

AUGUST 13, 2017

Scripture Reflection

Matthew wants to show us Peter's walk. Although similar narratives appear in Mark and John, only Matthew includes the account of Peter walking on water. Here Matthew shows us one of his favorite themes: grace conquering fear. Matthew took an account that affirmed Jesus' divinity and crafted it into a lesson on the power of faith.

As a first step to faith, Matthew teaches Christians to leave security behind. Humans will cling to the flimsiest refuge. To follow Christ, we have to venture out into the full fury of life's storm and leave our fantasies of security behind. We know we can do this because the same Jesus who summoned Peter to leave the boat remains with us today, challenging us to do the same. Too often we let the storm drown out the summons. Perhaps we confuse the noise with God.

Perhaps we know the noise is not God, but we forget that God is stronger. Peter was in Jesus' own presence. He saw Jesus walk on water and heard him say, "Come!" Even this was not enough for him to ignore the storm. He was a sailor, and he knew the danger of a storm at sea. He had no comparable memory or skill to help him understand how to walk on water. When we pursue power, wealth, fame or ego, we fashion idols of noise, petty gods whose thundering demands allow not a moment of rest. Just as likely, we find ourselves in Peter's condition: followers of Christ and recipients of his grace who still hesitate before the commotion of the world's storms.

We may sink a few times in the process, but we can rely on Christ to teach us to walk on water. This practice will take many forms. The rookie volunteer who teaches a sixth-grade religion class is walking on water. The college graduate who joins a service corps to perform works of mercy in a tough neighborhood is walking on water. The Knights of Columbus who endure isolation and misunderstanding to promote the Gospel of life are walking on water. The parents who choose---sometimes against the advice of doctors---to give birth to a handicapped child are walking on water.

● **Have you ever done something that seemed impossible? How can you tune out the noise to hear Christ?**

America Magazine, July 28, 2017, "Tune Out the Noise," Michael R. Simone, S.J.

Why Sing the Psalms at Mass?

The Psalms are an integral part of Catholic worship. Historically, we receive the Psalms from our Jewish heritage. Jesus would have joined in the singing of the Psalms at synagogue worship. The New Testament contains 129 of the 150 Psalms; many of them on the mouth of the Master himself. Scripture gives witness that the very early church communities when gathered at worship sang the Psalms. This is indicative of the tradition of praying the Psalms being passed from the Jewish to the Christian tradition.

The Second Vatican Council directed a sung Psalm between the scripture readings. Encouraging the full, active and conscious participation of all at Liturgy, the Church invites the assembly to join in singing the Psalm. The Responsorial Psalm follows the first reading. Because it is an integral part of the Liturgy of the Word, it has great liturgical and pastoral significance. Corresponding to the reading that it follows, the Responsorial Psalm is intended to foster meditation on the Word of God. Its musical setting should aid this, being crafted to not overshadow the other readings.

As a rule the Psalm should be sung. The Psalm is sung responsorially. The psalmist, or cantor of the psalm, sings the Psalm verses and the whole assembly joins in singing the response; this way is given preference. The Psalm may also be sung directly, where there is no intervening response by the community. In this instance the Psalm is sung either by the psalmist alone or all sing it together. The Responsorial Psalm at Mass is always to be a scriptural Psalm. Songs and hymns may not be used in place of the Responsorial Psalm.

From their inception, the Psalms were never meant to be recited. Psalms have always been sung. Even when singing the full Psalm is not possible at Mass, at least the refrain between the verses should be sung. Everyone gathered at Mass is invited to join in singing the refrain of the Psalm. Music is a way for God to lead us to the realm of higher things. As Saint Augustine says, "Singing is for the one who loves." Music and singing are therefore a sign of God's love for us and our love for him. The Psalms witness God's love for us; we sing his praises; we rejoice, lament our failings, and recall his marvelous deeds. We sing the Psalms, as did our forefathers and foremothers, to give God his glory and to praise God's majesty.

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: ALTICATHEDRAL@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**

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

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 13, 2017

Readings: 1 Kgs 19: 9,11-13; Rom 9: 1-5; Mt 14:22-33

MASS INTENTIONS

August 14, Monday: St. Maximilian Kolbe, Pr. & Mytr.

Readings: Dt 10:12-22; Mt 17:22-27

6:45 AM Salvatore M. Moffa (Estate)

8:00 AM Halina Adamowski (Brother, Andrew)

12:00 PM Danyll Rougeux (Stan & Sue Galant)

Vigil of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Readings: 1 Chr 15:3-4,15-16,16:1-2; 1 Cor 15:54-57; Lk 11:27-28

5:30 PM Edgar L. Johnston, Birth. (Wife & Family)

August 15, Tuesday: **The Assumption of the BVM**

Readings: Rv 11:19,12:1-6,10; 1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56

8:00 AM Maureen Wood (McNelis All Stars)

12:00 PM Betty McCabe (Brooks & Karen Smith)

5:30 PM Herbert Kutruff (Dan & Agnes Kirsch)

August 16, Wednesday: Saint Stephen of Hungary

Readings: Dt 34:1-12; Mt 18:15-20

6:45 AM M. Virginia Jones (Frank & Debbie Bognato)

8:00 AM Joe & BeBe Milliron, Wed. Anniv.(Family)

12:00 PM Wanda Watkins (Connie & Mary)

August 17, Thursday: Weekday

Readings: Jos 3:7-10,11,13-17; Mt 18:21-19:1

6:45 AM Carl Drexler (Sean Walton Family)

8:00 AM Carl T. Mincin, Birthday (Anna Miller)

12:00 PM Walt Beech, Birthday (Family)

August 18, Friday: Weekday

Readings: Jos 24:1-13; Mt 19:3-12

6:45 AM Bea Mannion (Tom & Patricia Forr)

8:00 AM George Weamer (David Lysinger, Jr.)

12:00 PM Joanna Tetanich, Birth. (Paula, John & Johnny)

August 19, Saturday: Saint John Eudes, Priest

Readings: Jos 24:1-13; Mt 19:13-15

8:00 AM Barnard Family (Daughter)

12:00 PM James E. Davidson (Joyce Family)

Vigil: Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Is 56:1,6-7; Rom 11:13-15,29-32; Mt 15:21-28

5:00 PM Jack Leiden, Anniv. (Wife, Sally & Family)

Rest In Peace

Please remember in prayer, Wilhelmina Baker and Bill Lidwell, who died and were buried this past week. May they rest in the peace and love of the risen Christ.

Cathedral Charismatic Prayer Group

The Cathedral Prayer Group will meet this Monday, August 14th, at 7:00 PM, here at the Cathedral. Praise and worship music will be followed by a Witness Talk by Karen Wood, "Miracles Still Happen." All are welcome!

Eucharistic Adoration

Thank you to all who called to make a commitment of time to spend before the Blessed Sacrament on the first Wednesday of September. On **September 6th** there will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at **12:30 P.M.** following the noon Mass. The Blessed Sacrament will be reposed at **8:00 P.M.** following Confessions that evening. The Sacrament will be located in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel (where the tabernacle is fixed). Everyone in the Parish is asked to make time to pray before the Sacrament in exposition. The Church directs that at least two people be present at all times while the Sacrament is in exposition. We will begin this devotion monthly; Wednesday, October 4th will be the next day for Eucharistic Adoration.

Appreciation

Thank you to Bobby Martino who had a Saint Joseph statue restored. This statue had been down in the Cathedral Hall in disrepair; the held lily was completely destroyed and has been replaced. John Rita was the restorer. The statue is presently displayed in the Blessed Mother Chapel next to the restored Sorrowful Mother. We are unable to date the time when this statue was in the old cathedral. We are grateful to Bobby Martino for his generosity in having this heirloom restored for Cathedral Parish.

Raffle Tickets Available

The Annual Cathedral Raffle is now underway. There are twenty cash awards totaling \$5,000.00. Each ticket costs \$5.00; you need not be present to win. The prizes include: first prize: \$2,000; second prize: \$1,000; third prize: \$500; fourth and fifth prizes: \$200; sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth prizes: \$100; fourteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth prizes: \$50; nineteenth and twentieth prizes: \$25. The drawing will be Saturday, October 28 at 7:30 P.M. in the Cathedral Hall at the Family Night Social. Each family or individual is asked to purchase four (4) tickets. Parishioners were mailed their letter with tickets last week. If you did not receive your mailing, please call the Parish Office (944-4603), and both letter and tickets will be forwarded. This fund-raiser replaces the annual festival. Please do your best to sell your tickets and, perhaps, sell additional tickets to family, friends and neighbors. There are great chances to win \$5,000.00 in prizes for just a \$5.00 ticket.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION Sunday, August 6, 2017 - \$9,354.50

Holy Day Tuesday

This Tuesday, August 15, is the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a Holy day of Obligation. The Church commemorates that Mary, who bore the incarnate and Risen Word in her womb, did not experience death and decay. Rather she is the first to share in her Son's risen life and is assumed into heaven. As the East refers to this feast, the Virgin Mary fell asleep into eternity. Please check the parish bulletin for the times of Mass on this solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

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 (holyltrinitycatholic.school). To purchase these tickets please see a Holy Trinity parent.

Please remember our sick in your prayers.

ORDER OF CELEBRATING MATRIMONY

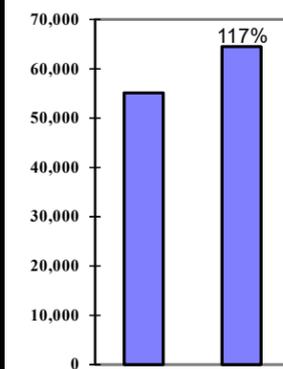
Liturgical Reflection ...

Following the Consent (marriage vows) of the couple, the revised *Order of Celebrating Matrimony* directs the Reception of the Consent. The priest or deacon addresses the bride and bridegroom asking God to strengthen the Consent made before the Church. An acclamation on the part of the assembly follows. The acclamation may be sung. This acclamation could be the alleluias of the Gospel acclamation; the refrain of the responsorial psalm; the refrain to the *Glory to God*; or any appropriate acclamation of praise. The cantor would lead those gathered for the wedding in this refrain of praise to God. This addition to the revised rite gives those present for the Sacrament of Matrimony to publicly give thanks to God for the marriage of this couple.

(*Order of Celebrating Matrimony*, Numbers 64-65, 98-99, and 129-130.)

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

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE



The target for the Cathedral Parish for the 2017 Catholic Ministries Drive is **\$55,121.00**. Our donations 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 the Cathedral Parish are touched by these caring ministries. To date we have received gifts from 212 households and are at 117% of goal having raised **\$64,485.00**. We are **\$9,364.00** over the target amount set by the Diocese. All additional monies will go to begin payment on the cost of repaving the upper parking lot which is scheduled for this summer. Please consider giving a gift to this annual drive. 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. Your gift will directly help the Parish with its parking lot project. Thank you for your stewardship with this important annual drive.

Building Committee Meeting

There will be a Building Committee Meeting this Wednesday, August 16 at 4:00 P.M. in the Seton Suite. All are asked to be present. There are several topics for discussion.