

MAY 7, 2017

Scripture Reflection

Jesus uses figures of speech to make his points. Characterizing himself as a shepherd, he contrasts himself with those who try to steal into the sheepfold. He seeks to guide, guard, and nurture the sheep; strangers want to snatch the sheep. The true shepherd will be recognized by both the gatekeeper and the sheep. Then, using the technical phrase "I am", he characterizes himself as the gate. Those who go through Jesus will be safe within the pen. As both shepherd and gate, Jesus shows concern for the welfare of the sheep. He insists that he has come so that they may have life and have it more abundantly.

The relationship of shepherd to sheep may be difficult for people if flocks are in the thousands and herders are on motor bikes controlling these animals that seem to be unmotivated and rather stupid! But in the Palestine of Jesus' day, and still in many other countries today, there is an intimacy of naming, calling, and leading between the shepherd and his sheep, and the shepherd needs his sheep for his livelihood. Pet nicknames, special whistling or tonal calls enable the sheep that have been herded into a common sheepfold and guarded by a night gatekeeper to respond to their own shepherd and follow him out to morning pastures.

Christ is described as the shepherd and guardian of our souls. As we have just sung, even if we are called to walk in the valley of darkness, we need have no fear, for the Shepherd's rod and staff are there to comfort and protect us, as well as gently prod us on. The task of a shepherd could mean the difference between life and death for the flock. Jesus presents himself both as the shepherd and the gate to the sheepfold. Both images express the commitment of the shepherd to lay down his life for the sheep. He guards the sheep by day and at night he lays across the gate to the sheepfold to guard against intruders. The mission of the shepherd and of Jesus is the same: that we might have abundant life.

- **From what dangers and predators do you need the Shepherd's protection?**

Living the Word, Diane Bergant and James Wallace, World Library Publications, 2010, page 110.

Building on Rock, Verna Holyhead, Liturgical Press, 2007, pages 71-73.
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**LONGABERGER/VERA BRADLEY
BASKET BINGO TODAY!!!
Sunday May 7, 2017
Father Kelley Hall at Saint Therese Parish
Doors open at 12:00 Noon
Games begin at 1:00 PM**

Ticket prices are **\$25 for an Entry Ticket** that includes: 15 games of Basket Bingo, food and beverages. You may also upgrade with an **additional \$30 Value Pack** that includes: 108 Door Prize tickets, 6 Walk-Around Prize tickets, 1 dobber and 5 Special Games. Extra Special Game sets are \$5 each (for ticket holders). Proceeds will assist our children in Catholic Schools, our Religious Education Program, and Youth Activities. **Tickets are being sold after 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM Masses today and will be available at the 25th Avenue door of Father Kelley Hall at Noon. We are excited with all the beautiful Baskets and special items from local Furniture Stores we have as prizes.**

Reception of Holy Communion

Remember to make a profound bow before receiving both the Body and Blood of the Lord at Communion time. The Bishops of the United States, with the approval of the Holy See, have directed that all recipients of Holy Communion bow before receiving both the consecrated Bread and consecrated Wine. Also, remember that "Amen" follows when the priest or Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion says "The Body of Christ" and "The Blood of Christ."

BAPTISMAL PREP

Our next session of Baptismal Prep is scheduled for **Thursday, May 25**, at **7:00 PM** in the Seton Suite. Class is offered every other month and is required before Baptism is scheduled. Please call the Parish Office at 944-4603 to register.

Healing Mass

There will be a Healing Mass on Tuesday, June 6, 2017 at 7:00 PM at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. Father Bill Kiel, from the Diocese of Greensburg, will be the main celebrant. All are welcome, especially those in need of physical, emotional, or spiritual healing, and those who support and care for them as well. Music for the Mass will be lead by the Cathedral Charismatic Prayer Group Music Ministry. For more information, please call 814 941-3832.

**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

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

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY
Leslie C. Thayer, MM, CAGO
Music Ministry Office - 944-2044
E-mail: lthayer@dioceseaj.org

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF GOD IN THE CITY OF ALTOONA SINCE 1851

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 7, 2017

Readings: Acts 2:14,22-23; 1 Pt 1:17-21; Lk 24:13-35

MASS INTENTIONS

May 8, Monday: Easter Weekday

Readings: Acts 11:1-18; Jn 10:11-18

- 6:45 AM Regina Osmolinski (Kathy Clapper)
- 8:00 AM Anne Lusardi (Lois Duncan)
- 12:00 PM Lois J. Riley (Vicki and Don Riley)

May 9, Tuesday: Easter Weekday

Readings: Acts 11:10-26; Jn 10:22-30

- 6:45 AM David Conrad (Tom and Patricia Forr)
- 8:00 AM Pat Rabine (Alice and John Joyce)
- 12:00 PM Moose Plutko (Mary Gene Vogel)

May 10, Wednesday: Saint Damien de Veuster, Priest

Readings: Acts 12: 24--13:5; Jn 12:44-50

- 6:45 AM Deceased of Richard & Dorothy Irwin Family
- 8:00 AM Derek Behe (Parents)
- 12:00 PM Mary Dodson (Maureen A.Halerz)

May 11, Thursday: Easter Weekday

Readings: Acts 13:13-25; Jn 13:16-20

- 6:45 AM Marcella Glowowski (M. & D. Hanekamp)
- 8:00 AM Jerry Smith (Bill Boslet)
- 12:00 PM Bea Mannion (Larry and Elaine Burk)
- 7:00 PM Confirmation

May 12, Friday: Saints Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs

Readings: Acts 13:26-33; Jn 14:1-6

- 6:45 AM Dennis Blackie, Birthday (Friend)
- 8:00 AM Ann Frenzel, Ann. (Mother, Barb Cowan)
- 12:00 PM Danyll Rougeux (Mona & Jim Greco)

May 13, Saturday: Our Lady of Fatima

Readings: Acts 13:44-52; Jn 13:7-14

- 8:00 AM Teresa G. Mincin, Birth/Anniv. (Anna Miller)
- 12:00 PM Joseph Hallinan (Frances and Family)

Vigil: Fifth Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 6:1-7; 1 Pr 2:4-9; Jn 14:1-12

- 5:00 PM Lois Sanker, Ann/Son, David, Birth (Family)

Easter Evening Prayer - Every Sunday in the Easter season 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 prayer tonight. Bring the family, bring a friend.

Enclosure - Included in this week's bulletin is a copy of Bishop Bartchak's letter to the Parish regarding the **Catholic Ministries Drive**. On the other side is Monsignor Mazur's reflection on **Food for the Journey**.

RITE OF SENDING

Our Eleventh Grade Confirmation Class celebrates the **Rite of Sending Forth** on **Saturday, May 6** at the 5:00 PM Mass. With a special blessing, Monsignor Mazur sends our students off to be Confirmed by Bishop Bartchak on **Thursday, May 11** at 7:00 PM. Please keep these young adult men and women in your prayers.

ALPHA Program of Faith Renewal Continues

On **Monday, May 8**, Cathedral Parish will offer the sixth session of a ten week process of renewal in our Christian faith. The session begins with a light meal at 6:00 PM followed by a talk and discussion and will conclude at 8:30 PM sharp.

PARISH CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

Practice will be held on Wednesday, May 10 in the Cathedral at 6:00 PM and Cathedral Parish celebrates **Confirmation** on Thursday, May 11, at 7:00 PM. **Please note:** Students are to gather with Bishop Mark in Cathedral Hall at 6:00 PM. This will be the fourth and final Diocesan celebration of Confirmation here in the Cathedral this Easter Season. In addition to Cathedral Parish, other parishes celebrating Confirmation at this time include: Saint Mark and Holy Rosary, of Altoona; Saints Peter and Paul, Philipsburg; Seven Dolores of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Beans Cove; Our Lady of the Alleghenies, Lilly; Saint Thomas the Apostle, Bedford; Prince of Peace, Northern Cambria; and Saint Matthew, Tyrone.

*** Confession, Wednesday, April 10, at 7:00 PM during Confirmation practice.**

Construction Site

During the construction occurring at our new building, parishioners are asked not to walk through the three floors. The wearing of hard hats is necessary in order to insure safety. Know that there will be an Open House once each floor is completed. If anyone wishes to walk through and see the present progress, call the Parish Office and a walk-through can be scheduled after the workers have completed their work day. Thank you.

Rest In Peace - Please remember in prayer our life-long parishioner, Rose Bidoli, who resided at Epworth Manor, Tyrone. May her sister, Ida Davis, and their family be comforted in the faith and may Rose rest in the peace of the risen Christ.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, April 30, 2017 - \$8,344.00

Easter Collection and **Easter Flower Memorial** totals will be reported at the end of the Easter Season as we continue to receive additional gifts.

Diocesan Catholic Ministries Drive Introduction

This week every parishioner received a letter from Monsignor Mazur regarding the Diocesan Catholic Ministries Drive. If you did not receive this mailing, please call the Parish Office. Our Pastor will speak at each Mass this weekend about this endeavor.

A sincere word of appreciation for our impressive and generous response to our Cathedral Capital Campaign. With this historic project happening at this time, and progress really coming along at the construction site, parishioners are asked to be as generous as possible with this Ministries Drive 2017.

Thank You

Mary Ann Bell, Janet Belsey, Carole Chelton, Paula Clemens, Jerry and Rita Kibler, Sally Leiden, Paula Miller and Bill and Grace Smith prepared the mailing for the Catholic Ministries Drive. We are grateful for their sharing of time for the Parish.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

At the 10:00 AM Mass this Sunday morning, Monsignor Mazur will bless the newly crafted prayer shawls prepared by members of the Cathedral Prayer Shawl ministry who would like to distribute shawls to those participating in the Parish celebration of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick at this Mass. Anyone who knits or crochets is encouraged to join this group. For more information or to request a prayer shawl for yourself or another, please call Lorraine Beck at 942-7774 or the Parish Office 944-4603. All parishioners are encouraged to pray for the sick, the home-bound, the lonely, and all those in need of God's comfort.

EASTER SCHEDULE FOR THE PARISH

Communal Anointing of the Sick,

Today, Sunday, May 7 at the 10:00 AM Mass.

Confirmation, Thursday, May 11, 7:00 PM.

May Crowning, Sunday, May 21, 6:30 PM.

Ice Cream Social follows in the Parish Hall.

Ascension Thursday, Holy Day, May 25.

Ordinations, Saturday, May 27, 10:00 AM.

May Crowning Within Evening Prayer

Sunday, May 21- As is our custom, all **First Communicants** are asked to be present wearing their Communion Day clothing as they will be in the opening procession at May Crowning. All who received **Sacraments of Initiation** at the Easter Vigil, families who have presented children for **Baptism**, and all of our young adult parishioners who have received **Confirmation** are also encouraged to attend this parish celebration with their families and friends. Everyone in the assembly is invited to bring a fresh flower to present to the Blessed Mother during this Evening Prayer which will last approximately forty-five minutes. Following May Crowning we will gather in the Cathedral Hall for an Ice Cream Social. Evening Prayer begins at 6:30 PM.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Cathedral Social Hall "Rome"

'Paul and the Underground Church'

June 19-23, 2017, 8:45-11:30 AM Ages 4-10

- Adult and teen helpers are needed. Those
- over 18 must have Diocesan and PA State
- Child Protection Clearances. Please call Chris
- Laraia at 312-7317 for more information.

Please remember our sick in your prayers.

**ORDER OF
CELEBRATING
MATRIMONY**

Liturgical Reflection ...

The entire Church life bears the mark of the spousal love of Christ and the Church. Already Baptism, the entry into the People of God, is a nuptial mystery. Baptism is the nuptial bath which precedes the wedding feast, the Eucharist. Each Sunday in Easter we are sprinkled with Easter water to remind ourselves of our baptismal identity. In the bath of Baptism we were wedded to Christ and the Church. The divine wedding feast takes place every time we gather for Mass. Christ, the Bridegroom, shares his Body and Blood with the people, his bride, for whom he died and rose. (Catechism of the Catholic Church Number 1617).

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