

St. Peter's Church



47 Central Avenue, Wellsboro, Pennsylvania 16901
Parish Office: 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

*Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
November 26, 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 worshipping 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
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 D. Grab 607/857-3447
Youth Group – Jen Minnich 570/724-9789
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
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
Welcoming Committee – Melissa Mann 570/724-9789

Date	Time	Mass Intention
Monday 11/27	No Mass	
Tuesday 11/28	12:10pm	In Memory of Mary and Cecil Rogers (Family)
Wednesday 11/29	12:10pm	In Memory of Bob Cleveland (Daughter, Mary)
Thursday 11/30	12:10pm	In Memory of George and Betty Patt (Frank Patt & Family)
Friday 12/1	12:10pm	In Memory of Luz Siy (Dy Family)
Saturday 12/2	5:00pm *Mass is livestreamed	In Memory of Rose Battaglia and Agnes Duff (The Grab Family)
Sunday 12/3	8:30am	Living and Deceased Members of St. Peter's Parish

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.

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.

Happening This Week

Sunday, November 26th

No Religious Education Classes
Holy Hour – St. Thomas Parish; following the 11:30am Mass

Monday, November 27th

Knights of Columbus Meeting – 7:00pm; Parish Center

Tuesday, November 28th

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

Friday, December 1st

Hamilton Gibson Concert – 7:30pm; Church

Saturday, December 2nd

Youth Group Dickens Parking – 8:30am – 10:30am; Church Parking Lot
Dickens Bread Pudding Booth – 9:00am – 4:00pm; Main St.

Sunday, December 3rd

Religious Education Classes – 8:30am pre-school; 9:30am K-12

Stewardship

Sunday Collection for November 19, 2023: \$7,489.61
Weekly Goal to Meet Expenses: \$6,100.00
Difference: \$1,389.61
Year to Date Budget Variance: \$810.65

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

Liturgical Reflection – Christ the King

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17

Just before the exile in Babylon, the prophets of Israel started speaking of the Lord as the shepherd. During the exile this image became even more important. The people felt that they had been abandoned and wondered if God loved them or cared about them. The shepherd image spoke of how much God loved his people and unlike those who have failed to care for the least among them, the Lord will look after us and care for us.

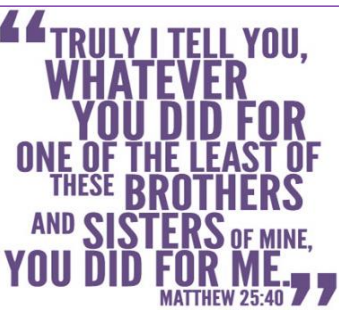
RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 23

This psalm is a hymn of trust in the goodness of the Lord and the connection to the first reading is obvious; identifying the Lord as the Shepherd. In the Lord, there is nothing left for us to need. We hope to continue to dwell in the Lord's house for many years.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28

Paul draws the image of the firstfruits of the harvest to describe the relationship between Christ's Resurrection and the resurrection of the dead. The firstfruits are usually the best and the promise of a greater harvest to come. Jesus is that for us, the best and the promise that we too, will rise. We await that day when we will rise with Christ and all sin, fear, and alienation will be defeated and we will be one with Christ and share in his reign and his glory, for we are beloved children of God.

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46



Today we hear a parable about the final judgement. Jesus will sit on his glorious throne and divide those who were good from those who were sinners. The Son of Man will separate the sheep from the goats when he comes in glory; the sheep he will put on his right and the goats on the left. When side will we be on? This reading is the source of many of the corporal works of mercy. These works are a reminder that we must serve those who need our help. On the solemnity of his kingship, his message is no different. When we see and respond to our brother and sister in need, we are also seeing and responding to Christ.



Today is the 34th or Last Sunday in Ordinary Time. Its official name is the **Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**. This solemnity was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925, an observance celebrating an aspect of Jesus' identity rather than of his life. Rather

than calling up images of Jesus dressed in kingly robes, the Gospel proclaims him as a king by the sign over his head on the throne of a wooden cross (I.N.R.I. – Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews). Paradoxically, it is the thief who recognized in Christ the Lord and Messiah. The Collect names God as the one whose will it is to restore all things in Christ, the king of the universe. The universal sovereignty of Christ the King is proclaimed. The Prayer over the Offerings defines the Eucharistic sacrifice we are offering as “the sacrifice by which the human race is reconciled” to God: because of that, we can pray that the Son “may bestow on all nations the gifts of unity and peace.” The Prayer after Communion asks that “we may live with him eternally in his heavenly Kingdom,” a fitting eschatological focus on this last Sunday of the liturgical year.

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.

PARISHIONERS WANTED TO LIGHT CANDLES

Would you or your family like to light the Advent Wreath candles at one of the Masses during the season of Advent? A sign-up sheet can be found on the table at the back of the church. Those lighting the candles should wait for Fr. Jacek at the back of the church prior to Mass. You will then process in behind the Altar Servers and Lector, light the appropriate candle(s), and return to your pew as the opening hymn continues.



CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

**Share Christmas joy
with a local child, family, or nursing home resident!**

Select a tag from our Giving Tree in the church. Gifts for children should be placed in a gift bag, UNWRAPPED, with a tree tag attached. Items for Seeds of Hope should be placed in the box provided.

Children's gifts and Seeds of Hope items should be brought to the church by Sunday, December 10th. For nursing home residents, please follow the directions on the tag.

Questions? Please call Ginny Reindl at 570/506-0608.



 **OUR CALL TO
SERVE**
DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL



Scan to donate
or visit
annualappeal.org

Your gift to the
Diocesan Annual Appeal
provides social justice grants to parishes
which support parish food pantries, grief
ministry programs and pro-life efforts.

HOSTED BY THE DIOCESE OF SCRANTON
VOCATIONS OFFICE



THE BODY OF CHRIST

Encountering the Real Presence
to be Sent on Real Mission

College Age - 40 year olds



YOUNG ADULT
DISCERNMENT RETREAT

DECEMBER 8-9, 2023

HOLY FAMILY RETREAT CENTER
151 OLD NEWPORT ST, NANTICOKE, PA 18634



Altar Server Training

Over the past several weeks, the religious education classes attended altar server training with Father Jacek. It was a wonderful opportunity for the students to learn about the responsibilities of being an altar server.

If your child is interested in becoming an altar server and is in third grade or above and has received First Holy Communion, please complete and return this notice to his/her religious education teacher **by December 3rd**.

There will be additional training scheduled after the New Year.

My child(ren) is/are interested in becoming an altar server:

Name: _____ Grade _____

Name: _____ Grade: _____

Service Opportunity for Grades 7 – High School

Dickens of A Christmas – Parking Fundraiser Saturday, December 2nd

We will be directing traffic for those parking in the church parking lots. Please arrive at the main lot at 8:15am and plan for about 2 hours, or until the lots are full. Proceeds from this fundraiser benefit St. Peter's Youth Group.



St. Peter's Bread Pudding Fundraiser

Saturday, December 2, 2023

Main Street, Wellsboro

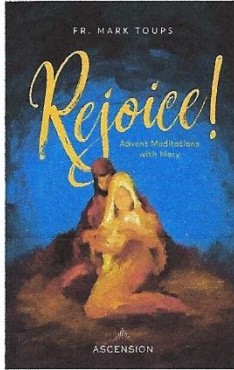
9:00am – 4:00pm

Volunteers are needed to make this fundraiser a success!

Please consider working a 2-hour shift at the booth.

Donations of supplies are needed and cash donations are also being accepted to offset the costs.

Sign-up and donation sheets can be found on the table at the back of the church.



Rejoice! Advent Book Study

Participant books can be found on a table at the back of the church this weekend. The Rejoice Book Study will begin on Sunday, December 4th. Watch for an introductory email from Marian-Ministries @outlook.com.

“Community is a key component in the journey to holiness. Advent provides a wonderful opportunity to take a little more time to focus on your prayer and grow stronger in friendships on the shared journey to Heaven.” (From the Intro to *Rejoice!*)

Support the Samaritan House at the Alternative Christmas Fair

If you're in town for the Dicken's Celebration on **Saturday, December 2nd**, stop by the Presbyterian Church and consider a Christmas donation in support of the Samaritan House and other local charities. This annual event provides a wonderful alternative for gift-giving. From the Wellsboro Home Page:

“The fair is for those who have people on their Christmas lists who feel they have enough “stuff” or love a particular cause. Or for others that believe Christmas is too commercial, missing the point of honoring the birth of Jesus. Instead of another scarf for Aunt Martha or one more box of candy for Cousin Frank, shoppers can “buy” food, pillows, blankets, school supplies and other necessary items to help individuals and families in need.

Each gift is actually a double gift – one for the person on the shopper's list and the other for those in desperate need in our area or in the developing world. The “shopper” can choose to give the gift in his name or someone else's. The person in whose name the gift is given will receive an appropriate card informing him of this special present.”

Musical entertainment and refreshments are provided. For more information, visit the Wellsboro Home Page at <https://www.thehomepagenetwork.com/alternative-giving-christmas-fair/>

Inclement Weather Policy

For the safety of our parishioners, if the local schools are **closed**, there will be **no daily Mass or Adoration**. The church will remain open for private prayer using the parking lot side entrance.

There is never a reason to lose hope. Jesus says: “I am with you until the end of the world.”

- Pope Francis

The Christmas Remembrance Tree at St. Peter's Parish



This is a beautiful way to remember a loved one, living or deceased, as we adorn the tree near the altar.

The ornament you sponsor will be displayed throughout Advent and the Christmas Season.

Each ornament will display a name tag with your name and the loved one you are remembering or honoring.

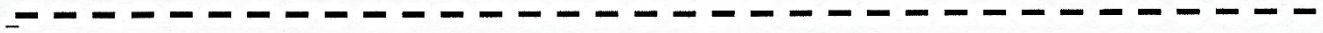
There will be a Mass offered for all those named on the tree during the season along with a commemorative booklet for a keepsake.

Please select your sponsored ornament from the color/price as follows:

Angel Tree Topper -- \$200
Gold -- \$100
Silver -- \$50
Blue -- \$25
Red -- \$10
Flocked Pine Cone -- \$5

To sponsor your ornament, complete the bottom portion of this form and return it to the Parish Office with your payment by December 11th. The booklet will be sent to the printer on that date.

Please contact Melissa in the Parish Office (570/724-3371) with any questions.



Return this form to the Rectory
 Make checks payable to *St. Peter's Parish*

_____ Angel Tree Topper \$200 _____ Gold \$100 _____ Silver \$50

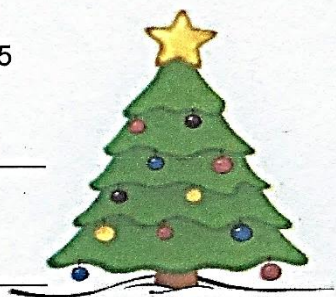
_____ Blue \$25 _____ Red \$10 _____ Flocked Pine Cone \$5

Person's Name (please print) _____

Circle one: In Honor of (living) In Memory of (deceased)

Requested By (please print) _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____




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 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> 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, 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, Jacoby Aratari, Lou Kirby, Shannon Jones, Steve Ziemak, Cody Bowers, Carolyn Clark, Don Hayden, 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, Sammi Swinnich, Raymond Butler, Maggie Stirnaman, Jane Johnson, Maureen Bailey, George Hill, Kami Maloof, Don Gordon, Christopher Moore, Jasmine Gordon, 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.