St. Peter's Church



Second Sunday of Easter Divine Mercy Sunday April 8, 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 $Pre-K - 12^{th}$ 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. Children's Liturgy (grades K-4th) is held during the 8:30am Mass when Relgious Education classes are in session.

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____

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

<u>Rectory Office Hours</u> 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

<u>Schedule of Weekend Masses</u>

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm ~~ Sunday: 8:30am <u>Reconciliation</u>

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

We welcome Bennett Coolidge, son of Donald & Renge Bialas Coolidge and Andrew, Collin, and Kalel Zimmerman, sons of Mike & Kristina Zimmerman into the One, Holy, Catholic Church through the Sacrament of Baptism.

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

Second Sunday of Easter

Second Sunday of Easter		Аргіі 8, 2018
Date	Time	Confession Time and Mass Intention
Monday 4/9 Is 7:10-14,8:10; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38	No Mass	
Tuesday 4/10 Acts 4:32-37; Jn 3:7-15	No Mass	There are no daily Masses
Wednesday 4/11 Acts 5:17-26; Jn 3:16-21	No Mass	this week, as Fr. Bechtel is in Scranton for the annual
Thursday 4/12 Acts 5:27-33; Jn 3:31-36	No Mass	Priest Convocation.
Friday 4/13 Acts 5:34-42; Jn 6:1-15	No Mass	
Saturday 4/14 Acts 6:1-7; Jn 6:16-21	4:00-4:45pm 5:00pm	Confessions All Living and Deceased Members of St. Peter's Parish
Sunday 4/15 Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; 1 Jn 2:1-5; Lk 24:35-48	8:30am	In Memory of John Gordon (Gordon Family)
This week's Sanctuary Can Memory of Robert&Connie B		Ministers of the Altar Schedule April 14 th /15 th 5:00pm
The Week AheadSUNDAY, April 8, 2018Religious Ed –Pre-School:8:30-9:30am; K-8 th :9:30-10:40amSpring Sale – 11:00am-3:00pm – Set Up 12:00-3:00pm – Donations acceptedMONDAY, April 9, 2018Spring Sale - 8:00am-5:00pm – Donations accepted – Set upTUESDAY, April 10, 2018Adoration – 8:00am-5:00pm – Donations accepted – Set upTUESDAY, April 10, 2018Adoration – 8:00am-5:00pm – SaleWomen's Bible Study – 9:00am, RectoryAA/Al-Anon – 8:00pm, Parish CenterWEDNESDAY, April 11, 2018Spring Sale - 8:00am-3:00pm – SaleSt. John Neumann Group – 1:00pm, Parish CenterTHURSDAY, April 12, 2018Spring Sale - 8:00am-3:00pm – Take what you want for donationCards & Games – 12:00noon, Parish CenterFRIDAY, April 13, 2018Rectory ClosedSUNDAY, April 15, 2018Religious Ed –Pre-School:8:30-9:30am; K-8 th :9:30-10:40amSamaritan House Event – 4:30pm, Parish Center		Servers: L.Poirier, J.Poirier, B.Levindoski Lectors: G.Poirier, D.Bleggi E. Min.: G.Brown, V.Anthony, K.Wilcox, A.Singer 8:30am Servers: A.Osborn, K. Kramer, W.Steinbacher Lectors: M. Sampson, H. Sampson E. Min.: M.Osborn, N.Ostapowicz, M.Sampson, L.Whitney Sacramental Information Baptisms - Parents anticipating the birth of their first child are asked to attend baptismal instructions classes before the birth of their child, if possible. Note: Baptisms cannot be scheduled until all the necessary paperwork is completed. Contact the Rectory to schedule. Confirmation - Confirmation is administered every year to all 8 th 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.
GOODIES FOR OUR TROOPS This month's Goodies for our Troops items are: Granola Ban travel size wet ones, Beef Jerky, Slim Jims, Cookies & Personal Notes (cards, letters, drawings from children.) A donation box can be found at the entrance of the church.		
FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS This month's food pantry items are: <i>Creamy Peanut Butter</i> <i>and Grape Jelly.</i> A donation box can be found at the entrance of the church.		



Liturgical Reflection Divine Mercy Sunday FIRST READING: Acts 4:32-35

Luke's description of the early Jesus communities pictures the believers being of one heart and mind, with no needy person among them. How realistic this was, we do not know. However, it is the ideal that all believers strive for in making real God's reign, which Jesus proclaimed. The Apostles, bearing witness to the risen Christ, were highly esteemed, and were entrusted with the distribution of goods to those in need. They modeled for the community Jesus' demand that all leaders be faithful in their responsibilities and ever vigilant about proclaiming Christ and not themselves.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 118

As we sing this song of thanksgiving today, may its words help us to give voice to our Easter joy for there is nothing, not even death, which will put an end to the Lord's mercy? For Christians, Jesus is the cornerstone who was rejected and sentenced to death on a tree, but who now lives forever. Truly this is the Lord's day!

SECOND READING: 1 John 5:1-6

Those who claim to love God show this most clearly by loving the children of God. Believing in Jesus and following through on God's loving command, which Jesus modeled through his words and actions, makes us begotten of God and responsible for one another. Such faith, articulated in our actions, conquers the world, understood as the place that finds it difficult to believe and accept Jesus. The risen Christ has already conquered the world, and through the Spirit's power, we too are called to model our lives on his.

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

The risen Christ greets his fearful disciples with peace, commissions them to carry on his mission, and breathes his forgiving and reconciling Spirit upon them. They are overwhelmed with joy. Thomas who was not present, refused to believe until he is



able to see and touch Jesus for himself. A week later, Jesus appears and invites Thomas to see and touch. Thomas, overwhelmed by the risen Christ, makes one of the most profound belief statements ever by addressing Jesus as "my Lord and my God." Jesus proceeds to praise all those like ourselves, who have not seen and yet have believed.

ABOUT THIS SUNDAY

The Sunday of Divine Mercy is a day established by Pope John Paul II as a perennial invitation to the Christian world to face with confidence, in divine benevolence, the difficulties and trials that humankind will experience in the years to come. This is not a new solemnity of feast, nor does it celebrate a new or separate mystery of redemption, but rather, it leads into the continuing celebration of God's mercy during Easter time. As the Octave Day of Easter, the readings and prayer texts highlight the mystery of divine compassion that underlies the Church's Easter faith.

Parish Activities and Information DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

Immediately following the 8:30am Mass **today**, Sunday, April 8th, we will celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday with a blessing of the Divine Mercy Image, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Praying the Diving Mercy Chaplet and Benediction. All members of the parish are invited and encouraged to participate in this special devotion.

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.

Sale Schedule

April 8 – 11:00am-3:00pm – Set Up

12:00-3:00pm – Donations accepted

April 9 - 8:00am-5:00pm - Donations accepted - Set up

April 10 – 8:00am-5:00pm – Sale

April 11 – 8:00am-3:00pm – Sale

April 12 – 8:00am-3:00pm – Take what you want for a donation **NO DONATION OF TV'S - NO EARLY SALES!**

We will have a **bake sale** during the Annual Rummage Sale. Please consider donating to this bake sale as well.

Bake Sale donations accepted on April 8th from 12:00-3:00pm and April 9th from 8:00am – 5:00pm.

If you have any questions, please call Mary Lasko 570-439-7706 or Pat Gorda 570-724-3035.

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.

SECOND COLLECTION TO SUPPORT OUR CEMETERIES

Parish There will be a second collection taken up next weekend, April 7th/8th to support our cemeteries–Pearl Street cemetery and Antrim cemetery. Please be as generous as you are able.

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.

NEW ITEMS HAVE ARRIVED

New material has arrived and has been placed in the stand on the side of the church. There are items for all ages, including a few books and videos for younger age children.

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. We have been given enough copies for each family to have their own.

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New material has arrived and has been placed in the stand on the side of the church. There are items for all ages, including a few books and videos for younger age children.

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.

so that we can match them with anyone who is in new

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.

Pro Life News DIVINE MERCY AND PRO LIFE

Sunday's observance of Divine Mercy Sunday is a good time to renew our devotion to the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. There is a close link between this devotion and the pro-life movement. In 2003, Pope John Paul II issued an Apostolic Blessing to all who pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet "for mothers, that they not abort their offspring; for infants in danger of being put to death in the womb; for a change of heart of providers of abortions and of their collaborators; for human victims of stem cell research, genetic manipulation, cloning and euthanasia; and for all entrusted with the government of peoples, that they may promote the Culture of Life, so as to put an end to the culture of death."



That's The Way It Is!

Due to the Rectory being closed for Easter, there is no *That's the Way It Is*! this week. Fr. Bechtel's article will resume next week.

Diocese of Scranton News 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. Bishop Bambera will celebrate the 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. <u>Please register by April 15th</u>.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

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.

"Let us go forward with the joy of Jesus' Resurrection, knowing He is always by our side!" Pope Francis

News from the Vatican



WE SHOULD LEAVE EVERY MASS BETTER THAN WE ENTERED

Pope Francis said the Eucharist is key to living an authentic Christian witness, and that those who leave Mass unchanged,

continuing to gossip or hold onto unholy habits, have missed the point.

"While the Mass ends, the commitment for Christian witness opens. We leave the church to go in peace to bring the blessing of God to our daily activities, to our homes, to our work, to the affairs of the earthly city, glorifying the Lord with our lives," the pope said.

The Mass, he said, is not just a weekly commitment that can be forgotten once people exit the church doors.

"No. Christians go to Mass to participate in the passion, death and resurrection of the Lord, and to live as better Christians," he said. "If we leave the church gossiping" or talking badly about other people, then "the Mass didn't enter into my heart, because I am not capable of living Christian testimony."

"Every time I leave Mass I must leave better than I went in," he said, adding that the Eucharist should leave a person with a better heart, a better spirit and "a stronger desire to live as a Christian."

Pope Francis spoke to pilgrims in a rainy St. Peter's Square for his weekly general audience, which this week fell during the Octave of Easter and was dedicated to his last round of catechesis on the Mass.

Francis opened with an aside wishing pilgrims a happy Easter and saying the flowers adorning the facade of St. Peter's Basilica are representative of the joy and happiness that blossom after Christ's resurrection.

He asked pilgrims to join him in wishing retired Pope Benedict XVI -- whom he said was watching the audience on television -- a happy Easter, and told them to give his predecessor a big round of applause.

In his speech, the pope focused on the concluding rite of Mass, in which believers are told to "go in peace to love and serve the Lord."

The Mass, particularly with this commission, "finds fulfillment in the concrete choices one makes [and] involves us first-hand in the mysteries of Christ," he said.

"We cannot forget that we celebrate the Eucharist to learn to become Eucharistic men and women," he said, explaining that this means allowing Christ to act in and through the choices one makes, taking on his thoughts, feelings and actions.

St. Paul expresses this clearly when he speaks of his own assimilation to Jesus, saying he no longer lives, but Christ lives in him, Francis said, explaining that the apostle's experience "also illuminates us."

"In the measure in which we mortify our egoism, meaning we allow what opposes the Gospel and the love of Jesus to die, greater space is created in us for the power of his Spirit," he said.

And while the liturgy is a prime way to gain great unity with Jesus, Francis noted that the presence of Christ in the consecrated bread and wine "does not end with the Mass." Rather, the Eucharist is kept in the tabernacle in order to give communion to the sick who are unable to attend Mass, and it is also kept for moments of "silent adoration" through the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

"Eucharistic worship outside of the Mass, whether in private or in community, helps us to remain in Christ" and imitate his words and actions, Francis said, adding that Christians are men and women "who allow their soul to grow with the strength of God."

"Not these small, tight, egotistic souls," he said, but "great souls" who allow themselves to grow with the strength of the Holy Spirit and after being washed by the body and blood of Christ.

The Eucharist also separates us from sin, he said, because "the more we participate in the life of Christ and progress in his friendship, the more difficult it is to separate ourselves from him with mortal sin."

Community is also an essential element of the Mass, he said, because the Eucharist "makes the Church," and ought to lead to an increased commitment in service of the poor, who bear the flesh of Christ.

Pope Francis closed his audience asking pilgrims to give thanks to the Lord "for the path of rediscovering the holy Mass which he has given us to walk together," and prayed that each person would allow themselves "to be attracted with a renewed faith to this real encounter with Jesus, died and risen for us."

"May our lives always flourish like this, like Easter, with flowers of hope and good works, that we always find the strength for this in the Eucharist, in union with Jesus." (CNA/EWTN News)

THE POPE'S MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTIONS

Universal – For those who have Responsibility in Economic Matters – That economists may have the courage to reject any economy of exclusion and know how to open new paths.

Stewardship

Sunday Collection for April 1st: \$4,536.00 Weekly Goal to Meet Expenses: \$5,750.00 Difference:(\$1,214.00) Year-to-Date Budget Variance: \$4,335.93 Easter Collection: \$5,525.00*

* Our Easter Collection is deposited into our savings account and is not reflected used in the calculation of the Year-to-Date Budget Variance.

We are grateful to all those who financially sacrifice every week to support our parish and its ministries! Please patronize our sponsors and thank them for their support. Their advertising helps to make our bulletin possible.





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, Gus Vargas, Helene Carpenter, Michele Bush, Clark Hewitt, Larry Mommicco, 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, Carolyn Tester, Tom Brown, and Richard Stankiewicz.



Dorís Sampson

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.