

March 19, 2017

Scripture Reflection

Today and for the next two Sundays we will meet three fascinating Gospel characters: the Samaritan woman, the man born blind, and Lazarus. They will show us--those of us already baptized and those preparing for Baptism at the Easter Vigil (the elect)--how Jesus is constantly transforming us. All the Scriptures on these days present images of Baptism and conversion.

This Sunday water bookends our readings and our lives of faith. The Israelites grumble in their thirst. Moses cries out to God in exasperation. God gives the people water from a rock. An extraordinary event makes known that the Lord is in their midst. Jesus gives a Samaritan woman more than water by ordinary means--dialogue and presence. The story is not ordinary. Why? Jews considered Samaritans to be less than human. Men did not speak to women in public. But Jesus spoke to this Samaritan woman in a public place. His request, "Give me a drink," put himself in need of her and began a conversation that satisfied her deeper thirsts for God and acceptance.

In his love, Jesus sees things in us that we do not see in ourselves. The woman in today's Gospel has a complicated and tragic past but becomes a wellspring of hope for her village. The church reads her story during Lent, in preparation for the sacraments of initiation at Easter, because it is only as a result of Christ's death and resurrection, in which we share through baptism, that we can have similar encounters today. In every age, Christ's disciples come to him with their own heartbreak and depravity. He lifts us up and sends us out to bear his light to the world.

Although today's story begins with Jesus' thirst, it is the woman who is refreshed. Transformed, she returned to the people she tried to avoid, and shared her experience. And their encounter with him transformed them. They came to know that the Savior, the Lord, was in their midst. She enters the story as a catechumen and becomes an evangelist, bearer of Good News!

• **Lent is the time to reflect on our baptism. What does it mean to be claimed for Christ?**

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

Living the Word, Laurie Brink and Paul Colloton, World Library Publications, 2016, page 76.

AMERICA MAGAZINE: March 6, 2017 Issue, Michael Simone, S.J.

UPDATE on Progress

The new stairwell between the ground floor and second floor is completed. The new stairwell (replacing the former) at the back of the building between all three floors is presently being installed. There had been a delay due to structural questions. Plumbing, electrical, and heating/air-conditioning work continues on schedule. The city has approved plans for the lower parking lot where the school and convent once stood. This project will begin in the spring.

Thank you for your continued support to the Capital Campaign. Your monthly payments to your pledge make this project possible. We are indebted to you for your generosity. Thank You.

Lenten Lunch This Friday At Cathedral

Cathedral Social Committee is serving Lenten Lunches on the Fridays of Lent from 11:00 AM until 1:30 PM or until sold out. The menu includes a fish sandwich with your choice of macaroni & cheese or french fries for \$6.50. Please note: there will be no Lunch served on Good Friday, April 14.

Bishop's Night For Vocations

The Serra Club of Cambria County invites you to the Bishop's Night for Vocations dinner on **Friday, April 21, 2017** at Bishop Carroll Catholic High School, Ebensburg. A social hour begins at **5:30 PM** and dinner follows at **6:30 PM**. The event is sponsored jointly by the Serra Club and the Diocesan Vocation Office. The theme for the event is: "**Led by the Spirit for Mission**". Guest speaker is Reverend Stephen P. Delacy, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Tickets can be purchased by calling: Marjorie Lechene at 814-255-9797 or 814-255-6563.

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL GUARDIAN NEWS

- **Stations of the Cross on Fridays of Lent:**
Altoona Campus - 1:00 PM; Middle School Campus - 1:30 PM; Hollidaysburg Campus- 1:45 PM.
- **Registration for 2017-1018** is currently underway. If interested in a tour or being a "Guardian for a Day", see the front of this Bulletin for contact information of each Office.
- **Guys Night Out...March Madness Saturday, March 25 at 6:00 PM** in Father Kelley Hall. The \$25 entry fee includes great food - all you can eat! Adult Beverages! Prizes and Gifts!! Proceeds benefit Holy Trinity Catholic Athletics. Tickets are available at all campuses.

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) 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

HOLYTRINITY 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

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 19, 2017

Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2,5-8; Jn 4:5-42

MASS INTENTIONS

March 20, Monday: Saint Joseph, Spouse of Mary
Readings: 2 Sm 7:4-5, 12-14, 16; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22;
Mt 1:16, 18-21

6:45 AM Myron Yeager (Bob and Jean Jones)
8:00 AM BeBe Milliron (M/M Jack Douglas)
12:00 PM Danyll Rougeux (Henry Family)

March 21, Tuesday: Lenten Weekday

Readings: Dn 3:25, 34-343; Mt 18:21-35
6:45 AM Bishop Howard Carroll, Ann. (Cathedral)
8:00 AM John McDonough (McNelis All-Stars)
12:00 PM B-day Inten. Mary Hanley (G. Hockenberry)

March 22, Wednesday: Lenten Weekday

Readings: Dt 4:1, 5-9; Mt 5:17-19
6:45 AM Msgr. Paul Panza & Family
8:00 AM Gloria Rhodes (Friends)
12:00 PM John Bauer (Bill & Linda Raia Family)

March 23, Thursday: Saint Turibus of Mogrovojo, Bishop

Readings: Jer 7:23-28; Lk 11:14-23
6:45 AM Jack Douglas (Elaine Riggelman)
8:00 AM Angeline Mangiacarne, 101st Birthday
12:00 PM Diana Wesley, Ann. (Husband, Joseph)

March 24, Friday: Lenten Weekday

Readings: Hos 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34
6:45 AM Dec. of Michael & Ella Gibbons (Irwins)
8:00 AM Andrea Crum (Jim and Lee McFee)
12:00 PM Pat Rabine (Ed and Hun Strassburger)

Lenten Lunch: 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM

March 25, Saturday: The Annunciation of the Lord
Readings: Is 7:10-14; 8:10; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38
8:00 AM Louise Mincin, Anniv. (Daughter, Susan)
12:00 PM Dan & Miriam Burns (Maureen & Dave)
Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Lent

Readings: 1 Sm 16:1, 6-7, 10-13; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41
5:00 PM Charles R. Lumadue, Birthday (Family)

Lenten Evening Prayer

Every Sunday in Lent the Cathedral Parish gathers at 6:30 PM for Evening Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in exposition. This Liturgy concludes with Benediction. All are invited to participate in this Lenten prayer this evening.

Rest In Peace - Please remember in prayer our parishioner, Millie Boyle, who died and was buried this past week. May she rest in peace; may Gene and family also find peace.

The Book of the Elect

The Book of the Elect has been placed on a stand in the Blessed Mother Chapel. This book contains the names of those to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil on April 15, 2017. The names include all in the Diocese of Altoona- Johnstown (Clinton, Centre, Cambria, Blair, Huntingdon, Somerset, Bedford and Fulton counties) who are approaching the three Easter Sacraments. The book will be publicly displayed throughout the forty days of Lent and the fifty days of Easter. Remember the Elect in prayer as they are in their final weeks of preparation to join the Church

SCRUTINIES

Beginning this Sunday at the 10:00 AM Mass, the Church will celebrate the three scrutinies with our Elect and Candidates. On the Third Sunday of Lent, March 19, the Gospel will tell the story of the woman at the well; on the Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 26, the Gospel will tell of the man born blind who regained his sight; and on the Fifth Sunday of Lent, April 2, the Gospel will proclaim the story of Lazarus being called from his grave into life. The scrutinies are not only for our Elect and Candidates, but also for us, the fully initiated. We are to look deeply and seriously at our lives these Lenten days and see what needs to be cleansed of sin and what calls us closer to our God. Please enter the next three weeks with open hearts as we prepare to die and rise with Christ after the forty days of Lent. At the conclusion of the First Scrutiny, our Elect and Candidates receive the gift of the Creed from the assembled at Mass. Those preparing for the Easter Sacraments will stand throughout the body of the Cathedral Church to receive the Profession of Faith from those gathered at the 10:00 AM Mass.

Pictures of Candidates for Easter Sacraments

At the three doors of the Cathedral you will find the names and pictures of those journeying to the Easter Sacraments: our Elect and Candidates; our children receiving First Eucharist; and our high school students to receive Confirmation. Be sure to look for your "Prayer Partner".

PRAYING THE STATIONS

Stations of the Cross will be prayed this **Friday** evening at **7:00 PM** and every Friday of Lent. Bring the family and, if you wish, walk the Stations as we make the way of the cross our own journey to Calvary and resurrection.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION
Sunday, March 12, 2017 - \$7,750.50

Daily Lenten Collection

A basket is located on the table at the cross aisle for daily collections at the 6:45 AM and 8:00 AM daily Masses. A collection will be taken up at the Noon Mass throughout Lent. All monies will go to help the needy of our community and our partner parish, Saint Margaret Mary in Lioneltown, Jamaica.

ALPHA Program of Lenten Renewal Continues

On **Monday, March 20**, Cathedral Parish will offer the second session of a ten week process of renewal in our Christian faith. The session begins with a meal at **6:00 PM** followed by a talk and discussion and will conclude at **8:30 PM** sharp. Over one hundred twenty individuals of all ages, are participating in this spiritual journey during the Lent and Easter seasons. Keep them in prayer.

CATHEDRAL MUSIC MINISTRY

The **Cathedral Choir** meets for weekly rehearsal on **Thursday** evenings: **6:30 PM** for **Cantors** and **7:00 PM Full Choir** in the Music Room until 9:00 PM. New and returning members are welcome at any rehearsal. For more information please contact Leslie Thayer at the Cathedral Music Ministry Office: 944-2044.

"Apple Dumpling Sale"

Our Lady of Fatima Parish is offering your choice of Regular or No Sugar Added Apple Dumplings @\$4.00 each for pick up at the OLF Parish Office, 2010 12th Avenue, Altoona, on Wednesday, April 5, between 11AM - 1:00 PM or 3:00 PM - 5:30 PM. E-mail olff10@hotmail.com or call 942-0371 to place an order by Wednesday, March 29 at 12:00 PM. Thank you.

F.I.R.E. Tonight - Sunday, March 19, 6:15 PM.

Restoration of Offering the Chalice at Mass

With the flu season behind us the chalice will again be offered to the faithful starting on Palm Sunday of the the Passion of the Lord, the weekend of April 8th and 9th, the beginning of Holy Week. On the night before he died, the Lord took bread and invited all to eat, he then took wine and invited all to drink. The fullness of the sign of the Eucharist is eating and drinking the Body and Blood of the Lord Jesus. All Catholics are given the option to take the chalice receiving the consecrated Blood of the Lord. Also, we will then return to the regular manner of exchanging the sign of peace.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS PLEASE NOTE:

As we are returning to the offering of both species of the Holy Eucharist on Palm Sunday, we will need additional Eucharistic Ministers at each Mass Those assigned will remain and additional names will be added. The new schedule will also cover Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Easter Vigil, Easter Sunday and the Easter Season through Pentecost, Sunday, June 4. Unavailable dates and contact changes are needed by Tuesday, March 28. Call 932-6340, text or email Gabrielle Cronin. Thank You.

LONGABERGER/VERA BRADLEY
BASKET BINGO - Sunday May 7, 2017

Proceeds will assist our children in Catholic Schools, our Religious Education Program and Youth Activities. Want to help? The Committee is in need of theme items (baby items, picnic items, tea time, bath time, play time, car care, etc.) The committee will put together the baskets; we need the fillers. Items can be dropped off at the Parish Office during the week. Gift cards or monetary donations may be placed in the collection basket with envelopes marked Basket Bingo. If you would like items picked up, call Roberta Burns, 515-1614; or Lorraine Beck, 942-7774. Items need to be collected by April 15. **Tickets are being sold after all weekend Masses.**

ORDER OF
CELEBRATING
MATRIMONY

Liturgical Reflection ...

Seeing God's covenant with Israel in the image of exclusive and faithful married love, the prophets prepared the Chosen People's conscience for a deepened understanding of the unity and indissolubility of marriage. The books of *Ruth* and *Tobit* bear moving witness to an elevated sense of marriage and to the fidelity and tenderness of spouses. Tradition has always seen in the *Song of Solomon* a unique expression of human love as a reflection of God's love (Catechism of the Catholic Church Number 1611). Married love is solidly grounded in the tradition of our faith.

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