because of it. If only he had remembered not only the debts owed to him, but also his greater debt owed to — and forgiven by — his master. It's natural for us to remember what others owe us. But when we contextualize those offenses in Jesus' mercy toward us and them, we're free to be merciful like the Master and less like a monster who never forgets.

— *Father John Muir* ©LPi

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

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

### The Hateful Things We Hug Tight

At the end of “Lord of the Rings: Return of the King,” Gollum fights with Frodo for possession of the One Ring. He wins the fight, but in doing so topples over the edge of the mountain ledge, falling into the cavernous fires of Mount Doom. As he falls, we see him smile, and clutch the ring to his chest. He is happy. He has won what he spent his life pursuing.

It is only in the last millisecond before his face slips below the lava that we see his eyes widen in terror as he realizes the truth: the thing he clutches to his heart is the thing that killed him. In choosing the ring, he chooses death.

Sin, and the fallen nature of this world, makes us addicted to something that kills us.

Like any addiction, it is a vicious cycle. The less we forgive, the more hardhearted we become ... and the less we seek forgiveness ourselves.

What breaks the cycle? Reconciliation with God — or, Confession, as we call it. In fact, it does more than break the cycle. It turns it backward. Not only does it detoxify our souls of sin, it weakens our addiction to sin’s effects — anger, vengeance, unforgiveness. The confession of evil works is the first beginning of good works, said St. Augustine.

Ultimately, I view our whole human life as a struggle on the ledge of a mountaintop. It is certain that we will choose sin — we always do. We will tumble over the side, toward ruin. But let us be Frodo, and not Gollum. Let us cling to the rock of the sacraments and accept the hand that would drag us away from the flames.

“Wrath and anger are hateful things, yet the sinner hugs them tight.” — Sirach 27:30 © LPi

### **Who Can Offer Anointing of the Sick?**

Question: Can anyone offer the Anointing of the Sick to a sick or dying person, or is that only something a priest can do?

Answer: The Letter of James speaks to us of the ancient tradition of a special anointing and blessing of those who are sick: “Is there anyone sick among you? Let him send for the presbyters of the Church and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord ... If he has committed any sins, they will be forgiven him” (5:14, 15b). This passage forms the foundation for the theology of the sacrament that we call “Anointing of the Sick.” In keeping with what we read in the Letter of James and the ancient tradition of the Church, the anointing of a person who is sick or dying may only be performed by a priest or bishop.

Although deacons and other members of the Church are not able to celebrate the sacrament with a person who is sick, we can read Sacred Scripture and pray with and for those who are ill. Resources like the Book of Blessings also contain special blessings that can be celebrated by deacons or lay ministers. In the end, we want to be sure that we show a special care and concern for the sick, helping them to always experience God’s loving comfort through made tangible through our acts of charity and service.