

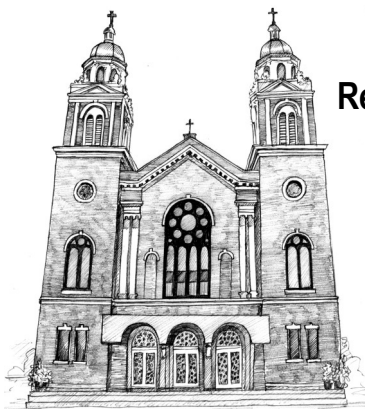
Parish of Saints Peter and Paul

13 Hudson Road
Plains, PA 18705-2015
Phone 570-825-6663
Fax 570-823-4556

Parish email: parishoffice@sspeterandpaulplains.com

Parish Web: www.sspeterandpaulplains.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sspeterandpaulplains/>



Reverend John C. Lambert, M.S.W.
Pastor

email:
pastor@sspeterandpaulplains.com

Deacon Don Crane
Permanent Deacon

Office Hours
Saturday and Sunday
by appointment

Saints Peter and Paul/Saint Benedict
Monday through Friday 8am-4pm
Office closed daily Noon—12:30pm

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday

4pm—Saints Peter and Paul
5:30pm—Saint Benedict

Sunday

7:30am—Saints Peter & Paul
10am—Saints Peter and Paul
11:30am—Saint Benedict

Parish of Saint Benedict

155 Austin Ave
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18705
Parish Web: www.stbenedictwb.org



Confession
By appointment anytime

Saints Peter and Paul
Daily 6:30am-6:45am
Saturday 3pm-3:30pm

Saint Benedict
after the 5:30pm Mass

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 Parishes of Saints Peter and Paul and St. Benedict open wide their doors
in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ*

Eucharist Adoration at Saints Peter and Paul - First Friday of every month—Noon till 3pm

First Saturday Rosary at Saint Benedict—First Saturday of every month at 4:45pm

Working Together to Build the Kingdom of God

Sunday Stewards

Saints Peter and Paul Parish

1068 Families receive envelopes

Dec. 22 361 attended the 4pm Mass
210 Families used their envelopes and offered \$3,121

Dec. 23 152 attended the 7:30am Mass
103 Families used their envelopes and offered \$1,639
304 attended the 10am Mass
304 Families used their envelopes and offered \$2,645

Tithe from
617 Families was \$7,405
Bernardine Bucks \$650
Christmas \$21,569

The Second Collection this weekend will be for
Care and Education of Priest
Next week's Collection will be for
Bernardine Bucks
Please be generous!!!

Saint Benedict Parish

429 Families receive envelopes

Dec. 22 119 attended the 5:30pm Mass
109 Families used their envelopes and offered \$1,660

Dec. 23 127 attended the 11:30am Mass
79 Families used their envelopes and offered \$1,393

Tithe from
188 Families was \$3,053
Christmas \$8,918

Stewardship

God has entrusted us with many gifts: Time, Talent & Treasure. We hope and pray that all members will share their gifts, and continue to share the Good News of Jesus with all people.

SAINTS PETER AND PAUL LOTTERY

Dec. 21	#000	Louise Tontini
Dec. 22	#489	Lynn Bolinski
Dec. 23	#887	Mary Drew
Dec. 24	#186	M.P. Verdine
Dec. 25	#975	Father Jack
Dec. 26	#120	Michael Szmanski
Dec. 27	#693	Pat Wasilius

Congratulations to all!!!!

Saints Peter and Paul and Saint Benedict Staff

Diana Pehala, Parish Secretary & Cemeteries
Mary Ann Gottlieb, Parish Secretary
Nina Cinti, Faith Formation Coordinator
Michael Lambert, Maintenance
Greg Day, Maintenance
Chuck Unice, Festival Choir Director, Organist
Tom Zurla, Organist
Jill Fiedorczyk, Organist
Gina Macaravage, Organist
Ben Berrini, Sacristan
Dave Loiacono, Ministers Scheduler
Paul Muczynski, Ushers
Nathan Smith, Altar Servers

Bernardine Hall Renovation Fund

The Bernardine Sisters gave 104 years of service as teachers to the children of Saints Peter and Paul Parish. In 2015 the former cafeteria was renamed **Bernardine Hall** in their honor. It has been many years since any work has been done. For the next 3 years we will be focusing on sprucing it up and making the necessary repairs. (Lighting, heating, electrical, air and a cosmetic face lift) Please consider joining together to make this possible. Money can be sent in at any time throughout the next three years to fund this project. To date we have received contributions from **184** families in the amount of **\$30,437**

Jesus Challenges Us to Be Blessed in Life

“Have a blessed day.” The thought that your day might be blessed carries a special resonance. If you ask someone, “How are you,” you are not all that unlikely to get, “I’m blessed,” as a response.

If you probe beneath the surface, there is a deep difference between wishing someone a good day, no matter how seriously meant, and blessing someone’s day. No matter how badly your day has gone, if it is a blessed day, it is one in which you will discover that God is present. This is why, faith tells us we call Good Friday, “good.”

This is the first of articles concerning the beatitudes, the “blessings” of Christ upon those who would not appear to actually be blessed, such as the poor, the meek and the persecuted. Through the course of these articles we will follow the beatitudes as they appear in Matthew 5:1-12, in the Sermon on the Mount. Attention is focused on how Matthew’s short introduction to the Sermon on the Mount prepares us to open our hearts and minds to the significance of Christ’s timeless teaching, which he begins with nine blessings.

“When he saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him.” (Matthew 5:1)

Matthew has just begun to tell us of Jesus’ ministry following his baptism and temptation. Having called his first disciples, Jesus preaches the good news of the kingdom in synagogues around Galilee and cures everyone brought to him, regardless of what ailed them (4:23-24).

Not surprisingly, this attracted a great deal of attention, and soon crowds gathered around him wherever he appeared. Matthew does not tell us exactly where the Sermon on the Mount occurred, choosing instead to simply affirm that “he went up the mountain” to deliver it.

The many Jewish Christians who would have first heard Matthew’s recounting of the sermon would be quick to think of Moses on Mount Sinai. Moses, the great prophet and teacher of Israel was tasked with revealing God to the people of God on “the mountain” (Exodus 3:1-2).

Centuries later Jesus, having gone up another mountain, sits down. This was the proper posture of a religious teacher. To this day universities endow their most honored professors with a “chair.” By Jesus’ time, religious authorities in Israel were said to teach from the chair of Moses (Matthew 23:2).

As we read Matthew introducing the Sermon on the Mount, we are meant to be aware of just how important, just how authoritative, Jesus’ instruction will be. No one since Moses has ever taught like this before, and Jesus’ teaching will go to the depths of the soul that Moses never reached.

Matthew’s introduction to the beatitudes actually comes with a warning: we can position ourselves to listen to Jesus in one of two ways—the way of the crowd, or the way of the disciples.

No one who contemplates the beatitudes immediately thinks that he or she has already earned the blessings they offer. Rather, those whom the beatitudes are intended to less would probably be regarded by the crowds as people who were more likely suffering under a curse than a blessing. And that is why, as we contemplate the beatitudes in forthcoming articles, that Matthew’s intentional distinction, between the crowd and the disciples should be kept in mind. When you read the beatitudes that follow, you will be challenged to note that if you hear them as one of the crowd you will be amazed at the loftiness of the ideals they express, but if you are a follower of Jesus, then he expects you to live them.

Word

The Epiphany of the Lord

Sunday

Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6;
Mt 2:1-12

Monday

1 Jn 3:22—4:6;
Mk 4:12-17, 23-35

Tuesday

1 Jn 4:7-10; Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday

1 Jn 4:11-18; Mk 6:45-52

Thursday

1 Jn 4:19—5:4; Lk 4:14-22

Friday

1 Jn 5:5-13; Lk 5:12-16

Saturday

1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 3:22-30

Saints Peter and Paul and Saint Benedict

Holy Communion will take place
Saturday, May 4 at noon

Confirmation will take place
Sunday, June 9 at 5pm.

The Sunday Good News

Saint Benedict & Saints Peter & Paul

January 6, 2019



*Moved
by the joy of the gift,
little Child
of Bethlehem,
we ask
that your crying
may shake us
from our indifference
and open our eyes
to those
who are suffering.
May your tenderness
awaken our sensitivity
and recognize our call
to see you
in all those
who arrive in our cities,
in our histories,
in our lives.
May your tenderness
persuade us
to feel our call
to be agents
of the hope
of our people.
Amen*

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Isaiah rejoices over the light and glory that will shine upon Jerusalem. He describes how the wealth of nations will be brought to Jerusalem, and travelers will arrive bearing gifts and praising God.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Paul explains to the Ephesians that the Gentiles are now co-heirs with the Jews. Through Jesus, they became members of the same body. Therefore, they would receive everything God had promised the Jewish converts if they followed Christ's teachings.

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

Astrologers from the east came looking for the newborn king of the Jews, which greatly disturbed King Herod. Herod wanted to kill Jesus, and asked the astrologers to return and tell him where Jesus was. The astrologers found Jesus and brought him gifts, but received a message in a dream telling them not to return to Herod.

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS

HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly

The Epiphany of the Lord January 6, 2019

Then you shall be radiant at what you see, your heart will throb and overflow, for the riches of the sea shall be emptied out before you, the wealth of nations shall be brought to you...all from Sheba shall come, bringing gold and frankincense, and proclaiming the praises of the Lord...Then they spread their treasures and offered him gifts of gold frankincense and myrrh."

The season of holiday visiting is drawing to a close. Lights still shine, the manger scene is special today, and unwrapped gifts are still to be seen. The memories of visits, carols and delicious traditional foods are still fresh and happy. But what happens now?

Like the magi we have waited, searched and found the Christ. It's our turn to bring gifts, not the three mentioned in Isaiah and Matthew, but a more precious gift, a more valued gift, the one that the Lord Jesus is waiting to receive from us. It is the gift of ourselves.

We bring joy, hope and happiness. Joy - because we have a Savior, hope - because our world can become better, happiness - because He has chosen me to bring Him to others. We bring an awareness that this Jesus comes again and wishes to accompany us in this new year. He can't wait for us to get started. We can choose this route, or just simply take the decorations and put them away to gather dust for another year. The choice is quite clear. "They departed for their own country by another way."

Worship

We Remember

A Communion Service will be held at Saints Peter and Paul at 7am Monday—Friday

Masses at Saint Benedict this week

Tuesday	1-8	8am	Anne Gavin (A) by Margaret & Noreen Daniel Branas by Pat Stella
Wednesday	1-9	8am	Agnes Dombroski by Eleanor Hallas Robert J. Casey by Cooney & Musial Families
Thursday	1-10	8am	Michael Pizzella by Mr. & Mrs. John Shission Ed & Isabelle Neishell by Grandchildren
Friday	1-11	8am	William Murphy (A) by Dreabit Family Charles & Mae Ward by Family

Weekend Mass Schedule Saints Peter & Paul

Saturday	1-12	4pm	James Brice by Brice Family
Sunday	1-13	7:30am 10am	Frederick Ceccoli III by Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Wielgosz Martha Rudda by Joanne Krumsky

Weekend Mass Schedule Saint Benedict

Saturday	1-12	5:30pm	Living and Deceased Parishioners
Sunday	1-13	11:30am	Mary Loomis by Richard Loomis

Saints Peter and Paul Parish

Sanctuary Candle

Mary & Bernard Weiss

Holy Family Votive

Mary & George Magda & Family

Saint Benedict Parish

Sanctuary Candle

Helen Felia

Lady of Lourdes

Mary & Edward Mido

Service

We are Called to Serve...

"Do you understand what I just did for you? You address me as 'Teacher' and 'Lord' and fittingly enough, for that is what I am. But if I washed your feet—I who am Teacher and Lord—then you must wash each other's feet. What I just did was to give an example: as I have done, so you must do."
(John 12:2-15)

Saint Benedict's Loaves and Fishes Program

For the month of *January* will be collecting **Can Vegetables**.

Saints Peter and Paul Food Pantry

Anyone in the Plains, Miners Mills area in need of food can contact Pauline at 570-592-6798 to register. Food is distributed to the community on the third Friday of every month. **Non perishable** food donations are always accepted, place in the basket in the Vestibule of the Church.

Saints Peter and Paul's Treasures is accepting new or gently used fall and winter clothing for men, women and children. Shoes and purses in excellent condition as well. Treasures strives to maintain current style trends and clean quality clothing. Thank you for your continued support.

Are you an Organized Person?

Saints Peter and Paul can use your help. **An Event Planning Committee** is being formed to help with the many activities of the parish. If interested call the Parish Office.

Saints Peter and Paul and Saint Benedict Ministries

Pauline Makowski, Food Pantry

Janet Soller, Quilting

Mary Jo Marek, Prayer Shawl

Laura Rudloff, Treasures

Irene Martin, Women's Society of Saints Peter and Paul

Barbara Zirnheld, Council of Catholic Women

Kathy Grinaway, Hospitality

Donna Mansfield, Hospitality

To the Parents of our Young Children, May We Suggest... Relax! God put the wiggle in the children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house. All are welcome! Sit toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to see and hear what is going on at the altar. They tire of seeing the backs of others' heads. Quietly explain the parts of the Mass and actions of the priest, altar servers, choir etc.... Sing the hymns, pray and voice the responses. Children learn liturgical behavior by copying you. If you have to leave Mass with your child, feel free to do so but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."

Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God, and to one another. Let them know that they are at home in this house of worship.

To the Members of Our Parish

The presence of children is a gift to the Church and they are a reminder that our parish is growing.

Please welcome our children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.

2018 Tax Statements

are now available.

Call the Parish
if you would like
to receive one

*****Youth Volunteer Christmas Appreciation Dinner will be held in the Parish Center Dining Hall on January 16th at 6PM *****

Respect Life Mass

The Annual Respect Life Mass, sponsored by the Wyoming Valley Council, Knights of Columbus, will be held at Saint Ignatius Church, 339 N. Maple St., Kingston, Sunday, January 13th at 10:30am. The Knights, along with Pro-Life Representatives, will offer prayer intentions during the Mass for a great respect of all Human Life & to end abortion. January is Respect Life month as abortion was legalized on January 22, 1973. Since then, upwards of 60 million innocent unborn children have been killed through abortion. Monsignor David Tressler, Pastor, warmly invites all to attend and to pray for the most vulnerable of human lives, those with disabilities, the ill, and the unborn.

January Activities

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6	7 Quilting 5pm Treasures 6pm Rosary 6:30pm Faith Sharing 7pm	8 Quilting 9am Chess Club 6:30pm	9	10 Quilting 9am Pastoral Council 6:30pm	11 Treasures 9am Appreciation Dinner 6pm	12
13 Council of Catholic Women 1:30pm	14 Quilting 5pm Treasures 6pm Rosary 6:30pm Faith Sharing 7pm	15 Quilting 9am Chess Club 6:30pm	16 Youth Volunteer Christmas Party Parish Hall 6PM	17 Quilting 9am Food Pantry Prep Women's Society Meeting 6:30pm	18 Treasures 9am Food Pantry 9am	19
20	21 Prayer Shawl 5pm Quilting 5pm Treasures 6pm Rosary 6:30pm Faith Sharing 7pm	22 Quilting 9am Chess Club 6:30pm	23	24 Quilting 9am Finance 6:30pm	25 Treasures 9am	26
27	28 Quilting 5pm Treasures 6pm Rosary 6:30pm Faith Sharing 7pm	29 Quilting 9am Chess Club 6:30pm	30	31 Quilting 9am	1 Treasures 9am	2



Saint Benedict Envelopes for 2019 are available in back of church. Anyone who has not donated or contributed to the parish in the last year were not issued envelopes for the coming year. Any questions can be directed to the Parish Office during Office Hours.

Saints Peter and Paul Children's Envelopes are in the Vestibule of the church. If you would like your child to receive envelopes call the office during office hours.

Parish Cemeteries

Available plots in each of our Parish Cemeteries (Saints Peter and Paul, Sacred Heart, Saint Joseph and St. Francis) for purchase.

For information contact the Parish Office.

Saints Peter and Paul Finance Committee

Don Prescavage, Chairman
Ben Berrini, Vice Chairman
Charlotte Dominick, Secretary
Gerald Cross, Capital Budget Chairman
Maryann Kropiewnicki, Revenue Coordinator
Tony Dente, On-Line Giving Coordinator
Cheryl Woloski, Internal Audit and Compliance
Tracy Schooley, Human Resources

Saint Benedict Finance Committee

Steve Yenchak, Chairman
Tom Kozerski
Jodi Gunari
Ed Yenchak

The Pastoral Council at Saint Benedict's Parish is looking for your input to help form the Parish Pastoral Plan. Beginning in January 2019, several small groups of parish members will be formed so that we can ask some questions and hear what people have to say about our parish today and as we look to our future. You are Very Important to us and your perspective will help to guide us. More information on the specific groups and sign-up sheets will be coming out soon. Please consider joining one of these groups as we work together to keep our parish engaged in Word, Worship, Service and Community.

We want to Listen to You!!!!



Saints Peter and Paul Christmas Flowers...

Thomas & Anna Nawratowicz by Josephine Kline

Arthur Sr., Arthur Jr. and Madeline Kline by Josephine Kline

Every donation counts !!!

If you have not yet pledged, please....

Help us reach our Annual Appeal Parish Goal!

**Saints Peter and Paul is at
15.05%**

We are grateful to the 177 parishioners who supported the 2018 Annual Appeal to date. If you have not yet given your support, please:

- Call the Development Office at 570-207-2250 to make a pledge or give a gift by credit card
- Mail a check to the Diocesan Appeal Office at 300 Wyoming Ave., Scranton, Pa 18503 or
- Give online at www.DioceseofScranton.org

Our parish is reimbursed 75% for any gifts made to the Appeal in excess of our Appeal goal.

Every donation counts !!!

If you have not yet pledged, please....

Help us reach our Annual Appeal Parish Goal!

**Saint Benedict is at
13.44%**

We are grateful to the 59 parishioners who supported the 2018 Annual Appeal to date. If you have not yet given your support, please:

- Call the Development Office at 570-207-2250 to make a pledge or give a gift by credit card
- Mail a check to the Diocesan Appeal Office at 300 Wyoming Ave., Scranton, Pa 18503 or
- Give online at www.DioceseofScranton.org

Our parish is reimbursed 75% for any gifts made to the Appeal in excess of our Appeal goal.

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. 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 or to Diocesan officials, including the Vicar General, Monsignor Thomas M. Muldowney, V. G., at 570-207-2269

Saints Peter and Paul

Upcoming Events for 2019

Don't miss out on all the fun; cut out and place on refrigerator.

Pierogi Making—Saturday, February 23

Spring Lottery—Sat. March 2– March 31

Lenten Dinners to Go — Friday March 8

*NEW!!!**Ham n Cabbage Dinner—Sat, March 16*

St. Joseph's Table—Tuesday, March 19

Lenten Dinners to Go — Friday, March 22

Lenten Dinners to Go — Friday, March 29

Lenten Dinners to Go — Friday, April 5

Lenten Dinners to Go — Friday, April 12

NEW!!! Ravioli Making—Saturday, April 27

Plains Lions' Spaghetti Dinner in support of Plains Food Pantries April 30

Night at the Races—Saturday, May 18

Summer Lottery—Sat. June 1—June 30

Ice Cream Social—date to be announced

Fall Lottery—Sat. September 7—September 29

Pierogi Making—Saturday, September 21

Annual Quilt Bingo—Sunday, October 13

Blanket Party—October 24

Senior Dinner—Sunday, November 3

Annual Purse Bingo—Sunday, November 10

Winter Lottery—Saturday, December 7—December 29

Santa Brunch—Saturday, November 30

Toy Bingo—Sunday, December 1

Bus Trip to New York—To be announced

Cookie Sale—Saturday, December 21

Other events may be added, keep checking the bulletin for updates

**** depending on the progress of Bernardine Hall*



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

300 WYOMING AVENUE
SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA 18503-1279

November 8, 2018

Dear Friends,

I wrote to you in August and pledged that I would do all that I can to restore your trust in the Church and to provide a safe environment for your children. This continues to be my priority.

This week, we announced our Independent Survivors Compensation Program, which I believe is another step along the path towards healing for survivors. I believe wholeheartedly that survivors deserve to have their voice heard. They deserve recognition of their pain and suffering. It is our responsibility to offer a solution of our own.

Several weeks ago, Pennsylvania's Bishops announced support of such a program, which was recently discussed but not enacted by the Pennsylvania Grand Assembly. We are therefore moving forward and offering this Program for survivors. Participation in the Program by survivors is entirely voluntary.

The Program will be administered by Kenneth Feinberg and Camille Biros, two leading experts in mediation and alternative dispute resolution. They will oversee the claim process and will have absolute autonomy in determining compensation for survivors. This firm has managed a number of high-profile compensation programs nationwide, including similar programs started by five Catholic Dioceses in New York. This Program will review cases quickly and efficiently to provide compensation to survivors, so they can continue along the path towards healing.

There will also be an Independent Oversight Committee to oversee the implementation and administration of the Program. To be clear, the Diocese will have no authority over this committee.

It is important for you to know that parish and school assets, as well as contributions and bequests from parishioners and donations to the Diocesan Annual Appeal, will not be used to fund the Program. Rather, we will use available reserves and will sell assets and borrow money as needed. We will strive to maintain our core mission to serve the local community. Our commitment to the people of the Diocese of Scranton remains true.

The Diocese continues to refine the Program so that it better serves survivors. Further details concerning the Program will be made available in the near future, including a website for survivors to obtain information and claim forms.

Thank you for your attention. Please continue to pray for survivors, their families and the community at large.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

† *Joseph C. Bambera*

Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L.
Bishop of Scranton

“By our Baptism, I firmly believe that we are called to servant leadership here in the Diocese of Scranton. We are called to a servant leadership that helps us to transform our hurting world through compassion, solidarity, justice, and love.”

From Bishop Bambera’s pastoral letter,
Wounded and Loved: Regathering the Scattered



Mission Statement

As members of Saints Peter and Paul,
we have as our mission the sharing of our
faith and our talents.

We proclaim the Word of God through
compassion for our community and sharing of our
treasures as Disciples of Christ.

Mission Statement

Saint Benedict

Building a Catholic Community where all are
welcome, respected, needed and appreciated;
where we incorporate and share the word of
God in our daily lives and the lives of others.

Pastoral Council Members

Saints Peter and Paul

Kathy Grinaway, Chairperson
Harold Golomb, Jr, Vice Chairperson
JoAnn Chukinas, Secretary
Gerald Cross
Barbara Gubbiotti
Steven McGough
James Susek

Saint Benedict

Donna Mansfield, Chairperson
Debby Zuzelski, Secretary
Joanne Brague
Jack Keeley
Lou Zuzelski