

Bulletin # 102656

**Our Lady of Fatima
2010 12th Avenue
Altoona, PA 16601**

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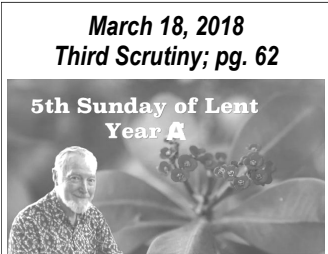
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Special Instructions:

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

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Our Lady of Fatima Parish
2010 12th Avenue

www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.com

Rectory Office Hours:

Monday – Friday 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Parish Office: 814-942-0371

Our Lady of Fatima Mass Schedule

Sunday: 10:30 AM - Holy Days: 6:00 PM

Rosary: 10:05 AM - Rosary: 5:40 PM

Our Lady of Fatima Parish Administrator

Reverend Monsignor Robert C. Mazur

Parish Secretary

Carol Z. Smith

Secretary's Assistant

Ellen Kelly

Eucharist for the home bound - weekly:

Patty Flanagan 942-0371 for arrangements.

Our Lady of Fatima Church is open

Monday through Friday: 9AM - 6PM

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. 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.

Our Lady of Fatima
Pleaded that we pray the Holy Rosary before Sunday Mass and privately from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm daily.



March 18, 2018
I will place my law within them and write it upon their hearts; I will be their God, and they shall be my people.
— Jeremiah 31:33

Cathedral Church Office: 814-944-4603

One Cathedral Square

Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, Bishop

Reverend Monsignor Robert C. Mazur, Rector

Rev. Father Dennis M. Kurdziel, Parochial Vicar

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

Altoona Campus (Pre-K thru Grade 4) - 381-7011

Hollidaysburg Campus (Pre-K thru Grade 4) - 695-6112

Middle School Campus (Grades 5 thru 8) - 942-7835

Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School:

Web: www.bishopguilfoyle.org – 944-4014

Directors of Religious Education:

Chris Laraia – Pre-K thru 8 - 312-7317

Jean Koury – 9 thru 12 – 949-2777

Religious Education Office: Sundays – 943-7424

Director of Music Ministry

Leslie C. Thayer, MM, CAGO

Music Ministry Office - 944-2044

E-Mail: ltthayer@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: 6:45 AM

8:00 AM 8:00 AM 8:00 AM

10:00 AM 12:00 Noon 12:00 Noon

12:00 Noon 5:30 PM Saturday: 8:00 AM

5:00 PM 12:00 Noon

MARCH 18, 2018
FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT, FOLLOW PG.62 (YEAR A), FOR TODAY'S MASS

SAVED BY GOD'S LOVE

Because the people broke the old covenant, God promised a new covenant, not in the blood of oxen and other animals, but in the blood of the Son, Jesus Christ. This new covenant, foreseen from afar by Jeremiah and the prophets, was not to be engraved on stone, or written on paper, but carved on our hearts, so that we might know God intimately. Not by keeping many laws are we to be saved, but by the love of God, living and real in our hearts through the sacrifice of Christ.

Our Eucharist is the pledge of that indwelling of Christ, and of our response of praise and thanksgiving to God for the mercy, love, and kindness shown to us in forgiving our sins and cleansing our hearts of everything evil. God issues this invitation to intimacy by offering us the chance to have our sufferings transformed into the perfect love of the Savior, who first loved us.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Over the next two weeks, as we hear of the interior anguish of Jesus, we are led to the Garden of Gethsemane, the scene of a night of suffering, failure, and loss. In Hebrew, the word means “olive press,” and it was an olive grove, although only a few trees remain. Olives can't be eaten off the trees, they need to be cured—knocked from the trees at harvest time, scooped into a stone basin, and cracked open by a heavy millstone. The crushing stone weight was itself called a “gethsemane,” and once it was lowered onto the olives, oil from the fruit and the inner stone would drip into a groove and flow into jars. The night before his death, Jesus experienced such anguish that scripture says his own blood perspired from him, an image no one who understands olive oil production could miss.

Today, the Mount of Olives is within the city of Jerusalem and the site of the Church of All Nations, also known as the Basilica of the Agony. It was built in 1924, funded by Catholics in twelve different countries. An open-air altar on the grounds is used by Anglicans on Holy Thursday every year. Nearby is the Russian Church of Mary Magdalene, built by the czar in 1888, its magnificent golden domes a distinctive landmark. There is also another tiny Catholic Church, called Dominus Flevit, or “The Cry of the Lord,” built in a teardrop shape in the mid-1950s. For centuries, the Franciscan order has had the care of the shrines of the Holy Land, and our Good Friday collection helps sustain these precious sites.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

REPENTANCE

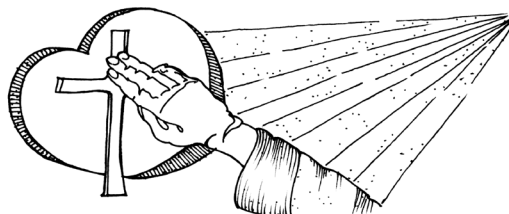
God has promised pardon to one who repents, but has not promised repentance to one who sins.

—St. Anselm

BE AWARE

We need to be aware that happiness can sometimes sneak in through the door we didn't know we had left open.

—Anonymous



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**OUR LADY URGES US TO PRAY THE HOLY ROSARY FOR
PEACE AND OFFER
SACRIFICES BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!**

*St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mother
Feast Day, March 19*

St. Joseph was an ordinary manual laborer although descended from the royal house of David. In the designs of Providence he was destined to become the spouse of the Mother of God. His high privilege is expressed in a single phrase, "Foster-father of Jesus." About him Sacred Scripture has little more to say than that he was a just man—an expression which indicates how faithfully he fulfilled his high trust of protecting and guarding God's greatest treasures upon earth, Jesus and Mary.

The darkest hours of his life may well have been those when he first learned of Mary's pregnancy; but precisely in this time of trial Joseph showed himself great. His suffering, which likewise formed a part of the work of the redemption, was not without great providential import: Joseph was to be, for all times, the trustworthy witness of the Messiah's virgin birth. After this, he modestly retires into the background of holy Scripture.

Of St. Joseph's death the Bible tells us nothing. There are indications, however, that he died before the beginning of Christ's public life. His was the most beautiful death that one could have, in the arms of Jesus and Mary. Humbly and unknown, he passed his years at Nazareth, silent and almost forgotten he remained in the background through centuries of Church history. Only in more recent times has he been accorded greater honor. Liturgical veneration of St. Joseph began in the fifteenth century, fostered by Sts. Brigid of Sweden and Bernadine of Siena. St. Teresa, too, did much to further his cult.

At present there are two major feasts in his honor. On March 19 our veneration is directed to him personally and to his part in the work of redemption, while on May 1 we honor him as the patron of workmen throughout the world and as our guide in the difficult matter of establishing equitable norms regarding obligations and rights in the social order.

St. Joseph is invoked as patron for many causes. He is the patron of the Universal Church. He is the patron of the dying because Jesus and Mary were at his death-bed. He is also the patron of fathers, of carpenters, and of social justice. Many religious orders and communities are placed under his patronage.

Patron: Against doubt; against hesitation; Americas; Austria; Diocese of Baton Rouge, Louisiana; California; Belgium; Bohemia; bursars; cabinetmakers; Canada; Carinthia; carpenters; China; confectioners; craftsmen; Croatian people (in 1687 by decree of the Croatian parliament) dying people; emigrants; engineers; expectant mothers; families; fathers; Florence, Italy; happy death; holy death; house hunters; immigrants; interior souls; Korea; laborers; Diocese of La Crosse, Wisconsin; Archdiocese of Louisville, Kentucky; Diocese of Manchester, New Hampshire; Mexico; Diocese of Nashville, Tennessee; New France; New World; Oblates of Saint Joseph; people in doubt; people who fight Communism; Peru; pioneers; protection of the Church; Diocese of San Jose, California; diocese of Sioux Falls, South Dakota; social justice; Styria, Austria; travelers; Turin Italy; Tyrol Austria; unborn children Universal Church; Vatican II; Vietnam; Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston West Virginia; wheelwrights; workers; working people.

Symbols: Bible; branch; carpenter's square; carpenter's tools; chalice; cross; hand tools; infant Jesus; ladder; lamb; lily; monstrance; old man holding a lily and a carpenter's tool such as a square; old man holding the infant Jesus; plane; rod.

Things to Do:

A table overflowing with good Italian food honoring St. Joseph is a traditional Sicilian custom. The feast of San Giuseppe began in the Middle Ages when Sicily was suffering from a severe drought and the desperate people begged St. Joseph for rain. When they received rainy weather in response, they held a huge "feste" in Saint Joseph's honor. Even today, Sicilians go to Mass before their St. Joseph's day dinner and then process to their festive tables, decked out in flowers, breads, and all sorts of Italian foods. The priest blesses the food, and everyone shouts "Viva la tavola di San Giuse!" (which your children will readily do with great gusto). After the meal is done, everyone present is given something to take home, in the generous spirit of this day.