

St. Peter's Church

4/ Central Avenue, Wellsboro, Pennsylvania 16901
Rectory Phone: 570-724-3371 ~ Fax: 570-724-6322
Religious Education Office: 570-724-9789
Website: www.stpeterswellsboro.com

Rectory Office Hours

Monday through Wednesday, 8:00am–1:00pm

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Joseph Mosley – joseph.mosley81@gmail.com
Secretary: Connie Spang – stpch@ptd.net
Business Manager: Patti Mitchell – stpadm@ptd.net
Religious Education.: Melissa Mann – stpreled@ptd.net
Maintenance Staff: Connie Spang, Francis Kennedy

Schedule of Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm (Livestreamed); Sunday 8:30am

Reconciliation

Saturday, 4:30-4:45pm or by appointment



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph December 26, 2021

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.

Pregnancy Support

Catholic Social Services (800) 982-4310
Crisis Pregnancy Help line (888) 4-OPTIONS
Heart of Tioga County Pregnancy & Parent Support 570-948-2020

Emergency Contact

In the event of an emergency, please call the rectory at 570-724-3371. If after hours, please leave call our emergency number 570-439-2219. If no answer, please leave a message and Fr. Mosely will return your call as soon as he is able.

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 _____

The Feast of the Holy Family

This feast celebrates the human family unit, as well as the ultimate family unit: Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. The feast, not a solemnity, is usually celebrated on the Sunday after Christmas and has been on the Church liturgical calendar for about one hundred years, often on different dates. It is a "devotional" or "idea" feast that was inaugurated by Holy Family associations. Everything we know about the Holy Family, which is not much, comes from the Gospel accounts read over the three years. It celebrates the unity and love so evident in the family of Joseph, Mary, and Jesus.

Parish Contact Listing

Women's Bible Study – Sue Singer 570-948-2184
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 570-404-8918
Church Decorations – Sue Singer 570-948-2184
Buildings & Grounds – Rick Joachim 570-439-2591
Cemetery Committee – Howard Rutledge 570-724-4529
Fundraising Dinners – Michelle Sepiol 570-439-6206
Music Ministry – Christina Simonis 570-724-2085
Samaritan House – Linda Sampson 570-404-2180
Youth Group – 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 570-916-9573
ChristLife – Norb Josten 570-724-9095
Prayer Shawl Ministry – Michelle Sepiol 570-439-6206

Date	Time	Mass Intention
Monday 12/27	12:10pm	In Memory of Peter & Christopher Rymarczuk (Ostapowicz Family)
Tuesday 12/28	7:30am	In Memory of Raymond Beuter (Family)
Wednesday 12/29	12:10pm	In Memory of Joan Miller (Ostapowicz Family)
Thursday 12/30	No Mass	
Friday 12/31	5:00pm (Holy Day Vigil) (Mass is livestreamed)	Deceased Members of the Robert Tayton Family (Family)
Saturday 1/1	10:00am (Solemnity of Mary) 5:00pm (Mass is livestreamed)	In Memory of Staff Sgt. Scott Waclawik (Dawn Pletcher) In Memory of Anastacio & Marcelina deGuzman (Dio & Marilyn)
Sunday 1/2	8:30am	All Living and Deceased Members of St. Peter's Parish

The Sanctuary Candle is offered in Memory of Christine Plato (Family)

Parish News and Activities

CHURCH HOURS/ADORATION

The church will be open for private prayer, Monday 11:30am–5:00pm (to allow for thorough cleaning from the weekend), Tuesday through Friday, from 8:00am–5:00pm. If the front doors are not open for entry, please use the door on the parking lot side of the church. Adoration will take place on Tuesday from 8:00am–6:00pm, with Benediction but no evening prayer. The church will also open on Saturday at 4:30pm & Sunday at 8:00am.

2022 CALENDARS ARE HERE

The 2022 Catholic family calendars have arrived and can be found at each entrance to the church and on the handout table. Special thanks to Tussey-Mosher Funeral Home for their full sponsorship of these beautiful calendars.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Sunday, Dec. 26th–No Religious Education Classes
Tuesday, Dec. 28th– Women's Bible Study, 9:00am
Thursday, Dec. 30th– Rectory Closed
Friday, Dec. 31st– Rectory Closed
Sunday, Jan. 2nd–No Religious Education Classes

RECTORY HOURS BEGINNING JANUARY 3rd

Beginning January 3rd the hours for the Rectory will be as follows: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 8:00am – 2:00pm; Thursday 9:00am – 1:00pm.

Stewardship

Sunday Collection for December 19, 2021: \$7,360.00
 (Includes \$884.00 Immaculate Conception)
 Weekly Goal to Meet Expenses: \$6,100.00
 Difference: \$1,260.00
 Year-to-Date Budget Variance: (\$3,172.94)
We are grateful to all those who are able to financially support our parish.

YEAR END DONATIONS

2021 financial statements will be prepared upon request. All donations must be received by December 31st to be included on your 2021 statement. If you would like a 2021 statement, please call the rectory, or write *send statement* on your weekly offering envelope.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

For the safety of our parishioners, if the local school are closed, there will be no daily Mass or Adoration. If the schools are delayed on a Tuesday, there will be no daily Mass or Adoration. If schools are delayed on a Monday, Wednesday, or Friday, there will be 12:10pm Mass. The Church will remain open for private prayer using the parking lot side entrance.

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RECTORY CLOSED

The Rectory will be closed on December 30th and 31st. In the event of an emergency, please call the emergency numbers found on the front of the bulletin. Fr. Mos will return your call as soon as possible

Liturgical Reflection ~ Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 1:20-22,24-28

Today's First Reading is perhaps best understood by reading the first chapter of 1 Samuel in its entirety. Prior to the birth of her child, Hannah was a woman of deep suffering and shame. She had promised the Lord that she would dedicate her child to him if he answered her prayer. We have the beautiful and tender scene of his dedication to the Lord in the second part of the reading. Samuel had an important role in the history of salvation: he was the prophet who anointed David to be king of Israel.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 84

The Responsorial Psalm continues the theme of serving the Lord in his holy dwelling place. This same idea is found in the Gospel today. Where is our true dwelling place? Where can we truly say that we are home? The psalm speaks of making pilgrimage to the Lord's house. This is the one place where we find ourselves at home, where we can experience the love of God in an unconditional manner. Jesus came into the world, and we therefore no longer have to go to a particular shrine or church to experience his love. He is our home, for wherever we are upon the earth, we are dwelling in him.

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-2,21-24

John's words bring home to us the reality of the family of God to which we belong through the loving gift of our Heavenly Father. We have life from the Father and share in the divine life through his love. John says that the world does not recognize us. Do we recognize this reality in ourselves? Note the importance given to keeping his commandments if we are to "remain," to live in this reality. Jesus "remains," dwells within us, through the gift of his Spirit.

GOSPEL: Luke 2:41-52



Today's Gospel gives us a beautiful image of the Holy Family faithfully keeping the traditional practices and observances of Judaism. Today it is the pilgrimage to Jerusalem at the time of Passover. We witness Jesus' deep interest in the Scriptures and his desire to know and understand them. We find him today holding court among the scholars and teachers, astounding them with the insight he manifests, not only with his "questions," but also in his "understanding and his answers." The sober final sentences tell us of Jesus' obedience, his mother's silent, prayerful musings, and of how Jesus, in his hidden, inner life grow into an impressive figure before both "God and man." Note how themes of his Passion are previews in today's reading: the Passover, the three days, the business of the Father which he must be about.



Support your Parish or the Diocesan Annual Appeal directly from your IRA

If you are 70½ or older and have a traditional individual retirement account, you can use all or part of your required minimum distribution to support your parish or the Diocesan Annual Appeal without having to count the transfers as income for federal tax purposes.

Distributions must be sent directly to your parish or the Diocese by the plan administrator of your IRA.

For more information, please contact Jim Bebla,
Diocesan Secretary of Development at
Jim-Bebba@DioceseofScranton.org
or (570) 207-2250

Diocesan Annual Appeal

This year's Diocesan Annual Appeal, "*Rising Together in Christ*," is already underway. The overall goal of this year's Appeal is \$4.5 million. The money that is raised will help to continue the mission of our Church in the Diocese of Scranton by providing programs and ministries to bring the love of Christ to our neighbors, our children, and those most in need.

Our parish goal this year remains at \$43,000.
Total raised: \$31,976.00.

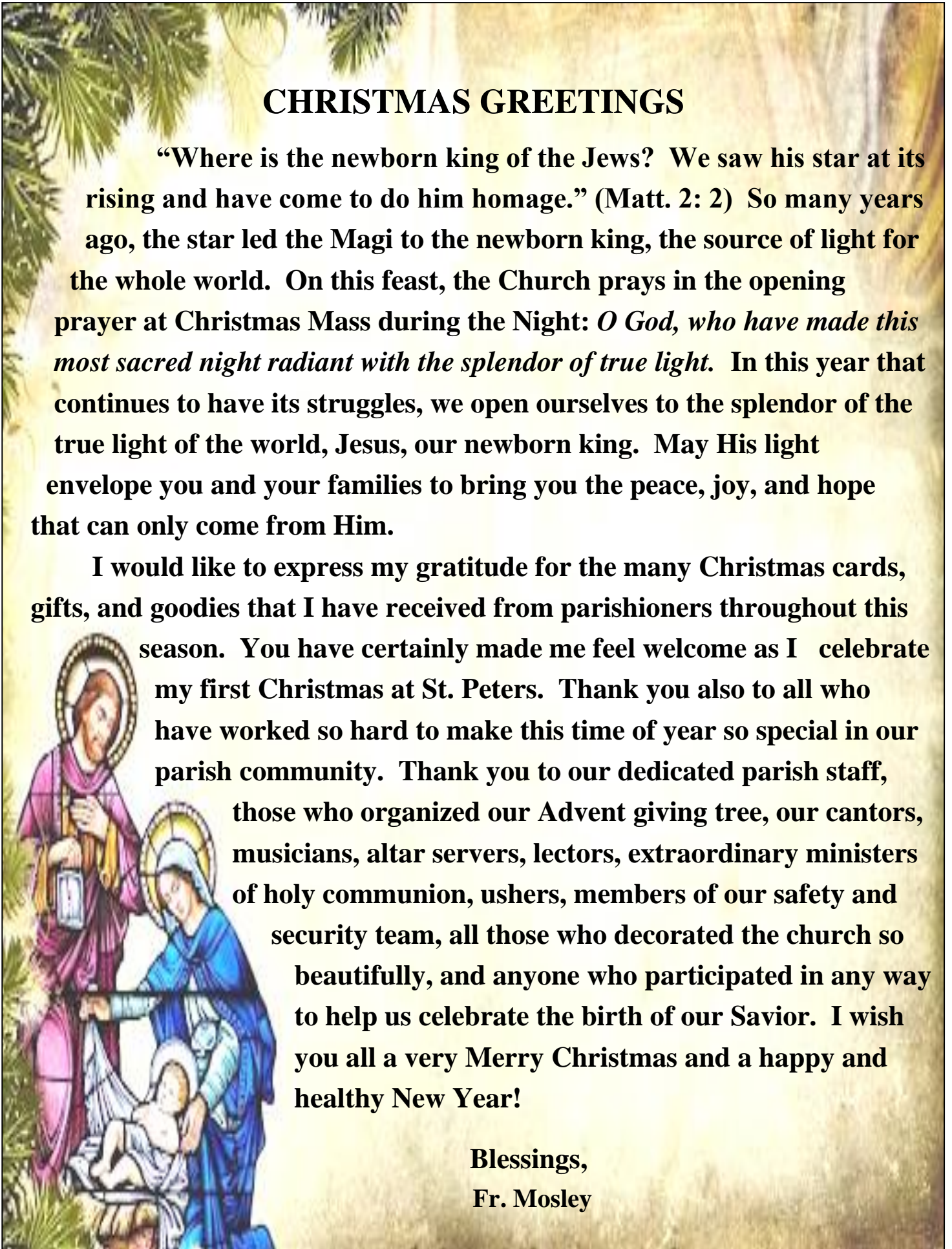
We appreciate any support that you might be able to give to the Appeal to help continue the spread of the gospel in our local Church. Blank pledge envelopes can be found near the front doors of the church. Thank you, and may God bless you!

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

“Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.” (Matt. 2: 2) So many years ago, the star led the Magi to the newborn king, the source of light for the whole world. On this feast, the Church prays in the opening prayer at Christmas Mass during the Night: *O God, who have made this most sacred night radiant with the splendor of true light.* In this year that continues to have its struggles, we open ourselves to the splendor of the true light of the world, Jesus, our newborn king. May His light envelope you and your families to bring you the peace, joy, and hope that can only come from Him.

I would like to express my gratitude for the many Christmas cards, gifts, and goodies that I have received from parishioners throughout this season. You have certainly made me feel welcome as I celebrate my first Christmas at St. Peters. Thank you also to all who have worked so hard to make this time of year so special in our parish community. Thank you to our dedicated parish staff, those who organized our Advent giving tree, our cantors, musicians, altar servers, lectors, extraordinary ministers of holy communion, ushers, members of our safety and security team, all those who decorated the church so beautifully, and anyone who participated in any way to help us celebrate the birth of our Savior. I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year!

**Blessings,
Fr. Mosley**



CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS

In Memory of:

Frank J. Dziengowski
Caso-Dziengowski parents
Coolidge Baby
Jim & Marge Crawford
Jack & Cass Crawford
John & Anna Bialas
Erin Bialas
John Frazier Family
John & Betty Frazier
Durwood Stewart Family
Durwood & Joyce Stewart
Jim & Barbara Dinsmore Family
and Friends
Cimino & Campbell Families
Floyd Snyder Family
Brown/Tarszowicz Family
Robert & Connie Brown
Lyman & Ethel Brown
Joseph & Mary Tarszowicz
Robert K. Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Gieger, Sr.
Mr. & Mrs. John Captoni, Sr.
Nick & Virginia Basile
Everett & Marjorie Gooch
Beverly Grab
Ann Matthews
Carrie Kathryn Daugherty
Niles, Cuda, & Daugherty
Families
Sylvia Kimble
Hopp & Anthony Families
Deceased Parish Members
Robbie Butler
Statts, Beaderman, Butler
Families
Sr. Raphael DuPrey
Sr. Gladys DuPrey
Alfonse Krol
Joseph & Mary Kupchak
Paul Patt
Thomas A. Young
Sally Lawton West
Bob & Joan Tobaygo, Sr.
Peter & Helen Demcher
Walter & Marie Tobaygo
William & Linda Demcher
James & Martha Hopkins
Tom & Rita Rudy Families

Ronald Behers
Frank & Helen Bechtel
Edgar & Marion Wallace
Elizabeth Bechtel
Thomas Bechtel
Dy Hue Bun
Ang Ye
Chua Pue Tin
Luz Ang-Siy
Julie Dy
William Dy
Holy Souls in Purgatory
Joseph & Elizabeth Tarszowicz
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Hayden, Sr.
Jim Comes
Arthur Sable
Joseph Tarszowicz
Elizabeth Tarszowicz
Ted, Doris, & Teddy Sykora
Lana Bennet
Jake & Gertrude Whitney
Larry & Diane Button
Beth Patt
Earl & Martha King
Bernard Mekos
Patrick Mekos
Marie Stager
Effie Antonio
Lauser Family
Beverly Grab
Ann Matthews
Koza Family
Marie Franks
Rudolph & Julia DalPezzo
Barbara Kropf
John & Phyllis Laky
Amanda, James, & Mackenzie
Nugent
Gina Pack
Beuter & Gubala Families
Sticklin Family
Rosemary Stutz
Korenkiewicz & Glasgow
Families
Wilcox, Sulewski, & Mountain
Families
Nykola A. Antoniw
June Ostapowicz

Al & Anna Marie Dlugokinski
Paul Urner
Brian Neiswender
Jeff Neally
Elwynn Akey
Kobe Bryant
Joseph & Anna Henneberger
Edward & Catherine Steffins
Chris Smith
Van & Lucille Emmons
Richard & Julia Amtmann
Tanner Kolb
Michelle Buckwalter
Don Edwards
All Souls in Purgatory
US Renal Care Patients
James, Amelia, & Robert
Williams
William & Mary Carlson
Straniere Family
Stanzione Family
Marty Herd
Geroge Gunton
Jim Callahan
Ginger Callahan
Harold & Ruth Berguson
Robert & Betty Callahan
Austin Seymour
Don & Rita O'Donnell
James & Alice O'Donnell
Robert & Helen Diltz
Jon Banik
Kerry Banik
Joseph Allen Banik
Ruth Reindl
Ruth Knapke
Margaret Pontzer
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Greitner
Mr. & Mrs. Ludwig Seitz
Mrs. Helen Sturenburg & Family
Collins/Mitchell Families
Rev. John J. O'Brien
Rev. Leo O'Malley

In Honor of:

Don & Lucy Whitney
Gary & Linda Kreisler
John Sadusky

Christmas Message From Bishop Bambera

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

“For a child is born to us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace.”

In his Christmas homily a year ago, Pope Francis reflected upon this familiar passage from the prophet Isaiah: “To us a son is given.”

Pope Francis began, “We often hear it said that the greatest joy in life is the birth of a child. It is something extraordinary and it changes everything ... That is what Christmas is: the birth of Jesus is the ‘newness’ that enables us to be reborn each year and to find, in him, the strength needed to face every trial. Why? Because his birth is for us – for me, for you, for all of us, for everyone ... Yet what do those words – for us – really mean? They mean that God came into the world as a child to make us children of God. What a magnificent gift! This day, God amazes us and says to each of us: Are you tempted to feel you were a mistake? God tells you, ‘No, you are my child!’ Do you have a feeling of failure or inadequacy, the fear that you will never emerge from the dark tunnel of trial? God says to you, ‘Have courage, I am with you.’ This is the starting point for any rebirth. This is the undying heart of our hope, the incandescent core that gives warmth and meaning to our life.”

The Holy Father continued: “Jesus, you are the Child who makes me a child. You love me as I am, not as I imagine myself to be; this I know! In embracing you, the Child of the manger, I once more embrace my life. In welcoming you, the Bread of life, I too desire to give my life. You, my Savior, teach me to serve. You, who did not leave me alone, help me to comfort your brothers and sisters, for you know that, from this night forward, all are my brothers and sisters.”

Pope Francis’ words capture so beautifully both the sublime gift that we have been given in the birth of Jesus and the responsibility that is ours to give the same gift of his life to others.

Through the Incarnation, God has immersed himself in our human condition – not because of our righteousness – but because of his grace and mercy. This fundamental belief in the limitless love of God, given human shape and form in Jesus’ birth, confronts the brokenness of our lives with hope. It beckons us to move beyond the division and fear that have engulfed our world, our Church and our lives to recognize an essential reality of humankind: we are all far more similar than we are different. As such, we are all brothers and sisters who, on our own, are powerless to save ourselves. And we are all in need of the heart of Christmas and the power and presence of Jesus – born to save us, to give us life and to enfold us in his peace.

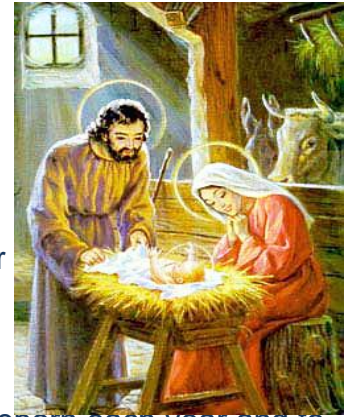
The surest way for us to encounter the saving power and presence of Jesus – particularly in the midst of these unsettling times – is to seek him out in those places where he has told us he will be found. Recognize and embrace Jesus as we feed the hungry, care for the sick, embrace the outcast, forgive generously, love unconditionally and welcome into our hearts his living presence in the Holy Eucharist, the source and summit of our lives.

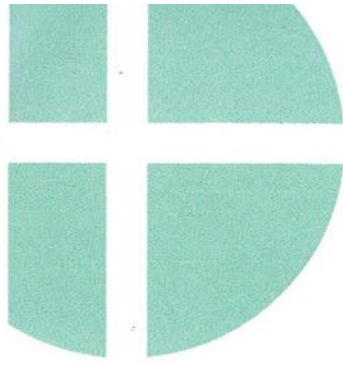
Brothers and sisters, we have been told where to look to find acceptance, forgiveness and mercy and we have learned what is necessary in order for us to give life to Jesus in a world that so desperately needs to experience his saving grace. During these days that continue to challenge our peace, may we pray for the wisdom and humility to open our lives to this great mystery of faith that we celebrate through the Incarnation of Christ. Therein alone, we will find the true and lasting reason for our hope!

With gratitude for the privilege of serving as your Bishop and with prayers for a holy and blessed Christmas for you, your family and all you hold dear, I am,

Faithfully yours in Christ,

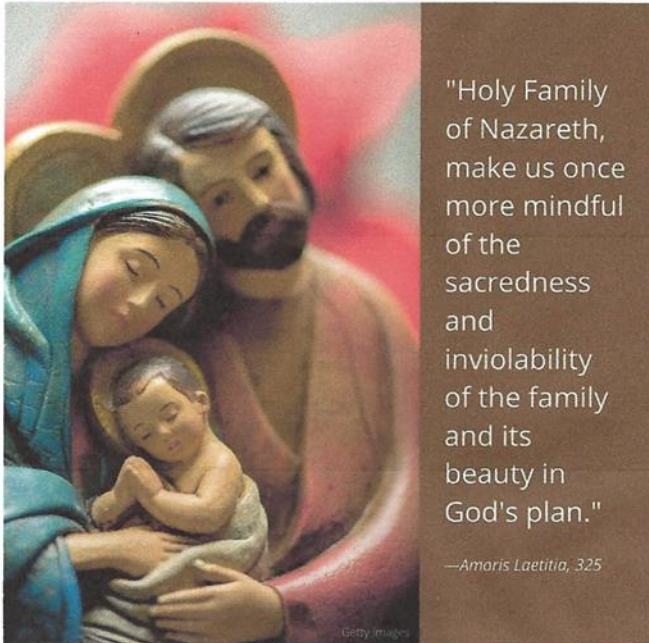
Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of Scranton





The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

DECEMBER 26, 2021



We celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family on the first Sunday after Christmas! This feast day is a reminder to us of the example Mary and Joseph set for all of us in welcoming Jesus into their lives. The Holy Family serves as a model for us all in which to live in faith and simplicity.

Prayer for Family Commitment

Dear God our Father, you have called all Christian families to be a sign of your love to the world.

Help us to be generous with the gifts of life and love that you have showered on our family. May we share them so that our homes become true signs of unitive and fruitful love.

Let us never forget to thank you each day for all that sustains us and to look to Christ, who comes to us in the events of family life, in the sacraments of the Church, and in service to the poor.

In all of this, our family becomes a living expression of your Church, a hallowed home of life and love. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may all of us—spouses, parents, and children— share, as members of his Body, in Jesus' mission to build a civilization of love. Father, we ask this in Jesus' name in union with the Holy Spirit. Amen.




Catholic
Current

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BULLETIN

The Diocese of Scranton strongly recommends that all parishioners wear a mask while attending Mass, regardless of vaccination status. As Catholics, we have a responsibility to protect our friends and neighbors and mask wearing remains an important mitigation tool against community spread.

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



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Dr. Richard F. Black

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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Parish Prayer List

Nan Bowser, Trish Knowlton, Judy Nagel, Shirley Mekos Broughton, Donna Brennan, Mary Mekos, Jonathan Hardman, Stephen Hurd, Stephanie Hemighaus, Suzie Alexander, Syler Sullivan, Adrienne Gilbert, Bob Murphy, Sylvia Smith, Tom Mohr, Carol Weatherby, Carol Shine, Teresa Pavlock, Jerry Pierce, Joann Black, Lori Lopaz, Patricia Quattrone, Larry Jackson, Katie Seip, Lisa Jones, Floyd Williammee, Renee Kennedy, Gay Furlong, Fran Rose, June Sherman, Kathy Smith, Tim Bogaczyk, Beth Valdez, Charles Barrett, Joe Engel, Darleen Kohler, Victoria Salerno, Bob Snyder, Don Brooks, Paul Beuter, Cole Salerno, Mark Kilmer, Stephen Horvatch, Fr. Paul Mullen, Helene Carpenter, Clark Hewitt, Everett Dean Brown, Roberta Mahar, Bud Boyce, Marian Coolidge, Kay Evans, Elizabeth Payne, Cindy Sereno, Carolyn Tester, Richard Stankiewicz, Jim Callahan, Mary Antoniow, Ruth Russell, Edward Cruttenden, Anne Marie Beuter, Carol Fasick, Skip Warriner, Stephanie Calicchia, Jacoby Aratari, Doris Coumbe, Lou Kirby, Shannon Jones, Steve Ziemak, Cody Bowers, Carolyn Clark, Don Hayden, Shannon Slaton, Lisa Neil-Keller, Ann Callahan, John Harling, Shawn Wheeler, John Wheeler, Kayleigh Johnson, Mary Clark, Ruth Braham, Jim Walker, Richard and Valerie Tobin, Shirley Dixon, Lucy Whitney, Adele Young, Suzan Richar, Lucille Keck, Gloria Fermenic, Stephanie Anthony, Victor Carlucci, Alice Kohut, John Bowe, Kathy Wheeler, Phyliss Davis, Tom Patt, Staci Stager, and Sammi Swinnich.



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

David Roby

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.