



# 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](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

## Reconciliation

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

**17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**July 30, 2017**

**GOD HAS PLANTED  
 GREATNESS IN YOU.  
 LET **TODAY** BE THE  
 BEGINNING OF A GREAT  
 ADVENTURE AS YOU  
 STEP INTO THE GIFTS  
 HE'S GIVEN YOU.**

## **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 – 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. 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
<b>Monday 7/31</b> <i>Ex 32:15-24; 30-34; Mt 13:31-35</i>	No Mass	
<b>Tuesday 8/1</b> <i>Ex 33:7-11,34:5-9,28; Mt 13:36-43</i>	7:30am	In Memory of Thomas Barnett (Wife & Family)
<b>Wednesday 8/2</b> <i>Ex 34:29-35; Mt 13:44-46</i>	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions In Memory of Cindy Dalton (Grab Family)
<b>Thursday 8/3</b> <i>Ex 40:16-21,34-38; Mt 13:47-53</i>	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions In Memory of Fr. Joseph Currie (Mom & Dad)
<b>Friday 8/4</b> <i>Lv 23:1,4-37; Mt 13:54-47</i>	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confession In Memory of Doris Sykora & Gertrude Whitney (Don & Lucy Whitney)
<b>Saturday 8/5</b> <i>Lv 25:1, 8-11; Mt 14:1-12</i>	4:00-4:45pm 5:00pm	Confessions In Memory of Beth Patt (Frank Patt)
<b>Sunday 8/6</b> <i>Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Mt 17:1-9</i>	8:30am	In Memory of Veronica Stager (Husband, Tom)

This week's Sanctuary Candle is offered in Memory of  
**Mary Ann Greves (Sue Singer)**

## The Week Ahead

### MONDAY, July 31, 2017

Knights of Columbus Meeting – 7:00pm, Parish Center

### TUESDAY, August 1, 2017

Eucharistic Adoration – 8:00am-7:00pm

Evening Prayer/Benediction – 6:45pm

AA/Al-Anon – 8:00pm, Parish Center

### THURSDAY, August 3, 2017

Cards & Games – 12:00pm, Parish Center

St. John Neumann Group – 7:00pm, Mansfield

(Meet at 6:30pm to carpool to Mansfield)

## FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

This month's food pantry items are: ***Creamy Peanut Butter and Grape Jelly***. 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

## Stewardship

A financial report for the weekend of July 23<sup>rd</sup> will be included in the Stewardship report in next week's bulletin.

## Ministers of the Altar Schedule

### August 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>

#### **5:00pm**

Servers: B.Rudy, M.Mann, X.Tellgren

Lectors: L.Sampson, T.Sampson

E. Min.: V.Anthony, G.Brown, K.Tellgren, T.Straniere

#### **8:30am**

Servers: K.Swendrowski, A.Swendrowski, B.Levindoski

Lectors: N.Kennedy, N.Bickham

E. Min.: C.Delong, M.Bialas, N.Josten, L.Whitney

## 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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

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

**FIRST READING: 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12**

When God offers to give Solomon whatever he might ask for, the young king does not hesitate: he asks for an understanding heart. We can sense how daunted he is by his task as he contrasts how his own youthfulness and inexperience, and the overwhelming numbers and needs of the people over whom he has been placed. God grants his request and makes it clear that this is the best gift Solomon could have asked for.

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 119**

Psalm 119 is a song of someone who – like Solomon – loves the Word of God more than anything else in life.

### **SECOND READING: Romans 8:28-30**

“All things work for good for those who love God” (Romans 8:28). Paul is not simply being optimistic or ignoring the challenges of life – he certainly experienced his share of those! Rather, he is expressing his profound faith that we are all in God’s hands, not only now, but from the beginning of time and to the end of time. God’s protection and his call are with us even before we are aware of them.

### **GOSPEL: Matthew 13:44-52**



Jesus continues to speak about the Kingdom in parables. The Kingdom is incredibly precious – a treasure, a pearl – and if we wish to attain it, we must sacrifice a great deal – perhaps even sell all we have. The

parable of the net thrown into the sea, like the parable of the weeds and the wheat we heard last week, reminds us that the kingdom is a messy business. Only at the end of the age will the good and wicked be separated from each other; until then, everyone is mixed up together. We must resist the temptation to sort ourselves out, to “throw away” some while retaining others. That task is reserved for the end of the age, the fulfillment of the kingdom of God. Hope for the Kingdom of Heaven directs the actions of all of us who would be Jesus’ disciples.

## Parish Activities and Information

### **BACK TO SCHOOL PROJECT**

The Social Concerns Committee will again be sponsoring the Back-to-School project. Thanks to parishioners' past generosity we have provided backpacks, shoes, first day of school outfits, underwear and socks for students in need in our area. Please consider taking a tag from the giving tree to help a child return to school with dignity and confidence. Please return all items, with the giving tree tag attached, to the collection box, by Tuesday, August 15<sup>th</sup>.

The Giving Tree will be available in the church the weekends of July 30<sup>th</sup>, August 6<sup>th</sup> and August 13<sup>th</sup>. *Please note:* It is only necessary to purchase just the item that is on the tag you choose.

### **SAVE THE DATE!**

Mark your calendars for August 27<sup>th</sup>, 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 Disclaced 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month at St. Peters 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 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. (Note the delay in the meeting date due to a church sale). For information contact Dolores Kostovick, 570-659-5320.

## Dioceses of Scranton News



### **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](http://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.



## That's The Way It Is!



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

### Fourth Apparition of Our Lady of Fatima



In August the children were prevented by the civil authorities to go to the meeting of the 13th in which had gathered an immense crowd. The children for two days were confined and threatened with many torments to make them deny, but they did

not surrender, they were ready to offer their lives not to betray the promises made to the Lady. When they had been released on August 19, while they fed the flock in a place called Valinhos they saw the Lady above a holmoak. "What do you want from me?" Lucy asked. **"I Want you to continue to go to the Cova da Iria on the 13th, that you continue to say the Rosary every day. I, in the last month will make the miracle that all will believe."** Then with a sadder appearance told them: **"Pray, pray a lot and offer sacrifices for the sinners. You know that many souls go the hell because there is none who pray for them."**

#### Prayer to Our lady of Fatima

O Most Holy Virgin Mary, Queen of the most holy Rosary, you were pleased to appear to the children of Fatima and reveal a glorious message. We implore you, inspire in our hearts a fervent love for the recitation of the Rosary. By meditating on the mysteries of the redemption that are recalled therein, may we obtain the graces and virtues that we ask, through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer.

## Pro Life News

### PRIESTS FOR LIFE

Solomon requests and receives the gift of "understanding." Solomon understands his solemn duty as king of the people, and therefore asks for this gift "to distinguish right from wrong." The Psalmist picks up on this theme, praising the Lord's word and his commands because they "shed light, giving understanding to the simple." Jesus, furthermore, asks his disciples, "Do you understand all these things?" By his words to them, he seeks to impart that gift of understanding.

We are beneficiaries of this gift as well. If the Psalmist could praise God's commands for giving understanding, how much more can we, who have the added benefit of the Gospels and the Church. Human reason itself can distinguish right from wrong. Enlightened and strengthened by revelation in Christ, we have no reason to be ignorant of moral truth. Yet we see all around us Solomons without wisdom, public officials who have responsibility to govern the people but who claim that what is right or wrong for the human family cannot be known with certainty. This problem has been addressed frequently by the Magisterium. In the 2002 "Doctrinal Note on some questions regarding the participation of Catholics in political life," issued by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, the problem is described this way: "...Citizens claim complete autonomy with regard to their moral choices, and lawmakers maintain that they are respecting this freedom of choice by enacting laws which ignore the principles of natural ethics and yield to ephemeral cultural and moral trends, as if every possible outlook on life were of equal value."

Today's readings make it clear that no believer can make this claim. Part of the "good news" is that we can indeed know the difference between right and wrong, and have the strength to carry it out. Among the goods we need to preserve, the "pearl of great price" is life itself, the foundation and condition of every other right and good that we possess.

## News from the Vatican



### LAITY, FAMILY AND LIFE: NEW LOGO AND NEW WEBSITE


The Church Embraces the Laity and Families of the World - The Dicastery for the Laity, the Family and Life, which began to function on September 1, 2016, inaugurated its new logo and new Internet site [www.laityfamilylife.va](http://www.laityfamilylife.va). The logo represents the "hug" of the Church for "all the laity and all the families of the world." On the image, lay people are supporting the Bernini colonnade,

which embraces a group of families in a hug. Symbolizing "women, men, children, young people, elderly people, and families," the faithful constitute the Church and at the same time enjoy her maternal protection," explained the Dicastery. From the colonnade and the families within it, life is born. A flower, sprouting from the extensions of St. Peter's columns, represents this in the logo. In addition to describing the Dicastery's activities, the new Website intends to offer all a "chance to be heard." Therefore, ample space is given to the social networks.



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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."*



**PRAYERS**  
Needed For...

**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.

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.