



Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown

Office of the Chancellor

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(second notice)

March 7, 2017

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As a way honoring the heritage of Father Demetrius Gallitzin, the Prince Gallitzin Cross was created to recognize those members of our Diocese who have imitated his "evangelizing spirit". It is now time to gather nominees for this year's awards gathering.

This year's Prince Gallitzin Cross Awards will be presented on Saturday, June 3, 2017, at the Calvin House, 2135 Plank Road, Duncansville, Pennsylvania. The social will begin at 5:00 p.m. Dinner will begin at 6:00 p.m. The deadline for obtaining tickets is Friday, May 19th.

Nominees for the award may be ordained, religious and laity. Clergy, religious and laity may submit the names of the nominee. It is not uncommon for Parish Councils to submit nominations. Previously submitted nominees must be resubmitted. All nominees who are submitted to pastors are to be submitted to the Dean who will then sign and forward the recommendations to me. Nominations by Diocesan office personnel or members of consultative bodies need to be signed by the appropriate Director and also forwarded to me.

The criteria for awarding the Prince Gallitzin Cross and a copy of the recommendation form are attached to this letter. **The deadline for submitting recommendations is Friday, April 14, 2017.**

With every prayerful and cordial best wish, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

(Mrs.) Teresa M. Stayer, Chancellor

**DIOCESE OF ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN
PRINCE GALLITZIN CROSS AWARD
2017 NOMINATION FORM**

Please type and submit to the Chancellor's Office by April 14, 2017.

NAME OF NOMINEE:

Title: _____ **Home Phone Number:** _____
First Name: _____ **Work Phone Number:** _____
Middle Initial: _____
Last Name: _____

ADDRESS:

PARISH:

DESCRIPTION of how this nominee has met the CRITERIA for the award :
(If more space is needed, use the reverse side)

PLEASE ENCLOSE PHOTOGRAPH OF NOMINEE.

(Signature of Pastor)

(Signature of Vicar, Dean, or Director)

CRITERIA FOR AWARDING THE PRINCE GALLITZIN CROSS AWARD

The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown annually awards to several individuals the Prince Gallitzin Cross. This usually takes place in the Spring of the year.

The insignia is an enameled white cross bearing a yellow shield on which is displayed a black eagle, taken from Prince Gallitzin's family coat of arms and hanging from a white and yellow ribbon so that it can be worn around the neck at various parish or diocesan functions. It is accompanied by a certificate signed by the Bishop.

Those to be awarded the Prince Gallitzin Cross are chosen from applications received from the Vicars, Deans, or Directors of diocesan offices (providing they are attested to by the appropriate Pastor). The Bishop may designate others, as well. The Crosses will be awarded at a special dinner honoring the new recipients; to which their families and friends, their parish priests and ministers, former recipients, diocesan personnel, and anyone else interested are invited to attend for the price of a ticket.

The following are the criteria by which nominations are to be forwarded to the Bishop:

1. Nominees are to be of Roman Catholic tradition in their living out of the Christian life to which Jesus calls us.
2. They are to be fully initiated into the Church; that is to say: received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.
3. They are to be members of a particular parish faith community within the Diocesan Church of Altoona-Johnstown.
4. They are to be eligible to receive and avail themselves of the Sacraments of the Church.
5. They are to be presently (or have been previously) active through some form of ministry or service to God's people either on a parish or diocesan level.
6. They may be ordained, professed religious, or laity.
7. Their ministry or service is to have contributed to the growth of this Diocesan Church as judged on the basis of the Gospel of Jesus, the evangelizing spirit of the priestly Prince Gallitzin, the teachings of the Church, and the guidance of the Holy See and this Particular Church as given through various decrees and letters. In a special way, those who have kept alive the memory of Prince Gallitzin may be considered.



DIOCESE OF ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN

Office of Liturgy
925 South Logan Boulevard
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Telephone: 814-693-9870
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MEMO

March 21, 2017

TO: Clergy
FROM: Monsignor Robert Mazur
CONCERNING:

- (1) CHRISM MASS: Monday, April 10, 11:00 AM, Altoona Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. TICKET for the Holy Oils will be mailed separately on **March 21** to pastors, local ministers of religious communities, campus ministers, hospital and prison chaplains.
- (2) SACRED TRIDUUM: April 13, Holy Thursday (two texts are attached for the Reception of Holy Oils; faith community can choose); April 14, Good Friday; April 15, Holy Saturday, Easter Vigil (begins no earlier than 8:30 PM Daylight Saving Time); April 16, Easter.
- (3) EASTER SEASON: April 16 through June 4 (Pentecost Sunday)
- (4) EPISCOPAL ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY: Wednesday, April 19, 2017 Bishop Mark Bartchak will celebrate the sixth anniversary of his Episcopal Ordination.

Petition for Universal Prayer - Sunday, April 16th

For Bishop Mark, celebrating his sixth anniversary of Episcopal Ordination, may God continue to bless Bishop with good health and grace, we pray...

- (5) MOTHER'S DAY: Sunday, May 14, Presider's are invited to bless all mothers at the end of Mass before the general blessing and dismissal. Reference: Book of Blessings, Chapter 55, Number 1728.
- (6) LITURGICAL INSERTS: The bulletin Easter Liturgical Inserts will continue with catechesis on the Sacrament of Marriage and the revised *Order of Celebrating Matrimony*.

(1) CHRISM MASS

The Chrism Mass will be celebrated Monday of Holy Week, April 10th at 11:00 AM at the Altoona Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. All priests of the Diocese are asked to concelebrate. **An alb along with the Gallitzin chasuble and stole are requested.** Bination is authorized. Clergy vesting, priests and deacons, will be in the Cathedral Hall. Vicars and Deans will vest with Bishop Barchak in the former baptistry of the Cathedral.

Concelebrating priests will be seated in the far front wings of the Cathedral, that is, in front of the Blessed Sacrament Chapel and in front of the Blessed Mother Chapel. All priests will gather in the sanctuary for the Eucharistic Prayer and the reception of Communion. Deacons will be seated in the choir stalls around the Bishop's cathedra.

Please have **two representatives** present from your faith community to receive the Holy Oils at the end of Mass. **The necessary ticket for pastors and chaplains to give to your representatives will be mailed separately on March 21st.** Please have your parish representatives present this ticket to one of the Deans in order to receive the Holy Oils. **No one will be able to receive the oils until the ticket is presented to the Dean.** **Those representing your faith community will be seated in the nave of the Cathedral.** The representatives from the Cathedrals in Altoona and Johnstown and Basilica in Loretto will be called forth first to receive the Oils.

NOTE: Each faith community must present the ticket to one of the Deans in order to receive the Blessed Oils.

The three oils prepared for each faith community will be placed in the same size bottles used last year. **Any faith community requesting additional blessed oils are asked to call the Liturgy Office in advance no later than Monday, March 27th.** These oils will be available in the sacristy behind the Blessed Mother altar. In order to protect the integrity of the Holy Oils, **only priests or deacons are to gather the extra oils after the Chrism Mass.**

The Chrism Mass, which the Bishop celebrates with his college of presbyters and at which he consecrates the holy chrism and blesses the other oils of catechumens and of the sick, manifests the Bishop's communion with his Local Church, that is, with all the baptized, laity and clergy. This special Mass surrounding the oils is a celebration of the church's unity. With the Bishop as the Chief Shepherd, the community of believers assemble in the cathedral church to celebrate our unity in Jesus Christ. Representatives of the Local Church - clergy and laity - gather to celebrate our oneness as baptized followers of the crucified and risen Christ. All eight counties comprising the Local Church are represented in the various ministries of the Chrism Mass.

(2) SACRED TRIDUUM

The forty days of Lent lead to the paschal celebration of the Triduum. On Holy Thursday, late in the afternoon, Lent ends and the Church enters the culmination of the entire liturgical year, the Easter Triduum. Liturgically, the Three Days are to be commemorated as one continuous celebration of the saving mystery of Jesus Christ. As Lent was a forty day liturgical season and the fifty days of Easter a unitive liturgical season, so the Three Days are an integral unity celebrating the heart of faith - the dying and rising of Christ. The Triduum gives meaning to Lent, which precedes it, and to the Fifty Days of Easter that follow. While not holy days of obligation, the faithful are strongly encouraged to participate in the rites of the Three Days.

HOLY THURSDAY - April 13

At the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Triduum begins and Lent ends. Holy Thursday is the entrance into the Three Days. The entrance antiphon (Roman Missal) contains the liturgical and theological theme of this celebration. "We should glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, in whom is our salvation, life and resurrection, through whom we are saved and delivered" (Galatians 6:14). The entire paschal mystery - Christ's obedient life, death, resurrection - are liturgically remembered.

It is encouraged to have the blessed oils from the Chrism Mass carried into this Mass at the opening procession. A commentator could identify each oil to be received by your faith community before the procession begins (see attachment). If the oils are carried in procession, they are placed on a stand independent of the altar. They may be incensed with the altar and, then, (after Mass) placed in the ambry.

During the singing of the Glory to God, the church bells are rung and when it is finished they remain silent until the Easter Vigil. During this same period, the organ and other musical instruments may be used only to support the singing.

The first reading from the Book of Exodus captures the evening's celebration: it is the Passover of the Lord. Holy Thursday begins the Three Days of celebrating the Passover of our Lord. The second reading and Gospel tell us that Eucharistic people are people who lay down their lives in service of others as Jesus did. The homily and the foot washing (Mandatum) are to emphasize this reality. Those whose feet are to be washed should reflect a cross-section of your faith community. The number is traditionally twelve; liturgically there is no exact requirement (the number may be more or less than twelve). If a collection is taken up at this Mass, it is proper to have the monies and/or food collected to be given to the poor. The collected items (monies/food/clothing) are to be presented with the bread and wine.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist encourages the reception of the Eucharist under both species, the fullness of the sign of the sacrament. Notice there is no conclusion or dismissal to this Liturgy. The Three Days have begun. The Eucharist is transferred to the place of reposition. The community is invited to keep vigil, to stay and pray awhile. Adoration is not to go beyond midnight; each faith community can decide the exact time for this prayer. We are now in the quiet and peace of The Three Days.

GOOD FRIDAY - April 14

Morning Prayer and/or Office of Readings from the Divine Office are recommended to be scheduled in the morning of Good Friday. In the afternoon (around 3:00 PM), the Sacred Liturgy for this day celebrates the glory of the cross. Through the wood of the cross Christ has won redemption for all! The Scripture at this celebration highlights the obedient life of the Son of God to his Father's will. The proclamation of John's Passion invites those gathered to enter into the Lord's saving death.

The liturgical symbol this day is a cross, please refer to the Roman Missal, Good Friday Liturgy, Numbers 17-19. The ritual calls for a cross to be used for the veneration. There is to be only one cross used in order to emphasize the liturgical symbolism of this central sign of our redemption. After the reception of communion, the liturgy ends as it began; all leave in silence. Again, there is no dismissal. The church is in the midst of commemorating the Three Days of the paschal mystery.

The fast on this day is not the penitential fast of Lent. The fast becomes the ancient paschal fast. The paschal fast honors the suffering and death of the Lord, and prepares us to share more deeply in the mystery of the resurrection. As practical as possible, it is pastorally and liturgically proper to encourage this fast until the Easter Vigil celebration. Through Friday and Saturday, we continue in fasting, prayer, and vigil. There is a peaceful quiet as we await the Vigil.

HOLY SATURDAY - EASTER VIGIL - April 15

Holy Saturday morning may have your faith community gathering for the Office of Readings and/or Morning Prayer from the Divine Office. This is also the time to pray the preparatory rites with the catechumens in anticipation of the evening's vigil. Once it is dark (this year at **8:30 PM Daylight Saving Time**), the Vigil of all vigils begins. Because the church is continuing its Three Days, prayer begins in darkness and silence. This Vigil possesses four major movements: Light, Word, Baptism, and Eucharist.

The Easter Candle and the Exsultet are central to the Liturgy of Light. Therefore, the Easter fire is burning outside the Church (all lights are out) as the faithful arrive for the Vigil. Liturgically, processing is an important part of this rite. **All follow the lighted Paschal Candle into the Church.**

The nine Scripture readings are part of the ancient Christian vigil and make up the Liturgy of the Word. As believers kept vigil with the catechumens, various stories of salvation were recounted. God's presence among the people and God's love for the people are proclaimed in Word.

The Liturgy of Baptism is the fulfillment of the forty days of Lent. The sacraments of initiation are most anciently celebrated at this Vigil. Lent has invited the faithful to renew themselves in their baptismal identity. As catechumens and candidates become fully Christian, the assembly of believers renew their baptismal promises.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist proclaims the mystery of the Lord's saving death and resurrection. Our praising and thanking epitomizes the church's intensity at this Vigil of all vigils. Christ crucified is Christ risen. For the first time in Three Days, there is a liturgical dismissal - in multiple alleluias. Easter Sunday begins.

EASTER SUNDAY - April 16

Easter Sunday Eucharist is full of joy and exultation, replacing the seriousness of Lent. Scripture, the orations, hymnody, the joyful alleluias, and the renewal of our baptismal promises with sprinkling highlight the intense, high-pitched rejoicing of the Christian community. The Three Days end on this glorious feast. Easter celebrates our redemption through the saving mystery of Christ's death and resurrection.

The Triduum concludes this day with suggested Evening Prayer from the Divine Office. The newly baptized are especially invited to this Easter Evening Prayer.

(3) EASTER - THE FIFTY DAYS

As Easter Sunday is celebrated, so are the seven Sundays that follow, concluding with Pentecost Sunday. The Sprinkling Rite (in place of the usual penitential rite with its increased emphasis during Lent) is strongly encouraged for the **entire** Easter Season. Every Sunday until and including Pentecost, the Easter community is to recall and to celebrate their baptismal gift of new life in the crucified and risen Christ. The Easter Candle has a prominent place in the sanctuary near the altar or ambo.

Liturgically, the fifty days of Easter are one continuous feast. The practical application of this liturgical principle means that the decorations of Easter Sunday (flowers, banners, and candles) should remain for the complete fifty days of the season. Also, the Easter hymns of Easter Sunday should continue for all the Sundays of the Easter Season. The acclamations (Sunday and daily Mass) should be musically upbeat and the hymnody should reflect our faith and joy in the resurrection of the crucified Christ. The Easter Season invites an appropriate response for the Universal Prayer during the fifty day celebration. Two examples would be: "Risen Savior, Hear Our Prayer!" and "Lord, Hear Our Easter Prayer!" Ideally, the Universal Prayer is sung, especially during the Sundays of the Easter Season.

The fifty days of the Easter Season celebrate the mystery of the Christian Passover, the new life of God's Spirit, introduced in the passion, death, and resurrection of Christ. The Easter Season is intrinsically related to the celebration of the Paschal Triduum. For fifty days Christians liturgically celebrate the saving mysteries of Christ's redemption. The new life of baptism is reflected in scriptures and celebrated in sacrament. Our own baptisms introduce us to the paschal mystery, the dying and rising of Christ.

The Sundays of the Easter Season invite the celebration of additional infant Baptisms along with the reception of First Communion. The sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated throughout the Diocese during the Fifty Days.

The Sacrament of Holy Orders for two priests will occur on **Saturday, May 27th, 10:00 AM** at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Altoona. The ordination of priests was last held in 2011.

(6) BULLETIN INSERTS

The liturgical inserts for Easter will continue with the theme *Order of Celebrating Matrimony*. These inserts will reflect on the theology of matrimony, the gift of married couples in the Church, and the different aspects of the revised ritual. You are asked to place these inserts in your weekly bulletin for the liturgical catechesis of our people. Thank you.

TEXTS FOR THE RECEPTION OF THE HOLY OILS AT THE MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

THIS TEXT IS READ BEFORE THE OPENING PROCESSION OF THE MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Commentator:

On this most holy night, we enter into the Three Days, the paschal mystery of the Lord's passion, death and resurrection, into which the elect and candidates of our community will be initiated. As we begin, therefore, we receive from our Bishop Bartchak of the Church of Altoona-Johnstown, the holy oils blessed and consecrated for the sacramental life of our parish community.

The Oil of the Sick:

By the laying on of hands and anointing with this oil, and with the prayerful support of this community, may those who are sick experience the healing presence of Christ.

The Oil of Catechumens:

Anointed with this oil and assisted by this community's example, may our catechumens persevere in their journey to the saving waters of baptism and share in Christ's victory over sin and the power of evil.

The Holy Chrism:

Through anointing with this fragrant oil, may all who are baptized and confirmed, all who are ordained to the service of God's people, and this assembly whose altar and church are dedicated to God's glory, fill the world with the sweet fragrance of Christ's gospel and be built up as living stones into a temple filled with the Holy Spirit.

THE RECEPTION OF THE HOLY OILS BLESSED AT THE CHRISM MASS AT THE EVENING MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Roman Missal, Number 15, The Chrism Mass.

The reception of the Holy Oils may take place in individual parishes either before the celebration of the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper or at another time that seems more appropriate.

Commentator:

On this most holy night, we enter into the Three Days, the paschal mystery of the Lord's passion, death and resurrection, into which the elect and candidates of our community will be initiated. As we begin, therefore, we receive from our Bishop Bartchak of the Church of Altoona-Johnstown, the holy oils blessed and consecrated for the sacramental life of our parish community.

Presenter of the Oil of the Sick:

The oil of the sick.

Priest:

May the sick who are anointed with this oil experience the compassion of Christ and his saving love, in body, mind, and soul.

The people may respond:

Blessed be God for ever.

Presenter of the Oil of Catechumens:

The oil of catechumens.

Priest:

Through anointing with this oil may our catechumens who are preparing to receive the saving waters of baptism be strengthened by Christ to resist the power of Satan and reject evil in all its forms.

The people may respond:

Blessed be God for ever.

Presenter of the Holy Chrism:

The holy Chrism.

Priest:

Through anointing with this perfumed Chrism may children and adults, who are baptized and confirmed, and presbyters, who are ordained, experience the gracious gift of the Holy Spirit.

The people may respond:

Blessed be God for ever.

EASTER — 2017

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Liturgical Reflection...

Today Christians remember the glorious resurrection of our Savior. Death could not keep the Lord in the tomb. Christ has conquered death and new life is ours. On Easter Sunday we stand and renew our baptismal promises. We reject evil and sin, and profess our faith in God who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We are claimed for Jesus Christ who died and rose. For fifty days we will sing our alleluias and praise God for the gift of resurrection. Sorrow leads to joy; despair fades into hope, and apathy is overcome by divine love. Happy Easter!

2017, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648

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**ORDER OF
CELEBRATING
MATRIMONY**

Liturgical Reflection...

The Roman Catholic celebration of marriage between two Catholic faithful normally takes place during Holy Mass, because of the connection of all the sacraments with the dying and rising of Christ. In the Eucharist the memorial of the New Covenant is realized, the New Covenant in which Christ has united himself for ever to the Church, his beloved bride for whom he gave himself up to death. It is therefore fitting that the spouses should seal their consent to each other through uniting their love to the love of Christ. The newly married man and woman also receive Eucharist so that, communicating in the same Body and the same Blood of Christ, they may form one body in Christ (Catechism of the Catholic Church Number 1621).

2017, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648

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**ORDER OF
CELEBRATING
MATRIMONY**

Liturgical Reflection...

The Sacrament of Marriage celebrates unequivocally the indissoluble bond of marriage. "What God has joined, let no one separate" (Matt. 19.6). Man and woman make a permanent commitment to one another until death do they part. By restoring the original order of creation disturbed by sin, Jesus himself gives the strength and grace to live marriage in the new realm of the Reign of God. It is by following Christ, renouncing themselves, and taking up their crosses that spouses are able to receive the original meaning of marriage and live it with help of Christ. This grace of Christian marriage is a fruit of Christ's cross, the source of all Christian life (Catechism of the Catholic Church Number 1615).

2017, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648

EASTER — 2017

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**ORDER OF
CELEBRATING
MATRIMONY**

Liturgical Reflection...

The entire Church life bears the mark of the spousal love of Christ and the Church. Already Baptism, the entry into the People of God, is a nuptial mystery. Baptism is the nuptial bath which precedes the wedding feast, the Eucharist. Each Sunday in Easter we are sprinkled with Easter water to remind ourselves of our baptismal identity. In the bath of Baptism we were wedded to Christ and the Church. The divine wedding feast takes place every time we gather for Mass. Christ, the Bridegroom, shares his Body and Blood with the people, his bride, for whom he died and rose (Catechism of the Catholic Church Number 1617).

2017, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648

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**ORDER OF
CELEBRATING
MATRIMONY**

Liturgical Reflection...

On the threshold of his public life Jesus performs his first sign at a wedding feast in Cana. This first sign was done at the request of his mother. The Church attaches great importance to Jesus' presence at the wedding in Cana. This is a confirmation of the goodness of marriage and the proclamation that marriage will now be a holy sign of Christ's presence. The mother of the Lord seeks her Son's assistance with the lack of wine. Today we remember mothers, living and dead, who have formed their sons and daughters in the image of a caring, loving Christ. Happy Mother's Day! (Catechism of the Catholic Church Number 1613)

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**ORDER OF
CELEBRATING
MATRIMONY**

Liturgical Reflection...

According to the tradition in the Catholic Church, the spouses are the ministers of Christ's grace in the Sacrament of Marriage. The man and woman mutually confer upon each other the holy sacrament by expressing their consent before the Church. The ordained minister is the official witness of the Church to this nuptial commitment. The spouses make a freely willed, public statement of their commitment to one another in the name of the Lord. The Church gathers at the Sacrament of Marriage to celebrate with the bride and bridegroom as they ground their love on the love of the Bridegroom, Christ, for his Bride, the Church. The newly married man and woman receive sacramental grace to live out their nuptial promises. (Catechism of the Catholic Church Number 1623)

2017, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648

EASTER — 2017

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**HOLY
DAY**

Liturgical Reflection...

This Thursday, May 25, is the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord. It is a holy day of obligation in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown. Forty days have passed since the glorious resurrection of the crucified Lord from the dead. Today the Church commemorates the return of the Son of God to the Father's right hand. We await his return in all his glory at the end of time when all things will be made new. Please check the Mass schedule for the Holy Day this Thursday.

2017, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648

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**ORDER OF
CELEBRATING
MATRIMONY**

Liturgical Reflection...

The priest or deacon who assists at the celebration of marriage receives the consent of the spouses in the name of the Church, and gives the blessing of the Church. The presence of the Church's minister, and also of the witnesses, visibly expresses the fact that marriage is an ecclesial reality. Marriage is a state of life in the Church. Both the man and the woman are obligated to fulfill their nuptial promises within the Church community. Their married love will witness to the love of Christ for his Church. And their children will be witnesses to the great love of God for the spouses, the family, and the Church. (Catechism of the Catholic Church Numbers 1630 and 1631)

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**ORDER OF
CELEBRATING
MATRIMONY**

Liturgical Reflection...

Fifty days have passed since the glorious celebration of Easter Sunday. Today we remember the gift of the Holy Spirit given to the Church. It is the Spirit that enlightens and inspires God's holy people on way to the kingdom. It is the Spirit of God that guides the Church until the Lord returns in all his glory. In the Sacrament of Marriage the man and woman receive the Holy Spirit as the communion of love of Christ and the Church. The Holy Spirit is the seal of their covenant, the ever-available source of their love and the strength to renew their fidelity. (Catechism of the Catholic Church Number 1624)

2017, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 S. Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648



Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown

Office of Vocations

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M E M O

TO: All Priests

FROM: Rev. Matthew Reese, Director

RE: Bulletin Announcement

DATE: March 7, 2017

Please include the below listed Bulletin Announcement in your parish bulletins. It is time sensitive for RSVP's. (April 7th is the deadline!)

Thank You!
--Fr. Matthew Reese

The Serra Club of Cambria County invites you to the Bishop's Night for Vocations dinner on Friday, April 21, 2017 at Bishop Carroll Catholic High School, 728 Ben Franklin Highway, Ebensburg, PA. A social hour begins at 5:30 p.m. and dinner follows at 6:30 p.m. The event is sponsored jointly by the Serra Club and the Diocesan Vocation Office. The theme for the event is: *"Led by the Spirit for Mission."* Guest speak is Reverend Stephen P. DeLacy, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

Tickets can be purchased by calling: **Marjorie Lechene at 814-255-9797 or 814-255-6563.**



Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown

Adult Enrichment and Lay Ecclesial Ministries

625 Park Avenue

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E-mail: mheinze@dioceseaj.org

Website: www.ajdiocese.org/lay-ecclesial-ministry

TO: ALL PASTORS AND BULLETIN EDITORS
FROM: DEACON MICHAEL RUSSO
DATE: March 21, 2017

-BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT-

**Please run this announcement in your bulletins as space allows.
Thank you!**

SAVE THE DATE!

Parish Mission Presents Catholic Speaker Dr. Edward Sri

St. Benedict Parish, 2310 Bedford St. Johnstown, will be hosting **Dr. Edward Sri** April 23rd and 24th from 7:00-9:00 PM each evening. **This event is open to all in the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese.** Dr. Sri is a renowned theologian, author and well known Catholic speaker. Topics of these engaging and thought provoking presentations are *Walking With Mary: A Biblical Journey from Nazareth to the Cross*, *A Biblical Walk through the Mass: Understanding what we say and do at Liturgy*, *Marriage: The Good, the Messy and the Beautiful* and *Becoming Missionary Disciples: Pope Francis and the Real Challenges in Pastoral Ministry Today*. There will also be a **special daytime session** April 24th from 1:30-3:30 PM. This presentation will be *Vibrant Faith in a Secular Culture: Today's Challenges For Catechists, Teachers, Pastoral Ministers, and Clergy*. Tickets are not required. A love offering will be taken. For more information please contact Deacon Michael Russo at 814-288-3036 or by email at michael.russo@atlanticbb.net.



Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown

Adult Enrichment and Lay Ecclesial Ministries

625 Park Avenue

Johnstown, PA 15902

Telephone: (814) 361-2000

E-mail: mheinze@dioceseaj.org

Website: www.aidiocese.org/lay-ecclesial-ministry

To: Pastors and Bulletin Editors
From: The Office of Adult Enrichment and Lay Ecclesial Ministry
Date: March 21, 2017

-Bulletin Announcement-

**Please run this announcement in your bulletins as space allows.
Thank you!**

Praying With Icons Class Offered

Icons are not simply art; they are a way into contemplative prayer, and therefore one way to let God speak to us. The class, *Praying With Icons*, focuses on the Festal Icons (the major events in the life of Christ and the Theotokos) and the Sacred Scripture that speaks to us through the sacred images. Deacon Michael Russo will be presenting this eight week course **Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:30 PM at St. Rose of Lima Parish, Altoona beginning May 16th**. The cost of the course is \$35. For the complete schedule of class dates and registration, please contact Marybeth at the Office of Adult Enrichment and Lay Ecclesial Ministries at (814) 361-2000 or by email at mheinze@dioceseaj.org.

All are welcome!

The COLLECTION Basket



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IDEAS FOR LIVING BETTER FROM THE FAMILY LIFE OFFICE

Family Ritual

There are so many activities we can do during the final days of Lent and the 50 days of Easter with our families. Here are a few:

- Attend the Chrism Mass in your Diocese
- Wash each other's feet/hands on Holy Thursday
- Color eggs and talk about forgiveness & new life
- Make an Easter Candle. Talk about how our baptismal candles were lit from the Easter candle to symbolize the light of Christ coming into each of us. Light your candle for the 50 days of Easter (till Pentecost).



Lent and Easter Foods

Pretzels can be served at family meals during Lent to remind everyone that this is a season of prayer. Find a recipe and make them as a family project. The origin of pretzels seems to go as far back as the Roman Empire. People who were fasting made small breads from flour, water and salt. They took their fasting seriously and thus left out the eggs, milk and butter used in regular bread. They twisted the little breads to resemble "crossed arms." Today, we still occasionally see people praying with their arms crossed in front of them, a body-form of prayer very common in those days.



Reprinted from the booklet published by the Family Life Office entitled "A CHANGE OF HEART - Lent and Easter at Home."

Becoming a Disciple

Elizabeth-Anne Stewart

"Becoming a disciple doesn't usually involve leaving one's occupation; for most of us, the call is to make a difference within the familiar circles of family, friends, work and faith community.

However secular our lives may seem, there are always opportunities to reach out to others in love, for the sake of Christ. Without even mentioning God or religion, we can evangelize others by the way we treat them—through warm hospitality, attentive listening, simple acts of kindness. Fascinated, those we encounter may begin to question the source of our love; they, too, may start treating others with greater consideration. In turn, these people may also become more loving. And so the catch grows large and the nets expand..."

Reprinted with permission from:
"Apple Seeds"
Fr. Brian Cavanaugh, T.O.R.



Paschal or Easter Bread

2½ cups flour	⅓ cup milk
¼ cup sugar	2 tsp. almond extract
1 tsp. salt	2 Tbsp. butter
1 pkg. active dry yeast	2 eggs

In a large bowl, mix 1 cup of flour, sugar, salt and yeast. In a saucepan, heat milk and butter until milk is warm and butter is slightly soft. Gradually add the milk and butter to the flour mixture, stirring gently. Add 2 eggs and the remaining flour ½ cup at a time. Add almond extract. Gently mix. Turn the dough onto a floured surface and continue to knead softly for 5 minutes. Place in a large greased bowl, cover and let stand in a warm place for an hour. Turn dough onto lightly floured surface. Cut in two portions. Roll dough into two long sections approx 36 inches long with a thickness of 1½ inch. Loosly braid the dough and place onto a greased baking pan. Cover with a damp cloth and let rise for an additional 45 minutes. Remove cloth and bake at 325° for 45-50 minutes. Glaze with butter and add spring sprinkles while still warm. You can also glaze the bread with a powdered sugar and milk glaze to eat at your Easter Sunday meal. Enjoy!



Reprinted from The Family Life NEWSLETTER
Vol. 45, Issue 1

Taking Addiction out of Hiding

Fr. Dan enjoys his walks down Clark Avenue. The families seem happy and successful with well-groomed lawns and barbecue grills. But behind the nice-looking facades hide a few demons: One family struggles with debt because of an addiction to shopping. A recent widow numbs her grief with alcohol. One couple confronts their son with drugs they found in his bedroom while another neighbor is addicted to prescription pain medication.

Addiction is a demon that the average family cannot escape. Whether it's one's own, a neighbor's or a family member's problem, we must not ignore its presence. The beginning of healing is honesty. While admitting one's addiction is humiliating, the acceptance of one's weakness opens the door to rehabilitation.

We cannot go it alone. Whether it's marriage counseling, a weight-loss support group or drug rehab, when addiction rears its ugly head, the best defense is an offense of a knowledgeable and supportive community.

With truth and support in place, the whole family needs to rearrange life patterns to erase old patterns of behavior. This could mean avoiding friends who use drugs & alcohol and paying cash for purchases. We need to shake things up in order for lasting change to take root.

We must also clean up the messes we've made. It's time to forgive ourselves and ask forgiveness of those we've harmed by our addictive behavior. Everyone we love was affected by our choices. Saying "forgive me" is a healing balm.

Finally, the addict and those who love the addict must wrap all this good work in prayer. The power of intercession is a weapon that moves mountains—mountains of failure and years of dysfunction, pain and fear. God wants to bring wholeness to our wounded lives.

Clark Avenue looks the same from the street. Yet, the demons of addiction are being dealt with. There are no magical happy endings; it's hard work to walk away from addiction. Credit cards have been cut up and a debt counselor has been sought; AA is working for the alcoholic as well as healthy ways to cope with grief and the drug addicts go to weekly rehab outpatient clinics. And on Sunday when Fr. Dan sees them at Mass, he prays for the folks on Clark Avenue and their journey to freedom.

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28 W. Liberty St., Cincinnati OH 45202 or www.EachDayCatholic.org

Effective use of "Adult Time-Outs"

Positive Self-Talk to use during Time-Outs

I will be peaceful.
I have choices. I choose to stay calm.
I'm Okay. I'm a good person.
We're going to figure this out.

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Website: www.qualityrelationships.com



Families and the Gospel

April 2

John 11:1-45

Our families can become wrapped up chasing things we perceive will make us happy. In Jesus' words to Lazarus, He says to us: "Come out" from what entombs you. In this fifth week of Lent, "untie" yourself and be free from unnecessary possessions.

April 9

Mt 26:14-27:66

The cruel death of Jesus tells us bad things can and do happen to very good people. It also tells us God is present during the suffering. Bad things happen but God does not abandon us.

April 16

Jn 20:1-9

Today's gospel instructs us that Jesus "had to rise from the dead." The dying we experience with unmet expectations in marriage and parenting is normal to family life. Families must rise above disappointments and be Easter people all year long.

April 23

Jn 20:19-31

"Whose sins you forgive, are forgiven." The Kingdom of God begins in your home where children learn the paths to peace promised in today's gospel through merciful and forgiveness demonstrated by their parents. Become who you are called to be, ambassadors of peace and forgiveness.

April 30

Lk 24:13-35

In today's gospel the disciples were returning home so "downcast" they did not recognize Jesus walking with them. In our homes we can be so overwhelmed with responsibilities we don't see God with us. Today's gospel tells us to stop and open our eyes to the blessings we are to one another.



A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar