



The 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time October 29, 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 – Dbechtel00@yahoo.com
 Secretary: Connie Spang – stpch@ptd.net
 Business Manager: Patti Mitchell – stpadm@ptd.net
 Directors of Religious Ed.: Maureen Poirier & Melissa Mann – stpried@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.

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.

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.

Pregnancy Support

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

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.

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 _____

SPIRIT POUR OUT YOUR
 LIGHT AND GRACE
 UPON OUR PRIESTS
 AND SEMINARIANS.
 STRENGTHEN THEM
 AND THEIR MINISTRY
 WITH YOUR GIFTS
 OF WISDOM,
 UNDERSTANDING,
 KNOWLEDGE, COUNSEL,
 FORTITUDE, PIETY, AND
 FEAR OF THE LORD.



October 29, 2017
**PRIESTHOOD
 SUNDAY**

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

Date	Time	Confession Time and Mass Intention
Monday 10/30 <i>Rom 8:12-17; Lk 2:10-17</i>	No Mass	
Tuesday 10/31 <i>Rom 8:18-25; Lk 13:18-21</i>	5:00pm	In Memory of Gerald & Ann Collins (Mitchell Family)
Wednesday 11/1 <i>Rv 7:2-4,9-14; 1 Jn 3:1-3; Mt 5:1-12</i>	12:10pm 7:00pm	All Souls Intentions All Souls Intentions
Thursday 11/2 <i>Wis 3:1-9; Rom 6:3-9; Jn 6:37-40</i>	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions All Souls Intentions
Friday 11/3 <i>Rom 9:1-5; Lk 14:1-6</i>	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confession All Souls Intentions
Saturday 11/4 <i>Rom 11:1-2,11-12,25-29; Lk 1:7-11</i>	4:00-4:45pm 5:00pm	Confession In Memory of Wanda Sulewski (Daughter, Kathy)
Sunday 11/5 <i>Ma; 1:14-2:2, 8-10; 1 Thes 2:7-9-13; Mt 23:1-12</i>	8:30am	In Honor of Jim & Holly Josten (Norb & Nona Josten)

The Week Ahead

SUNDAY, October 29, 2017

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

TUESDAY, October 31, 2017

Eucharistic Adoration – 8:00am–4:00pm
Women's Bible Study – 9:00am, Rectory
Worship Committee Meeting – 7:00pm, Parish Center
AA/Al-Anon – 8:00pm, Parish Center

WEDNESDAY, November 1, 2017

Rectory Closed

THURSDAY, November 2, 2017

Cards & Games – 12:00pm, Parish Center
St. John Neumann Group – 7:00pm, (Meet at 6:30pm)

SUNDAY, November 5, 2017

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

Ministers of the Altar Schedule

October 31st/November 1st All Saints Day

5:00pm: Servers: B.Rudy, J.Grab, L.Gordon

Lectors: C.Waclawik, D.Gordon

E. Min.: G.Brown, I.Dziengowski, M.Bialas, T.Gamble

12:10pm: Servers: None

Lectors: P.Kramer, R.Kramer

E. Min.: L.Whitney, C.Lannak, K.Wilcox, T.Straniere

7:00pm: Servers: J.Lubera, B.Levindoski, A.Dunkel

Lectors: T.Reindl, M.Ostapowicz

E. Min.: N.Ostapowicz, B.Chiamonte, E.Evert, D.Sherman

November 4th/5th

5:00pm

Servers: W.Poirier, J.Poirier, X.Tellgren

Lectors: L.Sampson, T.Sampson

E. Min.: G.Poirier, B.Butler, K.Tellgren, K.Wilcox

8:30am

Servers: K.Swendrowski, A.Swendrowski, M.Ingerick

Lectors: N.Bickham, N.Kennedy

E. Min.: M.Bialas, M.Sampson, D.deGuzman, M.Stirnman

This week's Sanctuary Candle is offered in Memory of
George & Helen Pruslak (Lynn & Kathy Broughton)

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.

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.

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

ST. THOMAS/ST. CATHERINE MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, St. Catherine, Westfield - 7:00pm

Sunday, St. Thomas, Elkland - 11:30am



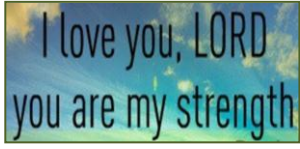
Liturgical Reflection

The 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

FIRST READING: Exodus 22:20-26

Today's First Reading is from a section in Exodus that explains some of the prescribed social norms. In the first half of the reading, the Lord teaches we must not wrong the widow and orphan, among those considered the least in society. If we do harm them, we will face the Lord's wrath. The second half of the reading addresses the practices of borrowing money and taking a neighbor's cloak as a pledge. Neither charging interest nor failing to return the cloak before sunset is acceptable. Should our sinful practices lead others to call out, God will hear them and responds with compassion, ever acting on behalf of those in need.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 18



Responsorial Psalm 18 is a thanksgiving song attributed to David. The song expresses thanks for God's help in the time of need.

God is our Rock, keeping us safe from our enemies, as God did for David and Israel. For this, all we can do is express our love of the Lord as we do in the refrain – *I love you Lord, my strength.*

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

Our reading of 1 Thessalonians is continuous from where last Sunday's Second Reading concluded. Paul expresses his gratitude for the faith of the Thessalonians, even in the face of persecution. He mentions how the Thessalonians have imitated him, Silvanus, and Timothy in their reception of the word and also how they have imitated the Lord. Their perseverance in faith is a model for others, for they have turned to Christ from idols and now await his return.

GOSPEL: Matthew 22:34-40



The Pharisees are persistent. Last Sunday, Jesus' response to the disciples' question about the Roman coin, thwarted their scheme. Today's

Gospel begins by noting that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees. Previous to this, Jesus had responded to the Sadducees manipulative question about the resurrection by showing them that the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob is the God of the living. In the third of a series of questions, the Pharisees inquire of Jesus about the greatest commandment. Jesus knows the law better than they do. Love of God and love of neighbor compose the two commandments. While the scholar had asked for only one commandment, Jesus gives two, teaching that love of God and love of neighbor are intimately connected and embrace all the other commandments. In this test, Jesus is faithful to the tradition, and teaches with authority.

Parish Activities and Information

ALL SOULS INTENTIONS



There are special All Souls Intentions envelopes in your monthly packets, which can be used to remember deceased family members and friends. The envelopes will be placed on the altar during the month of November.

CHANGE TO NOVEMBER FIRST SATURDAY MASS

Fr. Bechtel will be away the weekend of November 4th and 5th. Because of this, there will be NO First Saturday Mass on November 4th. The remainder of the weekend Masses will stay as scheduled.

BOOK OF THE NAMES OF THE DEAD

The Church has a long tradition of remembering those who have died, to the love and mercy of God. We do this in a special way on the Feast of All Souls Day, and throughout November. During the month of November, a Book of the Names of the Dead will be located near the front entrance of the church. All Parishioners are welcome to write the names of those they wish to remember in this special book.



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.



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.



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!



Pro Life News

PRIESTS FOR LIFE

The readings for today make it clear that love of God and practical, concrete attention to the needs of one's neighbor are inseparable. To love one's neighbor "as oneself" means to love the neighbor as a person like oneself...to recognize, in other words, that despite any differences the neighbor may have, he/she is a person who never loses his/her human dignity.

So it is with our relationship with the unborn child. Recognizing that child as a person like ourselves is the foundation of extending our love to them and our efforts to protect them. The love of God cannot co-exist with indifference toward the slaughter of the unborn.

Diocese of Scranton News

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Catholic Media & Communications: *Giving everyone the opportunity to read, see and hear the Good News.*

Spreading the Gospel and the message of our Catholic faith is the vital mission of the Catholic Media and Communications Office of the Diocese of Scranton. This is why we provide a wide-ranging media program that offers print, online and broadcasting services throughout our 11-county Diocese. The message is delivered through The Catholic Light, the official newspaper of the Diocese which is delivered to 46,000 households; Catholic Television (CTV), the Diocesan television station; and the Diocesan website. CTV reaches more than 235,000 homes, hospitals and nursing facilities broadcasting the daily Mass and many other faith-based programs. The Diocesan website is an excellent online resource for information about life and events in the Diocese, including videos of the daily Mass and the special liturgies celebrated at St. Peter's Cathedral and Bishop Bambera's homilies.

St. Peter's annual appeal goal is \$46,500. We currently have raised \$22,360. This amount does not include the pledges made last weekend, during our in pew appeal.

Priesthood Sunday – October 29th

Priesthood Sunday, the last Sunday of October, is a special day set aside to honor the priesthood in the United States. It is a day to reflect upon and affirm the role of the priesthood in the life of the Church as a central one.

Pray! Invite! Encourage! Affirm! Vocations! There are vocations...

...which manifest themselves. They must be fostered.

... which are not conscious of themselves. They must be awakened.

... which do not dare manifest themselves. They must be found and encouraged.

... which are in fear of being lost. They must be reassured.

... which meet with opposition. They must be strengthened.

... which are paralyzed by poverty. They must be helped financially.

Look around you.

How many men and women in your parishes are caring and compassionate individuals who are good listeners, articulate speakers, and loving enthusiastic Catholics?

How many of these special, gifted people have ever been invited to consider becoming a priest, sister, brother, permanent deacon, or full-time lay minister?

Statistics show that 80% of the 18-30 year olds in the United States and Canada have never been asked to consider a Church Vocation.

They are Called

"He calls them to **lead** your holy people in love, **nourish** them by your word and **strengthen** them through the sacraments. Father, they are **to give their lives** in your **service** and for the salvation of your people as they strive to **grow** in the **likeness of Christ** and honor you by their **courageous witness** of faith and love." -- Preface to the Liturgy of the Chrism Mass



All Saints Day - On November 1st we celebrate the Solemnity of All Saints, remembering all the saints known and unknown to us who enjoy the glory of heaven. In the day's Gospel account we hear the Beatitudes, which are guidelines for true joy and the attainment of sanctity in our Christian lives. We hear how to live lives of holiness so that we may attain happiness in this life, but even more happiness in the next life as we strive to likewise be numbered among all the saints in heaven.

All Souls' Day - On November 2nd we commemorate all the Faithful Departed. All Souls' Day is unique on the liturgical calendar. Neither a solemnity nor a feast, this commemoration outranks other feasts and even takes the place of a Sunday in Ordinary Time (should this commemoration fall on a Sunday). Prayer for the dead reaches deep into our human history, and it has been our custom from the earliest days of the Church. The belief that our prayers can be of assistance to the dead is a treasured tenet of our Catholic faith. We profess it every time we recite the Nicene Creed: "I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come."

Visiting a Cemetery - From November 1st through November 8th, a plenary indulgence is granted the Christian faithful who devoutly visit a cemetery and pray, if only mentally, for the dead. This indulgence is applicable only to the souls in purgatory.

That's The Way It Is!



The part in the survey about music was probably the most challenging to go through. What makes it a challenge was that no matter what we do with music there are always going to be people who are unhappy. There are those who want more contemporary music and those who

want more traditional. Within these groups, what counts as “traditional” or “contemporary” is going to be defined in 100 different ways. For some “traditional music” is defined as “chant.” For others, “traditional” music is defined as “hymnody” and a generous use of the organ. For some, “contemporary” music is just anything played in a Piano, perhaps with a flute or guitar. For others “contemporary” music utilizes music played by a Christian rock band and a generous use of drums. What follows below reflects a report from our director Music Christina Simonis.

Our music ministry does their best to have a variety of hymn selections that will appeal to the most number of people. Music is not chosen arbitrarily. This means that when the hymns for the weekend Mass are selected, they are not chosen based on the personal taste or personal whims of the musicians. The music is selected based on a number of factors. The most important factor in selecting the music is the Scriptures that will be read at the Mass. The music selected is also based on principles of the Liturgy. When selecting music, the music ministry discusses the Scriptures, they also consult books that are issued 4 times a year. These books make recommendations of hymn selections. The music ministry also needs to keep in mind the type of musicians they will have available to them. If a Piano and guitar players are the musician available on a particular weekend, the music selected needs to be music that can be played on a Piano and a guitar. If we have an organist, then the music selected needs to be able to be played on an organ. Contrary to popular belief, the Organ and Piano are two very different instruments. An ability to play one does not entail an ability to play the other.

The surveys reflected what seems to be a misconception regarding the singing of the Mass parts such as the Gloria, the Holy Holy, Memorial acclamation, etc. Some people asked for a “Low Mass” where the Mass parts are recited. While it is permissible to recite the Mass parts, this is not seen as appropriate for weekend Masses. The USCCB directs: “The Gloria in excelsis is a most ancient and venerable hymn...It is intoned by the priest or, if appropriate, by a cantor or by the choir; but it is sung either by everyone together, or by the people alternately with the choir, or by the choir alone.” This goes for the rest of the Mass parts. Reciting them is akin to reciting our National Anthem, or reciting “Happy Birthday to you.” These Mass parts are recited during the weekdays because special permission has been granted for that.

Some people commented on the cantor: the cantor is too soft or too loud. In order to better come up with a solution to the problem, it would be helpful if people could let the music ministry know immediately after Mass if there was a problem hearing the cantor or if the cantor was too loud. In this way, we can make the adjustment right away and hopefully solve the problem.

Many people said the music needs to be “more upbeat and uplifting.” Who could disagree with that? I know of no one who wants “bland, boring and depressing” music! The problem is in how “more upbeat and uplifting” is defined. For some, a copious use of the organ with powerful hymns is “upbeat and uplifting.” For others a copious use of the Piano with contemporary music is “more upbeat and uplifting.” Still for others, “chant” is “more upbeat and uplifting.” The phrase “more upbeat and uplifting” really means “The music selected should conform to my personal tastes.” We try to strike a balance as best we can in order that there is something that appeals to everyone. Our goal is to strike a balance between traditional hymnody and contemporary music. Both types of music have something to offer.

The important thing to keep in mind is that we cannot possibly have a music program that selects hymns each week that everyone will like. There are always going to be musical selections that someone does not like. By having a variety of selections, it is our hope that most people will have at least one or two hymns each week that appeal to their tastes and help them to pray. Our hope is that we can truly minister in music to our Lord and that we can enable and encourage all to participate in worship. We have a wonderful parish with a great music ministry. We have a lot of talent. We appreciate your feedback on the music ministry. We will continue to be open to growing together at Saint Peter’s in praying the Holy Mass.

That’s the way it is!

The Reverend David W. Bechtel

Stewardship

Sunday Collection for October 22nd: \$4,320.00

Weekly Goal to Meet Expenses: \$5,750.00

Difference: (\$1,430.00)

Year-to-Date Budget Variance: (\$6,121.55)

World Mission Sunday Collection: \$981.50

Harvest Dinner Financial Report

Income: \$1,680.00

Expense: 546.09

Net Profit: \$1,133.91

As we work to decrease 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.

All Saints Day Mass Schedule



Holy Day of Obligation

October 31st - 5:00pm

November 1st - 12:10pm & 7:00pm

News from the Vatican



HEAVEN ISN'T A 'FAIRY TALE' – IT'S AN EMBRACE WITH GOD

Pope Francis spoke about the hope Christians have at the end of life, which is found in God's promise to be with us at the moment of our death, and to give us eternal

life with him in heaven. Paradise is not a fairy tale, nor is it an enchanted garden. Paradise is an embrace with God, infinite Love, and we enter thanks to Jesus, who died on the cross for us. Where there is Jesus, there is mercy and happiness; without Him there is the cold and darkness. At the hour of death, the Christian repeats to Jesus: 'Remember me.' And even if there is no one who remembers us, Jesus is there, beside us.

Recall the scene at Calvary, when Jesus was hanging on the cross between two criminals, and one whom we call the good thief had the courage to make the most humble request: "Remember me when you enter into your kingdom." The thief didn't have good deeds to bring before the Lord, but he relied on the mercy of Jesus, recognizing that Jesus was innocent, good, and so different from him. That word of humble repentance was enough to touch the heart of Jesus who responded "today you will be with me in paradise" – is the only time the word "paradise" appears in the Gospels. In this episode, the good thief reminds us of our true condition before God: that we are His children, that He has compassion for us, that He is disarmed every time we show him the nostalgia of his love.

Jesus' words of hope to the good thief also give us hope for the end of our own lives. Even when someone is on their deathbed and makes a final examination of conscience only to realize how many opportunities for good works they have missed, they must not be discouraged, but trust in the mercy of God. There is no person, no matter how bad, that cannot receive the grace of God. Jesus wants to bring us to the most beautiful place that exists. He wants to bring us there with the little or great good that has been in our lives, because nothing is lost that has been redeemed by him. Jesus will carry everything still in need of redemption to his father, including the faults and mistakes of an entire life, because this is the goal of our existence: that everything is done and transformed into love. If we believe this, we don't have to fear death, but can instead repeat the words of Simeon, who finally meets Jesus after a lifetime of waiting, and says: "Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes

have seen your salvation." And at that moment, at last, we will no longer need anything, we will not see in a vague way. We will no longer weep unnecessarily, because everything has passed; even prophecies, even knowledge. But love no, that remains. Because love has no end, At the end of the audience, the Pope reminded those present that the month of October is also the month of the Rosary, and offered a special reflection in this regard to young people, the sick, and newly married couples. Speaking to youth in particular, Francis said "you know this Marian prayer is an occasion for you, dear young people, to penetrate more deeply the mysteries of Christ working in your life." And to the sick, he told them to "love the Rosary... because it gives consolation and meaning to your suffering." To spouses, he noted that the rosary "becomes for you, dear new spouses, an occasion to experience that spiritual intimacy with God who establishes a new family."

MASS: ENTER INTO THE MYSTERY OF JESUS

The centre of the mystery of Jesus Christ is that he loved me and gave himself up to death, for me. When we go to Mass, we know that he is in the Word, that Jesus comes, but this is not enough to enter the mystery: Entering into the mystery of Jesus Christ is more, it is to let go into that abyss of mercy where there are no words: only the embrace of love; the love that led him to death for us.

When asked about who is Jesus for you, you may answer the Son of God, you could say all the Creed, all the catechism, and it is true but we would come to a point where we would not have been able to say that at the center of the mystery of Jesus Christ, is that he loved me and gave himself up for me. Understanding the mystery of Jesus Christ is not a matter of study, because Jesus Christ is understood only by pure grace.

Thus, a pious exercise helps us: the Way of the Cross, which consists in walking with Jesus when he gives us the embrace of forgiveness and peace. It's nice to do the *Via Crucis*. Do it at home, thinking of moments in the Passion of the Lord. Even the great Saints always advised that we begin the spiritual life with this encounter with the mystery of Jesus Crucified. Saint Teresa advised her nuns: to get to the prayer of contemplation, the high prayer she began with the meditation of the Passion of the Lord. The Cross with Christ. Christ in the Cross. Start and think. And so, trying to understand with the heart that he loved me and gave himself for me, he gave himself up to death for me.

I am a good Christian, I go to Mass on Sunday, I do works of mercy, I pray, I educate my children well: this is very good. But the question I ask, 'You do all this, but have you entered the mystery of Jesus Christ?'

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.

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Parish Prayer List



PRAYERS
Needed For...

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, 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, Everett Dean Brown, Roberta Mahar, Bud Boyce, Mary Lou Bonk, Clare Vargas, Marian Coolidge, John Williams, Kay Evans, Delores Scuderi, and Colleen Rose.



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

James Quimby

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.