

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 – 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-12:00pm;
Saturday, 4:20-4:50pm; or by appointment

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time January 29, 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 _____



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. C.P.R.

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 1/30	No Mass	
Tuesday 1/31	12:10pm	In Memory of John & Anna Andrascik (Family)
Wednesday 2/1	12:10pm	In Memory of John Wesley LaGrone III (Charles & Mary Fagg)
Thursday 2/2	12:10pm	In Memory of Walter Opshinsky (The Grab Family)
Friday 2/3	12:10pm	Paul Beuter, Jr. (Sister, Ann Marie)
Saturday 2/4	5:00pm Mass is livestreamed	All Living and Deceased Members of St. Peter's Parish
Sunday 2/5	8:30am	All Living and Deceased Members of St. Peter's Parish

Tabernacle Flowers are in Memory of Lottie Yastrzemski (Cecil F. & Diane Bill)

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, January 29th

First Holy Communion Parent Mtg. - 9:30am;
 Church
 Exodus 90 - 4:00pm; Adult Ed. Room

Tuesday, January 31st

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

Wednesday, February 1st

Following Christ - 6:30pm; Parish Center

Saturday, February 4th

Following Christ Retreat - 9:00am - 4:00pm;
 Parish Center

Sunday, February 5th

Exodus 90 - 4:00pm; Adult Ed. Room

Stewardship

Sunday Collection for January 22, 2023: \$3,676.00
 Weekly Goal to Meet Expenses: \$6,100.00
 Difference: -\$2,424.00
 Year to Date Budget Variance: -\$1,982.09

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

Liturgical Reflection ~ 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13

The reading has two sections coming from separate chapters of Zephaniah. The first verses are strong annotations to the people to do three things: seek the Lord, seek justice, and seek humility. The presumption is that the people have been unfaithful, sinful, and arrogant. In the second section it is the voice of the Lord that addresses the people. The tone is quite different than the first part. The Lord promises that a remnant of Israel will know salvation. This remnant will be a transformed people; they will be faithful, honest, and live with integrity.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 146

The psalmist can hardly contain his exuberance in proclaiming the praise of the Lord. In the twelve lines of the psalm, he lists ten actions performed by the Lord on behalf of the people. Although the Lord is solicitous of the whole people, those most vulnerable are afforded special mention and care. The oppressed, the hungry, the captives, the blind, the strangers, the orphans, and the widows all receive divine help in their situations. Each of these actions will be marks of Jesus' ministry generations later.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

Those whom the psalmist identifies as recipients of the Lords' care share a similar identity with those that Paul addresses in Corinth. Paul reminds these early believers that on their own, they have very little status or power or influence. Yet they are precisely the ones that God has chosen to spread the Gospel. Paul states that God's choice is deliberate; the circumstances of their lives will be instruments of the Gospel. Their lowliness will bring down the haughty; their foolishness will confound the wise. Such is the intention of God; for God's ways are not the way of humans.

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12



The eight Beatitudes are perhaps one of the best known teachings of Jesus. The beatitude is a genre of teaching from wisdom literature. A blessing is bestowed on a person or persons because of their status, that is, the poor, the meek, and that blessing is followed by a subsequent action that benefits them. Jesus hints at what will later become explicit in his teaching; he retains what is of value in the Law of Moses, but expands it with his own depth of meaning. Not only will outward situations of hunger, thirst, and persecution be altered in God's reign, as Isaiah envisioned, those who offer these things with proper intention, pursuing the righteousness proposed by God and revealed through Jesus, will enjoy the fullness of divine blessing. The virtues and actions that are espoused are at odds with the current ideology; they embody the vision of the Kingdom of God that Jesus has come to establish.

The Presentation of the Lord – February 2nd

The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord celebrates the presentation of Christ in the temple at Jerusalem on the 40th 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 had developed in the West of blessing candles on the Feast of the Presentation. Because of this, the feast also became known as *Candlemas*.





Blessing Of Throats Next Weekend

In the United States the annual blessing of throats is a traditional sign of the struggle against illness in the life of the Christian. This blessing is ordinarily given during Mass on the memorial of St. Blaise. Saint Blaise was a bishop during the fourth century. Very little is known about his life. According to various accounts, he was a physician before becoming a bishop. His cult spread throughout the entire Church in the Middle Ages because he was reputed to have miraculously cured a little boy who nearly died because of a fishbone in his throat. From the eighth century, he has been invoked on behalf of the sick, especially those afflicted with illnesses of the throat.

Throats will be blessed after both Masses NEXT weekend.

Marian Ministries - Living Rosary

A current Living Rosary sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the church (located on the confessional door). Participants without internet access are asked to check the sheet to be sure their assigned decades are correct. Please contact Linda Sampson at 570-404-2180 with any changes or if you wish to take part in this devotion.



Social Concerns Valentine's Dinners

On February 12th, the Social Concerns Committee is planning to deliver a Valentine's dinner to any parishioner who would like one, who is home bound, living alone, recovering from an illness, or a "sweetheart" who contributes in a special way to the Parish. If you would like to receive a meal or know a parishioner who might like to receive one, **or if you can help with delivery**, please contact Karen Plumley at 570/439-0175.

Also, to assist with needed supplies, please look for our sign-up sheets on the table near the main entrance of the church this weekend. Food donations should be dropped off in the Parish Center kitchen by Friday, February 10th. Monetary donations to offset some of our costs are also greatly appreciated.

Volunteer Opportunity Collection Counter

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



As we approach the Easter season, we are preparing to purchase a new Paschal Candle. If anyone would like to donate this year's candle in memory of a loved one, please contact the rectory. This will be on a first come, first served basis.

St. Peter's Church Polish Dinner

**Friday, February 17th, 2023
4:00pm – 6:30pm or until sold out
*No early sales***

Take Out Only

**Pierogi Kielbasa Halupki
Sauerkraut Brownie
\$15.00**


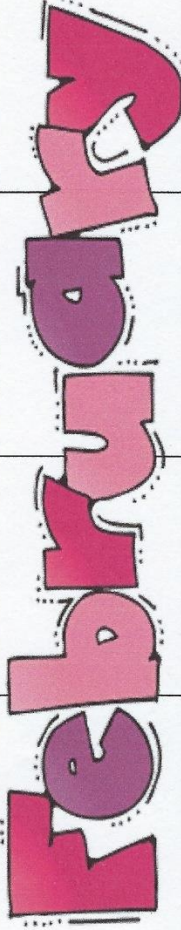
St. Peter's Youth Choir

St. Peter's Youth Choir, grades 5-12, is preparing to lead music at Mass. We will especially prepare for the Easter Sunday morning Mass. We meet every Sunday after religious education classes from 10:40am – 11:15am. Interested students are encouraged to come after class and SING! Contact Mrs. Simonis at 570/724-2085 for more information.



Today, more than ever, speaking with the heart is essential to foster a culture of peace in places where there is war; to open paths that allow for dialogue and reconciliation in places where hatred and enmity rage. – Pope Francis

St. Peter's & St. Thomas Parishes - Activity Calendar - February 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
5 th Sunday Ordinary Time Mass - 8:30am Mass - 11:30am St. Thomas Mass - 1:00pm St. Catherine St. Blaise Blessing Rel. Ed.-Pre K 8:30am; K-12 th 9:30 - 10:40am Exodus 90- 4:00pm; St. Peter's	6 St. Paul Miki No Mass St. Thomas Rectory Closed	7 Mass - 12:10pm Confessions - 11:45am Adoration - 1:00pm - 6:00pm at St. Peter's Women's Bible Study - 10:00am Worship Committee Mtg. - 6:00pm at St. Peter's AI-Anon/AA-7:00pm & 8:00pm	1 Mass - 12:10pm Confessions - 11:45am St. Thomas Rectory Closed Following Christ - 6:30pm at St. Peter's	2 Presentation of the Lord Mass - 12:10pm Confessions - 11:45am	3 St. Blaise Mass - 12:10pm Confessions - 11:45am St. Peter's Rectory Closed	4 Mass - 5:00pm Confessions - 4:30pm St. Blaise Blessing Following Christ Retreat - 9:00am - 3:00pm; St. Peter's Parish Ctr.	
12 6 th Sun. Ordinary Time Mass - 8:30am Mass - 11:30am St. Thomas Mass - 1:00pm St. Catherine Rel. Ed.-Pre K 8:30am; K-12 th 9:30 -10:40am Valentine's Day Meal Delivery - 10:30am - 12:00pm K of C Charity Unity Fraternity Ceremony - 4:00pm /Practice - 3:00pm; St. Peter's Exodus 90 - 4:00pm; St. Peter's	13 No Mass St. Thomas Rectory Closed K of C Free Throw Competition- 3:00pm- 5:00pm; Westfield Elem.	14 SS. Cyril & Methodius Mass - 12:10pm Confessions - 11:45am Adoration - 1:00pm - 6:00pm at St. Peter's Polish Dinner Prep - 9:00am Women's Bible Study - 10:00am K of C February Meeting - 6:00pm; St. Thomas Hall AI-Anon/AA-7:00pm & 8:00pm	15 Mass - 12:10pm Confessions - 11:45am St. Thomas Rectory Closed Polish Dinner Prep - 9:00am Following Christ - 6:30pm at St. Peter's	16 Mass - 12:10pm Confessions - 11:45am Samaritan House Mtg. - 10:00am; Samaritan House Parish Council Mtg. - 6:30pm; St. Peter's	17 Mass - 12:10pm Confessions - 11:45am St. Peter's Rectory Closed Polish Dinner 4:30pm at St. Peter's	18 Mass - 5:00pm Confessions - 4:30pm Valentine's Day Meals Prep - 9:00am - 2:00pm; Parish Kitchen	
19 7 th Sun. Ordinary Time Mass - 8:30am Mass - 11:30am St. Thomas Mass - 4:00pm St. Catherine Rel. Ed.-Pre K 8:30am; K-12 th 9:30 -10:40am Super Bingo - Knoxville Comm. Ctr: 12:00pm; doors open at 10:30am Exodus 90 - 4:00pm; St. Peter's Confirmation Prep - 6:00pm	20 No Mass Both Rectories Closed 	21 St. Peter Damian Mass - 12:10pm Confessions - 11:45am Adoration - 1:00pm - 6:00pm at St. Peter's Women's Bible Study - 10:00am AI-Anon/AA - 7:00pm & 8:00pm	22 Ash Wednesday Mass - 12:10pm St. Peter's Confessions - 11:45am Mass - 3:00pm St. Thomas Mass - 6:00pm St. Peter's St. Thomas Rectory Closed	23 Mass - 12:10pm Confessions - 11:45am Marian Ministries Mtg. - 5:00pm; Samaritan House	24 Mass - 6:00pm Followed by Stations of the Cross; St. Peter's Children's Stations of the Cross- 3:30pm; St. Peter's St. Peter's Rectory Closed	25 Mass - 5:00pm Confessions - 4:30pm	
26 1 st Sunday of Lent Mass - 8:30am Mass - 11:30am St. Thomas Mass - 1:00 St. Catherine Rel. Ed.-Pre K 8:30am; K-12 th 9:30 -10:40am Exodus 90 - 4:00pm; St. Peter's	27 Mass - 5:30pm followed by confessions; St. Peter's "The Light is On For You" St. Thomas Rectory Closed	28 Mass - 12:10pm Confessions - 11:45am Adoration - 1:00pm - 6:00pm at St. Peter's Women's Bible Study - 10:00am AI-Anon/AA - 7:00am & 8:00pm					

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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."

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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 Antoniow, 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 Fermevic, 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.