



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 – Dbechtel00@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.

*The 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 8, 2017*

*Perhaps
this is the
moment for
which you
have been
Created.*
Easter 4:14

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 worshiping 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 – Rhonda Gooch 570-724-3092

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.

Date	Time	Confession Time and Mass Intention
Monday 10/9 <i>Zec 8:1-8; Mt 18:1-5, 10</i>	No Mass	
Tuesday 10/10 <i>Zec 8:20-23; Lk 9:51-56</i>	7:30am	In Memory of Jeanette Neidhoefer (Norb & Nona Josten)
Wednesday 10/11 <i>Neh 2:1-8; Lk 9:57-62</i>	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions In Memory of Tecla Gubala (Family)
Thursday 10/12 <i>Neh 8:1-4,5-6,7-12; Lk 10:1-12</i>	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions In Memory of Cindy Dalton (Dale & Rose Marie Aulthouse)
Friday 10/13 <i>Bar 1:15-22; Lk 10:13-16</i>	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confession In Memory of Beth Patt (Frank Patt)
Saturday 10/14 <i>Bar 4:5-27-29; Lk 10:17-24</i>	4:00-4:45pm 5:00pm	Confession In Memory of Cynthia Gordon (Gordon Family)
Sunday 10/15 <i>Is 5:1-7; Phil 4:6-9; Mt 21:33-43</i>	8:30am	In Memory of Dennis Owlett (Dio & Marilyn deGuzman)

This week's Sanctuary Candle is offered
in Memory of **Jeffrey Mann** (Mann Family)

The Week Ahead

SUNDAY, October 8, 2017

Religious Ed. – Pre-School: 8:30-9:30am; K-12th: 9:30-10:40am
R.C.I.A. – 9:30am, Church

MONDAY, October 9, 2017

Rectory Closed

TUESDAY, October 10, 2017

Eucharistic Adoration – 8:00am – 7:00pm (Benediction – 6:45pm)
Women's Bible Study – 9:00am, Rectory
Parish Council Meeting – 7:00pm, Parish Center

AA/Al-Anon – 8:00pm, Parish Center

WEDNESDAY, October 11, 2017

Broad Acres Mass – 10:30am
Green Home Mass – 2:00pm
ChristLife 6:30pm, Parish Center

THURSDAY, October 12, 2017

Cards & Games – 12:00pm, Parish Center
St. John Neumann Group – 7:00pm, Parish Center

SATURDAY, October 14, 2017

ChristLife Retreat – 8:00am, Parish Center

SUNDAY, October 15, 2017

Religious Ed. – Pre-School: 8:30-9:30am; K-12th: 9:30-10:40am
R.C.I.A. – 9:30am, Parish Center
Secular Carmelites – 12:30pm, Parish Center
Youth Group Hike & Pot Luck – 1:00pm (meet at church)

ST. THOMAS/ST. CATHERINE MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, St. Catherine, Westfield - 7:00pm
Sunday, St. Thomas, Elkland – 11:30am

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

This month's food pantry items are: **Chicken Noodle and Tomato Soup (10-11oz)**. Please place your donations in the box at the entrance of the church.

Ministers of the Altar Schedule

October 14th/15th

5:00pm

Servers: L.Gordon, M.Mann

Lectors: D.Gordon, P.Walrath

E. Min.: I.Dziengowski, V.Anthony, C.Lannak, K.Wilcox

8:30am

Servers: M.Ingerick, J.Lubera, J.Grab

Lectors: N.Bickham, N.Kennedy

E. Min.: M.Stirnaman, D.deGuzman, T.Gamble, M.Sampson

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.

GOODIES FOR OUR TROOPS

This month's Goodies for our Troops items are: **Hand and Feet Warmers, Beef Jerky, Slim Jims, Homemade Cookies and Fudge & Personal Notes** (cards, letters, drawings from children.) Please place your donations in the box at the entrance of the church.



Liturgical Reflection

The 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

FIRST READING: Isaiah 5:1-7

The song of the vineyard is today's First Reading. The friend who has a vineyard is the Lord and the Lord's vineyard is Israel. The Lord had done much for Israel, yet her people at times chose to distance themselves from God. God who had so lovingly tended the vineyard, who judged it, announced the coming punishment. The very ones listening to the song are themselves the vineyard, God's cherished plant, and are subject to God's judgment for their failure to produce a good harvest. God looked for judgment, but instead got bloodshed; God wanted justice, but heard instead an outcry. Having listened to Isaiah's prophecy, perhaps the people will be moved to repentance.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 80

The refrain from the Psalm is taken from the beginning of the final verse of the First Reading. Israel is the Lord's vineyard. The verses come from Psalm 80, a communal lament of Israel's people in which they wonder why the Lord has seemingly deserted them after transplanting them out of Egypt. We hear the voice of the people plead for the Lord to once again take care of them. For their part, they will return to God and remain faithful.

SECOND READING: Philippians 4:6-9

Paul is writing to his beloved Philippian Christians while he is imprisoned and the community itself is facing persecutions. Paul encourages the Philippians to make their requests known to God in prayer. Since they are to petition God, the Philippians need to have no anxiety. God's peace in Christ Jesus will safeguard them. In addition, Paul lists the virtues to which Jesus calls the Philippians: truth, honor, justice, purity, love, and graciousness. Whatever is praiseworthy is their calling. To live in this manner is to know the peace of God residing in us. Bringing his advice to a close, Paul again promises God's peace, and we can say with him: "The Lord is near."

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:33-43

'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

This Sunday's Gospel reading is another parable and a continuous reading from where the parable of last Sunday's Gospel left off. The landowner and the vineyard in the parable provide obvious parallels with the First Reading. The servants the landowner sends, represents the prophet's whose message the people often did not heed. The son whom the tenants kill, foreshadows Jesus' death at the hands of the authorities. Jesus' citation of Psalm 118 reveals that his death is not the end. Through his resurrection he lays the cornerstone for the Kingdom of God, a kingdom for those disciples willing to produce its fruit.

Parish Activities and Information

FALL RUMMAGE SALE

Thank you to everyone who volunteered time or donated goods to this year's fall rummage sale. The sale would not be successful without the tireless commitment from the volunteers and the support of the parish. A profit of \$3,600 was made to support our parish.

TIOGA COUNTY HOMELESS INITIATIVE



Thank you to everyone who volunteered for shifts or made meals this past week during St. Peter's week at the shelter. You are very much appreciated!

PARISH FACEBOOK PAGE

St. Peter's now has a Facebook page. You can find us at **St. Peter's Catholic Church Wellsboro PA**. The profile picture is of the Rectory. Like and follow us and keep up to date on happenings in the parish. Please note there is another page that seems to be associated with St. Peter's, however is not. Please make sure you are on the correct page.



JOIN OUR YOUNG MUSICIANS GROUP



St Peter's Music Ministry is forming a young musicians group to help with music at Mass this year. To find out more, call Mrs. Christina Simonis at 570-724-2085.

CALLED TO SERVE?

If you play an instrument and like to sing, St Peters Music Ministry wants YOU. Contact Christina Simonis 570-724-2085.



CAN YOU HELP? DO YOU NEED A RIDE?

At various times parishioners are in need of a ride to Mass or church related events. If you need a ride or if you are able provide transportation, please call the rectory. We would like to establish a list of those who can offer a ride from time to time, so that we can match them with anyone who is in need.

SIGN UP TO BE 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 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.

SUGGESTION BOX

There is a suggestion box hanging on the near the handout table. If you have suggestions please write suggestions 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.



RECTORY CLOSED MONDAY



The Rectory will be closed on Monday, October 9th in observance of Columbus Day. In the event of an emergency, please contact Fr. Bechtel. His emergency contact information can be found on the front of the bulletin.

Religious Ed. & Youth Group News COIN CHALLENGE FOR CHARITY

The Religious Education classes will have a friendly competition to benefit a local charity. Students are encouraged to collect loose change (bills are accepted, too!) for donation and bring to class each Sunday in October. Weekly results will be posted on the bulletin board. At the end of the month, the class that has collected the greatest amount will get to select the charity that will receive the money. Your change can make a difference!



UPCOMING YOUTH GROUP EVENTS



Sunday, October 15th – Hike & Potluck – 1:00–4:30pm Meet at St. Peter's to carpool to the Canyon. We will hike the Turkey Path and enjoy a potluck dinner afterwards.

Wear appropriate footwear for hiking; bring a water bottle and a dish to share. Fried chicken, place settings and drinks will be provided. Permission slips and additional information will be coming home with students.

Pro Life News

PRIESTS FOR LIFE

Mercy Triumphs - The Church opposes abortion, but embraces with mercy those who have made this mistake. Let's all take encouragement from these words of Pope John Paul II: "I would now like to say a special word to women who have had an abortion. The Church is aware of the many factors which may have influenced your decision, and she does not doubt that in many cases it was a painful and even shattering decision. The wound in your heart may not yet have healed. Certainly what happened was and remains terribly wrong. But do not give in to discouragement and do not lose hope. Try rather to understand what happened and face it honestly. If you have not already done so, give yourselves over with humility and trust to repentance. The Father of mercies is ready to give you his forgiveness and his peace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. To the same Father and to his mercy you can with sure hope entrust your child."

*Our guardian angel is a friend we do not see,
but whose presence we feel.*

*He accompanies us on our earthly journey to
heaven. Pope Francis*

Neighboring Parish News

100th ANNIVERSARY OF FATIMA HEALING MASS

On Friday, October 13th St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Elkland will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of the final Apparition of Our Lady of Fatima.



8:45am – Recitation of the Most Holy Rosary
(Glorious Mysteries)

9:00am – Healing Mass celebrated by Fr. Bechtel

9:30am – Adoration of the Holy Eucharist

Fr. Bechtel will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Adoration. Everyone is welcome to come and pray for peace and healing throughout the world.

Diocese of Scranton News

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Next Weekend is In-Pew Commitment Weekend

Diocesan Appeal materials and pledge cards will be distributed to all parishioners during Masses celebrated next weekend. If you have not already done so, please make your pledge to help the thousands of people who will directly benefit from your caring support. Everyone at Mass will be asked to complete the pledge form, whether or not they have made a pledge or intend to pledge. You are also invited to list your personal prayer intentions on the inside pledge form and to attend a special Mass of Thanksgiving to be held at St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, on Sunday, November 26, at 10:00 a.m. Your intention will be remembered at this Mass celebrated by Bishop Joseph C. Bambera. Prayer intentions are welcome whether or not you make a gift to the Diocesan Annual Appeal.

2017

Diocese of Scranton
DIOCESAN
ANNUAL APPEAL

WALK TOGETHER
IN THE *Light of Christ*

"Jesus invites us to walk together as brothers and sisters by caring for the poor, through feeding the hungry, through providing shelter for the homeless."

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera

Thank you to all parishioners who have made a gift to this year's Diocesan Annual Appeal. If you have not yet contributed to the Appeal, or wish to make an additional pledge, you will have an opportunity to join us next weekend at Mass during In-Pew Commitment Weekend. You need only bring an open heart and willingness to share your gifts to support the work of your local Church. You may also contribute by calling the Diocesan Development Office at 570-207-2250, or online at www.DiocesefScranton.org.

NEXT WEEK IS APPEAL COMMITMENT WEEKEND
Open your heart!
Give to the Diocesan Annual Appeal

That's The Way It Is!



I am going to spend the next few articles disseminating and addressing the parish survey results. There were five main areas in the survey: Worship/Liturgy, Buildings/Grounds, Educational, Social Concerns, Parish Activities. The results were generally positive. As I disseminate the

information I will highlight the major themes in each of the areas. This week I will begin with the most important: Liturgy/Worship.

In the area of Worship/Liturgy, the priest is the most important because he leads and directs the worship of the people. People noted that my liturgical pace is quicker and faster than they have been used to. People have also noted that my liturgical preferences are for simplicity. (I am not high church) In regard to my preaching people noted that my homilies tend more towards education in the Faith, sometimes they can be a bit too heady, and sometimes they can be long. While the trend in the survey is that people are generally content, they would like me to adopt a slower liturgical pace. They would also like me to preach homilies that speak to practical needs or concerns in addition to the educational. People would like me to be more available to them after Mass.

I can work on my liturgical pace. I do not think anyone will ever accuse me of being too slow, and I may never be as slow as some might like, but I can work to slow down a bit. I will also work to make some of my homilies more practical—and less lengthy. As for being more available after Mass, that is more of a challenge. Two factors work against that. One I have some control over, one I do not.

The first is my personality. I am an introvert by nature. This means I expend a lot of energy when I talk to people—even close friends and family. Because of this, it is difficult for me to be emotionally available to someone on the fly. I need time to prepare myself. The second (I cannot control this) is that after Mass I am pulled in 50 different directions. Even if I was “Father People” that is--an extreme extrovert, it would be impossible for me to give people sufficient time to talk after Mass. After Mass on Saturday I have to get to Westfield. After Mass on Sunday I have to get the collection over to the counters, I have CCD classes to teach, CCD confessions to hear, RICA, meetings, appointments, then after all that I have to get to Elkland. The only thing that I could change my schedule for would be an emergency anointing. Let me say this again so it is clear: I care about you and I want to talk to you. If you need to speak with me please just call the rectory and make an appointment. Then I will set aside as much time as you need and deserve. I will have nothing competing for my time. If you cannot come to the rectory, I can come to your home. I meet people all the time at their homes.

In regard to the music there were a lot of comments. The long and short the comments are this: some people want more “traditional” music while other people want more “contemporary” music. Some people want the music to be sung at a faster pace while others want music to be sung at a slower pace. Some people like the organ, others like the Piano. Some think the organ is too loud. (There was only one person who thinks the organ is not loud enough.)

There are many tastes and preferences when it comes to liturgical music. I do know that we try our best to accommodate all tastes and preferences, though it is impossible to appeal to every one's taste. I have met with the music director and passed along the survey results to her. She is working hard to incorporate the suggestions made into the current program. She is going to write some information in the bulletin about the music program. When she gets that information to me, it will be in the bulletin. Overall I think people are generally content with our music program. Relative to other Catholic parishes in our diocese, I would say our music program is good. We are lucky to have the musical talent available to us that we have. There are parishes—even larger and more prominent than ours that do not have the musical talent available to them that we have.

The general consensus in the survey was that people liked the Mass times as scheduled. They did not want a change in Mass times. Because of the need for Elkland to have a Sunday morning Mass we decided to eliminate the 11:00 Mass and keep the rest of the Mass times the same. The 11:00 Mass seemed the logical choice because it was the least attended. Obviously there are some that are upset to have the 11:00 Mass eliminated, but most have adapted. The Mass times are not set in stone. I can revisit the Mass times if necessary. What I cannot do is revisit the number of Masses offered at Saint Peter's on Sunday. Unless or until our linkage changes, it is only possible for me to offer one Sunday morning Mass at Saint Peters. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Next week I will address another area of the survey. If you have any questions just the rectory a call.

That's the way it is!

The Reverend David W. Bechtel

Stewardship

Sunday Collection for October 1st: \$6,944.00

Weekly Goal to Meet Expenses: \$5,750.00

Difference: \$1,194.00

Year-to-Date Budget Variance: (\$3,259.55)

Diocesan Collection - Care & Ed. of Priests: \$731.00

Thank you! We are slowly decreasing our negative Year-to-date Budget Variance. Please reflect on your monthly giving and be as generous as you are able. We are grateful to all those who financially sacrifice every week to support our parish and its ministries.

News from the Vatican



POPE PRESENTS OUR 2 CHOICES: REPENTANT OR HYPOCRITICAL SINNERS

Christian life is the humble journey of a conscience that's never rigid and always in relationship with God, which is able to repent and entrust itself to Him. Hypocrisy, duplicity, and detachment from others, he added, are denounced by Jesus and go against this. The key word is to repent: it's repentance that enables one not to become stiff, to transform the no to God into yes, and the yes to sin into no, out of love for the Lord. The will of the Father, who speaks delicately every day to our conscience "is fulfilled only in the form of repentance and continual conversion.

In the end there are two roads in each one's journey: to be repentant sinners or hypocritical sinners. However, what counts is not reasoning that justifies and tries to save appearances, but a heart that advances with the Lord, struggles every day, repents and returns to Him, because the Lord seeks the pure of heart, not the pure on the outside.

As in a family, where one must encounter and dialogue, the same must be done in Church and society. In the Church's journey, the question often arises: where to go, how to go forward? Offering some advice, Francis gave three points of reference:

The first, he said, was the Word, the compass to walk humbly, to not lose the way of God and fall into worldliness.

The second, the Pope continued, is the Bread because everything begins from the Eucharist. It's in the Eucharist that the Church is encountered; not in gossip and chronicles, but here, in the Body of Christ shared by sinful and needy people, who, however, feel loved and then desire to love.

The third is the poor. Today many persons lack what is necessary, but in all of them we find Jesus.

The Word, the Bread, the Poor: let us ask for the grace not to forget these basic goods, which support our journey.

BE DEFENDERS OF LIFE, GUARDIANS OF CREATION URGED POPE FRANCIS

"Be men and women, boys and girls, who are defenders of life, guardians of creation, witnesses of the love given that generates good fruits for the community. The greatest gift God has made to each of us is life ; and life is part of another original divine gift that is creation . We should all feel the great responsibility to properly guard creation and to care for it, protecting it from various forms of degradation. We have the task of preserving and delivering to the future generations the planet which we received as a free gift from the goodness of God. In the face of the ecological crisis we are experiencing, the prospect of the gift received and delivered to those who will come after us is a reason for commitment and hope."

Apostleship of Prayer - Papal Intention for October

Workers and the Unemployed - That all workers may receive respect and protection of their rights, and that the unemployed may receive the opportunity to contribute to the common good.

Harvest Dinner

Friday, October 20, 2017
4:00 – 7:00pm in the Parish Center



Adults –\$10.00; Children (under 12) –\$5.00; Children (under 3) –Free

**All You
Can Eat!**

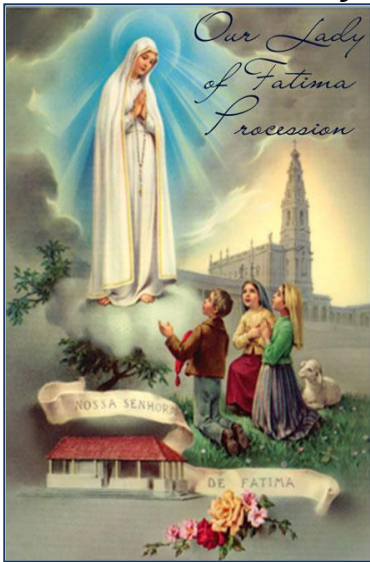
Menu:

*Roasted Chicken and Pork, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy and Stuffing,
Carrots and Coleslaw, Applesauce and 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.

Sixth and Last Apparition of Our Lady of Fatima



On October 13, 1917 the three children, surrounded by a crowd of 70,000 persons under a torrential rain, Lucy asked again of the Lady: "What do you want from me?" she answered: **"I am the Lady of the Rosary, I desire here a chapel in my honor to be built, that people continue to recite the Rosary every day. Will the war finish. The war is going to end, and the soldiers will soon return to their homes."** Then Lucy

asked: "May I ask you for cures and conversions, will you grant them?". **"Some yes, others no. It is necessary that they ask pardon for their sins, that they don't offend God our Lord, and that he is already too much offended."** "Do you want anything else from me?" Lucy asked. **"I do not want anything more."**

Then She opened her hands again and She launched a ray of light in the direction of the sun as Lucy shouted that they should look at the sun. At this point the promised sign happened, the rain stopped suddenly and there appeared an exceptionally bright sun, but not dazzling. The sun began to turn as if projecting, in each direction, bands of light of each color that lit and colored the clouds, the sky, the trees, and the crowd. It stayed for some moments then it went back to its normal position, stayed still for a small while and then it happened again. Suddenly it looked as if it stood out from the sky to fall headlong on the crowd that was looking terrorized; they fell to their knees and begged mercy. Meanwhile the children saw a Lady dressed like the white of the sun with a blue cope, St. Joseph with the Child Jesus that blessed the world. After this vision they saw The Lord bless the world, standing next to Our Lady of Sorrows. After these visions the Lady of Mt Carmel finished the miracle and the people then became aware that their clothes were completely dried.

One of the principal anti-clerical publications of the day was *O Dia*, a major Lisbon newspaper. On October 17th, *O Dia* reported the following: At one o'clock in the afternoon, midday by the sun, the rain stopped. The sky, pearly gray in color, illuminated the vast arid landscape with a strange light. The sun had a transparent gauzy veil so that eyes could easily be fixed upon it. The gray mother-of-pearl tone turned into a sheet of silver which broke up as the clouds were torn apart and the silver sun, enveloped in the same gauzy gray light, was seen to whirl and turn in the circle of broken clouds. A cry went up from every mouth and people fell on their knees on the muddy ground. The light turned a beautiful blue as if it had come through the stained-glass windows of a cathedral and spread itself over the people who knelt with outstretched

hands. The blue faded slowly and then the light seemed to pass through yellow glass. Yellow stains fell against white handkerchiefs, against the dark skirts of women. They were reported on the trees, on the stones and on the serra. People wept and prayed with uncovered heads in the presence of the miracle they had awaited.

Francisco died on 4 April 1919 and Jacinta died on 20 February 1920. Before she dies, little Jacinta revealed little-known but remarkable statements made by Our Lady. Here are just some of them:

- More souls go to hell because of sins of the flesh than for any other reason.
- Certain fashions will be introduced that will offend Our Lord very much.
- Many marriages are not good; they do not please Our Lord and are not of God.
- Priests must be pure, very pure. They should not busy themselves with anything except what concerns the Church and souls. The disobedience of priests to their superiors and to the Holy Father is very displeasing to Our Lord.
- The Blessed Mother can no longer restrain the hand of her Divine Son from striking the world with just punishment for its many crimes.
- Tell everybody that God gives graces through the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Tell them to ask graces from her, and that the Heart of Jesus wishes to be venerated together with the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Lucy entered the Convent of the Sisters of St Dorothy to learn to read and write; then she entered in the convent of Coimbra. On December 10, 1925, Sister Lucy received an apparition by the Child Jesus and the Virgin Mary in her convent cell. The Holy Virgin shown her a Heart surrounded by thorns, Our Lady said to her:

"See, My daughter, My heart surrounded by thorns which ungrateful men pierce at every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude... Say to all those who:


- **for five months, on the first Saturday, confess,**
- **receive Holy Communion,**
- **recite the Rosary**
- **and keep Me company for 15 minutes while meditating on the fifteen mysteries of the Rosary, in a spirit of reparation,**

I promise to assist them at the hour of death with all the graces necessary for the salvation of their souls."

Sr. Lucia, the last surviving witness of the three children to whom the Virgin Mary appeared at Fatima, Portugal, died on February 13, 2005 at the age of 97. The Church is currently examining documents and collecting testimonies for her beatification cause.

Pope John Paul II beatified Francisco and Jacinta Marto on May 13, 2000 in a celebration attended by more than 700,000 people. On May 13, 2017 Pope Francis officially declared Francisco and Jacinta Marto saints of the Catholic Church in front of hundreds of thousands of pilgrims at Fatima, Portugal – teaching us that even young children can become saints.

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"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, 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, Fr. Paul Mullen, Jane Johnson, Gus Vargas, Helene Carpenter, Michele Bush, Clark Hewitt, Larry Mommico, Loretta Nonnenmacher, Gloria Fermenic, Everett Dean Brown, Roberta Mahar, James Quimby, Bud Boyce, Mary Lou Bonk, Clare Vargas, Marian Coolidge, John Williams, Kay Evans, and Delores Scuderi.



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

Joseph Alampí, Robert Hazlett

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.