

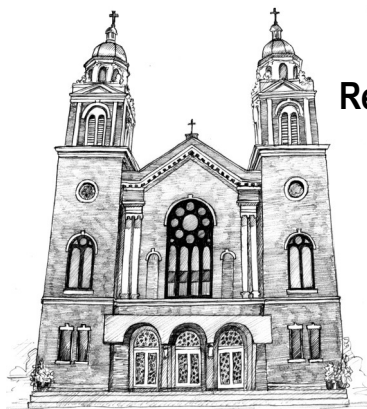
Parish of Saints Peter and Paul

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

1039 Families receive envelopes

Feb. 9 305 attended the 4pm Mass
244 Families used their envelopes and offered \$3,266

Feb. 10 109 attended the 7:30am Mass
87 Families used their envelopes and offered \$1,746

294 attended the 10am Mass

117 Families used their envelopes and offered \$1,999

Tithe from

448 Families was \$7,011

Bernardine Hall \$372

The Second Collection this weekend will be for

Diocesan Annual Appeal

Next week's Collection will be for

Bernardine Hall

Please be generous!!!

Saint Benedict Parish

429 Families receive envelopes

Feb. 9 121 attended the 5:30pm Mass
95 Families used their envelopes and offered \$2,495

Feb. 10 97 attended the 11:30am Mass
66 Families used their envelopes and offered \$1,572

Tithe from

161 Families was \$4,067

Care and Education of Priest \$333

Thank you for your continued generous Support!

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

Feb. 4	#033	Elizabeth Segeda
Feb. 5	#549	Saints Peter and Paul
Feb. 6	#383	Joyce Fiorucci
Feb. 7	#738	Kathy Graham
Feb. 8	#775	Eleanor Donati
Feb. 9	#686	Michael Piazza
Feb. 10	#649	Marie Fender

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 **207** families in the amount of **\$44,178**

Don't miss out on being a part of this endeavor!!!

Blessed are the Clean of Heart, For They Will See God.” - Matthew 54:8

Cleanness, or purity, of heart speaks of our motivation, our desire that moves us to act and seek a place and purpose in the world. The 19th century Danish philosopher Soren Kierkegaard famously stated that purity of heart is to desire one thing. This disturbs me deeply, for I desire many things. For Jesus, there truly was only one thing to desire: the kingdom of heaven. If we follow Jesus’ teachings closely, we realize that seeking the kingdom of heaven is not the desire to go to heaven. It is, rather, the desire to see that the will of the one who reigns in heaven would also hold sway on earth. “Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.” For that desire to be realized, as seekers we must start with ourselves. But what can we do to instill that desire within ourselves? It might help to examine the roots of human desire. One of the great Catholic minds of our time, the late Rene Girard, devoted himself to studying the cultural and anthropological contexts for human desire. He came to the startling conclusion that we borrow all but our most instinctual desire from other people. We want what we want because we have witnessed important people in our lives wanting those things. Many of us have witnessed toddlers, surrounded with toys, fighting over just one of them because one toddler has made it look more desirable than all the other toys. Once we realize the importance of what others desire, and join them in pursuit of what is desired, we can swiftly move from being close allies to archrivals. We compete with them to obtain what they modeled for us as desirable. When it becomes impossible for both of us to have whatever it is we desire, our rivalry can turn murderous. In the case of an entire society desiring what is too limited for all of us to possess, chaos can ensue. The chaos can threaten the very stability of society and in order to restore order, a leader will name a scapegoat, someone that can be blamed for the chaos. Think of the rise of Hitler and the scapegoating of the Jews. It’s a story as old as original sin. One of the key, foundational stories illustrating Girard’s assertion is found in the Genesis account of the Fall, where the serpent awakens Eve’s desire for the forbidden fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, and Eve in turn awakens Adam’s desire for the same. Just a few passages later we read of the first murder, resulting from Cain’s envy of his brother Abel for winning the blessing from God that Cain also desired. Girard, who began exploring his theory as an atheist, became desperate to find a solution to the human propensity to create scapegoats, and came to the awareness that in Christ God became the ultimate victim, the ultimate scapegoat. This led to Girard’s realization that Christianity, and the Catholic faith in particular, offered a way to free ourselves from being chained to the desires that lead to social chaos and murder. We can find freedom by embracing Jesus Christ as the ultimate victim, and in embracing him, embracing all others who suffer as victims. Jesus was put to death by the religious and political leaders of his time because of his relentless pursuit of his one desire, to do the will of his Father. And it was his Father’s will that the poor, the meek, the suffering and the persecuted encounter God’s blessing through Jesus, a blessing Jesus proclaimed in the beatitudes. In pronouncing these blessings, Jesus was also calling all who receive his teachings to be agents of those blessings, and to do so, we must learn to be clean of heart. How do we learn to desire the one, true thing? We learn it by truly embracing Jesus Christ and his mission to offer a real foretaste of the kingdom of heaven to those most in need of its blessings. The antidote to desire that takes our attention away from the kingdom of heaven is compassion—the desire to make the love of God tangible to those who can only look to God for their needs.

Word

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday

Jer 17:5-8; 1 Cor 15:12,
16-20; Lk 6:17, 20-26

Monday

Gn 4:1-15, 25;
Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday

Gn 6:5-8, 7:1-5, 10;
Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday

Gn 8:6-13, 20-22;
Mk 8:22-26

Thursday

Gn 9:1-13; Mk 8:27-33

Friday

1 Pt 5:1-4; Mt 16:13-19

Saturday

Heb 11:1-7; Mk 9:2-13

Faith Formation

Saints Peter and Paul and Saint Benedict

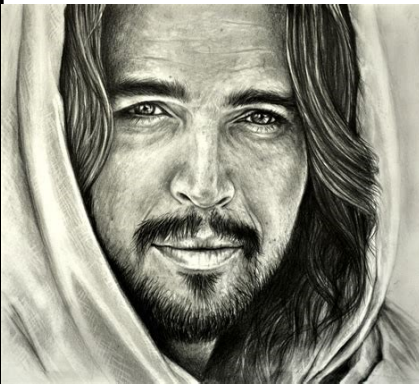
Holy Communion will take
place Saturday, May 4 at noon

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

The Sunday Good News

Saint Benedict & Saints Peter & Paul

February 17, 2019



*Heavenly Father, we thank You
for opening to us the doorway
of a new day;
and now that our feet stand
upon the threshold
of this great opportunity,
we pray for guidance, wisdom,
love and power.
You have seen fit to draw
a curtain before our eyes,
so that we know
not what a day may bring forth.
As we journey into the wilderness
of the future,
a pillar of cloud has hovered
about us so that we cannot tell
what enemies shall meet us today,
what duties
shall be present themselves,
what temptations
may grapple with us
by the wayside,
yet we know
that with Your divine help
we shall be more than victors
through Him Who love us.
Keep us O God.
May Your Fatherly protection
be over those who are dear to us.
Bless our enemies, if we have any,
and give us right spirits
to all mankind.
Hasten the coming
of Your Kingdom.
Here us now in this, our prayer.
In Jesus' Name. Amen*

First Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-8

Jeremiah compares a man who seeks strength in flesh but abandons God to a bush in the desert, bereft of nourishment and unable to grow. Yet a man who trusts in God is like a tree beside a river, fed & strengthened by it even during times of drought.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20

Paul addresses those who believe in Christ's teachings, but are not convinced that he rose from the dead. He calls their faith worthless, because they have not been freed from their sins. Paul then emphatically declares that Jesus did rise up again, as will all those who truly believe in him.

Gospel: Luke 6:17, 20-26

Jesus tells his followers that those who are insulted in this life because of him will be rewarded richly in heaven. Yet those well received by all will despair in heaven, since people had often respected false prophets and mistreated true prophets. Those who hunger, perhaps for spiritual knowledge, shall be filled. Yet those who are full in this life will be hungry.

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS

HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 17, 2019

"Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose hope is in the Lord. He is like a tree planted beside the waters that stretches out its roots to the stream: It fears not the heat when it comes, its leaves stay green; in the year of drought it shows no distress, but still bears fruit.... 'And raising his eyes toward his disciples he said...'"

We are so familiar with the Sermon on the Mount, and the beatitudes of St. Matthew. They summarize the entire message of Jesus and provide the pattern for a healthy examination of conscience.

Today we meet St. Luke's teaching, the Sermon on the Plain, addressed to the disciples and to us. Instead of eight positive directives, we are given four, and then four warnings to help us move from the now to the promised reward. How helpful for us to fix our eyes on what the Lord has in store for us, to make us less complacent, eager to 'rejoice and leap for joy on that day!'

We know well the obstacles, barriers and challenges of the Christian life. St. Ignatius asks us to discern both the positive and negative to help us make good decisions.

Worship

We Remember

A Communion Service will be held on Monday at Saints Peter and Paul this week.

Mass will be said Tuesday and Wednesday at Saints Peter and Paul

Tuesday	2-19	7am	Irene Koschak (A) by Berrini Family Josephine Mindzek by Family
Wednesday	2-20	7am	Edward Stachowski (A) by Sharon & Robert Fehlinger Mary Loomis by Husband

Masses at Saint Benedict the Rest of the Week

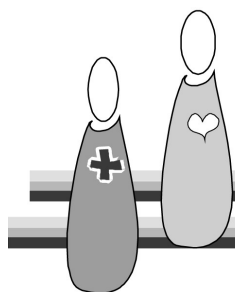
Thursday	2-21	8am	Victoria Gudaitis by Gavin Family Jeanette Dominic by Richard Loomis
Friday	2-22	8am	Gerald Barkovitz by Jeanne Gross Edward Ciprich by Patty Ciprich

Weekend Mass Schedule Saints Peter & Paul

Saturday	2-23	4pm	Lucy Mattiucci by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Pascucci
Sunday	2-24	7:30am 10am	Robert Brozowski by Yakalavich Family Peter & Victoria Jastremski by Daughters

Weekend Mass Schedule Saint Benedict

Saturday	2-23	5:30pm	Mark McGivney by Betsy McGivney
Sunday	2-24	11:30am	Living and Deceased Parishioners



*Blessed are those
who hope in God*

Saints Peter and Paul Parish

Sanctuary Candle

Janet & Primo Sorbelli

Lady of Lourdes

Janet & Primo Sorbelli

Saint Benedict Parish

Sanctuary Candle

Paul Binker

Holy Family Votive

Janet & Primo Sorbelli

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 **February** will be collecting **Pasta**.

Saints Peter and Paul Food Pantry

Anyone in the Plains, Miners Mills and Parsons 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.

Pierogi Making Next Saturday, February 23 for the upcoming Lenten Season. Please plan to attend, many hands make light work. All are needed (including men and children). We will start at 9am, lunch will be provided for all who come.

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

St. Joseph Table is a centuries old Sicilian tradition celebrated on March 19, the feast of St. Joseph. Sicilians have a special devotion to St. Joseph, Mary's husband, Jesus' foster father, provider and protector of the Holy Family, Patron of Carpenters and Workers, and model and patron of every human family and of the Universal Church. According to tradition, a long and devastating drought during the Middle Ages in Sicily caused a severe famine. In their starvation and suffering, they offered novenas of prayers to Saint Joseph asking for rain. They were rewarded with abundant rain and a rich harvest. Following the harvest, landlords and farmers prepared a solemn feast in honor of Saint Joseph. Besides the religious celebration in every town and village, families prepared a gigantic altar-table filled with every kind of food, fancy pastry, flowers and decorations. Standing in the center of the Table was the statue of St. Joseph. The guest of honor at the dinner were the poor and needy people of the town. This was the organizers' way to share their blessing, and to honor and thank St. Joseph.

St. Joseph Church traditionally held the Saint Joseph table which consisted of home made soups, bread and salad. We continue their tradition here at Saints Peter and Paul and invite all parishioners to get involved. We ask anyone wishing to make a pot of soup to fill out the form below and return it to the Parish Office as soon as possible or to simply call Diana or Maryann with your selection. The soups can be brought to the center on March 19 during Office Hours (bring in crockpot if possible). The dinner will begin at 5pm and all are invited to attend. A free will donation will be taken and donated to the Food Pantry as our way of sharing our blessings with those less fortunate. Please plan to attend or help out with this Lenten project. Thank you in advance for all who participate.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Type of Soup _____

February/March Activities

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
17 Donut orders being taken at Mass	18 Office Closed in Observance of President's Day	19 Quilting 9am Chess Club 6:30pm	20	21 Quilting 9am Women Society 6:30pm	22 Treasures 9am	23 Pierogi Making 9am Donut orders being taken at Mass
24 Donut orders being taken at Mass	25 Quilting 5pm Treasures 6pm Rosary 6:30pm Faith Sharing 7pm	26 Quilting 9am Chess Club 6:30pm	27	28 Quilting 9am Finance 6:30pm	1	2 Donut pick-up Bake Sale at St. Benedict's Lottery will be sold
3 Donut pick-up Bake Sale at St. Benedict's Lottery will be sold	4 Quilting 5pm Prayer Shawl 5pm Treasures 6pm Rosary 6:30pm Council of Catholic Women 6:30pm Faith Sharing 7pm	5 Quilting 9am Chess Club 6:30pm	6	7	8 Lent to Go—Pizza	9 Lottery will be sold
10 Lottery will be sold	11 Quilting 5pm Treasures 6pm Rosary 6:30pm Faith Sharing 7pm	12 Quilting 9am Chess Club 6:30pm	13	14 Quilting 9am Food Prep 9am Pastoral Council 6:30pm	15 Food Pantry 9am	16 Lottery will be sold

Saints Peter & Paul Spring Lottery Tickets

Awards will begin April 1st thru June 30th

Prizes are \$25 Monday through Sat. \$100 on Sun.

\$300 April 21 - Easter

May 30 - Ascension of the Lord

June 9 - Pentecost Sunday

Cost \$10. Help us sell the tickets and have a chance to win \$50 (25) or \$10 (10) If you wish to have a specific number, please call the office. Tickets will be sold in Church starting March 2/3.

Winners match the PA Lottery Pick 3 Evening Drawing

Parish Cemeteries

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

For information contact the Parish Office.

Council of Catholic Women will hold their annual Bake Sale on March 2/3 at the Masses. Get your fill of home-baked goodies before Lent.

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

< KID'S > KORNER

Gospel Today

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time | Luke 6:17, 20-26

In the Sermon on the Plain, Jesus tells His listeners, all who are mistreated on earth for believing in Him will find reward in Heaven. But woe to you who mistreat others.

Year C

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Jesus wants us to love others the way He loves us.



The Council of Catholic Women will be visiting the nursing homes for Easter. If you have a relative residing in one, please call Barbara at 570-823-1491 or put their name, the name and phone number of the nursing home in an envelope and place in collection basket.

Every donation counts !!!
If you have not yet pledged,
please....

Help us reach our Annual Appeal Parish
Goal!

**Saints Peter and Paul is at
44%**

We are grateful to the 205 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

Every donation counts !!!
If you have not yet pledged,
please....

Help us reach our Annual Appeal Parish
Goal!

**Saint Benedict is at
38%**

We are grateful to the 83 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

Memorial Donation The following donations/memorials have recently been given to our parishes

Saints Peter and Paul Food Pantry

\$100 Robert & Denise Gaiteri
\$50 Joseph & Deborah Bronack Jr.
\$50 Ann Yevich In Memory of John C. Rajchel
\$50 Kathleen & Larry Churnetski In Memory of Harold Golomb
\$25 Bernard Antosh In Memory of Dorothy Mazur
\$20 Betty Jean Hession In Memory of Viola Rubbico
\$10 Mary Ann Iskra In Memory of Dorothy Mazur

We thank all who have made memorial and free-will donations. May God bless you for your generosity. We will keep your intentions and loved ones in our prayers.

The Women Society invites all women of both parishes, as well as their friends and family members to a Lenten Retreat on Saturday, March 30th from 9am to 3pm in the Parish Center. Deacon Bill Behm, Parish Life Coordinator of St. Andrew's Church, Wilkes-Barre and his wife, Jean will be the moderators. Cost is \$25 per person. Coffee and pastries will be served upon arrival and lunch will be provided. To register call Irene Martin at 570-825-4464 before March 23rd.

Community Happenings

St. Andre Bessette Parish in Wilkes-Barre will sponsor a Night at the Races on Saturday, March 2, 2019 at the St. Mary's Byzantine Social Hall, 522 Madison St., W-B. Doors open at 6pm and races begin at 7pm. Admission price is \$5. Food and beverages will be served. Must be twenty one years of age to attend. To purchase horses, admission tickets or for additional information call the Parish Office at 570-823-4988. Tickets will be available beginning Feb. 2.

St. Nicholas Church in Wilkes-Barre is hosting their 54th Annual "German Nite" on Saturday, March 2nd. Doors open at 6pm. Food served from 6:15-7:15pm and includes beer and soft drinks. Music by "Schutzengiggles" from 7:30-10:30pm. \$30 per person, advance tickets only. For tickets call the church at 570-823-7736.

St. Andre Bessette Parish in Wilkes-Barre will sponsor a Fish Dinner on Ash Wednesday, March 6 at Father Zolcinski Hall, 668 North Main Street. Dinners will be served from 4-6pm including takeouts. Cost is \$10 Tickets must be purchased in advance at 570-823-4988.

Saint Maria Goretti will hold it's Homemade Pasta and Sausage Dinner on Sunday, March 10, noon to 5pm with take-out until 4pm. Includes salad, beverage, dessert, bread and butter. Children 5 and under eat in for free. Donation are \$12.

The Holy Name Society of St. Ignatius Loyola Parish will sponsor its Annual Night at the Races on Saturday, March 30th in Colan Hall. Doors open at 6pm. Admission is free and seating is first come-first serve basis. Food and refreshments are ALL included. Horses will be able to be purchased before and during the event. This is an adult only event. In anyone wishes to sponsor a race (\$25) or donate prizes, or bake treats, please call Tom Havrilak at 570-287-7768.



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