

SEPTEMBER 25, 2016

Scripture Reflection

Luke's Gospel parable and the passage from Amos vividly address the issues of just access to resources and active concern for the needy. The rich man seems oblivious to the suffering of Lazarus, and similarly, the prophet Amos calls the rich "complacent" because they lack concern for others.

The conversation between the condemned rich man and Father Abraham is particularly intriguing --displaying the gall of the rich man, even now wanting the humble Lazarus to do his bidding, and Abraham's firm insistence that the man's brothers will be just as deaf to Lazarus' warnings as they have been to Scripture. Here Luke has planted a foreshadowing of the rejection of Christ even after his Resurrection from the dead.

The very sharp point of the stories is the sin of uncaring complacency that works against justice --in spite of a long tradition that teaches the opposite. Wealth is relative. Even those who do not consider themselves wealthy still live in more comfort than many others, and may also be uncaring or complacent. Every community of faith is charged with finding ways to extend its resources to those in need. In recent writings Pope Francis calls for more energetic action for justice motivated by mercy and compassion for the poor and marginalized of society.

The parable in today's Gospel reminds each of us to take the teachings of our faith seriously and to practice them sincerely during this lifetime. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul seeks to help end poverty through systemic change, offering person-to-person assistance to those in need.

- **The Saint Vincent DePaul Society in Altoona does much to help the needy. Here is some information to help you in your call to serve those in need - St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry, 1523 Adams Avenue, 943-7962; St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen, 2201 Union Avenue, 944-6302; and St. Vincent DePaul Thrift Store, 1215 Seventh Avenue, 943-1981.**

Gift Shop Opening and Pet Blessing

The Franciscan Friars, TOR at St. Bernardine Monastery will be holding the grand opening of **The Friar's Nook Gift Shop** and a blessing of pets **Saturday, October 1, 2016**. The blessing will begin at 10:00 AM. The Friar's Nook Gift Shop is located across from the Monastery at 792 Monastery Road, Hollidaysburg. Saturday hours: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Refreshments will be provided.

LIFE CHAIN- Sunday, October 2nd

Citizens Concerned for Human Life invites you to join the chain along Seventeenth Street and Ninth Avenue (at Station Mall Medical Center) from **2:00 PM to 3:00 PM**, (rain or shine). Life Chain is a peaceful and prayerful public witness of pro-life individuals standing for 60 minutes praying for our nation and an end to abortion. For more information, call 946-0691.

DIOCESAN HOLY FAMILY OBSERVANCE

Printed above is the theme of a special celebration to be hosted by Bishop Mark Bartchak and the Vocations Endowment Committee. The event will be held at the St. Michael the Archangel Basilica in Loretto, PA on **October 9, 2016**, in conjunction with Columbus Day. There will be a recitation of the rosary in the Basilica at 2:00 PM. Following the Rosary, Bishop Bartchak will celebrate Mass. Immediately following Mass, a dinner will be held in the Community Hall. Knights, along with their family members, friends and all parishioners are invited to this special celebration. The cost of the dinner is \$15.00 for adults and \$7.50 for children 12 and under. Reservations must be made by September 30 with William Stasko, CPA, 8 Entrance Drive, Johnstown, PA 15905.

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 cost is \$25 for Cathedral parishioners and \$40 for those of neighboring parishes. 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.

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

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
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

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-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 25, 2016

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

MASS INTENTIONS

September 26, Monday: Saints Cosmas and Damian

Readings: Jb 1:6-22; Lk 9:46-50

6:45 AM Betty Capouellez, Birthday (Family)

8:00 AM Judy Gray, Anniversary (Family)

12:00 PM Alfred Rutolo, Birthday (Family)

September 27, Tuesday: St. Vincent de Paul, Priest

Readings: Jb 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23; Lk 9:51-56

6:45 AM M. Virginia Jones (John & Stephanie Supps)

8:00 AM Chester Kowalski (Matt Koeck/Parents)

12:00 PM Bernie Frederick, Birth Rem. (Bob & Patty)

September 28, Wednesday: Martyrs of Nagasaki, Japan

Readings: Jb 9:1-12, 14-16; Lk 9:57-62

6:45 AM Bill Crouse (Bill and Fritz Beard)

8:00 AM Birthday Inten. of Linda Blackie (Friend)

12:00 PM Betty McCabe (Mike and Deb Finocchio)

September 29, Thursday: The Archangels

Readings: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Jn 1:47-51

6:45 AM Pauline Barry (Grandson, Tom Huber)

8:00 AM David Conrad (Bill and Cathy Hocherl)

12:00 PM Don Tomlinson, Anniv. Rem. (Wife, Janet)

September 30, Friday: Saint Jerome, Priest, Doctor

Readings: Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5; Lk 10:13-16

6:45 AM Eleanor Toth (Kathleen Winter)

8:00 AM Joe Milliron (Jim and Steph Kilcoyne)

12:00 PM John Vogel, Birth. (Madeline Vogel Family)

October 1, Saturday: Saint Therese of the Child Jesus

Readings: Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17; Lk 10:17-24

8:00 AM Family, Relatives and Friends (Sue Bauer)

12:00 PM Jim Davidson (Lil, Tim, Luann, Joyce Hallinan)

Vigil: Twenty-Seventh Sunday In Ordinary Time

Readings: Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4; 1 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14; Lk 17:5-10

5:00 PM Edgar A. Johnston, Anniv. (Wife and Family)

Please remember our sick in your prayers.

Tour of Cathedral TODAY!

The third of our four one hour September tours of this magnificent building will be offered this Sunday afternoon at **1:00 PM**. If you have never taken a tour or if you want to bring a neighbor you are welcome to join us. Our final tour this year is scheduled for this **Thursday, September 29th** at 7:00 PM. Over fifty people have taken the tour thus far and comments have been very positive.

UPDATE ON NEWLY PURCHASED BUILDING

The former Kopp Building has been gutted on the top and middle floors. Small amounts of asbestos had to be removed. There will be an important meeting this **Tuesday, September 27** at **4:30 PM** in the **Saint John Room** for the **Building Committee** to review the four bids submitted: electrical, plumbing, heating/air, and general contracting. Members of the **Parish Council** and **Parish Finance Council** are welcome to attend. The proposed plans for the lower parking lot are being taken to City Hall for review by the Codes Office. A new roof will be installed on the building this October.

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** this **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.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (Pre K-Grade 8)

Religious Education Classes are held in the Parish Hall on Sunday mornings from **8:30 AM - 9:45 AM** for Grades 1- Grade 8, Pre-K and Kindergarten with Miss Gabi in the Music Room.

HIGH SCHOOL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

F.I.R.E. Groups Meet Tonight, September 25th Family Intergenerational Religious Education for Parents and Students in Grades 9-11 (Religious Ed and Home-schooled) meet in Cathedral Hall from **6:15 PM - 8:30 PM**. Classes for **October** are on the **2nd** and the **16th**.

SHYCON - Senior High Youth Convention

October 23, 2016 - All 9th - 12th Grade Students are invited to attend this All Day Event. We will be taking a bus leaving Bishop Guilfoyle Parking Lot at **10:00 AM**. Returning at **6:30 PM**. Registrations are due by next Sunday, October 2, so get your friends together and talk it up! Plan to attend - you'll be glad you did! Forms can be picked up at the Parish Office. For more information contact Jean Koury at 949-2777.

ANNUAL RAFFLE - ONE WEEK TO GO!!

The Annual Cathedral Raffle Prizes will be awarded **Next Sunday, October 2, after our 10:00 AM Mass** on the Cathedral Portico. **Don't be left out!** If you keep forgetting to do so, find the **four tickets** that were mailed to each family in July, fill them out and return them a.s.a.p. to the **Parish Office** Monday through Friday during regular business hours (9:30 AM- 5:30 PM). So they may be mixed up several times each day. Tickets will only be available after 5:00 PM Saturday, and 8:00 AM Masses next weekend for so be sure to pick up some **\$5.00** tickets at the **Cathedral Square door Today!** There are twenty cash prizes totaling nearly \$5,000.00 and ranging from \$2,000.00 to \$25.00.

Parish Liturgy Committee Meeting - Thursday, September 29, at 12:45 PM in the Seton Suite.

Planning Ahead

Deacon Dennis Bennin will be visiting our parish on the weekend of **October 8 and 9** to speak at the Masses asking for our assistance with the work of **Food For The Poor, Inc.** Brochures will be distributed at Mass to further explain their mission. Please be as generous as you are able. Thank you.

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

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, September 18, 2016 - \$8,595.00

Diocesan Priests' Medical/Retirement Collection

A pale green envelope was provided in our September packets for this Sunday's special collection for our senior priests' needs. If you forgot your gift today, you may drop it off at the Parish Office during the week or deposit any envelope marked 'For our Retired Priests' with your regular offertory gift next weekend. Thank you.

Inquiry Sessions Continue!

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** on **Sunday mornings** 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.

Baptism Congratulations!

Judson Maxwell Binkley was baptized and welcomed into our Cathedral Parish Family on Sunday, September 18, at the 12:00 Noon Mass. Congratulations to parents, Adam Binkley and Jessica Johnson. 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 5**.

JUBILEE

YEAR OF

MERCY

Liturgical Reflection ...

There are the rich and there are the poor. The great sin is that of uncaring complacency. Every community of faith is charged with finding ways to share its resources to those in need. A caring heart, a heart full of mercy seeks to help the poor. Our Diocese has very active members of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society that reaches out to each person in need at the local level. (The Church in the annual calendar remembers Saint Vincent de Paul this Tuesday.) Have you shared some of your wealth with the Saint Vincent de Paul Society? The worse response would be apathy. It is mercy that leads us to reach out to those in need. Lord, give us a merciful heart!

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