

St. Peter's Church



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

Labor Day to Memorial Day - Monday through Wednesday, 8:00am-2:00pm;
 Thursday, 9:00am-1:00pm
 Memorial Day to Labor Day - Monday through Thursday, 9:00am-1:00pm

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Jacek Bialkowski
 Secretary: Connie Spang - stpch@ptd.net
 Business Manager: Patti Mitchell - stpadm@ptd.net
 Religious Education.: Melissa Mann - streled@ptd.net
 Maintenance Staff: Connie Spang, Francis Kennedy

Schedule of Weekend Masses

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

Reconciliation

Tuesday through Friday, 11:45am-12:00pm;
 Saturday, 4:20-4:40pm or by appointment

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 25, 2022

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 - 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
 Fundraising Committee - Tim Gooch 570-971-5826

Date	Time	Mass Intention
Monday 9/26	No Mass	
Tuesday 9/27	12:10pm	In Memory of Christine Plato (Dawn Pletcher)
Wednesday 9/28	12:10pm	In Memory of Joyce Sykora (Don & Lucy Whitney)
Thursday 9/29	12:10pm	In Memory of Mark Feil (Ostapowicz Family)
Friday 9/30	12:10pm	In Memory of James Mays (Jackson Family)
Saturday 10/1	5:00pm (Mass is livestreamed)	In Memory of Katie Stirnaman (Parents, Mike & Maggie Stirnaman)
Sunday 10/2	8:30am	In Memory of Lois Ann O'Rourke (Family)

The Sanctuary Candle is offered in Memory of Joseph Burns, Sr. (Daughter, Mercedes)

Parish News and Activities

Church Hours/Adoration

The church will be open for private prayer, Monday through Friday from 8:00am–5:00pm. Generally, all three doors leading into the church will be unlocked. If for some reason the front and carport doors are not open for entry, please use the door on the parking lot side of the church. Saturday, the church will be open from 8:00am–4:30pm using only the parking lot side door. The front and carport doors will be unlocked at 4:30pm 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.

WORK TO BEGIN ON CARPORT

Work will begin this week to repair the carport and should be complete in time for next weekend's Masses. Thank you for your patience during the past 2 months as we worked out the details to get the repairs completed.

INTERESTED IN THE CATHOLIC FAITH?



The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process by which adults are

Welcomed into the Catholic Church. It begins with a period of inquiry in which you may ask questions before you make a commitment to become Catholic. Please call (570-724-3371) or email (stpadm@ptd.net) the Rectory to register or for more information.

Stewardship

Sunday Collection for September 18, 2022: \$4,883.00
 Weekly Goal to Meet Expenses: \$6,100.00
 Difference: (\$1,217.00)
 Year-to-Date Budget Variance: (\$4,388.00)

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

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 25th

Religious Education Classes – 8:30am Pre-School; 9:30am K-12th

Altar Server Training – 9:30am, Church

Tuesday, September 27th

Women's Bible Study, 10:00am, Parish Center

Wednesday, September 28th

Joint Parish Council/Finance Council

Meeting, 7:00pm, Parish Center

Sunday, October 2nd

Religious Education Classes – 8:30am Pre-School; 9:30am K-12th

Blessing of Animals – 2:00pm, Church Parking Lot

FALL SALE FINANCIAL REPORT

Thank you to all who helped make the fall sale a great success. \$3,540.95 was earned to support the activities and ministries of the parish.

Income:	\$3,606.55
Expense:	65.50
Profit	<u>\$3,540.95</u>

Liturgical Reflection ~ 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

FIRST READING: Amos 6:1, 4-7

Amos continues his denunciation of those who ignore the lot of others. In last Sunday's text it was the dishonest merchants. Today he criticizes the rich who care only about their own comfort, ignoring the plight of the poor. He does not condemn their wealth but their complacency. Their wealth allows them to have lavish meals and the best oils; they drink wine from bowls as though there was no end to the abundance they enjoy. Their selfish actions will lead to their exile.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 146

**PRAISE THE LORD,
MY SOUL!**

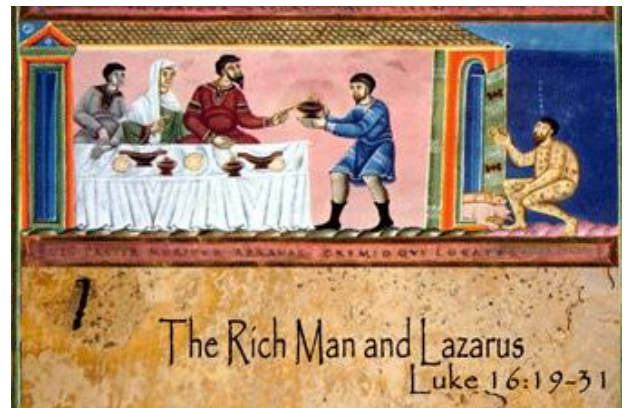
Psalm 146 is a hymn of praise and thanksgiving to the Lord who is good and loving and generous. The way that God expresses this goodness is by being the refuge to those in need. He is a guarantor of justice for those who have no one to defend them. If we are faithful followers of God, we will reach out to those same people.

SECOND READING: 1Timothy 6:11-16

Paul's letter to Timothy encourages him to be faithful to the commandment of God until the return of Jesus Christ. Paul would know and expect that his letter would be read to the local gathering of believers and so the phrase "I charge you" could apply to those who listen to the reading of his letter as well as to Timothy. In this vein, the words of Paul's letter are addressed also to us. Paul tells us to "Compete well for the faith" or "fight the good fight of the faith." There is a constant struggle to act justly, patiently, gently – in a godly manner – in situations that demand all of one's mental and physical energy. Those who stay in the fight are laying hold of eternal life to which all the baptized are called.

GOSPEL: Luke 16:19-31

Jesus addresses the Pharisees with a parable that contrasts the actions of a rich man and a poor man. The contrast between those who care about others and those who do not, as noted in the First Reading and the Responsorial Psalm, is sharpened by the message of the parable. Jesus does not dwell on the status of the rich man, but rather on his being oblivious to the needs of the poor man "lying at his door"; he was his neighbor! The rich man is even more hardened in self-centeredness after death than he was in life. He knows the right language, calling out to "Father Abraham" and asks for "pity" but he expresses no remorse. God never tires of forgiving us, but what is sometimes overlooked is the need to ask for forgiveness and accept God's mercy. It is possible to run out of time and there is no erasing the fate that follows the sounding of the bell. Today's parable haunts us with the possibility that after death, like the self-absorbed rich man, we too could find ourselves on the wrong side of an uncrossable chasm. Stuck there and suffering, we raise our eyes to see the Lord comforting the needy whom we ignored. It finally dawns on us that, like the rich man, we cannot improve our situation.



FROM POPE FRANCIS

"Being a small flock, should not frighten us, but rather invite us to live this reality with faith, so that we can become leaven, salt and light for others, trusting in the action of the Holy Spirit, who blows freely where He wills."

"The activity of prayer is not only to be carried out at times of rest, but also during our daily life as a type of breathing of our living relationship with God."

"Let us not forget that peace is possible when weapons are silenced and dialogue begins! And let us continue to pray for the suffering people of Ukraine and for peace in every land bloodied by war."



Marian Ministries

Living Rosary

Three minutes a day. That's about how long it takes to pray one decade of the Rosary. This can be done:

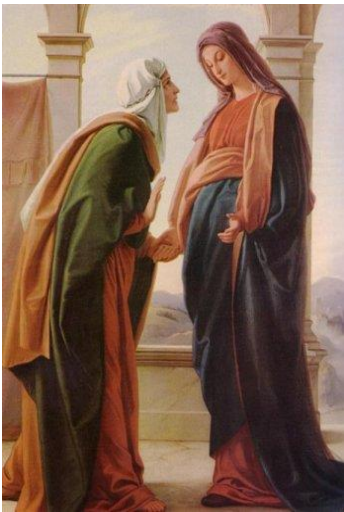
- Over breakfast with the family.
- On the drive to school or work.
- Walking from the parking lot to the store.
- Pausing between emails.
- Before bedtime.

The possibilities are endless. At present, we have one complete Living Rosary covered, with mysteries available for a second Living Rosary. The world desperately needs our prayers and the intercession of our Blessed Mother. Edward Sri, the author of *How to Pray the Rosary Like Never Before*, refers to the Rosary as a "portable chapel that we can keep in our pocket and pull out anytime, anyplace." What a gift!



So, will you spare three minutes a day for the love of God and neighbor? Sign-up sheets are on the holy handout table or email marian-ministries@outlook.com. The Living Rosary will begin on **Saturday, October 1st**, and continue as long as there is interest. Join us for coffee and donuts as we usher in this beautiful devotion immediately following First Saturday services on **October 1st at St. Mary's Church in Blossburg**.

Marian Day of Reflection



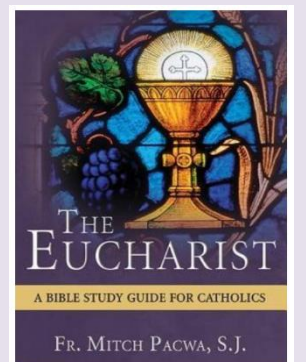
Dave Nodar, founder of ChristLife ministries, will present two talks on the Second Joyful Mystery, the Visitation on Sunday October 30th. The fruits of this Mystery are "hospitality and love of neighbor," thus, it is a favorite of many. The afternoon will include Eucharistic Adoration, Evening Prayer, the Rosary, and a social in the Parish Center. Please register via the Sign-Up sheets on the bulletin board near the hand out table or text 570-404-2180. Email marian-ministries@outlook.com. There is no fee for this event. The deadline for registration is **Friday, Oct. 21st**.

Donations of Baked Goods & Finger Foods

We need donations of baked goods and finger foods for the social on Oct, 30th. Crackers, cheese, fruit, and/or samples of your favorite Fall recipes. See the sign-up sheet for donations found on the bulletin board near the handout table

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP NEWS

The Women's Bible Study group meets each Tuesday from 10:00-11:30am (note new time) September through May. The group is going to focus on the book *The Eucharist* by Fr. Mitch Pacwa. Please feel free to come and visit and see what the group is all about. All women are welcome!!



Finance Council Meeting Minutes September 7, 2022 – 10:00am

Those present: Fr. Jacek, Tim Gooch, Jim Stager, Aaron Singe, Patti Mitchell

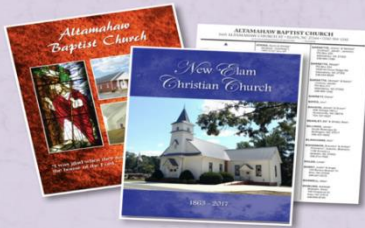
Those Absent: Priscilla Walrath

Discussion Items:

1. The financial report for this fiscal year to date was reviewed. Collections are down, but that is normal for the summer months. All other income and expenses were in line with where they should be at this time.
2. Fr. Jacek supplied each member with the *Diocesan Directives for Parish Finance Councils* document.
3. Fr. Jacek shared a memo from Bishop Bambera with new protocol that all parishes must follow annually regarding financial transparency.
4. One member of the committee was asked to represent finance on parish council. Tim Gooch was chosen.
5. New members are needed. Aaron will reach out to one possible new member.
6. Carport – The estimate to repair the carport is \$7,350. We are currently waiting for the insurance company to pay our claim. It was agreed that we would move ahead with the repairs, as we wait for payment. Chad Owlett will complete the work.
7. Rectory Garage – Fr. Jacek would like to park his car in the garage. In order to do so, some work needs to be done, including a new garage door and opener. The estimate for the garage renovation is \$4,225. Chad Owlett will complete the work.
8. Fundraising – Fr. Jacek would like to introduce more fundraising opportunities. Two that he has done at previous parishes will be implemented here in the very near future. Tim Gooch agreed to chair the newly created Fundraising Committee. Patti Mitchell also agreed to be on the committee. Other members will be recruited. A meeting for this committee is scheduled for Wednesday, September 21, 2022.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05am

Our New Pictorial Directory! We need YOU to make it a success!



We are partnering with Grace Pictorial Directories to create a new church directory.

Our goal is **100%** participation!

Grace will take all of our family portraits here at the church and publish the directory for us.

Each family photographed will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and color directory.

You will have the opportunity to view and purchase additional portraits. This is an ideal opportunity to have a professional portrait for you and your family and friends. Be sure to sign up for your appointment **soon!**



Large extended families and generational portraits can be taken - **EVERYONE** is welcome...

Grace
Pictorial Directories

Parish Directory

The parish council is planning for a parish directory. The company, Grace Pictorial, will be at our church October 27th to October 29th to take pictures.

Signups for the directory photo shoots will begin next week. They can be done either online (more information to come) or in person. A Signup table will be at the back of the church at next weekend's Masses.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Children's Liturgy 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 Liturgy of the Word that is more appropriate to their level of understanding. All children ages Pre-K through 3rd grade are invited to attend. No registration is necessary.

Children's Liturgy
of the **Word**

BLESSING OF ANIMALS

The Church has a special ceremony called Blessing of Pets, which is conducted in remembrance of St. Francis of Assisi's love for all creatures. In anticipation of Francis' feast day on October 4th, Fr. Jacek will bless all pets on Sunday, October 2nd at 2:00pm in the parking lot.



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 each week.

Updated Cemetery Gate Hours

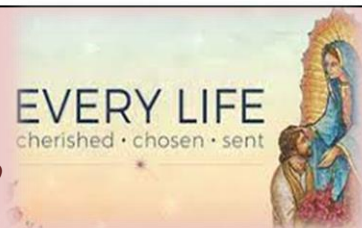
The open/close hours of the cemetery gate at the Pearl Street cemetery are as follows:

September 15th through March 15th – 7:00am-5:00pm; March 16th through September 14th – 7:00am-8:00pm



October is Respect Life Month and Month of Holy Rosary

October is Respect Life month and also the month of the Holy Rosary. Before each Mass, daily and weekend, we will pray a decade of the rosary for the increase in vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life and for the respect of all life from the moment of conception to natural death.



SAINT PETER'S

FALL
DINNER

FRIDAY OCT. 7, 2022

4:30 – 6:30 PM OR
UNTIL SOLD OUT

Saint Peter's Parish Center,
Wellsboro



Chicken with gravy
& Biscuits

Mashed Potatoes

Glazed Carrots

Salad

Homemade
Desserts

Sit down dinner or take out

\$10.00 PER MEAL

ALL YOU CAN EAT

\$5 children 12 & under

In order to make this dinner a success, volunteers are needed to work the event and some food items are also needed. Signup sheets can be found on the handout table on the side of the church. Please help where you are able!

Please patronize our sponsors and thank them for their support. Their advertising helps to make our bulletin possible.



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A Gift in Your Will

We hope you'll consider including a gift to St. Peter's Church in your will or living trust. Called a charitable bequest, just a few sentences in your will or trust are all that is needed. Share this sample bequest language for St. Peter's Church with your estate planning attorney:

"I, [name], of [city, state, zip], give, devise, and bequeath to St. Peter's Church, Wellsboro [written amount or percentage of the estate or description of property] for its unrestricted use and purpose."

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Parish Prayer List

Trish Knowlton, Judy Nagel, Shirley Mekos Broughton, Donna Brennan, Mary Mekos, Jonathan Hardman, Stephen Hurd, Stephanie Hemighaus, Suzie Alexander, Syler Sullivan, Adrienne Gilbert, Bob Murphy, Sylvia Smith, Tom Mohr, Carol Weatherby, Carol Shine, Teresa Pavlock, Jerry Pierce, Joann Black, 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 Antoniwi, 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 Fermeric, 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, Luis Ang, Colleen Rose, Kami Maloof, Don Gordon, and Jordan Dugan.



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.