

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT
December 15, 2024
 Mass Intentions

December 15, Third Sunday in Advent
 8:00AM+Richard McCarthy (Paula Miller Fam.)
 10:00AM+Etta Pastore (Family)
 5:00PM Pro Popolo/For the People
Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church 11:30AM

December 16, Monday, Advent Weekday
 12:00PM+Deacon John Rys, Birthday (Family)

December 17, Tuesday, Late Advent Weekday
 12:00PM+Mary Kantoski, Birthday (Family)

December 18, Wednesday, Late Advent Weekday
 12:00PM+Deceased Family Members (McNelis All Stars and Friends)

December 19, Thursday, Late Advent Weekday
 12:00PM+Alice Winkler, Birthday (Family)

December 20, Friday, Late Advent Weekday
 12:00PM+Ernest Callisto, Anniversary (Daughters Karen and Renee)

December 21, Saturday, Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church
 12:00PM+James Kenawell, Anniversary (Family)
 5:00PM+Mildred Brady, Anniversary (Joe and Dee Shellenberger)

December 22, Fourth Sunday in Advent
 8:00AM+Hannah Wilkins (Rich and Nanci Hall)
 10:00AM+Ben Delozier, Anniversary (Family)
 5:00PM Pro Popolo/For the People
Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church 11:30AM



You are encouraged to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Advent. Wednesday, December 18, 6:00 P.M. at our Cathedral, and Thursday, December 19, 5:30 P.M. at Sacred Heart Church, Altoona.



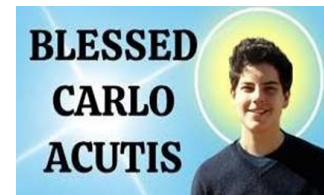
I GIVE TUESDAY

Your response to the I Give Tuesday has been heartwarming. To date we have collected \$4,550.00 toward helping further upgrade tables and chairs in the Hall and the Seton Suite. Thank you! This is the time of many demands on you and we are grateful for your support.

Some have asked that individual thank you notes not be sent. To respect their wishes, we are giving this public thank you to all who have helped. Your generosity has been inspiring,



Thanks to Garrett L. Anderson and the Rose Hill Funeral & Cremation Care, Inc. , our parish's 2025 Religious Art calendars are available at our entrances. At this time, please take only one per household . You may take one to a homebound parishioner.



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.

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

Sunday, December 8, 2024, \$ 11,769.37
 Thank you for your financial and spiritual support.



Holiday Lights on the Lake

We will have a bus going to Holiday Lights on the Lake on Tuesday, December 17th. The bus will leave the parking lot at 5:30 P.M. Call the office (814-944-4603) to reserve your seats.



Calling all Cookie Bakers

As you are baking your Christmas Cookies please consider making an extra 2 dozen for the reception after the 2:00PM Opening Mass for the Holy Year on Sunday, December 29, 2024. Please call Paula at the parish office, 814-944-4603 (or Jeanne Thompson at 814-520-1049), to give your information and how many cookies you will be donating. Cookies may be dropped off at any time after the 8:00AM Mass on December 29 to the Cathedral Hall. The Art, Photo and Poetry **Expressions of Hope** will be on display at the reception.

RADIO MASS

Following consultations with our Parish Council and Finance Council, it has been decided to discontinue broadcasting our 10:00 A.M. Sunday Mass on the radio. Gratitude is extended to our generous sponsors.

As you know, there has been an significant increase in Masses that are available on television and the internet.



During the season of Advent, we will be collecting new and gently used winter coats . You may place your donation on the clothes racks in the back of the cathedral.



You are invited to pray sung evening prayer on Sundays at 6:30 in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. The liturgy ends with Benediction.



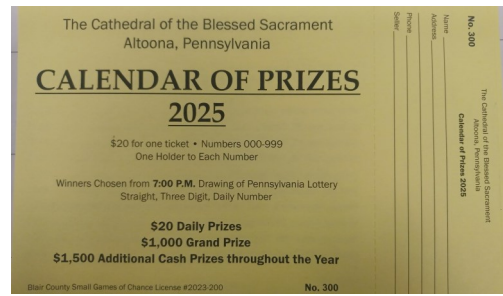
HELP US DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS

We expect to have the Christmas flowers delivered on Monday, December 23rd, following the Noon Mass. Refreshments will be available in the hall when we are done decorating.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday, Christmas Eve: 5:00 P.M.

Wednesday, Christmas: Midnight, 8:00 A.M. and 10:00 A.M. At Our Lady of Fatima Church there will be a Mass on Christmas morning at 11:30 A.M.



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

ONE CATHEDRAL SQUARE, Altoona, Pennsylvania 16601-3315

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DECEMBER 15, 2024

Our Calendar of Prizes is currently on sale. The cost is \$20.00 per ticket for a year's worth of opportunities to win cash prizes. Please be supportive. The tickets are available after weekend Masses and in the parish



Every 25 years the Church celebrates a special Holy Year called the Jubilee Year. The next Jubilee Year will begin with the opening of the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome on Christmas Eve 2024.

On Sunday, December 29, Bishop Mark will open the Jubilee in our diocese with a special Mass at 2:00 P.M. in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament.

The upcoming Holy Year offers opportunities for pilgrimage, the gaining of indulgences, special events, and communal liturgies.

Liturgical Ministers Schedules

The schedule and assignment of liturgical ministers will begin to be done by our parish office. Gratitude is extended to Gabrielle Cronin who has performed that ministry for many, many years.



This weekend, packets of Oplatki, Christmas Wafers, are available on the railing near the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. There are four wafers in each packet. There is a Polish/Slavic tradition of breaking and sharing the host-like bread at the Christmas meal. The wafers are quite fragile, so be gentle with the packets.

Gratitude is extended to all of the wonderful volunteers who prepared the Cathedral's very impressive float for this year's Christmas Parade. Our theme was "Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament: a Family of Families". A more detailed thank you will appear in next week's bulletin. The float depicted the Holy Family, a family at home, and parishioners at worship. Thanks is also extended to the parishioners who were on the float or passed out pretzel treats.

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.

PRO-LIFE ROSARY

Sponsored by the Christian Mothers on Thursdays after the noon Mass.

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM:

September through April: Pre-Kindergarten thru 12.

Sunday morning 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM Pre-Kindergarten thru 8. Grades 9-11 Sunday Evening at 6:15.

Church Office: 814-944-4603

E-MAIL: altcathedral@dioceseaj.org

Fax: 814-942-4337

WEB

www.altoonacathedral.org



Facebook

www.facebook.com/cathedralofaltoona



Mass Times

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

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