



SS. Peter and Paul Parish

A Roman Catholic Faith Community

3rd
Sunday
of
Lent

March 23, 2014

While we were still sinners Christ died for us.

Romans 5:8

Welcome

*To all who are tired and need rest; to all who mourn and need comfort;
to all who are friendless and need friendship;
to all who are discouraged and need hope;
to all who are homeless and need sheltering love;
and to all who sin and need a Savior;
and to whomsoever will,
the Parish of SS. Peter and Paul opens wide its doors
in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ!*

Mission Statement

“The members of SS. Peter and Paul, as baptized Christians in concert with the faithful of the Diocese of Scranton and all Catholics, and in union with our Holy Father, the Pope, has as its’ Mission to participate in the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. We strive to set Christian examples by sharing our faith, our love of Christ and our talents. We proclaim the Word of God through the celebration of the Sacraments, prayer and worship, acts of charity and Evangelization, all of which become living proof of our communion with God and one another.”

Office

13 Hudson Road
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Office Hours

Monday thru Friday
8am to 4pm
All others by appointment only

Mass Schedule

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday – 7am
Wednesdays during Lent – 6pm
Saturday 4pm
Sunday 8am & 11am

Confessions

Daily 6:30am
Saturday 3:15pm – 3:45pm
During Lent – Monday 5:30-7pm
And by appointment

Parish Center

(570)822-8761

Working Together to Build the Kingdom of God

Mon.	7:00am	Michele Payne by Gerald & Sandra Boyle
Tues.	7:00am	Joe & Monica Chulvick "50 th Anniversary"
Wed.	6:00pm	Helen & Stanley Stanski Sr. by children
Thurs.	7:00am	Tony Sluhocki by Wife & Sons
Fri.	7:00am	Robert Suchocki by Robert Jamieson
	6:30pm	Stations of the Cross
Sat.	4:00pm	Sophie Dreabit by Joe & Christy Cadd
Sun.	8:00am	Living and Deceased Parishioners
	11:00am	Rose Snopek by Ken & Lee Ann Splatnoss

Pastor's Points to Ponder:

Jesus reveals his true identity to an anonymous woman, and a Samaritan at that. She speaks about the Messiah only to discover that she is speaking *with* the Messiah! How does this woman, this non-disciple and non-Jew, this perfect stranger earn the right to such a direct revelation? Why does Jesus choose *her*? For the same reason he chooses us. Out of love. The "woman at the well" did nothing to merit this life-changing encounter. In fact, the reading implies she was a sinful woman. Yet Jesus approached her first. He asked her for a drink, and then looked for an opportunity to offer her the "living water" that would quench her deepest thirst. Like the woman, who "left her water jar and went into the town" to testify, we are called to leave behind our old life of sin once we accept our new life in Christ. Indeed, Lent is the season that prepares us for such a dramatic rebirth. We pray and fast and give alms, not to *earn* the joy of Easter, but to be ready to drink it in.

Pastor Rev. John Boyle	Pastor Emeritus Rev. Joseph Greskiewicz
Coordinator of Religious Education Sande Holena	
Eucharistic Minister/Lectors David Loiacono	
Food Pantry Pauline Makowski	Altar Servers Gloria Flynn
Youth Group Maryann and Michael Quinn	Security Shiloh & Kolbe Inc.

In Memory
The Sanctuary Lamp

Tony Sluhocki
Votive by the Blessed Virgin Mary
Joseph Segeda

March 16, 2014	
Contributions	\$6,438
Dues	\$4,621
<i>A good place for the "buck to stop" is in the collection basket!</i>	

Thirsting For Unity

In today's Gospel, Jesus is thirsty and goes to the well for a drink of water. He meets a Samaritan woman, who expects him to treat her like dirt. But surprise! He talks to her like a fellow human being, treats her with respect and interest. And what happens? Why, pretty soon the whole town turns out to hear him. Centuries earlier, the Israelites, wandering in the desert, were thirsty. They had no water. All they had was an attitude problem. They growled at Moses, "Why did you ever make us leave Egypt?" But surprise! God gave them water from the rock. No questions asked. All the peoples of Earth are travelers on this planet together, all thirsting, all harboring our own fearful expectations of each other. But God, as a loving parent, treat us all with generous care and compassion. We are one family. We could surprise each other. We could remember we are one.

Today's Reading

First Reading –When the people grumbled to Moses for water in the desert, the Lord heard and brought forth water from the rock for all to drink (Exodus 17:3-7).

Psalm – If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts (Psalm 95).

Second Reading — God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit (Romans 5:1-2, 5-8)

Gospel— Ask, and you will be given living water so that you will never thirst again (John 4:5-42 [5-15, 19b-16, 39a, 40-42]).



Justice Ponderings:

Is the Lord in our midst or not?

Exodus 17:7

Okay, whoever has not asked yourself this question, raise your hands. There are times in our lives when the Lord seems very distant. But, if you actually stop to think about it, these are probably the times when you were relying on yourself. The more self-sufficient we become, the less likely we are to hear God.

The Lord that we hear about in the readings today is comfortable talking and sharing with those on the margins, those whom society deems untouchable. It is interesting to ponder perfection being found among the imperfect. Pope Francis teaches that, "The presence of God among people did not take place in a perfect, idyllic world but rather in this real world, which is marked by so many things both good and bad, by division, wickedness, poverty, arrogance and war. He chose to live in our history as it is, with all the weight of its limitations and of its tragedies. In doing so, he has demonstrated in an unequalled manner his merciful and truly loving disposition toward the human creature. He is God-with-us. Jesus is God-with-us. Do you believe this? Together let us profess: Jesus is God with us! Jesus is God with us always and forever with us in history's suffering and sorrow." (12/18/13—http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/francesco/audiences/2013/documents/papa-francesco_20131218_udienza-generale_en.html) How would you name the presence of Jesus in you life today? This is a good question to reflect on during this time of Lent. Other questions that you might ask yourself are: Do I echo the kind of love that God shows in my own encounters with the poor, oppressed, or marginalized? What holds me back? Lent is a good time to ask deep questions. As you journey in reflection, contemplate these words of Dorothy Day: "When you love people, you see all the good in them, all the Christ in them. God sees Christ, His Son, in us. And so we should see Christ in others, and nothing else, and love them." (Modern Spiritual Masters –Ellsberg, Orbis. 2008) In this way, we will always know that God is in our midst.



Religious Education CCD

9:30am to 10:30am

March 23	Class
March 30	Class
April 6	Class
April 13	Class/CCD Mass/Palm Sunday
April 17	Holy Thursday Procession

Ministry Meetings

I would like to meet with the following groups in the church on the dates stated. If you cannot attend, please let Fr. Boyle know.

April 1 st	7pm	Lectors
April 3 rd	7pm	Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist
April 10 th	7pm	Usher

Altar Servers will meet prior to the Holy Week Assignments

CRS Rice Bowl Reflection: the Philippines

This week, CRS Rice Bowl invites us to enter into solidarity with the people of the Philippines. We are encouraged to reflect on the Catholic social teaching principle, *Option for the Poor*, and reminded of Jesus' words: "Whatever you did for these least of mine, you did for me." Let us pray this week for our brothers and sisters in the Philippines and all around the world, that we see the Face of Christ in the poor among us.

Our Parish will once again participate in Catholic Relief Services Operation Rice Bowl. This gives us the opportunity to encounter Christ through others, especially the most vulnerable in our world. Rice bowls are available in the rear of the church. Please help us make a difference as a Parish in the lives of the poor.

Help Needed

I would like to establish a ***Building and Grounds Advisory Group*** that could advise me in preventative maintenance, needed repairs or attention to current buildings and grounds. I would hope that a group of people in the various trades would be willing to offer their time and suggestions. This Advisory Group would work in conjunction with the Parish Pastoral Council and the Parish Finance Council. If you are ready and willing, please call Fr. Boyle.

We're Back!! After a year off "A Night At The Races is Back. The races will take place on Saturday, May 3rd in the School Auditorium. Doors open at 6pm, and racing begins at 7pm. Horses will cost \$10 and races can be sponsored for \$25. Admission is \$5. Admission fee provides free food and drink: Hot dogs, wimpies, pasta, cold salads, chips, pretzels, beer and soda. Forms are available in the vestibule of the Church.

Lottery Winners

March 10th #064 R. Langdon
 March 11th #278 Joseph Luczak
 March 12th #172 Jim Cunningham
 March 13th #505 Charles Zajackoski
 March 14th #648 Joann Melman
 March 15th #051 Justin Patrick Boyle
 March 16th #049 David Katsak
Congratulation to all!

Bulletin Briefs

“Be kind, especially with the infirm. Love them well...Oh yes! Be kind. It is a great grace God is giving you. In serving the aged, it is he himself whom you are serving.”
 - St. Jeanne Jugan, Founder of the Little Sisters of the Poor.

Lottery Tickets for the Month of May will be available in the near future. Anyone requesting a special number please get them to the Rectory as soon as possible. Awards will begin May 1st and end May 31st – a winner daily. Follow the Evening Drawing (excludes the double draw) Prizes are \$50 Sunday to Friday, \$100 on Saturday and \$500 on Mother’s Day. Anyone selling 25 or more will be entered into the \$50 Sellers drawing and 10 or more into the \$10 Sellers drawing. The winners from the March Sellers drawing are \$50 – Geri Langdon and \$10 – Diana Pehala.
 Together let’s make it another great fundraiser.

Lottery Tickets

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Special Numbers _____

Easter Egg Hunt Right Around the Corner
 Our Youth Group will be sponsoring our Parish Annual Easter Egg, held the Sunday before Easter, April 13th for our children ages 1 thru 10. We are trying something different this year due to the large number of children that attend. We will be putting together “Easter Grab Bags” instead of Baskets. We are gratefully accepting any of the following you can give us to defray the cost of putting the “Grab Bags” together. We will be looking for small items that can fit in different size bags, candy to put in the bags or monetary donations to purchase the items. All would greatly be appreciated. We DO NOT need baskets, straw or large plush. The Youth Group will provide all the plastic eggs, candy and some prizes for the Egg Hunt. Last year we had over 115 children.

Anyone wishing to help out can drop an envelope with a monetary donation in the collection basket at Mass, please mark the envelope “Easter Egg Hunt”. Items for the Grab Bags can be dropped off at the Rectory during Office Hours or contact Michael or Maryann Quinn at 570-821-6121 and they will make arrangement to pick them up! Your help in making the Egg Hunt a success, as always is most appreciated!

Canadian Rockies By Train, October 2-10, 2014
 Trip to Rockies: \$100 discount ends on April 1. If you plan to go, please contact Fr. B this week!

Pro-Life Center in Wilkes-Barre is in dire need of cribs (the side must NOT go down), swings, high chairs, car beds, car seats (not over 4years old) and Pack and Plays. Prefer used but in good condition items. Please call Betty Caffrey at 570-826-1819 if you have any of these

St. Andrew Parish is having a Lenten Fish Dinner on April 11th in their Church Hall, 318 Parrish Street, W-B from 4pm to 6pm. Dinners include poached haddock, baked potato or fries, coleslaw, dessert, coffee, tea or juice. Cost is \$900 for adults and \$4.50 for children 10 and under. Take-outs available.

