

## PASTOR'S CORNER

**PARISH HOSPITALITY** - Hospitality Ministers show the parish's friendliness and kindness. They are the wide smile and warm handshake of the congregation to those who enter. This ministry has a simple, but important goal - to serve the Lord by making everyone who attends Mass to feel welcome and important from the moment they come through our doors.

We will be having a special meeting for all who would like to be Ministers of Hospitality. That meeting is scheduled for this Sunday, September 12, at 4:00 PM. I do hope you are able to join us, as we give an overview of what this ministry will involve!

**OUR MISSIONARY!** Heartfelt thanks to all who generously contributed to our missionary who was visiting last weekend. Your contributions enable the gospel to be spread to the corners of the earth!

**A PASTOR'S RETREAT** – This week I will be at the Good Shepherd Center in Greensburg with the priests of the diocese of Greensburg, both making and directing their annual retreat. I will leave St. John's on Monday after morning Mass, and return on Friday afternoon. Thank you for your prayers during this time of spiritual renewal.

**A GUEST THIS WEEK** – As we prepare to begin the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd in October, we welcome Mary Beth Palko to share with us her experience of this approach to Catechesis. Mary Beth is Director of Faith Formation at St. Thomas More University Parish in Indiana, PA, and is a certified instructor in CGS. I am confident that our parish community will find her presentation both informative and inspiring. I especially urge those who have children or grandchildren ages 3 – 6 to attend one of this Masses. There will be an opportunity to visit our Atrium following the 8 and 11 o'clock Masses.

**THE SEASON OF CREATION HAS BEGUN!** The Season of Creation has a special significance for the Catholic Church, particularly since Pope Francis established 1 September as an annual World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. The Season of Creation is marked throughout the Christian world from 1 September to 4 October (Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi) and celebrates the joy of creation as well as encouraging awareness-raising initiatives to protect the natural environment.

**ST. HILDEGARD OF BINGEN** - Abbess, artist, author, composer, mystic, pharmacist, poet, preacher, theologian—where to begin in describing this remarkable woman? This holy woman of the 11<sup>th</sup> century has come into her own in recent times, being proclaimed a saint in 2012 by Pope Benedict XVI. We ponder her beautiful words in this Season of Creation: *"All living creatures are sparks from the radiation of God's brilliance, emerging from God like the rays of the sun."*

**FAMILIES AND THE GOSPEL:** If we want to be happy at home we must commit ("lose ourselves") to our family. If we try to be independent from others ("save ourselves") we end up lonely and alone. Happiness is found in commitments. The gospel is true: We save our life by losing it! *Reprinted with permission: A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar.*

**September Prayer Intention of Pope Francis**  
***An environmentally sustainable lifestyle***  
We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.

### CREATION CORNER:

#### **No creature is superfluous, all of creation speaks of God's love**

Our insistence that each human being is an image of God should not make us overlook the fact that each creature has its own purpose. None is superfluous. The entire material universe speaks of God's love, his boundless affection for us. Soil, water, mountains: everything is, as it were, a caress of God. (84)



**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR THE WEEK**

Sun. September 12 -Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
 Wed. September 15-5:15-6:00 p.m. Pro-Life Rosary



**Monday, September 13 - St. John Chrysostom, Bishop & Doctor of the Church**

9:00 a.m.  
 †Jim Trombetta (*Fromknecht Family*)

**Tuesday, September 14 - The Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

8:30 a.m.  
 †Franke Rahm(*Mary Engelman*)

**Wednesday, September 15 - Our Lady of Sorrows**

8:30 a.m.  
 †Charlie Hollen (*Holy Trinity Catholic School Board*)

**Thursday, September 16 - Saints Cornelius, Pope & Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs**

8:30 a.m.  
 †Members of the Altar Rosary Society

**Friday, September 17 - St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop & doctor of the Church**

8:30 a.m.  
 †Frank & Josephine Schachtner (*Family*)

**Saturday, September 18 - Vigil of the Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

4:00p.m.  
 †Antonio & Maria Maniglia (*Family*)

**Sunday, September 19 - Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 a.m. Mass For the People  
 10:30 a.m. †Lou Bettwy (*Wife & Family*)

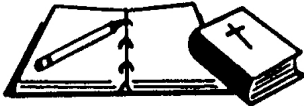
*CANDLES: In memory of Charles McLaughlin by Carol, Morley and Craig Cohn*

**PARISH SACRIFICIAL GIVING  
 SEPTEMBER 4/5, 2021**

Regular	\$9,639.00	Children's	\$7.00
Loose	\$375.00	Mission Coop	\$879.00
Parish Life	\$12.00	Christmas	\$40.00
Religious Ed	\$283.00		
		Total	\$11,235

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER:** Jesus' words in the Gospel today challenges us to become imitators of Christ. This is not an easy request. It takes sacrifice, endurance, and commitment. Yet, it is profoundly rewarding. We should strive to remain committed to Christ in every joy and every trial, never ceasing to follow Him. This means serving others even when we feel like serving ourselves. If we surrender our lives to Christ and His mission, we will gain eternal life and become more alive than what we could truly imagine. St. James reminds us that active discipleship is lively, meaning our lives must be an extension of our faith. As Christian stewards everything we do reflects what we believe. We cannot just hold that belief in our heart, we need to share it. This week let us sit in Jesus' presence and listen to what He is calling us to do at this point in our lives. Let us commit to follow him carrying our daily crosses as we live in gratitude and service to God, by sharing our time, talent and treasure. (Stewardship Reflection, Catholic Stewardship Consultants, Inc. 2021/08/16)

**CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS® MEETING:** Court Prince Gallitzin #2625 — Serving all 11 Altoona parishes and beyond. Meeting on Monday, September 13th, in the St. Rose of Lima Social Hall, at 6:45 PM with the business meeting beginning at 7:00 PM. Enter through the automatic double doors on the 56th Street side of the school building. New members are always welcome – Please come and join us! Catholic Daughters primary focus is Spirituality and Service! You can find us online at: [www.cda2625.com](http://www.cda2625.com). Contact us at: <https://www.cda2625.com/contact>.



*Religious Education News*

September 12: Class Grades K thru 11 - First Day of CCD 9:15-10:15 AM  
 September 18: 9th-11th Grade Group Service Project Re-Staining the Stations of the cross outside with Yvonne Gibson @10:00 AM - You must sign up with Yvonne Gibson @ 814-330-2518 or email [ygibson@dioceseaj.org](mailto:ygibson@dioceseaj.org).  
 September 19: Parent Meeting Grades K thru 8 9:30-10:15 AM  
 September 19: Commissioning of Catechists 10:30 AM Mass  
 September 26: Parent Meeting Grades 9-11 9:30 AM

### Deacon Jim's "A Moment with Our Lady"

Saint John Paul II asked Catholics to pray to the Virgin Mary, especially at this time of increased global terrorism, and as we commemorate the anniversary dates of the September 11th attacks.

The day after the attacks, on Wednesday, September 12, 2001, Pope John Paul II presided over a prayer for peace, after he entrusted the world to the Virgin Mary. September 11, 2002, fell on a Wednesday, when the pope usually holds his general audience. The pope presided over a universal prayer of intercession for the victims of the attacks and their families, and for peace in the world. The following year, on September 11, 2003, John Paul II was traveling to Slovakia, but on the eve of his departure on Wednesday, the 10th of September, he mentioned the Virgin Mary, recalling that her Nativity had just been celebrated and that on September 12th the Church celebrates the Holy Name of Mary.

On Saturday, September 11, 2004, he addressed this message to the bishops of the United States: "I join your prayers for an end to the wound of terrorism and the establishment of the civilization of love... May you find wisdom and strength through the intercession of Mary Immaculate, patroness of your country!"

**SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR HAITI:** Bishop Mark is asking everyone in our diocese young and old to contribute to a special collection for Haiti that is to be taken up at all the Masses on the weekend of September 18-19. Online donations are also encouraged through the GIVING section of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown website. All proceeds will be given to Catholic Relief Services for immediate distribution. The need is so great at this time. Schools, businesses, churches, and medical centers have been severely damaged or completely destroyed. Medical supplies and even clean drinking water is not readily available. Please be generous in responding to our neighbors in their time of need. Please be a Good Samaritan! Thank you for your prayers and financial donations for our brothers and sisters in Haiti.

**WORRIED ABOUT A LOVED ONE?** St. Leonard's Personal Care Home in Hollidaysburg provides medication management, personal hygiene assistance, socialization, meals, housekeeping and a 24 hour staff in a home-like environment. We serve men and women 62+ for whom it is no longer safe to live alone. To tour our beautiful Victorian mansion or for more information, call Mrs. Connie Cretin, administrator, at 814-695-9581 ex. 107 during weekday business hours. We are a faith based facility but accept all eligible applicants, and will assist with financial aid applications where applicable.

### Readings for the Week of September 12, 2021

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Is 50:4c-9a; Ps 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Jas 2:14-18; Mk 8:27-35
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Memorial of Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</b> 1 Tm 2:1-8; Ps 28:2, 7, 8-9; Lk 7:1-10
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross</b> Nm 21:4b-9; Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows</b> 1 Tm 3:14-16; Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Memorial of Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs</b> 1 Tm 4:12-16; Ps 111:7-8, 9, 10; Lk 7:36-50
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saint Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</b> 1 Tm 6:2c-12; Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20;- Lk 8:1-3
<b>Saturday</b>	1 Tm 6:13-16; Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5; Lk 8:4-15
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Wis 2:12, 17-20; Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8; Jas 3:16—4:3; Mk 9:30-37

**FATIMA DEVOTIONS ARE BACK:** The Franciscan Friars, T.O.R., from Loretto, invite you to participate with them in celebrating Fatima Devotions on Monday, September 13th, in the gardens of Mount Assisi at 6:30 p.m. (In case of inclement weather, they will be held at the Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel.)

**CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY AND ROSARY:** Please join us Fridays in Loretto as we gather to pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and the Rosary for our country, world and religious freedom each Friday in the Basilica of St. Michael, Loretto at 3PM.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

**Pinnacle Palliative Care, a Catholic palliative and hospice care company,** is looking for volunteers for the following:

**Patient Sitters**

**Bereavement**

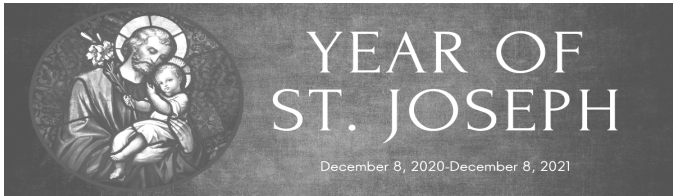
**Clerical Assistance**

**Public Relations**

**Crafters (sewing, knitting card making, etc.)**

Pinnacle volunteers will be oriented in our training program to ensure you have the proper skills for patients and their families. For more information, please contact Sarah Marchi at Pinnacle Palliative Care at 814-201-2532

*"It is to those who have the most need of us that we ought to show our love more especially" -Saint Francis de Sales*



***Patris corde, 4. An Accepting Father, Joseph Most Brave.***

Imagine how perplexed Joseph must have been dealing with the mystifying events taking his place in his and Mary's life. In *Patris corde*, Pope Francis explains that, "Often in life, things happen whose meaning we do not understand. Our first reaction is frequently one of disappointment and rebellion. Joseph set aside his own ideas in order to accept the course of events and, mysterious as they seemed, to embrace them, take responsibility for them and make them a part of his own history." As Joseph did, are we willing to accept with faith, the challenges that face us?

We are reminded every time we celebrate Holy Eucharist that St. Joseph had indeed accepted his role in history. In 1962, Saint John XXIII, Pope, inserted St. Joseph's name in Eucharistic Prayer I. Pope Francis, then decreed on May 1, 2013, in *Paterna vices* (Fatherly care) that the inclusion of St. Joseph would be extended to Eucharistic Prayers II, III, and IV.

***St. Joseph, An Accepting Father, Joseph most brave, pray for us.***

(Pope Francis Apostolic Letter *Patris corde*, 2020, 4. Dec. 8, 2020; 2021), **Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown Liturgy Committee, Liturgy Office, Mary, Mother of the Church Pastoral Center, 2713 W. Chestnut Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601.**

**ST. DEMETRIUS CHICKEN BBQ:** St. Demetrius Church in Gallitzin, PA will be holding their Famous BBQ Chicken Dinner on Sunday, September 26 as a Take-Out Dinner only. Cost: \$12.00/dinner will include their Delicious 1/2 BBQ Chicken, 2 sides and Dessert. Dinners will be available from 11:00 AM until Sold out. Basket raffle, theme games, and other small games of chance will be available as well. Location: Parish Activity Center at 714 Foster St. (enter below 616 Church St.)

**PADRE PIO RELICS:** The Windber Catholic Parishes invites you to venerate three Relics of St. Padre Pio (his blood, hair and scab from his wound). The relics will be at St. Anthony of Padua Church, Windber on Tuesday, September 14, 9AM-8PM. We will have our traditional Noon Novena Mass in honor of St. Anthony of Padua and St. Padre Pio. At 6PM, we will have a Mass in honor of St. Padre Pio. The Church will be open the entire day for veneration. Also, confessions will be heard from 9-11:30AM and from 1-5:30PM.

**St. Rose of Lima's St. Vincent de Paul Conference Weekly Reflection for September 12 - Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time:**

In today's Gospel Jesus says "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." The cross of Jesus and the crosses of his members can evangelize us: the sick, who bear illness with courage; the grieving, who hope against hope; the dying, who clearly trust in the resurrection; the suffering of our poor brothers and sisters who are hungry and homeless, but who still trust in God's love.

**Is there a neighbor or friend of yours who is in temporary need because of a loss of a job or an illness? Please leave a message for our St. Vincent de Paul Conference...we want to help!**

If you know of someone in need, please visit our website (<http://strosesvdp.org>) to inform us of their situation. We will do our best to help out in any way we can. We encourage all parishioners to use our website to help us help those in need. Thank you!

**DIOCESAN COLLECTION:** This weekend, the diocese will be taking up the National Collection for The Catholic University of America. Catholic University is a national research university with over 5,700 undergraduate and graduate students in more than 250 academic programs in the heart of Washington, D.C. By giving to the collection, you are supporting both future Catholic leaders, religious and lay, who are being formed by an exceptional, Faith-rooted education and the University's various research and training initiatives that support dioceses and parishes in responding to the most pressing needs of their faithful. The Catholic Project - an initiative that brings together clergy and laity to address the challenges that the Catholic Church faces in the U.S. contributing education, formation, research, events, and media, a master's program in Ecclesial Administration and Management, and a credentialing program that prepares recent graduates to serve as campus ministers are a few examples how the University is serving the Church and nation. Please give generously.

**40 HOURS DEVOTION -** A devotional prayer centered around Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held at Our Lady of the Alleghenies Church in Lilly (608 Main Street) on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday - September 12th, 13th and 14th. A Devotional Service will begin each evening at 7:00pm with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament during the day. Everyone is welcome to attend!