

# St. Peter's Church



**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**January 28, 2024**

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](http://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](mailto:stpch@ptd.net)  
Bookkeeper: Melissa Mann – [stpadm@ptd.net](mailto:stpadm@ptd.net)  
Religious Education: Jen Minnich – [stpreld@ptd.net](mailto:stpreld@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

### **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<sup>th</sup> grade. Classes begin in September and conclude in May. Pre-K (ages 3-5) is held during the 8:30am Mass. K-12<sup>th</sup> 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<sup>th</sup>) 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 PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel." - Lk 2:34a

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©2011

### **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

Date	Time	Mass Intention
Monday 1/29	No Mass	
Tuesday 1/30	12:10pm	The Souls in Purgatory (Family)
Wednesday 1/31	12:10 pm	In Memory of Dr. Richard Black (Bialas Family)
Thursday 2/1	12:10pm	In Memory of Merle Wilcox (Wife, Kathy)
Friday 2/2	12:10pm	In Memory of Michel Bowen (Suzan Richar)
Saturday 2/3	5:00pm Mass is livestreamed	Walter Schaut Family (Sue Singer)
Sunday 2/4	8:30am	Living and Deceased Members of St. Peter's Parish

The Sanctuary Candle is offered in Honor of Mountain/Wilcox Children & Grandchildren (Kathy Wilcox)

**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, January 28<sup>th</sup>**

Religious Education Classes  
8:30am pre-school; 9:30am K-12  
First Communion Parent Mtg – 9:30am; Church

**Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup>**

Following Christ – 6:30pm; Parish Center

**Tuesday, January 30<sup>th</sup>**

Women’s Bible Study – 10:00am; Adult Ed Room  
Adoration – 1:00pm – 6:00pm; Church  
Worship Committee Mtg – 6:15pm; Parish Center

**Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>**

Following Christ – 6:30pm; Parish Center

**Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Blessing of Candles – 12:10pm Mass

**Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Following Christ Retreat – 9:00am; Parish Center

**Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>**

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

**Stewardship**

Sunday Collection for January 21, 2024: \$7,048.59  
Weekly Goal to Meet Expenses: \$6,100.00  
Difference: \$948.59  
Year to Date Budget Variance: \$11,475.84  
*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.



# Liturgical Reflection – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**GOSPEL: Mark 1:21-28**



Jesus enters the synagogue and teaches with an authority different from that of the scribes. He exorcises an unclean spirit from a man possessed. The unclean spirit knew the truth about Jesus: “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are – the Holy One of God.” Those who witnessed the exorcism were filled with awe, a reaction to seeing something so wondrous that one cannot understand it. They do not yet know who Jesus is, but they already know that something very holy is happening in their midst.

## Diocesan Annual Appeal

*Our Call to Serve*

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 families, our neighbors, and to those most in need.

**Our parish goal this year is \$43,000**  
**The total raised to date is \$33,160**

We have reached 77% of our goal.

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!



Scan to donate  
or visit  
[annualappeal.org](http://annualappeal.org)



## 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](http://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.

**“Accumulating material goods is not enough to live well, because life does not depend on what we possess. Life depends on good relationships: with God, with others, and also with those who have less.” – Pope Francis**



# St. Peter's Parish Raffle Fundraiser

Enter to win a  
**65" UQ70 LG UHD TV!**

The deadline for entry is Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, so be sure to return all raffle tickets by this date. Tickets are available for purchase at the back of the church immediately after each Mass this weekend, and tickets can also be purchased in the parish office. **The drawing will be held on Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>** and one lucky winner will be notified by phone.

*Thank you for supporting St. Peter's raffle fundraiser, and good luck!*

## Altar Server Training

Altar Server training will take place on **Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup>** during religious education classes. If your child is in third grade or above, has received First Holy Communion and is interested in becoming an altar server, please fill out the form below and return it to their religious education teacher. Contact Jen Minnich in the Religious Education Office at [stpreled@ptd.net](mailto:stpreled@ptd.net) with any questions.



My child, \_\_\_\_\_ in grade \_\_\_\_\_, has received their First Holy Communion and is interested in attending altar server training on Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup>.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_



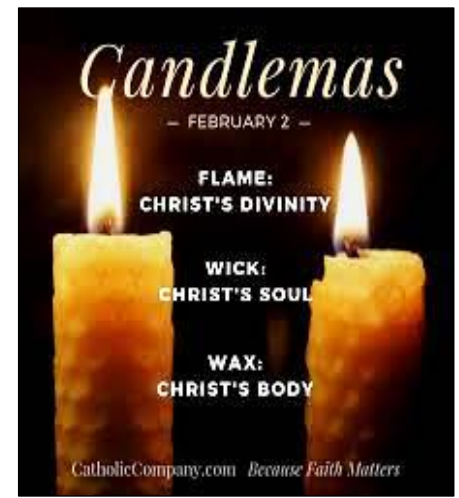
## Religious Education

The Religious Education program is looking for high school students to volunteer in the pre-k classroom. Pre-k takes place during the 8:30am Mass on Sundays and lesson plans, including all materials, are provided. Student volunteers do not need to serve each week and scheduling is based on their availability.

If you know of a high school student who may be interested in sharing God's love with our pre-k children, please have them contact Mrs. Minnich at [stpreled@ptd.net](mailto:stpreled@ptd.net).

## The Presentation of the Lord

The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord celebrates the presentation of Christ in the temple at Jerusalem on the 40<sup>th</sup> day after his birth. When Christ was presented in the temple, Simeon embraced the Child and prayed the Canticle of Simeon: "Now thou dost dismiss thy servant, O Lord, according to thy word in peace; because my eyes have seen thy Salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all peoples: a light To the revelation of the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel" (Luke 2:29-32). Inspired by the words of the canticle, the custom of blessing candles on the Feast of the Presentation developed in the west. Because of this, the feast also became known as *Candlemas*.



**Candles will be blessed during the 12:10pm Mass on Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

Before Mass begins, parishioners should place any candles they would like to have blessed on the table in front of the altar.

***May Christ, the true light of the world, dispel the darkness of our minds and hearts.***



## Blessing of Throats

The Church celebrates the feast of St. Blaise, Bishop and martyr, on Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>. St. Blaise has traditionally been associated with the healing of throats, so it is the practice of the Church to have a blessing of throats around his feast day to seek his intercession.

**A blessing of throats will take place after both weekend Masses on February 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.**



SCAN TO REGISTER  
College Age +

# EZRA 10:4

A RETREAT FOR MEN DISCERNING THE  
PRIESTHOOD

Rev. Alex Roche



Holy Family Spiritual Renewal Center, Nanticoke

Hosted by the Diocese of Scranton Vocations Office

**MARCH 1 - 2, 2024**

REGISTER AT [DIOCESEOFSCRANTON.ORG/VOCATIONS](http://DIOCESEOFSCRANTON.ORG/VOCATIONS)



## Super Bingo!

**Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>**

Knoxville Community  
Center



**Doors open at 10:30am**

**Bingo starts at 12:00pm**

**Cost: \$30.00**





## Marian Ministries Lenten Book Study

### Lenten Book Study



All parishioners are invited to join us for “*Restore*,” a guided Lenten journey by Sr. Miriam James Heidland. This online study will be facilitated by Chris Troncone and Linda Sampson. About the study (from Amazon:)

Follow the Lord into the depths of your heart this Lent and you will never be the same. Take a healing journey with Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT, as she helps you turn away from what wounds you and toward God who heals you and makes you whole.

In this beautiful guided journal for prayer and meditation, Sr. Miriam invites you to meet the tenderness of God’s mercy, the power of his love, and the restoration of your heart and life as you practice prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

*Restore* features stunning original art by Valerie Delgado of Pax. Valerie along with daily meditations on a passage from scripture, reflection questions, guided prayer, and space for journaling and notetaking.

Throughout Lent, you’ll move through four different phases of healing, focusing on traditional Lenten practices:

1. Prayer is the means of healing our relationship with God.
2. Fasting disciplines us in healing our relationship with ourselves.
3. Almsgiving leads us to healing our relationships with others.
4. Sacrifice shows us the path to heaven and union with God.

If you enter into Lent with Christ, your heart will see more clearly, be pierced more easily, love more strongly, and serve more passionately. Jesus will be etched into the crevasses of your being.

Sign-up sheets are available at St. Peter’s, Holy Child, St. Mary’s, St. Thomas, and St. Catherine’s. Or email Linda @ [marian-ministries@outlook.com](mailto:marian-ministries@outlook.com) or Chris @ [troncy@hotmail.com](mailto:troncy@hotmail.com). A donation of \$10 is suggested to assist with the cost of the books. (Mark these donations and place them in the weekly collection basket.) The deadline to register is **Sunday, February 4th**.

“Always remain close to the Catholic Church because it alone can give you true peace, since it alone possesses Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, the true Prince of Peace.” - St. Padre Pio



# Knights of Columbus®



## **Thank You!**

The members of the Immaculate Conception Knights of Columbus would like to thank the parishioners of St. Peter's Church for their generosity in donating 120 pairs of socks to our annual Socks for Kids drive, which will compliment the Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids Program in Tioga County. If you know a child in need of a warm coat, gloves, or hat, please let a Knight at the church know or call Michael Buono at 717/320-2305.

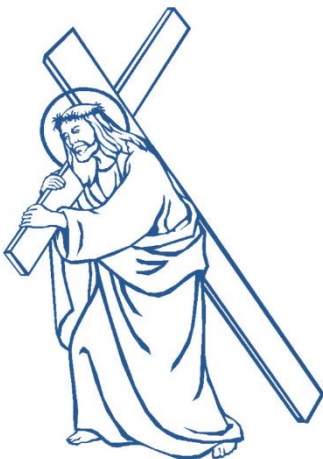
## **Upcoming Knights of Columbus Event**

There will be a third degree Exemplification at St. Peter's Church on Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm. We currently have three Candidates to receive the first through third degrees.

Knights of Columbus members were given a rosary when they took their first degree and made a vow to carry that rosary with them at all times, and pray it often. Please do your best to honor that commitment. Thank you and God bless you.

## **Are You Interested in Joining the Knights of Columbus?**

If you would like to join the Knights and do good things for your church and community, please contact Grand Knight Michael Buono at 717/320-2305.



## **Children's Stations of the Cross**

Beginning February 17<sup>th</sup>, Children's Stations of the Cross will be held each Friday during Lent. Students are invited to the Parish Center after school at 3:15pm for a light snack before Stations begin in the church at 3:30pm.

Please enter through the Parish Center doors.

Children can be picked up at 4:00pm and parents are welcome to attend.

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

<p><b>Advertise with us!</b> <b>See your ad here</b></p>	<p><b>WALRATH &amp; COOLIDGE</b>          Probate &amp; Estate Administration          Real Estate          Personal Injury  <b>570-724-3801</b>          Wills • Corporate Adoptions          Family Law          R. Lowell Coolidge, Esq • Priscilla Walrath, Esq          Fax: 570-724-7239 126 Main St • Wellsboro, PA</p>	<p>Take advantage of a unique marketing opportunity and advertise in the church bulletin.</p>
<p><i>Akiko's Floral Arts</i>            31 East Avenue          Wellsboro          (570) 724-1509  <b>"If Akiko's Not Your Florist, She Should Be"</b>          Shop24/7 at <a href="http://www.akikos.com">www.akikos.com</a>          Akiko, Clark &amp; Joe Hewitt</p>	<p><b>OVER 125 YEARS OF SERVICE</b>  <b>TUSSEY-MOSHER</b>          FUNERAL HOME, LTD.          Calvin T. Mosher, Supervisor          139 Main St. Wellsboro, PA 16901          (570) 724-4637   <a href="http://TusseyMosher.com">TusseyMosher.com</a></p>	<p>Call the parish office at 570/724-3371 for information.</p>
<p>          25 Main Street          Wellsboro, PA 16901          570-723-4263  <a href="http://www.popscultureshoppe.com">www.popscultureshoppe.com</a>  <b>Games * Imagination * Fun</b>          Your proprietors Julian and Anja Stam          Consider it all joy! James 1:2</p>	<p>  <b>Hunting-Fishing-Trapping-Trekking</b>          1803 Route 287, Morris 570-404-6159  <a href="http://www.Nessmuks.com">www.Nessmuks.com</a>          A Family Owned Small Business  <b>Zack &amp; Tracy Buck</b></p>	<p><b>A Gift in Your Will</b>          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  <a href="http://www.mitchellcarquest.com">www.mitchellcarquest.com</a>  </p>	<p>  <b>TOKARZ</b>          Custom WOODWORK          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, Everett Dean Brown, Bud Boyce, Marian Coolidge, Kay Evans, Elizabeth Payne, Cindy Sereno, Carolyn Tester, Richard Stankiewicz, Jim Callahan, Mary Antoniow, 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



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.