

St. Peter's Church



5th Sunday of Lent ~March 18, 2018

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 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 _____

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.

We welcome
Allison Fay Bellinger
into the Catholic Church,
through the waters of Baptism.
Allison is the daughter of
Samuel Bellinger and
Kathleen Stirnaman.

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

Pat Gorda 570-724-3035

Church Linens & Decorations – Sue Singer 570-724-2360

Buildings & Grounds – Rick Joachim 570-439-2591

Cemetery Committee – Howard Rutledge 570-724-4529

Fundraising Dinners – 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 3/19 <i>2 Sm 7:4-16; Rom 4:13-22;</i>	No Mass	
Tuesday 3/20 <i>Nm 21:4-9; Jn 8:21-30</i>	7:30am	In Memory of Lillian Pickle (Dale & Rose Marie Aulthouse)
Wednesday 3/21 <i>Dn 3:14-20,91-95; Jn 8:31-42</i>	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions In Memory of Clifford Parsells (Family)
Thursday 3/22 <i>Gn 17:3-9; Jn 8:51-59</i>	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions In Memory of Beth Patt (Frank Patt Family)
Friday 3/23 <i>Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10:31-42</i>	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confession In Memory of Audrey Zuchowski (Jurgen & Christine Plato)
Saturday 3/24 <i>Ez 37:21-28; Jn 11:45-56</i>	4:00-4:45pm 5:00pm	Confessions All Living and Deceased Members of Saint Peter's Parish
Sunday 3/25 <i>Mk 11:1-10; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1-15:47</i>	8:30am	In Memory of George & Betty Patt (Paul & Marion Patt)

This week's Sanctuary Candle is offered in
Memory of **Fred & Helen Sereno** (Daughter, Patty)

The Week Ahead

SUNDAY, March 18, 2018

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

MONDAY, March 19, 2018

The Light is on For You (Confessions) – 5:30-7:00pm, Church

TUESDAY, March 20, 2018

Adoration – 8:00am-7:00pm; Benediction 6:45pm
Women's Bible Study – 9:00am, Parish Center
AA/Al-Anon – 8:00pm, Parish Center

WEDNESDAY, March 21, 2018

Staff Meeting – 8:30am, Rectory
St. John Neumann Group – 1:00pm, Parish Center
Penance Service – 6"

THURSDAY, March 22, 2018

Cards & Games – 12:00pm, Parish Center

FRIDAY, March 23, 2018

Rectory Closed
Stations of the Cross – 3:30 & 7:00pm, Church

SUNDAY, March 25, 2018

No Religious Education Classes

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS - This month's food pantry items are: **Pork & Beans and Canned Fruit**. A donation box can be found 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.) A donation box can be found at the entrance of the church.

ST. THOMAS/ST. CATHERINE MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, St. Catherine, Westfield - 7:00pm
Sunday, St. Thomas, Elkland – 10:30am

Ministers of the Altar Schedule

March 24th/25th

5:00pm

Servers: L.Poirier, E. Poirier, W.Poirier, J.Poirier

Lectors: G.Poirier, T.Sampson

E. Min.: K.Wilcox, D.Sherman

8:30am

Servers: L.Singer, Z.Singer, K.Kramer, W.Steinbacher

Lectors: N.Kennedy, D.Bleggi

E. Min.: A.Singer, 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.



Liturgical Reflection

5th Sunday of Lent

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 37:12-14

Ezekiel announces to the people of the covenant God's fourfold promise to them: the graves of the dead will be opened, those who have died will be brought to new life, the people in exile will be brought back to their land, and the spirit of God will be given to them. The promise of restoration prefigures the promise of Christ for all those who believe in him. The promise of God is affirmed in signs and in words. "I have promised and I will do it, says the Lord."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 130

The prayer of the psalmist is a supplication and is a plea for the Lord's mercy. The psalmist calls on the Lord to be attentive to his plea believing that only the Lord is able to give him strength to withstand "the depths" in which he finds himself. The focus of his pleading is on the kindness of the Lord; no one else can raise him up.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:8-11

St. Paul nearly always uses the word "flesh" for those tendencies in man which incline him to sin and to the things of this earth in opposition to things spiritual. The man who follows these inclinations cannot please God, but rather offends him. Paul is addressing Christians who have died with Christ in baptism. The Holy Spirit has been given to the baptized. Through their union with Christ, the Spirit is within believers, transforming their rational faculties: they live a new life. Because the Christian has Christ dwelling in him, he is alive with a true spiritual life and divine grace which Christ brings to him. It is the Spirit of Christ that overcomes the flesh and brings a new way of life to those who believe.

GOSPEL: John 11:1-45

The three readings for today have a common theme — resurrection. In this reading, we have the story of the raising of Lazarus from the tomb, which proves the power Jesus had of raising the dead. St. John gives us here the last and the greatest of the miracles worked



by our Lord. It had two purposes: first, to prove that Christ was the Messiah, the Son of God to whom the Father was now testifying publicly by the miracle and second, to move the chief priests and Pharisees to carry out the plan they long since contemplated. This miracle took place a few miles from Jerusalem --- within a few hours the Pharisees had news of it; they called a meeting and decided Christ must be put to death. It was his Father's will that he should die at the Passover feast, which was drawing near. He had completed his work; his hour had come and so in the working this miracle, he gave them extra motive and excuse for carrying out their wicked designs. Christ's death, like the illness of Lazarus, would be for the glory of God, manifested in him. His raising of Lazarus was but for a short, extra period of earthly life; his own resurrection would be the first fruits of the eternal resurrection, which he would win for all those who would follow him.

Parish Activities and Information

SPECIAL EDITION OF THE CATHOLIC LIGHT



A special Sesquicentennial Commemorative edition of the Diocese of Scranton newspaper, *The Catholic Light*, can be found at all entrances to the church. This 80-page publication offers a historical overview and highlights the 150th anniversary of the Diocese of Scranton. It will also appear next week as an insert in the regular edition of the paper to those parishioners who normally receive a mailed copy. We have been given enough copies for each family to have their own.

SCRUTINIES

The Scrutinies are rites for self-searching and repentance and have above all, a spiritual purpose. They are meant to uncover, then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect; to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong, and good. The Scrutinies complete the conversion of the elect and deepen their resolve to hold fast to Christ and to carry out their decision to love God above all. They are celebrated on the 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sundays of Lent. Today we pray for *Kristina Zimmerman, Scott Zimmerman, and Karon Swendrowski* as they receive the **3rd and final** Scrutiny in preparation for initiation into the Catholic faith.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday during Lent at 7:00pm in the church. Children's Stations of the Cross will also be held at 3:30pm. Students are invited to the parish center after school for a light snack before stations begin. The students will be chaperoned following the conclusion of stations, until parents are able to arrive. All parishioners are encouraged to attend Stations of the Cross during the Lenten season.



TENEBRAE SERVICE



What is a Tenebrae service? The Latin word "tenebrae" means darkness." The Tenebrae is an ancient Christian Good Friday service that makes use of gradually diminishing light through the extinguishing of candles to symbolize the events of that week from the triumphant Palm Sunday entry through Jesus' burial. This increasing darkness symbolizes the approaching darkness of Jesus' death and of hopelessness in the world without God. The service concludes in darkness, sometimes with a final candle, the Christ candle, carried out of the sanctuary, symbolizing the death of Jesus. A loud noise may also sound symbolizing the closing of Jesus' tomb. The worshipers then leave in silence to ponder the impact of Christ's death and await the coming Resurrection. Join us on Good Friday at 7:00pm for this moving service.

HOMELESS SHELTER VOLUNTEER NEEDED

In a Lenten message, Pope Francis stated: "In the poor and outcast we see Christ's face; by loving and helping the poor, we love and serve Christ." In our community the Tioga County Homeless Initiative helps meet the needs of those who lack shelter. St. Peter's is assigned to staff the shelter the week of April 1st–7th, each evening from 5:00–9:00pm and to prepare meals for the residents. For more information or to volunteer please contact Tara Gordon at 570-439-0006 or David Gordon at 570-439-0005. Sign-up sheets are also located in the back of the Church.

EASTER FLOWER MEMORIAL



Each Easter, the flowers in the church during the season memorialize deceased loved ones. If you would like to contribute to this year's Easter flowers in memory of a loved one, please use the envelope found in your monthly packet and place in the collection basket. A list of those we remember will be included in the Easter Sunday bulletin.

EASTER MASS INTENTIONS

Parishioners are reminded that there are special Easter Mass Intentions envelopes in your monthly packets to remember both living and deceased family members and friends. The envelopes will be placed on the altar during all of the Easter Masses to remember the donor's intentions. Please place your Easter Mass Intentions envelopes in the collection basket.

SPRING SALE



St. Peter's annual spring rummage sale will be held April 10th–April 12th. When you are spring cleaning, please consider donating household items, books and clothing. Donations can be dropped off April 8th from 12:00-3:00pm and April 9th from 8:00am-5:00pm. If you have any questions regarding donations, please call Mary Lasko 570-439-7706 or Pat Gorda 570-724-3035. NO TVS PLEASE! We are also looking for volunteers to help set up and tear down the sale. If you are willing to donate ANY time; please call Mary or Pat.

WEDNESDAY LENTEN SERVICES

The Wellsboro Ministerium will be offering Wednesday Lenten Services. All services will be held at the First Presbyterian Church from 12:00-12:30pm, with a light lunch to follow. The theme for this year is *Fruit of the Spirit*. The schedule for this year is as follows:

March 21st – Living Word Fellowship – Joy

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Graduates of the "Following Christ" series are invited to continue their ChristLife journey with "Sharing Christ" beginning Wednesday, April 4th, from 6:30 – 8:30pm in the Parish Center. Additional Wednesday dates are: April 18th, 25th, May 2nd, 9th, 16th, and 23rd with a retreat on Saturday, May 12th. Questions: call Norb Josten at 570-724-9095 or email norb.josten@gmail.com.

ADOPT A PARISH ENVELOPES

A decision has been made to stop the Adopt A Parish collection. Beginning with the next envelope mailing, you will no longer find an Adopt A Parish envelope included.

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, so that we can match them with anyone who is in need.

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. If you would like a personal response to your suggestion, please include your name and phone number on the card.



Religious Education News

NO CLASSES ON PALM SUNDAY AND EASTER

A reminder to parents, there will be no religious education classes (Pre-School through High School) on Palm Sunday, March 25th, or Easter Sunday, April 1st. We will resume classes on Sunday, April 8th.

Pro Life News

PRIESTS FOR LIFE

The theme of this weekend's readings is an overwhelming proclamation that God is master of life and death. Lent is meant to deepen our awareness and conviction of this truth, which is in turn the basis of the pro-life movement. We are not simply counteracting an evil in society through our human strength; rather, we are sent on a mission by the one who has authority over death, to free the human family from its oppressive regime.

Imagine going to a wake service and having someone say to you, "If you had been here sooner, my loved one would never have died." Yet that is what both Martha and Mary said to Jesus. They knew he had power over life and death. And yet they were subject to the all too human fears and calculations we make when we battle the culture of death. Martha says, "By now there will be a stench."

We say the same thing. We know what is right, and what has to be said and done to defend life. Yet we fear the stench. We fear who will object, who will get angry. Politicians fear who will vote against them; businesses fear who will stop supporting them. "Surely, there will be a stench." And that becomes the excuse not to act – even when we know that Jesus has authority over death.

As we approach the climax of Lent and proclaim these powerful readings of God's victory over death, let's call our people to a confident and persistent activism for the cause of life, without fear or excuses. www.priestsforlife.org

That's The Way It Is!



In my article this week, I thought I would explain the things most Catholics have heard referenced but probably never thought to ask about. You hear words like Episcopal Vicar, Vicar General, Dean,

Chancellor, Monsignor, Cardinal, Archbishop, Diocese and Archdiocese. What do those words really mean anyway? Is a cardinal the boss of a bishop or archbishop? What about a monsignor? Is he the boss of a priest? Is it a promotion? I am going to pull back the veil and explain these confusing titles.

A diocese is a collection of Catholics in a particular geographic region, within a state or territory that is headed by a bishop, surrounded by a college of priests who assist the bishop in his pastoral care of the Catholics who reside in the diocese. An archdiocese is the same as a diocese, except that it is headed by an archbishop. The term archdiocese is simply an honorary term used to designate either a very large diocese and or a diocese that has religious or political significance. The term archbishop likewise, is an honorary term used for a bishop that heads an archdiocese. An archbishop does not have more authority than a bishop, and is not the boss of a bishop. An archbishop ranks ahead of a bishop only in terms of honor. An archdiocese ranks ahead of a diocese only in terms of honor.

Cardinal is an honorary term usually given to a bishop or archbishop, though not exclusively so. In theory lay people could be named a cardinal. In practice only bishops or archbishops will be named a cardinal. Only one priest, not already a bishop, has been given this honor in modern day and that was Avery Dulles. Dulles was a prominent theologian. Pope John Paul II was going to ordain Dulles to the Episcopacy but dispensed with the ordination at the request of Dulles. Cardinals are not the boss of a bishop or archbishop. The honors that go along with cardinal are the ability to elect a pope until age 80. Cardinals also represent the Pope in virtue of the fact that they are a cardinal. Like archbishops, cardinals rank ahead of a bishop or archbishop only in terms of honor.

Monsignor is an honorary term given to a priest by the bishop. Pope Francis has reformed the process by which priests can be given this title. After these reforms it is far more difficult for a priest to be given this title of honor. In the past, the use of the title was subject to potential abuse. Bishops might give the title to priests who distinguished themselves in some manner through their work. Bishops could also be quite arbitrary in who they selected for the title; giving the title to their friends or using it as a reward for priests who were loyal to them. Prior to the reforms of Pope Francis there were three levels of monsignor, each coming with certain rights and privileges for the priest. For simplicity sake: the higher the grade of monsignor the more the priest was permitted to take on some of the trappings of a bishop. The reforms of Pope Francis have

done away with the levels of monsignor. There is now only one level of monsignor. Eligible priests are either high ranking diocesan officials or priests over the age of 65.

A vicar general is a high ranking diocesan official. This person can be a priest or bishop. Larger dioceses have several officials with this title and they are usually bishops. Smaller dioceses can have several officials with this title, but they are usually priests. If a diocese has several vicar generals, the one who is appointed the moderator of the curia (analogous to a chief of staff) is the second in command. An episcopal vicar is also a high ranking official, though not as high as the vicar generals. They represent the bishop in specific regions of the diocese called vicariates. Vicariates are major subdivisions of a diocese. There are four vicariates in this diocese: North, South, East and West. Think of the vicar generals like the senior vice presidents of the organization, the moderator of the curia like the senior executive vice president, and the episcopal vicars like the vice presidents.

A dean, sometimes called *vicar forane*, is the bishop's representative in the more rural areas of a diocese. A vicar forane or dean heads a deanery. A deanery is a subdivision of a vicariate. Deaneries are further subdivided into the specific parishes in that deanery. Each parish is headed by a pastor. In our diocese, the dean ensures that the pastors are keeping proper sacramental records. The deans might also assist in finding Mass help for a pastor if he is sick. The dean might schedule meetings from time to time to discuss issues important in the deanery. The dean would probably be analogous to a supervisor type position.

A chancellor may or may not be a high ranking diocesan official. It depends on how the diocesan bishop chooses to use the position. Under Canon Law, chancellor is just a fancy title for a person whose job it is to be a glorified record keeper and diocesan notary. However, many bishops give their chancellors more roles in diocesan leadership, making them a high ranking official of the diocese. The chancellor might be a top advisor to the bishop, including on parish assignments. The chancellor may or may not be a priest. In our diocese the chancellor is a high ranking official analogous to a senior vice president. The chancellor is part of the bishop's core team of advisors and consultants. The chancellor also serves as the chief canonical consultant to the bishop. Currently a lay person occupies the role of chancellor in our diocese.

That's the way it is!

The Reverend David W. Bechtel

Stewardship

Sunday Collection for March 11th: \$7,360.00

Weekly Goal to Meet Expenses: \$5,750.00

Difference: \$1,610.00

Year-to-Date Budget Variance: \$4,824.93

We are grateful to all those who financially sacrifice every week to support our parish and its ministries!

News from the Vatican



EUCCHARIST, THE SACRAMENT OF OUR COMMUNION WITH GOD

Dear brothers and sisters: In our catechesis on the Mass, we now turn from the Eucharistic Prayer to the Communion Rites, which begin with our common recitation of the Lord's Prayer. The prayer we offer to the Father as his adoptive children in Christ, disposes us to receive the Lord's body and blood in Holy Communion. We ask the Father for our daily bread, for the forgiveness of our sins, and for deliverance from evil. These petitions are then expanded in the following prayers, which invoke God's peace and unity upon the Church and our world. In the exchange of the sign of peace, we demonstrate our commitment to be reconciled with one another, so as to worthily approach the altar to receive the Lord's gift of himself. The rite of the breaking of the bread, accompanied by our invocation of Christ as the Lamb of God, acknowledges the saving presence of the risen Lord among us and implores the peace he won for us on the Cross. May our conscious celebration of these rites help us to experience ever more fully the Eucharist as the sacrament of our communion with God and with all our brothers and sisters.

THE POPE'S MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTIONS

March 2018 ~ Evangelization: Formation of Spiritual Discernment - That the Church may appreciate the urgency of formation in spiritual discernment, both on the personal and communitarian levels.

"If we encounter Jesus and our brothers and sisters every day, our hearts will not dwell in the past or the future. They will live in God's present moment, in peace with everyone." Pope Francis

Lenten Reminders

Days of Fast and Abstinence – Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. All Fridays during Lent are days of abstinence. All Catholics, 18-59 years of age, are bound by Church law to fast, which means only one large meal and two smaller meals may be eaten. Catholics 14 years of age and older are required to abstain, which means no meat may be eaten.

Operation Rice Bowl - Operation Rice Bowl is the official Lenten program of Catholic Relief Services. Proceeds benefit the poor in our own diocese and throughout the developing world. You are asked to eat one sacrificial meal each week during Lent and to give the money you saved to the Rice Bowl program. An envelope can be found in your monthly offering packet.

Easter Duty – All parishioners are reminded of their obligation to fulfill their Easter Duty. A person's Easter Duty consists of receiving Holy Communion at least once between Ash Wednesday and Pentecost Sunday as well as going to the Sacrament of Reconciliation to confess any mortal sins.

Questions About Lent

Q. Does the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday satisfy the obligation of Easter Sunday Mass?

A. Attendance at the Easter Vigil fulfills the obligation to attend Mass on Easter Sunday. The Vigil, called traditionally "the mother of all vigils," is the highlight of the celebration of Easter and indeed may be considered the principal liturgy of the church year. The whole liturgical year leads up to and draws its meaning from the Easter Vigil.

Q: Should the holy water fonts be empty during Lent?

A: On March 14, 2000, the Vatican's Congregation for Divine Worship observed that the "removing of holy water from the fonts during the season of Lent is not permitted." The congregation cited two reasons: water and baptism are frequently mentioned in the Lenten liturgical readings, and avoiding use of the Church's sacramentals is no way part of the abstinence encouraged during the days of Lent. To be sure, holy water fonts are emptied on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday, but each of these days invites us to look forward to the blessing of the baptismal water at the Easter Vigil.

Holy Week Easter Sunday Schedules

Palm Sunday – March 25th

8:30am – Mass begins in Parish Center
(5:00pm Mass begins in Church)

Chrism Mass – March 27th

4:00pm – St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton

Holy Thursday – March 29th

6:00pm – Altar Server Practice
7:00pm – Mass of the Lord's Supper
8:30-11:00pm – Adoration



Good Friday – March 30th

11:00am – Altar Server Practice
12:10pm – Celebration of the Lord's Passion
1:30pm – Sacrament of Reconciliation
7:00pm – Tenebrae



Holy Saturday – March 31st

10:00am – RCIA Practice & Retreat
11:00am – Altar Server Practice
12:00pm – Blessing of Baskets (Parish Center)
8:00pm – Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday – April 1st

8:30am & 10:30am – Easter Sunday Masses

Diocese of Scranton News

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS



Celebrating His Excellency, the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, and the Office for Parish Life wish to invite couples celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversary in 2018 to a Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, June 10, 2018. The event includes a 2:30pm Mass at St. Peter's Cathedral, followed by a reception. Requests for an invitation should be made through your pastor before March 12, 2018.

CHRISM MASS

All the faithful of the Diocese are invited to attend the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of St. Peter, Scranton, on Tuesday, March 27th at 4:00pm. At this Mass, priests throughout the Scranton Diocese will renew their priestly promises before Bishop Bambera and the oils to be used for the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Anointing of the Sick and Holy Orders, will be blessed. Participation in the Chrism Mass is a beautiful way to pray for and support the priests of the Diocese.

CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE MAY 5th

Our 4th annual "Be A Man" Catholic Men's Conference for the Scranton Diocese will be held at King's College in Wilkes Barre on Saturday, May 5th, from 8:00am to 3:00pm. Based on our 2018 theme "Christ is Here, Come and See," our three nationally-known presenters will highlight various aspects of the Real Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist: Tom Peterson – founder of Catholics Come Home Inc.; Fr Michael Gaitley MIC – author of 33 Days to Morning Glory; Jesse Romero – a full-time bilingual Catholic Lay Evangelist.

- Join hundreds of like-minded Catholic men for a half-day conference celebrating the Real Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist
- Hear excellent talks that will challenge you, re-awaken your spirit, and lift you up
- Examine your priorities
- Rejuvenate your commitment to Catholic Faith, Family & Fellowship
- Get new insights for growing in holiness in your daily life
- Support, challenge and affirm your call as a son of God and brother of Christ
- Participate in the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist
- Help you come closer to Jesus!!

We will be honored to have Scranton Bishop Joseph Bambera celebrate our closing Mass. There will be opportunities for Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Various exhibitors will be present with a full array of Catholic products, as well as information concerning ministry opportunities.

St. Peter's will provide transportation through Benedicts Bus Company and will pay half of the registration fee for those interested in attending. Registration forms can be found on the hand out table on the side of the church.

Refresh Your Faith

The First Annual Catholic Women's Conference of the Diocese of Scranton

Saturday, June 23, 2018 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Byron Complex, The University of Scranton

Featuring:

Judy Landrieu Klein: Faith Through It All
Father Richard McAlear: Ministry of Hope and Healing
Music by "His Own"
Mass Celebrated by the Most Reverend Joseph Bambera
Megan Murphy: Host

For information or to register:

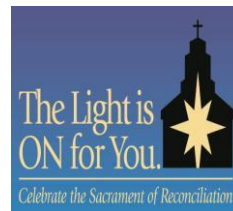
dioceseofscranton.org/catholic-womens-conference

Co-Sponsored by:



St. Peter's will provide transportation through Benedicts Bus Company and will pay half of the registration fee for those interested in attending.

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU



As we begin this season of Lenten preparation, each of us is invited to reflect on those choices which will bring about the new life we celebrate in Easter. For this reason, the Church invites us to experience

Lent as a time for deepened prayer, personal sacrifice, and self-giving – all so that we can be raised to new life in Christ! The Church encourages us to make confession a regular part of our spiritual life, especially during the holy season of Lent, as we reflect on our baptism and repentance. Bishop Joseph C. Bambera is helping to make this experience possible by arranging for a Lenten initiative called *The Light Is On for You*. **Every Monday evening during Lent**, each parish throughout the Diocese of Scranton will have their —lights on! from **5:30-7:00pm** for confession so that Catholics can come to or return to this incredible source of God's grace, mercy and healing. **Due to Fr. Bechtel responsibility for St. Thomas Parish, the schedule for St. Peter's will be March 5th & 19th.**

Please make plans to come on a Lenten Monday, and spread the word of this special outreach of mercy to those you know. If you have been reluctant to come to the sacrament, have been away for some time, or just find it difficult to get to a Saturday afternoon confession time, this is a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with Christ and his Church. **"The Light Is On for You!"**

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. E.D. Clemens Executive Director 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 Wain 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 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 (570) 724-4637 TusseyMosher.com</p>	 <p>D.T. YOUNG APPRAISAL SERVICES</p> <p>Diane T. Young, Residential Appraiser 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 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><i>Dr. Richard F. Black</i></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>U-Haul® Dealer Since 2011</p> <p>uhaul.com</p> <p>Ken Mitchell Mitchell's Carquest Auto Parts</p> <p>688 South Main Street Mansfield, PA 16933 Business: (570) 662-2534 www.mitchellcarquest.com</p> 	<p>BULLETIN ADVERTISING SPACE AVAILABLE</p> <p>We currently have advertising space available in our weekly bulletin. If you are interested in placing an ad, please call the rectory.</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, Antoinette Davis, Jonathan Hardman, 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, 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, Marian Coolidge, Kay Evans, Delores Scuderi, Colleen Rose, Elizabeth Payne, Ann Osgood, Brenden Young, Jane Usavage Johnson, Jenny Clemens, Cindy Sereno, Denny Young, Jack Worden, Teagan Kohler, Cindy Copp, and Carolyn Tester.



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

Ed Cornell, Melissa Frank

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.