

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
March 3, 2019

Every tree is known by its own fruit. For people do not pick figs from thornbushes, nor do they gather grapes from brambles.

— Luke 6:44

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.

Ash Wednesday
March 6, 2019



Our Lady of Fatima Parish
2010 12th Avenue
www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.org
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

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

Our Lady of Fatima Church is open
Monday through Friday: 9AM - 5PM Winter
9AM - 6PM Summer
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.



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: 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: 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 6, 2019

Why is Ash Wednesday called Ash Wednesday?

In Western Christianity, Ash Wednesday marks the first day or the start of the season of Lent. Officially named "Day of Ashes," Ash Wednesday always falls 40 days before Easter (Sundays are not included in the count). Lent is a time when Christians prepare for Easter by observing a period of fasting, repentance, moderation, giving up of sinful habits, and spiritual discipline.

Not all Christian churches observe Ash Wednesday and Lent. These commemorations are mostly kept by the Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian and Anglican denominations, and also by Roman Catholics.

Eastern Orthodox churches observe Lent or Great Lent, during the 6 weeks or 40 days preceding Palm Sunday with fasting continuing during the Holy Week of Orthodox Easter. Lent for Eastern Orthodox churches begins on Monday (called Clean Monday) and Ash Wednesday is not observed.

The Bible does not mention Ash Wednesday or the custom of Lent, however, the practice of repentance and mourning in ashes is found in 2 Samuel 13:19; Esther 4:1; Job 2:8; Daniel 9:3; and Matthew 11:21.

What Do the Ashes Signify?

During Ash Wednesday mass or services, a minister distributes ashes by lightly rubbing the shape of a cross with ashes onto the foreheads of worshipers. The tradition of tracing a cross on the forehead is meant to identify the faithful with Jesus Christ.

Ashes are a symbol of death in the Bible. God formed humans out of dust:

Then the Lord God formed the man from the dust of the ground. He breathed the breath of life into the man's nostrils, and the man became a living person. (Genesis 2:7, Human beings return to dust and ashes when they die:

"By the sweat of your brow will you have food to eat until you return to the ground from which you were made. For you were made from dust, and to dust you will return." (Genesis 3:19, NLT)

Speaking of his human mortality in Genesis 18:27, Abraham told God, "I am nothing but dust and ashes." The prophet Jeremiah described death as a "valley of dead bones and ashes" in Jeremiah 31:40. So, the ashes used on Ash Wednesday symbolize death.

Many times in Scripture, the practice of repentance is also associated with ashes. In Daniel 9:3, the prophet Daniel clothed himself in sackcloth and sprinkled himself in ashes as he pleaded with God in prayer and fasting. In Job 42:6, Job said to the Lord, "I take back everything I said, and I sit in dust and ashes to show my repentance."

When Jesus saw towns full of people reject salvation even after he'd performed so many of his miracles there, he denounced them for not repenting:

"What sorrow awaits you, Korazin and Bethsaida! For if the miracles I did in you had been done in wicked Tyre and Sidon, their people would have repented of their sins long ago, clothing themselves in burlap and throwing ashes on their heads to show their remorse." (Matthew 11:21, NLT)

Thus, ashes on Ash Wednesday at the start of the Lenten season represent our repentance from sin and Jesus Christ's sacrificial death to set us free from sin and death.

How Are the Ashes Made?

To make the ashes, palm fronds are collected from the previous year's Palm Sunday services. The ashes are burned, crushed into a fine powder, and then saved in bowls. During the following year's Ash Wednesday masses, the ashes are blessed and sprinkled with holy water by the minister.

How Are the Ashes Distributed?

Worshipers approach the altar in procession similar to that of communion to receive the ashes. A priest dips his thumb into the ashes, makes the sign of the cross on the person's forehead, and says a variation of these words:

"Remember that you are dust, and unto dust, you shall return," which is the traditional invocation from Genesis 3:19; Or, "Turn away from sin and believe in the Gospel," from Mark 1:15.

Should Christians Observe Ash Wednesday?

Since the Bible does not mention the observance of Ash Wednesday, believers are free to decide whether or not to participate. Self-examination, moderation, giving up of sinful habits, and repentance from sin are all good practices for believers. So, Christians ought to do these things daily and not only during Lent.

March 3, 2019
EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
10:30 AM

March 3, 2019

Scripture Reflection

OUR LADY OF FATIMA MASS INTENTIONS

Readings: Sir:27:4-7; 1 Cor 15:54-58; Lk 6:39-45

Today's Intention-Fr. Dennis Kurdziel, Good Health

Readings: Dt 26:4-10; Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13

Sun., March 10, First Sunday of Lent

Intention: Ron Geis, (Family)

Cathedral Mass Intention

March 4, Monday: Saint Casimir

Readings: Sir 17:20-24; Mk 10:17-27

6:45 AM Marianna Mignogna Moffa (Estate)

8:00 AM Susan Conahye (Debbie & Ron Creamer)

12:00 PM Joseph, Annie & Neil Bauer (Son, Daniel)

March 5, Tuesday: Weekday

Readings: Sir 35:1-12; Mk 10:28-31

6:45 AM Joe Tomlinson (Patty Koch)

8:00 AM Joe Wiedemer (Della Skupien)

12:00 PM John Bettwy (Stanley Krish Family)

March 6, Wednesday: Ash Wednesday

Readings: Jl 2:12-18; 2 Cor 5:20-6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

6:45 AM Julianne Seidel (Jean Fornwalt)

8:00 AM Hilda Conrad (Jeff and Elaine Spencer)

12:00 PM Sally Colledge (Pete Colledge and Family)

5:30 PM Rose Ciavarello (Steve & Kim Krawick)

March 7, Thursday: Sts. Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs

Readings: Dt 30:15-30; Lk 9:22-25

6:45 AM Mike Chisko (Family)

8:00 AM Pat Ratchford (Skip Cowan Family)

12:00 PM Myra Mangiacarne (Richard & Marcia Smith)

March 8, Friday: Saint John of God, Religious

Readings: Is 58:1-9; Mt 9:14-15

6:45 AM Dwight Dittsworth (Fred & Gail Martynuska)

8:00 AM Charles Brady (Dee & Joe Shellenberger)

12:00 PM Bernia Garcia (Barb Karl)

March 9, Saturday: Saint Frances of Rome, Religious

Readings: Is 58:9-14; Lk 5:27-32

8:00 AM Joseph Knott (Larry and Kathy Knott)

12:00 PM Howard Peachman (Mike and Sherry Byrne)

Vigil: First Sunday of Lent

Readings: Dt 26:4-10; Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13

5:00 PM Alfred Rutolo, Anniv. (Daughter and Family)

The integrity and credibility of a person is evident in the words that he or she speaks. Today's readings help us reflect on our tendency to overlook our faults but judge others. These Scriptures provide an opportunity to examine our need to act harshly towards others while kindly to ourselves.

Luke structures the account in this Sunday's Gospel passage around two proverbs, which he calls "parables." The First, "Can a blind person guide a blind person?" Encourages self-scrutiny, Jesus is especially severe with the disciples. If they learn well, they will become like him; but if they fall prey to self-deception, they will fail and drag others down too.

In the second proverb, "A good tree does not bear rotten fruit," Jesus reminds his followers of the dangers of hypocrisy. The word hypocrite originally came the language of the theater and referred to an actor skilled in mimicry. A hypocritical disciple can say all the right words and can even perform certain highly visible actions, but only those with true commitment and perseverance will live according to the Gospel. The pattern of their consistent deeds will reveal the nature of their inner character.

Jesus offers God's own example as a model for transformation and character. In this, Jesus reveals the roots of his teaching in the traditions of Israel. It is not enough for his disciples to believe that God loves them or that God acted to save them; their own behavior must reveal the God of saving love as the model for every deed. This teaching follows upon promises that the poor and disenfranchised will be blessed in God's kingdom and that one's enemies should be loved.

- **What beam must you remove from your eye?**
- **Are you a forgiving person?**
- **Do you hold grudges?**

*Jesus, Son of the Living Father,
Have Mercy on Me a Sinner.*

Please pray for all of our parishioners, especially for those who have illnesses great and small and our seniors who are lonely and need comfort and care.

AT HOME with the WORD 2019, Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, pg. 51. AMERICA MAGAZINE, "Does your behavior reflect God's love?" Michael R. Simone, S.J., February 08, 2019.

FIRE CLASS for March 2019 Sunday March 24th 2:00-4:00

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION...

ALL Tenth Grade Candidates: Sunday March 17th Spring Session; We will meet in the Church for Evening Prayer at 6:15 PM. Our Spring Session will follow, in the Cathedral Hall until 8:15 PM.

ALL NINTH Grade Candidates: Sunday March 31st 2019 Spring Session; We will meet in the Church at 6:30 PM for the Evening Prayer, the Spring Session will follow in the Cathedral Hall until 8:15 PM.

Stations of the Cross: There will be Stations of the Cross starting Friday, March 8, at 7:00 PM.

Saint Mary Hollidaysburg—Basket Bonanza Tickets 25 for \$5.00 Tickets will be sold in our Social Hall: March 23rd—10:00 AM to 6:00 PM; March 23rd—7:30 AM to 6:00 PM ; March 30th—10:00 AM to 6:00 PM; March 30th—7:30 AM to 6:00 PM: Drawing March 31st, in our Social Hall. Winner need not be present, winner will be notified. Light refreshments will be served.

March 3 Luke 6:39-45

Today Jesus tells us: "Why do you see the speck in someone else's eye but miss the log in your own eye?" It's always easier to try to change someone else than face the things in ourselves which need change. What a waste of time for we can't change anyone but ourselves.

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time (March 3)

When you are deciding how much you will give of your resources to others, do you determine what the amount will be based by judging someone else's first? If you feel you are giving more because someone was selfish and gave less, look into your heart and ask Je-

Ash Wednesday



*Remember that you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.*

Liturgical Reflection ...

This Wednesday, March 6, is Ash Wednesday when the Church begins the forty day journey toward the Triduum (The Three Days) with the annual discipline of fasting, praying and giving alms. Ash Wednesday (March 6) and Good Friday (April 19) are days of fast and abstinence. All Fridays in Lent (March 8, 15, 22, 29; April 5, and 12) are days of abstinence. FASTING refers to only one full meal, with two small meals and no eating otherwise for the day. ABSTINENCE refers to not eating meat at all during the day. All who have reached their 14th year are obliged to ABSTAIN. The Church directs the holy FAST to all those in the 18th year until their 60th year (Canon 1252). The ancient practice of fasting and abstaining can occur throughout other days in Lent. This is not obligatory and can take a variety of forms distinct from food.

ECCLESIASTES 3:20

2019, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648

2018 Contributions for Income Tax Purposes.

I hope to have them completed by March 9th.

I apologize for holding up your Tax returns. I have excellent volunteers helping me.

Collection for February 24: \$ 1950.00

BIRTHDAYS: 3/9 Francis Barroner, 3/10 Bert Bravin



OUR LADY URGES US TO PRAY THE HOLY ROSARY

FOR

PEACE AND OFFER

SACRIFICES BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!



Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

March 3, 2019



THE INSIDE SHOWS

In this third Sunday of our reading from the Sermon on the Plain, Jesus speaks of the inner soul and its outer expression. He uses images as he teaches. He addresses all of us.

Jesus sees a plumb line connecting the soul with the soul's expression-words and actions. He uses exaggeration to drive home his point. We are urged to clear out the debris that blinds us. He knows that we have an uncanny ability to be blind to our own weaknesses, though they be as big as a board. He knows, too, how willingly we seem to ferret out others' smallest speck-like flaws.

And this, too, is for our general consumption; solid old goodness and solid old badness will show eventually. The old Latin saying, which echoes Jesus' images, is true: "What is bred in the bone will out in the flesh." By and by, the inside will show through.

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TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Many Catholics who are not active in the Church will still seek out ashes this Wednesday. Likewise, many Jews who are not otherwise observant will follow the Day of Atonement, Yom Kippur, with great exactness, fasting and refraining from work and entertainment. People customarily dress in white as a symbol of purity and a reminder of God's promise that our sins will be made white as snow. While the overture to Ash Wednesday for Christians may be a festive Mardi Gras celebration, for Jews it is the New Year feast of Rosh Hashanah. Ten days before the Day of Atonement to God, people are expected to repair breaks in human life. These are days for offering forgiveness and seeking to repair harmed relationships with family, friends, or coworkers. Everyone is expected to seek out someone and "clear the air" by asking for understanding for any mean words or thoughtless deeds in the past year.

Perhaps the ashes you receive will be invested with deeper meaning if you follow a similar plan. This year, Rosh Hashanah will be September 29, and Yom Kippur October 8. A conversation with some Jewish friends or neighbors about their experience of a season of repentance may be a blessing on your Lent.

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

THE DIFFERENCE

The difference between perseverance and obstinacy is that one often comes from a strong will, and the other from a strong won't.

—Henry Ward Beecher

THANKS

No duty is more urgent than that of returning thanks.

—Ambrose of Milan

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