



A Cordial Invitation

*With praise and thanksgiving
to God, our Almighty Father
and relying upon the help of Jesus Christ, our Lord,
the Church of Altoona-Johnstown
joyfully announces the ordination of*

Peter Dominic Crowe

and

Jonathan James Dickson

to the Sacred Order of Presbyter

*through the imposition of hands
and the invocation of the Holy Spirit*

by

*The Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, J.C.D.
Bishop of Altoona-Johnstown*

*at ten o'clock in the morning
on Saturday, the Twenty-Seventh of May
in the Year Two Thousand and Seventeen*

*at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament
One Cathedral Square
Altoona, Pennsylvania*



Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown

Tony DeGol

Secretary for Communications

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To: Pastors/Parish Secretaries/Bulletin Editors
From: Tony DeGol
Re: Outdoor Masses
Date: May 2, 2017

On behalf of Father John Byrnes, Rector of the Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel in Loretto, outdoor Masses will once again be celebrated every Sunday night at 7:00 p.m. during the summer months at the Our Lady of the Alleghenies Shrine. Please include the following announcement in your bulletins.

OUTDOOR MASSES

Father John D. Byrnes, Rector, and the Parish Family of St. Michael the Archangel Basilica, Loretto, invite the faithful to join us each Sunday evening at 7:00 p.m. for the outdoor Sunday Mass at the beautiful Shrine of Our Lady of the Alleghenies in Loretto. The first Mass of the season will be celebrated on Sunday, May 28, 2017 and will continue through Labor Day Weekend, September 3, 2017. Please bring a lawn chair. In the event of inclement weather, the Mass will be held in the Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel.

Also on behalf of Father Brynes, please see the following invitation to priests and their parish faith community:

Dear Father/Monsignor,

You are invited to preside at Mass and offer a visit for your parish to the outdoor 7:00 p.m. Sunday Mass at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Alleghenies, Loretto on a Sunday night this summer. Bishop Mark will preside on Sundays July 23 and August 6, 2017.

The other Sundays of the summer are OPEN. Your choir and liturgical ministers are welcome to join in the celebration. An organist is provided. Presiders and parishes are now being scheduled. For scheduling, please contact Very Rev. John D. Byrnes, Rector at the Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel, Loretto at 814-472-8551 or at jbyrnes@dioceseaj.org.



DIOCESE OF ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN

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May 16, 2017

TO: Clergy

FROM: Monsignor Robert C. Mazur

CONCERNING: (1) May 27—Anniversary of Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown
(2) June 18—Father's Day
(3) August 15—Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary / HOLY DAY
(4) Summer Liturgical Inserts

(1) May 27, Saturday—Feast Day in Diocese (Anniversary of Establishment)

May 27th is the feast of Mary, Mother of the Church, principal patroness of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown (replacing the optional memorial of Saint Augustine of Canterbury, bishop). This is the anniversary day in 1901 when Pope Leo XIII established our Diocese. The Mass has a Glory to God and its proper Preface. *Mass of Our Lady, Mother of the Church*, Votive #10, "B", pages 1191-1194 in the Roman Missal or *Blessed Virgin Mary, Image and Mother of the Church*, I-III in the Collection of Masses of the BVM nos. 25-27. The Scripture readings are found in Lectionary for Weekday Mass, Volume III, numbers 707-712, pages 1399-1416 or see Collection, Volume II, nos. 25-27, pages 118-125. A possible intention to add to the Universal Prayer at Mass is:

*That the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, celebrating its anniversary today,
seek healing and forgiveness among its members, we pray...*

(2) Honoring Fathers on Father's Day—June 18

Sunday, June 18, 2017, is Father's Day. Each Presider is encouraged to bless all fathers at the end of Mass before the general blessing and dismissal. The blessing may be found in the Book of Blessings, Chapter 56, Number 1733.

3) Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary—August 15

Tuesday, August 15, is the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary—a holy day of obligation. An insert is provided to place in your bulletin.

4) Summer Liturgical Inserts

The bulletin Liturgical Inserts will continue with the theme *Order of Celebrating Matrimony*. You are asked to place these inserts in your weekly bulletin for the catechesis of our people.

Thank you.

ORDINARY TIME
JUNE—JULY—AUGUST

Liturgical Reflection...

The Church enjoys a new ritual for the celebration of Marriage. The revised *Order of Celebrating Matrimony* became the official rite in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown during the Advent Season of this liturgical year. The revised rite replaced the 1969 ritual issued after the Second Vatican Council. The revisions of the celebration of sacramental Marriage will be reviewed during the summer months. The Church celebrates with all couples who prepare and celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage. Husband and wife, man and woman, celebrate their love based on the covenant love of Jesus Christ, the Bridegroom, with his Bride, the Church.

2017, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 South Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648.

**ORDER OF
CELEBRATING
MATRIMONY**

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Liturgical Reflection...

The *Order of Celebrating Matrimony* offers three distinct rituals for celebrating the Sacrament of Matrimony. First, there is the order of celebrating Matrimony within Mass; secondly, there is the order of celebrating Marriage without Mass; and the Church presents a ritual for celebrating Matrimony between a Catholic and a Catechumen or Non-Christian. All three orders contain the following: scripture and homily, questions addressed to the bride and groom, consent, blessing and giving of rings, Universal Prayer, Our Father, and Nuptial Blessing. Of course, it is the usual custom to have two Catholics married within Mass.

Order of Celebrating Matrimony, Chapters I, II, and III, 2016.

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**ORDER OF
CELEBRATING
MATRIMONY**

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Body
and
Blood
of
Christ

Liturgical Reflection...

When celebrating Matrimony within Mass or without Mass, the Introductory Rites direct that the priest or deacon informally address both the bride and groom, warmly greeting them and telling them that the Church shares their joy on their wedding day. This greeting is informal, personal, and welcoming. Microphones are not on for this ritual act. The bride and groom are acknowledged and affirmed by the Church. They are about to celebrate a great sacrament. Jesus Christ is the bridegroom, as this man assumes to be the groom to his bride; and the Church is the bride, as this woman assumes the role of bride to her husband.

Order of Celebrating Matrimony, Numbers 45 and 80, 49 and 84.

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**ORDER OF
CELEBRATING
MATRIMONY**

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ORDINARY TIME
JUNE—JULY—AUGUST

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**ORDER OF
CELEBRATING
MATRIMONY**

Liturgical Reflection...

An opening song can accompany the introductory rites to Marriage within Mass and without Mass. An option is to have the priest or deacon enter in the customary manner (as at Sunday Mass) to the opening song. The servers, readers, and priest or deacon enter to this hymn. Or, if already at the chair, following the informal welcome of the bride and groom, an entrance chant follows. The purpose of the song is to gather those present for the celebration of Marriage and prepare them for the commemoration of the coming mysteries of faith. There is a repertoire of appropriate songs to be chosen for the opening song. All music at the celebration of Marriage is God-centered.

Order of Celebrating Matrimony, Numbers 46, 48-50, 81, and 83-85.

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**ORDER OF
CELEBRATING
MATRIMONY**

Liturgical Reflection...

Within Mass and without Mass, the priest or deacon begins with the sign of the cross and greeting. The revised ritual provides two options (“in these or similar words”) to address the couple and those present to dispose them inwardly for the celebration of Marriage. When celebrating Matrimony within Mass, the Church directs there is no Penitential Rite. There is to be the *Glory to God* (preferably sung) at the Mass celebrating Matrimony. This hymn of praise to the glory of God is directed even in the seasons of Advent and Lent when the ritual Mass for Marriage is celebrated. All in the assembly, gathered for the Sacrament of Matrimony, are encouraged to take part in this beautiful prayer of praise. The collect (six options) concludes the introductory rites.

Order of Celebrating Matrimony, Numbers 51-53, 86, 87-89, and 188-192.

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**ORDER OF
CELEBRATING
MATRIMONY**

Liturgical Reflection...

When the Sacrament of Matrimony is celebrated, the Church always proclaims sacred scripture. The couple is encouraged to choose readings from the Church’s selections for Marriage when the ritual Mass for Marriage is celebrated. The Church offers nine options from the books of the Old Testament (*Lectionary* Number 801), seven options of psalms (*Lectionary* Number 803), fourteen selections of New Testament readings; this second reading is optional (*Lectionary* Number 802), and ten options of Gospels (*Lectionary* Number 805). When Marriage is celebrated within Mass, the Church wishes both readers to be Catholic. When Marriage is celebrated without Mass or celebrated between a Catholic and a Catechumen or a Non-Christian, the Church wishes the readers to be baptized.

Order of Celebrating Matrimony, Numbers 144-187.

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ORDINARY TIME
JUNE—JULY—AUGUST

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23

**ORDER OF
CELEBRATING
MATRIMONY**

Liturgical Reflection...

The scripture readings are followed by the homily. The priest or deacon breaks open the selected readings proclaimed at the Liturgy of the Word or reflects on some aspect of the ritual of holy Matrimony. When Matrimony is celebrated within Mass, the Church sees the priest giving the homily. When Matrimony is celebrated outside Mass, the priest or deacon gives the homily. Because of the various meetings between the clergy and the couple, the homily should witness to a familiarity with the bride and groom, addressing the Sacrament of Matrimony to the man and woman to be married. At the heart of the homily is the mystery of Christian marriage, the dignity of conjugal love, and the responsibilities of married people.

Order of Celebrating Matrimony, Numbers 57, 91, and 123.

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**ORDER OF
CELEBRATING
MATRIMONY**

Liturgical Reflection...

Following the homily, the Sacrament of Matrimony is celebrated. Since the two witnesses stand, all in the assembly are invited to stand as witnesses to the commitment to be made in the name of Christ by the bridegroom and bride. The priest or deacon addresses the couple (“in these or similar words”) on the sacredness and seriousness of the Sacrament about to be received. The address is followed by the statement of intention on the part of the bridegroom and the bride. Three questions are asked about their freedom of choice, fidelity to each other, and the acceptance and upbringing of children. Each responds separately, the man and, then, the woman. The questions and answers should be audible to all in the assembly.

Order of Celebrating Matrimony, Numbers 60, 94, and 125.

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**ORDER OF
CELEBRATING
MATRIMONY**

Liturgical Reflection...

The Consent of the couple follows the three questions on freedom, fidelity, and acceptance of children. The priest or deacon invites the couple to publicly declare their consent to one another. The groom is first; the bride is second. There are two different formulae for the consent; the couple chooses which option of consent they wish for their wedding. There is also the option to repeat after the minister or to simply say “I do.” The bridegroom and the bride are the true ministers of this Sacrament in their public Consent to each other. This Consent should be audible to all in the assembly.

Order of Celebrating Matrimony, Numbers 61-63, 95-97, and 126-128.

2017, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 South Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648.

AUGUST 13

HOLY DAY

Liturgical Reflection...

This Tuesday, August 15, is the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a Holy Day of Obligation. The Church commemorates that Mary, who bore the Incarnate and Risen Word in her womb, did not experience death and decay. Rather she is the first to share in her Son's risen life and is assumed into heaven. As the East refers to this feast, the Virgin Mary fell asleep into eternity. Please check the parish bulletin for the times of Mass on this solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

2017, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 South Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648.

AUGUST 13

ORDER OF CELEBRATING MATRIMONY

Liturgical Reflection...

Following the Consent (marriage vows) of the couple, the revised *Order of Celebrating Matrimony* directs the Reception of the Consent. The priest or deacon addresses the bride and bridegroom asking God to strengthen the Consent made before the Church. An acclamation on the part of the assembly follows. The acclamation may be sung. This acclamation could be the alleluias of the Gospel acclamation; the refrain of the responsorial psalm, the refrain to the *Glory to God*, or any appropriate acclamation of praise. The cantor would lead those gathered for the wedding in this refrain of praise to God. This addition to the revised rite gives those present for the Sacrament of Matrimony to publicly give thanks to God for the marriage of this couple.

Order of Celebrating Matrimony, Numbers 64-65, 98-99, and 129-130.

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AUGUST 20

ORDER OF CELEBRATING MATRIMONY

Liturgical Reflection...

The acclamation of praise accompanying the reception of the Consent is followed by the Blessing and Giving of Rings. The priest or deacon blesses the rings (three options), sprinkling them with baptismal water, and gives them to the bride and bridegroom. The husband then places his wife's ring on her finger, praying the designated prayer. Likewise, the wife places her husband's ring on the ring finger while saying the prayer. These prayers should be audible to all in the assembly gathered for the Sacrament of Matrimony.

Order of Celebrating Matrimony, Numbers 66, 67A, 100-101, 131-132, and 194-195.

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AUGUST 27

ORDER OF CELEBRATING MATRIMONY

Liturgical Reflection...

Following the blessing and giving of rings, a hymn or canticle of praise may be sung by the whole community. The Celebration of Matrimony concludes with the Universal Prayer. The ritual offers two options. In the absence of the deacon, the couple may choose someone to pray these intercessions. Also, the couple may create their own intercessions along with the suggested petitions in the rite. Perhaps there are family members or friends who are sick or in the military, or any need that invites prayer could be added to the Universal Prayer. The priest gives the invitation to prayer and prays the closing to the General Intercessions.

Order of Celebrating Matrimony, Numbers 69, 103A, 135, and 216-217.

2017 Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 South Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648.

The COLLECTION Basket



Family Life Office

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familylife@dioceseaj.org

JUNE 2017

Volume XXXII, Number 7

IDEAS FOR LIVING BETTER FROM THE FAMILY LIFE OFFICE

Family Ritual

Count Your Blessings! Throughout the month, each family member writes down things that they are thankful for each day (ie: trip to the aquarium or park, gym time, friends over for picnic, a special day with Dad, etc). Put them in a box and when someone is a little down reach into the box and read some "Blessings."

Have a fun evening at the end of the month by saying a prayer for all your blessings!



Gifts of the Holy Spirit

On June 4 we celebrate Pentecost, when the apostles received the guidance of the Holy Spirit. It's also an opportunity to review the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, based on Isaiah 11:1-5 which are wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, fear of the Lord, and piety. As Catholics, we believe the Holy Spirit works in us whenever we exhibit these. As parents, we know they help create a harmonious home. And so, in the spirit of "use it or lose it," and strengthening these gifts through practice and prayer, why not make them the focus of your family's week, since there are seven gifts and seven days? On Monday, push fortitude as you all struggle to get out the door for a new week of work and school. On Wednesday, maybe it's knowledge as you teach your kids the Apostles Creed they must know for religion class. Fear of the Lord—reverence— would be a natural response as you go hiking on Saturday. Go to www.liturgies.net/Easter/Ascension/novena7gifts.htm for prayer ideas.



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At Home With Our Faith,
Claretian Publications
205 West Monroe St. Chicago, IL 60606

Why Be Perfect?

Are you a perfectionist? Do you try to have everything go exactly the way you think it should—and feel defeated when it does not? Well, now is the time to look at and celebrate the little things that you are doing right.

We are all on a path of growth and change, whether we are consciously aware of it or not. Perhaps you have been making enormous progress in an area that has been historically difficult for you; controlling your anger, for example. But sometimes, if you experience just one moment of failure, you might negate and discount all the improvement you have made!

In one of Jesus' parables, he tells a story of the shepherd who left the ninety-nine sheep to go searching for the lost sheep (Luke 15:1-7). We, however, must leave behind our one "bad" moment and go searching for the ninety-nine "good" moments, for the many times we have made progress in the challenging areas of our lives.

As we acknowledge and celebrate our progress more often, perfectionism loses its power over us and perspective is regained. Here are a few ways to slow down and stop being so hard on yourself.

- Identify some areas where you would like to grow. Write down some specific ways you have made progress in these areas.
- Celebrate your progress with a friend, perhaps over a cup of gourmet coffee, or buy yourself a small gift.
- Seek perspective in your life by journaling, talking with a friend, or praying. Rather than trying to rid yourself of perfectionism, see it as inspiration to do well.

Perfection is not attainable, but progress, perspective and peace are well within your reach. When perfectionism tries to sink you, remember that you are constantly growing toward God.



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Growing Faith, Growing Family, 819.95
Twenty-Third Publications, Mystic, CT

Promises for Married Couples

Dorothy Colgan

- I promise to give you the best of myself
and to ask of you no more than you can give.
- I promise to respect you as your own person and to
realize that your interests, desires and needs are
no less important than my own.
- I promise to share with you my time and my
attention and to bring joy, strength and
imagination to our relationship.
- I promise to keep myself open to you, to let you see
through the window of my world into my
innermost fears and feelings, secrets and dreams.
- I promise to grow along with you, to be willing to
face changes in order to keep our relationship
alive and exciting.

I promise to love you in good times
and in bad, with all I have to give and
all I feel inside in the only way I
know how. Completely and forever!



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Apple Seeds
Fr. Brian Cavanaugh, T.O.R.

A Caregiver's Prayer

- ~As I go about the many daily tasks of care-giving,
give me energy.
- ~As I watch my loved one oh-so-slowly walk across
the room, *give me strength.*
- ~As I answer his/her repeated question just one more
time, *give me patience.*
- ~As I look for solutions to whatever is the most
recent concern, *give me wisdom.*
- ~As I reminisce with him/her about the "good old
days," *give me a moment of laughter.*
- ~As I get to know my loved one in a new way,
seeing his/her strength and frailty, *give me joy.*
- ~As I sit beside my loved one's bed waiting for his/
her pain medication to take effect, *give me
comfort.*

Heavenly Father, help me better understand and
believe I can do what you ask me to do. Amen.

-Friends of St. John the Caregiver-www.FSJC.org

Reprinted from the Family Life Newsletter
published by the Family Life Office,
Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown.

Beatitudes for Dads

Blessed is the stay-at-home dad—who sighs with good
humor when called "Mr. Mom."

Blessed is the office dad—who passes up promotions
by leaving work on time. He knows time is a treasure
you never get back once it's spent, and so he invests it
wisely.

Blessed is the Peter Pan dad—who keeps
enough boy inside to make the best use
of a summer day like making every day
an adventure. He knows he learns
important things from his kids, as much
as they learn from him.



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At Home With Our Faith, Claretian Publications
205 West Monroe St. Chicago, IL 60606

Families and the Gospel

June 4

John 20:19-23

Like the disciples in today's gospel, there are times we
shut the doors of our hearts to people or events. It's
how we create emotional distance. Permanent
distancing is lethal and prevents the PEACE Jesus
offers you today.

June 11

John 3:16-18

As the Father "sent his son into the world" so parents
send their children into the world "so that the world
might be saved." This is the missionary role of the
Christian family. Your family is a school where your
children develop convictions which enable them to
make a difference in the world.

June 18

John 6:51-58

Parenting is a Eucharistic activity because from the
first moment of conception children consume us, our
flesh, blood, energy, time and resources. If we don't
sacrifice ourselves, our children would not have life.
This is the priesthood of parenting. Christ is present in
this self-sacrifice. Fathering is an awesome
responsibility and not for the weak or transient.

June 25

Mt. 10:26-33

Jesus says, "Do not be afraid" three times in today's
gospel and reminds us "all concealed secrets will be
revealed." Do not be afraid to acknowledge problems
in your family. If they remain "hidden in darkness"
they will destroy the body and soul."
Healing, understanding and hope are
found only "in the light" of openness.
"Do not be afraid."



A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar