

# St. Peter's Church



**8<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**March 3, 2019**

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](http://www.stpeterswellsboro.org) ~ Email: [stpch@ptd.net](mailto:stpch@ptd.net)

## **Rectory Office Hours**

Monday through Thursday 9:00–2:00pm

## **Parish Staff**

Pastor: Rev. David Bechtel – [Dbechtel00@yahoo.com](mailto:Dbechtel00@yahoo.com)  
 Secretary: Connie Spang – [stpch@ptd.net](mailto:stpch@ptd.net)  
 Business Manager: Patti Mitchell – [stpadm@ptd.net](mailto:stpadm@ptd.net)  
 Directors of Religious Ed.: Maureen Poirier & Melissa Mann  
[stpored@ptd.net](mailto: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.

## **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<sup>th</sup> grade. Classes begin in September and conclude in May. Pre-K (ages 3-5) is held during the 8:30am Mass. K-12<sup>th</sup> 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-4<sup>th</sup>) 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 \_\_\_\_\_

## **DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?**

### **Suggestions from Pope Francis**

**Fast from hurting words and say kind words.**  
**Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.**  
**Fast from anger and be filled with patience.**  
**Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.**  
**Fast from worries and trust in God.**  
**Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.**  
**Fast from pressures and be prayerful.**  
**Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.**  
**Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.**  
**Fast from grudges and be reconciled.**  
**Fast from words so you can be silent so you can listen.**

## **Parish Contact Listing**

Women's Bible Study – Sue Singer 570-724-2360  
 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

# 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

March 3, 2019

Date	Time	Confession Time and Mass Intention
Monday 3/4	No Mass	
Tuesday 3/5	7:30am	In Memory of Ed Welfling (Wayne & Sue Singer)
Wednesday 3/6	7:30am 12:10pm 7:00pm	Liturgy of the Word with Distribution of Ashes In Memory of Christopher Rymarczuk (Dy Family) In Memory of Tom Sticklin ( Family)
Thursday 3/7	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions In Memory of Lillian Pickle (Dale & Rose Marie Aulthouse)
Friday 3/8	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions In Memory of Chua Pue Tin (Dy Family)
Saturday 3/9	4:15-4:45pm 5:00pm	Confessions All Living and Deceased Members of St. Peter's Parish
Sunday 3/10	8:30am	In Memory of Cecilia Gamble (Mike & Connie McNamara)

The Sanctuary Candle is offered in Memory of  
Margaret Zona (Anthony Family)

## The Week Ahead

### SUNDAY, March 3, 2019

Religious Ed–Pre-School:8:30-9:30am; K-12<sup>th</sup>:9:30-10:40am  
RCIA – 9:30am, Parish Center

### TUESDAY, March 5, 2019

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

### WEDNESDAY, March 6, 2019

Broad Acres Liturgy – 10:30am  
Green Home Liturgy – 2:00pm

### THURSDAY, March 7, 2019

Cards & Games – 12:00pm, Parish Center  
EMHC Training – 7:00pm, Church

### FRIDAY, March 8, 2019

Rectory Closed

### SUNDAY, March 10, 2019

Religious Ed–Pre-School:8:30-9:30am; K-12<sup>th</sup>:9:30-10:40am  
RCIA – 9:30am, Parish Center  
Secular Carmelites – 11:30am, Parish Center  
Parish Mission – 7:00pm, Church

**FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS** - This month's food pantry items are: Creamy Peanut Butter & Grape Jelly. 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, eye drops, lip balms, 1# coffee, coffee singles, candy bars, M&M's & Reece's, microwave popcorn & personal notes.* A donation box can be found at the entrance of the church.

### ST. THOMAS/ST. CATHERINE MASS SCHEDULE

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

## Ministers of the Altar Schedule

### March 6<sup>th</sup> Ash Wednesday

#### **12:10pm -**

Lectors: T.Reindl, D.Sherman

E. Min.: K.Wilcox, T.Straniere, N.Josten, L.Whitney

#### **7:00pm -** Altar Servers: E.Benjamin, L.Germino, W.Feil

Lectors: R.Kramer, P.Kramer

E. Min.: V.Anthony, I.Dziengowski, B.Butler

### March 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>

#### **5:00pm -** Altar Servers: E.Poirier, W.Poirier, J.Poirier

Lectors: G.Poirier, P.Walrath

E. Min.: I.Dziengowski, B.Chiamonte, V.Anthony, B.Butler

#### **8:30am -** Altar Servers: L.Singer, Z.Singer, B.Levindoski

Lectors: M.Sampson, H.Sampson

E. Min.: N.Ostapowicz, M.Stirnaman, A.Singer, M.Osborn

## 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<sup>th</sup> 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. prepares those who are unbaptized for full initiations into the Catholic Church. The program is adapted to the needs of each person. Contact the Rectory for more information.



## Liturgical Reflection

8<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**FIRST READING: Sirach 27:4-7**

The First Reading presents a series of wisdom sayings that speak of finding out what really lies in peoples' hearts. They can put on a false front that hides what is inside of them, yet it is when they speak and when they are tested by adversity that whatever lies inside is revealed. This theme will be continued in the Gospel where it speaks of good trees bearing good fruit and bad trees bearing bad fruit, continuing the tree imagery seen here.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 92**

The Responsorial Psalm also continues the tree imagery. The just will be like the palm tree, large, fruitful, and visible from a distance and like the cedar of Lebanon, which was a common symbol in the Old Testament for strength and beauty. This is a wisdom psalm that calls us to choose a righteous path. We have to choose to live in God's ways and reject anything that might distract us from our true goal. We must praise and thank God, placing him at the center of our lives and our love.

**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:54-58**

Paul also reflects on the harvest of our sinful nature or of our virtue. Those who are embedded in the life of sin and corruption, are destined for death. For those who are "steadfast and persevering," death wins no definitive victory; the harvest is eternal life. The good people, who are "fully engaged in the work of the Lord," know their toil is not in vain. They shall bear fruit for eternal life.

**GOSPEL: Luke 6:39-45**



The Gospel, like the First Reading, contains a series of wisdom sayings. The first is about a blind person leading a blind person. It reminds us to be careful in choosing our

spiritual guides and to choose someone who truly believes in the truth. The second saying concerns judging others and ignoring one's own faults. We often hate in others what we see in ourselves. We should be brutally honest with ourselves and deal with our own problems before we set about to solve the problems of the world. Finally, there is a saying about bearing good fruit. Sometimes it is difficult to decide whether a person is in the right. Jesus counsels us to watch for the fruit that they bear. If the fruit is division and discord, then something is wrong. If it is compassion and love, then such a person is truly in the Lord. We have an excellent guide in Jesus, who instructs us with confidence. The excellent teacher tells us that "from the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks."

## Parish News and Activities

**THANK YOU!**

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way to make the Polish Dinner a success. A special thank you to Paul Urner for chairing the event. A financial report will be included in next week's bulletin.

### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER OF HOLY COMMUNION TRAINING

Training for anyone interested in becoming part of the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion ministry, will be held on Thurs., March 7<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm in the church.

### SAVE THE DATE

St. Peter's annual spring rummage sale will be held April 2<sup>nd</sup> – April 4<sup>th</sup>. When you are spring cleaning, please consider donating household items, books and clothing. Donations can be dropped off on March 31<sup>st</sup> from 11:00am - 3:00pm, and April 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

### REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

As part of our ongoing safety and security procedures, we would like to make sure that we have current information for all parishioners. Please take a minute to fill out the form below and return it to the rectory as soon as possible. You can place your form in the collection basket, email it to stpadm@ptd.net, mail it to the rectory, or drop off during open hours. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Family Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Family Members Living At This Address:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cell #:** \_\_\_\_\_

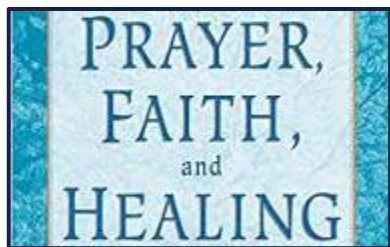
**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**If we were to send out a group email, would you want to be included?** (Events at St. Peter's, changes to Mass schedules, emergency information, etc. Email address would be kept private) \_\_\_\_ **yes** \_\_\_\_ **no**

**If we were to send out a group text message, would you want to be included?** (Events at St. Peter's, changes to Mass schedules, emergency information, etc. Cell numbers would be kept private) \_\_\_\_ **yes** \_\_\_\_ **no**



## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HOSTING A FAITH AND HEALING RETREAT AT ST. PETER'S



On Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, the Knights of Columbus will host a Faith and Healing Retreat at St. Peter's Church. The retreat will include Mass, Adoration, Confession, Discussion, Rosary, Angelus, and a Healing Service.

A video presentation of *Salvation is from the Jew* by Roy Schoeman will be shown. Roy Schoeman was born of Jewish parent who had fled Nazi Germany. Midway through his career as a Harvard professor, he received the grace of several supernatural experiences that resulted in his totally unanticipated and enthusiastic conversion to Christianity. Following his conversion he became active in Catholic evangelization, Catholic TV, and Catholic writing. He is also a popular guest on EWTN shows. In his talks, Roy weaves together his personal witness testimony with discussion of the role of Judaism in salvation history from the beginning to end of time, as illumined in Catholic doctrine. This gives the listener a deeper understanding of Judaism, both as a religion and as a central component of Christian salvation, and sheds light on the unfolding of salvation history leading up to the Second Coming.

### The schedule is as follows:

- 8:45am – Morning Prayer
- 9:00am – Mass
- 9:30am – Adoration and Confession
- 10:00am – Roy Schoeman Video Presentation
- 11:00am – Small Group Discussion
- 11:30am – Recitation of the Rosary
- 12:00pm – Angelus and Lunch (subs, chips, cookies, drink)
- 1:00pm – Healing Service
- 1:30pm – Prayer for a Journey

All are welcome! Reservations: Please call Tom Socha 814-258-7386 or email [tmsoch@gmail.com](mailto:tmsoch@gmail.com).

## Happening at St. Thomas

### SPRING FLING

You are invited to the First Annual Spring Fling Celebration! The celebration will include crafts, door prizes, delicious home cooked food, baked goods, money raffles and basket raffles. The event will take place on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am-2:00pm at the Knoxville Community Center. Admission is \$1.00. Vendors wanted!



## Diocese of Scranton News

### WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

His Excellency, the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera and the Office for Parish Life wish to invite couples celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> or 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in 2019 to a diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, June 30<sup>th</sup>. 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 2<sup>nd</sup>.

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### ANNUAL APPEAL

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

*Our Parish is at 76%*

*Parish Goal: \$ 46,500*

*Current Pledged Amount: \$ 35,463*

If you have not yet given your support, please:

- Call the Development Office at 570-207-2250 to make a pledge or gift by credit card
- Mail a check to the Appeal Office at 300 Wyoming Ave., Scranton, PA 18503, or
- Give online at [www.DiocesefScranton.org](http://www.DiocesefScranton.org).

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

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### CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

**Come to the Well**  
CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

 TERESA TOMEO <i>Keynote Speaker</i>	 JILL METZ <i>Featured Speaker</i>	 SR. MERCY MARIE, SV <i>Featured Speaker</i>	 HIS OWN <i>Musicians</i>	 MEGAN MURPHY <i>Keynote Speaker</i>
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**Saturday, June 22, 2019**  
BYRON CENTER, UNIVERSITY OF SCRANTON

\$40 ADMISSION (EARLY BIRD PRICING UNTIL 6/19/19)  
\$20 STUDENT ADMISSION  
FREE RELIGIOUS

**Register at**  
**CWCNEPA.COM**

RE-FRESH YOUR FAITH

**St. Peter's will provide transportation for any women who want to attend this conference.**

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## 5<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Catholic Men's Conference for the Diocese of Scranton will be held on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at Holy Redeemer High School, Wilkes Barre, 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. 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. 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.

**St. Peter's will provide transportation, through Benedict's Bus Service, to the conference.** Register on line at [www.beamanconference.com](http://www.beamanconference.com), call 570-207-2213, or mail the completed application with your check to: Men's Conference, Office of Parish Life, 330 Wyoming Ave, Scranton, PA 18503.

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## News from the Vatican



### LENTEN MESSAGE CALLS FOR CONVERSION

In his message for Lent, Pope Francis warns that once God's law is forsaken, the law of the strong over the weak takes over. Pope Francis is calling on the faithful not to let the Lenten season

of grace pass in vain, and to live as children of God acknowledging and obeying His law, in particular in regards to our brothers and sisters and to creation.

In this year's Lenten message, the Pope invites believers to prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery with mind and heart renewed, warning that "Sin leads man to consider himself the god of creation, to see himself as its absolute master and to use it, not for the purpose willed by the Creator but for his own interests."

The Pope's Lenten message was released on Tuesday and the theme chosen this year is "For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God" (Rom 8:19)

"Let us leave behind our selfishness and self-absorption, and turn to Jesus' Pasch. Let us stand beside our brothers and sisters in need, sharing our spiritual and material goods with them." This is one of the key

passages of Pope Francis' Lenten Message for 2019. Reflecting on a verse from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans, the Pope highlights how the season before Easter must be a time to "welcome Christ's victory over sin and death into our lives," and attract "its transforming power to all of creation."

Appealing to the faithful to not allow this season of grace to pass in vain, Pope Francis says that if, the Lent of the Son of God was an entry into the desert of creation to make it become again that garden of communion with God that it was before the original sin. Christians today are invited to embody the paschal mystery more deeply and concretely in their personal, family and social lives, above all by fasting, prayer and almsgiving.

Fasting, the Pope says, means turning away from the temptation to "devour" everything to satisfy our voracity; prayer teaches us to abandon idolatry and the self-sufficiency of our ego; almsgiving, whereby we escape from the insanity of hoarding everything for ourselves in the illusory belief that we can secure a future that does not belong to us. If we follow this journey, he said it "is possible to rediscover the joy of God's plan for creation and for each of us, which is to love him, our brothers and sisters, and the entire world, and to find in this love our true happiness."

The path to Easter demands that "we renew our faces and hearts as Christians through repentance, conversion and forgiveness," the Pope said, pointing out that it is a call that involves the whole of creation. This "eager longing," this expectation of all creation, Pope Francis says, will be fulfilled in the revelation of the children of God, that is, when Christians and all people enter decisively into the "travail" that conversion entails.

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## Pro Life News

*Be the Voice of the Voiceless* - "Today we stand before new challenges that call us to be the voice of the voiceless. The child growing in its mother's womb and people who are in their declining years are a claim for dignified life that cries out to heaven and that cannot but make us shudder. The liberalization and routinization of abortion practices are abominable crimes, just as are euthanasia, genetic and embryonic manipulation, unethical medical testing, capital punishment, and many other ways of assaulting the dignity and life of the human being. If we want to maintain a solid and inviolable basis for human rights, we absolutely must recognize that human life must always be defended from the very moment of conception. Otherwise, the circumstances and conveniences of the powerful will always find excuses for abusing persons." Cardinal Bergoglio of Buenos Aires (now Pope Francis) 2007

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## That's The Way It Is



"Unplanned" is the name of a movie set to be released on March 29th. The movie tells the story of one Abby Johnson. Abby Johnson was born in 1980 and is 38 years old. She was raised in a conservative home and raised to be pro-life. Despite the values her parents instilled in her, she found her way to Planned Parenthood when she was in college. At the time, Johnson had never heard of Planned Parenthood, nor was she aware that they performed abortions. Amazingly, Planned Parenthood told Johnson that they wanted to reduce the number of abortions. In 2001, Johnson became a volunteer for Planned Parenthood. Johnson, notwithstanding her upbringing, described herself as extremely pro-abortion. She eventually worked her way to becoming the director of the Planned Parenthood clinic in Byron Texas.

Johnson was turned off by pro-life activists. Given her experience, I can understand why. During her time at Planned Parenthood, she escorted women who came for abortions and was heckled by the pro-life activists. She also received death threats from those who claim to be pro-life. Before I continue: please tell me I do not need to state the obvious: no one who understands what it is to be pro-life would make death threats, nor would they heckle women who come to Planned Parenthood. Let me make it clear: a person who calls themselves pro-life yet behaves in such a manner is about as "pro-life" as a pro-abortion Catholic, is, well, "Catholic." Said Johnson of her experience with "pro-life" activists: "It's very scary, this group of people that claim to be these peaceful prayer warriors, or whatever they call themselves, it's kind of ironic that some of them would be sending death threats." Indeed. Johnson did such a great job for Planned Parenthood that she was named employee of the year 2008.

Johnson converted and is now pro-life. What changed her? Well, it turns out that she claims to have assisted on an ultrasound abortion procedure for a 13 week old fetus. Planned Parenthood, however, challenges those claims and says there is no record of such a procedure taking place on the day she alleges she assisted on the procedure. Planned Parenthood also claims that they would not have asked her to assist in the procedure in the first place. Planned Parenthood also alleges that she resigned four days after being placed on a performance review. They further allege that she stole confidential files and documents. Johnson denies doing so.

Who is telling the truth? For the sake of argument, I will give Planned Parenthood the benefit of the doubt in this case. What is not in question is that at some point,

something happened that caused Johnson to become pro-life. What is not in question is that she resigned her position at the clinic and is now a pro-life activist. What is not in question is that she had two abortions before the birth of her daughter. What is not in question that Johnson and her husband converted to the Catholic Faith in 2012. For a brief time her and her husband were Episcopalian but found themselves ostracized by the Church after becoming pro-life. Finally, what is not in question is that Johnson founded a ministry "And Then There Were None." This ministry is directed to those who work in abortion clinics and seeks to help them leave the industry.

"Unplanned" is a movie that tells Johnson's story. The movie, ironically, is rated R because it recreates some scenes of the abortion procedure. Yes—you read that right: the movie is rated R because of those scenes. Given the fact that movies rated PG-13 have violence, light sexual content and bad language, the fact that this movie is rated R just because it recreates scenes from abortion procedures is a bit of a left-handed compliment to pro-lifers. The fact that the movie is rated R is an implicit affirmation of what pro-lifers have been saying all along: abortion is an act of violence. Abortion is an act of violence against an innocent human life. Words like "choice" "freedom" and "health care" are just euphemisms abortion supporters employ to make abortion sound like something it isn't.

I don't know whether the movie will be released in our area. I don't even know if it will be good. Notwithstanding, I recommend that you see it if you can. If it is not released in our area, my hope is that it will eventually be released on home media applications such as DVD, Amazon on Demand or Netflix. If you happen to support abortion, please: take the time to see the movie. What is the absolute worst that will happen? You will come away regretting that you spent \$10 dollars on a bad movie and wasted two or so hours of your life. So what? The best that could happen—is you come away understanding better what it really means to be pro-life and rethink your support of abortion rights.

That's the way it is,

The Reverend David W. Bechtel, Pastor

### Stewardship

Sunday Collection February 24, 2019: \$4,843.00

Weekly Goal to Meet Expenses: \$5,800.00

Difference: (\$ 957.00)

Year-to-Date Budget Variance: (\$11,5502.74)

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



# LENT IS COMING

HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

**Ash Wednesday** is on 6 March 2019  
Day of Fasting and Abstinence

**Lent lasts 40 days** (excluding Sundays)

**The three pillars of Lent are:** prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

**Ash Wednesday and Good Friday** are days of fasting (one primary meal and two lesser meals) and abstinence from meat.

**All Fridays in Lent** are days of abstinence from meat.

## The Light is On For You!

The schedule for Monday Night Confessions will be as follows:

St. Peter's – March 11<sup>th</sup>, April 1<sup>st</sup> **5:30-7:00pm**  
St. Catherine – March 18<sup>th</sup>, April 8<sup>th</sup>  
St. Thomas – March 25<sup>th</sup>, April 15<sup>th</sup>

## 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.

This year's theme is *Love – 1 Corinthians 4-8*. The schedule below lists the church who will host the luncheon, and the verse being preached on for that day.

March 6<sup>th</sup> – First Presbyterian Church – Verse 4a  
March 13<sup>th</sup> – Lutheran & Vineyard Churches – Verse 4b  
March 20<sup>th</sup> – United Methodist Church – Verse 5  
March 27<sup>th</sup> – Seventh Day Adventist – Verse 6  
April 3<sup>rd</sup> – St. Peter's Church – Verse 7  
April 10<sup>th</sup> – First Baptist Church – Verse 8

*All our welcome and encouraged to attend!*

## PARISH MISSION TO BE HELD AT ST. PETER'S

Fr. Ray Collins from the Saint John Neumann Shrine in Philadelphia will be celebrating and preaching at all of the Masses the weekend of March 10<sup>th</sup>, the First Sunday of Lent.

On Sunday and Monday evenings, March 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, we will gather at St. Peter's for evening prayer beginning at 7:00pm. This will be followed by Fr. Collins speaking on St. John Neumann and his spirituality, along with sharing information on a few relics of the saint, Fr. Collins will bring with him. Beginning the season of Lent with reflections on the life and spirituality of Saint John Neumann will be a great way to begin the season of Lent.

**All are invited!**

## Ash Wednesday Mass Schedule March 6<sup>th</sup>

**7:30am** – Liturgy of the Word with Distribution of Ashes









**12:10pm** – Mass

**7:00pm** – Mass

## WOMEN'S RETREAT LENTEN DAY OF REFLECTION

A women's retreat and Lenten Day of Reflection will be held on Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at St. Eulalia's church, Coudersport, PA. The day will begin with Mass at 11:00am, followed by the program from 12:00-3:00pm, and dinner at 3:00pm. The cost is \$20.00 per person. The retreat will feature Judy Hehr, a spiritual motivator and inspirational speaker. Judy was a college dropout, single, homeless, drug addicted, and bankrupt by age 20, but a mom of 4 and a millionaire by the age of 34. Scorned, broken, and almost divorced by the age of 37, Judy is now a seminary graduate and thriving in a sanctified marriage. Her message of hope centers on her journey from captivity to freedom, and uses her sense of humor and real struggles from her personal life to compel her audience and connect theology to daily reality. The power behind her life journey will expand self-awareness, enrich attitudes, rekindle love for Christ, and encourage a personal relationship with God. For more information contact Sue Singer 570-724-2360

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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 Antoniow, 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, Arlene Froutz, and Steve Ziemak.



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

Ed Welfling

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.