St. Peter's Church



2nd Sunday of Lent February 25, 2024

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- $K-12^{th}$ grade. Classes begin in September and conclude in May. Pre-K (ages 3-5) is held during the 8:30am Mass. $K-12^{th}$ 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 $K-4^{th}$) 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	
ridaress	

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–2:00pm

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Jacek Bialkowski Secretary: Connie Spang – stpch@ptd.net Bookkeeper: Melissa Mann – stpadm@ptd.net Religious Education: Jen Minnich – stpreled@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-12:10pm; Saturday: 4:30-5:00pm; or by appointment

A Prayer for Lent

Please, Lord, guide my mind with your truth.

Strengthen my life by the humble, obedient example of Jesus.

He fulfilled your will by becoming human and suffering with us.

He died so that I would no longer be separated from you.

Help me to feel how close you are and to live in union with you.

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 – Karen Novak 570/982-5115 Music Ministry – Christina Simonis 570/724-2085

Samaritan House – Mary Grab – 607/857-3447

Youth Group – Steve Tokarz – 570/404-0693

Eucharistic Adoration – Rhonda Gooch 570/724-3092

Finance Council – Tim Gooch 570/971-5826

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

Fundraising Committee – Tim Gooch 570/971-5826

Knights of Columbus – Mike Buono 717/320-2305

2nd Sunday of Lent

Date	Time	Mass Intention
Monday 2/26	5:30pm	Souls in Purgatory (Family)
Tuesday 2/27	12:10pm	In Memory of Michael Bowen (Suzan Richar)
Wednesday 2/28	12:10pm	In Memory of Elena Ong Ang (Beth Dy)
Thursday 2/29	No Mass	
Friday 3/1	6:00pm	Deceased Members of the Grab Family (Grab Family)
Saturday 3/2	5:00pm Mass is livestreamed	In Memory of Kathleen Satalin (Tom & Deb Rudy)
Sunday 3/3	8:30am	Living and Deceased Members of St. Peter's Parish

Church Hours / Adoration

Monday – Friday: The church doors will be open for private prayer from 8:00am – 5:00pm. If the main doors of the church are locked, please enter through the side parking lot door.

Saturday: The side parking lot door (only) will be open from 8:00am – 4:30pm for private prayer. All church doors will be unlocked at 4:30pm for Mass.

Sunday: All church doors will be unlocked at 8:00am for Mass and will remain open until 9:30am when religious education classes begin.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place on Tuesdays from 1:00pm - 6:00pm, with Benediction.

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 is **closed**, there will be **no daily Mass or Adoration**. The Church will remain open for private prayer, using the parking lot side entrance, and the parish office hours may be affected.

Happening This Week

Sunday, February 25th

Religious Education Classes 8:30am pre-school; 9:30am K-12

Monday, February 26th

The Light is On for You – Confessions after Mass Knights of Columbus Meeting – 7:00pm; Parish Center

Tuesday, February 27th

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

Wednesday, February 28th

Staff Meeting – 10:00am; Parish Office

Friday, March 1st

Children's Stations of the Cross – 3:00pm Stations of the Cross – Following 6:00pm Mass

Sunday, March 3rd

Religious Education Classes 8:30am pre-school; 9:30am K-12

Stewardship

Sunday Collection for February 18, 2024: \$4,555.00 Weekly Goal to Meet Expenses: \$6,100.00

Difference: -\$1,545.00 Year to Date Budget Variance: \$12,021.67

Diocese Collection: For Eastern Europe: \$65.00

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

Parish Prayer List

To add a name to the bulletin prayer list, please contact the Parish Office at 570/724-3371. For privacy reasons, the person making the request must be an immediate family member. This would include a spouse, child, sibling, parent, or grandparent of the person to be added.

Lenten Reminders

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 rose vestments. The sanctuary is bereft of flowers or any other decorations and the Gloria will not be prayed/sung on Sundays. Also, Alleluia is not sung or said from the beginning of Lent until the Eater Vigil.



Days of Fast and Abstinence

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence, which means no meat may be eaten. All Fridays during Lent are also days of abstinence. Catholics, 18-59 years of age, are bound by Church law to fast, which means only one large meal and two smaller meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to one's needs, but together should not equal another full meal, unless dispensed or excused. Catholics 14 years of age and older are required to abstain.

Easter Duty

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

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be held in the church every Friday during Lent, following the 6:00pm Mass. All parishioners are encouraged to attend Stations of the Cross during the Lenten season.



Children's Stations of the Cross will also be held every Friday during Lent. Students are invited to the Parish Center after school at 3:00pm for a light snack before Stations begin in the church at 3:30pm. Please have children enter through the Parish Center doors. Students can be picked up at 4:00pm and parents are also welcome to attend.

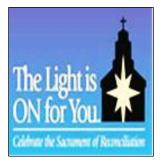
Pick Your Penance

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

Would you like to help distribute the penances this Lent? We are looking for volunteers to hold the baskets of penances and offer them to parishioners. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Kim Piller at kimp806@gmail.com



THERE WILL BE A LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE AT ST. PETER'S ON SUNDAY, MARCH 10th AT 4:00PM



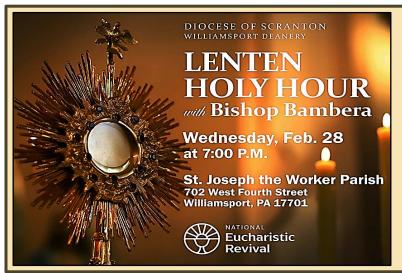
As we begin this season of Lenten preparation, each of us is invited to reflect on those choices which will bring about the new life we celebrate in Easter. For this reason, the Church invites us to experience Lent as a time for deepened prayer, personal sacrifice, and self-giving – all so that we can 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, beginning February 26th, there will be a 5:30pm Mass at St. Peter's followed by confessions.



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.



What is a Holy Hour?

A Holy Hour is a period of time, usually an hour, spent in prayer before our Lord Jesus Christ present to us sacramentally in the Eucharist. This involves silent personal prayer, meditation, reading from 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.

Diocesan Annual Appeal

The money raised through the Diocesan Annual Appeal will help continue the mission of our Church in the Diocese of Scranton by providing programs and ministries that bring the love of Christ to our neighbors, our children, and those most in need in Northeastern and Northcentral PA.

Parish goal: \$43,000 Total raised to date: \$35,785

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!



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-HourChild 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.

----- Important Notice Regarding 2023 Statements -----

Back in December, the hard drive on the parish office computer crashed during a data transfer and much of St. Peter's financial information was lost. Because of this, we are unable to retrieve contribution numbers electronically and a more time-consuming process of reviewing weekly paper records for each individual parishioner is required. This has caused an unfortunate delay in providing 2023 statements.

We apologize for the delay and understand the importance of providing your statement in a timely manner. Please know this is a top priority for the parish office, and we anticipate mailing statements to those who requested them by the first week of March. If you should require yours sooner, please contact Melissa in the parish office and she will do her best to meet your deadline. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Ecumenical Event – Wednesday Lenten Services



The Wellsboro Ministerium is offering Wednesday Lenten Services to our community. All services will be held at the First Presbyterian Church (130 Main St, Wellsboro) at 12:00pm with a light lunch to follow. **All are welcome!**

February 21st – United Methodist Church
February 28th – Vineyard Church
March 6th – St. Peter's Church
March 13th – Vineyard Church
March 20th – First Baptist Church



A Knights of Columbus Meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 26th at 7:00pm in the Parish Center.



Have You Heard?

GOD IS DOING SOMETHING NEW—AND HE IS CALLING YOU TO BE A PART OF IT!

We are in the midst of a National Eucharistic Revival. Why? Because the Church needs healing, and the world needs Jesus. The Holy Spirit is inviting us to return to the source and summit of our faith—the Eucharist.

Scan the code to learn more about the exciting journey ahead, and sign up for weekly updates on what's happening in this unprecedented national movement!

eucharisticrevival.org





Prayer Service for Peace and to Commemorate the Second Year of War in Ukraine

Sunday, February 25, 2024 2:30 p.m. Cathedral of Saint Peter, 315 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton This month will mark two years since the Russian invasion of Ukraine began, and all people of goodwill are invited to join together to pray for an end to the war. Bishop Joseph C. Bambera of the Diocese of Scranton, and Father Myron Myronyuk, Pastor, Saint Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Church of Scranton, will celebrate 'A Prayer Service for Peace and to Commemorate the Second Year of War in Ukraine' at 2:30pm on Sunday, February 25, 2024, at the Cathedral of Saint Peter, 315 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton. While in-person attendance is highly encouraged, the Prayer Service will also be broadcast live on CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton.

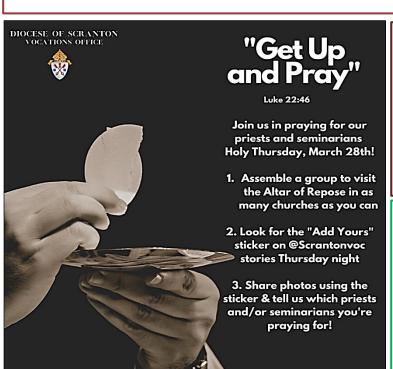


FOOT WASHERS NEEDED

According to the Gospel, Jesus performed a final act of service for his Disciples, following the Passover meal. Arising from the table, Jesus tied a towel about his waist, filled a basin with water, and one after another he washed the feet of each disciple. When he finished, he said to them, "I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do".

In the Church, the foot washing ceremony is an important call for all people that they too should be willing to serve others. Following the homily at the Holy Thursday Mass, members of the congregation sit and have their feet washed by the priest, who plays the role of Christ. One by one, the priest will wash the participant's feet with a basin and a towel. It is a reminder that we are of the Body of Christ and as such, and as his followers, we too are called to serve others in a spirit of humility. And we are to do so, even if we do not feel the desire to do so. As Christians, this is our duty.

Twelve volunteers are needed to have their foot washed at the Holy Thursday Mass. A sign-up sheet will be on the table at the back of the church next weekend.



<u>Volunteer Opportunity – Collection Counters Needed</u>

Each Sunday, volunteers count the offerings collected during the weekend Masses and prepare the funds for deposit. There are four teams of counters, and each team serves once every four weeks. We are looking for parishioners to join a counting team. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the parish office at 570/724-3371.



SUPER BINGO! Sunday, March 3rd

Knoxville Community Center \$30.00

Doors open at 10:30am Bingo starts at 12:00 noon

Knights of Columbus Spring Exemplification



During the February 18, 2024 Spring Exemplification, hosted by Immaculate Conception, Knights of Columbus #4493, Wellsboro, the following four members were inducted into the order: John Grab, Tim Gooch, Erik Rymarcuk, and Steve Tokarz. Members of the inducting team and charges were Father Jacek Bialkowski (Chaplain); Tom Socha, District Deputy Tioga County, Elkland Council (Presiding Officer); Jim Weiskopff, Grand Knight, Blossburg Council (Charity); Tony Hauck, Mansfield University Council, Deputy Grand Knight and Recorder (Unity); Robert Mizdail, Recorder, Immaculate Conception Council, Wellsboro; and Mike Buono, Grand Knight, Immaculate Conception Council, Wellsboro, and host of the Exemplification (Warden).

Afterwards, a delicious luncheon was prepared and served by the luncheon committee composed of Rob and Jen Minnich.

The Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Catholic family fraternal service organization with 1.7 million members (about twice the population of Delaware). It provides members and their families with volunteer opportunities in service to the Catholic Church, their communities, families, and young people.

For information concerning local Tioga County activities and to find out how you can join this world-wide Catholic organization, please contact District Deputy, Tom Socha, at 814/258-7386.

Please pray for the following parishioners, who are participating in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA), as they continue their journey preparing to become full members of the Catholic Church during the Easter Vigil.

Elect

Emily Marguerite Griffin
Brenda Lee Thomas

They are recognized as elect, having signed their name to the Book of the Elect.

Candidate

Mark Anthony Petrakovick



March Calendar

- 3 Class
 - 5/6 Grade Penance
 - Safe Environment; 7/8 grade & High School
- 10 Class
 - 7/8 grade Penance
- 17 Class
 - High School Penance
 - Confirmation Class; 6:00pm / Parish Center
 - Saint Papers & Sponsor Interviews Due
- No Class (Palm Sunday)
- 31 No Class (Easter)

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Take advantage of a unique marketing opportunity and advertise in the church bulletin.

Call the parish office at 570/724-3371 for information.



"If Akiko's Not Your Florist, She Should Be" Shop24/7 at www.akikos.com Akiko, Clark & Joe Hewitt



U-HAUL

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A Gift in Your Will

We hope you'll consider including a gift to St. Peter's Church in your will or living trust. Called a charitable bequest, just a few sentences in your will or trust are all that is needed. Share this sample bequest language for St. Peter's Church with your estate planning attorney:

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

Parish Prayer List

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, Everett Dean Brown, 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, 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, Gloria Fermenic, Alice Kohut, John Bowe, Kathy Wheeler, Phyliss Davis, Raymond Butler, Michael Joseph Harris, Maggie Stirnaman, Jane Johnson, George Hill, Kami Maloof, Don Gordon, Christopher Moore, Kassie Nowak, Sr. Sally Villa; SSJ, Bill Cizek, Carter Benjamin, Stephen Farrell, Elexxa Germino

Fternal Rest Grant (Into Them, Ol ord 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.