



# St. Peter's Church

47 Central Avenue, Wellsboro, Pennsylvania 16901

Rectory Phone: 570-724-3371 ~ Fax: 570-724-6322

Website: [www.stpeterswellsboro.org](http://www.stpeterswellsboro.org) ~ Email: [stpch@ptd.net](mailto:stpch@ptd.net)

## Rectory Office Hours

Monday through Friday 9:00–2:00pm

## Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. David Bechtel – [Dbechtel00@yahoo.com](mailto:Dbechtel00@yahoo.com)

Secretary: Connie Spang – [stpch@ptd.net](mailto:stpch@ptd.net)

Business Manager: Patti Mitchell – [stpadm@ptd.net](mailto:stpadm@ptd.net)

Directors of Religious Ed.: Maureen Poirier & Melissa Mann – [stpreled@ptd.net](mailto:stpreled@ptd.net)

Maintenance Staff: Connie Spang, Francis Kennedy

## Schedule of Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm ~ Sunday: 8:30am & 11:00am

## Reconciliation

Saturday 4:15 – 4:45pm

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 11:45am-12:00noon

## *29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time October 16, 2016*

### **Mission Statement**

We, the parishioners of St. Peter's Church, are called to holiness by God as present day disciples of Jesus Christ. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we are united in service to God to share our faith with one another and our community. May our participation in the Holy Sacraments, our ministries and our devotion to Mary bring glory to God and His Kingdom.

### **Baptisms**

Parents anticipating the birth of their first child are asked to attend baptismal instructions classes before the birth of their child, if possible. Please contact the Rectory to register. Note: Baptisms cannot be scheduled until all the necessary paperwork is completed.

### **Confirmation**

Confirmation is administered every year to all 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in our Parish CCD program. Children wishing to receive Confirmation must be enrolled and participating in the CCD program for two years before they are eligible to receive the sacrament.

### **Marriages**

In order to complete the necessary paperwork, couples are asked to contact the Rectory at least one full year in advance of the proposed marriage date.

### **Reconciliation**

The sacrament is celebrated each Saturday from 4:00 – 4:45pm and Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 11:45am – 12:00noon in the church and also by appointment.

### **Anointing of the Sick**

Please contact the Rectory whenever a member of your family has become sick or hospitalized. Please note, because of the new government regulations regarding privacy, hospitals cannot release information without a patient's consent.

### **Monthly Visitations**

Any parishioner who is homebound and wishes to receive the Eucharist on a monthly basis is asked to contact the Rectory to schedule a visit.

### **Rite of Christian Initiation in Adults (RCIA)**

The RCIA prepares interested adults for reception into the Catholic Church. The program is adapted to the each person's needs and prepares them for full initiation into the faith. Please contact the rectory to register for the classes.

### **Emergency Contact**

In the event of an emergency, please call the rectory at 570-724-3371. If no answer, please call 570-329-5762. This is a pager. You will be instructed to enter your phone number and Fr. Bechtel will return your call.

### **Religious Education and Formation**

Religious Education classes are held for Pre-K – 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Classes begin in September and conclude in May. Pre-K (ages 3-5) is held during the 8:30am Mass. K-12<sup>th</sup> begins at 9:30am and concludes at 10:40am. Confirmation Prep Class meets one Sunday a month from 5:00–6:30pm as scheduled.

### **Pregnancy Support**

Catholic Social Services (800) 982-4310

Crisis Pregnancy Help line (888) 4-OPTIONS

Endless Mountains Pregnancy Care Center (570) 673-4476

### **Parish Contact Listing**

Women's Bible Study – Sue Singer 570-724-2360

St. John Neumann's Prayer Group – Christina Simonis 570-724-2085

Contemplative Spirituality Group – Kate Black 570-724-3047

Cards & Games – Patty Kramer 570-948-9023

Knights of Columbus – George Gamble 570-724-5216

Social Concerns – Karen Plumley 570-439-0175

Parish Rummage Sale – Mary Lasko 570-439-7706

Mary Beth Sampson 570-724-2180

Church Linens & Decorations – Sue Singer 570-724-2360

Buildings & Grounds – Rick Joachim 570-439-2591

Cemetery Committee – Howard Rutledge 570-724-4529

Fundraising Dinners – Tara Gordon 570-439-0006

Paul Urner 570-723-9970

Music Ministry – Christina Simonis 570-724-2085,

Marilyn deGuzman 570-376-5427

Marian Miller 570-724-5245

Samaritan House – Daria Guelig 570-724-3030

Youth Group – Maureen Poirier 570-724-9789

Eucharistic Adoration – Mary Cleveland 570-724-5286

Finance Council – Priscilla Walrath 570-724-2056

Parish Council – Rectory 570-724-3371

Worship Committee – Rectory 570-724-3371

Sunday Nursing Home Communion – Eileen Evert 570-439-4470

Prayer Chain – Kate Black 570-724-3047

Order of Secular Carmelite – Lori Makos 570-724-3371

Date	Time	Confession Time and Mass Intention
<b>Monday 10/17</b> <i>Eph 2:1-10; Lk 12:13-21</i>	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions All Living and Deceased Members of the Antoniow Family (Family)
<b>Tuesday 10/18</b> <i>2 Tm 4:10-17; Lk 10:1-9</i>	7:30am	In Memory of Elaine Myslinski (Tom & Linda Sampson)
<b>Wednesday 10/19</b> <i>Eph 3:2:12; Lk 12:39-48</i>	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions In Memory of Frank Nonnenmacher (Ed & Loretta Nonnenmacher)
<b>Thursday 10/20</b> <i>Eph 3:14-21; Lk 12:49-53</i>	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions In Memory of Huldrieich Egli (Marie Egli)
<b>Friday 10/21</b> <i>Eph 4:1-6; Lk 12:54-59</i>	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions In Memory of Lillian Blas (Ken & Santa Swinnich)
<b>Saturday 10/22</b> <i>Eph 4:1-6; Lk 12:54-59</i>	4:15-4:45pm 5:00pm	Confessions In Memory of Henry & Wanda Sulewski (Daughter, Kathy)
<b>Sunday 10/23</b> <i>Sir 35:12-14,16-18; 2 Tm 4:6-8,16-18; Lk 18:9-14</i>	8:30am 11:00am	All Living and Deceased Members of St. Peter's Church In Memory Beth Patt (Frank Patt Family)



## This Week's Sanctuary Candle

The sanctuary candle is a reminder to us of the presence of Christ reserved in the Tabernacle. This week's candle is offered in memory of **Eugene Michael Saladis** (Family).

## The Week Ahead

### SUNDAY, October 16 2016

Religious Ed. Classes – Pre-School, 8:30am; K-12<sup>th</sup>, 9:30am

### TUESDAY, October 18, 2016

Eucharistic Adoration – 8:00am-7:00pm

Benediction/Evening Prayer – 6:45pm

Staff Meeting – 8:30am, Rectory

Women's Bible Study – 9:00am, Rectory

AA/Al-Anon – 8:00pm, Parish Center

### WEDNESDAY, October 19, 2016

Harvest Dinner Prep – 8:00am, Parish Center

ChristLife Discovering Christ – 6:30pm, Parish Center

### THURSDAY, October 20, 2016

Cards & Games – 12:00noon, Parish Center

R.C.I.A. – 6:00pm, Rectory

St. John Neumann Prayer Group – 7:00pm, Parish Center

### FRIDAY, October 21, 2016

Harvest Dinner – 4:00 – 7:00pm, Parish Center

### SATURDAY, October 22, 2016

High School Youth Group Paint Ball Event – 12:30-4:00pm

### SUNDAY, October 23, 2016

Religious Ed. Classes – Pre-School, 8:30am; K-12<sup>th</sup>, 9:30am

## Ministers of the Altar Schedule

### Weekend of October 23<sup>rd</sup>

#### 5:00pm

Servers: J.Singer, L.Singer, Z.Singer

Lectors: B.Dalton, P.Walrath

E. Min.: A.Singer, K.Wilcox, T.Straniere

#### 8:30am

Servers: J.Grab, C.Callahan, D.Callahan

Lectors: T.Reindl, M.Ostapowicz

E. Min.: N.Ostapowicz, M.Bialas, E.Payne

#### 11:00am

Servers: A.Swendrowski, K.Swendrowski, A.Dunkel

Lectors: L.Nonnenmacher, M.Stirnman

E. Min.: D.Stager, L.Stager, M.Stirnman



## FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

This month's food pantry items are:

*Chicken Noodle or Tomato Soup*

Place your donations in the box at the entrance of the church anytime throughout the month

## Welcome to St. Peter's Church!

If you are visiting Tioga County this weekend, welcome and thank you for celebrating the Eucharist with us! If you are searching for a Spiritual home, we welcome you to join us in worship and invite you to become part of our church family. Please complete this form and return it to the parish office or drop it in the offertory basket.

### Request for Parishioner Registration Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_



## Liturgical Reflection

29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**FIRST READING: Exodus 17:8-13**

The militaristic tone of this passage should not detract from the underlying meaning of the text. Moses, Joshua, Aaron, and Hur all play prominent roles in the life of God's people. Although God is not mentioned in this passage, the author's perspective is that God intends to protect the chosen people. When Moses raises his hands the Israelites prevail, but it is the power of the Lord God who acts through Moses.

**RESPONSRIAL PSALM: Psalm 121**

The psalmist proclaims the all-encompassing providence of God. God, "the guardian of Israel" never sleeps; there is no time when God is not present to take care of the one who prays. Every journey, "your coming and your going," is under the protection of the Lord who "has made heaven and earth."

**SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:2**

Paul continues to instruct and encourage Timothy in preaching the Word of God. Paul reminds Timothy that all of Scripture is inspired by God; here Paul is referring to the writings of the Old Testament. Paul understands that Jesus came to fulfill the Scriptures and that persistence in proclaiming the Word of God was his primary responsibility. He urges Timothy to make it his as well.

**GOSPEL: Luke 18:1-8**



The reader of today's story is easily caught up in the plea of the widow for a just hearing from the judge. Her persistence is admirable and Jesus turns the encounter into a lesson on prayer. The actions of the dishonest and unwilling judge are contrasted with the just and speedy response by God to the pleas of the "chosen ones."

Jesus states that such prayer comes from faith. Today's Gospel ends with the daunting question: "When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?" We are reminded of the importance of keeping close to God in prayer. If not here and in our hearts, where will the Risen Christ find faith on the earth?

## Parish Activities and Information

### CALLING ALL INSTRUMENTALISTS

The 8:30am Music Ministry is desperately in need of guitars and other instruments and invites anyone interested to join them. **Please see Christina Simonis after Mass or call her at 570-724-2085.**



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## TIOGA COUNTY HOMELESS INITIATIVE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We're still looking for volunteers willing to give of their time to help us staff the homeless shelter located on Charleston Road. The shelter is a cooperative project of local churches and groups, each taking a week staffing it from 5:00-9:00pm. Groups volunteer to cover up to one week every four months. The Shelter is located between Wellsboro and Mansfield on Charleston Road. David & Tara Gordon are organizing a team to cover a week each quarter. Volunteers who can help prepare meals for shelter guests are needed as well. If you are willing to help, please contact Tara 570-439-0006 or David 570-439-0005.

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## WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

*One Eucharistic Celebration for the Entire World!* Your ongoing support of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith is vital to the missionaries serving in 1,111 dioceses throughout Asia, Africa, parts of Latin America and Europe, and on the Islands of the Pacific. Your generosity makes it possible for local priests, religious, and catechists to reach out to communities, families and children in desperate need, bringing the light of Christ to the darkest of circumstances. The World Mission Sunday celebration highlights the outreach of local churches through priests, religious and laity among the poor and marginalized half a world away. Life-changing help is provided to mission churches in territories covering more than half the globe.

A second collection will be taken up at all Masses next weekend, October 22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> in support of World Mission Sunday. Please be as generous as you are able.

## St. Peter's Church

**All You  
Can Eat!**

### Harvest Dinner

Friday, October 21, 2016

4:00 – 7:00pm in the Parish Center

Adults – \$12.00

Children (under 12) – \$5.00; (under 3) – Free

### Menu

Roasted Chicken and Pork

Mashed Potatoes, Gravy & Stuffing

Carrots & Coleslaw

Applesauce & Cranberry Sauce, Rolls

Homemade desserts

Coffee, soda, tea, lemonade

In order for this dinner to be a success, **we need volunteers** to work during & after the dinner and donations of some food items and baked goods.

**Signup sheets can be found on the handout table in the church**



**"The Lord tells us: 'The first task in life is this: prayer.' But not the prayer of words, like a parrot; but the prayer of the heart: gazing on the Lord, hearing the Lord, asking the Lord." Pope Francis**

## That's The Way It Is!



I thought this week I would talk about my experiences in the seminary. I thought I could also talk about the weaknesses and strengths of the seminary model today. Many people have mistaken assumptions about seminary life.

The truth is that seminary life is a lot like regular college life. Most days are spent going to classes, and attending meetings. The only difference is that everything is done in common (together.) One day a week the seminarian is expected to work at their apostolate. An apostolate is like an internship. These take place at hospitals, nursing homes, schools and parishes.

Seminarians are assigned a "formation advisor." The role of this person is to work with the seminarian and discern with the seminarian whether or not he is called to be a priest. Discernment of the call to priesthood is as much a work of the Church as it is a work of the seminarian. Any call that someone claims to have must be formally and officially confirmed by the Church.

Today, it is very difficult to get through seminary from start to finish. Of 10 people that enter, 2-4 will actually get ordained. Of the ones that leave, they will either do so on their own, or be told by the seminary faculty that they do not see in them a call to priestly life. Students are under the constant watch of the faculty. They have yearly evaluations from peers, faculty, professors, field work supervisors, and their pastors. The Church has high standards for those who are in seminary. Not just anyone is going to be a priest.

Some people are shocked to hear that—because after all, we are desperate for priests. However, consider: when you were looking for a potential mate, did you date and marry just anyone—or were you looking for a person that fit your standards? There is a great need for medical personnel, doctors, nurses, techs, etc. Is just anyone going to be accepted to medical school? Is medical school easy to get through? Many people will try and fail—and that is how it should be. The standards are high. It is the same with the seminary.

In the undergraduate level, the student's course load is heavily weighted towards philosophy. The study of real theology will not take place until the graduate level. The reason philosophy is important is because it is the language of theology. If a person does not understand philosophy, they will not understand theology in any substantive way. Studying theology without a strong knowledge of philosophy is like trying to be a scientist without a strong knowledge of arithmetic.

Students, then, are highly educated. Herein lays the strength of seminary, but also its weakness. A friend of mine remarked "You know we are trained in seminary to be theological practitioners when community organizing is what is needed." Freshly minted priests come to a parish armed with all their theological training and find out that it

has little relevance in the day to day life of the parish. What the parishioners need more than a theological practitioner is a community organizer; someone to mobilize the people to respond to the needs of the community, come up with a pastoral plan for the parish, manage the finance, manage the buildings and grounds, be a psychologist, a counselor, a sociologist, a therapist, a listening ear, etc. Those things aren't taught in seminary.

The other weakness of seminary life is that the operative model is monastic. Men live in community. They eat together, pray together, work together, take class together, etc. Bells ring when it is time for prayer, class, work, etc. Then the men get to a parish and find that parish life is not structured at all. Each day is different—and no one is going to tell you when to do your tasks. You have to be a self starter; you must take the initiative in many things.

After living in a community for 6-8 years, men get to the parish and find that they will be living alone. For introverts like me this is not a challenge—it is actually quite nice! Many people in the priesthood, however, are extroverts and find this challenging. A young pastor I was assigned with remarked that when I left, it would be the first time in his entire life that he lived alone. For him who is a hyper extrovert that was going to be an adjustment.

I hope I have been able to give some sense of what seminary might be like, along with the strengths and weaknesses of seminary. Please pray for vocations.

That's the way it is! The Reverend David W. Bechtel

## Pro Life News

### PRIESTS FOR LIFE

*I Had Four Abortions* -- I had 4 abortions. The first when I was 18 after the first time I had sex. My parents didn't know. The boy offered to pay for the abortion. Basically, my friend took me by the hand and led me to the clinic where there was no discussion about alternatives, just an appointment made. The second one, I took myself. The third one – my same boyfriend was involved. The fourth one I did alone. When I gave birth to my first baby, the reality of what I had done hit me like a ton of bricks. My husband and I have been profoundly affected. Our sex life is nil – we have unresolved guilt and anger. There's no telling what the impact has been on me, I am just opening the door to it all. But I know one thing – if it hadn't been legal, I would not have been so promiscuous. No way! – Mary, CA

### Stewardship

Sunday Collection for October 9<sup>th</sup>: \$5,200.00

Weekly Goal to Meet Expenses: \$5,990.00

Difference: (\$ 790.00)

Year-to-Date Budget Variance: (\$2,289.20)

We are grateful to all those who financially sacrifice every week to support our parish and its ministries!

## News From the Vatican



### THE MOST GODLIKE PEOPLE MIGHT NOT BE WHO YOU

October 2016 (CNA/EWTN News)  
Pope Francis said that it's often strangers and even people from other religions who remind us of the Christian virtues of humility and thanksgiving, of

which Mary is a prime model. "How many foreigners, including persons of other religions, give us an example of values that we sometimes forget or set aside," the Pope said. People who live among us but might be "scorned and sidelined because they are foreigners," can in fact be the ones who "teach us how to walk on the path that the Lord wishes."

Not only were the 10 lepers healed by Jesus in the Gospel from Luke foreigners, the only one who gave thanks being a Samaritan, but Mary and Joseph were also strangers in a foreign land, Francis noted. "This man was not content with being healed by his faith, but brought that healing to completion by returning to express his gratitude for the gift received," he said, adding that to be able to give thanks and praise the Lord for what he has done for us "is important!"

"How many times do we say 'thank you' in our family, our community, and in the Church? How many times do we say 'thank you' to those who help us, to those close to us, to those who accompany us through life?" he asked, noting that often times "we take everything for granted," even with God.

Pope Francis stressed that amid our own shortcomings, "we are given a model, indeed the model, to whom we can look: Mary, our Mother," who gave thanks to God in her "Magnificat." It takes humility to be able to give thanks to God, he said, explaining that the heart of Mary "more than any other, is a humble heart, capable of accepting God's gifts."

"In order to become man, God chose precisely her, a simple young woman of Nazareth, who did not dwell in the palaces of power and wealth, who did not do extraordinary things," he said, and urged those present to ask themselves whether or not they are able to receive what God offers. "Let us ask ourselves if we are prepared to accept God's gifts, or prefer instead to shut ourselves up within our forms of material security, intellectual security, the security of our plans," he said. The Pope noted how despite being far from home and estranged in a foreign land, Mary was able to overcome her difficulties thanks to her faith.

He closed his homily praying that all, like Mary, "may always come back to Jesus and express our thanks for the many benefits we have received from his mercy."

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## POPE FRANCIS' OCTOBER PRAYER INTENTIONS

*Universal:* Journalists - That journalists, in carrying out their work, may always be motivated by respect for truth and a strong sense of ethics.

*Evangelization:* World Mission Day - That World Mission Day may renew within all Christian communities the joy of the Gospel and the responsibility to announce it.

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### Pope Francis @Pontifex

*October 11* - To live joyfully we must let go of anger, wrath, violence, and revenge.

*October 10* - Punishment should necessarily include hope!  
#NoDeathPenalty



## Jubilee Year of Mercy

*This Holy Year will conclude on Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe and living face of the Father's mercy.*

"The mystery of the fatherhood of God is what opens us all up to the Father's love and compassion. And this takes on special significance in the current time, when we are constantly encountering scenes of violence, a lack of mercy and hardened and desolate hearts. So we need to remind ourselves of that Father, whose heart thinks of all and desires the salvation of every man, regardless of their status, their condition, their profession, or their luck." *Pope Francis*

2016

Diocese of Scranton

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"The great gift of mercy lies at the heart of all that we do as a church, and it also lies at the heart of the support we receive for the Diocesan Annual Appeal."

MOST REVEREND  
JOSEPH C. BAMBERA, D.D., J.C.L.  
BISHOP OF SCRANTON

**THIS IS APPEAL COMMITMENT WEEKEND**

**O**n behalf of all who benefit from your donations made to *LIVING FAITH, Serving with Mercy*, we express sincere thanks. Each gift truly matters. If you have not yet made your gift, pledge envelopes will be distributed at Masses today. You may also contribute by calling the Diocesan Development Office at 570-207-2250, or online at [www.DiocesEOFScranton.org](http://www.DiocesEOFScranton.org).

*Be a minister of God's love and mercy...  
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## A Gift in Your Will

We hope you'll consider including a gift to St. Peter's Church in your will or living trust. Called a charitable bequest, just a few sentences in your will or trust are all that is needed. Share this sample bequest language for St. Peter's Church with your estate planning attorney:

"I, [name], of [city, state, zip], give, devise and bequeath to St. Peter's Church, Wellsboro [written amount or percentage of the estate or description of property] for its unrestricted use and purpose."



## Parish Prayer List

Nettie Mays, Nan Bowser, Rebecca Kreider, Bill Jacobson, Trish Knowlton, Sheldon Moon, Helene Carpenter, Angela Shirley, Joe Heminhaus, Jr., Jasmine Williams, Judy Nagel, Sue Evert, Valerie Tobin, Michael Farrington, Debbie Adleman, Darlene Brennan, Shirley Mekos Broughton, Cynthia Gordon, Michelle Lawrence, Ann Porter, Tucker Gromosiak, Meghan Henneman, Joyce Bowe, Donna Brennan, Peggy Zona, Natasha Rymarczuk, Bob Erway, Mary Mekos, Mary Cramner, Bob Black, Maci Lynn Perry, Martha Desch, Pam Robbins, Leon Herb, Deb Finestone, Nick Cavagnaro, Antoinette Davis, Kay Evans, Anna Marie Mimplitsch, Sean Rice, Jonathan Hardman, Sylvia Darrow, Lola Moore, Edwin Rosa, Carol Johns, Joan Kilmer, Stephen Hurd, Stephanie Hemighauf, Suzie Alexander, Larry Sasani, Kathy Barnes, Wendy Doan-Newcomb, Michele Bush, Ashley Johns, Syler Sullivan, Adrienne Gilbert, Rita Grinnan, Bob Murphy, Richard Wheeler, Carolyn Antoniow, Sylvia Smith, Jean Thurman, Robbie Butler, Susan Cleveland, Lynn Bower, Dominic Bianco, Tom Mohr, Carol Weatherby, Carol Shine, Teresa Pavlock, Jerry Pierce, Joann Black, Gabriel, Melissa & Daniel Espinoza, Lori Lopaz, Patricia Quattrone, Larry Jackson, Katie Seip, Lisa Jones, Grace Bickham, Floyd Williammee, Renee Kennedy, Gay Furlong, Elsa DiBernardo, Fran Rose, Christine Palmer, June Sherman, Kathy Smith, Beverly Heck, Tim Bogaczyk, Beth Valdez, Virginia Shaefer, Charles Barrett, Joe Engel, Tony Dooley, Connie Kenderdine, Darleen Kohler, Callie Cavanaugh, Victoria Salerno, Wanda Trynovich, Tim Cunningham, Tony Pranses, Bob Snyder, Don Brooks, Kathy Macensky, Paul Beuter, Avery Trescott, Jerry Eckert, Michael Liebner, Cole Salerno, Mark Kilmer, Richard Kramer, Margaret Barnett, and Bob Brostrom.



Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord and  
Let the Perpetual Light Shine Upon Them.

Patrick Davis, Joseph Grab, Sr.

Lord, this we know, no matter how difficult life may be at this time, we know you will not stop loving us and will always hold us in the palm of your hand. We are reaching to you, Lord, to hold us, comfort us, and heal us. Lord, this we know, you are faithful in your love for us today and forever. You are with us. and we are with you. Amen.