



SS. Peter and Paul Parish

A Roman Catholic Faith Community

Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 15, 2015

*God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world,
but that the world might be saved through him.*

John 3:17

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; o
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

As members of SS. 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.

Office

13 Hudson Road
Plains, Pa 18705
(570)825-6663
(570)823-4556 fax

www.sspeterandpaulplains.com

Office Hours

Monday 8am – 6pm
Tuesday and Thursday noon – 6pm
Wednesday 8am – noon
Friday and Saturday by appointment

Mass Schedule

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

Confessions

Daily 6:30am
Saturday 3:15pm
And by appointment

Parish Center

(570)822-8761

Working Together to Build the Kingdom of God



March 16 through March 22
Edward & Elizabeth Glazewski
 by Stan & Elizabeth Miskiewicz & Family
 Tues. 7am **Michael McGrady**
 by John & Beverly Mattei
 Wed. 6pm **Ronald Rygielski**
 by Joe & Hermine DeAngel
 Thurs. 7am **Catherine Darling**
 by Clark, Watkins & John Kuposick
 Fri. 7am **Mary Stuppino** by Tim Ansilio
 6:30pm **Stations of the Cross**
 Sat. 4pm **Timothy Wheeler**
 by Mary Ann & Bill Wheeler
 Sun. 8am John Glazewski by Greg Miskiewicz
 11am **Parishioners**
In case of inclement weather conditions,
 If Wilkes-Barre Area is cancelled,
 there will no morning Mass;
 if there is a delay, Mass will be at 12:10pm

Message of the Week *John 3:14-21*
"Whoever lives the truth comes to the light."
 Think about the sun for a moment. The light from this gigantic celestial orb provides so many things for us. Most obviously, it provides brightness by which we see, by which we work, play, and navigate the world around us. It also provides the warmth necessary for our comfort and our survival. The sun sustains plant life, which in turn sustains our lives as well. It helps us mark the passing of time, the change of seasons, and the rhythm of every day. The sun is a tremendous gift from God, and our lives—just like our planet—quite literally revolve around it. When Jesus uses the image of light in today's Gospel, it may help us to understand him if we think of the sun. Just as this magnificent star nourishes our physical existence, so too Jesus nourishes our spiritual existence. He gives us the "brightness" to see the right choices in front of us through his teaching and his example. He warms our hearts through his mercy and forgiveness, changing our coldhearted sinfulness into burning charity. He sustains our spiritual lives by offering us the gift of salvation. And he helps us mark the passing of time as we grow ever closer to him, entering more and more deeply into the knowledge and love of our Lord

In Memory of
The Sanctuary Lamp
Sara & Patrick Delasandro

Votive by the Blessed Virgin Mary
Sara & Patrick Delasandro

March 8, 2015

Contribution	\$8,899
Care and Education of Priest	\$196
Charity	\$231
Easter	\$271
Dues	\$1,211
Flowers	\$95
Initial Offering	\$50
Lenten	\$1,135
Maintenance	\$60
Novena	\$41
Utilities/Fuel/Heat	\$1,866
Ash Wednesday	\$54
Good Friday	\$11
Holy Day	\$7

Questions of the Week ?

John 3:14-21:
 How do you think Nicodemus reacted to Jesus' dialogue with him?
2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23:
 Where do you see God present today in world events?
Ephesians 2:4-10:
 What does the image of us as God's "handiwork" mean to you?

Pastor Rev. John Boyle	Pastor Emeritus Rev. Joseph Greskiewicz
Religious Education Sande Holena	Music Christine Katsock
Eucharistic Minister/Lectors David Loiacono	Ushers Paul Muczynski
Youth Group Maryann and Michael Quinn	Altar Servers Gloria Flynn
Food Pantry Pauline Makowski	Security Shiloh & Kolbe Inc.
Buildings/Maintenance/Properties Michael Levandowski	

Justice Notes

For we are His handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them.
---Ephesians 2:10

There is a monumental but in Paul's letter to the Ephesians. He wants those who listen to his message to realize that it is God's great love that brings us to life with Christ---created in Christ Jesus---BUT we also have an active role in our salvation. Paul writes, For we are his handiwork . . .---where handiwork translates *poiema*, from which we get our word poem (literally, a thing made [beautifully])---. . .for the good works that God has prepared in advance that we should live [literally, walk] in them. Walk is a frequent Hebrew expression for referring to ones way of living the covenant life. Good works are like shoes prepared by God for us to wear and enable us to walk and live.

This gives us the opportunity to explore what the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) consider the two feet of love in action: charity and justice. In charity, we satisfy the immediate needs of those we encounter. In justice we ask: Why are people hungry, thirsty, naked, and homeless? For example, SS Peter & Paul Food Panty is a foot of charity while our Pro-Life Effort is a foot of justice. We have a duty both to pursue our own good works and empower others to do the same. How do we empower ourselves and others, poor and rich, to do those good works?

First, we turn to prayer.

Pray for those who are hungry

pray harder for those who will not feed them

Pray for those who struggle each week to pay their bills

pray harder for those who do not care

Pray for those who cry out for dignity

pray harder for those who do not listen

Pray for those who are homeless

pray harder for those who deny them shelter

Pray for those oppressed by unjust wages

pray harder for those who exploit them

Pray for us as we seek God's justice in our community

pray harder for our own transfiguration, that we may become the change we seek in the world.

JOHN 3:16: For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but have eternal life.

Reflection:

God doesn't just love the good people of the world, or the chosen over the rest. Jesus life, death and resurrection is for all the world. So, because of God's love revealed in Christ we cannot look upon anyone as unlovable, for they have been embraced by Christ's outstretched arms on the cross. Even those who openly reject him, or are preoccupied by the things of this world, are still loved by God.

So we ask ourselves:

Can I imagine that the person I dislike intensely, even hate, is now and always loved by God?

Does that make any difference in my attitude and behavior towards them?

Every Monday evening during Lent, each parish throughout the Diocese of Scranton will have their "lights on" from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. for confession so that Catholics can come to or return to this incredible source of God's grace, mercy and healing

Thank you

I want to express my thanks and appreciation to the Leonard Stanski Family for organizing and making our Annual Lenten Buffet a successful endeavor. The food was delicious, plentiful, homemade and enjoyed by all who supported this Lenten activity. May God Bless you for your willingness to work for the benefit of SS Peter and Paul Parish. The profit realized is \$1,343.

Increased Offertory Program

Thank you to all parishioners who have completed and submitted your Commitment Card to the church. As a reminder, all commitments need to be submitted no later than March 22 in order to be accounted for in the final Summary Report. Please complete and submit you card to the church even if you are unable to make a change to your current level of giving. For those registered parishioners not currently supporting the church with regular offertory gifts, please consider a monthly gift to support the needs of our parish.

Parish Activities

March 15 through March 22

Sun.	Religious Education Classes	
	Class 9:30am – 10:30am	
	Confirmation 2015 Class	Noon
Mon.	Quilting	5pm
	Confession	5:30pm – 7pm
	Prayer Shawl	6:00pm
	Rosary	6:30pm
	Women's Meeting	7pm
	Lenten Spiritual Experience	7pm
Tues.	Quilting	9am
	Liturgy Meeting	6:30pm
Wed	Confirmation 2015 Class	6pm
Thur.	Quilting	9am
	Food Pantry Prep	
	St. Joseph Table	5pm
	Men's Meeting	6:30pm
Fri.	Food Pantry	9:00am
	Stations of the Cross	6:30pm
Sat.	Communion Workshop	9am
	Pick-up for Car Wash Certificates this weekend – School Library	
Sun.	Religious Education Classes	

Memorial Donations

The following donations and memorials have recently been given to our Parish:

SS. Peter and Paul Food Pantry

\$25 Joseph & Deborah Bronack

\$25 Elizabeth Segeda

\$30 Anonymous

\$50 Doris & Edward Cyran

\$50 Sandra & Rebecca Harowicz

\$75 Karl & Kim Milcavage

\$175 Stephen Molitoris

In Memory of Alvida Eustice

\$25 Elizabeth & Rosemary Parise

\$100 Wesley & Liz Eustice

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

Spring Trip to New York City, sponsor by the Women's Society will take place on April 15th. They will visit the 9/11 Memorial and Museum with time for themselves following. The cost is \$65 (meals not included) for further information contact Joan Pisack at 570-822-3815. **Only 2 seats left!!!**

Diocesan Annual Appeal Update

Our Parish Goal is \$74,000. Amount pledged as of Feb. 9, 2015 is \$62,697. We are under our goal by \$11,303. 421 Parishioner have contributed to the Diocesan Annual Appeal. Anyone wishing to contribute Appeal can call the Diocesan

Carmelite Kitchen Order Forms for Easter are available in the Parish Office. Place an order for delicious goodies from the Carmelite Sisters (let them know Fr. Boyle will pick up). Mail payment to the sister and Father Boyle will pick up the orders and bring them to the parish office for your convenience. All orders need to be made by March 16. Pickup for goodies will be Thursday March 26 after 2pm. When placing an order please call the parish office to let Father know.

Our Easter Egg Hunt

Our Youth Group will be sponsoring our Annual Parish Easter Egg Hunt, held the **Sunday before Easter, March 29th** for our children, ages 1 thru 10 years of age. We will be putting together "Easter Grab Bags: again this year instead of baskets. We are gratefully accepting any of the following you can give us to help defray the cost of putting these "Grab Bags" together. We will be looking for small items that can fit in a lunch bag size grab bag, candy or monetary donations to purchase the items would be greatly appreciated. **We Do Not need baskets, straw or large plush.** The Youth Group is providing all the plastic eggs, candy and some prizes for the Egg Hunt. Last year we had over 80 children participate. Anyone wishing to help us out, can drop an envelope with a monetary donation in the collection basket at any of the Masses marked Easter Egg Hunt. If you wish to donate any candy or items for the "Grab Bags" you can either drop them off at the rectory during Office Hours or contact Michael or Maryann Quinn of the Youth Group at 570-821-6121. Your help in making our Egg Hunt a success, as always is most appreciated!

Parenting Pointers March 21 is Single Parent Day. Single parents do double duty. It's hard but it's not impossible. Your children will eventually appreciate your sacrifices. If you're not a single parent, find one and give them a break. *Susan Vogt*

Marriage Moments

“Thou shall not commit adultery” (Ex20:14)

Adultery does not start with sex. Unfaithfulness starts by demoting your spouse by making work, children, internet, hobbies, etc. a higher priority. What distracts your attention from your beloved?

Lottery Winners

3-1 #258 June Willis
3-2 #719 Emily Kolojechick
3-3 #631 Carol Simonson
3-4 #738 Michael Szymanski
3-5 #456 Margaret Wilk
3-6 #922 Ethan Kolessar
3-7 #688 David Loiacono
3-8 #915 Sandy Lee Boyle

Congratulations to all!!!!

9th Annual Regional Celebration of the Divine Mercy Sunday

will be held at St. Maria Goretti Parish, Laflin on Sunday, April 12. This year's theme will be focused on the role of St. Faustina as the vessel of the message of Divine Mercy, where Jesus poured out to us His love and mercy on the cross. In this year of Consecrated Life we honor St. Faustina on the fifteenth anniversary of her Canonization, and also pray for all those who dedicate their lives to Christ and His Holy Church. The itinerary includes, 1pm Sacrament of Reconciliation; (7 priests) 2pm Veneration of the Image followed by the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass; 3pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet of Divine Mercy in song, Holy Rosary, Benediction, individual blessing of the First Class Relic of St. Faustina.

A Secret

The secret of happiness is to count your blessings while others are adding up their troubles.

Anonymous

Ways to Evangelize During Lent External Sacrifice vs. Internal Conversion: I don't get it – All you do is give up candy?

Now, here is an interesting question. External sacrifices are the most obvious kind, so sometimes it does look like all we do is avoid chocolate. However, if you look closer, you'll realize that fasting and abstinence have always gone hand in

hand with two of their best friends: prayer and almsgiving. External sacrifice is a manifestation of interior conversion: "...interior conversion urges expression in visible signs, gestures and works of penance: (CCC no. 1430). Interior conversion is where prayer and almsgiving come into play. In almsgiving, we show mercy and generosity to others, giving them a chance to experience the blessings we have. In prayer, we are communicating with God, asking him to bless and perfect our fasting and almsgiving: "...prayer is the living relationship of the children of God with their Father who is good beyond measure, with his Son Jesus Christ and with the Holy Spirit" (CCC no. 2565). It's not just avoiding sweets. It's glorifying God by growing in his Love.

Slovak Heritage Society Events

Slavic Dinner at St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish on March 15th from 2-5pm. Adults \$14, children \$7.

Slovak Stations and Hymns in the Slovak Language held at Our Lady of Fatima Parish, (St. Mary's downtown) at 2pm on March 22.

2nd Annual Lenten Food Sale, sponsored by Exaltation of the Holy Cross Church, 420 Main Road Hanover Township, on Friday, March 20 from 2-7pm in the church hall. Eat in or take out Fish Dinner with a potato and either stewed tomatoes or coleslaw, pizza, homemade haluski, homemade potato pierogi, homemade clam chowder and homemade macaroni and cheese. There will be a bake sale held in conjunction with the fundraiser. For more information, please call (570)823-6242.

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