

FEBRUARY 12, 2017

Scripture Reflection

Wisdom literature (Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs, Wisdom, and Sirach) is a collection of texts that present God's revelation not primarily in historical events but in the ordinariness of life. The goal of such wisdom is practical. How are we to live, love, and prosper in the face of the challenges of life? Jewish Wisdom theology held that God was the prime author of ordered creation, so fear of the Lord was the beginning of wisdom. The eyes of God look on the righteous with pleasure, just as the righteous look to God in fidelity. All have been given freedom of choice. It is up to us to use it wisely.

Although Jesus' teaching was based on the common tradition of Israel, his interpretations were so unprecedented that some accused him of having rejected that tradition. The contrast that Jesus sets up is not between himself and the law but between his interpretation of the law and that of the scribes and Pharisees. He criticizes them for insisting on the minutiae of the law at the expense of the righteousness that is at its heart. Jesus demands much more than mere external conformity; Jesus calls for radical commitment.

Jesus offers a critical insight into his entire mission. Although he is speaking to the disciples, it is clear that he is also addressing the scribes and Pharisees. The issue in dispute is the interpretation of the Law, Jesus' repetition of the phrase "you have heard it said . . . but I say to you" underlines the authority of his teaching and the new understanding that he gives to each Law that he quotes. He gives six reinterpretations of scripture that address murder, adultery, divorce, the taking of oaths, retaliation and treatment of the enemy. Those who hear his Word are challenged to live fully by living in the deep spirit of the law, not merely according to its literal meaning. This choice is the path to the kingdom of Heaven.

• **What life choices do you find affected by Jesus' reinterpretation of murder, adultery, divorce, the taking of oaths, retaliation, and treatment of the enemy?**

Living the Word, Laurie Brink and Paul Colloton, World Library Publications, 2015, page 56.

Living the Word, Diane Bergant and James Wallace, World Library Publications, 2010, page 56.

AT HOME WITH THE WORD 2017. (C) 2016 ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO, LITURGY TRAINING PUBLICATIONS, 3949 South Racine Avenue CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60609. REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION.

COMING SOON TO THE CATHEDRAL LENTEN LUNCHES

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.

Carmelite Community of the Word Offers Opportunities for Spiritual Enrichment

CCW Sunday Sabbath Series: Spend a Sunday afternoon enriching yourself spiritually!

Sunday February 26, 2017 The Letters

Based on her true story, THE LETTERS explores the life's work of Nobel Peace Prize recipient Mother Teresa, one of the greatest humanitarians of all time. Told through a series of personal letters, this powerful film is an unforgettable journey of faith, courage and compassion.

Sunday Sabbath gatherings begin at 1:30 PM and end at 4:30 PM. It includes the DVD presentation and time for prayer and reflection.

There is no charge for the session but a free will donation will be welcomed. **Pre-registration is required the Friday before each session.**

Overnight Silent Retreat Opportunity February 24-25, 2017 Living in the Present Moment

Retreat begins on Friday evening at 7:00 PM; ends on Saturday at 3:00 PM and will include presentations the theme, guided prayer opportunities and time for quiet personal reflection. An opportunity for personal Spiritual direction will be made available. Cost for the overnight retreat: \$40/person or \$50/married couple. Includes overnight accommodations, meals and all materials. **Pre-registration is required with fee by Tuesday before retreat.**

Sessions will be held at the CCW Incarnation Center, 394 Bem Rd., Gallitzin, PA. To register, get directions, or for more information call 814 886-4098.

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

EUCCHARIST:

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

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

*SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
FEBRUARY 12, 2017*

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

MASS INTENTIONS

February 13, Monday: Weekday

Readings: Gn 4:1-15, 25; Mk 8:11-13

- 6:45 AM Marian Clemens (Deb & Clair Ciaverella)
- 8:00 AM Jessica Engelbrecht, Ann. (Patti/Patrick)
- 12:00 PM Billy Geis, Anniversary (Family)

February 14, Tuesday: Saints Cyril and Methodius

Readings: Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10; Mk 8:14-21

- 6:45 AM Eleanor Toth, Bir. (Husband, George/Fam.)
- 8:00 AM Danyll Rougeux (Kilcoyne Family)
- 12:00 PM Paul Weible (Connie Novak)

February 15, Wednesday: Weekday

Readings: Gn 8:6-13, 20-22; Mk 8:22-26

- 6:45 AM Clair and Barb Duffy, Wed. Anniv (Family)
- 8:00 AM Lori Crilley, Birth. (Randy & Jean Koury)
- 12:00 PM Erla Stombaugh, Anniv. (Gerry Rose)

February 16, Thursday: Weekday

Readings: Gn 9:1-13; Mk 8:27-33

- 6:45 AM Poor Souls
- 8:00 AM Bernadette Weakland (Emma Weakland)
- 12:00 PM John Bauer (Jane Davidson)

February 17, Friday: Holy Founders of Servite Order

Readings: Gn 11:1-9; Mk 8:34--9:1

- 6:45 AM Robert Stoudmour (Friends)
- 8:00 AM Mary Jean Dodson (M.A. & L. Wharton)
- 12:00 PM Pat McNulty (Sister, Rita)

February 18, Saturday: Weekday

Readings: Heb 11:1-7; Mk 9:2-13

- 8:00 AM M. Virginia Jones (Carl Colyer, Sr.)
- 12:00 PM Peggy Joyce (Family)

Vigil: Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Lv 19:1-2, 17-18; 1 Cor 3:16-23; Mt 5:38-48

- 5:00 PM Frances Pagliaro (Mary Falvo)

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 required.

CHRISTIAN INITIATION

Next Sunday at the 10:00 AM Mass we will celebrate the **"Rite of Welcoming"** with Angela Blough and Lindsey Bonsell, two additional candidates for the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation at this year's Easter Vigil. Following the Universal Prayer each Sunday, our Catechumens and Candidates are dismissed from Mass 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 ALL STAFF MEETING

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

BASKET BINGO PLANNING MEETING

Thursday, February 16, 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.

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.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry

Shawls symbolize shelter, peace, and spiritual sustenance. The members of Cathedral Prayer Shawl Ministry have lovingly donated their time and talents by creating hand-knitted and crocheted shawls for those in need of God's comfort. Parishioners are encouraged to submit names of individuals for whom they would like to receive a Prayer Shawl. Please call the Parish Office or Lorraine Beck at 942-7774.

Charismatic Prayer

The Cathedral Charismatic Prayer Group will NOT meet this Monday, February 13. Please join us at 7:00 PM in the Cathedral on Monday, February 20.

Please remember our sick in your prayers.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, February 5, 2017 - \$9,708.50

Collection For Food Pantry

Next weekend, **February 18 - 19**, the St. Vincent DePaul Society will be collecting monetary donations to help support the Food Pantry. Help feed the needy; please be generous.

CATHEDRAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sundays, February 12, 19 - Regular Classes for Pre-K - Grade 8, 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM.

F.I.R.E. Next Sunday!

(High School Religious Education) Family Intergenerational Religious Education for Students in Grades 9 -11 with parent or guardian, will meet in the Seton Suite from 6:15PM until 8:30 PM on **Sunday, February 19.**

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.

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 or by calling the box office at 814 944-9434. For more information about the show, contact Mr. Brett Kieth, bkieth@guilfoyle.org.

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL GUARDIAN NEWS

• Thank you to the students, faculty, staff, parents, and friends who made Catholic Schools Week a special one. If you missed any of our activities please check out our website <http://www.holytrinitycatholic.school> or Facebook (<https://Facebook.com/Holy-Trinity-Catholic-School-227129144301956/>).

• **CASH BASH, Saturday, March 11** at 5:30 PM in the Maria Parish Center. This wonderful event benefits Holy Trinity Catholic School. Tickets are on sale now, \$100 admits 2 adults and includes dinner and chances to win cash prizes. Tickets are on sale for an Emerald Isle Vacation Getaway (\$20.00). Contact the school office to order your tickets now!

• **Winter Break:** No School - February 17 and 20. Holy Trinity Catholic School is now selling **Gardner's Candy for Easter**. Please see any Holy Trinity student if you would like to place an order or visit any of our campuses to pick up an order form.

• **Facts Management** makes quality education affordable for families by assisting in awarding financial aid. Please begin the process of completing the **FACTS** application. The deadline for applying to be included in the first round of awarding is **Wednesday, March 15, 2017.**

• **COMING SOON - REGISTRATION FOR HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL 2017-2018!**

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

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Prince Gallitzin #2625, will meet on **Monday, February 13** at 6:30 PM for a social followed by a meeting at 7:00 PM in the St. Rose of Lima Social Hall. New members are welcome!

Liturgical Reflection ...

**ORDER OF
CELEBRATING
MATRIMONY**

By the Sacrament of Matrimony Christian spouses signify and participate in the mystery of unity and fruitful love between Christ and the Church. Man and woman, both in embracing conjugal life and in accepting and educating their children, help one another to become holy. As a married couple they have their own place and particular gift among the People of God. The faithful are enriched by the example of the married couple who give themselves wholeheartedly and unselfishly to one another. The love of God is visibly seen in the love of husband and wife.

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