

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

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

Pastor

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

Deacon Don Crane
Permanent Deacon

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

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.

Sunday Stewards

Saints Peter and Paul Parish

1192 Families receive envelopes

Dec. 8 256 attended the 4pm Mass
191 Families used their envelopes and offered \$3,428

Dec. 9 159 attended the 7:30am Mass
114 Families used their envelopes and offered \$1,978
246 attended the 10am Mass
149 Families used their envelopes and offered \$3,104

Tithe from
454 Families was \$8,510
Retirement for Religious \$1,343

The Second Collection this weekend will be for
Bernardine Bucks
Next week's Collection will be for
Bernardine Bucks
Please be generous!!!

Saint Benedict Parish

429 Families receive envelopes

Dec. 8 85 attended the 5:30pm Mass
77 Families used their envelopes and offered \$1,331

Dec. 9 75 attended the 11:30am Mass
98 Families used their envelopes and offered \$3,335

Tithe from
175 Families was \$ 4,666
Retirement for Religious \$342

Thank you for your continued generous Support !

SAINTS PETER AND PAUL LOTTERY

Dec. 3	#528	Saints Peter and Paul
Dec. 4	#167	Saints Peter and Paul
Dec. 5	#224	Michael Szymanski
Dec. 6	#452	Marty Flaherty
Dec. 7	#944	Rosey Schloop
Dec. 8	#659	Steve Klug
Dec. 9	#090	Ann Jones

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**

Should the candle on the Third Sunday of Advent be pink?

Pink or rose may be used as an official color twice in the liturgical year: the fourth Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday) and the third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday). The use of rose probably originated with the Lenten Sunday in what used to be seen as a small moment of joy in an otherwise somber season. As Advent historically took on more of the penitential aspects of Lent in popular piety, it also took on its “Sunday of Joy”. *Gaudete* means “rejoice” and is the first word of the entrance antiphon for the day. Again, this official color designation applies only to the vestment the priest wears.

Advent was never meant to be a penitential season, and the reforms of the Second Vatican Council have helped us recall that. Using a rose candle on the Advent wreath in the midst of three violet or blue ones subtly gives the message that we might need a “Sunday of Joy” in what is already supposed to be joyful season.

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

Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday

Zep 3:14-18a; Phil 4:4-7;
Lk 3:10-18

Monday

Gn 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17

Tuesday

Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25

Wednesday

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25

Thursday

Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38

Friday

Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a;
Lk 1:39-45

Saturday

1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56

Saints Peter and Paul and Saint Benedict

Christmas Pageant Practice will be held on December 17 and December 19 from 6-7pm.
Costumes will be distributed during December 19th practice.

The Sunday Good News

Saint Benedict & Saints Peter & Paul

December 16, 2018



*Lord of Heaven
and earth,
you have come
to lead your people
out of darkness
into the
light of the divine love.
Send your Holy Spirit
into our hearts
so that
we may see clearly
our need for a savior.
Help us
to discover
your presence
in our world,
especially in
the needy ones
in our families
and neighborhoods.
In the midst
of all our preoccupations,
give us gratitude
for our blessings.
May we become
evermore certain
that our true joy
can be found
in you alone.
Amen*

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18a

Zephaniah urges the people of Jerusalem to rejoice because the Lord is in their midst. He conveys the message that God will love and protect those who have remained faithful to him.

Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-7

Paul encourages the Philippians to be ready for Christ. He tells them not to worry about their concerns, but to instead ask God's help and allow his peace to fill their hearts and minds.

Gospel: Luke 3:10-18

John the Baptist answers people who ask him what they should do, leading some to believe he was the Messiah. John clearly states that he will be followed by one so powerful that "I am not fit to loosen his sandal strap."

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

Third Sunday of Advent December 16, 2018

"Everyone should see how unselfish you are. The Lord Himself is near. Dismiss all anxiety from your minds. Present your needs to God in every form of prayer and in petitions full of gratitude. Then God's own peace which is beyond understanding will stand guard over your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."... "The crowds asked John 'What are we to do?'... the people were full of anticipation..."

At the midway point of Advent, we too can ask the question the crowds put to John the Baptist. We might preface it with another question: 'What have we done thus far?' What is the Lord asking of me during the next ten days? St. Paul is quite clear telling his audience to focus on the Lord, offering prayer, petitions and expressions of gratitude.

Do not fall into the trap of routine or busyness, without a moment each day of prayer that God's peace may reign in your heart. Our novena of preparation can consist simply by turning to the Word of God, reflecting on the mystery of Jesus' coming, and how we want Him to find us when we celebrate His birth. Then God's own peace will be really with us.

Worship

We Remember

A Communion Service will be held at Saint Benedict at 8am Tuesday—Friday

Masses at Saints Peter and Paul this week

Monday	12-17	7am	Communion Service
Tuesday	12-18	7am	Edward & Elizabeth Glazewski by Family William Stuchkus by Betty Ann Parri
Wednesday	12-19	7am	Florence Mattis by Son Georgiana Bart by Brian Benedetti
Thursday	12-20	7am	Ed & Isabelle Neishell by Grandchildren Irene Koschak by Joann S.
Friday	12-21	7am	Louis & Irene Pellegrini by Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Pellegrini James Long by Kelly & Tom Thumstrom

Weekend Mass Schedule Saints Peter & Paul

Saturday	12-22	4pm	Drew Family by Mary Drew
Sunday	12-23	7:30am 10am	Fred Frederiksen by Mr. & Mrs. Brian Boyle & Family Living and Deceased Members

Weekend Mass Schedule Saint Benedict

Saturday	12-22	5:30pm	Eric J. Speicher, Jr. by Harold & Anne Cawley
Sunday	12-23	11:30am	Anthony Rogish by Children

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

Paul Binker

Saint Benedict Parish

Sanctuary Candle

Special Intention

Holy Family Votive

Paul Binker

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.

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.

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 distribute the Wreaths, sponsored by the Council of Catholic Women of Saint Benedict. The profit was \$622.50

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
16 Lottery & Christmas Wafer available Gifts for Giving Tree Due Back This Week Blanket Party 1pm	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 Merry Christmas Office Closed 	26 Parish Office will open at 1:30pm	27 Quilting 9am	28 Treasures 9am	29
30	31 Parish Center will close at 2pm. No evening activities.	1 Happy New Year Office Closed 	2	3 Quilting 9am	4 Treasures 9am	5
6	7 Quilting 5pm Treasures 6pm Rosary 6:30pm Faith Sharing 7pm	8 Quilting 9am Chess Club 6:30pm	9	10 Quilting 9am	11 Treasures 9am	12

Saints Peter & Paul Women's Society is having a "Holiday Luncheon" for all women from both Parishes on Sat. Jan 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. Call Claire Koshinski at 570-826-0313 or Sandy Toloczko at 570-823-5918 to make reservations. Checks payable to Saints Peter and Paul Church Women's Society. Deadline for payment is Dec. 21.

Saint Benedict Envelopes for 2019 are available in the church basement. Anyone who has not donated or contributed dues 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.

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

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

Saints Peter and Paul Food Pantry

\$500	Plains Lions Club	\$226	Anonymous
\$100	Mariann & Joseph McGroarty	\$50	Dennis & Moly Bieryla
\$25	Geri Matzel Langdon	\$25	Joseph & Deborah Bronack
\$25	Stephen & Denise Parashac	\$15	Beatrice Thomas

In Memory of Mary Barbacci

\$30 Delia Torregiani & Eilyn Ragantesi

\$25 Mr. & Mrs. Bob Corcoran

\$10 Joann Melman

\$25 In Memory of Anna Goncherowski by Jennifer & John Walsh

\$25 In Memory of Jack Andrejewski by Ethel & Daniel Dunn

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.

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

Are you an Organized Person ? We 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
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' in support of Plains Food Pantries Spaghetti Diner April 30,

Night at the Races—Saturday, May 18

Summer Lottery—Sat. June 1—June 30

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

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