

# APRIL 2, 2017

## Scripture Reflection

John's story of the raising of Lazarus offers us hope and consolation in the face of death. The grief of Jesus, Martha, and Mary shows us that the Lord understands and shares in our human grief at the death of our loved ones. At the same time, Jesus teaches that, through the power his Father has given him, he has power over death.

The Gospel presents a poignant picture of Jesus, who, despite his love for Lazarus, delays his return until Lazarus has died in order that his disciples might come to greater belief. Sandwiched between Lazarus' death and Jesus' raising of him is Jesus' encounter with Martha, Lazarus' sister. In conversation between Jesus and the Samaritan woman, Jesus had identified himself as the Messiah. Here in another theological discussion with Martha he declares: "I am the resurrection and the life." Martha responds affirmatively, "I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God." And yet this Messiah is not beyond human emotion. Jesus begins to weep at the tomb of Lazarus. The final sign in John's Gospel reveals Jesus as a human Messiah, and points to his own death and resurrection.

Death's agents are still at work in the world today, gnawing at every human heart and threatening every human community. Many of us entomb ourselves---often with a significant investment of time and energy---in materialism, vanity, pride and lust. As Jesus raised up Lazarus, so we must raise ourselves and each other.

If we read the story of Lazarus not simply as a story about Jesus's victory over bodily death, but also his victory over sin, then we can see ourselves like Lazarus, lying in the tomb of our own evil actions, bound by them the way that Lazarus is bound by his burial cloths. We also see Jesus weeping, grieving by the tomb in which the deadly power of sin has enclosed us. And we hear his cry, "Come out!" as an invitation to us to rise from our sins and turn back to God.

- **From what tomb do you need to hear Christ's command, "Come forth"?**

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 Frederick Bauerschmidt, World Library Publications, 2013, pages 85-86.

AMERICA MAGAZINE: March 20, 2017 Issue, Michael Simone, S.J.

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS PLEASE NOTE:

The new schedule coming out this week will cover Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Easter Vigil, Easter Sunday and the Easter Season through Pentecost, June 4. Unavailable dates and contact changes are needed by Tuesday, April 4. Our altar servers, Dylan Allen, Sarah Callan, John Paul Duffy and Benjamin Dumm, and our Lector, Matthew Cowan, will only be scheduled for those Masses that they request after Easter as they will be busy with preparations for High School Graduation and moving on to college or work. Call 932-6340, text or email Gabrielle Cronin. Thank You.

## LAST 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.

## 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, Director at the Cathedral Music Ministry Office: 944-2044.

## HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

### GUARDIAN NEWS

- **Registration** is now open for all campus locations. Forms are available at each site. Call for more information. Altoona: 381-7011, Middle School: 942-7837, Hollidaysburg: 695-6112.
- **Scholastic Book Fair** - April 2, 3 and 4 at the Hollidaysburg campus.
- **Living Stations** - Friday, April 7 at 1:30 PM, Hollidaysburg Campus.
- **Holy Trinity Yard Sale** - June 3. We have begun collecting those unwanted treasures. Items can be dropped off anytime now and throughout the remainder of the year at the Maria Parish Center. We will not be selling clothing. Our yard sale funds will be used for student-centered activities throughout the next school year. Be watching for more information.

## First Friday Communion Calls This Week

To arrange a visit for yourself or a loved one, call the Parish Office: 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

HOLYTRINITY 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

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY

Leslie C. Thayer, MM, CAGO

Music Ministry Office - 944-2044

E-mail: [lthayer@dioceseaj.org](mailto:lthayer@dioceseaj.org)

