St. Peter's Church



5th Sunday of Easter May 19, 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 $- 12^{th}$ grade. Classes begin in September and conclude in May. Pre-K (ages 3-5) is held during the 8:30am Mass. K-12th begins at 9:30am and concludes at 10:40am. To register, please contact the Religious Education Office at 570-724-9789 or the Rectory at 570-724-3371. Children's Liturgy (grades K-4th) is held during the 8:30am Mass when 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.

> Jesus, Way of Life, give us courage to live as you lived, to walk in your way, and to trust that following you will indeed lead to life, now and forever. Amen.



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

5 th Sunday of Easter		May 19, 2019	
Date	Time	Confession	Fime and Mass Intention
Monday 5/20	No Mass		
Tuesday 5/21	7:30am	In Honor of Gabriele Scharf	
Wednesday 5/22	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions In Memory of Harold & Ruth Reindl (Tom & Ginny Reindl)	
Thursday 5/23	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions In Memory of James, Amelia, & Robert Williams (Shirley Borden & Family)	
Friday 5/24	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions In Memory of Christopher Rymarczuk (Richard Shire)	
Saturday 5/25	4:15-4:45pm 5:00pm	Confessions All Deceased Me	embers of the Joseph & Clara Patt Family (Family)
Sunday 5/26	8:30am	All Living and D	eceased Members of St. Peter's Parish
The Sanctuary Candle is offered in Memory of Tom Stager (Friends of the Polish Dinner) The Week Ahead SUNDAY, May 19, 2019 Graduation Mass & Breakfast			Ministers of the Altar ScheduleMay 25 th /26 th 5:00pmAltar Servers: J.Grab, E.Hazelton, I.HazeltonLectors: D.Gordon, L.GordonE. Min.: B.Chiaramonte, V.Anthony, I.Dziengowski, (Open)8:30am
<u>TUESDAY, May 21 2019</u> Adoration - 8:00am-6:30pm; Benediction – 6:30pm Women's Bible Study – 9:00am, Parish Center AA/Al-Anon – 8:00pm, Parish Center			Altar Servers: H.Campbell, B.Levindoski, J.Lubera Lectors: M.Sampson, H.Sampson E. Min.: T.Gamble, K.Tellgren, M.Bialas, D.deGuzman
THURSDAY, May 23, 2019 Cards & Games – 12:00pm, Parish Center FRIDAY, May 24, 2019 Rectory Closed			 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.
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 - T his month's Goodies for our Troops items are: <i>foot aids, eye drops, lip balms,</i> <i>sunscreen, trail mix, flavored sunflower seeds, beef jerky,</i> <i>slim jims, Oreos, tootsie pops, lollipops & personal notes.</i> 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			
Sofo	ty Tip #2	"Trust You	r Instincts"

Safety Tip #2 Trust Your Instincts' You know that feeling you get when you think something is wrong? Pay attention to it, never dismiss it, and act appropriately.

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Liturgical Reflection

5th Sunday of Easter FIRST READING: Acts 14:21-27

Paul and Barnabas are undeterred by the hostility that they have faced, and continue to preach the message of Christ throughout the region. They have visited Lystra before and Paul left it barely alive: his healing of a cripple was used by enemies to persuade the people to stone him (Acts 14:8-20). Now he's back; not for revenge but to ensure his recent converts are growing and thriving. Very few of us will ever be arrested for being Christians, but we will all have a price to pay if we truly give witness to our faith in word and deed.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 145

The Responsorial Psalm is a hymn of praise and speaks to God's kingdom. God's kingdom is not a particular place or time, but exists wherever God's law is obeyed and his love revealed. God does not reign through terror and rage, but by conquering our hearts with his love. He is the king of our hearts. This is a message that all should hear until the very end of time, for God's dominion endures through all generations.

SECOND READING: Revelation 21:1-5

John's visions culminate with a vision of the "new Jerusalem." From out of heaven he sees a new reality descending; it is the new and glorious Jerusalem, the eternal city of everlasting peace that looks like a bride perfumed and adorned for her groom. The "voice" announces the startling reality that God is not aloof and distant, but a neighbor who lives with us. God will not be capricious and turn from us like one might abandon another; rather, God will be forever with us as our sovereign Lord. God's love for us and our love for God will be perfected in the world to come. We will be one with God and one with each other.

GOSPEL: John 13:31-33, 34-35



The betrayal by Judas has unleashed the forces that will lead to the seizure and death of the Lord. Jesus reminds his followers that they need not fear or despair. This is his path to glory. He knows his time

with them is short and gives them a commandment that is old and yet he describes it as new; love one another. This commandment is transformed in Jesus, who demonstrates a new, expansive, unreasonable, and unending love that must be modeled. We will follow the pattern Christ gave us and enable the world to recognize Christ in us. This Gospel reminds us of our ultimate destiny: to share in the glory of God in heaven.

Parish News and Activities

SOCIAL CONCERNS

The Social Concerns Committee will be sponsoring a second collection on May 25th and 26th, to benefit the Endless Mountains Pregnancy Center.

ITALIAN DINNER

Thank you to everyone who supported the Italian dinner. A profit of \$1,420.74 was earned to support the parish.

Income:

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Door Sales/Raffle Tickets	\$2,019.00
Donations	30.00
Total Income	\$2,049.00
Expense:	
Food Supplies	\$ 590.12
Misc. Supplies	38.14
Total Expense	\$ 628.26
Net Income	<u>\$1,420.74</u>

NEW ITEMS

New items can be found in the kiosk on the side of the church for both adults and children. Take what you want for a donation.

DO YOU KNOW?

Why do Catholics believe the Catholic Church is the one true Church, founded 2,000 years ago by Jesus Christ Himself?

The Catholic Church is the only church today that can claim to be the one church founded by Jesus Christ 2,000 years ago. Other denominations can trace their origins back to various human founders at a later date in history.

Where does the Pope get his authority to lead the Church on earth? What do Catholics believe about 'apostolic succession'?

Again, Matthew 16:18 is key to understanding Christ's intent to pass on the authority to lead the Church to Peter and the apostles. Christ tells Peter that he is the rock on which He will build His church. When Catholics use the term apostolic succession, they are referring to the line of bishops that stretches all the way back to the apostles-to Peter-the first Pope. Apostolic tradition (the authentic teaching of the apostles) was handed from Christ to the apostles, and from them to their successors. This unbroken line of popes (the bishops of Rome) and all other bishops have guided the Church for the past 2,000 years, just as Christ intended (Matthew 28:19-20). Christ sent His apostles out into the world with authority to teach and heal (Luke 9:1-2) and to forgive sins (John This God-given authority is exercised by the 20:23). bishops within the Catholic Church to this day.

Priests for Life

Reflection on Today's Readings- Tying this weekend's readings with the theme of life brings us right to the powerful promise in the second reading from Rev. 21, "There shall be no more death." The Easter season celebrates the basis of this promise: Christ has conquered the kingdom of death by his own death and resurrection, and has given us a share in this victory through our baptism. Moreover, the victory embraces the entire universe, spiritual and physical: "I...saw a new heaven and a new earth." Any power that death exercises now, through evils like abortion or the threat of our own death, is a temporary and fleeting power that has lost both its foundation and finality. That's why the Church proclaims the Gospel of Life with utter confidence, and why we are to engage in pro-life activities with the same confidence.

Christ's victory over death, which we now share, is a victory to which we give expression in the world by changing the shape of society and its policies and bringing this world into line with the demands of a culture of life. A new heaven and new earth have already begun in Christ and the Church. "Behold, I make all things new." These are words God speaks daily. He speaks them to us and through us. This new order of reality, in which death no longer has the final word, is the context in which the Lord says that his commandment, "love one another," is "new." The law and the prophets had already instructed love; but only in Jesus Christ's victory over sin and death can love and life have the final word. Only in him can we love with a divine as well as human love. Only in him can we love the vulnerable and the unborn, and all people, with the very love that he has, and therefore persevere through the "many hardships" that are necessary "to enter the Kingdom of God" (First reading).



First 100 registrations receive a free T-shirt T-shirts sold for \$10 while supply lasts

Diocese of Scranton News CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE



Register at CWCNEPA.COM

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 May 12, 2019: \$13,032.00 Weekly Goal to Meet Projected Expenses: \$ 5,800.00 Difference: \$ 7,232.00

Year-to-Date Budget Variance: (\$ 9,195.24)

Collection for Religious Education Support: \$751.00

Thanks to a generous donation, our Year to Date Budget Variance has been decreased. However, we are still showing a negative variance and with only 2 months remaining in our fiscal year, we are projected to end the year with a loss. Please be as generous as you are able, to help us remediate some of this loss over the next two months.

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

That's The Way It Is



PA state representative Brian Sims filmed himself verbally assaulting and bullying an elderly woman praying a Rosary across the street from an abortion clinic in Philadelphia. At one point, Sims went so far as to block the woman's way; sticking a camera in

her face and refusing to move after repeated requests from the woman to move. He shouted insults at her, calling her an "old white woman." Sims also asked if anyone could identify the woman and give her address. "If you know who this woman is, and you can give me her address, we'll protest outside of her home. Let's go protest out in front of her house and tell her what's right for her body." He accused the woman of judging and shaming people for exercising their "constitutional rights." Amazingly, at a different time, Sims also bullied teenage girls who were praying in front of the abortion clinic and threatened to "dox" them; that is, to reveal their names and addresses on the internet.

Apparently this Sims guy doesn't seem to understand the difference between protesting, harassment, judgment, shaming and prayer. Note that for Sims, exercising one's freedom of religion, exercising one's freedom of assembly and exercising one's freedom of speech, as the elderly woman was doing, constitutes harassment, judgment and shaming. Exercising one's "right" to an abortion, constitutes exercising one's "constitutional rights."

If I were present how would I have handled the encounter? I admit it would have taken the Grace of God and everything in me not to engage his behavior with the same behavior or worse. By God's Grace, I and the woman would have stood and faced him. We would have bowed our heads in prayer and prayed the Rosary out loud while he stood insulting us, filming us, threatening us and bullying us. Sim's conduct while unbecoming of a lawmaker and even disgusting, was not a threat to life, limb or safety. In cases such as this, Christians overcome hate with love. What better way to overcome hate with love than to pray the Rosary out loud for the very person who is threatening, bullying, insulting and otherwise harassing you? "Love you enemies and pray for those who persecute you..." (Matthew 5:43-48.)

Brian Sims is a human being. No one is perfect. If he issued a meaningful and substantive apology I could chalk his behavior up to a simple poor choice and move on. We are all human and we all have our moments. No one is perfect. It turns out that Sims did issue an

apology.....to Planned Parenthood. "As a Planned Parenthood volunteer and as a supporter, I fully understand, respect, and appreciate the nonengagement policy that they have. And I would never want to do anything that interfered with the care that they are providing to their patients. As an activist and an advocate I know why pushing back against harassment and discrimination are a must even when they're uncomfortable but last week I wasn't a patient escort. I was a neighbor and a concerned citizen and I was aggressive. I know that two wrongs don't make a right and I can do better and I will do better for the men and women of Pennsylvania."

In other words Sims is sorry because his actions generated negative publicity for Planned Parenthood. Sims is not sorry because he did something wrong. Apparently Sims does not believe it is wrong to bully and threaten elderly women and children who are praying at abortion clinics.

I can tell you that those who are truly pro-life condemn those who harass, judge or shame people coming into or out of an abortion clinic, and or women who have had abortions. They condemn harassment, judgment and shaming those who support abortion. Real pro-lifers know that even in the cause for truth, justice and righteousness, those behaviors are still wrong. The ends never justify the means. Pro-lifers do not condemn those behaviors just because they generate negative publicity for the pro-life cause.

True Pro-lifers are at abortion clinics not to harass, shame or judge women seeking an abortion, or the staff who provide them. They are there to pray for women and offer women alternatives to abortion. I would think those who are pro-"choice" would celebrate this. After all, what good is the freedom of "choice" without alternatives? How can women truly exercise the freedom of "choice" if they have no alternatives from which to "choose?"

I hope abortion supporters will join me in my call for Sims to personally apologize to the elderly woman and teenage girls he verbally assaulted, harassed, bullied, threatened and otherwise wronged. I also hope abortion supporters will join me in my condemnation of such behaviors regardless of what side of the issue someone is on. I condemn those behaviors when those who are pro-life engage in them. Will those who support abortion condemn those behaviors when abortion supporters engage in them?

That's the way it is,

The Reverend David W. Bechtel

Pastor

Please patronize our sponsors and thank them for their support. Their advertising helps to make our bulletin possible.



PRAYERS Needed For...

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, 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, Steve Ziemak, Dean Gilkey, Karen Roggow, and Ted Zuchowski.

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

William Coolidge

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.