St. Peter's Church



2nd Sunday of Easter April 28, 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_	 	 	

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 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.



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

Date	Time	Confession Time and Mass Intention		
Monday 4/29	No Mass			
Tuesday 4/30	No Mass	No daily Mass this week.		
Wednesday 5/1	No Mass	Fr. Bechtel is away at the annual		
Thursday 5/2	No Mass	Priest Convocation.		
Friday 5/3	No Mass			
Saturday 5/4	4:15-4:45pm 5:00pm	Confessions In Memory of Christopher Rymarczuk (Dio & Marilyn deGuzman)		
Sunday 5/5	8:30am	In Memory of Jean Getgen (Joan Getgen)		

The Sanctuary Candle is offered in Memory of Rachel Lynn Marrucci (John & Valerie Fornagiel)

The Week Ahead

SUNDAY, April 28, 2019

Religious Ed-Pre-School:8:30-9:30am; K-8th:9:30-10:40am

TUESDAY, April 30, 2019

No Adoration

Women's Bible Study – 9:00am, Parish Center

AA/Al-Anon – 8:00pm, Parish Center

WEDNESDAY, May 1, 2019

ChristLife – 6:30pm, Parish Center

THURSDAY, May 2, 2019

Cards & Games – 12:00pm, Parish Center

Mandated Reporter Training – 6:00pm, Parish Center

FRIDAY, May 3, 2019

Rectory Closed

SUNDAY, May 5, 2019

May Crowning – 8:30am Mass

Religious Ed-Pre-School:8:30-9:30am

Religious Ed End of Year Social – 9:30am, Parish Center

Secular Carmelites

ST. THOMAS/ST. CATHERINE MASS SCHEDULE

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

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, sunscreen, trail mix, flavored sunflower seeds, beef jerky, slim jims, Oreos, tootsie pops, lollipops & personal notes. A donation box can be found at the entrance of the church.

Ministers of the Altar Schedule

May 4th/5th

5:00pm

Altar Servers: M.Mann, A.Tokarz, W.Steinbacher

Lectors: P.Walrath, C.Evert

E. Min.: D.Sherman, T.Tokarz, D.Kerestes, T.Straniere

8:30am

Altar Servers: L.Germino, M.Ingerick, J.Lubera

Lectors: T.Delmott, N.Kennedy

E. Min.: D.Stager, L.Stager, K.Wilcox, J.Josten

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. 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

Divine Mercy Sunday FIRST READING: Acts 5:12-16

The First Reading speaks of the success of the early mission of the apostles. Even though people were frightened by what the leaders of the Jews might do to those who listened to or joined the disciples, they nevertheless recognized that the Lord was working through them. God would not allow humans to obstruct the spread of the Good News.

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? We celebrate the fact that Jesus took our sins upon himself and suffered and died for us. We did not deserve this, but God acted on our behalf and died for us what we could not do for ourselves. He has conquered sin and even death and this fills us with an incredible sense of gratitude.

SECOND READING: Revelation 1:9-13, 17-19

The Second Reading presents images take from the beginning of the Book of Revelation. John receives this vision on the Lord's Day, Sunday. John sees one who is like the Son of Man. He is wearing an ankle-length robe with a gold sash. These are clothes that one would find on the high priest, for Jesus is our high priest. John reacts with fear, for he recognizes that he is in the presence of something very holy; something beyond his understanding. Jesus calms him and speaks of how he once was dead and now he is alive forever. He conquered death forever and offers us the gift of eternal life.

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.

St. Peter's Church

Italian Dinner

Friday, May 10, 2019 4:00 – 7:00pm

Adults - \$10.00 Children (under 12) - \$5.00

Menu:

Chicken Cacciatore,
Pasta with Marinara Sauce,
Pasta with Alfredo Sauce, Meatballs,
Italian Wedding Soup, Salad, Bread
Homemade Desserts
Coffee, Soda, Tea, Lemonade

In order for this dinner to be a success, we need volunteers to work during and after the dinner, donations of some food items and baked goods, and donations of filled baskets for the raffle.

Signup sheets can be found in the back of the church.

Parish News and Activities SOCIAL CONCERNS BABY LAYETTE PROJECT

The Social Concerns committee is again asking your help in providing baby supplies to needy mothers in our area. We will be collecting diapers (size 3, 4 & 5) and crib sheets and pads for Seeds of Hope. We will also be collecting layette items to give to Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hospital maternity ward. These items will be given to new mothers who need basic clothing for their newborns. A tree can be found in the back of church with tags indicating items and sizes needed. If you are a knitter and would like to donate a baby blanket or newborn sweater set, those can also be placed in the boxes provided. We appreciate your help is supporting these new moms and hope we can count on your help. All donations need to be in the boxes at the back of church by Monday, May 6th. Please call Ginny with any questions - 570-724-8496.

SAFETY & SECURITY UPDATE

Reminder, there will be only one entrance open to the Parish Center from the church. If you need to use the restroom during Mass, you will now have to use the door near the lower parking lot entrance (the door right past the Religious Education office.) We know this can be an inconvenience and we appreciate your understanding as we try and make St. Peter's as safe as possible for our parishioners

Religious Education News RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SOCIAL



The last day of the Religious Education Classes will be on May 5th. There will be a donut/coffee/juice social in the parish center following the 8:30am Mass. All are welcome!

MAY CROWNING

The May Crowning, led by our First Holy Communion class, will take place on Sunday, May 5th, at the 8:30am Mass. **All religious education students** are invited to



participate in the procession and *should meet in the Parish Center at 8:15am.* Flowers will be provided. After the procession, students will return to the pews to sit with their family for Mass.

Priests for Life

Reflection on Today's Readings- It is one thing to doubt the fact that Jesus is risen, as Thomas did. We, however, are more likely to doubt the power flowing from that Resurrection, -- a power that can keep us from sin. Today is Divine Mercy Sunday, but mercy is not to be confused with presumption or permission to sin. In fact, it is precisely in giving us commandments that are not burdensome, that God shows his mercy. It is not simply our weakness that God understands. He understands, first of all, our need of him, and the fact that we flourish only by living a life in union with his will. Therefore, his mercy provides us with every ounce of strength we need to actually fulfill commandments, which is the same as to fulfill the demands of love. Love has concrete demands, beginning with a reverence and absolute respect for one another's lives, and the lives of the weakest and most vulnerable in our midst. Actions that deliberately take innocent human life are always contrary to love. Thomas found the strength to believe when he returned to the unity of the Church.. We too will find the strength to believe, to carry out the commandments, and to respect every human life, when we maintain close unity with the Church, the community of believers built on the apostles.

Diocese of Scranton News

ANNUAL APPEAL

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

Our Parish is at 77% of our Parish Goal of \$ 46,500 Current Pledged Amount: \$ 35,963

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.DioceseofScranton.org.

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

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE



St. Peter's will provide transportation for any women who want to attend this conference. Please let the Rectory know if you are planning attending the conference.

Stewardship

Sunday Collection April 21, 2019: \$ 3,432.00

Difference:(\$ 2,368.00)

Year-to-Date Budget Variance:(\$15,118.24)

Easter Collection: \$ 5,396.00*

*Our Easter collection was deposited in our savings account and is not reflected in the above Year-to-Date Variance.

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

That's The Way It Is



That's the Way it Is will return in 2 weeks.

News from the Vatican



POPE FRANCIS' EASTER 'URBI ET ORBI' MESSAGE 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters, Happy Easter!

Today the Church renews the proclamation made by the first

disciples: "Jesus is risen!" And from mouth to mouth, from heart to heart, there resounds a call to praise: "Alleluia, Alleluia!" On this morning of Easter, the perennial youth of the Church and of humanity as a whole, I would like to address each of you in the opening words of my recent Apostolic Exhortation devoted especially to young people: "Christ is alive! He is our hope, and in a wonderful way he brings youth to our world. Everything he touches becomes young, new, full of life. The very first words, then, that I would like to say to every young Christian are these: Christ is alive and he wants you to be alive! He is in you, he is with you and he never abandons you. However far you may wander, he is always there, the Risen One. He calls you and he waits for you to return to him and start over again. When you feel you are growing old out of sorrow, resentment or fear, doubt or failure, he will always be there to restore your strength and your hope."

Dear brothers and sisters, this message is also addressed to every person in the world. The resurrection of Christ is the principle of new life for every man and every woman, for true renewal always begins from the heart, from the conscience. Yet Easter is also the beginning of the new world, set free from the slavery of sin and death: the world open at last to the Kingdom of God, a Kingdom of love, peace and fraternity.

Christ is alive and he remains with us. Risen, he shows us the light of his face, and he does not abandon all those experiencing hardship, pain and sorrow. May he, the Living One, be hope for the beloved Syrian people, victims of an ongoing conflict to which we risk becoming ever more resigned and even indifferent. Now is instead the time for a renewed commitment for a political solution able to respond to people's legitimate hopes for freedom, peace and justice, confront the humanitarian crisis and favor the secure re-

entry of the homeless, along with all those who have taken refuge in neighboring countries, especially Lebanon and Jordan.

Easter makes us keep our eyes fixed on the Middle East, torn by continuing divisions and tensions. May the Christians of the region patiently persevere in their witness to the Risen Lord and to the victory of life over death. I think in particular of the people of Yemen, especially the children, exhausted by hunger and war. May the light of Easter illumine all government leaders and peoples in the Middle East, beginning with Israelis and Palestinians, and spur them to alleviate such great suffering and to pursue a future of peace and stability.

May conflict and bloodshed cease in Libya, where defenseless people are once more dying in recent weeks and many families have been forced to abandon their homes. I urge the parties involved to choose dialogue over force and to avoid reopening wounds left by a decade of conflicts and political instability.

May the Living Christ grant his peace to the entire beloved African continent, still rife with social tensions, conflicts and at times violent forms of extremism that leave in their wake insecurity, destruction and death, especially in Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Nigeria and Cameroon. I think too of Sudan, presently experiencing a moment of political uncertainty; it is my hope that all voices will be heard, and that everyone will work to enable the country to find the freedom, development and well-being to which it has long aspired.

EASTER JOY

- Begin each day by thanking God for all the good things in your life.
- · Give God all of your fears and worries.
- Offer up the suffering and disappointments your experience.
- Do something nice for someone.
- Be a forgiving person. Let go of anger and resentments that drag down your spirit.
- Take a moment to appreciate the beauty of the emerging springtime.
- Don't be afraid to make mistakes. Learn to laugh at yourself.
- Find ways to show family members and friends how much you appreciate them.
- Try to live more simply. Clear out material possessions that are not essential to your happiness.
- End each day by thanking God for all the good things in your life.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

- Divine Mercy Sunday is celebrated on the Second Sunday of Easter. It is based on the private revelations of St. Faustina Kowalska, which recommended a particular devotion to the Divine Mercy.
- ❖In 2000, Pope John Paul II canonized St. Faustina and, during the ceremony, he declared: "It is important then that we accept the whole message that comes to us from the word of God on this Second Sunday of Easter, which from now on throughout the Church will be called Divine Mercy Sunday."
- ❖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 and is not based solely on St. Faustina's revelations. Indeed, it is not primarily about St. Faustina nor is it altogether a new feast. The Second Sunday of Easter was already a solemnity as the Octave Day of Easter. The title "Divine Mercy Sunday" does, however, highlight the meaning of the day.



- The Divine Mercy image is a depiction of Jesus based on a vision that St. Faustina had in 1931. There have been a number of paintings made of this image.
 - A basic explanation of the image is: Jesus is shown in most versions as raising his right hand in blessing, and pointing with his left hand on his chest from which flow forth two rays: one red and one white.
 - The depictions often contains the message "Jesus, I trust in You!"
 - The rays streaming out have symbolic meaning: red for the blood of Jesus (which is the Life of Souls), and pale for the water (which justify souls).
 - The whole image is symbolic of charity, forgiveness and love of God, referred to as the "Fountain of Mercy.
- *How is the Divine Mercy devotion linked to the Scripture readings for the Second Sunday of Easter?
 - The Divine Mercy image depicts Jesus at the moment he appears to the disciples in the Upper Room, after the Resurrection, when he empowers them to forgive or retain sins.
 - This moment is recorded in John 20:19-31, which is the Gospel reading for this Sunday in all three yearly Sunday liturgical cycles (A, B, and C).
 - This reading is placed on this day because it includes the appearance of Jesus to the Apostle Thomas (in which Jesus invites him to touch his wounds). This event occurred on the eighth day after the Resurrection (John 20:26), and so it is used on the liturgy eight days after Easter.



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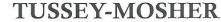


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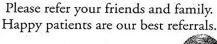


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A Gift in Your Will

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:

"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."

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BULLETIN ADVERTISING SPACE AVAILABLE

We currently have advertising space available in our weekly bulletin. If you are interested in placing an ad, please call the rectory.

Parish Prayer List

PRAYERS

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, 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 Antoniw, 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.



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.