

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/>



Office Hours
Saturday and Sunday
by appointment

Saints Peter and Paul/Saint Benedict

Monday through Friday 8am-4pm
Office closed daily Noon—12:30pm

Parish of Saint Benedict

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



Father Jack Lambert—Pastor

Cell Phone: 570-656-2031
email:
pastor@sspeterandpaulplains.com

Deacon Don Crane

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

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

Stewardship

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

Sunday Stewards

Saints Peter and Paul Parish

1192 Families receive envelopes

Dec. 1 313 attended the 4pm Mass
202 Families used their envelopes and offered \$2,958

Dec. 2 126 attended the 7:30am Mass
165 Families used their envelopes and offered \$3,108
71 attended the 10am Mass
319 Families used their envelopes and offered \$1,170

Tithe from
686 Families was \$7,236
Care and Education \$1,534

Saint Benedict Parish

429 Families receive envelopes

Dec. 1 96 attended the 5:30pm Mass
86 Families used their envelopes and offered \$2,393

Dec. 2 94 attended the 11:30am Mass
84 Families used their envelopes and offered \$1,273

Tithe from
170 Families was \$3,666
Care and Education \$280

Thank you for your continued generous support!

SAINTS PETER AND PAUL LOTTERY

Nov. 26	#754	Dot Teresinski
Nov. 27	#880	Saints Peter and Paul
Nov. 28	#817	Candice Berrini
Nov. 29	#419	Louise Beyer
Nov. 30	#040	Dolores Gashi
Dec. 1	#933	Ann Vesek
Dec. 2	#118	Janice Weaver

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 **180** families in the amount of **\$30,027**

Is Advent supposed to be a joyful season?

Yes. It is a season of preparation for the coming of Jesus. It is a somewhat restrained time of year but still cheerful. It would be similar to preparing for a visit from a close friend or beloved family member. Lots of preparations need to be made, and our joy is not complete until the loved one arrives. But the preparation itself is also a happy time.

Since the Second Vatican Council, we have recalled the ancient meaning of Advent. Advent has a two-fold character. The first two Sundays focus on the coming of Christ at the end of time—the second coming. This emphasis flows naturally from the end-times theme of the last Sundays of the church year in November. The second half of the season focuses more on the incarnation of Christ as a child of Mary. Mary becomes a metaphor for us as church. Just as she received God-incarnate into herself, we are called to say “yes” to Christ’s presence within us.

The Light is On for You

*Father Jack will be available Monday Evenings
until December 17th
from 5:30—7pm in Saints Peter and Paul Church
for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
He will also be available
Saturday, December 22 from 1-3:30pm.*



Word

Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday

Bar 5:1-9; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

Monday

Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday

Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday

Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab;

Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Thursday

Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15

Friday

Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Saints Peter and Paul and Saint Benedict

First Reconciliation will be held on December 15 at Noon.
Class for Reconciliation will begin this week during Faith Formation.
Please keep these children and their families in your prayers

The Sunday Good News

Saint Benedict & Saints Peter & Paul

December 9, 2018

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



*Lord Jesus,
you have told us
to stay awake
and keep watch
for your coming.
Help us this Advent
to be alert
to the many ways
you enter our lives;
through prayer, through
Scripture and through
one another, especially
those in need. Strengthen
our hope in you
so that we
can persevere
in times of trouble
and frustration.
Give us
the trust we need
to wait patiently
when it seems
that you are delaying.
Fill us with your love
as we strive
to serve your people
for love of you.
Amen*

First Reading: Baruch 5:1-9

Baruch tells Jerusalem to rejoice because of God's plan to bring his exiled people back to Jerusalem. He emphasizes God's power and describes his plan to lower mountains and fill gorges to make their journey easier.

Second Reading: Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

Paul encourages the Philippians to love each other completely. He hopes that their love and understanding will continue to grow so that they are prepared for the return of Christ.

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

Luke describes the work John the Baptist carried out to help people prepare for the birth of Jesus. Luke also discusses who was in power at the time, which helped historians to figure out the exact dates of certain events, including Jesus' birth.

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly

Second Sunday of Advent December 9, 2018

"In every prayer I utter, I rejoice as I plead on your behalf at the way you all have continually helped promote the gospel from the very first day. I am sure of this much, that he who has begun the good work in you will carry it through to completion, right up to the day of Christ Jesus....My prayer is that your love may more and more abound...that you may learn to value the things that really matter up to the very day of Christ."

How many are busy writing greeting cards to relatives, friends and acquaintances? The thoughts expressed, speak of a deep, deep concern for the joy of Christ's presence to touch their lives. At times we might not think twice about the reason for sending a card.

Consider the reasons St. Paul referred to as he wrote the Philippians. He wrote about his prayer for this new Christian community. He offered encouragement for them to grow in their lives as disciples of the Lord. That prayer motivates us as we begin this second week of Advent. Advent reminds of the past coming, but directs us to today and tomorrow where the Lord is leading us. May we find a quiet moment to reflect upon Paul's wish for us today as we anticipate the coming of Christ with His grace and peace. May we seek out the Sacrament of Reconciliation as part of our advent.

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	12-11	8am	Mary Barbacci by Ann & Bernie King William Everett by Sal & Violet Infantino
Wednesday	12-12	8am	Edward Zuba by Chris & Erin Payer Rosemary McCarthy by Family
Thursday	12-13	8am	Francis Meehan by Emma Kelly David Hahula by Dave & Judy Weidner
Friday	12-14	8am	Bertha Emrick by Carol Karvaski & Family Josephine Loomis by Family

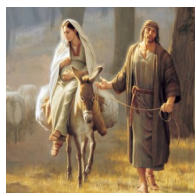
Weekend Mass Schedule Saints Peter & Paul

Saturday	12-15	4pm	Julia & Catherine Ozgo by Family
Sunday	12-16	7:30am 10am	Mary Ann Gross by Michael Nadzan Living and Deceased Parishioners

Weekend Mass Schedule Saint Benedict

Saturday	12-15	5:30pm	Jack & Teresa Keeley by Son
Sunday	12-16	11:30am	Nicholas & Kyle Joseph Kayden by Mom & Dad

Christmas Eve Mass



4pm

*Saints Peter and Paul
& Saint Benedict*

9pm Saints Peter and Paul

Christmas Day



10am

*Saints Peter and Paul
& Saint Benedict*

New Years Eve



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

***Solemnity of Mary
(New Years Day)***

*10am Saints Peter and Paul
& Saint Benedict*

Saints Peter and Paul Parish

Sanctuary Candle

Ceil & Ted Toloczko

Lady of Lourdes

John & Anna Pientka

Saint Benedict Parish

Sanctuary Candle

Rosemary McCarthy

Floral Arrangement

Peter and Paul Olszewski

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 **December** will be collecting **Canned Soups**.

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.



The Gifts from the Giving Tree are due back **next weekend**. The gifts will be distributed through our Food Pantry on December 21st. Anyone wishing to donate gloves, socks, scarves, hats etc... (for children infant to 12) may drop them off at the Parish Center.

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



Saints Peter and Paul Homemade Christmas Cookies Sale December 22nd

2pm—6pm in Bernardine Hall or while supplies last
\$10 a pound
Will have pre-packaged, decorated options

Ethnic Cookies Available

Kolachky, Biscotti, Pizzelles, Thumbprints,
Russian Tea Balls and more

Makes a great gift

If you are interested in baking (8-10doz needed) call the office. Containers are available at the Parish Office



Thank You ...to all who supported or helped at the Toyland Bingo held on November 25. The profit from the bingo was \$4,800.


In Appreciation

Christmas helps us to realize how blessed we are in many ways and to see people in our lives for whose presence we are filled with gratitude. Saints Peter and Paul and Saint Benedict are blessed to have many volunteers: people who share their time and talents for the good of the parish and for the building up of the Kingdom of God. They minister at liturgy, sing in the choir, work on fundraisers, serve on committees, belong to societies, minister at liturgy, visit the homebound, count the collection, decorate the church, teach Faith Formation and do various other things for the church. Our parish could not function without all of these people sharing their gifts. We are all most grateful to them for all that they do. Please pray for our volunteers and consider becoming one of them in 2019!!!!



To all Adults who volunteer and your spouse, you are invited to the Parishes Appreciation Dinner to be held on Friday, January 11 at Touch of Class. Cocktail hour will begin at 6pm and dinner at 7pm. Please call the Parish Office by January 4th to make reservations.

December/January Activities

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9 Available in Church Lottery, Pierogi & Christmas Wafer <i>Love at Christmas</i> 2pm	10 Quilting 5pm Light is On 5:30-7pm Treasures 6pm Rosary 6:30pm Faith Sharing 7pm	11 Quilting 9am Chess Club 6:30pm	12 Festival Choir 6:30pm	13 Quilting 9am	14 Treasures 9am	15 First Reconciliation at Noon Lottery & Christmas Wafer available Gifts for Giving Tree Due Back This Week
16 Lottery & Christmas Wafer available Gifts for Giving Tree Due Back This Week	17 Light is On 5:30-7pm Quilting 5pm Treasures 6pm Rosary 6:30pm Faith Sharing 7pm	18 Quilting 9am Chess Club 6:30pm	19 Festival Choir 6:30pm	20 Quilting 9am Food Prep Women's Meeting 6:30pm	21 Treasures 9am Food Pantry 9am	22 Light is on 1-3:30pm Cookie Sale
23	24 Christmas Eve <i>Offices Closed</i>	25 <i>Merry Christmas</i> <i>Office Closed</i> 	26 <i>Parish Office will open at 1:30pm</i>	27 Quilting 9am	28 Treasures 9am	29
30	31 <i>Offices Closed</i>	1 <i>Office Closed</i>	2	3 Quilting 9am	4 Treasures 9am	5

Oplatek (Christmas Wafer) will be available in both Saints Peter and Paul and Saint Benedict before all Masses next weekend or at the Parish Office during Office Hours.

A free will offering is accepted.

Saint Benedict Envelopes for 2019 are available in the church basement.

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

Saints Peter & Paul Winter Lottery Tickets

Awards will begin January 1st thru March 30th Prizes are \$25 Monday through Sat. \$100 on Sun.

\$300 January 1 - Solemnity of Mary

March 6 - Ash Wednesday

March 19 - Feast of St. Joseph

Cost \$10. Anyone selling 25 or more will be entered into the \$50 Sellers drawing and 10 or more into the \$10 Sellers drawing. If you wish to have a specific number, please call the office. Tickets will be sold in Church starting December 1 and December 2.

Winners match the PA Lottery Pick 3 Evening Drawing



Saints Peter & Paul

Women's Society is having a

"Holiday Luncheon" for all women from both Parishes on Saturday, January 5 at the Woodlands Inn from 1pm—4pm. Choose from Chicken Scampi, Stir Fry Over Browned Rice and Seafood Encrusted Fillet of Sole. Cost for each is \$27 or London Broil for \$28. Make reservations by calling Claire Koshinski at 570-826-0313 or Sandy Toloczko at 570-823-5918. Make checks payable to Saints Peter and Paul Church Women's Society. Deadline for reservation and payment is Dec. 21.



Remember... Keep Christ in Christmas!!!!!!

Every donation counts !!!

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

Help us reach our Annual Appeal Parish Goal!

Saints Peter and Paul is at

12.85%

We are grateful to the 151 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

11.32%

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

Health Tip.....

1 Million people are suffering from Shingles this year alone, with the number of diagnosed cases on the rise. Shingles is caused by the reactivated chickenpox virus resulting in a painful rash. Your risk increases as you age, so talk to your physician about a new vaccine on the market, Shingix. The CDC recommends adults 50 and over receive the shot. Please call with any questions that you may have.

Parish Nurse, Maggie Klem

*Wyoming Valley Barbershop Harmony Chorus
will present*

Love at Christmas

at Saints Peter and Paul Church

Today— December 9 at 2pm.

Santa is expected to pay a visit.

Tickets are \$5 at the door the day of the event.

Come, relax and get into the Christmas Spirit!!!!



Community Happenings

7th Annual Christmas Cookie Walk will be held on Saturday, December 15th from 10am—1pm. The event is sponsored by the youth ministry of Exaltation of the Holy Cross Parish, 420 Main Road, Buttonwood. Cookie containers may be purchased for \$9 and filled with the Christmas cookies of one's choice. Orders for platters must be placed by Dec. 8. Cookie platters will be available for \$35. For tickets, orders or for more information call 570-814-6444.



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