

St. Peter's Church



Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord *March 24, 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 available at St. Peter's for grades K - 12. Classes are held in the Parish Center immediately following Sunday Mass, from 9:30am until 10:40am, from September through May. To register, please contact the Religious Education Office at 570-724-9789. 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 _____

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

Jesus rode into Jerusalem not as a conquering king, but in humility, the Servant King, ready to complete the task for which he had walked this world.

Forgive us those times when we think too highly of ourselves and remind us always that you ask from us lives dedicated to service, to you and to our neighbors, wherever and whoever they might be. Enable us to take off our cloaks of self-righteousness and lay them down at your feet.

'Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord" – and you forgave the guilt of my sin.' Psalm 32:5

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 3/25	5:30pm	In Memory of Lucy Lacsamana (Laurie, Linda, B.J. & Jan)
Tuesday 3/26	12:10pm	In Memory of Pilar Sargeant (Suzanne Niles)
Wednesday 3/27	12:10pm	The Souls in Purgatory (Family)
Thursday 3/28	7:00pm	In Memory of Frank Dziengowski (Wife Ida & Family)
Friday 3/29	1:00pm	The Souls in Purgatory (Ostapowicz Family)
Saturday 3/30	8:00pm <small>Mass is livestreamed</small>	Our Easter Intentions
Sunday 3/31	8:30am	Our Easter Intentions

The Sanctuary Candle is offered in Memory of Dr. Richard Black (Family)

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, March 24th

No Religious Education Classes

Monday, March 25th

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

Tuesday, March 26th

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

Thursday, March 28th

Holy Thursday Altar Server Practice – 6:00pm; Church
 Parish Office Closes at noon

Friday, March 29th

Good Friday Altar Server Practice – 12:00pm; Church

Saturday, March 30th

Vigil Mass Altar Server Practice – 11:00am; Church
 Blessing of Baskets – 12:00pm; Church

Sunday, March 31st

No Religious Education Classes

Stewardship

Sunday Collection for March 17, 2024: \$5,037.00
 Weekly Goal to Meet Expenses: \$6,100.00
 Difference: -\$1,063.00
 Year to Date Budget Variance: \$10,473.72

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

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.

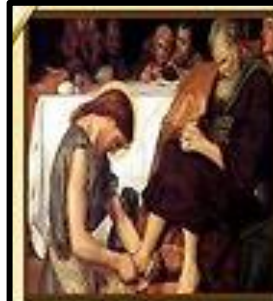


Days of Fast and Abstinence

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.

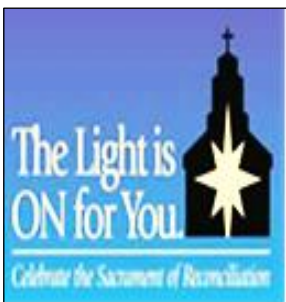
Easter Duty

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.



PASCHAL TRIDUUM

The Easter Triduum—which begins with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday, reaching its high point in the Easter Vigil, and closes with Evening Prayer on Easter Sunday, is the summit of the Liturgical Year. It commemorates Christ's Paschal Mystery, i.e., the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus.



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, there will be a 5:30pm Mass at St. Peter's followed by confessions.

The Light is On for You!

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. Penance will be available for both adults and children at the parish doors after Mass.



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.

Easter Flower Memorial



Each Easter, the flowers in the church during the Easter season memorialize deceased loved ones. If you would like to contribute to this year's Easter

flowers in memory of a loved one, please use the envelope found in your monthly packet and place it in the collection basket or mail to the parish office. A list of those we remember will be included in the Easter Sunday bulletin.

Easter Mass Intentions

There are special Easter Mass Intention envelopes in your monthly packet to remember both living and deceased family members and friends. Please place your Easter Mass Intention envelopes in the collection basket or mail to the parish office.

These envelopes will be placed on the altar during the Easter Masses to remember the donor's intentions.

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: \$37,145.00

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 front doors of the church. Thank you!



Sincerest Thank You
from
Samaritan House

Thank you so much to all those who made a donation to Samaritan House during the *Raise the Region*® campaign last week. We were gifted a total of \$4,051.00, which will go a long way toward keeping this beautiful ministry going.

We are so grateful that people see Samaritan House as worthy of financial support.

JUST A REMINDER: We are always in need of volunteers. If interested, or if you have questions, please contact Mary D. Grab at Samaritan.House.3@gmail.com or 607/857-3447.

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.

Please continue to 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:

Elect: *Emily Marguerite Griffin, Brenda Lee Thomas*

Candidate: *Mark Anthony Petrakovich*

There will be a reception with light refreshments in the Parish Center immediately following the Vigil Mass on March 30th to celebrate and welcome the new members who entered the Church at the Easter Vigil.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

Holy Week & Easter Mass Schedule

Palm Sunday – March 24th

8:30am – St. Peter's

11:30am – St. Thomas

1:00pm – St. Catherine's

Tuesday of Holy Week – March 26th

Chrism Mass – 4:00pm

Cathedral of St. Peter, Scranton

Holy Thursday – March 28th

7:00pm – St. Peter's

Adoration will follow Mass until 10:00pm in the Parish Center

Good Friday – March 29th

Liturgy of the Word

1:00pm – St. Peter's

3:00pm – St. Thomas

Holy Saturday – March 30th

Blessing of Baskets – 12:00pm; St. Peter's

Easter Vigil Mass – 8:00pm; St. Peter's

Easter Sunday – March 31st

8:30am – St. Peter's

11:30am – St. Thomas

1:00pm – St. Catherine's



On **Sunday, April 7th**, we will celebrate
Divine Mercy Sunday

from 3:00pm – 4:00pm in the church with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet, confessions, and Benediction.

All members of the parish are invited and encouraged to participate in this special devotion.

LOOKING FOR MORE?
JOIN US FOR THE

FESTIVAL OF PRAISE

April 4, 2024, 6pm
St. Maria Goretti Church, Laffin PA

Includes

Eucharistic Adoration, Speaker, Reconciliation
With music by Joel Kankiewicz and Praise & Worship with the CCR Music Ministry of the Scranton Catholic Charismatic Conference

Sponsored by the Office of Vocations and the Office of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal





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 is on the table at the back of the church for those who would like to participate.



Religious Education

There are no Religious Education classes:

March 24th (Palm Sunday)

March 31st (Easter Sunday)

Classes will resume on April 7th

* New Grave Site Rates * for St. Peter's Cemetery

Effective May 1, 2024

On the recommendation of the Cemetery Committee at their meeting on March 13th, and due to inflation, Father Jacek approved the following price increase:

Full Size Grave

Current price – \$275

New price as of May 1st - \$500

This new rate remains competitive for our area. In comparison, the price for a full size grave at the Wellsboro Cemetery is \$1000.

The current rate of \$275 will be honored through April 30, 2024.

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON
VOCATIONS OFFICE



"Get Up and Pray"

Luke 22:46

Join us in praying for our priests and seminarians Holy Thursday, March 28th!

1. Assemble a group to visit the Altar of Repose in as many churches as you can
2. Look for the "Add Yours" sticker on @Scrantonvoc stories Thursday night
3. Share photos using the sticker & tell us which priests and/or seminarians you're praying for!



SUPER BINGO! Sunday, April 7th

Knoxville Community Center
\$30.00

Doors Open at 10:30am
Bingo starts at 12:00pm



Volunteer Collection Counters Needed – 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.



You're Invited to Attend this Special Celebration!

Chrism Mass

Tuesday, March 26, 2024

4:00 p.m. Cathedral of Saint Peter

During the Mass, Bishop Bambera will bless the sacred oils used for sacramental purposes in parishes throughout the Diocese.

The priests of the Diocese of Scranton will also renew their commitment to the priestly ministry.



Spring Cemetery Clean-Up Day

Spring cleaning at St. Peter's Cemetery on Pearl Street will take place Saturday, April 13th at 9:00am. **We can use all the help we can get to beautify these sacred grounds.** Meet at the cemetery and bring your rakes, shovels, and gloves.

Please note:

All winter decorations should be removed from the cemetery prior to clean-up day on the 13th.

Please do not dispose of the decorations on cemetery grounds; we ask that you instead take them with you to discard elsewhere.

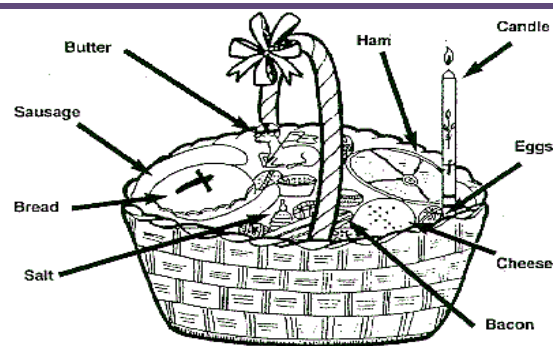
Blessing of Easter Baskets

Baskets will be blessed on Holy Saturday, March 30th, at 12:00pm in the church. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

Items found in the Blessed Easter Basket:

The Christian significance of Easter is symbolized in the foods used for the holiday feast. Baskets are lined with a white cloth and decorated with ribbons and greenery to symbolize spring, renewal, and the Resurrection.

Traditionally, the baskets would include: **decorated hardboiled eggs** (representing Christ's resurrection), **lamb shaped butter** (representing Christ as the "Lamb of God"), **bread** (symbolic of great joy and abundance), **sausage** (symbolic of God's favor and generosity), **bacon** (a symbol of the overabundance of God's mercy on us), **salt** (symbolizes wisdom and preservation from corruption; it reminds us that Jesus did not undergo corruption in the grave and also reminds us that people are the flavor of the earth), **cheese** (symbolizes the moderation Christians should have at all times), and **horseradish** (symbolic of the Passion of the Christ and the bitter herbs of the Passover). A **white candle** is often inserted into the basket to represent Christ as the "Light of the world". Lastly, the basket is covered with **linen** symbolizing the covering of Christ's shroud.



Good Friday Collection

Christians around the world are united in a special way during Lent, Holy Week, and Easter. Our hearts, minds, and prayers are also especially aware of the Holy Land. Our parish, once a year on Good Friday, is called on to support Christians in the Holy Land. Many Christians depend on the collection for their lives. As a pontifical collection requested by Pope Francis, the annual Good Friday Collection offers a direct link for parishioners to be witnesses of peace and to help protect the Holy Places and the work of the Franciscans and others in the Holy Land.

Celebrate Holy Week and Easter with EWTN

Learn more about your faith during the holiest time of the year with EWTN's first-rate movies, documentaries, musicals, children's programs, and much more. For program details, visit ewtn.com.



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 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 "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> Hunting-Fishing-Trapping-Trekking 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> 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 www.mitchellcarquest.com </p>	<p> TOKARZ 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, Elexxa Germino



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

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 the individual themselves or an immediate family member.** This would include a spouse, child, sibling, parent, or grandparent of the person to be added.