St. Peter's Church



23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time September 4, 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 – 12^{th} grade. Classes begin in September and conclude in May. Pre-K (ages 3-5) is held during the 8:30am Mass. K- 12^{th} 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- 4^{th}) 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

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 – stpreled@ptd.net Maintenance Staff: Connie Spang, Francis Kennedy

Schedule of Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm (Livestreamed); Sunday 8:30am <u>Reconciliation</u> Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 11:45am-12:00pm; Saturday, 4:15-4:45pm or by appointment

A Prayer for Labor Day

Lord on this Labor Day, we thank You for the blessing of work. We ask for strength to complete each day. We ask for rest when we are weary. We ask for Your guidance and hope for everyone seeking employment. We ask that you be with those who faces we might never see, but who work tirelessly each day for the good of all of us. Amen

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 570-724-2967 Church Decorations - Sue Singer 570-948-2184 Buildings & Grounds - Rick Joachim 570-439-2591 Cemetery Committee - Howard Rutledge 570-724-4529 Fundraising Dinners – 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 – Rectory 570-724-3371 Worship Committee - Rectory 570-724-3371 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

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Date	Time	Mass Intention
Monday 9/5	No Mass	
Tuesday 9/6	12:10pm	In Memory of Katie Brennan (Tom & Linda Sampson)
Wednesday 9/7	12:10pm	In Memory of Mary Cleveland (Daughter, Mary)
Thursday 9/8	12:10pm	In Memory of Norbert G. Josten (Norb & Nona Josten)
Friday 9/9	12:10pm	In Honor of Alex & Nona Caro (Josten Family)
Saturday 9/10	7:00pm (note time change) (Mass is livestreamed)	In Memory of Eileen Evert (Richard & Patty Kramer)
Sunday 9/11	8:30am	In Honor of Keith & Valerie Josten (Josten Family)

The Sanctuary Candle is offered in Memory of Katie Brennan (Tom & Linda Sampson)

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.

NEW BOILERS NEEDED

The two boilers used to heat the church, are in need of replacement at a cost of approximately \$20,000. Contributions to help offset this cost are greatly appreciative. If you are an envelope user, please include your contribution in your Building Fund envelope that is included in your monthly packet. If you are not an envelope uses, please just note on your check or the envelope that your donation is for the boilers. Please give as you are able.

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 (<u>stpadm@ptd.net</u>) the Rectory to register or for more information.



Stewardship

Sunday Collection for August 28, 2022: \$4,246.00 Weekly Goal to Meet Expenses: \$6,100.00 Difference:(\$1,854.00) Year-to-Date Budget Variance:(\$3,479.00)

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

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Monday, September 5th – Rectory Closed Tuesday, September 6th – Women's Bible Study, 9:00am, Parish Center

Wednesday, September 7th – Finance Council Meeting, 10:00am, Parish Center

Thursday, September 8th – Buildings & Grounds Meeting, 10:00am, Rectory

CARPORT ENTRANCE TO CHURCH CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

The carport entrance to the church will be closed until further. For weekend Masses only, the temporary handicap entrance to the church will be through the parish center side door, located just beyond the carport next to the three handicap parking spaces. The church can then be accessed through the music room. These doors will be open until Mass begins. As usual, once Mass begins, the side doors will be locked and the church will have to be accessed through the front doors. At the conclusion of Mass, you will be able to exit the church through the music room to the parish center side door. Those attending weekday Masses will enter and exit through the front door or parking lot side door. Thank you for your patience as we await the repairs to the carport.

MASS TIME CHANGE FOR SEPTEMBER 10th Mass at St. Peter's on Saturday, Sept. 10th will be at **7:00pm** instead of 5:00pm, to accommodate Fall Fest at St. Thomas.

Liturgical Reflection ~ 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time FIRST READING: Wisdom 9:13-18

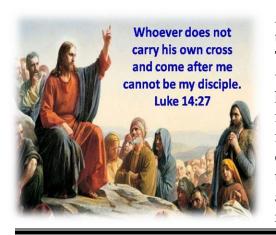
This passage is part of a beautiful prayer. The king asks the Creator to give him wisdom to rule with holiness and righteousness and to judge the people fairly. The theme of today's First Reading and Gospel is that God's ways are far beyond our ways. The author of the Book of Wisdom begs the question: Who can know the wisdom of God? Mortal beings are timid and unsure as they search for what God intends. But the wisdom of God is imparted through the Holy Spirit. Those who receive this wisdom will stand in awe of God's wonder and providence and their path of life will be made straight.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 90

The Responsorial Psalm continues the theme of the wisdom of God and how his ways are far beyond our understanding. The psalm reminds us to open our hearts to the ways of the Lord and not get so caught up in our everyday lives that we forget to explore its spiritual dimension.

SECOND READING: Philemon 9-10, 12-17

Paul writes to Philemon asking him to accept Onesimus, a runaway slave whom Paul has met and converted to Christianity, and to continue the work of the Gospel. Paul shows concern that the Philemon's treatment of Onesimus is that of a person of equal status because of their relationship with Christ. Paul preaches that baptism removes the distinctions that society insists on making. He urges Christians to live by Christ's standards. Paul writes from prison but accepts his situation because it is in the name of Jesus Christ and for the sake of the Gospel. Paul is committed to doing what he can to continue the work of the Gospel through Philemon and Onesimus.



GOSPEL: Luke 14:25-33

As Jesus journeys on to Jerusalem, he teaches to the crowds that are traveling with him about the difficult demands of being his disciples. This may have been one of the "hard sayings" that caused some to walk away from his mission. Jesus teaches that in order to follow him, one must leave all other claims on their time and energy. Even family obligations have to be reconsidered by those who choose to follow him. Following Christ not only requires placing him ahead of all other values and concerns, but it also demands a willingness to carry our cross and suffer with him. It will sooner or later cost us all that we have, but we will acquire more than we ever hoped to receive.

Fall Sale Schedule

This year's annual fall clothing, book, bake and household sale schedule is as follows:

Sept. $10^{\text{th}} - 6:00-7:00 \text{pm} - \text{Donations Accepted}$

- Sept. $11^{\text{th}} 9:30 \text{am} \cdot 12:30 \text{pm} \text{Donations Accepted}$
- Sept. $12^{th} 9:00 \text{am} \cdot 6:00 \text{pm} \text{Donations Accepted}$
- Sept. $13^{\rm th}-9{\stackrel{\rm :}{\scriptstyle}}00{\rm am}{\stackrel{\rm -}{\scriptstyle}}6{\stackrel{\rm :}{\scriptstyle}}00{\rm pm}{\stackrel{\rm -}{\scriptstyle}}{\rm Sale}$ Day
- Sept. $14^{\rm th}-9{\stackrel{{\scriptstyle :}}{\scriptstyle 0}}00{\rm am}{\stackrel{{\scriptstyle -}}{\scriptstyle 5}}{\stackrel{{\scriptstyle :}}{\scriptstyle 0}}0{\rm pm}{\stackrel{{\scriptstyle -}}{\scriptstyle Sale}}$ Day

Sept. 15th – 9:00am-2:00pm – Fill a Bag, Make a Donation

NO EARLY SALES ~ NO DONATIONS OF TVS

BAKE SALE – We will have a bake sale during the sale days. Donations of baked goods are greatly appreciated. Donations should be dropped off September 11^{th} or 12^{th} during the hours listed above. Any questions, please call Pat Gorda 570-404-8918 or Diane Bill 570-724-2967.



SYNOD REPORT AVAILABLE

For six months, people throughout our diocese responded to Pope Francis' call to the Synod on Synodality by sharing their hopes, concerns, and dreams for the Catholic Church. Some participated at listening sessions, and many others through an online survey. Through this participation, many themes began to emerge.

Our Diocesan Synthesis Report representing these themes has been submitted to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, and is also available for general review. To learn more and to review the synthesis report, please visit the <u>Synod on Synodality page</u> on our diocesan website <u>www.dioceseofscranton.org</u>.

Up and Over Retreat

It has been a long time since we have had a retreat opportunity for middle school students due to the pandemic. Today, I want to invite our middle school students to our first Up and Over Retreat in three years! Up and Over will be held September 23-25 at Camp Orchard Hill in Dallas. This weekend is centered around how students can use their God given talents in order to work together with others. The weekend involves fun activities, mass, free time, a movie, and an outdoor obstacle course! It is a great opportunity for students to meet new friends and grow in their faith!

Registration will open on August 1st on the Diocese of Scranton's website <u>dioceseofscranton.org</u>. The registration fee is \$180, and includes all meals, lodging, a t-shirt, and other retreat materials. If you have any questions, please contact Shannon Kowalski at (570) 207-2213 or <u>skowalski@dioceseofscranton.org</u>. We hope to see some of our middle school students for a oreat weekend!



CONFERENCE REGISTRATIONS ARE NOW OPEN

Greetings Catholic Men - We are pleased to announce that our 7th annual Be A Catholic Man Conference is now open for registration. The Conference will be on October 8, 2022, from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM at Holy Redeemer High School, 159 S. Pennsylvania Blvd., Wilkes Barre, PA. and will be favored with nationally known Catholic Speakers: Father Stan Fortuna, Dr. Ralph Martin, and Kevin Wells. This year's theme is "Be Not Afraid" under the patronage of Saint Joseph. All of us are challenged to live virtuous lives in this secular world, --- whether single, married, or clergy. Men are encouraged to set this date aside and attend. There will be Rosary, Eucharistic Adoration, Sacramental Confession, and lunch break. Mass will be offered by the Most Reverend Bishop Joseph Bambera. For reservations, write a check payable to "Be A Catholic Man" for \$40.00 (early bird price \$30.00 till September 9th) and mail to: Bill Leandri, 239 Hayfield Road, Shavertown, Pa. 18708; or Online at BeACatholicMan.com. Questions, please contact Michael Kilmer, Conference Chairman, at 570-746-0100 or michaelkilmer71@gmail.com.

Second Annual Harrisburg March for Life Rally

Pennsylvania Family Institute and Pennsylvania March for Life have joined forces to sponsor this year's **Second Annual Harrisburg March for Life Rally, Monday, September 19**, at the State Capitol Building, Harrisburg, Pa. The day's schedule: 9:30 a.m. mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral, 212 State Street; 10 a.m., Prayer and Praise Rally, Main Stage, Front Capitol steps; 11 a.m., Rally with national speakers, Capitol front steps; 12 noon, march around Capitol Building; 1 p.m., Testimonials-Silent no More, Top of Front steps, Capitol Building and 1:30 p.m., mass, St. Patrick's Cathedral. Participants are encouraged to arrange to meet their state legislators before or after the rally. Registration for the event is not necessary, but if you would like to receive updates on the rally, please check out the 2022 Pennsylvania March for Life website. Area residents who would like to attend can make reservations through St. Thomas' or St. Peters' Church offices or by calling Tom Socha, 814-258-7386.

Marian Ministries - Upcoming Events

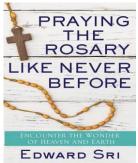
Book Group

Marian Ministries will sponsor a Book Study from Sept 4th-30th. Participants will read *Praying the Rosary Like Never Before,* by Edward Sri. The format will be similar to that of Mary's Mantle. Discussions will take place mainly online, with one opportunity to meet in person, Sept. 8th, 6pm at Samaritan House. *Anyone* can participate, just read the book! To take part online or for more information, email Linda Sampson at <u>marian-ministries@outlook.com</u> or call 570-404-2180. The book can be ordered from Amazon or your local bookstore.

From the Back Cover:

"Two and a half minutes. Can you give that much to God? This is the beauty of the Rosary. You don't have to pray it all at once and you can pray it anywhere! Do you struggle with praying the Rosary?

Do you have trouble finding time, fighting distractions, or feeling like you're just going through the motions? In this powerful book by Edward Sri, you'll discover practical ways to encounter Jesus and Mary more in the Rosary and incorporate it more into your life. "



Living Rosary Social

To honor our Blessed Mother during the month of October and beyond, a Living Rosary will be prayed by all interested parishioners of St. Peter's and Holy Child churches. 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.**

What is a Living Rosary? The devotion appears to have begun in France in 1826 when Venerable Pauline-Marie Jaricot formed the Living Rosary Association. She was inspired to pull together groups of 15 persons who would each be responsible for praying one decade of the Rosary each day so that the full 15-decades Rosary would be prayed each day by the group.

With 20 decades to cover now, we need at least that many participants. For those who struggle with the Rosary, the Living Rosary is a beautiful way to participate in one of the most powerful prayers of the Church - praying the same mystery every day and dedicating it to a specific intention. Interested persons are asked to sign-up for a decade at the holy handout table at St. Peter's; Holy Child participants can email Linda Sampson at <u>marian-ministries@outlook.com</u> or call 570-404-2180. If more than 20 people participate, some will pray the same decade. For more information, handouts are available, or Google *The Living Rosary: An Old Devotion for the New Year.*

Save the Date



Mark your calendars for an afternoon in the company of our Blessed Mother. **On Sunday, October 30th at St. Peter's Church, beginning at 2pm.** ChristLife founder and speaker, Dave Nodar, will share reflections on the Visitation and Mary's beautiful prayer, the Magnificat. The event will include two talks by Dave, the Rosary, Evening Prayer, and Eucharistic Adoration, and will conclude with a light social in the Parish Center. Watch the bulletin for details.



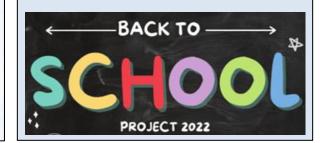


Registration is now open for this Fall's Discovering Christ series. This 7-week program includes a delicious (free!) dinner, teaching video and small group discussion focusing on the Meaning of Life and the Person of Jesus Christ. Beginning October 5th, participants meet Wednesday evenings from 6pm – 8:30pm thru Nov 16th with an inspiring Retreat on Saturday, Nov 5th. Seating is limited and registration closes Tuesday, Sept 20th so please sign up early to ensure a place at the table! Registration forms are available on the table at the back of the Church or register on-line at norb.josten@gmail.com.

Questions? Call Norb at 570-724-9095.

SOCIAL CONCERNS BACK-TO-SCHOOL PROJECT

Thank you to all who helped fill backpacks with clothes and shoes, for area students, as the school year begins. Eleven backpacks were filled and given to students to start their school year in a positive way. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



From Pope Francis

Event Benefits St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Elkland/Westfield, PA

"Today, more than ever, we need a non-worldly liturgy, one that makes us raise our eyes toward Heaven to experience that the world and life are inhabited by the Mystery of Christ; and at the same time, a liturgy that is not distanced from life."

"To renew our faith and our common mission, we are called to rediscover the core of the faith: our relationship with Jesus and the preaching of his Gospel to the whole world. This is essential!"

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Register Now - Registration information has been mailed to all returning students. Please fill out the registration form and return by September 8th. If you have a new student or did not receive the mailing, please call or email the Religious Education office and information will be mailed to you.

Adult Volunteer Opportunities

Children and teens, ages preschool through 12th grade, attend St. Peter's Religious Education Program to celebrate the sacraments and learn about the Catholic faith. If you are interested in joining this important ministry, please prayerfully consider volunteering for the following available positions:

Catechist Assistant - The role of an assistant is to attend class each week to help where needed, serve as a support to the lead catechist by assisting students with the lesson and activities, and to help maintain a safe atmosphere for learning in the classroom.

Children's Liturgy of the Word Leader - During the 8:30am Mass, children in grades K-3 are called forward before the Scripture readings begin and are sent to the Parish Center with an adult leader. There they will hear the same readings that are proclaimed at Mass, but explained on a level that younger children can understand. Volunteers are needed to lead Children's Liturgy and all materials are provided in advance. Depending on the number of volunteers, leaders can expect to be scheduled approximately once every 4-6 weeks.

St. Peter's in blessed to have an active group of parishioners who support our faith formation programs by volunteering their time and talents. Our religious education program would not be possible without them. If you feel called to share the love of Christ and contribute to the spiritual growth of our children, as well as grow in your own faith, please contact Melissa Mann at <u>stpreled@ptd.net</u> or (570)724-9789.

SCHEDULING 2023 MASS INTENTIONS

Scheduling Mass intentions for 2023 is now open through the parish office, during regular business hours. **The following are the established guidelines for scheduling intentions:**

- One weekend Mass on each weekend must be celebrated for the intentions of the parish, which is required by Canon Law (c. 534). Because of this we only have one weekend Mass for which we can accept an intention. Due to this limited availability of weekend Masses, no family may schedule more than ONE WEEKEND MASS PER QUARTER, or four weekend Masses per year.
- There is no limit to the number of DAILY MASS INTENTIONS, including those Masses said at the nursing homes each month, which may be scheduled by each family.
- Canon 948 states, "Separate Masses are to be applied for the intentions of those for whom a single offering, although small, has been given and accepted." Therefore, only one intention may be scheduled for any given Mass. However, for pastoral concerns to better accommodate the needs of the parishioners, we will adhere to the following: Up to three first names with the same last name (i.e., John, Paul, and Mary Smith) or two last names only (i.e., Scott and Smith Families) will be allowed per intention.
- The stipend given for a Mass intention is \$10. While we are willing to take requests over the phone, your Mass Intention will be not be scheduled until we are in receipt of your donation.
- Christmas, Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day, and All Souls Day Masses are always for the individual intentions listed by parishioners on their envelope.
- The Sanctuary Candle, burning in memory or honor of someone, is available on a weekly basis with no limit to the number each family may reserve.

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



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, Bob Snyder, Don Brooks, 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 Antoniw, 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 Fermenic, 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, and Don Gordon.



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.