

AUGUST 22, 2010

Scripture Reflection

"Lord, will only a few people be saved?" asks someone in today's Gospel. Jesus does not answer the question with a yes or a no. First he tells the questioner to "strive to enter through the narrow gate," and then he tells a parable. What is meant by "the narrow gate"? Does this expression imply that only a few may enter? It does not. Any number of people may enter through a narrow gate. However, they must enter deliberately, not as part of an unthinking crowd. The narrow gate here is discipleship.

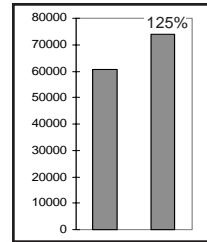
In the Gospel Jesus speaks about what can happen to those who do not put any effort into "working out" spiritually. When the final moment comes, they will be on the outside pleading to get in, thinking that just having been present where Jesus was teaching would be enough. It is like someone who goes to the gym but only watches other people train. Such a person is not considered a member of the company of athletes or prepared to make it to the finish line, the "narrow gate," and it will be too late then to start training. Jesus returns to the original question and, echoing the first reading from Isaiah, envisions masses of people from all directions who will be included among those saved.

All through this section of Luke's Gospel, Jesus is teaching people the difficulties of discipleship. Through the parable, Jesus says that people cannot consider themselves disciples simply because they had a casual relationship with Jesus: We ate with you once! We heard you speak! Rather, discipleship involves a choice, a choice that results in a deep, lifelong relationship. What Jesus says after the parable leaves us with the impression that, in the end, many are saved. Patriarchs, prophets, and people from all over the world will be in the kingdom: from the east, west, north, and south.

- **In what ways is choosing discipleship choosing a narrow gate?**

AT HOME WITH THE WORD 2010. (C) 2009 ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO, LITURGY TRAINING PUBLICATIONS, 1800 NORTH HERMITAGE AVENUE, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60622-1101. REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION. AMERICA MAGAZINE Vol. 203 No 4, Whole No. 4902 August 16-23, 2010

Annual Catholic Appeal 2010



An update on this year's Appeal shows **351** gifts have been received thus far. The Diocese set our goal at \$60,712.00; we have received pledges of **\$75,680.00** to date. We are just \$32.00 short of being \$15,000.00 over our goal!

We have reached 125%, our best effort yet, and our parish participation is up to 35%. We are now receiving monthly checks back from the Diocese as our members make their pledge payments. All monies will go towards the replacement of the steps in front of the Cathedral. If you have yet to participate in this year's Appeal, it is not too late. Place any envelope marked ACA in the regular Sunday collection. Thank you.

CATHOLIC LIFE CONFERENCE 2010 September 18 - Mount Aloysius College

The theme for the conference this year is, *"Becoming Who GOD Calls You to Be - Living Out the Virtues of Our Catholic Faith"*. Bishop Joseph will be the main celebrant at the 8:00 AM opening Mass. The keynote speaker is Monsignor James Gaston, VF, STL, MA from the Diocese of Greensburg. His keynotes will engage participants and explore how we are living out our faith in our daily lives. Workshops on various topics will offer the opportunity to learn and grow in your faith. Two of the workshops this day will address **Parish Councils**. Members of the **Cathedral Parish Council** are asked to attend these presentations. Also, Msgr. Mazur will be giving workshops on the newly revised and translated *Roman Missal*. Please call the Parish Office to register; fees will be covered by the Parish. For more information or to obtain a registration booklet, call the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown at 693-1401.

PLAN AHEAD - There will be **NO 5:00 PM Mass** on **Sunday, September 12th**. Bishop Joseph Adamec will be celebrating **Mass at 4:00 PM** on that day commemorating his fiftieth anniversary of priesthood ordination and his seventy-fifth birthday. All are invited to attend this special Mass. This Liturgy will fulfill the Sunday obligation.

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.

ANOIDING 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 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)	Holyday:	5:30 PM (Vigil)	Weekday:	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	Saturday:	8:00 AM
	5:00 PM				12:00 Noon

Most Reverend Joseph V. Adamec, Bishop

Reverend Monsignor Robert C. Mazur, Rector

Reverend John M. Gibbons, 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

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 22, 2010

Readings: Is 66: 18-21; Heb 12: 5-7, 11-13; Lk 13: 22-30

Mass Intentions

August 23, Monday: Rose of Lima, virgin

Readings: 2 Thes 1: 1-5, 11-12; Mt 23: 13-22

6:45 AM Tom Lilly (Cathedral Parish)
8:00 AM Barbara Duffy (Lois & Jody Hesley)
12:00 PM Nancy Geis, Anniversary (Mom & Dad)

August 24, Tuesday: Bartholomew, Apostle

Readings: Rv 21: 9-14; Jn 1: 45-51

6:45 AM Dick Beck (Bill & Grace Smith)
8:00 AM Jim Conrad (Jana Sider)
12:00 PM Dot Sheehan (Millie Mazur)

August 25, Wednesday: Louis of France

Readings: 2 Thes 3: 6-10, 16-18; Mt 23: 27-32

6:45 AM Joseph A. Keim (Mom & Dad)
8:00 AM Peggy Joyce (Madeline Vogel)
12:00 PM Lorraine Marasco (Bill & Mary Ann Hanelly)

August 26, Thursday: Weekday

Readings: 1 Cor 1: 1-9; Mt 24: 42-51

6:45 AM Maureen Wolf (Uncle Gene & Alice)
8:00 AM Marjorie Evangelisto (Herman Kessler)
12:00 PM Hayden Grimes (Lois & Ed Simanski)

August 27, Friday: Saint Monica

Readings: 1 Cor 1: 17-25; Mt 25: 1-13

6:45 AM Patricia E. Beiswenger (Jane Flynn)
8:00 AM Ben Kedzuf, Anniv. (Madeline Vogel Family)
12:00 PM Richard and Margaret Lentz (Jane Doyle)

August 28, Saturday: Augustine, bishop, doctor

Readings: 1 Cor 1: 26-31; Mt 25: 14-30

8:00 AM Mary Louise Mincin, Birthday (Children)
12:00 PM Bill Conrad (Maryanne Carroll)

Vigil: Twenty-Second Sunday In Ordinary Time

Readings: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29;

Heb 12:18-19, 22-24; Lk 14:1, 7-14

5:00 PM Alice Ann Martynuska (Steve & Karen)

Please remember our sick in your prayers.

Rest In Peace

Please remember in prayer Thomas Lilly, who died and was buried from the Cathedral this past week. May his family be comforted in the faith and may he rest in the peace of Christ.

Social For Father Gibbons

The Parish will gather on the portico of the Cathedral for a social, **Sunday, August 29**, following the 10:00 AM Mass. This will be our opportunity to officially welcome Father John into our Cathedral Parish Family.

Breaking Open the Word This Week

The monthly gathering for Breaking Open the Word will be this **Wednesday, August 25th at 6:30 PM** in the Seton Suite. All interested in discussing the three scripture readings for the Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time are invited to this warm, comfortable meeting of breaking open and sharing God's holy Word.

CATHEDRAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Family Religious Education Night - Registration/Opening Session this **Thursday evening, August 26th at 6:00 PM** for **Pre-K thru 8th grade** students and parents/guardians in the Cathedral Social Hall. Monsignor Mazur and our Directors of Religious Education, our teachers and our Director of Music will present the program, schedules and expectations for 2010/2011. Call Chris Laraia (946-3475) with any questions on elementary program. **Ninth Grade Orientation Session** at **6:15 PM** in the Seton Suite on **Sunday, August 29th**. This session will introduce students and parents/guardians to the **Cathedral Parish High School Religious Education Program, F.I.R.E.** Questions on high school program? Call Jean Koury (949-2777).

NEEDED - Religious Education Teachers, Substitutes, Classroom Moms/Aids, Office Volunteers. Any parishioner willing to help in this ministry to our young people, even occasionally, is asked to call the Parish Office at 944-4603. Watch the parish bulletin for the date of this year's **Protecting God's Children Fall Session** here at the Cathedral. Attendance in this program is required for all of our parish employees and volunteers and is strongly recommended for all of our Cathedral parents and grandparents.

BACK TO SCHOOL FOOD DRIVE

Dr. Zane Gates and the Gates Foundation will be accepting donations of cereals, healthy lunch treats and nutritious after school snacks here in the Cathedral on **Sunday, August 29**. Please help!

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, August 15, 2010 - \$9,290.50

THANK YOU - Catholic Charities has sent a note of appreciation for the gift of \$104.00 received from the annual Cathedral Festival. These monies were collected on Sunday evening at the Saint Donato statue in Cathedral Hall.

Baptism Congratulations!

On Sunday, August 15, with permission of her Pastor from San Rafael Parish in the Diocese of San Diego, Riley MaKenna Butler, daughter of Joseph and Kristen Butler, was baptized here in the Cathedral. Congratulations also to grandparents, John and Mary Louise, along with great-grandma, aunts, uncles and cousins. Riley will grow in her Christian identity to the degree that family and friends model the faith.

PARISH LITURGY COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, August 26, 12:30 PM, Seton Suite.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, September 13, 7:00 PM, St. John Room.

Liturgical Ministers Please Note:

Father Gibbons has prepared and will mail out our next six weeks ministry schedule. Any requests for the following six weeks (through Thanksgiving Day) must be submitted by September 15th. If you do not receive your schedule, please call the Parish Office.

Adult Enrichment and Lay Ecclesial Ministry

Any parishioner interested in committing to a two year process to deepen their Christian faith is invited to pick up a booklet at the front of the Cathedral. This is an opportunity provided by the Diocese to receive adult education and formation in our Catholic faith. The Cathedral Parish will cover the costs of any parishioner committing to this two year program.

Liturgical Reflection ...

Roman Missal

Many of the Latin prayers are quite lovely. They were crafted with a poetry of vocabulary, rhythm, structure, and sentiment. The English translation attempts to bring this beauty forward. Music and song are ancient in Christian liturgical practice. Many of the newly translated sentences are being drafted in a way that their rhythms and words can be sung well in English. Priests will need to study and pray the presiding prayers at Mass, and the Eucharistic Prayers, so as to bring forth the charm and elegance of the new translation.

Understanding the Revised Mass Texts, Liturgy Training Publications, 2010, pages 4 and 6.

2010, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648.

Wedding Anniversary Day Celebration

Bishop Joseph will celebrate a special Mass on Sunday afternoon, **September 26**, at **2:00 PM** here in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament with area couples observing their 1st, 25th, 40th, 50th, 55th, and 60+ Wedding Anniversary during 2010. A reception for participating couples and their families will follow Liturgy in Cathedral Hall. Reservations are made through your Parish Office, 944-4603. A Mass booklet is being prepared and will include names of couples, **please call Monday or Tuesday** so we can send in all our Cathedral registrations.

PLEASE NOTE: All Cathedral Jubilarians are invited to submit your names and wedding dates to the Parish Office so we can arrange for you to receive a special gift from the Parish on this wonderful occasion.

Annual September Tours of Cathedral

September is the month our Cathedral celebrates its anniversary of dedication. Again this September the Cathedral will offer four tours of this singular structure. The one hour tours are scheduled for: Sunday, **September 5th** at 1:00 PM; Tuesday, **September 14th** at 7:00 PM; Sunday, **September 19th** at 1:00 PM; and Tuesday, **September 28th** at 7:00 PM.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Cathedral Parish Prayer Shawl Ministry will gather on **Wednesday, September 15th**, in the **Seton Suite at 6:00 PM**. For more information or to request a prayer shawl for someone please call Lorraine Beck at 942-7774.