



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.

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 23, 2017



Vacation Bible School

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

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 _____

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.

Date	Time	Confession Time and Mass Intention
Monday 7/24 <i>Ex 14:5-8; Mt 12:38-42</i>	No Mass	
Tuesday 7/25 <i>2 Cor 4:7-15; Mt 20:20-28</i>	7:30am	In Memory of Walter & Edward Gubala (Family)
Wednesday 7/26 <i>Ex 16:1-5, 9-15; Mt 13:1-9</i>	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions In Memory of David Acker (Patrick & Catherine Lannak)
Thursday 7/27 <i>Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20; Mt 13:10-17</i>	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions In Honor of Norb & Nona Josten
Friday 7/28 <i>Ex 20:1-7; Mt 13:18-23</i>	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confession In Memory of Cindy Dalton (Wayne & Sue Singer)
Saturday 7/29 <i>Ex 24:3-8; Mt 13:24-30</i>	4:00-4:45pm 5:00pm	Confessions In Memory of Tom Sticklin (Family)
Sunday 7/30 <i>1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52</i>	8:30am	In Memory of Edward Nonnenmacher (Carmen & Carmel Ferrante)

This week's Sanctuary Candle is offered in Memory of
The O'Hearn Family (Sticklin Family)

The Week Ahead

TUESDAY, July 25, 2017

Eucharistic Adoration – 8:00am-7:00pm

Evening Prayer/Benediction – 6:45pm

Parish Council – 7:00pm, Parish Center

AA/Al-Anon – 8:00pm, Parish Center

WEDNESDAY, July 26, 2017

Social Concerns Meeting – 3:00pm, Parish Center

THURSDAY, July 27, 2017

Cards & Games – 12:00pm, Parish Center

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

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

This month's food pantry items are: **Pork & Beans and Canned Fruit**. Please place your donations in the box at the entrance of the church.

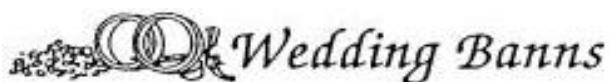
GOODIES FOR OUR TROOPS

This month's Goodies for our Troops items are:
Lip Balm, Eye Drops, Sunscreen, Bug Repellent, Trail Mix, Sunflower Seeds, Beef Jerky & 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 – 10:30am



Third – Kamil Paryzch and Erica Mitchell

Ministers of the Altar Schedule

July 29th/30th

5:00pm

Servers: A.Osborn, A.Banik, X.Tellgren

Lectors: P.Walrath, D.Sherman

E. Min.: K.Tellgren, B.Butler, M.Osborn, E.Evert

8:30am

Servers: W.Feil, L.Germينو, J.Lubera

Lectors: M.Stirnaman, M.Ostapowicz

E. Min.: L.Stager, D.Stager, M.Stirnaman, N.Ostapowicz

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. Note: Baptisms cannot be scheduled until all the necessary paperwork is completed. Contact the Rectory to schedule.

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 unbaptized 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. Contact the Rectory for more information.



Liturgical Reflection

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

FIRST READING: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

This passage from the Book of Wisdom is addressed directly to God. We can sense the wonder of the inspired writer, who recognizes that God's power is seen most clearly in God's gentleness and mercy. And God's people must strive to become more like God – our justice, too, must be joined with great kindness.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 86

Psalm 86, like the First Reading, praises the forgiving mercy of our all-powerful God.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:26-27

As we continue our reading of Romans, we come to a wonderful passage about prayer. We are weak, and we struggle to pray as we ought. But we do not need to be discouraged or afraid, since the Holy Spirit, dwelling in each of us through Baptism, is praying, not with words, but with "groanings" beyond the power of speech – a language God understands better than any other.

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:24-43

What is the Kingdom of Heaven? How can we understand something that we cannot readily see or measure or touch? The Kingdom of Heaven is a mystery so multifaceted, that there is always more to understand. With so much to grasp while leaving so much still to understand, Jesus chose the language of poetry and parable to offer sketches of God's Kingdom. Last Sunday we had a parable of the sower; today we have three parables of the Kingdom: the weeds and the wheat, the mustard seed, and the yeast. Each of these parables gives us a glimpse of what God's reign is like. It is not tidy: rather, good and bad grow together, like the weeds and the wheat, and there is no way to remove the one without also destroying the other. God's Kingdom starts small: like the mustard seed, something tiny, almost infinitesimal, leads to extraordinary results. And the kingdom is mystery: like yeast in dough, it is invisible, yet makes all the difference. Since parables are open-ended, offering more than the one way to understand them, we can also see the admixture of the wheat and weeds within the Church itself where we experience both healthy, vigorous wheat, and unhealthy, destructive weeds growing and struggling to survive. Further, we can see in ourselves both good and evil, wheat and weeds present in our hearts, our thoughts, and our actions. Whichever way we look at the parable, we see that God who sows the good seed remains present, patient, and attentive. And ultimately, whether it is the world, the Church, or ourselves, the final judgment is left to God, not to us.



Parish Activities and Information

SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendars for August 27th, the date of our parish get-together. We are trying something new this year – a dish-to-pass brunch, following the 8:30am Mass. More information will be provided as we get closer to the date.



SIGN UP SHEET FOR GIFT BEARERS AND GREETERS



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 signup 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.

THE COMMUNITY OF THE SECULAR ORDER OF DISCALCED CARMELITES OPENING FOR INQUIRIES

The Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites are men and women in the Catholic Church who are called to a deeper spiritual life. Under the protection of our Lady of Mount Carmel and inspired by St. Teresa of Avila, St. John of the Cross, and St. Therese of Lisieux, we make a commitment to the Discalced Carmelite Order to seek God for the Church and the world through our charisma of prayer and to share God with others. Our local group meets at 12:30 on the 2nd Sunday of each month at St. Peter's in Wellsboro. We invite interested parties to pray for discernment about this vocation for laypeople as our community will open for inquiries at our October 15th meeting. (Note the delay in the meeting date due to a church sale). For information contact Dolores Kostovick, 570-659-5320.

Stewardship

Sunday Collection for July 16th: \$4,390.00

Weekly Goal to Meet Expenses: \$5,750.00

Difference: (\$1,360.00)

Year-to-Date Budget Variance: (\$ 969.00)

Our 2016-17 fiscal year ended on June 30th. The finance council met this week to approve the budget for the 2017-18 fiscal year. A new *Weekly Goal to Meet Expenses* amount is reflected above. A complete financial report will be printed in the bulletin in September. We are grateful to all those who financially sacrifice every week to support our parish and its ministries!

That's The Way It Is!



Fr. Bechtel's
That's the Way It Is!
article, will resume with the
August 6th Bulletin.

Dioceses of Scranton News

**Tell us what
YOUTHink!**

ONLINE SURVEY TO PARTNER WITH POPE 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.

ANNULMENT PROCESS INFORMATION

Do You Want to Know More About the Annulment Process?: In the Diocese of Scranton, the annulment process is now more "user friendly" than you might expect, and there is no longer a processing fee. Please contact your pastor or the Diocesan Tribunal Office (570-207-2246) to begin a conversation. It is possible to get clear answers to these questions and to renew your connection with the Church.

News from the Vatican

GO TO JESUS WHEN LIFE BECOMES OVERWHELMING



Jesus says: "Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). The Lord does not reserve this phrase for some of His friends, no, He addresses to "all" those that are tired and oppressed by life. And who can feel excluded from this invitation? The Lord knows what a burden life can be. He knows that many things weary the heart: past disappointments and wounds, burdens to carry and wrongs to be endured in the present, uncertainties and worries for the future. In face of all this, Jesus' first word is an invitation, an invitation to move and react: "Come." The mistake, when things go badly, is to stay where one is, lying there. It seems evident, but how difficult it is to react and open oneself! It's not easy. In dark moments it is natural to stay with oneself, to brood over how unjust life is, over how ungrateful others are and how evil the world is, and so on. We all know it. We have suffered this awful experience sometimes. But thus, closed in on ourselves, we see everything black. Then we even become familiar with sadness, which becomes as home: that sadness that prostrates us; this sadness is an awful thing. Instead, Jesus wants to extricate us from this "quicksand" and therefore He says to each one: "Come!" "Who?" "You, you, you . . ." The way out is in relation, in extending the hand and raising one's eyes towards the One who really loves us.

In fact, to come out of oneself isn't enough, it is necessary to know where to go, because so many aims are illusory: they promise rest and distract somewhat, assuring peace and giving amusement, then leaving one in the solitude of before; they are "fireworks." Therefore Jesus points out where to go: "Come to Me." Often, in face of a burden of life or a situation that pains us, we try to talk about it with someone who will listen to us, with a friend, with an expert . . . It is a great good

to do this, but let us not forget Jesus! Let us not forget to open ourselves to Him and to tell Him about our life, to entrust people and situations to Him. Perhaps there are areas of our life that we have never opened to Him and that have remained dark, because they have never seen the Lord's light. Each one of us has his/her own story. And if someone has this dark area, seek Jesus, go to a missionary of mercy, go to a priest, go . . . But go to Jesus, and tell this to Jesus. Today He says to each one of us: "Courage, do not give in to the burdens of life, do not close yourself in face of fears and sins, but come to Me!"

He waits for us. He always waits for us, not to resolve our problems magically, but to make us strong in our problems. Jesus does not remove the burdens of life, but the anguish of heart; He does not take the cross away from us, but carries it with us. And with Him, every burden becomes light, because He is the rest that we seek. When Jesus enters our life, peace comes, that peace that remains even in trials, in sufferings. Let us go to Jesus, let us give Him our time, let us meet Him every day in prayer, in a confident and personal dialogue; let us familiarize ourselves with His Word, let us rediscover His forgiveness without fear, let us be satiated with His Bread of life: we will feel loved and consoled by Him. It is He Himself who asks this of us, almost insisting. He says, "Learn from Me and you will find rest for your souls." And thus we learn to go to Jesus and, while in the summer months we will seek a bit of rest from what wearies the body, let us not forget to find true rest in the Lord.

POPE FRANCIS' JULY PRAYER INTENTION

Lapsed Christians – That our brothers and sisters who have strayed from the faith, through our prayer and witness to the Gospel, may rediscover the merciful closeness of the Lord and the beauty of the Christian life.

Pro Life News

PRIESTS FOR LIFE

God gives time for repentance. This is a key theme of today's readings, and it can be applied to the patience that the People of Life need to have as they build a Culture of Life with painstakingly slow but steady steps. Why, some might ask, does God not just stop all the abortions today? He certainly does not justify a single one of them, nor does he allow us to justify them. Moreover, he calls us to do the most we can to restore justice today. Yet the weeds and wheat grow together; good and evil co-exist. This generous patience of the Lord by which he allows the sinner room to find repentance has led to many conversions. The website of the Silent No More Awareness Campaign (www.SilentNoMore.com), for example, contains numerous testimonies of those who speak out about their abortion and healing. Also, many abortionists have converted and now speak out publicly about it (see www.AbortionTestimony.com). As we try to elect and lobby public officials, it is particularly important to emphasize the theme of patience. Weeds and wheat grow together – but they do grow. As the bishops indicate in *Living the Gospel of Life*, we are called to use our votes to advance the culture of life. Yet no candidate has a magic wand to end the culture of death.

USCCB **Call to PRAYER**

Life, Marriage, and Religious Liberty

JOIN

Join the movement. Subscribe to weekly reminders via e-mail or text message. Like us on Facebook.

FAST

Offer a sacrifice of love, such as fasting, abstaining from meat, or some other small sacrifice of your choosing.











PRAY

Prayer is a gift from God. Pray the Rosary, visit our Lord in Adoration, offer up special intentions during Mass or pray something of your choosing.

The U.S. bishops invite the faithful to join a movement of prayer and sacrifice for the protection of life, marriage, and religious liberty in our country. Serious threats to each of these have raised unprecedented challenges to the Church and the nation. When confronted with challenges, our Lord calls us to sacrifice and pray. Follow the link below to learn more about how you can answer the Call.

www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/take-action-now/call-to-prayer

Please patronize our sponsors and thank them for their support. Their advertising helps to make our bulletin possible.

 <p>UNITED CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES, INC. SOCIAL MINISTRY</p> <p>V.E. Boley, Ph.D. Executive Director E.D. Clemens Director of Operations</p> <p>Ph: (570) 827-3171 Fax: (570) 827-3063 Email: ucminc@epix.net Website: ucministries.org</p> <p>7534 Route 49 PO Box 25 Elkland, PA 16920</p>	<p>WALRATH & COOLIDGE</p> <p>Probate & Estate Administration Real Estate Personal Injury</p>  <p>Wills • Corporate Adoptions Family Law</p> <p>570-724-3801</p> <p>R. Lowell Coolidge, Esq • Priscilla Walrath, Esq Fax: 570-724-7239 126 Main St • Wellsboro, PA</p>	 <p>BAKER TILLY</p> <p>Accountants and Advisors</p> <p>Connect with us: bakertilly.com</p> <p>Two Waln Street Wellsboro, PA 16901 570 724 5000</p>
<p><i>Akiko's Floral Arts</i></p>  <p>31 East Avenue Wellsboro</p> <p>(570) 724-1509</p> <p>"If Akiko's Not Your Florist, She Should Be"</p> <p>Shop 24/7 at www.akikos.com</p> <p>Akiko, Clark & Joe Hewitt</p>	<p>OVER 125 YEARS OF SERVICE</p> <p>TUSSEY-MOSHER FUNERAL HOME, LTD.</p> <p>Calvin T. Mosher, Supervisor</p> <p>139 Main St. Wellsboro, PA 16901</p> <p>(570) 724-4637 TusseyMosher.com</p>	 <p>D.T. YOUNG APPRAISAL SERVICES</p> <p>Diane T. Young, Residential Appraiser</p> <p>10 Patt Road Wellsboro, PA 16901 570-662-5089</p>
 <p>25 Main Street Wellsboro, PA 16901 570-723-4263</p> <p>www.popscultureshoppe.com</p> <p>Games * Imagination * Fun</p> <p>Your proprietors Julian and Anja Stam</p> <p>Consider it all joy! James 1:2</p>	<p>Please refer your friends and family. Happy patients are our best referrals.</p>  <p>Oral & Facial Surgery 15 Meade Street Wellsboro, PA 16901 (570) 724-2141</p> <p>Dr. Richard F. Black</p>	<p>Get your mortgage or home equity from the #1 Mortgage Lender in the Northern Tier!</p> <p>Apply online at firstcitizensbank.com, or stop by our 1 Pearl Street location today!</p>  <p>FIRST CITIZENS Community Bank</p>
 <p>MITCHELL'S CARQUEST AUTO PARTS FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1950</p> <p>kenneth@mitchellcarquest.com 688 South Main Street Mansfield, PA 16933 T 570.662.2277 F 570.662.1078</p> <p>Kenneth Mitchell Owner</p> 	<p><i>Priesthood</i></p> <p>A Call Worth Answering</p> <p>†</p> <p>A Commitment Worth Making</p> <p>www.scrantonvocations.com</p>	<p>A Gift in Your Will</p> <p>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:</p> <p><i>"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."</i></p>

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, 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, Larry Mommico, Loretta Nonnenmacher, Gloria Fermenic, Everett Dean Brown, Roberta Mahar, James Quimby, Francis Dy, Bud Boyce, and Mary Lou Bonk.



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

Victor deGuzman

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.