

# Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024

**Our Lady of Fatima Parish**  
2010 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
[www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.org](http://www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.org)

**Rectory Office Hours:**  
Tuesdays and Thursdays  
11:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

**Parish Office:** 814-942-0371  
or call the Cathedral Office at 944-4603.

**Our Lady of Fatima Parish**  
Rev. Msgr. Stanley B. Carson, Administrator

**Parish Secretary**  
Paula Hall

**Director of Music Ministry**  
Cathy McFee

**Eucharist: Sunday: 11:30 AM**

**Holy Days: 5:30 PM**

Holy Communion for the home bound - weekly:  
Patty Flanagan 942-0371 for arrangements.

Our Lady of Fatima Church is open Sunday through Saturday: 7:30 AM - 5PM for visits before the Blessed Sacrament.

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals will be held at Our Lady of Fatima.

Preparation for Baptism, and Weddings will be held at the Cathedral. 944-4603

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

Parishioners wishing to receive the sacrament of healing may call the Cathedral Parish Office to make arrangements. 814-944-4603

**Cathedral Church Office: 814-944-4603**  
One Cathedral Square

**Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, Bishop**

**Rev. Msgr. Stanley B. Carson, Administrator**  
**Paula Clemens, Secretary**  
**PH: 814-944-4603**

**Christian Initiation Team: 944-4603**  
**Catholics returning Home: 944-4603**

**Mail Ministry to Elderly, Homebound, Seriously Sick and Grieving - 944-4603**

**Bishop Guilfoyle Academy**

**Web: [www.bishopguilfoyle.org](http://www.bishopguilfoyle.org)**  
**Eldorado (Pre-K thru Grade 5) 814-942-7835**  
**Fairview (Pre-K thru Grade 5) 814-381-7011**

**Director of Religious Education:**  
**Chris Laraia – Pre-K thru 8 - 312-7317**

**Religious Education Office: Sundays – 943-7424**

**Director of Music Ministry**  
**Leslie C. Thayer, MM, CAGO**  
**Music Ministry Office - 944-2044**  
**E-Mail: [lthayer@dioceseaj.org](mailto:lthayer@dioceseaj.org)**

**Reconciliation @ Cathedral: 7:00 PM Wednesday**  
**12:30 PM Saturday**

**Religious Education @ Cathedral: Pre-K through 11**  
**Sacramental Formation @ Cathedral: First Reconciliation**  
**First Communion**  
**Confirmation**

**Sacramental Formation @ the Cathedral: Baptismal Prep**  
**Marriage Prep**  
**Christian Initiation**

**Hospital Visitation: Call the Cathedral: 944-4603**

**Cathedral Eucharist:**

**Sunday: 5:00 PM (Vigil) Holy Days: 5:30 PM (Vigil) Weekdays: 12:00 PM**  
**8:00 AM 8:00 AM Saturday: 12:00 PM**  
**10:00 AM 12:00 Noon**  
**5:00 PM**

THE FATIMA TOWERS

**OUR LADY OF FATIMA MASS INTENTIONS**

**11:30 A.M.**

**Today, April 28, Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Frances Kasun (Kasun Brothers and Families)

**Next Sunday, May 5, Sixth Sunday of Easter!**

Adaline C. Cassarty & Paul G. Cassarty (Anonymous)

**Cathedral Mass Intentions**

***April 28, Fifth Sunday of Easter***

8:00 AM +Fred Drexler (Tim & JoAnn Bettwy)

10:00 AM +Evelyn Callisto, Anniv. (Daughters, Karen & Renee Julian)

5:00 PM Pro Popolo/For the People

There is Mass at 11:30 A.M. at Our Lady of Fatima Church.

***April 29, Monday, St. Catherine of Siena, V. & Dr.***

12:00 PM +Lavelle Family (Phyllis Lavelle Sheetz)

***April 30, Tuesday, Easter Weekday***

12:00 PM +Tom Boslet, Anniv. (Family)

7:00 PM Confirmation

***May 1, Wednesday, St. Joseph the Worker***

12:00 PM +Linda Cacciotti, Wed. Anniv. (Family)

***May 2, Thursday, St. Athanasius, Bp. & Dr.***

12:00 PM +Geraldine Petrunak (Family)

***May 3, Friday, Saints Philip & James, Apostles***

12:00 PM +Roberta Lamont (M/M Dave Hanekamp)

***May 4, Saturday, Easter Weekday***

12:00 PM +Souls in Purgatory (Anonymous)

***Vigil: Sixth Sunday of Easter***

5:00 PM +Thomas Riggelman, Sr. Birth. (Carol & Family)

***May 5, Sixth Sunday of Easter***

8:00 AM +Patty & Joe Wiedemer (Family)

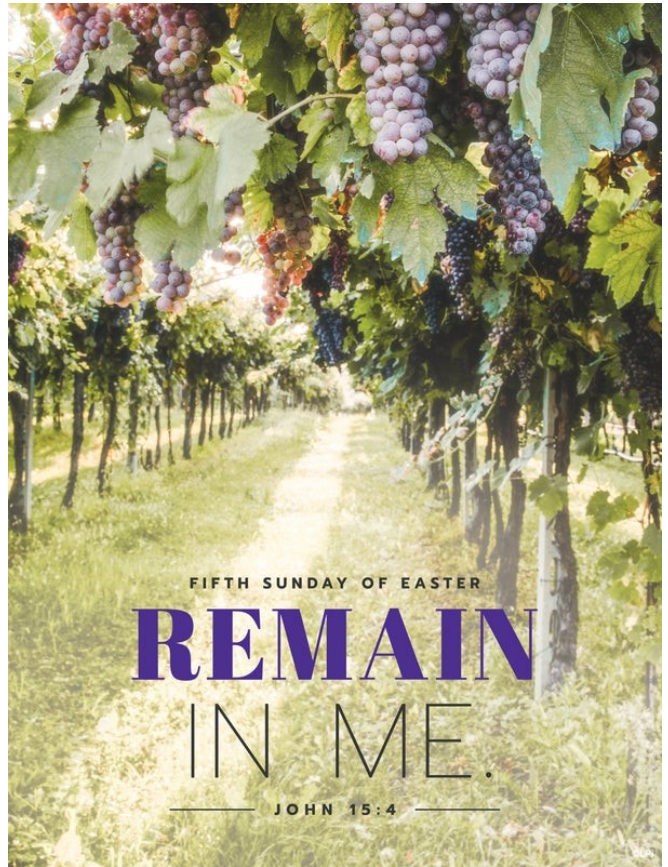
10:00 AM +Douglas J. Farrell (Pat Farrell Family)

5:00 PM Pro Popolo/For the People

There is Mass at 11:30 A.M. at Our Lady of Fatima Parish.

**TABERNACLE  
CANDLE**

During the month of April, the sanctuary candle is lit in memory of Tom Riggelman by his wife, Carol, and family. During the month of May, the candle is being lit in memory of the deceased members of the Carper and Wineland Families. Thank you.



**Readings for the week of April 28, 2024**

Sunday: Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 (26a)/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8

Monday: Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16/Jn 14:21-26

Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21/Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122: 1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Jn 15:1-8

Thursday: Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10/Jn 15:9-11

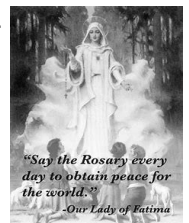
Friday: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Jn 14:6-14

Saturday: Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21

Next Sunday: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 (see 2b)/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17

**Thank You Very Much**

Your prayers, volunteerism, and financial support are deeply appreciated. The contributions for Sunday, April 21, were \$1,680. Thank you.





Holy Spirit Ministry will hold a special Healing Mass on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, at 7 P.M. at St. Michael Church in Hollidaysburg. This powerful night of hope and healing is for all who are suffering physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Father Brad Baldwin, TOR will be the main celebrant. Praise and worship will precede the Mass at 6:30 P.M. and prayer ministry will follow the Mass. If you are suffering physically, or from an addiction, or hurting or struggling in any way, come and experience the healing power of Jesus and be set free! All are welcome!



Gratitude is extended to Mike and Deb O'Connor for donating the new flag for the school yard.

## **PRAY FOR VOCATIONS!**

**PRIESTS, BROTHERS, NUNS.  
THEY NEED US.  
WE NEED THEM.**

*Vocations Are Everybody's Business*

## **GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

April 28, 2024 5th Sunday of Easter

My friend and fellow pastor, Father Paul, noticed unsightly, overgrown trees near his parish church. He asked the maintenance crew to cut back the growth, which they happily did, telling him the trees would be much healthier and even fuller after a good pruning. A few days later, Father Paul received a letter from an irate man in the neighborhood who wrote, "Jesus would never prune trees like that. He loves trees, unlike you."

I suspect that the neighbor was not familiar with this week's Gospel in which Jesus says of his Father, "He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit" (John 15:2) I don't mean to pick too much on that fellow. He was perhaps ignorant of arboriculture. But I'd wager his main confusion was the pruning and removing quality of God's love. That confusion afflicts us all to some degree, doesn't it? It is just so darn easy to react negatively when God cuts something out of our lives and assume it's not his work at all. In the moment, all we see is the loss, and not the loving desire for future flourishing.

The cross is the great pruning of Christ's body. Jesus' rising is the brand-new growth. It is God's promise to us that all the painful pruning in life is leading us somewhere beautiful. What has been cut back or out in your life? A friend, an opportunity, a sense of certainty, a job, health, a relationship? This week, offer those dry branches to the one who lovingly prunes us in order to make our lives burst with verdant growth.

— Father John Muir

©LPi



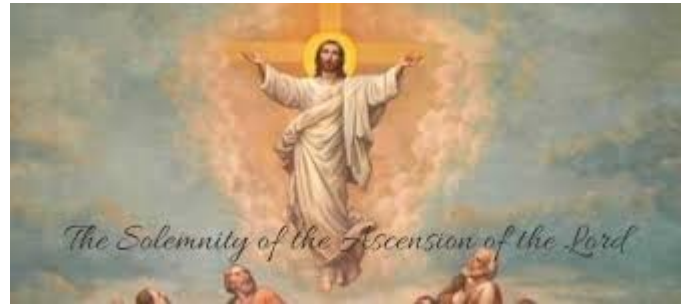
# Catholic Ministries Drive

DIOCESE OF ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN

The *2024 Catholic Ministries Drive* is taking place. Our sacrificial gift of prayer and treasure will make an immediate and lasting impact on our ministries that focus on evangelization, serving those in need, and the formation of our priests and deacons.

During Lent, and throughout the year, we are challenged to renew our spiritual devotions and duties—and one of those holy duties is to support the Church. This year, our campaign’s theme is *Encountering Christ*. During this time of Eucharistic Revival, *Encountering Christ* is an invitation to grow in our living relationship with Christ in the Eucharist, to open our hearts to serving our brothers and sisters, and to fulfill our holy duty of supporting the Church by gifts of time, talent, and treasure.

Please prayerfully consider making a donation this coming week or in the near future. Our diocese’s ministries need our support. **Our parish’s target is \$9,813. So far, \$5,899 has been received in pledges/gifts from 23 donors. 60% of Target. Thank you.**



The Solemnity of our Lord’s Ascension into Heaven is on Thursday, May 9. Since it is a holy day of obligation, Masses at the Cathedral will be on Wednesday, May 8, at 5:30 P.M. and Ascension Thursday at 8:00 A.M. and Noon. Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church will be at 5:30 P.M. on Ascension Thursday.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS: Branching Out Isn’t Always What It’s Cracked Up to Be

“That’s a really beautiful tree branch. Man, would you look at the bark on that thing? The others are real duds, but that low-hanging branch has really got it all together.”

I’ve never heard anyone say this. Maybe I just need to hang out with more arborists, but I can’t recall ever hearing someone admire the particular beauty of a single branch. When someone comments on a tree, it’s usually the whole tree — perhaps a visual element of it, like the color of the leaves or its height. But people don’t usually zero in on one branch.

Maybe that’s because usually, if one branch is looking a little weak, chances are every other branch is, too.

The Bible tells us that when we bear fruit as good everyday stewards, it is for the Father’s glory. We are the branch on His magnificent tree. What we have is from Him, and what we do likewise points back to Him. We also tend to reflect how well the other branches around us are incorporating the nutrients coming their way. That’s all fine and good in theory. In practice, it can be an arduous exercise in humility.

When I do something virtuous or charitable or kind, there is a part of me that wants to stand out for it. I think that’s true for all of us. We’ve given of ourselves in some way or overcome some human temptation to accomplish a little bit of good in this world, and even though we know God sees us, we’d really love for everyone else to see it, too. It’s a struggle, for sure. But we need to remember that our fruit belongs to the whole tree. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPi