

Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown

Temporalities Secretariat Office of Finance

927 S. Logan Boulevard
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648
Telephone: (814) 695-5579
Fax: (814) 695-8894
Website: www.ajdiocese.org

Memorandum

Date: July 27, 2017

To: Pastors & Parish Administrators

Fr: Matt Stever, CFO *MS*

Re: 2017 Catholic Ministries Drive Parish Progress Report

As the *2017 Catholic Ministries Drive* continues in parishes throughout the Diocese, I am writing to provide you an update on our progress and to appeal for your support and continued prayers.

Attached is the latest progress report through July 24th. To date, 13 parishes have surpassed their targets through total "Gifts/Pledges" of which 4 qualified for refunds by amounts "Received". Overall receipts totaled 58% of our Diocesan target as compared to 63% received at this stage of the campaign last year. Total pledged amounts stand at 68% of target verses 74% last year.

The 14 ministries underpinning our quest to care for the poor, strengthen our families, nurture our youth and form our clergy/laity will be funded solely by this drive in FY17/18. Funding allocations to each ministry will be granted through the *Catholic Ministries Drive* committee. No other Diocesan financial support will be available.

We are grateful for the generosity of the Catholic faithful, and we thank you for all that you have done to encourage participation in your faith community. We ask that you continue to support our efforts by stressing the importance of the *Catholic Ministries Drive* and assuring your parishioners that all money collected will be used **exclusively** to fund vital ministries in the Diocese. The fund does not support core administrative offices of the Diocese. It is also important that the faithful understand that money a parish receives beyond its target stays in that parish for special projects.

Our Diocesan Church faces many challenges, but our mission of proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ will continue. The *Catholic Ministries Drive* is essential in aiding that mission, and support from your parish is critical to our overall success. Thank you for your leadership and for your tireless service to our Church. Please know that I am available to assist you in any way I can and to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely in Christ, Matt



2017 Catholic Ministries Drive

Parish Progress Report

01/01/2017 - 07/24/2017

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Target</u>	<u>Gifts/Pledges</u>	<u>Over/(Under)</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Donors</u>	<u>Households</u>	<u>Participation</u>	<u>Donor Average</u>	<u>Over-Target Receipts</u>
001-Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament	\$ 55,121	\$ 62,235	\$ 7,114	\$ 53,864	193	875	22.06%	\$ 322	\$ -
002-Saint Mary, Altoona	\$ 31,375	\$ 22,461	\$ (8,914)	\$ 18,736	113	453	24.94%	\$ 199	\$ -
003-Saint Mark, Altoona	\$ 21,289	\$ 10,760	\$ (10,529)	\$ 9,269	56	299	18.73%	\$ 192	\$ -
004-Sacred Heart, Altoona	\$ 34,848	\$ 37,563	\$ 2,715	\$ 30,338	141	484	29.13%	\$ 266	\$ -
005-Holy Rosary, Altoona	\$ 19,147	\$ 12,410	\$ (6,737)	\$ 8,615	48	272	17.65%	\$ 259	\$ -
006-Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Altoona	\$ 39,356	\$ 41,607	\$ 2,251	\$ 36,910	229	761	30.09%	\$ 182	\$ -
009-St. John the Evangelist, Lakemont	\$ 45,713	\$ 39,585	\$ (6,128)	\$ 34,185	69	516	13.37%	\$ 574	\$ -
010-Our Lady of Lourdes, Altoona	\$ 22,820	\$ 15,402	\$ (7,418)	\$ 13,203	61	322	18.94%	\$ 252	\$ -
011-Saint Rose of Lima, Altoona	\$ 42,763	\$ 28,412	\$ (14,351)	\$ 25,937	115	584	19.69%	\$ 247	\$ -
012-Saint Therese of the Child Jesus, Altoona	\$ 24,552	\$ 26,371	\$ 1,819	\$ 21,384	131	373	35.12%	\$ 201	\$ -
014-Saint Thomas Aquinas, Ashville	\$ 10,082	\$ 3,300	\$ (6,782)	\$ 3,100	40	161	24.84%	\$ 83	\$ -
020-Seven Dolors of the BVM, Beans Cove	\$ 2,559	\$ 2,715	\$ 156	\$ 2,265	15	41	36.59%	\$ 181	\$ -
021-Saint Thomas the Apostle, Bedford	\$ 36,913	\$ 30,128	\$ (6,785)	\$ 22,660	99	397	24.94%	\$ 304	\$ -
022-Saint John the Evangelist, Everett	\$ 8,877	\$ 11,210	\$ 2,333	\$ 8,745	24	119	20.17%	\$ 467	\$ -
023-Saint John the Evangelist, Bellefonte	\$ 53,408	\$ 53,667	\$ 259	\$ 42,744	199	898	22.16%	\$ 270	\$ -
024-Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, Spring Mills	\$ 7,489	\$ 20,150	\$ 12,661	\$ 17,530	44	114	38.60%	\$ 458	10,041
025-Saint Joseph, Bellwood	\$ 17,682	\$ 23,170	\$ 5,488	\$ 18,415	99	248	39.92%	\$ 234	733
028-Saint Benedict, Carrolltown	\$ 40,925	\$ 37,925	\$ (3,000)	\$ 36,081	135	773	17.46%	\$ 281	\$ -
032-Saint Monica, Chest Springs	\$ 10,204	\$ 4,615	\$ (5,589)	\$ 4,375	31	162	19.14%	\$ 149	\$ -
034-Holy Family, Colver	\$ 8,996	\$ 2,875	\$ (6,121)	\$ 2,775	19	148	12.84%	\$ 151	\$ -
038-Saint Francis Xavier, Cresson	\$ 22,497	\$ 25,934	\$ 3,437	\$ 23,634	120	388	30.93%	\$ 216	1,137
040-Immaculate Conception, Dudley	\$ 8,327	\$ 3,685	\$ (4,642)	\$ 3,120	23	109	21.10%	\$ 160	\$ -
041-Saint Catherine of Siena, Duncansville	\$ 20,796	\$ 10,210	\$ (10,586)	\$ 9,760	51	290	17.59%	\$ 200	\$ -
043-Holy Name, Ebensburg	\$ 82,491	\$ 40,076	\$ (42,415)	\$ 33,652	190	1,281	14.83%	\$ 211	\$ -
051-Saint Benedict, Johnstown	\$ 126,624	\$ 56,256	\$ (70,368)	\$ 46,396	246	1,703	14.45%	\$ 229	\$ -
052-Saint Bernard, Hastings	\$ 26,836	\$ 20,300	\$ (6,536)	\$ 19,195	86	454	18.94%	\$ 236	\$ -
053-Saint Mary, Hollidaysburg	\$ 51,678	\$ 33,330	\$ (18,348)	\$ 28,010	110	672	16.37%	\$ 303	\$ -
054-Saint Michael, Hollidaysburg	\$ 46,613	\$ 29,313	\$ (17,301)	\$ 25,733	120	720	16.67%	\$ 244	\$ -
055-Saint Anne, Davidsville	\$ 14,781	\$ 2,780	\$ (12,001)	\$ 2,170	31	212	14.62%	\$ 90	\$ -
057-Holy Family, Hooversville	\$ 11,624	\$ 3,025	\$ (8,599)	\$ 2,895	17	116	14.66%	\$ 178	\$ -
058-Most Holy Trinity, Huntingdon	\$ 31,100	\$ 16,775	\$ (14,325)	\$ 12,355	69	475	14.53%	\$ 243	\$ -
059-Saint John Gualbert Cathedral, Johnstown	\$ 36,109	\$ 34,865	\$ (1,244)	\$ 30,615	160	563	28.42%	\$ 218	\$ -
066-Saint Patrick, Johnstown	\$ 27,024	\$ 18,925	\$ (8,099)	\$ 14,895	70	411	17.03%	\$ 270	\$ -

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Target</u>	<u>Gifts/Pledges</u>	<u>Over/(Under)</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Donors</u>	<u>Households</u>	<u>Participation</u>	<u>Donor Average</u>	<u>Over-Target Receipts</u>
069-Saint Michael, Johnstown	\$ 6,813	\$ 1,535	\$ (5,278)	1,435	15	113	13.27%	\$ 102	\$ -
071-Our Mother of Sorrows, Johnstown	\$ 73,886	\$ 33,075	\$ (40,811)	26,560	157	738	21.27%	\$ 211	\$ -
073-Saint Francis of Assisi, Johnstown	\$ 18,608	\$ 8,920	\$ (9,688)	7,758	63	288	21.88%	\$ 142	\$ -
074-Visitation of the BVM, Johnstown	\$ 27,976	\$ 7,642	\$ (20,334)	6,609	52	314	16.56%	\$ 147	\$ -
075-Saint Therese of the Child Jesus, Johnstown	\$ 21,084	\$ 14,270	\$ (6,814)	11,840	92	384	23.96%	\$ 155	\$ -
077-Saint Anne, Johnstown	\$ 7,602	\$ 3,153	\$ (4,450)	3,111	18	105	17.14%	\$ 175	\$ -
078-Saint Clement, Johnstown	\$ 43,928	\$ 23,058	\$ (20,870)	18,248	135	517	26.11%	\$ 171	\$ -
079-Saint Andrew, Johnstown	\$ 32,332	\$ 17,420	\$ (14,912)	15,470	63	519	12.14%	\$ 277	\$ -
086-Saint Michael the Archangel, Loretto	\$ 36,294	\$ 16,211	\$ (20,083)	13,391	65	427	15.22%	\$ 249	\$ -
087-Saint Stephen, McConnellsburg	\$ 6,536	\$ 5,625	\$ (911)	5,275	21	61	34.43%	\$ 268	\$ -
088-Saints Philip & James, Meyersdale	\$ 6,607	\$ 2,800	\$ (3,807)	2,500	19	83	22.89%	\$ 147	\$ -
089-Saint Catherine of Siena, Mt. Union	\$ 8,558	\$ 6,590	\$ (1,968)	6,465	42	127	33.07%	\$ 157	\$ -
090-Saint John Vianney, Mundy's Corner	\$ 17,969	\$ 5,410	\$ (12,559)	4,670	41	269	15.24%	\$ 132	\$ -
091-Saint Mary, Nanty Glo	\$ 34,079	\$ 16,075	\$ (18,004)	12,870	81	444	18.24%	\$ 198	\$ -
092-Saint John the Baptist, New Baltimore	\$ 14,365	\$ 6,270	\$ (8,095)	5,385	28	170	16.47%	\$ 224	\$ -
093-Saint Gregory, MacDonaldton	\$ 4,284	\$ 1,495	\$ (2,789)	1,375	9	65	13.85%	\$ 166	\$ -
094-Saint Patrick, Newry	\$ 32,179	\$ 9,637	\$ (22,542)	9,052	54	394	13.71%	\$ 178	\$ -
096-Saint Thomas More, Roaring Spring	\$ 12,537	\$ 8,465	\$ (4,072)	6,660	32	201	15.92%	\$ 265	\$ -
097-Saint Nicholas, Nicktown	\$ 29,524	\$ 15,190	\$ (14,334)	13,415	77	411	18.73%	\$ 197	\$ -
100-Saints Peter & Paul, Philipsburg	\$ 19,953	\$ 10,948	\$ (9,005)	9,373	78	249	31.33%	\$ 140	\$ -
105-Saint Joseph, Renovo	\$ 12,588	\$ 3,045	\$ (9,543)	2,545	18	224	8.04%	\$ 169	\$ -
107-Saint Mary, Orbisonia	\$ 4,949	\$ 2,250	\$ (2,699)	2,150	12	63	19.05%	\$ 188	\$ -
109-Saint Peter, Somerset	\$ 57,543	\$ 50,890	\$ (6,653)	42,295	97	603	16.09%	\$ 525	\$ -
116-Saint Augustine, St. Augustine	\$ 14,272	\$ 7,040	\$ (7,232)	6,765	40	199	20.10%	\$ 176	\$ -
119-Saint Michael, St. Michael	\$ 23,811	\$ 13,950	\$ (9,861)	12,590	83	407	20.39%	\$ 168	\$ -
120-Our Lady of Victory, State College	\$ 143,995	\$ 204,304	\$ 60,309	166,701	492	2,048	24.02%	\$ 415	\$ 22,706
121-Saint John, Summerhill	\$ 12,602	\$ 13,490	\$ 888	11,775	72	205	35.12%	\$ 187	\$ -
122-Immaculate Conception, New Germany	\$ 14,646	\$ 13,790	\$ (856)	13,190	83	228	36.40%	\$ 166	\$ -
123-Saint Aloysius, Cresson	\$ 25,024	\$ 20,002	\$ (5,022)	17,842	139	400	34.75%	\$ 144	\$ -
126-Saint Matthew, Tyrone	\$ 32,145	\$ 34,247	\$ 2,102	30,547	109	321	33.96%	\$ 314	\$ -
127-Saint Michael, West Salisbury	\$ 3,628	\$ 2,375	\$ (1,253)	1,540	9	37	24.32%	\$ 264	\$ -
128-Saint Mary, Pocahontas	\$ 2,403	\$ 1,010	\$ (1,393)	810	9	29	31.03%	\$ 112	\$ -
129-Saint Joseph, Williamsburg	\$ 6,462	\$ 2,135	\$ (4,327)	1,435	13	118	11.02%	\$ 164	\$ -
130-Saint Bartholomew, Wilmore	\$ 10,410	\$ 5,190	\$ (5,220)	4,615	37	160	23.13%	\$ 140	\$ -
132-Saints Cyril & Methodius, Windber	\$ 14,767	\$ 14,495	\$ (272)	12,390	38	208	18.27%	\$ 381	\$ -
133-Saint Anthony of Padua, Windber	\$ 24,297	\$ 7,930	\$ (16,367)	7,120	63	399	15.79%	\$ 126	\$ -

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Target</u>	<u>Gifts/Pledges</u>	<u>Over/(Under)</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Donors</u>	<u>Households</u>	<u>Participation</u>	<u>Donor Average</u>	<u>Over-Target Receipts</u>
136-Good Shepherd, State College	\$ 54,629	\$ 36,755	\$ (17,874)	28,405	97	594	16.33%	\$ 379	\$ -
139-Our Lady of the Alleghenies, Lilly	\$ 22,860	\$ 21,035	\$ (1,825)	20,068	121	386	31.35%	\$ 174	\$ -
141-Most Holy Trinity, South Fork	\$ 11,737	\$ 3,395	\$ (8,342)	3,020	31	182	17.03%	\$ 110	\$ -
142-Our Lady of Fatima, Altoona	\$ 10,973	\$ 5,625	\$ (5,348)	4,575	33	150	22.00%	\$ 170	\$ -
144-Saint Joan of Arc, Fallentimber	\$ 5,904	\$ 3,156	\$ (2,748)	2,286	15	73	20.55%	\$ 210	\$ -
145-Queen of Peace, Patton	\$ 20,900	\$ 14,540	\$ (6,360)	12,465	64	288	22.22%	\$ 227	\$ -
146-All Saints, Boswell	\$ 17,217	\$ 8,775	\$ (8,442)	8,030	45	271	16.61%	\$ 195	\$ -
151-Our Lady, Queen of Angels, Central City	\$ 17,517	\$ 3,600	\$ (13,917)	3,245	19	272	6.99%	\$ 189	\$ -
152-Prince of Peace, Northern Cambria	\$ 37,919	\$ 15,845	\$ (22,074)	12,345	108	574	18.82%	\$ 147	\$ -
153-Saint Clare of Assisi, Johnstown	\$ 13,840	\$ 10,920	\$ (2,920)	10,155	68	279	24.37%	\$ 161	\$ -
154-Saint Demetrius, Gallitzin	\$ 30,376	\$ 11,767	\$ (18,609)	11,517	77	334	23.05%	\$ 153	\$ -
155-Saints Gregory & Barnabas, Johnstown	\$ 23,272	\$ 9,435	\$ (13,837)	9,335	81	397	20.40%	\$ 116	\$ -
156-Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Windber	\$ 22,007	\$ 4,815	\$ (17,192)	4,235	54	407	13.27%	\$ 89	\$ -
157-Queen of the Archangels, Clarence	\$ 13,475	\$ 7,055	\$ (6,420)	6,980	35	238	14.71%	\$ 202	\$ -
158-Transfiguration, Conemaugh	\$ 16,191	\$ 7,560	\$ (8,631)	6,230	33	222	14.86%	\$ 229	\$ -
159-Resurrection, Johnstown	\$ 40,114	\$ 13,642	\$ (26,472)	11,802	82	583	14.07%	\$ 166	\$ -
160-Holy Spirit, Lock Haven	\$ 37,374	\$ 14,280	\$ (23,094)	12,520	60	617	9.72%	\$ 238	\$ -
161-Holy Family, Portage	\$ 46,164	\$ 10,415	\$ (35,749)	9,625	77	788	9.77%	\$ 135	\$ -
150-Diocese Unrestricted	\$ -	\$ 4,324	\$ 4,324	4,324	4	58	6.90%	\$ 1,081	\$ 4,324
Total	\$ 2,341,744	\$ 1,598,905	\$ (742,839)	\$ 1,360,493	6,714	33,635	19.96%	\$ 238	\$ 38,941

Target Exceeded by amount "Pledged"

Target Exceeded by amount "Received"

Parish Refund - Offertory "Received" above Target

2017 Catholic Ministries Drive Talking Points

- The “*Catholic Ministries Drive*” will provide 100% of revenue for a specific group of vital ministries in the fiscal year beginning on July 1. The ministries are entirely dependent upon contributions received through the *Catholic Ministries Drive*.
- These ministries are divided into three categories:
 - *Caring for the Poor & Strengthening Families*
 - Catholic Charities, Family Life, Fulton County Catholic Mission & Missions Office - Mandeville Diocese in Jamaica
 - *Nurturing Our Youth*
 - Campus Ministry, Educating Youth, Sacramental Preparation, Youth Ministry
 - *Forming Clergy & Laity*
 - Adult Enrichment, Christian Initiation (RCIA), Evangelization, Lay Ecclesial Ministry, Priests’ Vocations, Ongoing Formation of Priests & Deacons
 - *Only 1.5% of the total target goal will be budgeted for campaign expenses.*
- The Fund no longer supports core administrative offices of the diocese.
- Each parish is asked to achieve a “target” amount. Contributions exceeding the parish’s target will be refunded to the parish free from assessment.
- Contributions to the *2017 Catholic Ministries Drive* will be allocated during the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2017 and ending on June 30, 2018.
- The *Catholic Ministries Drive* committee will provide oversight of fund allocations to the above ministries, ensuring that contributions fulfill the mission of the bishop to proclaim the Gospel message of Jesus Christ.



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.ajdiocese.org/lay-ecclesial-ministry

TO: Pastors and Bulletin Editors
FROM: Deacon Michael Russo, Ministerial Coordinator
RE: Upcoming Classes
DATE: August 1, 2017

BULLETIN NOTICE

Please run the following bulletin announcement as space permits.

Thank you!

Do Something For Yourself!

Encounter the fullness of Christ with ongoing faith formation. The Office of Adult Enrichment and Lay Ecclesial Ministry has announced the following classes for the 2017 Fall Schedule: *Heart of Faith, Old Testament, New Testament, Wisdom Literature and Psalms, The Writings of John and Ecclesiology*. For a description of classes, locations, times, registration forms and to learn more about our programs visit www.dioceseaj.org/lay-ecclesial-ministry/ or contact Marybeth at (814) 361-2000. All are welcome!



Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown

Adult Enrichment and Lay Ecclesial Ministries

625 Park Avenue

Johnstown, PA 15902

Telephone: (814) 381-2000

E-mail: mheinze@dioceseaj.org

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

TO: All Pastors and parish Bulletin Editors
FROM: Deacon Michael Russo, Ministerial Coordinator
RE: The Shroud of Turin Talk

-Bulletin Announcement-

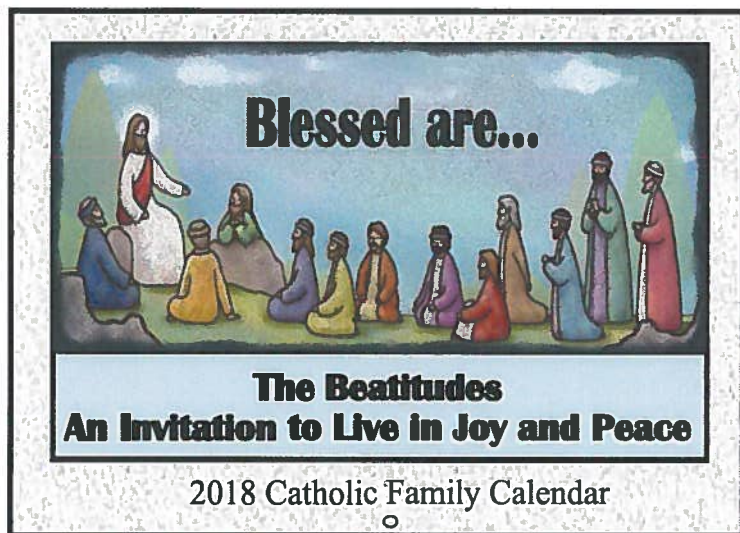
Please run this announcement in your bulletins as space allows.
Thank you!

SAVE THE DATE!

Is this the face of Jesus?

The Shroud of Turin Talk will be held at St. Benedict Parish, 2310 Bedford Street, Johnstown, **Sunday October 29, 2017 at 3:00 PM.** In 2013 Bill Wingard established “**Shroud Talks**” to present the history and science of the **Shroud of Turin** and tackle the biggest mystery...**Is the Shroud the actual burial cloth?** Personal research coupled with the knowledge and help of the original photographer, Barrie Schwartz, for scientific evaluation in 1978 make for a powerful and comprehensive presentation that will not disappoint. **You are invited to hear the talk and see the full size replica of the Shroud of Turin.** Attendees are encouraged to bring their cameras. No tickets are required; a love offering will be collected. For more information, contact Deacon Michael at (814) 288-3036 or email: michael.russo@atlanticbb.net. **All are welcome!**

2018 Catholic Family Calendar



REMINDER
Ordering deadline
August 4, 2017

- Monthly scripture quote
- Reflective graphic changes each month
- Weekly Sunday readings with discussion questions
- Catholic Feast Days, Holy Days, Holidays
- Simple daily activities or thoughts to foster family spirituality and communication
- Large spaces each day encourage families to record schedules, celebrations and significant moments
- Calendar published since 1982 by the Family Life Office, Altoona-Johnstown Diocese...our 36th year!

- **2018 Theme: "The Beatitudes"**
Each month will focus on an inspirational saying inviting people to live in joy and peace.
- **Evangelizing tool**
- **For families of all ages and stages**
- **Promotes family communication and faith sharing!**

\$1.10 each—*100 & up

**free Sponsor/Organization ADS available*

\$3.00 each—1-99 No ads

*Shipping/handling charges extra
Delivery option available*

Organization/Church/Sponsor _____

Address _____ # of 2018 calendars ordered _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Signature of Person Ordering _____

UPS Shipping Address (if different than above) _____

Deadline for bulk orders over 100 with ADS...August 4, 2017

*Church/Organization Advertisement ☐ No ☐ Yes

*Sponsor Advertisement ☐ No ☐ Yes

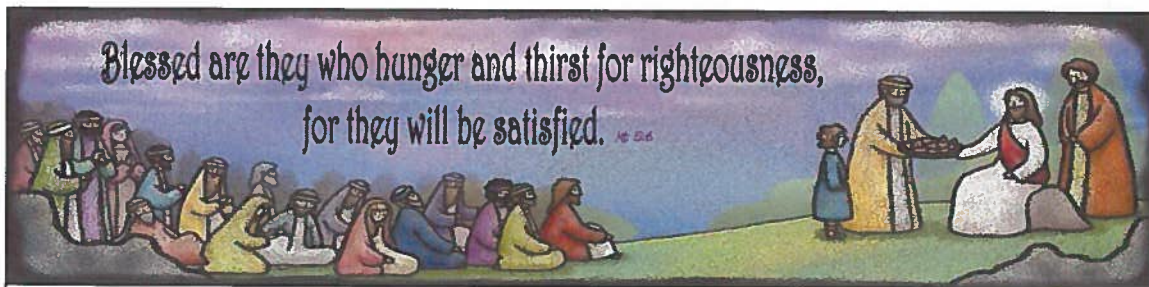
If yes, send ad as you wish it to appear on calendars.

Ad size: 1-3/4" high x 9-1/2" wide—Please type/print ad information

Ad proof will be sent or emailed in August 2017, prior to final printing.

Mail form to: Family Life Office
Altoona-Johnstown Diocese
5379 Portage St., Lilly, PA 15938
familylife@dioceseaj.org
814-886-5551 Fax: 814-886-7697

Orders invoiced
after receipt in late
Oct. 2017 or pay
now and shipping
costs later.



April 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 White Resurrection of the Lord EASTER SUNDAY <i>Adult:</i> Why do you believe that you will love with Christ for all eternity?	2 White Easter Season	3 White Easter Season	4 White Easter Season	5 White Easter Season	6 White Easter Season	7 White Easter Season <i>Sunday Readings</i> Acts 4:32-35/1Jn 5:1-6 Jn 20:19-31
8 White 2nd Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy)	9 White Annunciation of the Lord Easter Season	10 White Easter Season	11 Red St. Stanislaus Easter Season	12 White Easter Season	13 White St. Martin I Easter Season	14 White Easter Season <i>Sunday Readings</i> Acts 3:13-15, 17-19 1Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48
15 White 3rd Sunday of Easter	16 White Easter Season	17 White Easter Season	18 White Easter Season	19 White Easter Season	20 White Easter Season	21 White St. Anselm Easter Season <i>Sunday Readings</i> Acts 4:8-12/1Jn 3:1-2 Jn 10:11-18
22 White 4th Sunday of Easter	23 White St. George St. Adalbert Easter Season	24 White St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen Easter Season	25 Red St. Mark Easter Season	26 White Easter Season	27 White Easter Season	28 White St. Peter Chanel St. Louis Mary de Montfort Easter Season <i>Sunday Readings</i> Acts 9:26-31/1Jn 3:18-24 Jn 15:1-8
29 White 5th Sunday of Easter	30 White St. Pius V Easter Season	<div>Am I Experiencing Satisfaction? If not, maybe I am truly longing for the spiritual food only Christ can give.</div>				

Church/Organization ad space

Also sold to schools, religious education programs, KofC, CDA, etc.

Calendars sold throughout U.S.

To order, contact publisher at 814-886-5551
familylife@dioceseaj.org

Sponsor ad space

*Funeral home, parish, business, parish organization, etc.
Most businesses gladly sponsor this calendar upon request.

Order over 100 calendars,
AD IS FREE

Sample
page

2018 Catholic Family Calendar

AD size
1 3/4" high x 9 1/2" wide
Visible all year

The COLLECTION Basket



Family Life Office

5379 Portage Street

Lilly, PA 15938

(814) 886-5551

familylife@dioceseaj.org

AUGUST 2017

Volume XXXII, Number 9

IDEAS FOR LIVING BETTER FROM THE FAMILY LIFE OFFICE

Family Ritual

It's a Heavenly Thing!

August 15th is the feast of the Assumption when Mary was assumed body and soul into "heaven" to be united with her Beloved Son, Jesus.

- Pray for three or more different family members or friends that have passed into eternal life and think about the joy of being reunited with them in "heaven."



- After attending Sunday Mass as a family, have a "heavenly" treat of an ice cream sundae!

Lessons for Students

By Earl Nightingale

"The Way Will Clear," Insight, #63, p.4 & 57

"There's a great lesson in a story for students who wonder about the necessity of going on, day after day, studying subjects in which they find no particular interest, and which seem to be leading nowhere. Remember the line, 'And the work you began in the fog you continue in the sunlight.' Just stay with your studies, do your best each day, and you'll find a valuable place in your future for what you're learning today."



"...It's been said that the solution to every problem is so close, you can reach out and touch it. But you can't touch it with your hand until you touch it with a bit of lateral creative thinking."

Children seem to be better at lateral thinking than grown-ups, unless grown-ups work at it and practice it. And they can learn the knack—or perhaps relearn it would be more appropriate. We all were creative children at one time, before we had it worn off or knocked out of us by unimaginative, dull adults."

Reprinted with permission from:
Apple Seeds, Fr. Brian Cavanaugh, TOR

Families and the Gospel

August 6

Mt. 17:1-9

In today's gospel the apostles had an amazing experience of Jesus. With those we love we also have peak experiences of passion, appreciation, love and intimacy. Like the apostles we can't stay on the mountain top. We must return to the valley of ordinary life. It is the memory of the peak moments that carry us through those difficult moments.

August 13

Mt. 14:22-33

The demands of family can be so overwhelming we feel walking on water would be easier. When Jesus was pressured, He dismissed everyone, so he could be "by himself and pray." When overwhelmed and stressed, go to a quiet place and surrender your pressured feelings to the Lord using Peter's prayer in today's gospel: "Lord, save me."

August 20

Mt. 15:21-28

The mother in today's gospel persisted, even when she was ignored and insulted. She would do whatever was necessary to bring relief to her child. Parenting is more than bringing life into the world; it is also about sacrificing daily for your children.

August 27

Mt. 16:13-20

Jesus put Peter in charge of the Church and expected him to be a leader even though he was imperfect. Every parent is imperfect but Jesus expects us to lead our family despite our personal faults. Imperfection is not an excuse to neglect our role. It is our challenge.

Reprinted with permission from:
A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar



Smile!! What would the world be like without smiles? After the prayer before meals, pass a smile to each person at the table. Make this a mealtime ritual even on grumpy days.

Late Summer Fun

As the summer winds down and the children are starting to get tired playing with their summer toys, playing with play dough can help their creativity as well as strengthen muscles in their hands.

You don't need to buy play dough at the store. Have your child help you make your own play dough.

Homemade Play Dough

1 cup white flour
1/4 cup salt
2 Tbsp cream of tartar
1 cup water
1 Tbsp. vegetable oil
Food coloring



Mix the flour, salt, cream of tartar, water, & oil in a medium saucepan. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly (3-5 minutes). Mixture will become stiff. Keep stirring until the mixture cleans the bowl like pie dough. Divide into 2-3 balls and add coloring to each ball. Knead like bread on a lightly floured surface. Store in a plastic bag or air tight container.

Encourage your child to roll, pound, squeeze, and pat the dough into different shapes. Let them use cookie cutters to cut out different shapes. Or roll out long snakes and have them make letters and numbers.

Using a rolling pin to flatten the dough, make different prints using buttons, seeds, paper clips, uncooked macaroni, etc. Have fun getting creative.

Reprinted with permission from:
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE
The Pennsylvania State University
University Park, PA 16802

On Our Team...



We encourage one another,
We build one another up,
We are at peace with each other,
We seek to do good,
We rejoice,
We give thanks,
We pray constantly,
On our Team.

Adapted from 1 Thess. 5:11, 13, 15-18
Reprinted with permission from:
"Apple Seeds" Fr. Brian Cavanaugh, T.O.R.

Why Faith and Community Matter to Teens

*I know that God is leading me into a bright future.
That's what brings me strength and confidence because
I have confidence in Him. -Lauren, High School student*

Every generation of teens has challenges. Today's young people face cultural influences and peer pressure that could overwhelm even the most confident and well-adjusted teen. Yet many avoid danger and remain strong, healthy, and connected to their families. They have discovered inner strength, developed the courage to make right choices, and emerged as positive adults.

Volunteer work and charitable efforts encourage young people to have a constructive outlook on life. At age 13, Brie had surgery to remove a brain tumor. When Brie became depressed, her doctor suggested she attend a camp for children with cancer. Brie returned home with a positive attitude. Her family started Brie's Buddies, a non-profit organization that raised money to fund camp experiences for children with cancer. Brie says, "I wanted to make sure that other children could have the same experiences that I have had." She also wanted "to give children with cancer a chance to be a kid again."

According to a University of Illinois study, faith-based groups provide the highest rates of growth experiences of all organized teen activities. A professor at the university says, "These groups, whether a church, synagogue, or mosque, provide a positive belief system that addresses the issues that teens struggle with."

Putting faith into action builds character and confidence and helps teens grow aware of others' needs. According to a study by the Corporation for National Community Service an estimated 15.5 million youth, ages 12-18, participate in volunteer activities and contribute 1.3 billion hours of community service annually.

Faith is an integral part of nurturing strength of spirit and peace of mind. Lyn, a young teen whose cousin died from cancer, found comfort in the way faith helped him in his last days. "He seemed to have a lot of peace going through his suffering," she said. "I have found that prayer and reading the Bible has been really helpful."

One 14 year old has also discovered guidance through spirituality. She talks to God when she feels down. "You don't have to pray a set prayer, just sound off like you would with your best friend," she says. "God is not a bunch of rules. God is Love. Talk to Him! Trust in Him! He loves you!"

Christopher News Notes
5 Hanover Square, 11th Floor,
New York, NY 10004

