

Seventh Sunday of Easter May 28, 2017

St. Peter's Church

47 Central Avenue, Wellsboro, Pennsylvania 16901
 Rectory Phone: 570-724-3371 ~ Fax: 570-724-6322
 Religious Education Office: 570-724-9789
 Website: www.stpeterswellsboro.org ~ Email: stpch@ptd.net

Rectory Office Hours

Monday through Friday 9:00–2:00pm

Parish Staff

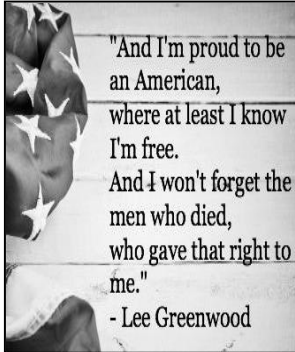
Pastor: Rev. David Bechtel – Dbechtel100@yahoo.com
 Secretary: Connie Spang – stpch@ptd.net
 Business Manager: Patti Mitchell – stpadm@ptd.net
 Directors of Religious Ed.: Maureen Poirier & Melissa Mann –
stpreled@ptd.net
 Maintenance Staff: Connie Spang, Francis Kennedy

Schedule of Weekend Masses

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

Reconciliation

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 11:45am-12:00noon;
 Saturday 4:15 – 4:45pm; By appointment by calling the Rectory.



Memorial Day Schedule

Mass ~ 9:00am

Blessing of Graves:

St. Peter's Cemetery ~ 9:30am

Antrim Cemetery ~ 10:00am

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.

Pregnancy Support

Catholic Social Services (800) 982-4310
 Crisis Pregnancy Help line (888) 4-OPTIONS
 Endless Mountains Pregnancy Care Center (570) 673-4476

Welcome to St. Peter's Church!

If you are visiting Tioga County this weekend, welcome and thank you for worshipping with us! If you are searching for a Spiritual home, we welcome you to join us 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 _____

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.

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 570-724-2953
 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
 Samaritan House – Daria Guelig 570-724-3030
 Youth Group – Maureen Poirier/ Melissa Mann 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
 ChristLife – Norb Josten 570-724-9095
 Prayer Shawl Ministry – Jan Bernethy 307-267-0677

Religious Education and Formation

Religious Education classes are held for Pre-K – 12th grade. Classes begin in September and conclude in May. Pre-K (ages 3-5) is held during the 8:30am Mass. K-12th begins at 9:30am and concludes at 10:40am. To register, please contact the Religious Education Office at 570-724-9789 or the Rectory at 570-724-3371.

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 28, 2017

Date	Time	Confession Time and Mass Intention
Monday 5/29 <i>Acts 19:1-8; Jn 16:29-33</i>	9:00am	In Memory of George Pryslak (John & Joan Eastlake)
Tuesday 5/30 <i>Acts 20:17-27; Jn 17:1-11</i>	7:30am	In Memory of Stephen Michael Shingara
Wednesday 5/31 <i>Zep 3:14-18; Lk 1:39-56</i>	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions In Memory of Jeanette Neidhoefer (Beth Dy)
Thursday 6/1 <i>Acts 22:30, 23:6-11; Jn 17:20-26</i>	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions In Memory of Edward Nonnenmacher (Lou & Denise Esposito)
Friday 6/2 <i>Acts 25:13-21; Jn 21:15-19</i>	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confession In Memory of Cindy Dalton (Black Family)
Saturday 6/3 <i>Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Jn 32:20-25</i>	4:00-4:45pm 5:00pm	Confessions In Memory of Kenneth Deveney
Sunday 6/4 <i>Acts 2:1-11; 1 Cor 12:3-7,12-13; Jn 20:19-23</i>	8:30am	In Memory of Lana Bennett (Don & Lucy Whitney)

This week's Sanctuary Candle is offered in Memory of Orrin Grace

The Week Ahead

SUNDAY, May 28, 2017

Graduation Mass & Brunch – 8:30am

MONDAY, May 29, 2017

Rectory Closed

TUESDAY, May 30, 2017

Adoration – 8:00am – 7:00pm

Eucharistic Adoration – 8:00am-7:00pm

Evening Prayer/Benediction – 6:45pm

Women's Bible Study – 9:00am, Parish Center

AA/Al-Anon – 8:00pm, Parish Center

WEDNESDAY, May 31, 2017

ChristLife – 6:30pm, Parish Center

THURSDAY, June 1, 2017

Cards & Games – 12:00pm, Parish Center

Sacramental Information

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 8th grade students in our Parish Religious Education program. Children wishing to receive Confirmation must be enrolled and participating in the 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.

Anointing of the Sick - Please contact the Rectory whenever a member of your family has become sick or hospitalized.

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 (R.C.I.A.) - The R.C.I.A. prepares interested adults for reception into the Catholic Church. The program is adapted to the needs of each person and prepares them for full initiation into the faith. Please contact the rectory to register for the classes or for more information.

Ministers of the Altar Schedule

June 3rd/4th

5:00pm

Servers: A. Banik, M. Mann, W. Feil

Lectors: D.Sherman, C. Evert

E. Min.: B. Butler, T. Straniere, K. Wilcox, I. Dziengowski

8:30am

Servers: K. Kramer, J. Gordon, L. Gordon, A. Dunkel

Lectors: M. Ostapowicz, D. Gordon

E. Min.: N. Ostapowicz, M. Sampson, D. deGuzman, T. Gamble

June 10th/11th

5:00pm

Servers: J. Grab, L. Burge, B. Burge

Lectors: P. Walrath, D. Bleggi

E. Min.: K. Wilcox, G. Brown, I. Dziengowski, C. Lannak

8:30am

Servers: B. Rudy, N. Ingerick, M. Ingerick, J. Lubera

Lectors: R. Kramer, P. Kramer

E. Min.: L. Whitney, A. Singer, M. Bialas, N. Josten

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS - This month's food pantry items are: ***Canned tuna, ham, and chicken (5-6 ounce.)*** Please place your donations in the box at the entrance of the church.

GOODIES FOR OUR TROOPS - This month's Goodies for our Troops items are: ***"To Go" Powdered Drink Straws, Beef Jerky/Slim Jims (no pork or ham), Cookies – Oreos, etc., Homemade cookies & Fudge, & Personal Notes (cards, letters, drawings from children.)*** Please place your donations in the box at the entrance of the church.

St. Thomas/St. Catherine Mass Schedule
Saturday, St. Catherine, Westfield - 7:00pm
Sunday, St. Thomas, Elkland - 4:00pm



Liturgical Reflection

Seventh Sunday of Easter

FIRST READING: Acts 1:12-14

Following Jesus' Ascension, the Apostles returned to Jerusalem. They waited in prayer for the promised Advocate with others. The names of the eleven are important, and correspond to the list of the Apostles named by Luke in his account of the Gospel (minus Judas.) The eleven are not alone in the upper room. The only one named beyond the eleven is Mary, the mother of Jesus. As she prepared for the birth of her son at the opening of Luke's Gospel, now she prayerfully prepares for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, which we celebrate as the birth of the Church.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 27

As the apostles and others gathered in community to pray and anticipate the coming of the Holy Spirit, so we are called to gather in community to praise and thank God. In the Lord's house, the physical dwelling of the Church and the spiritual dwelling of the Temple of God who we are, we gaze on the loveliness of the Lord, crying out, seeking the Lord in the land of the living.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 4:13-16

The opening of this letter of St. Peter juxtaposes two words that seem to be opposite: rejoicing and suffering. Sharing in the suffering of Christ as a result of Christian living and action, is to be a cause for joy. In doing so we can rely on the Spirit, who rests upon those who are blessed through such suffering. To be blessed is to be the recipient of God's freely-given kindness, even in the midst of suffering, insults, mourning, or persecution. This is not true of those who suffer because of evil and inappropriate actions. The consequences of these are just. We are not to be ashamed of suffering that results from our Christianity, but rather glorify God because of the name of Christ.

GOSPEL: John 17:1-11

Jesus' High Priestly Prayer

The final prayer of Jesus before his Passion focuses on his union with the Father, the disciples' union with the Father through him, and the true meaning of eternal life: knowing the only true God and the one whom he sent, Jesus Christ. He prays for all who belong to him – those who keep his words, accept them, understand their origin with the Father, and believe that Christ has been sent by those who are his own, who remain his beyond his Death, Resurrection, and Ascension. The profound intimacy of Jesus with his Father radiates out to embrace all those the Father has given to him, including ourselves. His gift to us is eternal life, already begun here and now. This prayer is usually referred to as Jesus' high priestly prayer, perhaps best understood as his priestly intercession before the Father for all of us.

Parish Activities and Information

SIGN UP SHEET FOR GIFT BEARERS AND GREETERS

Sign Up ▶

If you or your family would like to take up the gifts or greet those coming to Mass

at the door, please write your name on the sign up sheets hanging on the bulletin board near the entrance of the church. Our goal is to have a greeter at each door for all Masses and many individuals/families taking up the gifts. All are welcome to participate.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The prayer shawl ministry is made up of individuals who like to knit or crochet. We make shawls for sick, homebound, and bereaved friends and family. As we make each shawl we pray for those who will receive the shawls that they will feel comfort and love. If you would like to know more about this ministry, please join us for our next meeting, June 4th following the 8:30am Mass in front of the Blessed Sacrament. For more information, call Jan Bernethy at 307-267-0677. Also if anyone is in need of a shawl, please let the ministry know.

DEANERY MASS CELEBRATED



The annual Deanery Mass held at the deGuzman residence, will be celebrated on Wednesday, June 22nd at 6:00pm. Bring a dish or snack to pass and a lawn chair. **All are welcome!**

Questions? Call 570-376-5427. (Directions: 287 N, 249 N to Keeneyville, turn right to Osceola, 1 1/2 miles to Box 818)

TIOGA COUNTY HOMELESS INITIATIVE UPDATE

The Homeless Initiative recently arranged with the Experience Works program to provide workers for coverage at the shelter. Unfortunately this arrangement did not work out. As a result, they are again looking to churches such as ours for volunteers to cover shifts on a rotating basis. We had a tremendous response for our last signups and appreciate the support in our Parish for this important mission! We'll be scheduling in the near future for our next shifts in July and hope you will consider volunteering your time. If you have any questions please call David Gordon at 570-439-0005 or Tara Gordon at 570-439-0006.

SUGGESTION BOX

There is now a suggestion box hanging on the side wall of the Confessional where the literature is kept. If you have suggestions but prefer to remain anonymous, you may write suggestions on the index cards and place them in the box. We will empty the box from time to time and talk about the suggestions at the parish council meetings.

We are called to live not as one without others, above or against others, but with and for others. Pope Francis

Pennsylvania State Laurel Festival

St. Peter's Strawberry Shortcake Stand



Wednesday, June 14th – Prep
Thursday, June 15th – Set up
Friday, June 16th – On the Green
Saturday, June 17th – On the Green

*In order for this fundraiser to be a success, volunteers are needed for food preparation, set-up, clean-up, manning the booth, and as couriers. We are also in need of some **donated items**. Monetary donations to offset the cost of strawberries are always appreciated.*

VOLUNTEERS! NEEDED!

Sign up sheets can be found on the handout table at the side of the church.

Dioceses of Scranton News

ONLINE SURVEY TO PARTNER WITH FRANCIS

The young church (16-35) and those who work with them are encouraged to let their voice be heard as the Diocese of Scranton 'partners with Francis' in preparation for the 2018 Synod on the topic of Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment. Both those who identify as Catholic and those who do not, can complete an online survey at www.partnerwithfrancis.org. The results of this survey will not only help Pope Francis and the Bishops as they prepare for the Synod, but also help shape programming for the young church here in our Diocese. For more information, please contact Dominick Costantino, program coordinator for the Diocesan vocation office, at 570-780-2996.

Religious Education and Youth Group News

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

Congratulations to all our seniors as they graduate from high school and embark on their next adventure! This year's seniors are: **Nicolas Burge, Bryon Callahan, Kirsten Florio, Morgan Florio, Jessica Grab, Madelyn Hepp, Faith Kennedy, Lydia Makos, Ryan Osgood, Hunter Shaw, Jacob Singer, and Devan Warner.**



"For I know well the plans I have in mind for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare, not for woe! Plans to give you a future full of hope." Jeremiah 29:11

SAVE THE DATE FOR VBS

Vacation Bible School will be held July 16-19, 2017. More information will be provided as the date gets closer.

Pro Life News

PRIESTS FOR LIFE

Human Life Exalted - Jesus prayed on the night before he died, "Father, give me the glory I had with you before the world began." How is the glory he has in the Ascension different from the glory he had "before the world began?" It differs only in that now, he has it in a human nature. Our humanity has been taken to the heights of heaven, fulfilling the destiny God intended for human life from the beginning. Revelation 3:21 declares, "To the one who gains the victory, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne." God's plan for us is not just that we will gather around the throne or fall down before the throne, but that we will sit with him on the throne! This hope extended to the human family by the Gospel is directly contradicted when the same human beings destined for the heights of heaven are attacked by violence, degraded in their dignity, or put to death by things like abortion. The human nature Jesus brings to glory in the Ascension is the same human nature you and I share, and the same human nature that the babies in the womb share. Celebrating the Ascension in daily life means treating each human life as one destined to sit with Christ on his throne.

STAND UP FOR LIFE RALLY IN HARRISBURG

Anyone interested in supporting the Stand Up for Life Rally to be held in Harrisburg on Tuesday, June 6th beginning at 11:00am and in need of transportation, may contact Norb Josten at 570-724-9095 or email at norb.josten@gmail.com. Informational flyers can be found on the hand out table on the side of the church.

Let us seek to always hold high the "tone" of our life, remembering the goal and glory for which we exist, work, struggle and suffer. Pope Francis

That's The Way It Is!



"This Student Responded to a 'Homophobic' Assignment With a 127 Page Defense of Marriage 'Equality.'" This article, as you would expect, appeared on YAHOO. The paper written by the student was entitled "Gay Marriage is Fabulous."

The media, as you would expect, is celebrating the student as an icon and bastion of tolerance, diversity and civil rights. The article tells us that he went through the Bible verses commonly used to show that the Bible condemns homosexuality and shows how they have been "misread." It always amuses me when someone makes a claim like that. It is as if people like me have just blindly accepted the fact that the Bible condemns homosexuality and never bothered to actually research the question or study the issue in any depth. I am familiar with all the arguments used by the gay lobby. From the idea that God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah over inhospitality rather than homosexuality to the idea that Paul was referring to pederasty, not homosexuality, in his classic "Homosexuals shall not inherit the Kingdom of God." (1 Corinthians 6:9)

When I taught theology, we explored the topic of gay marriage and homosexuality. Many of my students were supporters of gay marriage. I realize this is a difficult and emotional subject for many. I never penalized my students because they disagreed with me. All I asked was that they use reason and logic to defend their points, not emotion. Passion will not get them an A. A well reasoned and logical paper will.

I gave an assignment where the students had to write a paper on gay marriage. My assignment however took a different tactic. Those who did not support gay marriage were told to write a paper defending it. Those who supported gay marriage were told to write a paper explaining why it was wrong. I taught the students that you really do not understand any issue, until you understand the arguments of your opponents. Understanding the arguments of your opponents is not enough. You have to know your opponents arguments better than they do. You have to be able to argue them better than they can. Only then, are you in a position to refute them.

None of my students wrote a 127 page paper. Of the ones who had to defend gay marriage, the arguments they made were based more on emotion than reason and logic. Our society is not taught how to think, people are only told what to think. They gave trite little sayings like "It does not matter who you love" Any student of logic would immediately recognize that as a Red Herring. The question isn't "who" you love. The question is "What is the purpose of human sexuality?" "Is sexual love appropriate for any and every relationship where 'love' is involved?" and "What is marriage?" In any case, as you can see, many people are under the mistaken assumption that passion is

what determines truth. The more passionate someone feels about any given issue, the more correct they think they are. The louder they can show down those with opposing viewpoints, the more correct they think they are.

What the media did not report-or if they did, they took it out of context, was that the students were learning about Scholasticism and the method of argumentation used by the Scholastics. Any student of history and philosophy would immediately know that there is a certain method to the way Scholastics made their points. This method is quite alien to the modern mind. People do not think or speak in Scholastic categories today. Modern philosophers dismiss the Scholastics as little more than an embarrassment in the history of philosophy. I think unjustifiably so—but that is another article. If one is not familiar with the Scholastic method, one can find Scholastic thinkers, like Saint Thomas Aquinas, difficult to understand.

As a former educator myself, it appears as if the teacher in this case was as concerned about making sure the students understood the Scholastic method as much as understanding why the Catholic Church is opposed to gay marriage. The students were to argue for the Catholic position utilizing the Scholastic Method. Why does this matter? If they did the assignment correctly they would have been exposed to every argument that the student would have made in his "127 page paper" supporting gay marriage. The assignment of its very nature would have exposed the students to very good arguments offered in defense of gay marriage. The assignment would also have exposed the students to the counterpoints to those arguments. Of course this all assumes that the students took the assignment seriously. The students were then asked to defend the Catholic position. Heaven forbid that students, who attend a Catholic school, should learn Catholic moral principles and be asked to intelligently defend them in a paper! What is this world coming to?

If I were the teacher I would then tell the student that I would accept his assignment provided he reads my point by point rebuttal to all of his arguments and provides a reply to them. If he wants me to be open to his points, he must be open to mine. It is a wonder I am not still teaching. I was the bestest teacher ever! I learned my students real swell!

That's the way it is!

The Reverend David W. Bechtel

Stewardship

Sunday Collection for May 21st: \$4,733.70

Weekly Goal to Meet Expenses: \$5,990.00

Difference:(\$1,256.30)

Year-to-Date Budget Variance:(\$4,010.69)

Collection for the Basilica Trinity Dome: \$410.00

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every week to support our parish and its ministries!*

News from the Vatican

OPEN YOUR HEART



Reflecting on Jesus' words to His disciples at the Last Supper, namely that 'I will not leave you orphans; I will send you an advocate, the Holy Spirit, to defend you before the Father,' Francis focused his homily on the Holy Spirit and reminded that the Paraclete "accompanies us" and teaches us to say: "Jesus is the Lord." The Spirit, Jesus' gift, can be seen as the 'traveling companion' of the Church. Only He, the Pope pointed out, "teaches us to say, 'Jesus is the Lord.'"

"Without the Holy Spirit, none of us is able to say it, to perceive it, to live it. Jesus, in other places in this long discourse, said of Him [the Holy Spirit]: 'He will lead you into all truth,' He will accompany you towards the full truth. 'He will bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you; He will teach you all things.' "The Holy Spirit," he stressed, "is the traveling companion of every Christian, and also the traveling companion of the Church. And this is the gift that Jesus gives us."

Francis warned that if we do not open our hearts to the Holy Spirit, He cannot get in. "The Holy Spirit," he continued, is "a gift, the great gift of Jesus, Who does not lead us astray." "The Church," the Jesuit Pope reminded, "calls the Spirit 'the sweet guest of the heart': He is there. But He cannot enter a closed heart. 'Ah, but where can one buy the keys to open the heart?' No! That too is a gift. It is a gift of God: 'Lord, open my heart so that the Spirit can enter it, and I can understand that Jesus is the Lord.'"

A prayer we should say every day, the Pope suggested, is: "Lord, open my heart so that I can understand what You have taught us; so that I can remember Your words; so that I can follow Your words; so that I can come to the fullness of the truth."

The Pope called on those present to discern whether their hearts are truly open to the Holy Spirit. The readings of the Mass, the Pope observed, suggest two questions we can ask ourselves: "The first: Do I ask the Lord for the grace that my heart might be opened? ... The second question: Do I seek to hear the Holy Spirit, His inspirations, the things He tells my heart that I might advance in the Christian life, and that I too might bear witness that Jesus is the Lord?"

Pope Francis concluded by saying, let us think about these two things today: "Is my heart open? Do I make an effort to listen to the Holy Spirit, to what He tells me? And so we advance in the Christian life, and we too bear witness to Jesus Christ."

ALWAYS ACT WITH GENTLENESS & RESPECT

Pope Francis repeated his frequent condemnation of gossip, telling the congregation instead to always treat others with gentleness and respect, as the Holy Spirit does. "The language of Christians who cherish the Holy Spirit, who was given to us as a gift, is special: they don't have to

speaking in Latin, no. It's another language: it's the language of gentleness and respect," the Pope said. Reflecting on these two points can help each of us to reflect on our own attitude as Christians, he said, asking "is it an attitude of gentleness, or of wrath? Or bitterness?"

"It's terrible to see people who say they are Christians, but who are full of bitterness," Francis said, adding that the language of the Holy Spirit "is gentle...because he's gentle. And respect. Always respect others. He teaches to respect others." The Pope noted that even though Jesus sent us the Holy Spirit as his advocate, which he promised to do in the Gospel reading from John, "the devil knows how to weaken us." "He will do everything, so that our language is not respectful or gentle, even within the Christian community," the Pope said.

He lamented the fact that many people come to a parish in the hope of finding a meek and respectful community, and instead find one with "internal bickering, gossip, chatter, competition." "They find that air that's not of incense, but of gossip, and then what do they say?" the Pope asked. "(They say) 'if these are Christians, I prefer to stay a Pagan,' and they go away disillusioned." With the language focused only on ambition and jealousy, "we push people away and we don't allow the Spirit to work," Francis said, explaining that he returns to the topic of gossip so often because "this is the sin that's the most common in our Christian communities." "We must cherish the Holy Spirit and not speak like the devil teaches us," he said, adding that gossip "hurts my heart," and is the sin "that destroys our communities the most."


"Let's not throw stones at each other. The devil has fun, this is a carnival for him," the Pope said. Instead, "let us ask for this grace: to cherish the Holy Spirit that is within us, not sadden him, and that our attitude be one of gentleness and respect."

May – Month of Mary

Gerald Hopkins wondered about this in a lovely poem called, "The May Magnificat." "May is Mary's month, and I/ Muse at that and wonder why...the Lady Month, May/ Why fasten that upon her,/ With a feasting in her honor?" he asked. Hopkins speculates that is it the springtime explosion of new life, in birds and flowers, that make May the right month for Mary. "This ecstasy all through mothering earth/ Tells Mary her mirth till Christ's birth."

Whatever the reason, May is a special time of prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary. This is also Easter Time, so we join with Mary in rejoicing in Christ's Resurrection from the dead. We can honor Mary in this month by praying the Rosary or another Marian devotion and by participating in Mass on the Feast of the Visitation, which concludes the month on May 31st. It's also a good time for quiet reflection on the seven joys of Mary, the traditional counterpart to her seven sorrows. The joys of Mary are the Annunciation, the birth of Jesus, the adoration of the Magi, the Resurrection, the Ascension of Jesus, the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, and Mary's coronation as Queen of Heaven.

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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, Trish Knowlton, Judy Nagel, Sue Evert, Valerie Tobin, Shirley Mekos Broughton, Donna Brennan, Bob Erway, Mary Mekos, Nick Cavagnaro, Antoinette Davis, Jonathan Hardman, Joan Kilmer, Stephen Hurd, Stephanie Hemighauf, Suzie Alexander, Larry Sasani, Wendy Doan-Newcomb, Syler Sullivan, Adrienne Gilbert, Rita Grinnan, Bob Murphy, Sylvia Smith, Robbie Butler, Susan Cleveland, 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, Tim Bogaczyk, Beth Valdez, Virginia Shaefer, Charles Barrett, Joe Engel, Darleen Kohler, Victoria Salerno, Wanda Trynovich, Tim Cunningham, Tony Pranses, Bob Snyder, Don Brooks, Kathy Macensky, Paul Beuter, Jerry Eckert, Michael Liebner, Cole Salerno, Mark Kilmer, Margaret Barnett, Bob Brostrom, Richard Nowak, Frank Dziengowski, Jr., Stephen Horvatch, Callie Cavanaugh, Eileen Evert, Fr. Paul Mullen, Jane Johnson, Gus Vargas, Helene Carpenter, Barb Sobotik, Michele Bush, Clark Hewitt, Colleen Rose, Larry Mommico, Loretta Nonnenmacher, Gloria Fermeinic, Everett Dean Brown, Marlene Olin, Roberta Mahar, and James Quimby.



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

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.