

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 28, 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.

September 28, 2025 Twenty-sixth in Ordinary Time

Edward Heverly (Karen Querry)

October 5, 2025 Twenty-seventh in Ordinary Time

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

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 Recon-
ciliation Room. Hours will remain the same:**

**Tuesdays and Thursdays
11Am-4PM**

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Over the past century, a desire to recover a deep sense of unity among all believers in Christ has grown. The "ecumenical movement" (from the Greek work meaning "the whole inhabited world") began among Protestant Christians, but was given great energy in 1920 with a letter from the Orthodox Patriarch of Constantinople, calling for closer dialogue and cooperation among Christians. In 1960, Pope John XXIII invited Protestant and Orthodox observers to the Second Vatican Council. In 1964, the Council's decree on Ecumenism named these Christians "separated brethren," a huge leap forward from the time of labeling them as "outside the Church." A year later, a new pope, Paul VI, and the Orthodox Patriarch officially nullified the condemnations that walled off East from West for nine hundred years.

The pace and optimism of the 1960s has sadly waned, and the signs of progress toward unity are few; yet there are wider agreements on sharing of ecclesiastical life and ministry. Among the success stories of the ecumenical movement are greater cooperation among Christian clergy, a similar Lectionary for Protestants and Catholics, and even experiments in the monastic life and common worship. —James Field, JS Paluch Co

PRAYING TO THE ANGELS

We pray to the angels, for they are given to us as guardians.

—St. Ambrose

INVOLVEMENT

Our job is to get in the game, not keep score. —Anonymous

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 September, the Sanctuary Candle
is being lit in memory of John Kasun, Jr**

By Kathy and the Kasun 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—Woe to the complacent, stretched comfortably on their couches! (Amos 6:1a, 4-7)

Psalm—Praise the Lord, my soul! (Psalm 146)

Second Reading—Pursue righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness (1 Timothy 6:11-16)

Gospel—there was a rich man who dined sumptuously each day. Lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: Zec 8:1-8; Ps 102:16-21, 29, 22-23; Lk 9:46-50

Tues: Zec 8:20-23; Ps 87:1b-7; Lk 9:51-56

Wed: Neh 2:1-8; Ps 137:1-6, 10-11; Mt 18:1-5, 10

Thurs: Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7B-12; Ps 19:8-11; Lk 10:1-12

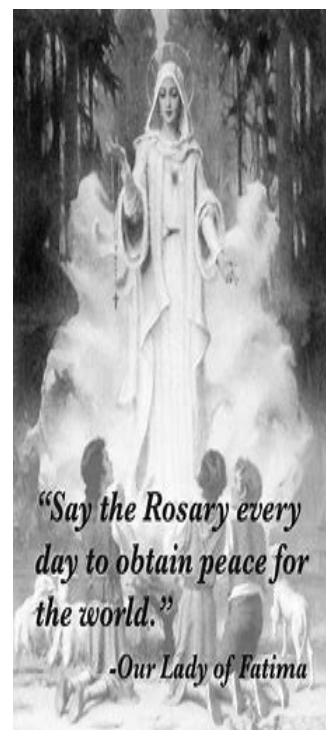
Fri: Bar 1:15-22; Ps 79:1b-5, 8-9; Lk 10:13-16

Sat: Bar 4:5-12, 27-29; Ps 69:33-37; Lk 10:17-24

Sun: Hb 1:2-3, 2:2-4; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; 2 Ti 1:6-8, 13-14; Lk 17:5-10

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 rec-
itation 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 7 was \$ 1496.50.

Thank you.

St. Mary's News:

Bible Readings & Faith Sharing Sessions: begin October 2

St. Joseph Room Church Basement

9:30am, facilitator Joan Keller (814-696-3951)

Read daily and weekend scriptures, discuss passages as they relate to our lives. Questions call the rectory office between 8am-1pm Monday thru Friday.

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.

Blessing of the Animals: October 4, 10:00am

In honor of St. Francis of Assisi, Fr. Mariusz will have the Annual Blessing of the Animals at St. Mary's Rectory Parking Lot. It is meant to give individuals with animals a chance to reflect on the positive connection they have to our physical and emotional well-being.

St. Mary's Parish Life Committee Covered Dish Dinner

Dinner will be in Memorial Hall Cafeteria, meat dish will be stuffed meatloaf. Bring your favorite side dish or dessert and join us for food, fun and fellowship.

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.

The Catholic University of America

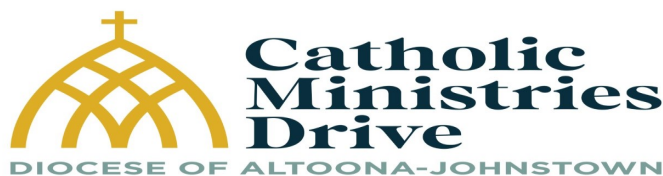
Starting September 7, the diocese is taking up the National Collection for The Catholic University of America. Catholic University is a national research university, in the heart of Washington, D.C., with over 5,700 undergraduate and graduate students in more than 250 academic programs. By giving to 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 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 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

HOW GOD INTENDS US TO LIVE

Today's readings are again directed to believers, communities of faith. As in last week's reading, Amos confronts us with a condemnation of those whose lies are focused on pleasure and self-absorption. The psalm contrasts that focus with the Lord's —justice for the oppressed; feed the hungry; freedom for captives; sight to the blind; raising of those who are bowed down; loving the just; protecting strangers, orphans, and the widow; and by doing so, thwarting the way of the wicked. Timothy urges the pursuit of righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness. Luke tells the familiar tale of the wealthy man and the poor beggar at his doorstep, who experience life very differently in this world and in the next. We are once again being given clear indications about how God intends for us to live our lives.



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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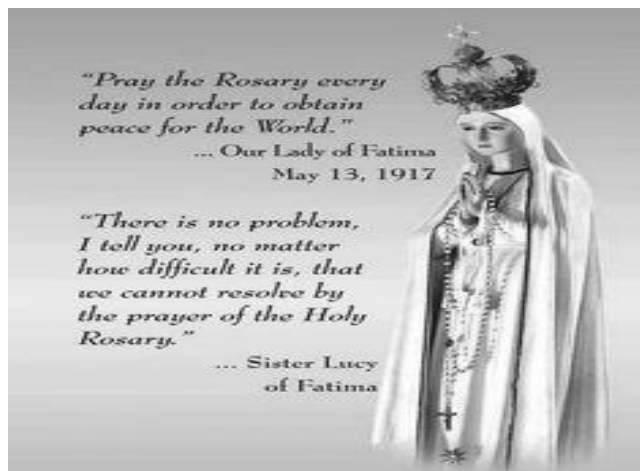
Our Lord Himself gives us a very clear illustration of the urgency for us to put our powers to good use in today's Gospel Passage from Luke. He tells the rather chilling parable of the rich man who ignored poor Lazarus during their lifetimes. At the moment of the rich man's death, he goes down to the netherworld while Lazarus is taken to the eternal joy and comfort in the bosom of Abraham. The rich man keenly regrets his complacency towards the needs of Lazarus, but it is too late for regret. His choices have played out and now the rich man will face the consequences of his failure to use the gifts God gave him.

We have all been given power by God, in the form of our time, talents and treasure. Today's readings remind us to use that power for great good, and not let it go to waste.

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.

LONGABERGER BASKET AND VERA BRADLEY BINGO

Sunday, September 28, 2025 1:00P.M. (doors open noon)

Father Kelley Hall (429 25th Ave, Altoona, PA 16601) Please contact: Cathedral Parish Office (814)944-4603 or pclemons@dioceseaj.org