

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–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, 4:30-4:50pm; or by appointment

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time October 1, 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 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 Life

**Father and maker of all,
you adorn all creation with splendor and beauty,
and fashion human lives in your image and likeness.
Awaken in every heart reverence for the work of
your hands, and renew among your people
a readiness to nurture and sustain your
precious gift of life.**

**Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen**

October 1st is Respect Life Sunday

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 – Melissa Mann 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 10/2	No Mass	
Tuesday 10/3	No Mass	
Wednesday 10/4	12:10pm	In Memory of Paul & Nettie Mays (Jackson Family)
Thursday 10/5	12:10pm	In Memory of Lois Ann O'Rourke (Garry & Mary Kay Clark)
Friday 10/6	12:10pm	Living & Deceased Members of Patty Pollitt Family (Jean Dragovich)
Saturday 10/7	5:00pm *Mass is livestreamed	In Memory of Beth Patt (Frank Patt & Family)
Sunday 10/8	11:30am	Living and Deceased Members of St. Peter's Parish

Tabernacle Flowers are in Memory of Robert Sladowski (Janet Perkowski Bober)

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.

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, October 1st

Religious Education Classes -
 8:30am pre-school; 9:30am K-12
 First Reconciliation Class Parent Meeting -
 9:30am; Church
 Blessing of Animals - 2:00pm; Church Parking Lot

Tuesday, October 3rd

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

Wednesday, October 4th

Rummage Sale Meeting - 10:00am; Parish Center
 Discovering Christ - 6:00pm-9:00pm; Parish Center

Sunday, October 8th

8:30am Mass Rescheduled for 11:30am
 No Religious Education Classes
 Afternoon of Reflection/Retreat -
 11:30am-6:00pm; Begins with Mass in the Church

Stewardship

Sunday Collection for September 24, 2023: \$5,347.90
 Weekly Goal to Meet Expenses: \$6,100.00
 Difference: -\$752.10
 Year to Date Budget Variance: -\$1,172.34

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

Liturgical Reflection ~ 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 18:25-28

This week's reading continues on how God's ways are not like our ways. So, whose way is not fair, God's or ours? Our actions have consequences. While God shows great mercy, we cannot just do whatever we feel like and then believe God will forgive us. If we choose sin then we must live with the consequences of the effect of that sin. God wants us to choose what is good, not what is evil. God wants us to choose life.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 25

In psalm 25 the psalmist asks the mercy of God for sins to be forgiven, especially the sins of this youth. But he also asks for something far more important for his salvation. He asks the Lord to make His ways known and to teach him His ways, for he knows that the only way to escape his sinful ways is for the Lord to change his heart. The psalmist humbles himself and asks God to guide him.

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:1-11

St. Paul lists five benefits of God's love that have been given to us: encouragement, solace, participation in the Spirit, compassion, and mercy. But even with these great benefits available to us, we must remain humble. In that humility we should imitate Christ, who despite being God, did not cling to his godliness, but surrendered and was willing to die on the cross in obedience to the will of the Father.

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:28-32



Today's Gospel parable of the two sons whom the father asks to work in the vineyard is directed to the chief priests and elders. The Gospel continues the theme of following the will of God and talks of one son who did and one son who did not. One son tells his father he will not work, and then does. The other son says he will work and then does not. The first son like all those who have sinned, repented, and chose to follow him. This son will share in the Kingdom of God. We must be careful to not pretend to be righteous with our actions telling otherwise. Those who have sinned and repented are truly the righteous ones.

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.

The Word of God invites us not to hide behind the complexity of problems, behind "nothing can be done about it." It urges us to unite worship of God and care for the human person. For Sacred Scripture has been given to us to go forth and meet others, drawing near to their wounds. – Pope Francis



Samaritan House Needs You!

Do you have a heart for sharing and caring?
Join our family of loving and dedicated volunteers.
We care for one hospice guest at a time.

For more information, visit:
Samaritanhouseofwellsboro.org
or email samaritanhouse3@gmail.com

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Children's Liturgy of the Word will begin October 15th and is offered at the 8:30am Mass. Children, along with an adult leader, are dismissed by Father before the First Reading and rejoin their families for the Liturgy of the Eucharist. While gathered in the Parish Center, children celebrate their own age appropriate Liturgy of the Word. All children ages Pre-K through 3rd grade are invited to attend and registration is not required.

If you are interested in becoming an adult leader for Children's Liturgy, please contact Melissa at 570/724-9789.

Children's Liturgy
of the **Word**



Marian Ministries Mt. Saviour Monastery September 23, 2023

Seventeen pilgrims from Holy Child, St. Mary's, and St. Peter's Parishes attended Mass at Mt. Saviour Monastery on Saturday, September 23rd. Br. Luke Zimicky addressed the group with fun and fascinating facts about monastic life. Theresa followed with an informative talk on angels and how they appear in our daily lives. Participants enjoyed lunch from Subway, prayer time in the crypt, browsing in the bookstore, and just being together!



Living Rosary Update October 2023

The Living Rosary has been updated and is complete for October 1st - 31st. It is not too late to participate in this powerful devotion. Contact Laurie at 703/470-2975 or laurie.coffee@gmail.com. Participants will gather for a social at St. Mary's Church in Blossburg following First Saturday services on **November 4th**.

Pennsylvania March for Life

Monday, October 16th
Harrisburg, Pa

High school youth ministries, college students, and families are welcome to join us as we head to Harrisburg to voice our support to life!

This is an excellent opportunity to learn about the principles of effective lobbying, the specific and current issues Pennsylvania is facing, and what you can do right now to champion pro-life policies to your PA elected representatives. This rally and march are suited for all levels of experience and comfort with advocacy.

Cost for the trip is **\$30 per adult/\$25 per student** and includes charter bus & driver gratuity

Passenger pick up in Scranton at 7:45am

WWW.DIOCESEOFSCRANTON.ORG

SCHEDULE

- 10:00am - Prayer & Praise Pre-Rally
- 11:00am - March for Life Rally
- 12:00 p.m. - March for Life
- 1:30pm - Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral
- 2:45pm - Depart for Scranton

CONTACT INFO

To register, contact Shannon at Skowalski@dioceseofscranton.org or (570) 207-2213, x1155.



About Fatima

Our Lady of Fatima is the title given to the Virgin Mary as she appeared before three shepherd children, Lucia Santos and her cousins, Jacinta and Francisco Marto, near the village of Fatima, Portugal, in 1917. She identified herself to them as the Lady of the Rosary. The Roman Catholic Church officially recognized the Fatima events as worthy of belief in 1930.

Our Blessed Mother urged all to pray constantly for the conversion of sinners. Before he became Pope Benedict XVI, then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger said that the central message of Fatima is what the Church has always taught: prayer, penance, and conversion.

The Church celebrates October 13th as the date of our Blessed Mother's final public appearance to the shepherd children of Fatima and the occurrence of the "Miracle of the Sun" (October 13, 1918). For more information about Fatima, visit EWTN at: <https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/saints/our-lady-of-fatima-423>.

In honor of our Blessed Mother, the statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be placed in front of the ambo throughout the month of October. Take some time to pray with Mary during the Month of the Holy Rosary.



OUR CALL TO SERVE

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

YOUR GIFTS ENABLE US TO:

- FEED** the hungry
- SHELTER** those experiencing homelessness
- EDUCATE** young men and women in Catholic Schools
- SUPPORT** our seminarians and retired priests
- CHANGE** the lives of our neighbors every day
- SPREAD** the Good News of the Gospel through the media
- TOUCH** the lives of thousands of people through faith formation and social justice grants that support parish programs

MASS TIME CHANGE

The 8:30am Mass on Sunday, October 8th has been rescheduled for 11:30am to accommodate the Afternoon of Reflection Retreat.

The Parish Center will be set up for the retreat as well, so there will be no religious education classes that morning.



Blessing of the Animals

The Blessing of the Animals is a special ceremony in the Church conducted in remembrance of St. Francis of Assi's love for all creatures.

In anticipation of St. Francis' Feast Day on October 4th, Father Jacek will bless all pets on Sunday, October 1st at 2:00pm in the church parking lot.

Volunteer Opportunity Collection Counter



Each Sunday, volunteers count the offerings collected during the weekend Masses and prepare the funds for deposit. There are five teams of counters, and each team serves once every five weeks.

We are looking for someone to join a counting team. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Melissa in the Parish Office at 570/724-3371.



The Immaculate Conception Council #4493 Wellsboro Knights of Columbus is sponsoring *A Basket of Cheer* Raffle! Proceeds will benefit the Knights College Scholarship Fund.

Tickets are \$5.00 each and the drawing will be October 31st at 6:30pm. The winner will be notified by phone or email. To purchase tickets, contact Mike Buono at 717/320-2305 or Rob Minnich at 570/404-1434.

RCIA Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults



The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process by which adults are welcomed into the Catholic Church through study and prayer. It begins with a period of inquiry in which you may ask questions before you make a commitment to become Catholic. Arrangements can be made regarding class participation.

Please contact Melissa at 570/724-9789 or email stpreled@ptd.net for more information.

The deadline to register is October 7th.

St. Peter's & St. Thomas Parishes Activity Calendar – October 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 26 th Sun. Ordinary Time Mass – 8:30am Mass – 11:30am – St. Thomas Rel. Ed. – Pre K 8:30am; K-12 9:30am First Penance Parent Mtg.-9:30am Blessing of Animals – 2:00pm	2 Holy Guardian Angels No Mass St. Thomas Office Closed	3 No Mass Adoration – 1:00pm-6:00pm Women's Bible Study -10:00am AA-6:00pm/Al-Anon-7:00pm	4 St. Francis of Assisi Mass – 12:10pm Confessions – 11:45am St. Thomas Office Closed Staff Meeting – 10:00am Rummage Sale Mtg.-10:00am Discovering Christ – 6:00pm	5 St. Faustina Kowalska Mass – 12:10pm Confessions – 11:45am	6 St. Bruno Mass – 12:10pm Confessions – 11:45am St. Peter's Office Closed	7 Our Lady of the Rosary Mass - 5:00pm Confessions - 4:30pm Mass – 7:00pm St. Catherine
8 27 th Sun. Ordinary Time Mass – 9:30am St. Thomas Mass – 11:30am St. Peters No Religious Education Classes Afternoon of Reflection/Retreat – 11:30am; begins with Mass	9 No Mass Both Parish Offices Closed	10 Mass – 12:10pm Confessions – 11:45am Women's Bible Study – 10:00am Parish Council Mtg – 6:30pm; Knights of Columbus Mtg – 6:30pm St. Thomas Al-Anon- 7:00pm/AA – 8:00pm	11 St. John XXIII, Pope Mass – 12:10pm Confessions – 11:45am St. Thomas Office Closed Discovering Christ – 6:00pm	12 Mass – 12:10pm Confessions – 11:45am	13 Mass – 12:10pm Confessions – 11:45am St. Peter's Office Closed	14 St. Callistus Mass - 5:00pm Confessions – 4:30pm Mass – 7:00pm St. Catherine
15 28 th Sun. Ordinary Time Mass – 8:30am Mass – 11:30am St. Thomas Rel. Ed. – Pre K 8:30am; K-12 th 9:30am Bingo – 12:00pm/Doors open at 10:00am; Knoxville Comm. Ctr.	16 St. Hedwig No Mass St. Thomas Office Closed	17 St. Ignatius of Antioch No Mass Women's Bible Study – 10:00am Al-Anon-7:00pm/AA-8:00pm	18 St. Luke, Evangelist No Mass St. Thomas Office Closed Discovering Christ – 6:00pm	19 No Mass	20 St. Paul of the Cross No Mass St. Peter's Office Closed	21 Mass - 5:00pm Confessions – 4:30pm Mass – 7:00pm St. Catherine
22 29 th Sun. Ordinary Time Mass – 8:30am Mass – 11:30am St. Thomas Rel. Ed. – Pre K 8:30am; K-12 th 9:30am Bingo – 12:00pm/Doors open at 10:00am; Knoxville Comm. Ctr.	23 St. John of Capistrano No Mass	24 St. Anthony Mary Claret No Mass Women's Bible Study – 10:00am Al-Anon- 7:00pm/AA – 8:00pm	25 No Mass Discovering Christ – 6:00pm	26 No Mass	27 No Mass	28 St. Simon and Jude Mass - 5:00pm Confessions - 4:30pm Mass – 7:00pm St. Catherine
29 30 th Sun. Ordinary Time Mass – 8:30am Mass – 11:30am St. Thomas Holy Hour following Mass Rel. Ed. – Pre K 8:30am; K-12 th 9:30am	30 No Mass	31 Mass – 6:00pm Adoration – 1:00-6:00pm Women's Bible Study – 10:00am Al-Anon-7:00pm/AA – 8:00pm	Father Jacek Away ----->			




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. <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> 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>"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, 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 Fermeinic, Alice Kohut, John Bowe, Kathy Wheeler, Phyliss Davis, Sammi Swinnich, Raymond Butler, Michael Joseph Harris, Maggie Stirnaman, Jane Johnson, Maureen Bailey, George Hill, Kami Maloof, Don Gordon, B.J. Butler, Christopher Moore, Jasmine Gordon, Kassie Nowak, Sr. Sally Villa, SSJ.

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

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.