

JANUARY 24, 2010

Scripture Reflection

In 2010 the Sunday *Gospel* reading is almost always from Luke. The first part of today's text is the Evangelist's preface, in which he explains how and why he wrote this Gospel. Luke sought to provide an orderly account, based on traditions, about Jesus' birth, teachings and other activities in his public ministry and his passion, death and resurrection. Luke's goal was to confirm the reliability of the instruction that his reader and patron, Theophilus ("lover of God"), had received.

The second part is the first section of what has been described as Luke's programmatic preface to Jesus' public ministry. The passage identifies Jesus as God's prophet, uniquely endowed with the Holy Spirit, and his public ministry as the pivotal moment in salvation history. According to Luke's narrative, Jesus' first public action takes place in the synagogue at Nazareth. Jesus stands up and reads from the Book of Isaiah (61:1-2 and 58:6). Then he sits down and delivers one of the shortest sermons ever given: "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing."

One of the most important titles applied to Jesus in Luke's Gospel is "prophet." In the Old Testament a prophet is sent by God to proclaim God's will and judgment to the people. Prophets teach in various ways, not only by transmitting oracles from God ("Thus says the Lord") but also by parables and symbolic actions. Besides fitting the biblical definition, Jesus also corresponds perfectly to the description in this reading from the prophet Isaiah. In his public ministry Jesus the prophet will be the unique agent of the Holy Spirit. As God's prophet he will bring good news to the poor, restore sight to the blind, free the oppressed and proclaim God's favor (jubilee) to his people.

- **How does today's Gospel prepare the reader to understand Jesus' public ministry?**

**PLAN AHEAD
MARDI GRAS**

The Cathedral's annual **Mardi Gras** celebration is scheduled for **Saturday, February 13th** in the Cathedral Hall.

ECUMENICAL PRAYER SERVICE

Bishop Joseph will host the annual Ecumenical Service in the Cathedral on **Sunday, February 14th** at 3:00 PM. A social will follow in the Cathedral Hall.

Ash Wednesday FISH DINNER

The Cathedral's annual **Fish Dinner** is scheduled for **Ash Wednesday, February 17th** in the Cathedral Hall. Plan to participate!

CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME

The Church invites those adults who were once practicing their Catholic faith to return to the full life of the Church community. Do you know someone baptized Catholic but who does not join us for prayer and our sacraments? People leave the Catholic family for a list of reasons, some reasons are very personal. Our next listening session for Catholics interested in **Returning Home** is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 3rd** at **7:00 PM** in the Seton Suite. If you were baptized a Catholic Christian and no longer pray with us, please consider this warm invitation to join us to talk about returning home to the Catholic family.

Daughters of Isabella Dance

Saturday, January 30th from 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM at the K of C. Food, live Irish Music and Dancers. Tickets are \$10.00. Call 943-8385 or 684-1426.

FLO Movie Night - "Fireproof Your Marriage"

A heroic fire captain values dedication and service to others, but the most important partnership in his life, *his marriage*, as about to go up in smoke. The gripping story follows one man's desire to transform his life and marriage through the healing power of faith and to fully embrace the fireman's code--- "*Never leave your partner behind.*" (2008) **The #1 inspirational movie in America. Saturday, January 30th from 7:00-10:00 PM, Family Life Office** (handicap accessible), 5379 Portage St., **Lilly** (on Route 53 two miles south of Route 22; between Cresson and Portage). Popcorn and soda, and discussion after movie. Free will offering accepted. **RSVP one week before** to Family life Office, to familylife@dioceseaj.org or phone 886-5551.

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.

LITURGY OF THE HOURS:

Evening Prayer within Eucharistic Exposition - Advent and Christmas, Lent and Easter Seasons - Sunday 6:30 PM.

DEVOTIONS:

Novena of the Miraculous Medal - Monday 7:45 AM.

Rosary - Wednesday 6:00 PM.

Charismatic Prayer - Monday 7:00 PM.

Eucharistic Day - Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM:

September through April: Pre-Kindergarten thru 12.

Sunday morning 11:15 AM - 12:30 PM

Pre-Kindergarten thru 8.

Sunday evening 6:15 PM - 8:30 PM

Grades 9 thru 12.

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 Joseph V. Adamec, Bishop

Reverend Monsignor Robert C. Mazur, Rector

Reverend Aron M. Maghsoudi, Parochial Vicar

Reverend Chinemere R. Onyeocha, Parochial Vicar

Reverend Monsignor Roy F. Kline, Senior Priest

Deacon John E. Rys

Deacon James F. Leap, Senior Deacon

CHRISTIAN INITIATION TEAM - 944-4603

CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME - 944-4603

ALTOONA CENTRAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL
Web: www.altoonacentralcatholic.com
Elementary - 381-7011 Middle - 944-1250

BISHOPGUILFOYLE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
Web: www.bishopguilfoyle.org - 944-4014

DIRECTORS OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Chris Laraia - Pre-K thru 8 - 946-3475
Jean Koury - 9 thru 12 - 949-2777
Religious Education Office: Sundays - 943-7423

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
Nicholas J. Will - 944-2044

Web: www.altoonacathedral.org
Fax: 814-942-4337
E-MAIL: altcathedral@dioceseaj.org

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

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 24, 2010

Readings: Neh 8: 2 -6, 8-10; 1 Cor 12: 12-30; Lk 1: 1-4; 4: 14-21

Mass Intentions

January 25, Monday: Conversion of Paul, Apostle

Readings: Acts 22: 3-16; Mk 16: 15-18

6:45 AM Maureen Ann Wolf (M/M Clifford Plank)

8:00 AM Louise Gill (Cathedral Christian Mothers)

12:00 PM Walburga C. O'Neill (Deacon/Mrs. J. Leap)

January 26, Tuesday: Timothy and Titus, bishops

Readings: 2 Tm 1: 1-8; Mk 3: 31-35

6:45 AM Helen Weaver (Estate)

8:00 AM Jim Conrad (Catherine Nagle)

12:00 PM Theresa Talko (Slotarski Family)

January 27, Wednesday: Angela Merici, virgin

Readings: 2 Sm 7: 4-17; Mk 4: 1-20

6:45 AM Joseph A. Keirn (Mom & Dad)

8:00 AM Yolanda Peck (Jean Evangelisto)

12:00 PM In Thanksgiving for Sr. Patti Rossi's Safe Return from Haiti (Charlie & Nancy Craig)

January 28, Thursday: Thomas Aquinas, priest, doc.

Readings: 2 Sm 7: 18-19, 24-29; Mk 4: 21-25

6:45 AM Souls In Purgatory

8:00 AM Robert T. Miller (Jim & Rose Wesner Fam.)

12:00 PM Rev. Msgr. Ildephonse Denny, Ann. (Parish)

January 29, Friday: Weekday

Readings: 2 Sm 11: 1-4, 5-10, 13-17; Mk 4: 26-34

6:45 AM Good Health Grimme/Jorkasky Families

8:00 AM Jim Campbell (Joe Byers Family)

12:00 PM David Horne (Mother)

January 30, Saturday: Weekday

Readings: 2 Sm 12:1-7, 10-17; Mk 4: 35-41

8:00 AM Msgr. Thomas Cawley, Anniv. (Family)

12:00 PM Caroline Adams (Phil & Cheryl Balzano)

Vigil: Fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time

5:00 PM Walter Mazur, Anniversary (Family)

Please remember our sick in your prayer.

YEAR OF THE PRIEST

"To Inspire Spiritual Perfection"

Pope Benedict XVI

June 19, 2009 - June 19, 2010



Heavenly Father, please grant to Your faithful servants, the grace and strength to carry out Your mission for the church each day.

CHRISTIAN INITIATION

Following the Prayer of the Faithful at 10:00 AM Mass each Sunday, our Candidates are dismissed to reflect on the Scriptures proclaimed and to learn more about our Catholic faith and tradition. Please remember these individuals in your prayer.

Rite of Acceptance

Paul Mummert wishes to become a candidate for the Easter Sacraments. The Rite of Acceptance for Paul will take place at the 8:00 AM Mass on Sunday, January 31st.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

First Eucharist - On Wednesday, January 27, a Parent and Student Session for all young parishioners receiving First Eucharist this year will be held from 6:30 PM until 8:00 PM in the Seton Suite.

Diocesan Marriage Preparation- Saturdays, January 30, February 6 and 13 from 9:30-11:45 AM in Cathedral Hall. This Series will be presented by Father Aron Maghsoudi and our **Cathedral Parish Marriage Prep Team**. Therefore, all Cathedral couples planning weddings in 2010 should plan to attend. If you have not pre-registered with the Family Life Office, call the Parish Office at 944-4603.

Baptism - The next Baptismal Prep Session is scheduled for Tuesday, February 9 at 7:00 PM in the Seton Suite. This required class is offered only every other month. Call the Parish Office at 944-4603 to register.

Citizens Concerned For Human Life Thank You

Last Thursday we held a *Prayer Service Celebrating Life* here in the Cathedral. On Saturday and Sunday, January 16 and 17, Pro-Life friends collected **\$740.19** at Cathedral doors to help defray costs for bus transportation to the **March for Life** on January 22nd. Thank you for your participation and generosity.

Military Funeral

The Cathedral was honored to host the viewing and Memorial Service of Marine Staff Sgt. Matthew Ingham this past week. Staff Sgt. Ingham was killed in action in Afghanistan. We remember this soldier and his family in prayer. We remember all those who continue to serve our country, especially in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Did You Remember? Did you bring a non-perishable food item or paper product for the needy?

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK!

Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School will celebrate Catholic Schools on **January 29 - February 5**. The keynote activity for the week will be a presentation for students in grades 5-12 and their parents by Father Leo Patalingghug, a nationally recognized priest, educator, religious speaker, and chef. The keynote presentation will take place at the Bishop Guilfoyle gymnasium on **Friday, January 29**, at 9:00 AM for the high school students and at 11:45 for students in grades 5-8. This presentation is being sponsored by U.S. Food Service, DelGrosso Foods, Metz & Associates, Fortis Companies, Lee Industries, and Wolf Furniture. Visit www.bishopguilfoyle.org for more information.

Altoona Central Catholic School

Beginning next **Sunday, January 31**, Altoona Central Catholic School will also celebrate **Catholic Schools Week**. This year's theme is "Catholic Schools: Dividends for Life," which focuses on our school's commitment to infuse students with faith, knowledge, morals and discipline that will help them lead fulfilling lives. We have planned a variety of events that focus on different aspects of Catholic Education. Stop in and visit us this week to see how Altoona Central Catholic provides dividends for life. **Tuesday, February 2** - Parent and Grandparent Luncheon at the Middle School.

Wednesday, February 3 - All School Mass in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament at 10:00 AM.

Thursday, February 4 - Parent and Grandparent Luncheon at the Elementary School.

Friday, February 5 - ACCS Volunteer Breakfast, 7:30 - 8:30 AM in Father Kelly Hall.

Cathedral School Fund Co-op Tickets

Tickets for the months of February thru April are available now at the Parish Office.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, January 17, 2010 - **\$8,219.00**

Special Collection for HAITI

The second collection today is for the earthquake victims of Haiti. As the media has informed us, our sisters and brothers in this country (the poorest in the western hemisphere) are experiencing unbelievable suffering. We offer our support in prayer, especially remembering the people of Haiti at Mass. Today's monetary collection will be sent by the Diocese to **Catholic Relief Services** to directly aid the needs of Haiti at this time. Please be as generous as you can.

Meetings At Cathedral This Week

ALL-CONFIRMATIONS PLANNING SESSION

Monday, January 25th, 6:30 PM, Seton Suite.

ALL-STAFF MEETING

Thursday, January 28th, St. John Room, 12:45 PM.

Blessed Candles and Blessed Throats

Tuesday, February 2nd, Candlemas Day

Every year the Church blesses candles to be used at Liturgy, devotions and in our homes on the feast of the **Presentation of the Lord**, February 2nd. You may wish to purchase blessed candles to take home and use throughout the year on special occasions such as holidays, anniversaries, birthdays, and other special days for you and your family. A box of two blessed candles is \$5.00; a six day glass votive candle is also \$5.00.

Wednesday, February 3rd, Saint Blaise

Throats will be blessed on Wednesday, February 3rd, the feast of Saint Blaise at 6:45 AM, 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM (Altoona Central Catholic School Mass), and Noon Masses; throats will also be blessed outside of Mass at 3:00 PM and 6:30 PM. Plan ahead to have your throats blessed.

Liturgical Reflection ...

ROMAN MISSAL

The **Roman Missal**, the ritual text for the celebration of Mass, was promulgated by Pope Paul VI in 1970 as the definitive text of the reformed liturgy of the Second Vatican Council. The Latin text was translated into various languages for use around the world; the English edition was published in the United States in 1973. The Holy See issued a revised text in 1975. Pope John Paul II promulgated the third edition of the **Roman Missal** during the Jubilee Year 2000. The English speaking countries of the Catholic Church await the translation of the third edition of the **Roman Missal**.

2010, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 124 Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648.