

**TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY  
TIME  
August 18, 2024  
Mass Intentions**

August 18, Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
8:00AM+Paul Luke (Family)  
10:00AM+Sandy Cuzzolina, Birthday (Family)  
5:00PM Pro Popolo/For the People  
**Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church 11:30AM**

August 19, Monday, Saint John Eudes, Priest  
12:00PM+Paul Caracciolo (Joe & Bonnie Russo)

August 20, Tuesday, Saint Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church  
12:00PM+Bill Turchetta (McNelis All Stars and Friends)

August 21, Wednesday, Saint Pius X, Pope  
12:00PM+Rudy Seidel, Ann. (Weaver Family)

August 22, Thursday, The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
12:00PM+William R. Schmerbeck, Birth. (Daughter Joy)

August 23, Friday, Weekday  
12:00PM+Norberta Wagner (Dave and Maureen Hanekamp)

August 24, Saturday, Saint Bartholomew  
12:00PM+John Ruggery Rugeria, Birth. (Mae & Family)  
Vigil: Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time  
5:00PM+Kirk Kling, Ann. (Kling and Weaver Families)

August 25, Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time  
8:00AM+Jane Byrne (Butch Winkler)  
10:00AM+John Kirsch (Don Sgro)  
5:00PM Pro Popolo/For the People  
**Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church 11:30AM**

**JESUS NEEDS YOU,  
DON'T SAY NO!**  
*Vocations Are  
Everybody's Business*

**A Women's Day of Reflection**

St. Benedict's Parish, Johnstown will be hosting Award Winning Author and Speaker, Liz Kelly for A Women's Day of Reflection, "**Jesus Approaches: What Contemporary Women Can Learn about Healing, Freedom & Joy from the Women of the New Testament**" This one-day event will be held from **8:30 AM to 4:00 PM, September 28, 2024.** The day will start off with taking a fresh look at the encounters that women had with Jesus while you grow in confidence and skill praying with Scripture and making the Gospel your own. The day will include Mass, Adoration, opportunities for confession and fellowship and the opportunity to strengthen the tether between your heart and the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

**This event will be Free and open to all.** A Lunch and Refreshment will be served, so an **RSVP is required.** A love offering will be taken. For more information contact St. Benedict Rectory. At (814) 266-9178 or Deacon Michael Russo at (814)288-3036 or email at [michael.russo@atlanticbb.net](mailto:michael.russo@atlanticbb.net).



**Stewardship Reflections**

Jesus said to the crowd, "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life." We can hardly blame the crowd for their shock at this statement, eating the Flesh and drinking the Blood of our Lord should cause us a bit of shock. Yet how easy it is to show up at Mass Sunday after Sunday, receiving the Eucharist as simply part of a weekly routine.

If we really spent time contemplating the gift of our Lord is offering us in this sacrament, we would be awestruck at the love and power in this gift. Through it, our Lord is giving us the very best He has to give, Himself. Not even the greatest theological scholar or the holiest of saints can fully understand this mystery.

The Eucharist is the ultimate inspiration for a stewardship way of life. When we contemplate this gift of God, we will want to make a joyful return to Him. Mass will become anything but routine and we will live each day as His passionate disciples.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

Sunday, August 11, 2024 \$ 8,681.33  
Thank you for your financial and spiritual support.



Our parish's target is \$45,930. All contributions beyond our parish goal will remain for use within our parish. **\$52,694 has been pledged. (The pledge balance is \$4,350.)** If all pledges are paid, we will have reached 114% of our target. Thank you.

**Basilica of Saint Michael's the Archangel Parish Family in Loretto**

On behalf of the Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel Parish Family in Loretto, all the faithful of the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese are invited to outdoor Masses every Sunday evening at 7 PM at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Alleghenies concluding on Sunday, September 1. Please bring a lawn chair. In the event of inclement weather, the Mass will be celebrated in the Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel. This Sunday is the last opportunity to tour the Prince Gallitzin Chapel House. It will be open from 3:00-6:00 P.M.



**Parish Councils To Meet**

Our parish **Finance Council** will meet on Tuesday, August 20, at 4:00 P.M. Light refreshments will be available.

Our **Parish Council** will also meet this Tuesday at 6:30 P.M.



Catholic Charities is in need of clear backpacks to distribute to local junior and senior high school students. If you're able to help, there are collection boxes at our entrances. Thank you.



**Wedding Anniversary Celebration**

Bishop Mark and the Family Life Office cordially invite all couples celebrating **1,5,10,15,20,25,30,40,45,50,55,60+ years of marriage in 2024** (and their families) to attend the Annual **Wedding Anniversary Liturgy**. Couples may attend Sunday, **September 8 in Altoona** at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, or Sunday, **September 15 in Johnstown** at St. John Gualbert Cathedral. Both locations are handicap accessible. Liturgies in each location begin at **2:00p.m.** Most Rev. Bishop Mark will be the celebrant and homilist at each celebration. Refreshments and snacks will be available after the mass for Anniversary couples and families. **Reservations must be made through your parish for either celebration by Tuesday, August 27th.**



Our parish has the entire exhibit of Eucharistic miracles prepared by Blessed Carlo Acutis (1999-2006). Portions of the exhibit are displayed in the side chapels of the cathedral. Blessed Sacrament.

**GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

August 18, 2024

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

A priest I know was asked by a door-to-door evangelist, "Do you believe in Jesus?" He answered, "Yes, I do. But if I may ask you," he continued, "Where do you experience Jesus' body and blood?" His interlocutor responded somewhat confusedly, "I don't. I just believe in him. That's all that is needed." Later my priest friend would relate to me, "The more I thought about it, that response struck me as totally inadequate. As human beings, we need to encounter Jesus' body and blood, not just hear about him and mentally believe. Otherwise, Jesus is just a ghost."

This week we see this central point as we arrive at the climactic moment of Jesus' teaching on the Eucharist. Jesus has established the importance of believing in him as the "bread of life come down from heaven." Belief deeply matters because it leads to a real, bodily encounter with Jesus through eating and drinking. That's why Jesus emphasizes to an almost outrageous degree the non-metaphorical necessity to "eat my flesh and drink my blood" (John 6:54). The real presence of Jesus' body and blood — he himself, truly, really, substantially — has been the Church's treasure since Holy Thursday. Internal belief in the heart and the ritual act of eating and drinking the Eucharist, the Church has stubbornly insisted on both, not just one or the other.

This is not meant to criticize non-Catholic Christians who deeply trust and love Jesus, nor is it a triumphal elitist claim about the Catholic Mass. Rather it is a humble, trusting acknowledgement that God in Jesus comes to us in a way most proper to human beings: in our hearts and our bodies, faith and the Eucharist. Father John Muir ©LPi

**Reverence in Taking Holy Communion to Homebound People**

When Holy Communion is taken to homebound people it should be carried close to the heart by using either a blouse or shirt pocket, or by using a burse. The host should not be placed in a pants pocket or purse.



Our parish has a block of tickets to the Curve vs. Bowie Baysox game on Sunday, August 18, at 6:00 P.M. Call 814-937-8240.

**Christian Mothers Announcements**

**Pro-Life Rosary- Thursdays**  
Every Thursday after the Noon Mass, members of the Christian Mothers invite you to join them to recite the Pro-Life Rosary. We will meet in front of the Blessed Mother Chapel. Come join your prayers with ours as we pray for the protection of all of God's children.



**Basket Bingo**

Our Basket Bingo is being held on Sunday, September 29, 2024 at the Father Kelley Hall, 5th Street and 25th Avenue. We are taking donations of gift cards, monetary gifts, or if you have a theme basket that you would like to do or donate for, we can always add to it. We are also taking donations of water, and soda, that can be dropped off at the Parish Office, between 9:00 AM- 4:00 PM. If you have any questions please feel free to call Paula at 814-944-4603 the Parish office, or Lorraine Beck 1-240-676-6704 or Paula's cell 814-215-5949.

**Basket Bingo Tickets**

Basket Bingo tickets are now on sale at the 13th Avenue door after all masses and at the Parish Office: \$25.00 per person, a value pack may be bought for an additional \$30.00. If you have any question call the Parish Office at 814-944-4603, Paula Clemens 814-215-5949 or Lorraine Beck 1-240-676-6704. Tickets will also be available at the door on the day of the event.

The Church of Altoona-Johnstown  
**THE CATHEDRAL OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

ONE CATHEDRAL SQUARE, Altoona, Pennsylvania 16601-3315

Church Office: 814-944-4603

**THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - AUGUST 18, 2024**

**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.  
By appointment, by texting or calling 814-937 8240 Communal Penance Services: Advent and Lent.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:**

Upon Request and Communal celebration

**MARRIAGE:**

Arrange nine months in advance. Couples expected to participate in pre-marriage preparation program.

**DEVOTIONS:**

Eucharistic Adoration - Normally, the First Wednesday 12:30 PM - 6:45 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.

**Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, J.C.D., Bishop**

**Reverend Monsignor Stanley Carson, Administrator**

**Paula Clemens, Parish Secretary**

**DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Chris Laraia - Pre-K thru 12 - 814-312-7317  
Religious Education Office: Sundays - 814-943-7424  
E-mail: claraia@dioceseaj.org

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY**

Leslie C. Thayer, MM, CAGO  
Music Ministry Office - 814-944-2044  
E-mail: lthayer@dioceseaj.org

**CHRISTIAN INITIATION TEAM - 814-944-4603**

**CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME - 814-944-4603**

**MAIL MINISTRY TO ELDERLY, HOMEBOUND, SERIOUSLY SICK, AND GRIEVING - 814-944-4603**

**BISHOP GUILFOYLE ACADEMY**

Web: [www.bishopguilfoyle.org](http://www.bishopguilfoyle.org) - 814-944-4014  
Eldorado Campus (Pre-K thru Grade 5) - 814-942-7835  
Fairview Campus (Pre-K thru Grade 5) - 814-381-7011

**Church Office:** 814-944-4603

**E-MAIL:** [altcathedral@dioceseaj.org](mailto:altcathedral@dioceseaj.org)

**Fax:** 814-942-4337

WEB

[www.altoonacathedral.org](http://www.altoonacathedral.org)



Facebook

[www.facebook.com/cathedralofaltoona](https://www.facebook.com/cathedralofaltoona)



**Mass Times**

**Sunday:** 5:00 PM (Vigil) 8:00 AM 10:00 AM 5:00 PM  
**Weekday:** 12:00 Noon  
**Saturday:** 12:00 Noon

*Serving the People of God in the City of Altoona Since 1851*