St. Peter's Church



3rd Sunday of Easter May 5, 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 5/6	No Mass	
Tuesday 5/7	7:30am	In Memory of Mary Agnes Bushner (David & Alice Bechtel)
Wednesday 5/8	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions In Memory of Patrick Murphy (Fr. Bechtel)
Thursday 5/9	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions In Memory of Cecelia Gamble (Frank & Camille Colosimo)
Friday 5/10	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions In Memory of Gerald Mathews (Grab Family)
Saturday 5/11	4:15-4:45pm 5:00pm	Confessions Our Mother's Day Intentions
Sunday 5/12	8:30am	Our Mother's Day Intentions

The Sanctuary Candle is offered in Honor of Wendy Doan Newcomb (Dan & Betsy)

The Week Ahead

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

TUESDAY, May 6, 2019

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

Parish Council Meeting – 7:00pm

AA/Al-Anon – 8:00pm, Parish Center

WEDNESDAY, May 7, 2019

Finance Council Meeting – 8:00am, Rectory Italian Dinner Prep – 8:00am, Parish Center

Social Concerns Meeting – 3:30pm, Parish Center

THURSDAY, May 9, 2019

Cards & Games – 12:00pm, Parish Center

MOMSNext – 6:00pm, Parish Center

FRIDAY, May 10, 2019

Italian Dinner – 4:00-7:00pm, Parish Center

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 11th/12th

5:00pm

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

Lectors: T.Sampson, L.Sampson

E. Min.: B.Butler, T.Knowlton, G.Poirier, B.Chiaramonte

8:30am

Altar Servers: L.Singer, Z.Singer, X.Tellgren

Lectors: R.Kramer, P.Kramer

E. Min.: K.Tellgren, M.Bialas, A.Singer, M.Stirnaman

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

3rd Sunday of Easter FIRST READING: Acts 5:27-31, 40-41

The Acts of the Apostles continues to tell the story of the spread of the Gospel in the days following the Resurrection and the Ascension of Jesus. This Sunday we again hear of the Apostles and the ongoing conflict with the Sanhedrin. To keep them from preaching about Jesus, the authorities had the Apostles jailed. But an angel of God secretly released them during the night and ordered them to resume their preaching in the Temple area. The authorities puzzle over how these men escaped locked cells, but the Apostles are convinced God is directing their fate. That is why, after this second arrest, they dare to defy the Sanhedrin and insist they must obey God, rather than men. Beaten and warned to keep silent about Jesus, the Apostles go forth rejoicing, not because they are free, nor because they narrowly escaped death, but because they were found worthy to suffer for the sake of Christ.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 118

The Responsorial Psalm continues the theme found in the First Reading: God can transform events that might be considered to be curses and make them into blessings. It does not say that God will do away with all our difficulties. It is assumed that there will be moments of mourning and discouragement and that there will be moments when we suffer the consequences of our sins. Our hope lies in the fact that God will soon deliver us from our grief, and will and will always be willing to forgive us our faults.

SECOND READING: Revelation 5:11-14

The Book of Revelation shifts from extolling the creator to unfolding the story of the plan of salvation. The vivid depiction of the heavenly liturgy finds all in the universe raising its voice to the glory of God. John's message is clear: Christ is not a victim; he is a victor reigning at the right hand of God. He is the source of life and those who give themselves to him, no matter what trials they must endure, will conquer death with him and find eternal reward in his Kingdom.

GOSPEL: John 21:1-19

The third appearance of the Risen Christ happens at the seashore. Again, the Lord is encountered in meal fellowship. Notice how the three affirmations demanded of Peter are parallel to his three denials before the Crucifixion. Peter and the others will be called to powerfully shepherd the flock, even though it will be to the death. Peter's death is referenced in the stretching out of hands. Not only will Peter follow Jesus as shepherd of the flock, he will also follow him to the glory of martyrdom for the sake of his sheep.

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.

CEMETERY CLEAN UP

Thank you to everyone who helped with the spring clean up of both cemeteries - Antrim and Pearl Street. Pearl Street volunteers: Arnie & Sue Sticklin, Walter Stutz, and Youth Group members – Kamryn Campbell, Watson Feil, Justin Gordon, Lizzie Gordon, Jude Mann, Maddie Mann, Emma Poirier, Jack Poirier, Will Poirier, and Zach Singer. Antrim volunteers: Russ Patt, Frank Patt, Paul & Leah Patt, John Patt, Francis Kennedy, Scott and Diane Young, and Steve, Anna, & Stephen Tokarz. Special thanks to Howard Rutledge for the countless hours he puts in to maintain the Pearl Street Cemetery, and to Paul & Marian Patt and their family for their many years of dedication to the Antrim Cemetery.

Religious Education News RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SOCIAL



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

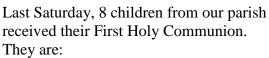
THANK YOU TO ALL **OUR** RELIGIOUS **EDUCATION VOLUNTEERS**

Today marks the end of the Religious Education year. A special thank you to all our catechist and volunteers for their dedication and We couldn't do it without you willingness to share their faith and



their time with the children of our children of our parish – Alexis Banik, Kamryn Campbell, Maddie Mann, Will Poirier, Brett Rudy, Lauren Singer, Zach Singer, Kristen West, Emma Poirier, Lisa Banik, Jill Campbell, Kirsten Tellgren, Patty Perry, Ginny Reindl, Heather Steinbacher, Marilyn deGuzman, Meghan Henneman, Jasmine Gordon, Coleen Evert, Anja Stam, Priscilla Walrath, Val Anthony, Glenn Poirier, Steve Tokarz, Terra Tokarz, Teresa Austin, Sarah Hazelton, Aaron Singer, Patty Kramer, and Tom Campbell.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASS





Evelynn Claire Buck Thomas James Gordon Kendall Bradlee Robson Sienna Rose Simmons

Marshall Robert Foster Dillyn Catherine Patt Kate Elizabeth Satalin Conlen Edward Whitsell

Lord Jesus, bless all those who are receiving you in Holy Communion for the first time. May each one of them know your love and mercy in a personal way. May all your people open their hearts to receive you that they might be transformed by your love. Amen.

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 28, 2019: \$ 4,645.00

Difference:(\$ 1,155.00)

Year-to-Date Budget Variance:(\$16,273.24)

Easter Collection: \$ 5,396.00*

Diocesan Home Mission Appeal Collection: \$521.00

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 next week.

Priests for Life

Reflection on Today's Readings- Today's readings make it clear that Jesus' resurrection does not only bring life to him. Rather, it begins a process whereby, through our obedience, life comes to us and extends through us to all the world. The theme of obedience to the Risen Christ comes through in the Gospel passage where the fruitless, all-night efforts of the fishermenapostles are contrasted to a simple act of obedience to one command of the Risen Lord. The 153 fish represents the number of known kinds of fish in that day, and therefore symbolizes that people of every race, nation, and language are called to acknowledge the Lord and will be brought into the Kingdom by the preaching of the Church. As the second reading mentions, "every creature" will worship before the throne. Obedience to God and to the Lamb is the call of everyone.

In the first reading, the apostles obey the Risen Lord rather than the misguided commands of human authority. More fundamentally, they point out that obedience to the Lord yields the fruit of the Holy Spirit, who gives life to all through repentance and faith. This overarching theme of obedience that leads to life contrasts powerfully with the attitude of the culture of death that real freedom consists in forging our own way through life, insisting on our own choices, and arranging both our private lives and public policies in such a way that protects absolute, or nearly-absolute, personal autonomy. That is simply not the way of salvation or even of earthly happiness. Instead, the only way to both is a resounding "Yes" to life, in obedience to the one who conquers death and gives life abundantly.

Pro-Peace and Pro-Life - "On receiving the Nobel Prize for Peace, Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta had the courage to say to the leaders of political communities: 'If we let a mother kill the fruit of her womb, what is left to us? It is the principle of abortion that endangers peace in the world'. It is true! There can be no true peace without respect for life, especially if it is innocent and defenseless as is that of the unborn child. Elementary coherence requires those who seek peace to safeguard life. No pro-peace activity can be effective unless attacks on life at all its stages, from conception until natural death, are as energetically opposed." (St. John Paul II To The Members Of The Italian Pro-Life Movement, 22 May 2003)

News from the Vatican



CHRISTIANS MUST NOT GIVE IN TO FAILURE

Reflecting on the First Reading of the day, taken from the Book of Numbers, Pope Francis said that at times Christians "prefer failure," leaving

room for complaint and dissatisfaction, a perfect terrain, he said, for the devil in which to sow his seeds.

According to the Reading, the people of God, he explained, could not bear the journey: their enthusiasm and hope as they escaped slavery in Egypt gradually faded, their patience wore out, and they began muttering and complaining to God: "Why have you brought us from Egypt to die in this desert?"

"The spirit of tiredness takes away our hope," the Pope remarked, adding that "tiredness is selective: it always causes us to see the negative in the moment we are living, and forget the good things we have received. When we feel desolated and cannot bear the journey, we seek refuge either in idols or in complaint. This spirit of fatigue leads us Christians to be dissatisfied and everything goes wrong. Jesus himself taught us this when he said we are like children playing games when we are overcome by this spirit of dissatisfaction."

The Pope said some Christians give in to "failure" without realizing that this creates the "perfect terrain for the devil." They are "afraid of consolation, afraid of hope, afraid of the Lord's caress," he said. Pope Francis lamented the fact that this is the life of many Christians: "They live complaining, they live criticizing, they mutter and are unsatisfied."

"The people of God could not bear the journey. We Christians often can't bear the journey. We prefer failure, that is to say desolation." He said it is the desolation of the serpent: the ancient serpent, that of the Garden of Eden. Here it is a symbol, he explained, of that same serpent that seduced Eve. It is a way, he continued, of showing the serpent inside that always bites in times of desolation.

Those who spend their lives complaining, the Pope said, are those who "prefer failure, who bear to hope, of those who could not bear the resurrection of Jesus."

Pope Francis concluded inviting Christians to ask the Lord to free us from this disease. "May the Lord, he said, "always give us hope for the future and the strength to keep going."

"God searches for you, even if you don't search for Him. God loves you, even if you have forgotten Him. God looks for beauty in you, even if you think you have uselessly squandered all your talents."

Pope Francis



UNITED CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES, INC. **SOCIAL MINISTRY**

V.E. Bolev, Ph.D. E.D. Clemens Executive Director Director of Operations

7534 Route 49 PO Box 25 Elkland, PA 16920

Ph: (570) 827-3171 Fax: (570) 827-3063 Email: ucminc@epix.net Website: ucministries.org

WALRATH & COOLIDGE

Probate & Estate Administration Real Estate Personal Injury

570-724-3801



OVER 125 YEARS OF SERVICE

TUSSEY-MOSHER

FUNERAL HOME, LTD.

Calvin T. Mosher, Supervisor

139 Main St. Wellsboro, PA 16901

(570) 724-4637 | TusseyMosher.com

Please refer your friends and family.

Happy patients are our best referrals.

Wills . Corporate Adoptions Family Law

R. Lowell Coolidge, Esq . Priscilla Walrath, Esq. Fax: 570-724-7239 126 Main St • Wellsboro, PA

Large or small, our accounting and advisory services help you reach your goals.



Floral Arts



31 East Avenue Wellsboro

(570) 724-1509

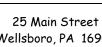
"If Akiko's Not Your Florist, She Should Be" Shop 24/7 at www.akikos.com Akiko, Clark & Joe Hewitt



25 Main Street Wellsboro, PA 16901 570-723-4263

www.popscultureshoppe.com

Games * Imagination * Fun



Oral & Facial Surgery 15 Meade Street Wellsboro, PA 16901

(570) 724-2141



Dr. Richard F. Black

Your proprietors Julian and Anja Stam Consider it all joy! James 1:2

U-HAUL AUTHORIZED DEALER

Ken Mitchell Mitchell's Carquest Auto Parts

688 South Main Street Mansfield, PA 16933 Business: (570) 662-2534 www.mitchellcarquest.com



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.



Kenneth Mitchell Owner

MITCHELL'S CARQUEST AUTO PARTS FAMILY OWNED SINCE1950

> kenneth@mitchellcarquest.com 688 South Main Street Mansfield, PA 16933 T 570.662.2277 F 570.662.1078

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:

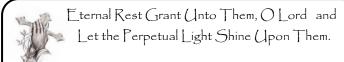
"I, [name], of [city, state, zip], give, devise and bequeath to St. Peter's Church, Wellsboro [written amount or percentage of the estate or description of property | for its unrestricted use and purpose."

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, 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.