

St. Peter's Church



47 Central Avenue, Wellsboro, Pennsylvania 16901
 Rectory Phone: 570-724-3371 ~ Fax: 570-724-6322
 Religious Education Office: 570-724-9789
 Website: www.stpeterswellsboro.org ~ Email: stpch@ptd.net

Rectory Office Hours

Monday through Thursday 9:00–2:00pm

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. David Bechtel – Dbechtel00@yahoo.com
 Secretary: Connie Spang – stpch@ptd.net
 Business Manager: Patti Mitchell – stpadm@ptd.net
 Director of Religious Ed.: Melissa Mann – stpreled@ptd.net
 Assistant Director of Religious Ed.: Maureen Poirier
 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.

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time *July 14, 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 _____



Next Sunday, July 21st,
 you are invited to the
 Parish Center
 following the 8:30am
 Mass for donuts,
 coffee/juice, and
 fellowship!
 All are welcome!!

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

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 14, 2019

Date	Time	Confession Time and Mass Intention
Monday 7/15	No Mass	
Tuesday 7/16	7:30am	In Memory of Mary Agnes Bushner (David & Alice Bechtel)
Wednesday 7/17	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions In Memory of June Ostapowicz (Ostapowicz Family)
Thursday 7/18	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions In Memory of Bob Cleveland (Daughter, Mary)
Friday 7/19	11:45am-12:00pm 12:10pm	Confessions In Memory of Oscar & Dalisay Lustre (Dy Family)
Saturday 7/20	4:15-4:45pm 5:00pm	Confessions In Memory of Beth Patt (Frank Patt)
Sunday 7/21	8:30am	All Living and Deceased Members of St. Peter's Parish

The Sanctuary Candle is offered in Honor of
Ted Zuchowski (Mike & Connie McNamara)

The Week Ahead

SUNDAY, July 14, 2019

Secular Carmelites – 11:30am, Parish Center

MONDAY, July 15, 2019

Vacation Bible School – 5:30pm, Parish Center

TUESDAY, July 16, 2019

Adoration - 8:00am-6:30pm; Benediction – 6:30pm

Vacation Bible School – 5:30pm, Parish Center

WEDNESDAY, July 17, 2019

Vacation Bible School – 5:30pm, Parish Center

THURSDAY, July 18, 2019

Vacation Bible School – 5:30pm, Woodland Park

FRIDAY, July 19, 2019

Rectory Closed

SUNDAY, July 21, 2019

ChristLife Reunion – 1:00pm, Parish Center

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.

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

This month's food pantry items are: Canned Tuna, ham, or chicken. A donation box can be found at the entrance of the church.

Ministers of the Altar Schedule

July 20th/21st

5:00pm

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

Lectors: T.Sampson, L.Sampson

E. Min.: G.Poirier, I.Dziengowski, T.Straniere, N.Ostapowicz

8:30am

Altar Servers: A.Banik, W.Feil, A.Tokarz

Lectors: R.Kramer, P.Kramer

E. Min.: A.Huck, M.Bialas, T.Tokarz, 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.

ST. THOMAS/ST. CATHERINE MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 7:00pm, St. Catherine, Westfield

Sunday 10:30am, St. Thomas, Elkland



Liturgical Reflection

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 30:10-14

It appears that God's people have disregarded the Lord's ways and preferred their own. Moses instructs them to renew their covenant commitment by returning to the Lord "with all your heart and all your soul." Love of the Lord and fidelity to the commandments are the essential elements of covenant relationship. These are not "too mysterious and remote for you." They are very near to you, easily accessible in your life's experience as they are "already in your mouths and in your hearts." All that is required is for each one to carry them out. The challenge for any disciple centers not so much on knowing what is right but on having the courage and strength to do what is right.

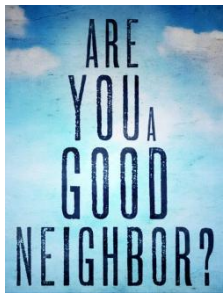
RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 69

In this psalm the psalmist calls out to God in a time of distress, for God is the only one who can help. The psalmist proclaims his trust in God, for he is absolutely sure that God will deliver him from all his difficulties.

SECOND READING: Colossians 1:15-20

The Second Reading is a beautiful hymn that speaks about Christ. The early Church struggled to develop concepts that would explain who Jesus was. Here it calls him an icon of the Father, and presents Jesus as the Wisdom of God. Jesus is also the head of the Church and the firstborn from the dead. He brought about our justification with God through his death and resurrection, and he has provided us a way to live in that justification by giving us the Church.

GOSPEL: Luke 10:25-37



To understand the essence of the law summarized by an inquiring scholar of the law, Jesus proceeds to recount the parable of the Good Samaritan. For Jesus, loving the neighbor as yourself is the criteria for assessing one's love of God. Jesus' parable brings his audience to a moment of insight and decision on "who is my neighbor?" The definition of neighbor as one who treats another with mercy, breaks down all artificial boundaries that divide us, and rests on the insight that we are to treat one another in the same fashion that God treats all creation. We are called to treat one another with mercy, no matter who the other is or what we think the other deserves. To love God is to treat one another with mercy, reconciliation, and love. What decision will you make?

Parish News and Activities

ADULT FAITH FILM SERIES

St. Peter's will present an adult faith film series on Wednesday evenings from July 24th to August 28th at 7:00pm in the Parish Center. The films are free of charge and have been selected to enrich and inspire our faith journey. The first film is *Chariots of Fire*. In this 1981 Academy Award winner for Best Picture, two very different men on the UK Olympic team vie to win gold to demonstrate to the world the worth of their deeply held convictions. A friendship builds between them in this true story, that is as strong as their desire to win in the 1924 Paris Olympics. Discussion & Refreshments to follow. Please join us!

SAFETY AND SECURITY UPDATE

As part of our ongoing safety and security evaluation and implementation, there will be a change in when the church building will be open. The time has come to lock the church doors during the evening and overnight hours. Beginning in September the church doors will be unlocked and open from 8:00am – 5:00pm on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday; 7:00am – 5:00pm on Tuesday; 4:00pm until after Mass on Saturday; 8:00am until after Mass or Religious Education classes are over on Sunday. All other hours, the doors will be locked and you will not be able to enter the building. If you currently have a key signed out (daily sacristan, candle or linen volunteer, etc.) please note that your key will still work for the interior doors such as the Sacristy or holy room, but your key will not open any of the outside doors to the church. You will have to perform your "church duties" during the hours listed above, when the building is open. While this is a big change for us, and one that may take some getting used to, it is a necessary step in our ongoing safety and security efforts, and we appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

CHRISTLIFE REUNION REMINDER

All parishioners who have completed at least one of the ChristLife series programs should have received an invitation to attend the ChristLife alumni reunion on Sunday, July 21st. There will be a meal, inspiring talks, songs of praise, and small group discussion. Please return your registration form, so the food and materials can be planned.

FISCAL YEAR HAS ENDED

Our fiscal year has come to a close. The Finance Council met this week and approved a budget for the 2019-20 fiscal year. A financial report for 2018-19 is being prepared and will be shared with the parish and published in the bulletin in September.

That's The Way It Is



That's the Way It Is
will return next week.

Priests for Life

Science and Ethics - Pope Benedict XVI has stated, "I feel the duty to affirm yet again that not all that is scientifically possible is also ethically licit. Technology, when it reduces the human being to an object of experimentation, results in abandoning the weak subject to the arbitration of the stronger. To blindly entrust oneself to technology as the only guarantee of progress, without offering at the same time an ethical code that penetrates its roots in that same reality under study and development, would be equal to doing violence to human nature with devastating consequences for all. The contribution of scientists is of primary importance. Together with the progress of our capacity to dominate nature, scientists must also contribute to help understand the depth of our responsibility for man and for nature entrusted to him" (February 12, 2007 – Address to the International Congress on Natural Moral Law).

Diocese of Scranton News

CATHOLIC WOMEN DAY OF REFLECTION

The Scranton Diocesan Council of Catholic Women will conduct a Day of Reflection on Wednesday, August 7th at The Villa of Our Lady Retreat House, 245 Meadowside Road, Mount Pocono, PA. Monsignor Vincent Grimalia, Coordinator for Ecumenism and Interfaith Relations, will conduct the retreat. The theme of the day-long event is "Works of Mercy" and will include Mass, confession, private time, and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. The retreat will begin at 8:30am and will end by 3:00pm. A continental breakfast and luncheon will be served. The cost is \$35. All Catholic women are invited to attend. The reservation deadline is July 30th. Please send your reservation with payment to Helen Oravec, 814 Theresa Street, Peckville, PA 18452. Make check payable: Scranton DCCW. Contact Helen Oravec at 570-489-5231 for more information.

Stewardship

Sunday Collection July 7, 2019: \$ 6,593.00

Weekly Goal to Meet Projected Expenses: \$ 5,800.00

Difference: \$ 793.00

Year-to-Date Budget Variance: \$ 793.00

Collection for Care & Education of Priests: \$ 582.00

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



St. Peter's Church Vacation Bible School

Open to all children ages pre-k through 6th grade

Join Us for the "Mane" Event this Summer
with Bible Lesson Activities, Crafts, Games, Snacks and Fun!

Dates: Monday July 15th through Thursday, July 18th

Time: 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Location: Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday at St. Peter's Parish Center
Thursday at Woodland Park; lower pavilion

For more information and to register, visit vbspro.events/p/5bd861

Be a Blessing... Volunteer!

Adults and students in grades 7-12 are needed to help make VBS a fun and successful event for the children of our parish. Please consider volunteering your time and talents. Details can be found on the registration website or contact Melissa Mann at stpreled@ptd.net for more information.

To close out Vacation Bible School, a family potluck picnic will be held at Woodland Park on the final night for all children, volunteers and their families. Additional details will be emailed once registration is confirmed.

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT YOUR CATHOLIC FAITH?

Why does the Catholic Church believe in Purgatory?

The Catholic Church's belief in the existence of purgatory is indeed scriptural!

First of all, it is important to understand what the Church believes purgatory is. The Catechism describes purgatory like this: "All who die in God's grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven" (CCC 1030).

Note that the Church believes that purgatory is not an eternal state, but rather a state of purification before entering eternal life with God in heaven.

Scripture teaches us that nothing unclean can enter heaven (Revelation 21:27). Scripture also describes a place where a man goes and suffers loss, yet is still saved, but only through fire (1 Corinthians 3:13-15). Purgatory is this place that cleanses us of whatever impurity we have when we die, allowing us to enter into God's presence without the stain of sin.

News from the Vatican



THE PEACE OF JESUS IS LIKE THE CALM OF A DEEP SEA

Pope Francis reflected on the gift of peace promised by Christ to His Apostles as He prepared to leave them. That peace does not come from the world, but from the Holy

Spirit. It remains during trial, and even gives us courage to go forward with a smile in our hearts.

Pope Francis considered the question of how we can reconcile the “tribulations” and persecutions suffered by St Paul, with the peace that Jesus promised to His disciples in His final words during the Last Supper, “I leave you peace, my peace I give you.”

Although a “life of persecution and tribulations seems to be a life without peace,” Pope Francis recalled the last of the Beatitudes: “Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.”

The peace of Jesus goes with this life of persecution, of tribulation. A peace that is deep down, deep down, and very profound to all these things. A peace that no one can touch; a peace that is a gift, like the sea that deep down is tranquil, while on the surface there are waves. Living in peace with Jesus is having this experience within, which remains during all trials, all difficulties, all “tribulations”.

The Christian carries the burdens of life without losing peace. This, the Pope said, is the only way we can understand how so many saints lived their final moments without losing peace, to the point that witnesses would say they went to their martyrdom “like guests to a wedding.” This is the gift of the “peace of Jesus,” he said, that we cannot obtain

through human means, like going to a doctor or taking anti-anxiety drugs. This peace is something different, which comes from “the Holy Spirit within us,” and that brings with it “strength.”

Pope Francis gave the example of a hard-working man he met who, because of an illness, had to give up all his plans, but managed to remain at peace. “This is a Christian”, the Pope explained.

Peace, the peace of Jesus, teaches us to go forward in life. It teaches us to endure. To endure: a word we don’t understand well, a very Christian word, it means to carry a burden. To endure, to carry the burden of life, the difficulties, the labor, everything, without losing peace; but rather bearing the burden and having the courage to go forward. This can only be understood when there is the Holy Spirit within, who gives us the peace of Jesus.

On the other hand Pope Francis said, if we get caught up in a kind of “fervent nervousness” and lose this peace, “there is something that isn’t working.”

The Holy Father encouraged us to face the greatest difficulties of life with this “gift promised by Jesus,” instead of that false peace that comes from the world, or from having money in the bank. Pope Francis invited us to go forward in life with an even greater capacity, the ability to “make the heart smile.”

The person who lives this peace never loses their sense of humor. They know how to smile at themselves, at others, even when things are dark they know how to smile at everything... this sense of humor which is very close to the grace of God. The peace of Jesus in daily life, the peace of Jesus in tribulations, and with that little sense of humor that helps us breathe easier. May the Lord grant us this peace that comes from the Holy Spirit, this peace that comes precisely from Him, and that helps us to endure, to carry, the many difficulties in life.

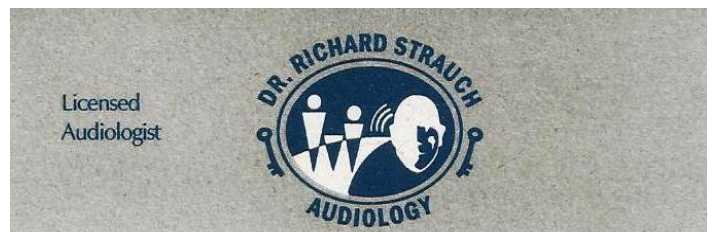
Safety Tip #4

Report suspicious behavior

If you see something odd or out of place,
report it to the priest or the Rectory.
While what you have witnessed may be
perfectly innocent, your report may
prevent future harm.

*“Each one of us has infinite value for God:
we may be small under heaven and powerless
when the earth trembles, but for God we are
more precious than anything.” Pope Francis*

We thank our new bulletin sponsor!




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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, 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 Antoniwi, Ruth Russell, Edward "Turk" Cruttenden, Agnes Worden, Anne Marie Beuter, Carol Fasick, Skip Warriner, Beverly Willsea, Stephanie Calicchia, Jacoby Aratari, Doris Coumbe, Michael Bowen, Lou Kirby, Shannon Pierce Jones, Steve Ziemak, Ted Zuchowski, and Cody Bowers.



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

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.