

St. Peter's Church



*The Epiphany of the Lord
January 7, 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

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 – 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 – 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 the New Year

God of new beginnings and Wonderful surprises, thank You for the gift of a new year.

May it be a time of grace for me, a time to grow in faith and love, a time to renew my commitment to following Your Son, Jesus.

May it be a year of blessing for me, a time to cherish my family and friends, a time to renew my efforts at work, a time to embrace my faith more fully.

Walk with me, please, in every day and every hour of this new year, that the light of Christ might shine through me, in spite of my weaknesses and failings.

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 1/8	No Mass	
Tuesday 1/9	12:10pm	Deceased Members of the Rudy Family (Tom & Deb Rudy Family)
Wednesday 1/10	12:10 pm	In Memory of Paul Patt (Marion Patt)
Thursday 1/11	12:10pm	In Memory of Roberta Mahar (Kathy Wilcox)
Friday 1/12	12:10pm	Living and Deceased Members of the Lambert Family (Robert Tobaygo, Jr.)
Saturday 1/13	5:00pm Mass is livestreamed	Living and Deceased Members of St. Peter's Parish
Sunday 1/14	8:30am	Bialas & Crawford Families (Family)

The Sanctuary Candle is offered in Memory of James Walker (Nancy & Kent)

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.

Happening This Week

Sunday, January 7th

Religious Education Classes

8:30am pre-school; 9:30am K-12

Confirmation Parent Meeting – 9:30am; Church

Tuesday, January 9th

Women's Bible Study – 10:00am; Adult Ed Room

Adoration – 1:00pm – 6:00pm; Church

Wednesday, January 10th

Following Christ – 6:30pm; Parish Center

Saturday, January 13th

First Penance – 10:00am

Sunday, January 14th

Religious Education Classes

8:30am pre-school; 9:30am K-12

Confirmation Parent Meeting – 9:30am; Church

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.

Stewardship

Sunday Collection for December 31, 2023: \$6,744.00

Weekly Goal to Meet Expenses: \$6,100.00

Difference: \$644.00

Year to Date Budget Variance: \$8,316.00

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

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.

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 – Epiphany of the Lord

FIRST READING: Isaiah 60:1-6

This part of the Book of Isaiah was written after the Jews returned from exile. Today we hear that God would fulfill both promises found in Second Isaiah. The glory of God would be upon Israel to such an extent that even the Gentile peoples would come in pilgrimage to Jerusalem to pay homage to the Lord. No longer would the pagans carry the Israelites off into exile. Now the pagans would bring their riches and submit themselves to the God of Israel. This promise would be fulfilled with the arrival of the Magi.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 72

Psalm 72 gives a description of the perfect king of Israel. As with the First Reading, we hear that even Gentile kings would recognize the splendor of that king's reign and come to pay him homage. The arrival of the Magi to pay homage to baby Jesus, the Messiah of the Lord who would inaugurate the reign of God, was the fulfillment of this prophecy.

Responsorial Psalm
Lord, every nation
on earth
will adore you.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6

In the Old Covenant, only the Jewish people received the promise. They were the chosen people and heirs of the promises that God had made to the patriarchs and the prophets of Israel. In the New Covenant, all peoples will participate in the grace of the Lord. There will be no distinction between Jew and Greek, slave or free, male or female. They are all chosen by the Lord. All will participate in the promise of the Gospel. They are all part of the body of Christ, which is the Church. This is the mystery of salvation; the bounty of God's love for all people.

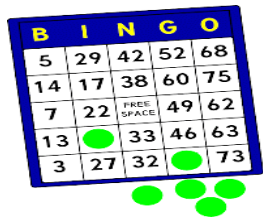
GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12



The feast of the Epiphany celebrates the arrival of the Magi to pay homage to baby Jesus. Magi were astrologers, not kings, and followed the star from the East. They would have naturally gone to Jerusalem to inquire about the birth of a Jewish king. Herod intends to use them to murder what he considers to be a rival to his throne. The Magi brought gold which is given to a king; frankincense which one would burn to honor a god, and myrrh which is used as an ointment in burials, foretelling how Jesus would save us.

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.



Cancellation Notice

Super Bingo scheduled for Sunday, January 7th
at the Knoxville Community Center
Has Been Cancelled

Diocesan Annual Appeal

Our Call to Serve

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

**Our parish goal this year is \$43,000.
The total raised to date is \$24,285.**

We have reached 56% 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!



*"They fell down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh."
-Matthew 2:11*

Scan to donate
or visit
annualappeal.org



Confirmation Class News - There will be a parent meeting on the following dates to discuss the Sacrament of Confirmation:

Sunday, January 7th after Mass at 9:30am in the church
Sunday, January 14th after Mass at 9:30am in the church

Parents/guardians of 7th and 8th grade students who are preparing for Confirmation are asked to attend one of these meetings. Evening Confirmation classes will begin on **Sunday, January 21st** from 6:00pm – 7:30pm in the Parish Center.



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



2024 Calendars are Here

The 2024 Catholic Family Calendars have arrived and can be found at each entrance to the church.

A very special thank you to
Tussey-Mosher Funeral Home
for their full sponsorship of
these beautiful calendars.





St. Peter's Parish Raffle Fundraiser

Enter to win a
65" UQ70 LG UHD TV!

Just in time for the Super Bowl...enter to win a 65" LG large screen TV
and watch the big game on a big screen!

Raffle tickets cost \$10 each and one ticket, along with a letter from Father Jacek, has been mailed to parishioners. Entries with payment can be returned to the Parish Office or placed in the collection basket in an envelope marked "TV Raffle".

Extra tickets will be available for purchase at the back of the church immediately after each weekend Mass throughout the month of January. The number of tickets being sold is limited and will be on a first come, first sold basis.

The deadline for entry is Thursday, February 1st, so be sure to return all tickets by this date. **The drawing will be held on Sunday, February 4th** and one lucky winner will be notified by phone.

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

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Today we celebrate that the child born in the darkness of night in a lowly manger is revealed as the manifestation of God. Christ is revealed in many ways: as Lord, as King, as the one in whom God is present and acts. All of these manifestations are lights that shine on Christ, revealing a deeper understanding of who he is.



The Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord has several themes. First, we have the wise men being guided through darkness by the light of the star. Second, we have the star as a sign that leads the wise men to Jesus. Third, we have the manifestation of God to Gentiles, not just Jews, pointing to the reality that Jesus came for all people. Fourth, we have the mystery that God does reveal his very self in human flesh.

"Like the Magi, may we also journey and be attentive, untiring and courageous on the path to find the invisible God who was born among us."


Pope Francis

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 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 "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 parish office 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> 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> MITCHELL'S CARQUEST AUTO PARTS FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1950 kenneth@mitchellcarquest.com 688 South Main Street Mansfield, PA 16933 T 570.662.2277 F 570.662.1078  Kenneth Mitchell Owner</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, 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, Tom Patt, Sammi Swinnich, 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.



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.