

St. Peter's Church



*The Baptism of the Lord
January 9, 2022*

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 Wednesday, 8:00am–2:00pm;
Thursday, 8:00am–1:00pm

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Joseph Mosley – joseph.mosley81@gmail.com
Secretary: Connie Spang – stpch@ptd.net
Business Manager: Patti Mitchell – spadm@ptd.net
Religious Education: Melissa Mann – stpreled@ptd.net
Maintenance Staff: Connie Spang, Francis Kennedy

Schedule of Weekend Masses

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

Reconciliation

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 11:45am–12:00pm;
Saturday, 4:30–4:45pm 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 after hours, please leave call our emergency number 570-439-2219. If no answer, please leave a message and Fr. Mosely 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 _____



Parish Contact Listing

Women's Bible Study – Sue Singer 570-948-2184
Knights of Columbus – George Gamble 570-724-5216
Social Concerns – Karen Plumley 570-439-0175
Parish Rummage Sale – Mary Lasko 570-439-7706
Pat Gorda 570-404-8918
Church Decorations – Sue Singer 570-948-2184
Buildings & Grounds – Rick Joachim 570-439-2591
Cemetery Committee – Howard Rutledge 570-724-4529
Fundraising Dinners – 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 – Rectory 570-724-3371
Worship Committee – Rectory 570-724-3371
Sunday Nursing Home Communion – Eileen Evert 570-439-4470
Prayer Chain – Kate Black 570-916-9573
ChristLife – Norb Josten 570-724-9095
Prayer Shawl Ministry – Michelle Sepiol 570-439-6206

Date	Time	Mass Intention
Monday 1/10		
Tuesday 1/11		No weekday Masses this week. Fr. Mosley is away.
Wednesday 1/12		
Thursday 1/13		
Friday 1/14		
Saturday 1/15	5:00pm (Mass is livestreamed)	In Memory of Kathleen Straniere (Tony & Pat Straniere)
Sunday 1/16	8:30am	In Memory of Nettie Mays (Jackson Family)

The Sanctuary Candle is offered in Honor of The Messino Family (Tony & Julie Cimeno)

Parish News and Activities

CHURCH HOURS/ADORATION

The church will be open for private prayer, Monday 11:30am–5:00pm (to allow for thorough cleaning from the weekend), Tuesday through Friday, from 8:00am–5:00pm. If the front doors are not open for entry, please use the door on the parking lot side of the church. Adoration will take place on Tuesday from 8:00am-6:00pm, with Benediction but no evening prayer. The church will also open on Saturday at 4:30pm & Sunday at 8:00am.

2022 CALENDARS ARE HERE

The 2022 Catholic family calendars have arrived and can be found at each entrance to the church and on the handout table. Special thanks to Tussey-Mosher Funeral Home for their full sponsorship of these beautiful calendars.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

- Sunday, Jan. 9th** – Religious Education Classes
8:30am Pre-School; 9:30am K-12th
- Tuesday, Jan. 11th** – Women’s Bible Study, 9:00am
- Wednesday, Jan 12th** – Fundraising Cmte. Mtg., 10:00am
- Saturday, Jan. 15th** – First Penance, 10:00am
- Sunday, Jan. 16th** – Religious Education Classes
8:30am Pre-School; 9:30am K-12th

RECTORY HOURS BEGINNING JAN. 3rd

Beginning January 3rd the hours for the Rectory will be as follows: Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday 8:00am – 2:00pm; Thursday 9:00am – 1:00pm.

Stewardship

Sunday Collection for December 26, 2021: \$7,488.00
 Weekly Goal to Meet Expenses: \$6,100.00
 Difference: \$1,388.00
 Year-to-Date Budget Variance: (\$1,787.94)
Christmas Mass collection of \$12,112 was deposited in our Savings Account.

Sunday Collection for January 2, 2022: \$9,004.00
Includes \$1,132 Solemnity of Mary Collection
 Weekly Goal to Meet Expenses: \$6,100.00
 Difference: \$2,904.00
 Year-to-Date Budget Variance: \$1,119.06

YEAR END DONATIONS

2021 financial statements will be prepared upon request. All donations must be received by December 31st to be included on your 2021 statement. If you would like a 2021 statement, please call the rectory, or write *send statement* on your weekly offering envelope.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

For the safety of our parishioners, if the local school are closed, there will be no daily Mass or Adoration. If the schools are delayed on a Tuesday, there will be no daily Mass or Adoration. If schools are delayed on a Monday, Wednesday, or Friday, there will be 12:10pm Mass. The Church will remain open for private prayer using the parking lot side entrance.

MASS SCHEDULE CHANGES

There will be no Mass January 10th through January 14th. Fr. Mosley will be away during this time. Adoration on Tuesday, January 11th will begin at 8:00am and end at 5:00pm.

Liturgical Reflection ~ The Baptism of the Lord

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

The First Reading comes from the beginning of the second section of the Book of the Prophet Isaiah. The people had suffered terribly during the war that led to the fall of Jerusalem and during their exile from their homeland. They wondered whether God would be angry at them forever. God would restore the good fortune of the people. God would bring the people of Israel back to their homeland. The good news was to be proclaimed on the mountaintops.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 104

The Responsorial Psalm is a hymn of praise that proclaims the glory and power of God and celebrates the beginning of the public ministry of Jesus. Typical of this type of hymn, God is first proclaimed as the creator and ruler of all that exists. Not the least of all God's works of power and beneficence is the fact that God created us. We are fragile creatures, but God loves and protects us.

SECOND READING: Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7

On this feast of the Baptism of Jesus, we hear about the "bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit" that we have received. This rebirth was not due to anything that we had done to deserve it. It was the gift of a merciful and gracious God. His Spirit dwells in our hearts. Baptism is an expression of our faith. Faith is a gift from God. We cannot do anything to earn that gift, yet once we receive it, we must respond to it by being baptized and living as children of God. We must live what Baptism signifies; spirit-filled lives of virtue.

GOSPEL: Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

The baptism scene of Luke is structured in a similar way to the first servant song. The scene commences with the voice of God addressing an audience, so Luke's account begins with John addressing the people about the imminent advent of Christ in their midst and of his mission. John emphasizes the difference between his baptism and the one that the Messiah will administer. John's baptism is an acknowledgement of sin and repentance, while Jesus' Baptism conveys the power of the Holy Spirit that will transform those who receive it in new birth in the Spirit. By the same token, one can only receive the cleansing fire and empowering gift of the Spirit when one acknowledges one's sinfulness. God's Word proclaims Jesus and his divine status and relationship to God.



The Baptism of the Lord

The Christmas Season comes to its close with the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord, an event recorded in all four Gospels. To begin his public ministry, Jesus presented himself to be baptized by John. The idea that a sinless Jesus would undergo baptism does not seem to make sense. But Jesus' baptism did not have to do with forgiveness, but had to do with manifestation, as it publicly revealed Jesus' identity as the beloved Son of God. Jesus' baptism was necessary - not for Him, but for us. It is the feast that proclaims the Baptism that elevates believers to the status of sons and daughters of God.



Women's Bible Study – The Women's Bible Study group meets each Tuesday at 10:00am in the Parish Center. All are welcome to participate. This special meeting was held at Sue Singer's home to come together in fellowship and enjoy Sue's vast collection of nativity sets.

SANCTUARY CANDLES

A candle is kept burning day and night whenever the Blessed Sacrament is reserved in Catholic churches. It is an emblem of Christ's abiding love and a reminder to the faithful to respond with loving adoration in return. Sanctuary candles are available to remember or honor your loved ones. Call the rectory to reserve a week.



Diocesan Annual Appeal

This year's Diocesan Annual Appeal, "*Rising Together in Christ*," is already underway. The overall goal of this year's Appeal is \$4.5 million. The money that is raised 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.

Our parish goal this year remains at \$43,000.

Total raised: \$38,731.00.

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 doors of the church.

Thank you, and may God bless you!

The Diocese of Scranton strongly recommends that all parishioners wear a mask while attending Mass, regardless of vaccination status. As Catholics, we have a responsibility to protect our friends and neighbors and mask wearing remains an important mitigation tool against community spread.

WEEK of
PRAYER
for CHRISTIAN UNITY
2022

"We saw the star in the East,
and we came to worship him" (Mt 2:2)



At least once a year, Christians are reminded of Jesus' prayer for his disciples that "they may be one so that the world may believe" (see John 17:21). Hearts are touched and Christians come together to pray for their unity. The event that touches off this special experience is the *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity*.

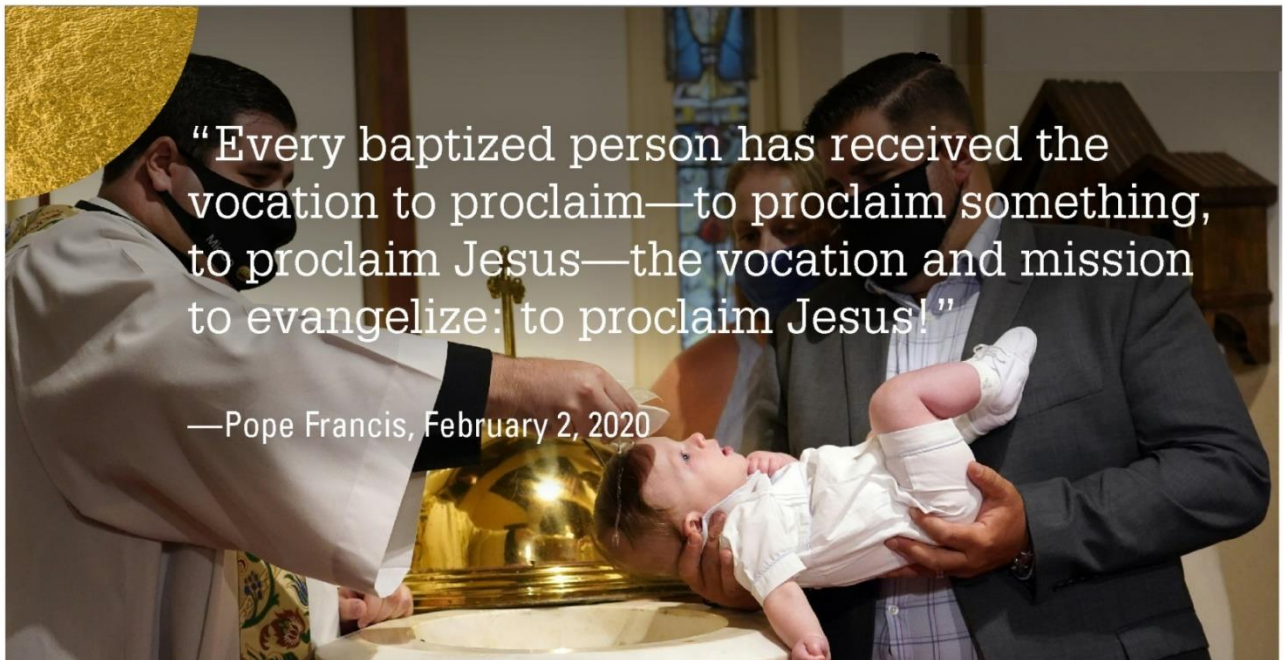
The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity has a history of over 100 years, in which Christians around the world have taken part in an octave of prayer for visible Christian unity. Traditionally the week of prayer is celebrated between 18-25 January, between the feasts of St Peter and St Paul. In the southern hemisphere, where January is a vacation time, churches often find other days to celebrate it, for example around Pentecost, which is also a symbolic date for unity.

The theme for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in 2022 was chosen by the Middle East Council of Churches – "We saw the star in the East, and we came to worship him" (Mt 2:2). More than ever, in these difficult times, we need a light that shines in the darkness and that light, Christians proclaim, has been manifested in Jesus Christ.

Prayer

Lord God, illumine our path by the light of Christ who moves us and leads us. Guide us to discover a small manger in our hearts where a great light still sleeps. Creator of light, we thank you for the gift of that unfading Star, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Heal our divisions and draw us closer to the Light that we may find our unity in him. Amen.

The Baptism of the Lord



“Every baptized person has received the vocation to proclaim—to proclaim something, to proclaim Jesus—the vocation and mission to evangelize: to proclaim Jesus!”

—Pope Francis, February 2, 2020

Getty Images

Today, we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord!


The **origin and foundation** of Christian Baptism is Jesus. Before starting his public ministry, Jesus submitted himself to the baptism given by John the Baptist. The waters did not purify him; he cleansed the waters. “He comes to sanctify the Jordan for our sake . . . to begin a new creation through the Spirit and water” (St. Gregory Nazianzen, Liturgy of the Hours, I, 634).

Jesus’ immersion in the water is a sign for all human beings of the need to die to themselves to do God’s will. Jesus did not need to be baptized because he was totally faithful to the will of his Father and free from sin. However, he wanted to show his solidarity with human beings in order to reconcile them to the Father. By commanding his disciples to baptize all nations, he established the means by which people would die to sin—Original and actual—and begin to live a new life with God.



Join thousands of Catholics nationwide in the annual Respect Life novena, *9 Days for Life*, Wednesday, January 19—Thursday, January 27. Get daily intentions, brief reflections, and more. Sign up at 9daysforlife.com!

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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

Nan Bowser, 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, Jerry Pierce, Joann Black, Lori Lopaz, Patricia Quattrone, Larry Jackson, Katie Seip, Lisa Jones, Floyd Williammee, Renee Kennedy, Gay Furlong, Fran Rose, June Sherman, Kathy Smith, Tim Bogaczyk, Beth Valdez, Charles Barrett, Joe Engel, Darleen Kohler, Victoria Salerno, Bob Snyder, Don Brooks, 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, Edward Cruttenden, Anne Marie Beuter, Carol Fasick, Skip Warriner, Stephanie Calicchia, Jacoby Aratari, Doris Coumbe, 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, Jim Walker, Richard and Valerie Tobin, Shirley Dixon, Lucy Whitney, Adele Young, Suzan Richar, Lucille Keck, Gloria Fermenic, Stephanie Anthony, Alice Kohut, John Bowe, Kathy Wheeler, Phyllis Davis, Tom Patt, Sammi Swinnich, Claire Smith, Raymond Butler, Michael Joseph Harris, and Bob & Pam Trynovich.



Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord and
Let the Perpetual Light Shine Upon Them.

Mark Feil, Richard Zugarek

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.