

St. Peter's Church



*2nd Sunday of Lent
March 5th, 2023*

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

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 Lent

**Please, Lord, guide my mind
with your truth.**

**Strengthen my life by the humble,
obedient example of Jesus.**

**He fulfilled your will by becoming
human and suffering with us.**

**He died so that I would no longer
be separated from you.**

**Help me to feel how close you are
and to live in union with you.**

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 3/6	5:30pm	In Memory of Doris Sykora (Don & Lucy Whitney)
Tuesday 3/7	No Mass	
Wednesday 3/8	No Mass	
Thursday 3/9	No Mass	
Friday 3/10	6:00pm	Special Intention (Dennis & Linda Stager)
Saturday 3/11	5:00pm Mass is livestreamed	Deceased Members of the Grab Family (The Grab Family)
Sunday 3/12	8:30am	All Living and Deceased Members of St. Peter's Parish

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, March 5th

Religious Education Classes -
 8:30am pre-school; 9:30am K-12
 Exodus 90 - 4:00pm; Adult Ed. Room

Monday, March 6th

The Light Is On For You; Confessions - Following
 5:30pm Mass; St. Peter's

Tuesday, March 7th

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

Wednesday, March 8th

Lenten Services - 12:00pm; Presbyterian Church
 Deanery Lenten Holy Hour - 7:00pm; Our Lady of
 Lourdes Parish, Montoursville

Thursday, March 9th

Marian Ministry Meeting - 5:30pm; Samaritan House

Friday, March 10th

Children's Stations of the Cross - 3:30pm; Church
 Stations of the Cross - Following 6:00pm Mass; Church

Sunday, March 12th

Religious Education Classes -
 8:30am pre-school; 9:30am K-12
 Exodus 90 - 4:00pm; Adult Ed. Room
 Confirmation Prep Class - 6:00pm; Parish Center

Stewardship

Sunday Collection for February 26, 2023: \$4,066.09
 Weekly Goal to Meet Expenses: \$6,100.00
 Difference: -\$2,033.91
 Year to Date Budget Variance -\$2,943.10

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

Liturgical Reflection ~ 2nd Sunday of Lent

FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4

The First Readings for the remaining Sundays of Lent are accounts of the blessing that God bestows on the chosen people. Today God directs Abram to leave his homeland and journey to a new land. God promises that great blessings will accompany Abram and his family. These blessings are many. Abram's offspring will be a great nation; and he will be a source of blessing for others. In trusting faith, relying on God's blessing alone, "Abram went as the Lord directed him." Abram's response was an act of unconditional faith.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 33

The psalmist sings with great praise of the attributes of Lord who is trustworthy, just, and kind. He looks with favor upon those who fear him. The praise of the psalmist is on behalf of the whole people. Just as the providence of the Lord embraces the whole people, so it is the soul of the people that waits for the Lord. This sense of the people being as one and the Lord as their God is a mark of the covenant; it is not a personal relationship between God and the individual, but between God and the community.

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 1:8-10

The Second Reading for the Sundays of Lent include various instructions and exhortations for the early Christians. The central thread of these passages is the grace that has come from God through Jesus Christ. Paul reminds the "beloved" that their salvation has been won by Christ Jesus and not by any works that they have done. While it is good for us to engage in good works during Lent, these works, however laudable, are not guarantors of our salvation. They are expressions of our gratitude for what the Lord has done for us.

GOSPEL: Matthew 17:1-9

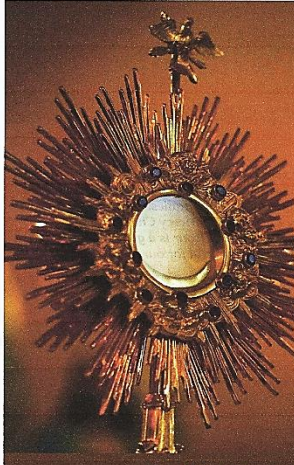
Each year on the Second Sunday of Lent, the Church presents a narrative of Jesus' Transfiguration. Matthew, Mark, and Luke all include this account, though with subtle differences because each addresses a particular community in specific circumstance. Matthew, most likely a Jew who came to faith in Jesus as Messiah, writes for a Christian community with similar background, though it probably began to include Gentiles. Consequently, Matthew's hearers seemed to be struggling with various questions about the continuity or discontinuity between Jesus and the Judaism of their birth. This evangelist strives to show that Jesus "fulfills" or bring to completion the Old Testament Scriptures. His treatment of the Transfiguration emphasizes the revelation of God in Jesus, who transcends all previous disclosure of God in Israel's history and scripture. Today Jesus' mission and identity are affirmed; he will continue to Jerusalem and to his Death and Resurrection. We will walk with him in these Lenten days.



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.




DIOCESE OF SCRANTON
WILLIAMSPORT DEANERY

LENTEN HOLY HOUR

with Bishop Bambera

Wednesday, March 8
at 7:00 P.M.

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish
800 Mulberry St.
Montorsville, PA 17754



NATIONAL
Eucharistic
Revival

"My flesh for the life of the world." (John 6:51)

All of the faithful in the Diocese of Scranton are invited to a Lenten Holy Hour with the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, to commemorate the diocesan phase of the National Eucharistic Revival. These gatherings will take place in each of the twelve deaneries of the Diocese of Scranton.

At their November 2021 General Assembly, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops voted to move forward with plans for a National Eucharistic Revival to renew the Church by enkindling a living relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist. The multi-year Eucharistic Revival began on Sunday, June 19, 2022, the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, and culminates with the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis, July 17-21, 2024.

Mark your calendars and plan on joining Bishop Bambera as we pray for renewal in our devotion to Jesus Christ present to us in the Eucharist.

Important Notice Regarding Offertory Envelopes

St. Peter's is changing offertory envelope providers.

Temporary envelopes are being mailed this week for use during the months of March and April. Beginning in May, permanent envelopes will be mailed to parishioners on a monthly basis. Thank you for your patience while we work through this change.

Looking for something to give up for Lent?

*Give up resentment and become more forgiving. ~ Give up hatred and return good for evil.
Give up complaining and be more grateful. ~ Give up pessimism and become more hopeful.
Give up worry and become more trusting. ~ Give up anger and become more patient.
Give up pettiness and become more noble. ~ Give up gloom and become more joyful.
Give up doubt and turn to God.*



A Message from The Bishop's Office

A dispensation from the Friday Lenten observance of abstaining from meat has been granted for those celebrating the Feast of Saint Patrick on Friday, March 17, 2023

In keeping with the sacrificial nature of the Lenten season, the Bishop asks that all who receive this dispensation offer some act of charity for the well-being of God's holy people.



Month of St. Joseph

The month of March is dedicated to St. Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the foster father of the Lord.

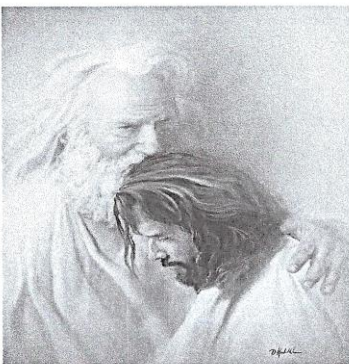
St. Joseph is the patron saint of fathers, of workers, and of the universal Church.

St. Joseph, pray for us!

Parish Directory Update

Thank you to everyone who participated in the directory photo taking effort. Work on the directory took a temporary pause due to the holidays, however we have been working to plan and produce a final draft. We are proposing to have a "Life at St. Peter's" section in which each committee head can submit photos of their ministry. The photo could be of the group itself or action photos of the ministry/group during an event or activity. Each committee can submit these photos to stpdirectory.2023@gmail.com. This section is intended to be a collage of photos without names. Also, any parishioner or family who did not get a photo taken can submit personal photos if they choose. Please submit these photos to stpdirectory.2023@gmail.com. We expect the directory to take several more months to finalize before printing, so we appreciate your patience in this important effort. *Please submit all photos by March 26th.*

Any questions can be directed to Steve Tokarz at 570/404-0693.



Son of the Father - A Men's Retreat

Sponsored by: Be a Catholic Man, Inc.

March 31 and April 1
beginning at 6:00pm
Cost is only \$75.00

Holy Transfiguration Retreat Center
1000 Seminary Rd. - Dalton, PA

Spiritual Guidance given by: Bishop Joseph Bambera,
Msgr. John Esseff, Fr. Pio Mandato, Fr. Kevin Miller,
and Jesse Martin

Info at beacatholicman.com or call (570) 351-6256



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 the rose vestments. The sanctuary is bereft of flowers or any other decorations. The Gloria will not be prayed/sung on Sundays. Also, Alleluia is not sung or said from the beginning of Lent until the Easter Vigil.



Lenten Reminders

Days of Fast and Abstinence – Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence (to abstain from eating meat). All Fridays during Lent are also days of abstinence. Catholics 14 years of age and older are required to abstain from eating meat.

All Catholics, 18-59 years of age, are bound by Church law to fast. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal. Two smaller meals may also be taken, but not to equal one full meal.

Easter Duty – All parishioners are reminded of their obligation to fulfill their Easter Duty. A person's Easter Duty consists of receiving the Holy Eucharist at least once between Ash Wednesday and Pentecost Sunday as well as going to the Sacrament of Reconciliation to confess any mortal sins.



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 at 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 Mass at 5:30pm at St. Peter's followed by confessions.

"The Light is on For You!"

Ecumenical Event – Wednesday Lenten Services

The Wellsboro Area Ministerium will be offering Wednesday Lenten Services.

All services will be held at the First Presbyterian Church at 12:00pm with a light lunch to follow.

The schedule for the church who will host the luncheon and lead the prayer service is as follows:

March 1st – United Methodist Church; March 8th – Mt. Zion Church; March 15th – First Baptist Church; March 22nd – St. Peter's Church; March 29th – Vineyard Church.

All are welcome to attend!

Stations of the Cross

On Fridays of Lent there will be Mass at 6:00pm at St. Peter's followed by Stations of the Cross.

Children's Stations of the Cross will be held at 3:30pm on Fridays. Students are invited to the Parish Center after school for a light snack before Stations begin.



Pick Your Penance

After weekend Masses during Lent you will be able to "pick your penance" which is an extra act of kindness or a prayer that you can perform during Lent. A new "penance" can be picked each week. Penance will be available for adults and children at the parish doors after Mass.

Penance Services


Sunday, March 19th – 3:00pm; St. Peter's
 Sunday, March 26th – 3:00pm; Holy Child
 Wednesday, April 5th – 6:00pm; St. Boniface, Williamsport

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>Advertising Space Available</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. <i>Calvin T. Mosher, Supervisor</i> 139 Main St. Wellsboro, PA 16901 (570) 724-4637 TusseyMosher.com</p>	<p>Call the rectory 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> Stephen F. Tokarz • Artisan • Craftsman Specializing in Custom Wood Products 570-404-0693 Established in Tioga County, PA</p>	<p><i>"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."</i></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, 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, 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.