

# FEBRUARY 5, 2017

## Scripture Reflection

Today's Gospel reading immediately follows the Beatitudes. The first eight address an unidentified "they." In verse 11 Jesus now speaks to his disciples: "Blessed are you." The metaphors of salt and light in the Gospel reading remind the disciples that they are a visible witness to the gospel that Jesus proclaims. As disciples, they can no more deny their responsibilities than salt can exist without taste. The purpose of salt is to add flavor, the purpose of light is to shine. Jesus reminds the disciples that their purpose is to allow others to see their good deeds and glorify their heavenly Father in response.

Salt and light characterize the essence of discipleship. First, salt is both essential for life itself and valuable for preserving, seasoning, and purifying food. Its value is in its effect on something else. Applied to disciples, they too are valuable to the extent that they influence others. Second, the disciples are a light that shines forth in the darkness of ignorance or faithlessness, like a city on a mountain or a lamp on a stand in a house. They enlighten others not by words but by their manner of living, a manner of living that declared to the world that the reign of God has indeed been established in their midst.

Salt was important in Jesus' time for preserving meat and for bringing out the taste of food. Its usefulness depends on its interacting with something else. When it doesn't interact, it is useless. So, too, if a follower does not live in the world as a child of the kingdom, the world will be bland. True disciples give our world its flavor. The disciples must show themselves to the world as followers of Jesus, rooted like him in the law and the prophets. With so much darkness due to oppression, false accusations and malicious speech, the disciple who shares bread with the hungry, helps shelter the homeless, clothes the naked, and does not live indifferent to the needs of others, will truly be salt and light.

• **How am I salt? Which of the traditional uses of salt---as a flavoring, a preservative, an offering---best describes how I see my role as a follower of Jesus?**

**How do I let my light shine? Which of the scriptural descriptions---as a city on a mountain top or as a light on a lampstand---better describes how I see my role as a disciple of Christ?**

*Living the Word*, Laurie Brink and Frederick Bauerschmidt, World Library Publications, 2013, pages 54-55.

*Living the Word*, Dianne Bergaut and James A. Wallace, World Library Publications, 2010, pages 52-53.

## Directives With Regard to the Flu Season

The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown has received an advisory from public health officials that the reported cases of "the flu" and similar contagious viruses remains a serious concern at this time. Therefore, Bishop Bartchak has asked that the Precious Blood of the Lord not be offered at Mass temporarily. It is the belief of the Catholic Church that the whole Body of Christ is present under either form of consecrated bread and wine. Also, the exchange of the sign of peace should avoid bodily contact. A reverent nod with eye contact and a smile will be the temporary practice. Reception of Holy Communion on the hand is encouraged; however, reception on the tongue may not be denied. These norms are in effect through the winter months or until the flu season is over.

## St. Leonard's Home - St. Joseph's Table

St. Leonard's Home will host its 2nd annual celebration of St. Joseph's Table on **Saturday, March 18** from **5:00 PM - 8:00 PM** at the American Legion Post 516 Social Hall at Legion Park in Hollidaysburg. The event includes a meal, cheese bar, desserts, wine tasting, auction, prizes for bidding and entertainment. Tickets are \$30; they are available at St. Leonard's Home or by calling 695-9581 during business hours.

## COMING SOON TO THE CATHEDRAL LENTEN LUNCHESES

### Ash Wednesday and Fridays of Lent

11:00 AM until 1:30 PM

FISH SANDWICH

with

MACARONI & CHEESE

OR

FRENCH FRIES

\$6.50

Ash Wednesday - March 1,

Friday - March 3, Friday - March 10;

Friday - March 17, Friday - March 24,

Friday - March 31, Friday - April 7

(No Lunch Served on Good Friday)

Eat-in or Take-out. No pre-paid orders.

Please call in orders of ten or more.

**Volunteers are needed to help with food preparation and serving! Please call 944-4603.**

# 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](http://WWW.ALTOONACATHEDRAL.ORG)

FAX: 814-942-4337

E-MAIL: [ALTCATHEDRAL@DIOCESEAJ.ORG](mailto:ALTCATHEDRAL@DIOCESEAJ.ORG)

## EUCHARIST:

Sunday: 5:00 PM (Vigil)  
8:00 AM  
10:00 AM  
12:00 Noon  
5:00 PM

Holyday: 5:30 PM (Vigil)  
8:00 AM  
12:00 Noon  
5:30 PM

Weekday: 6:45 AM  
8:00 AM  
12:00 Noon  
Saturday: 8:00 AM  
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

MAIL MINISTRY TO ELDERLY, HOMEBOUND,  
SERIOUSLY SICK, AND GRIEVING - 944-4603

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Web: [www.holytrinitycatholic.school](http://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](http://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](mailto:kluke@dioceseaj.org)

Administrative Duties and Organist - 944-2044

**FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**FEBRUARY 5, 2017**

*Is 58:7-10; 1 Cor 2:1-5; Mt 5:13-16*

**MASS INTENTIONS**

February 6, Monday: Saint Paul Miki and Companions

*Readings: Gn 1:1-19; Mk 6:53-56*

6:45 AM Helen Zurilla, Anniversary (Family)  
8:00 AM Altoona Catholic H.S. Class of 1947  
12:00 PM Pat Rabine (Tim and April Lloyd)

February 7, Tuesday: Weekday

*Readings: Gn 1:20--2:4; Mk 7:1-13*

6:45 AM In Thanks. & Remem. (Kling/Weaver Fam.)  
8:00 AM David Conrad (Erna Hocherl)  
12:00 PM Julia Febbo (Febbo Family)

February 8, Wednesday: Saint Josephine Bakhita

*Readings: Gn 2:4-9, 15-17; Mk 7:14-23*

6:45 AM Msgr. Thomas Madden (Estate)  
8:00 AM Jerry Smith (Tomassetti Family)  
12:00 PM James Davidson (Lil, Tim, Luan & Joyce)

February 9, Thursday: Weekday

*Readings: Gn 2:18-25; Mk 7:24-30*

6:45 AM Andrea Crum (Dave & Jeanne Thompson)  
8:00 AM Catherine 'Kay' Burr (Jim & Steph Kilcoyne)  
12:00 PM Thomas A. and Mary E. Irwin (Children)

February 10, Friday: Saint Scholastica, Virgin

*Readings: Gn 3:1-8; Mk 7:31-37*

6:45 AM Madeline Seidel, Anniv.(Jim, Elaine & Fam.)  
8:00 AM Joan Heverly (Carol Smith)  
12:00 PM Danyll Rougeux (Robine Family)

February 11, Saturday: Our Lady of Lourdes

*Readings: Gn 3:9-24; Mk 8:1-10*

8:00 AM Herbert J. Kutruff (Russ & M.A. Pleva Fam.)  
12:00 PM Nancy Geis, Birthday (Family)  
Vigil: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Readings: Sir 15:15-20; 1 Cor 2:6-10; Mt 5:17-37*

5:00 PM Joe Tomlinson, Ann. (Dana, Justin, Danielle)

**Gifting the Cathedral Parish**

As wills and insurance policies are established with your attorney, remember the Cathedral Parish as a beneficiary of your estate. Perhaps you would like to direct your gift to a particular ministry or project at the Parish. Please realize that Mass Stipends go directly to fulfilling that canonical wish and do not aid the financial life of the Parish.

**Pray For Our Sick** - Remember our sisters and brothers who are weakened by illness. Prayers are sometimes the best prescribed medicine.

**Concerts Under the Dome Presents**  
**MYA BARTKOWIAK - TODAY!**

**Sunday, February 5th at 2:00 PM.** Mya is one of our assistant organists at the Cathedral. The recital will include both piano and organ selections. Works by Rachmaninoff, Frank, and others will be performed. If you have not had the pleasure of attending her last recital, you will surely be impressed and proud that she's one of our own! A free will offering will be taken.

**Cathedral Parish Meetings For February Liturgy Committee - Wednesday, February 8 at 12:45 PM** in the Seton Suite. Lunch will be provided and we will discuss Lent/Easter plans for Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament Parish.

**All-Staff - Wednesday, February 15 at 12:45 PM** in the Saint John Room.

**THINK SPRING**  
**THINK BASKET BINGO**  
**MAY 7, 2017**

**BASKET BINGO PLANNING MEETING**

**Thursday, February 9, at 6:00 PM** in Cathedral Hall. Anyone interested in helping with this major fund-raiser for Cathedral Parish is invited to attend. Call Lorraine Beck at 942-7774 for more information or to offer suggestions if unable to attend meeting.

**MARDI GRAS PARTY**

All parishioners are invited to this year's Mardi Gras Party, **Saturday, February 25 at 6:00 PM** in the Parish Hall. Dinner will be followed by entertainment and activities for both adults and children. Beverages will be available. All are invited. **Please call the Parish Office at 944-4603 to reserve your spot for the party.** Your phone call will help us determine amounts needed for food preparation as no tickets are necessary.

**Catholics Returning Home**

Have been thinking about coming home to the Catholic Church? We would welcome your call to the Parish Office at 944-4603 for information on the date and time of the next *Catholics Returning Home* informal listening session.

**Charismatic Prayer** - The Cathedral Charismatic Prayer Group will meet this Monday, February 6 at 7:00 PM in the Cathedral. We meeting will begin with praise and worship music led by the prayer group's music ministry. All are welcome!

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

**Sunday, January 29, 2017 - \$8,708.50**

**Contribution Reports** for Income Tax purposes may be obtained by calling the Parish Office: 944-4603.

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

Please note the revised schedule posted weekly in the Sacristy as you arrive for Mass to check on your assignments. If you would like a copy, email, call or text Gabrielle at 814 932-6340. If you are ill and unable to take an assignment call the Parish Office as soon as possible at 944-4603. Please also look ahead on your personal calendars and let us know of dates you will be unavailable during Lent (March 1 through April 12) as our next schedule will be mailed to you on Wednesday, February 22. Thank you.

**Blessed Candles**

The candles blessed on the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, February 2nd, are symbols of Christ as the light of the nations. You may wish to purchase blessed candles to take home and use throughout the year on special occasions such as holidays, anniversaries, birthdays, and other special days for you and your family. A box of two blessed candles is \$5.00; a six day glass votive candle is also \$5.00. Blessed candles are located in front of the Blessed Mother Chapel.

**Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School Drama Club to Perform Guys & Dolls**

The Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School award-winning Drama Club will perform *Guys & Dolls* on Friday and Saturday evenings, **March 3 and March 4, 2017** at the historic **Mishler Theatre**. Tickets to this spring musical are on sale now at [mishlertheatre.org](http://mishlertheatre.org) or by calling the box office at 814 944-9434. For more information about the show, contact Mr. Brett Kieth, [bkieth@guilfoyle.org](mailto:bkieth@guilfoyle.org).

**CHRISTIAN INITIATION** - Following the Universal Prayer at 10:00 AM Mass each Sunday, our Catechumens and Candidates are dismissed to reflect on the Scriptures proclaimed and to learn more about our Catholic faith and tradition. Please remember these individuals in your daily prayers.

**CATHEDRAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**  
**Sundays, February 5, 12, 19 - Regular Classes for Pre-K - Grade 8, 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM.**

**F.I.R.E. Sessions for February - Sundays, February 5 and 19, 6:15 - 8:30 PM** in Cathedral Hall.

**SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION**

**CONFIRMATION** - All Students Catholic School, Religious Ed and Home School: Tenth Grade Candidates, Parent/Sponsor ***Gift of the Holy Spirit/ Parable Retreat Saturday, February 18***, in Cathedral Hall 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM. The day will conclude with the ***"Rite of Commitment"*** being celebrated at our **5:00 PM Mass**. All should be in attendance at Mass with Parish Family.

**FIRST EUCHARIST** - Our first of three sessions of preparation for students and parents is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 8**, from 6:30-8:00 PM in the Seton Suite. Please note our additional meeting dates: Wednesday, March 8 and Wednesday, April 5.

**HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**GUARDIAN NEWS**

**Catholic Schools Week** concludes today, Sunday, February 5, with ***Skate out of Catholic Schools Week*** at Galactic Ice from 5:00 - 8:00 PM.

**Save the Date:** Fund-raising Event: ***"Cash Bash"*** **March 11, 2017**. Please call the school office, 942-7835 for ticket information; \$100.00 ticket admits two.

**Did Your Remember** to bring a non-perishable food item or paper product for the needy?

**ORDER OF**  
**CELEBRATING**  
**MATRIMONY**

**Liturgical Reflection ...**

Jesus Christ has restored Marriage to its primordial form and holiness in such a way that what God has joined together, no one may put asunder. As Matthew's Gospel witnesses, "Thus they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore, let no one separate what God has joined (19:6)". Jesus, Lord and Savior, has given us the high dignity of Marriage. Man and woman enter into an indissoluble union which is preordained by God. This divine union is a model for the faithful who seek unity with God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and oneness with each other in the community of the Church.

2017, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 South Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648.