

**February 14, 2010**

*Scripture Reflection*

What is happiness? Where is it to be found? Who is happy? These questions arise in every generation and in every culture. In our early 21st-century American situation it seems that for most of us happiness consists in having money and other possessions, ensuring that our material needs and desires are fulfilled, being entertained and perhaps even becoming famous.

In the gospel Jesus challenges our easy assumptions that true happiness is attained through money and other possessions, eating well, having a "good time" and staying clear of all controversy. Jesus knows that true happiness consists in right relationship with God, and that of themselves money, food, laughter and celebrity cannot bring real happiness. He insists that what can make us truly happy and really blessed is a singular dedication to God and God's kingdom. This dedication is the source of true riches, satisfaction, joy and fame both in the age to come and in the present. Jesus' blessings and woes turn everything upside down. They challenge the very core of our assumptions about human existence and call us to make a choice about the ground of our trust and the way in which we act. On that choice depends our happiness both now and in the fullness of God's kingdom.

Luke says that those who are blessed are the poor, the hungry, the weeping, and those who are rejected by others for the sake of Christ. How could poverty, hunger, sorrow, or rejection ever be considered a blessing? Jesus is describing the wholehearted response to discipleship. A disciple must put fidelity to God before all else, even before such basic human needs as food, possessions, and human friendships. A true disciple chooses that which is right and trusts God's providence for everything else.

• **What makes up your concept of happiness now? What do you think would make your even happier?**

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**CATHEDRAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

No classes are scheduled this Presidents Day weekend, February 14, for Pre-K through Grade 8.

**F.I.R.E. Session February 14**

**Family Intergenerational Religious Education** Groups for Parents/Students Grades 9-11 will meet in the Seton Suite from 6:15 PM - 8:30 PM.

**Wednesday, February 17**, Service at Fish Dinner, 3:30 PM - 7:30 PM. Opportunity for all Cathedral teens to earn required service hours. Call Jean Koury at 949-2777 to volunteer

**Sunday, February 21** - Regular classes for Pre-K through Grade 8, 11:15 AM - 12:30 PM in the school building.

**Cathedral School Fund Co-op Tickets**

Tickets for the months of March thru May are available now at the Parish Office.

**SAINT CATHERINE BENEFIT FOR HAITI**

St. Catherine of Siena Church, Duncansville, has re-scheduled the Spaghetti Dinner benefit that was cancelled due to a snow storm. The Spaghetti Dinner will take place on **Sunday, February 28th**, from 12:00 Noon till 2:00 PM. Half of the profits from the dinner will be sent to assist the Haiti Recovery Efforts. The other half will be sent to Catholic Charities to assist them in helping people pay their winter heating bills. Cost of the dinner is \$6.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children 10 and under.

**YEAR OF THE PRIEST Presentation**

A presentation on the priesthood, open to the faithful and students of SFU has been scheduled for **March 26, 2010** at the **Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art on the Campus of Saint Francis University** in Loretto. The presenter for the evening will be **Msgr. Paul McPartlan**. Msgr. McPartlan is a priest of the Archdiocese of Westminster (UK) and a Carl J. Peter Professor of Systematic Theology and Ecumenism at the Catholic University of America. The evening will begin at **7:00 PM**. Light refreshments will be served.

**Rest In Peace** - Please remember in prayer, Regis Noel, Pamela Wansley, Geri Weakland and Dorothy McGeary who died and were buried this past week. May they rest in the peace of Christ. May their families be comforted in the faith.

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:**

<b>Sunday:</b>	5:00 PM (Vigil)	<b>Holyday:</b>	5:30 PM (Vigil)	<b>Weekday:</b>	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	<b>Saturday:</b>	8:00 AM
	5:00 PM				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](http://www.altoonacentralcatholic.com)  
Elementary - 381-7011 Middle - 944-1250

BISHOPGUILFOYLE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL  
Web: [www.bishopguilfoyle.org](http://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](http://www.altoonacathedral.org)  
Fax: 814-942-4337  
E-MAIL: [altcathedral@dioceseaj.org](mailto:altcathedral@dioceseaj.org)

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

## SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 14, 2010

Readings: Jer 17: 5-8; 1 Cor 15: 12, 16-20; Lk 6: 17,20-26

### Mass Intentions

February 15, Monday: Weekday

Readings: Jas 1: 1-11; Mk 8:11-13

6:45 AM Mark Burns, Birthday (Family)  
8:00 AM Frances Wachter (Cathedral Parish)  
12:00 PM James M. Elder, Birthday (Wife & Family)

February 16, Tuesday: Weekday

Readings: Jas 1: 12-18; Mk 8: 14-21

6:45 AM James D. Hrzic (Joseph Dzuremko)  
8:00 AM Marjorie Evangelisto (Fran Prosperi)  
Yolanda Peck (Mark Barron Family)  
12:00 PM Steve MacAllister, Ann. (Sabrina & Fam.)

February 17, Wednesday: **Ash Wednesday**

Readings: Jl 2:12-18; 2 Cor 5: 20-6:2; Mt 6:1-6,16-18

**6:45 AM** Souls in Purgatory (Judy Monahan)  
**8:00 AM** Jim Conrad (Mary Pat & Dave Zeak)  
**12:00 PM** Diocesan Church  
**5:30 PM** Jim Campbell (Charismatic Prayer Group)

**Fish Dinner: 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM**

February 18, Thursday: Lenten Weekday

Readings: Dt 30: 15-20; Lk 9: 22-25

6:45 AM Rita Conrad Shaffer (Niece, Therese)  
8:00 AM James and Louise Gill (Children)  
12:00 PM Rose Horne (Cathedral Christian Mothers)

February 19, Friday: Lenten Weekday

Readings: Is 58: 1-9; Mt 9: 14-15

6:45 AM Dorothy Wirtner Conrad, Birth. (Daughter)  
8:00 AM Regis Noel (Cathedral Parish)  
12:00 PM Joseph Moran (Dick & Emilie Hatch)

February 20, Saturday: Lenten Weekday

Readings: Is 58: 9-14; Lk 5: 27-32

8:00 AM William V. Bettwy, Ann. (Tim & JoAnn)  
12:00 PM Raymond Hesley, Ann. (Wife & Son)  
Vigil: First Sunday of Lent  
5:00 PM Georgette Botamer, Bir.(Son, Christopher)

### YEAR OF THE PRIEST

"To Inspire Spiritual Perfection"  
Pope Benedict XVI

June 19, 2009 - June 19, 2010

A Series of Reflections on the Priesthood by our Cathedral Priests will appear in the bulletin beginning on the Second Sunday of Lent.



## ECUMENICAL PRAYER SERVICE TODAY!

Bishop Joseph will host the annual Ecumenical Service in the Cathedral today, **February 14th** at 3:00 PM. A social will follow in the Cathedral Hall. Invite a non-Catholic friend to come pray with us and offer to show them around the Cathedral.

### Fish Dinner This Wednesday

Cathedral Parish will sponsor an Ash Wednesday Fish Dinner **Wednesday, February 17** in the Parish Hall from **4:00 PM** until **7:00 PM**. The menu consists of baked or fried hand-breaded fish, french fries or macaroni & cheese, cole slaw, green beans, roll with butter and beverage. The cost is \$7.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children. If you prefer to take your dinners home, you may return an advance carry-out order form to the Parish Office or phone in orders before 3:00 PM on Wednesday. Proceeds from the dinner will benefit various local service organizations, the needy of Haiti, and our *Sister Parish*, Saint Margaret Mary, LionelTown, Jamaica.

**Adults and students are needed** for set-up, serving, and clean-up from **3:00 PM - 8:00 PM**. Call the Parish Office (944-4603); Butch Winkler (942-3880) or Jean Koury (949-2777) to volunteer.

### Distribution of Ashes

Ashes will be distributed at all Masses this Wednesday following the homily as the season of Lent begins. Bishop Adamec will preside at the Noon Mass on February 17.

### Lenten Prayer Partners

Again this year, you are invited to assume the responsibility of a Prayer Partner during Lent. You are asked to intensify your praying, fasting, and almsgiving for those named as your prayer partners. In addition to the name of a parishioner, you will be given the name of a candidate for the Easter Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and/or Eucharist. Return the form provided in the Lent/Easter mailing or complete a form at the Church doors on February 21 and 28.

**Ash Wednesday Confessions - 7:00 PM**

**Stations of the Cross - Friday, 7:00 PM**

**Rite of Election - Sunday, February 21, 7:00 PM**

## OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, February 7, 2010 - \$7,567.50

### 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 all of these individuals in your prayer.

### LENTEN SCRIPTURE STUDY

Beginning **Thursday, February 18**, there will be a weekly gathering of those wishing to break open the Scripture readings for the following Lenten Sunday. The Study Group will gather in the Seton Suite at 6:30 PM with Monsignor Mazur. This is a relaxed, open, spiritual exercise in reflecting on the Sunday readings, sharing their meaning and asking questions that impact our daily lives. All are welcome to attend these meetings. Your insights and thoughts are valued and all gather to listen with open hearts. Make this a special Lent of intensified prayer and join the Scripture Study.

### CONFIRMATION Session for Adults

Is there any man or woman who has not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation? Cathedral Parish will begin sessions in preparation for Confirmation during the season of Lent. Confirmation concludes the Christian's initiation into the Church. In Catholic life, it is necessary to be confirmed in order to be a godparent or sponsor for a Confirmation candidate. Call the Parish Office at 944-4603 if you would like to join the adult group preparing for the reception of Confirmation.



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

### Liturgical Reflection ...

This Wednesday, February 17, is Ash Wednesday when the Church begins the forty day journey toward the Triduum with the annual discipline of fasting, praying and giving alms. Ash Wednesday (February 17) and Good Friday (April 2) are days of fast and abstinence. All Fridays of Lent (February 19, 26, and March 5, 12, 19, 26) are days of abstinence. **FASTING** refers to only one full meal, with two small meals and no eating otherwise for the day. **ABSTINENCE** refers to not eating meat at all during the day. All those who have reached their 14th year are obliged to abstain. The Church directs the holy FAST to all those in their 18th year until their 60th year (Canon 1252). The ancient practice of fasting and abstaining can occur throughout the other days of Lent. This is not obligatory and can take a variety of forms distinct from food.

## Snow, Snow and More Snow

How much more snow can the skies drop on us? Thank you to Patrick Duffy for plowing our parking lot and sidewalks throughout the early hours of the morning and, to Fred Drexler who shovels all the steps and entrances on our property. Also, thank you to Steve and Sam McCloskey for the snow removal this week. It is greatly appreciated.

### SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

**Baptism** - This **Tuesday, February 16th** a session of Baptismal Preparation will be held in the Seton Suite at 7:00 PM. Please note: this is a rescheduled date due to the inclement weather. No Baptisms are scheduled during Lent. Our next session of Baptismal Prep will be held during the second week of Easter. Call the Parish Office at 944-4603 to register for the February session if you would like a Baptism on April 4th or 11th.

**Diocesan Marriage Preparation** - A snow make-up session of Marriage Preparation is scheduled for **Saturday, February 20th** in Cathedral Hall from 9:30 AM-11:45 AM. Thank you to Father Aron Maghsoudi and our Cathedral Marriage Prep Team for providing these sessions. **Confirmation** - On **Sunday, February 28th**, all Cathedral Eleventh Grade Confirmation Candidates (BGCHS, F.I.R.E., R.C.I.A.) and their sponsors or parent substitutes are encouraged to attend Lent Vespers and Benediction at **6:30 PM** in the Cathedral. **Confirmation Session II** will follow prayer in the Seton Suite from **7:15 PM - 8:15 PM**.