

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.com

Rectory Office Hours

Monday through Thursday, 9:00am-1:00pm

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Jacek Bialkowski
Secretary: Connie Spang – stpch@ptd.net
Bookkeeper: Louise Wheaton – stpadm@ptd.net
Religious Education.: Melissa Mann – streled@ptd.net
Maintenance Staff: Connie Spang, Rob Minnich

Schedule of Weekend Masses

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

Reconciliation

Tuesday through Friday, 11:45am-12:00pm;
Saturday, 4:20-4:50pm; or by appointment

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time February 19, 2023

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 no answer, please leave a message. Fr. Jacek 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

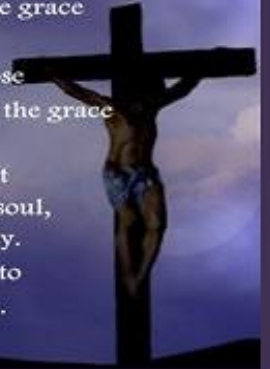
Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

A Prayer for Lenten Grace

Loving God,
During the sacred season of Lent, bring me closer to you.
Prepare a place in my home and heart for silence and solitude, so that I may re-discover the grace of a prayer-full life.
Enlarge my heart so that I give to those in need and, in so doing, re-discover the grace of gratitude and generosity.
Help me to fast from those things that threaten the well-being of body and soul, remind me of the grace and simplicity.
May this season be grace-filled time to rekindle my love for and faith in you.
Amen.



Parish Contact Listing

Women's Bible Study – Sue Singer 570-948-2184
Social Concerns – Karen Plumley 570-439-0175
Parish Rummage Sale – Pat Gorda 570-404-8918
Diane Bill 516-458-9130
Church Decorations – Sue Singer 570-948-2184
Buildings & Grounds – Rick Joachim 570-439-2591
Cemetery Committee – Howard Rutledge 570-724-4529
Dinner Committee – 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 – Steve Tokarz 570-404-0693
Worship Committee – Christina Simonis 570-724-2085
Sunday Nursing Home Communion – Rectory 570-724-3371
Prayer Chain – Kate Black 570-916-9573
ChristLife – Norb Josten 570-724-9095
Prayer Shawl Ministry - Michelle Sepiol 570-439-6206
Marian Ministries – Linda Sampson 570-404-2180

Date	Time	Mass Intention
Monday 2/20	No Mass	
Tuesday 2/21	12:10pm	In Memory of Robert Kurtzwernhart (Charles & Mary Fagg)
Wednesday 2/22	12:10pm 6:00pm	In Memory of John & Elinore Sattler (Joan Sattler) In Memory of Chua Pue Tin (Dy Family)
Thursday 2/23	12:10pm	In Memory of Bob & Cindy Dalton (The Grab Family)
Friday 2/24	6:00pm	In Memory of Mary Campbell (Mary Rizzo)
Saturday 2/25	5:00pm Mass is livestreamed	In Memory of Michel Bowen (Suzan Richar)
Sunday 2/26	8:30am	All Living and Deceased Member of St. Peter's Parish

Parish News and Activities

Church Hours/Adoration

The church will be open for private prayer, Monday through Friday from 8:00am-5:00pm. From 8:00-9:00am, the only entrance will be through the door on the main parking lot side. From 9:00am-5:00pm, the front door and carport entrance will be open. If for some reason the main door is not unlocked, please enter through the parking lot door, as this entrance will always be open from 8:00am-5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Saturday, the church will be open from 8:00am-4:30pm using only the parking lot door. The front and carport doors will be unlocked at 4:15pm for those attending Mass. All doors of the church will be unlocked on Sunday morning at 8:00am for those attending Mass. Adoration will take place on Tuesday from 1:00pm-6:00pm, with Benediction but no evening prayer.

Flower Arrangements

Parishioners are now able to purchase the flower arrangements that are placed at the altar, tabernacle, or by the Mary statue in memory or in honor of someone. The cost is as follows:
 Altar Flower Arrangements-1 arrangement \$70, 2 arrangements \$140
 Tabernacle Arrangements - 2 arrangements \$40
 Mary Arrangement - 1 arrangement \$25

You may request a particular flower(s) or color scheme and Akiko's will do their best to honor that if at all possible. The Arrangements will arrive in time for the weekend Masses and remain for the following week. Please stop in or call the rectory for available dates. The Memorial/Honorarium will be listed in the bulletin.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

For the safety of our parishioners, if the local school are **closed**, there will be **no daily Mass or Adoration**. The Church will remain open for private prayer using the parking lot side entrance.

Happening This Week

Sunday, February 19th

Religious Education Classes -
 8:30am pre-school; 9:30am K-12
 Exodus 90 - 4:00pm; Adult Ed. Room
 Confirmation Prep Class - 6:00pm; Parish Center

Monday, February 20th

Rectory Closed

Tuesday, February 21st

Women's Bible Study - 10:00am; Adult Ed. Room
 Adoration - 1:00pm - 6:00pm; Church

Friday, February 24th

Children's Stations of the Cross - 3:30pm; Church
 Stations of the Cross - Following 6:00pm Mass; Church

Sunday, February 26th

Religious Education Classes -
 8:30am pre-school; 9:30am K-12
 Exodus 90 - 4:00pm; Adult Ed. Room

Stewardship

Sunday Collection for February 12, 2023: \$5,993.00
 Weekly Goal to Meet Expenses: \$6,100.00
 Difference: -\$107.00
 Year to Date Budget Variance -\$312.09

We are grateful to all those who are able to financially support our parish.

Liturgical Reflection ~ 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

FIRST READING: Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18

Scripture commentators refer to a section in Leviticus as the holiness code. Today's text is part of that section. It includes a series of injunctions for the people of the covenant beginning with the words, "You shall not" or "You shall." These commandments prescribe the way of life for God's people. The foundation for such a life is the holiness of God; holding of grudges among brother or sister or neighbor.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 103

In the opening verse the psalmist reminds himself to praise the Lord lest he forget all the Lord's benefits. He names those blessings that come from the Lord and for which he is ever grateful: pardon for sin, healing of ills, redemption from destruction; all these are crowned with "kindness and compassion." He believes that the Lord abounds in mercy that is greater than all sins of his life. The Lord's graciousness is as vast as the space between east and west. It is as tender as the love of a father for his son.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 3:16-23

Paul invokes the image of the Temple to greet the Christians in Corinth. They would certainly know of the Temple structure in Jerusalem, but Paul tells them that they are a spiritual temple. God dwells in them; they are the holy of holies. The indwelling of God is through the Spirit that they have received from Christ Jesus and the Father. Paul warns them about boasting among themselves; that will bring about dissension in the community. If that happens, the unity of the spiritual temple is destroyed.

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:38-48

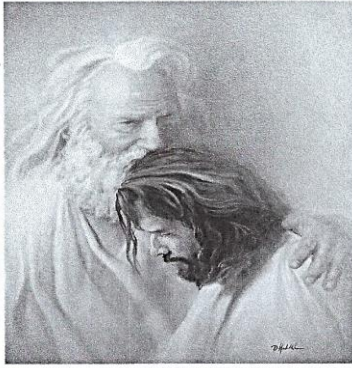
At the end of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus uses two more examples of the Mosaic Law to continue his new interpretation of the law. Both relate to difficult relationships that the disciples or any one might experience. They include relations with people who strike us, people who ask for help, and people we consider to be our enemies. This teaching is not one of the easier ones to accept; it calls on the disciples to rethink both the social customs of the time and the intent of the religious law. Jesus asks them, and us, to go beyond what might be an easy and spontaneous response to one that would be more compassionate and life giving.

Notice Regarding Reporting Sexual Abuse of a Minor

It is the policy of the Diocese of Scranton to report any allegation of sexual abuse of a minor to law enforcement. If you are a victim of sexual abuse committed by a priest, deacon, religious or lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton, you are encouraged to immediately report the matter to law enforcement. If any priest, deacon, religious, lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton has cause or reason to suspect that a minor has been subjected to any form of abuse, including child sexual abuse, the matter will be reported to law enforcement.

It is also the policy of the Diocese to adhere to all civil and state regulations. In accordance with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Child Protective Services Laws, reports of suspected child abuse should also be made immediately by phone to the 24-Hour Child Abuse hotline (ChildLine) at 1-800-932-0313 or electronically at www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis. To this end, the Diocese is equally committed to adhering to the norms of the Code of Canon Law and to upholding the tenets of the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, which includes supporting victims of sexual abuse in their pursuit of emotional and spiritual well-being. As such, information regarding an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor should also be reported to the Victim Assistance Coordinator Mary Beth Pacuska at 570-862-7551.

God loves us first, freely, taking the first step towards us without us deserving it; and so we cannot celebrate his love without in our turn taking the first step towards reconciliation with those who have hurt us. - Pope Francis



Son of the Father - A Men's Retreat

Sponsored by: Be a Catholic Man, Inc.

March 31 and April 1
beginning at 6:00pm
Cost is only \$75.00

Holy Transfiguration Retreat Center
1000 Seminary Rd. - Dalton, PA

Spiritual Guidance given by: Bishop Joseph Bambera,
Msgr. John Esseff, Fr. Pio Mandato, Fr. Kevin Miller,
and Jesse Martin

Info at beacatholicman.com or call (570) 351-6256



Diocesan Annual Appeal

The money that is raised through the Diocesan Annual Appeal 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.

Parish goal: **\$43,000**
Total raised: **\$34,082**

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!



Young Adult Retreat

The Diocesan Offices for Parish Life and Vocations is hosting a Young Adult Retreat Friday, March 3rd – Saturday, March 4th at Holy Family Spiritual Renewal Center in Nanticoke, PA. The retreat is open to young adults ages 18-35 and registration is \$20. This year's theme is, "Master, to Whom Shall We Go? How to Know the Lord and Be Rooted in His Plan for Your Life," and Father Joe Evanko will lead the retreat.

To register, please visit dioceseofscranton.org/parish-life-word/young-adult-ministry/young-adult-retreat.



The Social Concerns Committee would like to thank all parishioners who donated food items and time to our Valentine's Day meals. A special thank you to the religious education students for making Valentine cards! We delivered 42 meals, flowers, and cards to parishioners this year.

Rectory Hours

The rectory will be closed on Monday, February 20th in observance of President's Day.



Out of respect to the Blessed Sacrament reserved in the Tabernacle and to those in silent prayer, please take a moment to silence cell phones and refrain from loud conversation before and after Mass.

Thank you for your understanding.

SUPER

ALL PAPER

Sunday

February 19, 2023

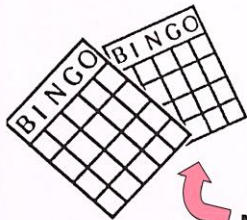
Knoxville Community Center
Main Street, Knoxville, PA

\$30.00

 Purchase at the Door

Doors will open at 10:30 am
Bingo starts at 12 pm (Noon)
Kitchen will be Open

MYSTERY NUMBER WON last Bingo!



Benefit: St. Thomas the Apostle Parish
Westfield/Ekland



Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl is a Lenten program that raises funds for those who need support and services in communities throughout the U.S. and overseas. Seventy-five percent of CRS Rice Bowl donations supports their work around the world, and twenty-five percent of gifts stay in each diocese for hunger and poverty alleviation efforts.

Rice Bowls are located on the holy handout table at the back of the church, or visit crsricebowl.org for more information on the program and to donate.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends with the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. You will notice a change in liturgy, decorations, and colors around the church. The priest will vest in violet, except on the 4th Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday) when he wears the rose vestments. The sanctuary is bereft of flowers or any other decorations. The Gloria will not be prayed/sung on Sundays. Also, Alleluia is not sung or said from the beginning of Lent until the Easter Vigil.

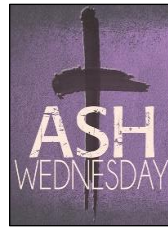


Lenten Reminders

Days of Fast and Abstinence – Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence (to abstain from eating meat). All Fridays during Lent are also days of abstinence. Catholics 14 years of age and older are required to abstain from eating meat.

All Catholics, 18-59 years of age, are bound by Church law to fast. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal. Two smaller meals may also be taken, but not to equal one full meal.

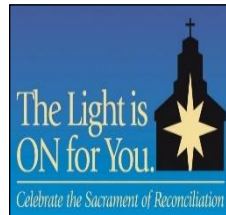
Easter Duty – All parishioners are reminded of their obligation to fulfill their Easter Duty. A person's Easter Duty consists of receiving the Holy Eucharist at least once between Ash Wednesday and Pentecost Sunday as well as going to the Sacrament of Reconciliation to confess any mortal sins.



Ash Wednesday Mass Schedule

February 22nd

St. Peter's - 12:10pm & 6:00pm
St. Thomas - 3:00pm



As we begin this season of Lenten preparation, each of us is invited to reflect on those choices which will bring about the new life we celebrate in

Easter. For this reason, the Church invites us to experience Lent as a time for deepened prayer, personal sacrifice, and self-giving – all so that we can be raised to new life in Christ! The Church encourages us to make confession a regular part of our spiritual life, especially during the holy season of Lent, as we reflect on our baptism and repentance.

On Mondays during Lent, there will be Mass at 5:30pm at St. Peter's followed by confessions.

"The Light is on For You!"

Ecumenical Event – Wednesday Lenten Services

The Wellsboro Ministerium will be offering Wednesday Lenten Services.

All services will be held at the First Presbyterian Church at 12:00pm with a light lunch to follow.

The schedule for the church who will host the luncheon and lead the prayer service is as follows:

February 22nd – First Presbyterian Church; March 1st – United Methodist Church; March 8th – Mt. Zion Church; March 15th – First Baptist Church; March 22nd – St. Peter's Church; March 29th – Vineyard Church.

All are welcome to attend!

Stations of the Cross

On Fridays of Lent there will be Mass at 6:00pm at St. Peter's followed by Stations of the Cross.



Pick Your Penance

After weekend Masses during Lent you will be able to "pick your penance" which is an extra act of kindness or a prayer that you can perform during Lent. A new "penance" can be picked each week. Penance will be available for adults and children at the parish doors after Mass.

Penance Services

Sunday, March 19th – 3:00pm; St. Peter's
Sunday, March 26th – 3:00pm; Holy Child
Wednesday, April 5th – 6:00pm; St. Boniface, Williamsport

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON
WILLIAMSPORT DEANERY

LENTEN HOLY HOUR

with Bishop Bambera

Wednesday, March 8
at 7:00 P.M.

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish
800 Mulberry St.
Montorsville, PA 17754



NATIONAL
Eucharistic
Revival

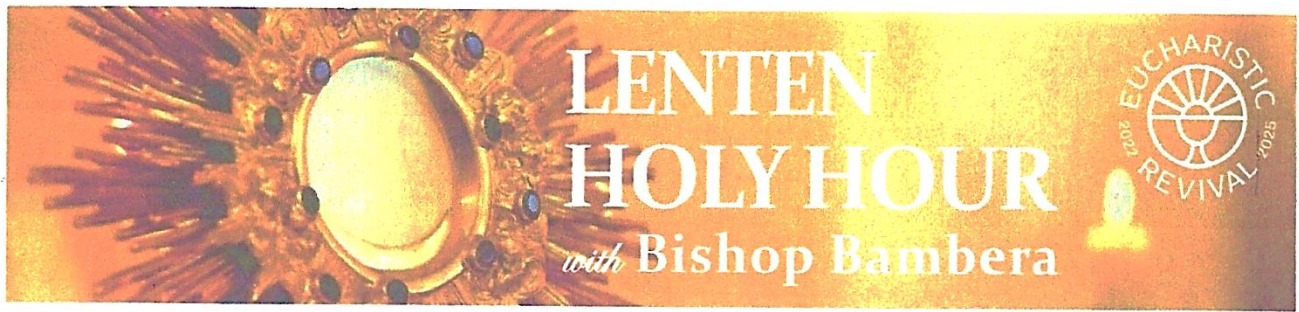
"My flesh for the life of the world." (John 6:51)

All of the faithful in the Diocese of Scranton are invited to a Lenten Holy Hour with the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, to commemorate the diocesan phase of the National Eucharistic Revival.

These gatherings will take place in each of the twelve deaneries of the Diocese of Scranton.

At their November 2021 General Assembly, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops voted to move forward with plans for a National Eucharistic Revival to renew the Church by enkindling a living relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist. The multi-year Eucharistic Revival began on Sunday, June 19, 2022, the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, and culminates with the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis, July 17-21, 2024.

Mark your calendars and plan on joining Bishop Bambera as we pray for renewal in our devotion to Jesus Christ present to us in the Eucharist.



What is a Holy Hour?

A Holy Hour is a period of time (usually around an hour) spent in prayer before our Lord Jesus Christ present to us sacramentally in the Eucharist. This involves silent personal prayer, meditation, readings from Sacred Scripture, hymns, spoken prayers and litanies, and can even involve popular devotions such as recitation of the Rosary or the Divine Mercy Chaplet. As Catholic Christians, there are many different ways to pray, and a Holy Hour is a great time to be in the very presence of Jesus and to pray in whatever manner is most fruitful for our spirituality.

What is Eucharistic Adoration and Exposition?

Eucharistic adoration is praying before the Lord Jesus who is truly present to us in the Eucharist. This usually takes place during a period of Eucharistic exposition when a consecrated host, the Blessed Sacrament, is placed in a monstrance (from the Latin word meaning "to show"). This tradition in the Catholic Church began in the Middle Ages when the faithful did not feel worthy enough to consume Holy Communion at Mass. Instead, they would faithfully gaze upon the consecrated host as the great mystery of God's love revealed to us in Christ and offer their prayers. While the frequent reception of Holy Communion at Mass is encouraged today, the Church still considers this tradition of Eucharistic Adoration an indispensable part of Catholic faith and spirituality.

What will happen during this Holy Hour with Bishop Bambera?

This Lenten Holy Hour with Bishop Bambera commemorates the diocesan phase of the National Eucharistic Revival in which the bishops of the United States hope to rekindle in Catholics a living relationship with the Lord Jesus in the sacrament of the Eucharist. The evening begins with Solemn Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by a period of silent, personal prayer and contemplation. Vespers, or Evening Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours, will then be offered with hymns, psalms and readings pertaining to the Eucharist. Bishop Bambera will give a homily on the Eucharist during Vespers, and the Holy Hour concludes with Benediction, or the Blessing of the Faithful with the Eucharist.

Why should I go to this Holy Hour?


The word "Eucharist" comes from the Greek word meaning "to give thanks" and this season of Lent is the perfect time for each of us to recognize our own brokenness and to express our gratitude for God's grace manifested in the death and resurrection of Jesus. We are not alone on this Lenten journey: we join our prayers during these Holy Hours with the faithful all over the Diocese of Scranton, united with our Bishop, the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, as well as Catholic all over the United States in praying for a renewal in our devotion to the Holy Eucharist.

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

<p>Advertise with us! See your ad here</p>	<p>WALRATH & COOLIDGE Probate & Estate Administration Real Estate Personal Injury 570-724-3801 Wills • Corporate Adoptions Family Law R. Lowell Coolidge, Esq • Priscilla Walrath, Esq Fax: 570-724-7239 126 Main St • Wellsboro, PA</p>	<p>Advertising Space Available</p>
<p><i>Akiko's Floral Arts</i>  31 East Avenue Wellsboro (570) 724-1509 "If Akiko's Not Your Florist, She Should Be" Shop24/7 at www.akikos.com Akiko, Clark & Joe Hewitt</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>Call the rectory at 570/ 724-3371 for information</p>
<p> 25 Main Street Wellsboro, PA 16901 570-723-4263 www.popscultureshoppe.com Games * Imagination * Fun Your proprietors Julian and Anja Stam Consider it all joy! James 1:2</p>	<p> Hunting-Fishing-Trapping-Trekking 1803 Route 287, Morris 570-404-6159 www.Nessmuks.com A Family Owned Small Business Zack & Tracy Buck</p>	<p>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:</p>
<p> U-Haul Dealer Since 2011 uhaul.com Ken Mitchell Mitchell's Carquest Auto Parts 688 South Main Street Mansfield, PA 16933 Business: (570) 662-2534 www.mitchellcarquest.com </p>	<p> Stephen F. Tokarz • Artisan • Craftsman Specializing in Custom Wood Products 570-404-0693 Established in Tioga County, PA</p>	<p>"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."</p>

Parish Prayer List

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, Joann Black, Patricia Quattrone, Larry Jackson, Katie Seip, Lisa Jones, Renee Kennedy, Gay Furlong, Fran Rose, June Sherman, Kathy Smith, Tim Bogaczyk, Beth Valdez, Charles Barrett, Joe Engel, Darleen Kohler, Victoria Salerno, 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 Antoniw, Ruth Russell, Anne Marie Beuter, Skip Warriner, Stephanie Calicchia, Jacoby Aratari, 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, Richard and Valerie Tobin, Shirley Dixon, Lucy Whitney, Adele Young, Suzan Richar, Lucille Keck, Gloria Fermenic, Alice Kohut, John Bowe, Kathy Wheeler, Phyliss Davis, Tom Patt, Sammi Swinnich, Raymond Butler, Michael Joseph Harris, Maggie Stirnaman, Jane Johnson, Maureen Bailey, George Hill, Kami Maloof, Don Gordon, Midge Bialas, B.J. Butler.

 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.