

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 Thursday 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
stpored@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.

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 20, 2019

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. Children's Liturgy (grades K-4th) is held during the 8:30am Mass when Religious Education classes are in session.

Welcome to St. Peter's Church!

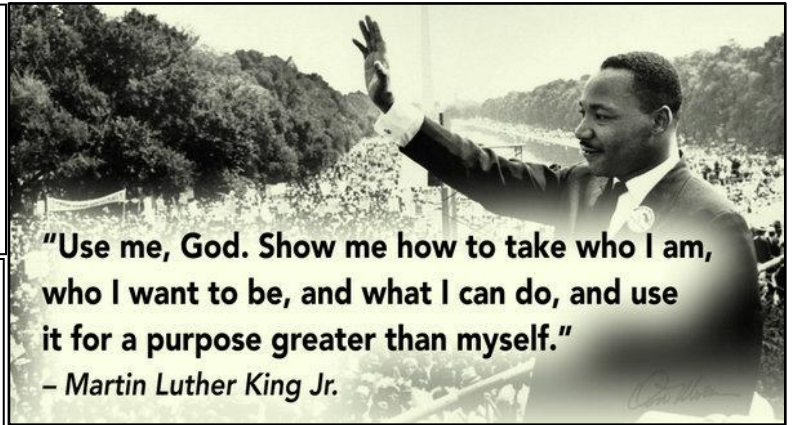
If you are visiting Tioga County this weekend, welcome and thank you for worshiping with us! If you are searching for a Spiritual home, we welcome you to join us and invite you to become part of our church family. Please complete this form and return it to the parish office or drop it in the offertory basket.

Request for Parishioner Registration Form

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____



**"Use me, God. Show me how to take who I am,
 who I want to be, and what I can do, and use
 it for a purpose greater than myself."**
 – Martin Luther King Jr.

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 – Linda Sampson 570-404-2180
 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 1/21	No Mass	
Tuesday 1/22	7:30am	In Memory of Tom Stager (Kerestes Family)
Wednesday 1/23	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions In Memory of Mary Freeman (Family)
Thursday 1/24	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions In Memory of Teagan Kohler (Pat Waliewski)
Friday 1/25	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions In Memory of Andrew Popovchak (Tony & Patricia Straniere)
Saturday 1/26	4:15-4:45pm 5:00pm	Confessions In Memory of Ann Mathews (Grab Family)
Sunday 1/27	8:30am	All Living and Deceased Members of St. Peter's Parish

The Sanctuary Candle is offered in Memory of
Beth Patt (Frank Patt)

The Week Ahead

SUNDAY, January 20, 2019

Religious Ed–Pre-School: 8:30-9:30am; K-12th: 9:30-10:40am
R.C.I.A. – 9:30am, Parish Center
First Penance – 9:30am, Church
Knights of Columbus District Mtg. – 2:00pm, Parish Center

MONDAY, January 21, 2019

Rectory Closed

TUESDAY, January 22, 2019

Adoration – 8:00am-6:30pm; Benediction 6:30pm
Women's Bible Study – 9:00am, Parish Center
Parish Council – 7:00pm, Parish Center
AA/Al-Anon – 8:00pm, Parish Center

WEDNESDAY, January 23, 2019

Staff Meeting – 8:30am, Rectory
ChristLife – 6:00pm, Parish Center

THURSDAY, January 24, 2019

Cards & Games – 12:00pm, Parish Center

FRIDAY, January 25, 2019

Rectory Closed

SUNDAY, January 27, 2019

Religious Ed–Pre-School: 8:30-9:30am; K-12th: 9:30-10:40am
R.C.I.A. – 9:30am, Parish Center
First Holy Communion Parent Meeting – 9:30am, Church
Knights of Columbus District Mtg. – 2:00pm, Parish Center

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

This month's food pantry items are:

Canned Fruit (15oz.) and Pork & Beans.

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: *foot aids (insoles, powder) eye drops, lip balms, 1# coffee, coffee singles, candy bars, M&M's & Reece's, microwave popcorn & personal notes (cards, letters, drawings from children.)* A donation box can be found at the entrance of the church.

Ministers of the Altar Schedule

January 26th/27th

5:00pm

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

Lectors: G.Poirier, T.Sampson

E. Min.: B.Butler, B.Chiamonte, L.Whitney

8:30am

Altar Servers: H.Campbell, M.Ingerick, W.Steinbacher

Lectors: M.Ostapowicz, T.Reindl

E. Min.: N.Ostapowicz, M.Stirnman, D.Stager, L.Stager

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 if 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.

ST. THOMAS/ST. CATHERINE MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Evening – 7:00pm, St. Catherine, Westfield

Sunday Morning – 11:30am, St. Thomas, Elkland



Liturgical Reflection

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

FIRST READING: Isaiah 62:1-5

The First Reading comes from a portion of the Book of Isaiah known as “Third Isaiah,” dating to the period when Israel began returning to Jerusalem from their time in exile. The language is filled with hope and the promise of new life. Israel’s situation is totally transformed and the nation’s relationship with the Lord is renewed. No longer languishing in exile, Israel basks in the mercy of the Lord. Her sin of idolatry is behind her. The marriage imagery tells us that the people have a fresh start; God has the ability to take a painful past and turn it into a glorious future.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 96

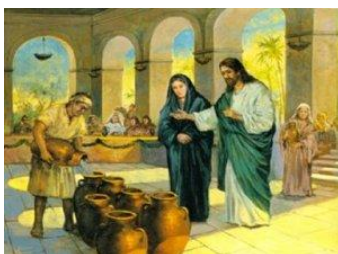
The Responsorial Psalm is an exuberant hymn of praise. This is a new song, for God has given us new signs of his glory and love. It is not only the people of Israel who should give praise to God. All nations on the earth are called to join in this song. They have witnessed his goodness toward the people of God. This is one of the reasons we gather together on Sunday: to sing the praise and glory of God. We are called upon to tremble before him, not out of fear, but in a sense of awe that we have when we observe the works of God in our midst.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

Speaking to the oft-divided Church in Corinth, Paul introduces the concept of unity in diversity. Paul writes his spiritual children to restore peace and right teaching. He reminds them that their gifts come from God for the good of all, not for the glory of the one who is the conduit of God’s grace. He reminds the Corinthians (and us) that, though the Spirit has bestowed a variety of gifts, these gifts have a purpose: to build up the common good. By placing our gifts at the benefit of the community, Christians build up the Church and the Kingdom of God.

GOSPEL: John 2:1-11

John calls Jesus’ first miracle at the wedding of Cana “the beginning of his signs.” At his mother’s urging, Jesus transforms the situation, turning water into wine and changing what could have been a social disaster into a triumph. The seemingly unlimited fine wine calls to mind the “pure, choice wine” that the Lord has promised to provide on his holy mountain (see Isaiah 25:5) and so “his disciples began to believe in him.” Mary’s words to the servants – the last she speaks in all the Gospel accounts – echo down the centuries as sage advice to all who would be her son’s disciples – “Do whatever he tells you.”



Parish News and Activities

OUR LADY OF PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS



There are few places on earth where Christianity is as old as it is in Iraq. Christians there trace their history to the first century apostles. But today, their existence has been threatened by the terrorist group that calls itself Islamic State. More than 125,000 Christians -- men, women and children -- have been forced from their homes over the last 10 months. The Islamic State -

- or ISIS -- stormed into Iraq's second largest city, Mosul, last summer and took control. From there, it pushed into the neighboring villages and towns across this region, known as the Nineveh Plains, a vast area that's been home to Christians since the first century after Christ. Much of what took almost 2,000 years to build has been lost in a matter of months.

The Knights of Columbus and Catholic Charities has been working with Iraqi officials to rebuild bombed out cities and to help displaced citizens throughout the war-torn Middle East. To bring our attention to the Christian’s plight in the Middle East, the Knights have dedicated an image to Our Lady of Persecuted Christians to be displayed in all Catholic churches around the world. **This image, the Icon of Our Lady of Persecuted Christians, will be displayed for veneration at St. Peter’s from January 22nd to 29th.**

O God of all the nations,
the One God who is and was and always will be,
in your providence you willed that your Church
be united to the suffering of your Son.
Look with mercy on your servants
who are persecuted for their faith in you.
Grant them perseverance and courage
to be worthy imitators of Christ.
Bring your wisdom upon leaders of nations
to work for peace among all peoples.
May your Spirit open conversion
for those who contradict your will,
that we may live in harmony.
Give us the grace to be united in truth and freedom,
and to always seek your will in our lives.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.
Our Lady, Queen of Peace, pray for us.

SOCIAL CONCERNS VALENTINE'S DINNER



The Social Concerns Committee will again be delivering a Valentine's dinner to any parishioner (homebound, living alone, recovering from an illness, a "sweetheart" who contributes in a special way to the Parish) who would like one. Delivery of dinners will take place on Saturday, February 9th. To assist with needed supplies, please look for signup sheets near the main entrance of the church. If you would like to receive a meal or know a parishioner who would like to receive one or can help with delivery, please contact Ginny Reindl at 570-724-8496.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

As was announced a few weeks ago, St. Peter's is reinforcing old, and implementing new, security measures during Mass and Religious Education times. The Parish Center doors will remain locked and all will need to enter the church through the main doors. All doors leading to the Parish Center will remain locked while the children are attending classes and will not be unlocked until 10:40am, when classes have ended. If a need arises where you need to remove your child from class early, please check in at the Religious Education Office for assistance. While we know this can be an inconvenience for some, the safety of our parishioners and our children is our primary concern.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry creates beautiful shawls to help comfort those who are sick, bereaved, shut-in, nursing home resident, or those experiencing loneliness or stress. The shawls are like being wrapped in prayers and love. Our hope is that those who receive them will feel the hands of God around them, giving them healing and comfort. If you know of someone in need of a shawl, please contact Jan Bernethy at 307-267-0677.

SANCTUARY CANDLES

A candle is kept burning day and night whenever the Blessed Sacrament is reserved in Catholic churches. It is an emblem of Christ's abiding love and a reminder to the faithful to respond with loving adoration in return. Sanctuary candles are available to remember or honor your loved ones. Call the rectory to reserve a week.

Stewardship

Sunday Collection January 13, 2018: \$5,320.00
Weekly Goal to Meet Expenses: \$5,800.00
Difference: (\$ 480.00)
Year-to-Date Budget Variance: (\$8,014.40)

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

Pro Life News

ANNUAL RESPECT LIFE PRAYER BREAKFAST

The Annual Respect Life Prayer Breakfast, hosted by Pennsylvanians for Human Life, Scranton Chapter will be held on Saturday, Feb. 2, 2019 beginning at 9am at Fiorelli Catering, 1501 Main Street in Peckville. Cost is \$22 per adult, \$10 for children 6-12, children 5 and under are free. Register and payment in advance only by Friday, January 25th. Clip and send reservation with check payable to Pennsylvanians for Human Life to: Anne Domin, 632 Gardner Road, Elmhurst Twp, Pa 18444. Contact Anne for reservations or questions at 570-842-9653. For more information visit us at www.prolifescranton.org.

Our featured speaker this year is Seth Drayer, Vice President of Created Equal, a pro-life education and outreach organization based in Columbus, Ohio. Seth leads Created Equal's mission to equip pro-life defenders with the scientific/philosophic case for life and conversational skills to create dialogue about abortion in their hometowns. He also engages university professors in formal debate, and has appeared on national television shows Fox & Friends and Hannity. Seth holds a Bachelor of Arts from Indiana University and has been in full-time pro-life ministry since 2010. Articulate with his content and engaging with his listeners, his timely message inspires and reaches people of all ages and affiliations.

PRIESTS FOR LIFE

Reflection on today's readings - The wedding at Cana is not just about Jesus helping a couple in need. It is about his wedding to us, fulfilling the prophecy of Isaiah in the first reading: "Your Builder shall marry you." Jesus, by revealing his glory publicly in this way, and having his disciples begin to believe in him, inaugurates the marriage that will be consummated on the cross. The fierce love that God has for human life cannot be overstated or exaggerated. That's why its sanctity, and the absolute obligation to defend that sanctity, likewise cannot be overstated or exaggerated. To trample human life is to trample upon God's bride.

The water becoming wine further symbolizes the fact that Jesus Christ elevates human life and human love to a new kind of life and love: that which is shared within the life of the Trinity. We have human life; now in Christ we are called to partake of Divine life. We experience human love; now in Christ we are called to experience Divine love.

As we do so, we help one another find, manifest, and grow in that life and love. That's where the many ministries of the Church, as summarized in the Second Reading, come in. All of it is in the service of human life, called to Divine marriage. www.priestsforlife.org

That's The Way It Is



On Friday, January 18, 2019, the 46th annual March for Life will take place in Washington D.C. The March for Life is a witness to the sanctity of unborn human life and also to the scourge of abortion. It has taken place every year since the handing down of Roe V. Wade January 22, 1972. This is the infamous SCOTUS decision that

legalized abortion.

Many in the pro-life community believe that the gold standard of pro-life goals is the overturning of Roe. V. Wade. I have begun to wonder whether this is a feasible goal. When Justice Anthony Kennedy announced his retirement from the SCOTUS, a cry of excitement, anticipation and jubilation went up from the pro-life community. Many abortion supporters panicked because they too understood the significance of Justice Kennedy's retirement and potential danger to Roe that it presented. Abortion supporters knew what the pro-lifers knew: after all these years, we will have the opportunity to potentially change the balance of the court. After all these years, we have the opportunity to get a real pro-life justice confirmed. Finally, that all important yet elusive fifth vote to overturn Roe could come with the next appointment.

No one ultimately knows whether the newly confirmed Justice Kavanaugh will fulfill the expectations and hopes of those who are pro-life. If his vote declining to take a case involving defunding Planned Parenthood is any indication, he will probably prove to be a huge disappointment just like his predecessor was. Now my point: the pro-life community, put all their eggs in one basket. They pinned their hopes on the SCOTUS and getting that elusive fifth vote ever since Roe was handed down---only to be let down over and over and over again. Appointment after appointment came and went and the justices did not pan out as the pro-life community had hoped. This makes me wonder if, for now, we accept that the war on abortion is not going to be won in the courts. Perhaps we need to take the battle out of the court room and fight it where the courts have no control.

Where is that you ask? The human heart. If we work to change hearts and minds, if we can reach people with our message, if we can help them understand what abortion really is, abortion will be eradicated. The problem, as I see it, is that 90% of those who support abortion do not really understand what it is they are supporting. Abortion supporters think they are actually supporting women's rights. Abortion supporters think they are supporting choice and freedom. This is because the abortion lobby has been very successful at changing the terms of the discussion and reframing the debate. They have also been very successful at redefining what it means to be pro-life. They have broadened the definition of pro-life in such a

way as to make it meaningless. This allows abortion supporters to masquerade as pro-life because they are against the death penalty, war, guns, poverty, etc. This gives the false impression that abortion is on the same moral plane as any other issue; that it is just one issue among many competing issues that carry the same moral weight and importance.

I think the pro-life community needs to keep up the witness value, certainly. You have no idea who you are reaching, but God does. Remember that when we witness, it is like planting a seed. That seed may not sprout and grow until years down the line. We also have to accept that we may never see or realize the fruits of our labor until we meet God. What this means is that we may never know in this life how much our efforts and hard work paid off. Perhaps in heaven, we will meet someone that we find out was born and their lives were saved because of our efforts. That person was allowed to live and grow and experience love because of us. We cannot get discouraged when we see no immediate effects of our efforts. God rarely works immediately. God works and thinks in the long term, not the short term. We think in years, God thinks from the perspective of eternity.

I also think we need to work hard at educating people. We have to help people understand what support of abortion really means. The way to do this is to keep the discussion centered on abortion. When a person tells me they are not pro-abortion, but they are "pro-choice" I press them to define what they mean by "choice." As they continue to clarify, I continue to press them further with questions that lead to more clarifications. Ultimately one of two things happen: 1) they realize where their logic is headed and refuse to talk further or 2) They come to a realization: the issue really is abortion. "Choice" and "freedom" are nothing more than Euphemisms for abortion. I find simply asking questions to be a very effective tactic.

Finally, we also have to help people understand what it means to be pro-life. Abortion is not compatible with a pro-life stance regardless of one's views on the death penalty, poverty, immigration, war, etc. Abortion is not just one issue among other equally important issues. Abortion is fundamental. Consider: If someone is going to tell me the life of an unborn person does not matter, I find it difficult, if not impossible to understand how or why the life of someone on death row matters. On what basis does an abortion supporter demand that we recognize the dignity of the life of a capital criminal when they turn around and deny the dignity of the lives of the unborn? The Life as a Seamless Garment analogy that is once again all the rage in moral theology circles works both ways.

That's the way it is,

The Reverend David W. Bechtel

Pastor

News From the Vatican



PARENTS, YOUR TASK IS TO TRANSMIT THE FAITH TO YOUR CHILDREN, WITH YOUR EXAMPLE

Pope Francis has reminded parents of their task: transmit the faith to their children. He stressed that they must do so with their own example,

with their own life of faith, and not just through later studies at catechesis, but at the home, making their children see Jesus there and know Him. He reminded the parents of the importance of passing on the faith to their children and the great responsibility it entails. The Pope stressed: "this faith must develop. It must grow."

This task of transmitting the faith falls on you - Someone could say: yes, yes, they need to study it. Yes. When they go to catechesis, they will study well the faith. They will learn the faith. But before studying the faith, the faith must be transmitted, and this is a task that falls on you. "This is your task: the transmission of the faith. And this you do at home, because the faith always must be transmitted in dialect, in the dialect of the family, of the home. This is your task, to transmit the faith with example, with words, teaching them how to make the Sign of the Cross. This is important."

The Pope lamented that there are children who do not know how to make the Sign of the Cross. "They do something like this [and the Pope demonstrated how some who have no idea of how to make the Sign of the Cross attempt to do it], and you do not understand what it is."

For Children to See Jesus Is There, Is the Important Thing - "The important thing is to transmit the faith with your life of faith, that they see the love of the spouses, the peace of the home, that they see that Jesus is there."

The Holy Father also apologized for making a delicate suggestion, namely to not fight in front of children, nor let them hear. While he admitted quarreling here and there is absolutely normal in marriage, do not underestimate the effect this has on the little ones.

Our Baptism: Keep Its Roots Alive, for They are Roots of Our Eternal Life - After baptizing a group of newborns earlier Pope Francis said, "We pray for them and for their families. And, on this occasion, I renew to everyone the invitation to always keep alive the memory of one's baptism."

"There are the roots of our life in God; the roots of our eternal life, which Jesus Christ gave us with his own Incarnation, Passion, Death and Resurrection."

Vatican News Service

News From the USCCB

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY



At least once a year, Christians are reminded of Jesus' prayer for his disciples that "they may be one so that the world may believe" Hearts are touched and Christians come together to pray for their unity.. The event that touches off this special experience is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

Traditionally the week of prayer is celebrated between 18-25 January, between the feasts of St Peter and St Paul. In the southern hemisphere, where January is a vacation time, churches often find other days to celebrate it, for example around Pentecost, which is also a symbolic date for unity.

The theme of this year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is "**Justice, Only Justice, You Shall Pursue**" (Deuteronomy 16:18-20). Christian communities "become newly aware of their unity as they join in a common concern and a common response to an unjust reality. At the same time, confronted by these injustices, we are obliged, as Christians, to examine the ways in which we are complicit. Only by heeding Jesus's prayer 'that they all may be one' can we witness to living unity in diversity. It is through our unity in Christ that we will be able to combat injustice and serve the needs of its victims."

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity has a history of over 100 years, in which Christians around the world have taken part in an octave of prayer for visible Christian unity. By annually observing the WPCU, Christians move toward the fulfillment of Jesus' prayer at the Last Supper "that they all may be one."

Prayer to recite during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

God of justice, you have revealed yourself as the One who brings about justice and unity through your Son Jesus Christ.

As the Church experiences a lack of unity, you call us by name to heal what divides us.

Make us truly one in the eternal pursuit of justice.

Eternal God, let us love one another in His name, One with You and the Holy Spirit, living and true, now and forever.

Amen

Diocese of Scranton News

5TH ANNUAL CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

The 5th Annual Catholic Men's Conference for the Diocese of Scranton will be held on Saturday, April 27th at Holy Redeemer High School, 159 South Pennsylvania Avenue, Wilkes Barre, PA. A most important day for the future of our faith, featuring keynote presentations by Fr. Philip B. Bochanski, the executive director of Courage International, who speaks on the good news of living chaste lives, along with well-known psychologist, speaker, and EWTN TV host, Dr. Ray Guarendi. Our third speaker will be motivational speaker, apologist, and TV host of "Battle Ready," Doug Barry. You will hear Doug explain the BATTLE READY effort to be more AWARE of, PREPARED for and ENGAGED in the battles that we all face, body, mind, and soul. Every one of us is in the thick of the spiritual battle. Many do not see it and consequently are unprepared for it. The outcome of that scenario is devastating. The primary goal of BATTLE READY is to help others know how to deal with the attacks of the world, the flesh and the devil. A must awareness for Catholic men!

There will be opportunities for Eucharistic Adoration, the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, as well as praying the Rosary. Additionally, exhibitors will be present with a full array of Catholic books and publications as well as CD's and ministry opportunities.

Fathers, sons, grandsons, and friends are all most welcome to register for the event. Bishop Joseph C. Bambera will be the celebrant for the closing Mass.

The idea for this year's event was initiated by laymen from various parishes, with the support of their pastors, in an effort to address challenging issues facing men in today's culture.

St. Peter's will once again provide transportation, through Benedict's Bus Service, to the conference.

Register on line at www.beamanconference.com, call 570-207-2213 (Diocesan Pastoral Center), or mail the completed application with your check to: Men's Conference, Office of Parish Life, 330 Wyoming Ave, Scranton, PA 18503.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

His Excellency, the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera and the Office for Parish Life wish to invite couples celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversary in 2019 to a diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, June 30th. The event includes a 2:30 pm mass at St. Peter's Cathedral followed by a reception. Requests for an invitation, with a mailing address, should be made through your pastor before April 2nd.

ANNUAL APPEAL

Thank you to those who have already made a pledge to the Diocesan Annual Appeal.

St. Peter's Annual Appeal Parish Goal: \$ 46,500

Current Pledged Amount: \$ 34,978

If you have not yet given your support, please: Call the Development Office at 570-207-2250, to make a pledge or give a gift by credit card, Mail a check to the Diocesan Appeal Office at 300 Wyoming Ave., Scranton, PA 18503, or Give online at www.DiocesefofScranton.org.

Our parish is reimbursed 75% for any gifts made to the Appeal in excess of our Appeal goal.

SAVE THE DATE – WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

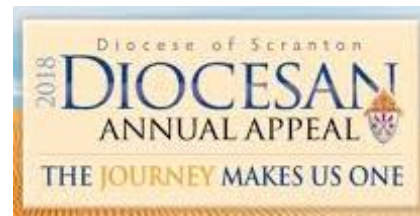
Save the date for the 2nd Annual Catholic Women's Conference. This year's theme is *Come to the Well*. The conference will be held on Saturday, June 22, 2019 at the University of Scranton. More information will be published as we near the date.

Notice Regarding Sexual Abuse of a Child


It is the policy of the Diocese of Scranton to report any allegation of sexual abuse of a minor to law enforcement. If you are a victim of sexual abuse committed by a priest, deacon, religious or lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton, you are encouraged to immediately report the matter to law enforcement. If any priest, deacon, religious, lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton has cause or reason to suspect that a minor has been subjected to any form of abuse, including child sexual abuse, the matter will be reported to law enforcement. In accordance with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Child Protective Services Laws, reports of suspected child abuse should also be made immediately by phone to the 24-Hour Child Abuse hotline (ChildLine) at 1-800-932-0313 or at www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis.

It is also the policy of the Diocese to adhere to all civil and state regulations. To this end, the Diocese is equally committed to adhering to the norms of the Code of Canon Law and to upholding the tenets of the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, which includes supporting victims of sexual abuse in their pursuit of emotional and spiritual well-being. As such, information regarding an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor should also be reported to the Victim Assistance Coordinator Mary Beth Pacuska at (570-862-7551) or to Diocesan officials, including the Vicar General, Monsignor Thomas M. Muldowney, at (570-207-2269).

**"Let us look at our hands, often so empty of love,
and today let us try to think of some gift we can offer freely." Pope Francis**



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Parish Prayer List



Nettie Mays, Nan Bowser, Trish Knowlton, Judy Nagel, Sue Evert, Valerie Tobin, Shirley Mekos Broughton, Donna Brennan, Mary Mekos, Antoinette Davis, Jonathan Hardman, Stephen Hurd, Stephanie Hemighaus, Suzie Alexander, Larry Sasani, Wendy Doan-Newcomb, Syler Sullivan, Adrienne Gilbert, Rita Grinnan, Bob Murphy, Sylvia Smith, 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, 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, Bob Snyder, Don Brooks, Paul Beuter, Jerry Eckert, Cole Salerno, Mark Kilmer, Frank Dziengowski, Jr., Stephen Horvatch, Fr. Paul Mullen, Helene Carpenter, Clark Hewitt, Everett Dean Brown, Roberta Mahar, Bud Boyce, Marian Coolidge, Kay Evans, Elizabeth Payne, Cindy Sereno, Denny Young, Cindy Copp, Carolyn Tester, Tom Brown, Richard Stankiewicz, Jim Callahan, Mary Antoniwi, Ruth Russell, Edward "Turk" Cruttenden, Agnes Worden, Larry Mommicco, Anne Marie Beuter, Carol Fasick, Skip Warriner, Jim Honeywell, Beverly Willsea, Stephanie Calicchia, Jacoby Aratari, Doris Coumbe, Michael Bowen, Lou Kirby, Linda Kichline, Shannon Pierce Jones, and Arlene Froutz.



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

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.