

SEPTEMBER 18, 2016

Scripture Reflection

In the Gospel, the dishonest steward has squandered his master's property and is fired. He solves the problem of his future livelihood by drastically lessening the debts of those who owe the master. Stewards in Palestine at this time were free to make money on the side by charging and pocketing high interest rates. So when the steward slashes the debts, he is most likely forfeiting his own profits and not the master's, knowing that the debtors will treat him well in the future. In doing this he is praised by the master-- not for his dishonesty, but for his prudence in arranging for others to be indebted to him.

The complexity of the parable of the dishonest manager, found in Luke's Gospel alone, led some of the church fathers to cut to the heart of the matter. Emphasis is on the repentance of the manager that led to his proper use of earthly wealth. Cyril of Alexandria, in his commentary on this passage said: "Let those of us who possess earthly wealth open our hearts to those in need. Let us show ourselves faithful and obedient to the laws of God." Ambrose of Milan focuses on the manager's repentance and subsequent use of money, which he extols "so that by giving to the poor, we may match the grace of the angels and all the saints for ourselves. He does not rebuke the steward... Although he has sinned, he is praised because he sought help for himself in the future through the Lord's mercy."

At its heart, today's Gospel commands each one of us to strive to be persons of Gospel integrity. People of Gospel integrity are honest, trustworthy, and act out of their core beliefs. In the spirit of Saint Francis of Assisi, people preach the Gospel at all times through their daily choices and behaviors. People of Gospel integrity understand that they are stewards of material possessions, not owners. They readily share what they have with those they know to be in need.

• **Take an inventory of your charitable contributions thus far this year. Does your giving reflect generous stewardship?**

AT HOME WITH THE WORD 2016. (C) 2015 ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO, LITURGY TRAINING PUBLICATIONS, 3949 South Racine Avenue CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60609. REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION.

AMERICA MAGAZINE: September 12, 2016 Issue, John W. Martens.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL UPDATE

We have received three new gifts this month and have now raised **\$54,991.00**. Our cash gifts and pledge payments now total **\$51,438.52** and we are **\$11,469.00** over goal. It is not too late to participate. New gifts will come directly back us.

FIRST RECONCILIATION PREPARATION

All Parents of children in Cathedral Parish and Our Lady of Fatima attending Holy Trinity Catholic School, our Religious Education program, or Home Schooling who will be celebrating the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion this year, please take note. Our first meeting will be held in the *Seton Suite* on **Tuesday, September 27th** from **6:30 PM - 8:00 PM**. Every student **must** be accompanied by a parent or adult who will present the child's Baptismal Certificate. (If you cannot locate the certificate, please call the **Parish of Baptism** to obtain a copy before this meeting.) This is the first of three sessions of preparation required before the reception of Reconciliation in Advent.

ALTOONA PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY RALLY HERITAGE PLAZA (11th Avenue and 14th Street)

Join in the praying of the Rosary on the 99th Anniversary of the 'Miracle of the Sun' at Fatima on Saturday, October 15th, 2016 at NOON at the Heritage Plaza, Altoona. This event is celebrated in over 15000 cities around the world on this same day. Invite a friend. We will be praying for our nation, veterans and troops. Go to www.anf.org

PILGRIMAGE TO NATIONAL SHRINE

As the *Jubilee Year of Mercy* comes to an end, the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese will be making pilgrimage to the National Shrine of the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. The pilgrimage is scheduled for **Saturday, November 12**. Cathedral Parish will provide a bus for those making pilgrimage - this includes those wishing to sing in the choir and any parishioner planning to attend this day as a pilgrim. The Plenary Indulgence connected to the Jubilee Year will be available. Please call the Parish Office to reserve a seat on the bus. Other parishes invited to join us are: Our Lady of Fatima, Holy Rosary, Saint Mark, and Saint Catherine of Siena.

Official Close of the Jubilee Year of Mercy

Bishop Bartchak will celebrate Mass here at the Cathedral on **Saturday, November 19th** at the 5:00 PM Mass to formally bring to a close the *Jubilee Year of Mercy*. Check your calendars and plan ahead to attend this special Liturgy.

THE CHURCH OF ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN
THE CATHEDRAL
OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT

ONE CATHEDRAL SQUARE, Altoona, Pennsylvania 16601-3315
Church Office: 814-944-4603

CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS:

The process of formation for those seeking God through membership in the Catholic Christian community.

INFANT BAPTISM:

Arrange in advance for pre-baptismal instructions.

CONFIRMATION:

Ninth, tenth and eleventh grade students are invited to participate in the Confirmation Preparation Process.

RECONCILIATION:

Wednesday: 7:00 PM, Saturday: 12:30 PM.
Communal Penance Services: Advent and Lent.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK:

Communal celebration Easter Season.

MARRIAGE:

Arrange nine months in advance. Couples expected to participate in pre-marriage preparation program.

DEVOTIONS:

Novena of the Miraculous Medal - Monday 7:45 AM.
Rosary - Wednesday 6:00 PM.
Charismatic Prayer - Monday 7:00 PM.
Evening Prayer within Eucharistic Exposition - Advent and Christmas, Lent and Easter Seasons - Sunday 6:30 PM.
Eucharistic Day - Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM:

September through April: Pre-Kindergarten thru 12.
Sunday morning 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM
Pre-Kindergarten thru 8.
Sunday evening 6:15 PM - 8:30 PM
Grades 9 thru 12.

WEB: WWW.ALTOONACATHEDRAL.ORG

FAX: 814-942-4337

E-MAIL: ALTCATHEDRAL@DIOCESEAJ.ORG

EUCHARIST:

Sunday:	5:00 PM (Vigil)	Holyday:	5:30 PM (Vigil)	Weekday:	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

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF GOD IN THE CITY OF ALTOONA SINCE 1851

Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, Bishop

Reverend Monsignor Robert C. Mazur, Rector

Reverend Father Dennis M. Kurdziel, Parochial Vicar

CHRISTIAN INITIATION TEAM - 944-4603

CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME - 944-4603

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL
Web: www.holytrinitycatholic.school
Altoona Campus (Pre-K thru Grade 4) - 381-7011
Holidaysburg 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

MUSIC MINISTRY
Nina M. Tedeschi
Choir Director and Head Organist - 944-2044
Kevin J. Luke - E-mail: kluke@dioceseaj.org
Administrative Duties and Organist - 944-2044

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SEPTEMBER 18, 2016

Readings: Am 8:4-7; 1 Tm 2:1-8; Lk 16:1-13

MASS INTENTIONS

September 19, Monday: Saint Januarius, Bishop, Martyr

Readings: Prv 3:27-34; Lk 8:16-18

6:45 AM Norberta Wagner (D. & M. Hanekamp)
8:00 AM Pat Rabine (Fran Hallinan)
12:00 PM James J. Adams, Anniv. (Wife, Rita & Family)

September 20, Tuesday: Korean Martyrs

Readings: Prv 21:1-6, 10-13; Lk 8:19-21

6:45 AM Angela Cronin Chadwick, Birth. (Mom)
8:00 AM Bernie McLucas (Family)
12:00 PM Justine Allen (McNelis All-Stars)

September 21, Wednesday: Saint Matthew, Apostle

Readings: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13; Mt 9:9-13

6:45 AM Poor Souls
8:00 AM Carl Frank (Joanne Strate)
12:00 PM Int. of Sandra Walcutt (Blazewicz Family)

September 22, Thursday: Weekday

Readings: Eccl 1:2-11; Lk 9:7-9

6:45 AM Merle & Joan Hirt (Children/Grandchildren)
8:00 AM Jean Behe (Behe Family)
12:00 PM Jim Davidson (Mary Ann & Linda Wharton)

September 23, Friday: Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest

Readings: Eccl 3:1-11; Lk 9:18-22

6:45 AM Dick Huber (Greg and Kathy Clemens)
8:00 AM Janet Pufka (Marian Boslet)
12:00 PM Danyll Rougeux (Cathy Grove)

September 24, Saturday: Weekday

Readings: Eccl 11:9--12:8; Lk 9:43-45

8:00 AM Ventura Mincin, Birthday (Susan Galant)
12:00 PM Deacon John Rys (Tom and Patricia Forr)
Vigil: Twenty-Sixth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Readings: Am 6: 1,4-7; 1 Tm 6:11-16; Lk 16:19-31

5:00 PM Mary Patricia Grove

Annual Tours of the Cathedral

If you have never taken a tour of our magnificent Cathedral, or if you want to bring a neighbor or friend this year, you are welcome to join us. Our remaining dates are Sunday, September 25th at 1:00 PM; and Thursday, September 29th at 7:00 PM.

Parish Liturgy Committee Meeting

Thursday, September 29, at 12:45 PM in the Seton Suite. Please note: this is a change of date from originally scheduled meeting.

Wedding Anniversary Congratulations!

Six couples from our Cathedral Parish Family participated in the Mass celebrating special wedding anniversaries last Sunday afternoon here in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. Gerald and Rita Kibler will be celebrating 64 years of marriage on October 4th while Thomas and Anna Orr celebrated 60 years together on April 21st. James and Mary Farrell were married on March 20, 1976 and are remembering 40 years. Dan and Wendy Cowan, and Steve and Mary Jo Stacey celebrated their 25th anniversaries in August; and just last Wednesday, Brian and Tina Welteroth marked their 25th anniversary. Congratulations and God's blessings to all!

Christian Initiation

Anyone interested in learning more about the process of entering into the life of the Church through the Sacraments of Initiation, Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist, and anyone interested in becoming a member of the Cathedral Christian Initiation Team, can sign up for a four part course (September through May) through the Lay Ecclesial Ministry Office. **Classes begin this Thursday September 22** at the Diocesan Administrative Center in Hollidaysburg. For more information contact Marybeth Heinze at mheinze@dioceseaj.org, 814-361-2000 or Jeanne Thompson at 814-317-2672 or jthompson@dioceseaj.org.

Catholic Daughters

"Serve the Lord with gladness" Psalm 100:2

Come...hear what you and/or your organization can do to help those in need in our local Altoona community and beyond...for the upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons and throughout the year! Please, join us in the Sacred Heart Formation Center, 2009 6th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602, on Thursday, September 22, 2016 at 6:30 PM when the Altoona Catholic Daughters will present Jean Johnstone of Catholic Charities and Sister Nancy Spence of the Carmelite Community of the Word, as Catholic Daughters begin their national theme for the next two years, how you can... "Serve the Lord with gladness" *Psalm 100:2*

MUSIC MINISTRY NOTE:

Choir Practice: Thursday evenings; Cantors and Psalmists at 6:30 PM and All Choir Members 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM. New members are welcome. For more information, call 944-2044.

Inquiry Sessions Have Begun!

Are you interested in the Catholic Church? Do you know someone who might be interested in seeking information about our Catholic faith? Our Cathedral Christian Initiation Team offers weekly meetings in the Seton Suite from 11:00 AM until 12:00 Noon with all those seeking information on the Catholic Church. This is an informal Inquiry Session to discuss aspects of our faith with anyone who might be thinking of joining the Catholic Church. No commitments are made at this time. All are welcome; bring a friend.

ANNUAL RAFFLE

The Annual Cathedral Raffle tickets are available for sale at the **Parish Office** during regular business hours (9:30 AM- 5:30 PM) Monday through Friday and after all weekend Masses at the **Cathedral Square door**. There are twenty cash prizes totaling almost \$5,000.00 and ranging from \$2,000.00 to \$25.00 **One ticket costs \$5.00**. Each family is asked to purchase or sell at least four tickets. The drawing will be held **Saturday, October 2**, after 10:00 AM Mass on the Cathedral Portico. You need not be present to win.

Baptism Congratulations!

On Sunday, September 11 at the 10:00 AM Mass, Armando and Samantha Floyd presented their children Jayden Vincent Carroll and Scarlett Monet Floyd for Baptism. Congratulations also to Godparents and grandparents. May the graces of the Sacrament of Baptism strengthen both our children and the adults who care for them.

Expectant Parents Please Note:

Our next Session of **Baptismal Preparation** is scheduled for **Monday, October 10** at 7:00 PM in the Seton Suite. This required class is offered every other month. Next date, Monday, December 12.?

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, September 11, 2016 - \$6,987.50
Missionary Co-op Collection - \$1,826.00

Diocesan Priests' Medical/Retirement Collection

A pale green envelope was provided in our September packets for next Sunday's special collection for our senior priests' needs. Please deposit it with your regular offertory gift next weekend. Be sure to see today's bulletin insert also with a "Prayer for Priests".

Msgr. Paul D. Panza, Fourth Rector of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, 1987 - 1995,

died at his Our Lady of the Alleghenies Residence on Wednesday, September 14, 2016. Monsignor will be viewed here in the Cathedral today from 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM and 6:30 PM- 8:30 PM. The Vigil for the Deceased will be prayed at 8:00 PM this evening. The Funeral Mass is scheduled for 10:00 AM, Monday, September 19, with Bishop Mark L. Barchak presiding.

Sacrament of Marriage -

On Friday evening, August 26, 2016 Renee Clemens and Cory Day celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage here in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. And on Saturday, September 3, Rose Settle and Jesse Lee began their new life together as husband and wife surrounded by family and friends. May these couples be blessed with many years of love and happiness and may they find support and affirmation here among us, their Cathedral Parish Family.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION TONIGHT!

September 18, 2016 ALL ELEVENTH GRADE STUDENTS to be Confirmed in the Spring of 2017 (Bishop Guilfoyle, Home-schooled, and FIRE-Religious Education) are to meet in the Cathedral Hall this Sunday evening from 6:15 PM - 7:30 PM. A Parent and your choice of Confirmation Sponsor should also attend this very important meeting.

September 25, 2016 - F.I.R.E. Class~6:15-8:15 PM!

**JUBILEE
YEAR OF
MERCY**

Liturgical Reflection ...

"No servant can serve two masters." If we claim Christ as Lord and Savior, then, he, and he alone, is the center of our lives. Everyone has been given particular gifts and talents. Do I use the talents and gifts that God gave me to do good? In my dealings with money and possessions, does mercy guide my decisions? Do I share what I have with others? Am I a trustworthy steward of what I have been given? There is no room for a selfish heart for one who professes Christ as redeemer of all. I can serve only God alone; all I have and all I am come from God. We are challenged to share our gifts with those in need. May mercy guide our decisions to share our treasure with our sisters and brothers.

2016, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 South Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648.