

JULY 30, 2017

Scripture Reflection

In Matthew's Gospel, "kingdom of heaven" refers to God's coming action to set creation aright. Jesus offers two parables this week teaching that participation in the kingdom is worth great sacrifice. Jesus chooses two symbols to illustrate this point. First, he likens the kingdom to discovered treasure. At the approach of an army, people hid their valuables in secret places with the intent to collect them after the conflict. This was not possible in every instance, and archaeologists today often find ancient hordes in caves, cisterns and ruins. Discovered treasure was so common in Jesus' day that several laws were dedicated to it. In general, the treasure became the property of the landowner, not the finder. The second parable offers a similar lesson. A merchant, looking at the offerings of pearl divers, recognizes an especially valuable pearl. The pearl divers clearly know they found something of great value, and the merchant needs to liquidate every asset to purchase it.

These parables yield four lessons about the kingdom. First, the value of the kingdom is not apparent to the untrained eye. Just as the treasure hunter and the merchant had special insights that revealed the value of their discovery, so Christ's disciples must be able to recognize the kingdom when they find it. Second, the kingdom requires searching out. The valuable items discovered in the parables were not apparent to everyone. It is only to those who have trained themselves to discern the signs of God's kingdom that it will be apparent.

Third, acquiring the kingdom requires a certain boldness. The treasure hunter and merchant were ready to take significant financial risks to achieve their goals. Just so, Jesus charges his disciples to be similarly fearless in their response to God's call. Fourth, the present sacrifices express hope in a future joy. Throughout Matthew's Gospel, Jesus emphasizes the material and spiritual abundance that result from the adversities of discipleship. Many people would undergo hardship for financial gain. Jesus invites his disciples to do the same to attain the kingdom. God's kingdom is worth the wait, worth the labor and worth the sacrifice. The hardships are temporary; the rewards last forever.

● **What do the treasure hidden in the field and the pearl of great price symbolize for you? For what would you be willing to give up "everything"?**

America Magazine, July 14, 2017, "The Audacious Seeker," Michael R. Simone, S.J.

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

Holy Trinity Golf Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, August 12 at King Valley Golf Course. If you are interested in putting a 4 member team in or would like to be a either a Fairway Sponsor or Hole Sponsor, please call the school office for more information (814) 942-7835 or visit the school website for golf outing forms. www.holytrinitycatholic.school.

Pre-K3 and 4 REGISTRATION for 2017-2018.
It all starts here in the Early Childhood! The Stronger the Start. The Better the Finish!

Our Pre-K program is designed to meet the developmental needs of the whole child, promoting spiritual, social, physical and emotional growth. Teamwork and accepting others is nurtured through cooperative activities. Children learn to respect themselves and one another.

Pre-K 3 and 4 is a full day five days a week program. Please call Elementary Campus school offices for more information. Altoona - 381-7011 Hollidaysburg 695-6112.

School Supply Lists can be found on the Holy Trinity website under each teacher's web page. **Classroom Lists** will be posted soon.

Holy Trinity Catholic School Presents
Rockin' the Key's Dueling Piano's
By Dueling Piano's International
Friday, September 22, Railroaders Museum
Tickets are \$25.00 a person.

Join us and our professional entertainers as they tickle the ivories and tickle your funny bones! Put two sharp-witted, incredibly talented musicians with two grand pianos on a stage, then add in an excited crowd of people; the result is an evening of fast, funny, and unforgettable entertainment. Tickets are on sale now. Call or stop by any of our three campuses for tickets.

Middle School - 942-7835 Altoona - 381-7011 Hollidaysburg - 695-6112.

Holy Trinity Sports

Any students in grades 1-6 who will be participating in a fall sport (football - flag or tackle, cheering, basketball) must complete the RAP form which can be found on the APL website (www.altoonaparochialleague.com) or Holy Trinity web page above. Be watching for more information about flag football.

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)	Holyday:	5:30 PM (Vigil)	Weekday:	6:45 AM
	8:00 AM		8:00 AM		8:00 AM
	10:00 AM		12:00 Noon		12:00 Noon
	12:00 Noon		5:30 PM	Saturday:	8:00 AM
	5:00 PM				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

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY

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

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 30, 2017

Readings: 1 Kgs 3:5,7-12; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52

MASS INTENTIONS

July 31, Monday: Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

Readings: Ex 32:15-24; Mt 13:31-35

6:45 AM Nancy Moffa Jenaway (Estate)

8:00 AM Michael Zurilla, Birthday (Family)

12:00 PM Todd Craig, Anniv. (BGHS Class of 1986)

August 1, Tuesday: Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bp. & Dr.

Readings: 33:7-11,34:5-9,28; Mt 13:36-43

6:45 AM Bill Crouse (Mary Jo Miller)

8:00 AM Derek Behe (Matt Seidel)

12:00 PM Gloria Burgess (Maury Confer & Family)

August 2, Wednesday: St. Eusebius, Bp; St. Eymard, Pr.

Readings: Ex 34:29-35; Mt 13:44-46

6:45 AM Esther Dorazio (Grandchildren)

8:00 AM Jerry Smith (Bob & Chip Klesiewicz)

12:00 PM Jim Davidson (Mike & Sherry Byrne)

August 3, Thursday: Weekday

Readings: Ex 40:16-21,34-38; Mt 13:47-53

6:45 AM Lavelle Family (Phyllis Sheetz)

8:00 AM Charles Brady (Paul & Kathy Vincent)

12:00 PM Dave Hanley, Sr., Birthday (Friend)

August 4, Friday: Saint John Vianney, Priest

Readings: Lv 23:1,4-11,15-16,27,34-37; Mt 13:54-58

6:45 AM M. Virginia Jones (Mary O'M)

8:00 AM Mary McCall, Birthday Anniv. (Family)

12:00 PM Mim Pufka Billman (Dan & Jane Verner)

August 5, Saturday: Dedication of Basilica of St. Mary Major

Readings: Lv 25:1,8-17; Mt 14:1-12

8:00 AM Paul Cassarly, Birth. (Adaline Cassarly)

12:00 PM Danyll Rougeux, Birth. (Mom,Dad,Lance,Martha)

Vigil: Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Dn 7:9-10,13-14; 2 Pt:1:16-19; Mt 17:1-9

5:00 PM Donald Godish, Birthday (Friend)

First Friday Communion Calls This Week

Our clergy visit the sick and home-bound of the parish each month on the first Friday. Call the Parish Office at 944-4603 to arrange a visit for yourself or a loved one.

Help Needed

Can you help prepare the mailing for the Annual Cathedral Raffle on Tuesday, August 1, from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM in the Seton Suite. Volunteers are needed to prepare the letters and tickets. All are welcome.

Are You Interested?

This is an attempt to see if there is interest in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament here in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament on **Wednesdays following the Noon Mass until the conclusion of Confessions at 8:00PM**. The Sacrament would be in exposition in the Reservation Chapel, placed in the monstrance in front of the tabernacle. In order for this to happen, there must be a commitment on the part of individuals to be present before the Sacrament throughout these hours. The Sacrament is placed in exposition with the understanding that at least two people are present at all times. When there is no one present, the Sacrament is to be reposed into the tabernacle. If you are interested, please call the Parish Office at 944-4603 with your name and hours you think you would be able to be present in adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. The Parish is gathering information on the possibility of this devotion. Your participation is essential for this adoration to take place either weekly or monthly.

Sunday Obligation to Participate at Mass

Summer time is meant to be full of fun and a time to take vacations. There are Catholic churches throughout the country who offer weekly Sunday Mass. When traveling over the weekend, be sure to check out www.Masstimes.org to find Catholic churches in the area that you will be visiting. It is always interesting to participate at Mass at another place than your home parish. Make sure you get to Mass!

Sister Beverly, I.H.M.

Earlier this year Sister Beverly suffered a stroke which affected her arm and leg. With intense physical therapy, she has regained strength in her arm. However, she is still unable to use her leg. Her community, The Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Scranton, Pennsylvania, have asked that Sister Beverly return home to their motherhouse in Marywood. Sister continues to receive intense therapy in Scranton.

Sister has been a presence among us here at the Cathedral Parish over the past twenty plus years. She was an active participant at festivals, social gatherings, and at Liturgy. She offered her time and talent in various areas of parish life. We will miss her. Please keep Sister in your prayers asking God to give her good health. If you would like to send her a card, this is her address:

Sister Beverly Hmel, I.H.M.

Our Lady of Peace

2300 Adams Avenue

Scranton, Pennsylvania 18509.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION Sunday, July 23, 2017 - \$8,586.00

Annual Wedding Anniversary Liturgy

Bishop Mark and the Family Life Office cordially invite couples celebrating their 1st, 5th, 10th, 25th, 40th 50th, 55th and 60th+ Wedding Anniversary in 2017 (and their families) to attend the **Annual Wedding Anniversary Liturgy** to be held **Sunday, September 10th** here in the **Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament**. The Liturgy begins at 2:00 PM and light refreshments will follow. Parishioners are encouraged to call the Parish Office at 944-4603 to register by Tuesday, August 22.

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL FOOTBALL EXTRAVAGANZA

Holy Trinity Catholic School is selling tickets for the NFL Football Extravaganza. The cost of the ticket is \$20. Each week of the regular NFL season, tickets will be assigned a combination of three NFL teams. The final score for each team is then added up and the ticket with the highest score wins \$500, 2nd highest \$250, 3rd highest \$100, and the lowest score \$50. Ticket scores are also cumulatively tracked for the entire season with the highest scoring ticket receiving \$3,000, 2nd highest \$2,000, 3rd highest \$1,000 and the lowest score \$500. If a team does not play, for any reason, the score for the last game played will be used for the week the team does not play. All ties split the prize money. Results will be posted on Facebook under the title Holy Trinity Catholic School Altoona PA or at (holytrinitycatholic.school). To purchase these tickets please see a Holy Trinity parent.

Please remember our sick in your prayers.

ORDER OF CELEBRATING MATRIMONY

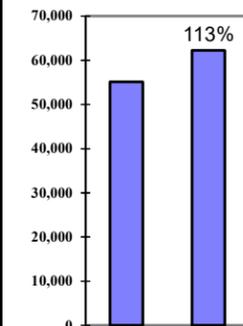
Liturgical Reflection ...

Following the homily, the Sacrament of Matrimony is celebrated. Since the two witnesses stand, all in the assembly are invited to stand as witnesses to the commitment to be made in the name of Christ by the bridegroom and bride. The priest or deacon addresses the couple ("in these or similar words") on the sacredness and seriousness of the Sacrament about to be received. The address is followed by the statement of intention on the part of the bridegroom and the bride. Three questions are asked about their freedom of choice, fidelity to each other, and the acceptance and upbringing of children. Each responds separately, the man and, then, the woman. The questions and answers should be audible to all in the assembly.

(Order of Celebrating Matrimony, Numbers 60, 94, and 125.)

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

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE



Our Cathedral Parish Target for the Diocesan 2017 Catholic Ministries Drive is **\$55,121.00**. All Parishioners, whether you can give a lot or just a little, are encouraged to be part of this drive which will support the vital ministries offered throughout our eight county diocese. Our donations will go directly to supporting three areas of ministry: (1) strengthening families and caring for the poor; (2) nurturing our youth; and (3) forming clergy and laity. Many members of our Cathedral Parish Family are touched by these caring ministries. Funds over goal return to the Parish and will help us with our Cathedral project of repaving the upper parking lot. Thus far we have received gifts from 206 households and are at 113% of goal having raised **\$62,235.00**. All monies now received will come directly to the Cathedral Parish. We are **\$7,114.00** over the target amount set by the Diocese. Please prayerfully consider making your gift within the next few weeks. You may return your gift to the Diocesan Development Office by mail in the envelope provided, return it to the Parish Office during the week or drop it in the Sunday collection. All additional monies will help the cost of repaving the upper parking lot which is scheduled for this summer. Thank you for your continued generosity to parish and community.