Parish of Saints Peter and Paul

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

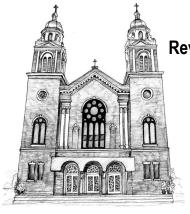
Parish email: parishoffice@sspeterandpaulplains.com

Parish Web: <u>www.sspeterandpaulplains.com</u>

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

Parish of Saint Benedict

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



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

ConfessionBy appointment anytime

Saints Peter and Paul Daily 6:30am-6:45am

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

Due to an early submission of this week's bulletin

Contributions will be listed next week

The Second Collection this weekend will be for

Bernardine Bucks

Next week's Collection will be for

Bernardine Bucks

Please be generous!!!



SAINTS PETER AND PAUL LOTTERY

Dec. 17 #534 Mary Jo Albertila
Dec. 18 #919 Mary Drew
Dec. 19 #318 Marion Koneski
Dec. 20 #804 Kevin O'Connor
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

Blessed are the Poor in Spirit

Repeatedly, we who consider ourselves disciples of Jesus, are called to examine our lives. What motivates us? What shapes our sense of right and wrong? How are we progressing on this path that we call faith? Where do we find our deepest joy? What causes us anxiety and how are we learning to trust more deeply? Are we committed to building the kingdom of God, or as Matthew calls it, the kingdom of heaven? The words of Paul come to mind when I think of the radical nature of God's kingdom. He reminds us, "Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect." (Romans 12:2) The danger is falling into the trap of confusing our cultural values with the values of God's kingdom.

The beatitudes are surely a touchstone for the kind of transformation and renewal that Paul encouraged. They help us to discern where we are in touch with God's kingdom and where we may have lost touch. They challenge us to see and think and act as God does. They illustrate that for the follower of Christ, the cultural messages about the drive for success and power and vindication are in themselves meaningless. The kingdom of God turns on its head the values of other kingdoms.

The first of the Beatitudes is stated in Matthew 5:3 as "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" and in Luke 6:20 as "Blessed are you who are poor, for the kingdom of God is yours." We might be tempted to draw a distinction between the poor and poor in spirit, assuming that one refers to financial poverty and one to spiritual poverty. However, that just might be a false distinction.

In his ministry Jesus embodied the anointed one described in Isaiah 61:1 the one who brings good news to the oppressed, healing to the brokenhearted and liberty to captives. In reality, oppression and captivity and desolation are all forms of poverty, as is the inability to sustain one's life. Why else would Jesus defend the widows and orphans as in Mark 12:38-40?

Material poverty is not praised or idealized in the Bible nor is it seen as a spiritual virtue. We would be misguided if that was our conclusion after reading and pondering the first beatitude. The poor are not "blessed" because they are poor. In fact, throughout both the Old and New Testament God's people are charged to care for the poor, to help alleviate the kind of poverty that is crushing.

The prophets of Israel chastised their leaders for neglecting and even abusing the poor, noting for example, that Israel's elders and princes decorated their homes with "loot wrested from the poor" (Isaiah 3:14), and charging them with criminal acts when they enslaved the poor as payment for debts (Amos 2:6). No, poverty in itself is not a virtue. The virtue lies in one's ability to understand the need for God's overwhelming love and generosity. It's about discovering within ourselves a poverty that allows us to receive what God offers so generously, described in this beatitude as "the kingdom of heaven." The receiving of God's blessing is not just for our benefit but it equips us to do the work of the kingdom— to show compassion, to extend peace, to fight for justice and to proclaim that what God offers far outweighs anything we might earn by our own ability.

Word

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sunday

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17; Lk 2:41-52 or, for Year C,

1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

Monday

1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18

Tuesday

Nm 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Wednesday

1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28

Thursday

1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Jn 1:29-34

First Friday

1 Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42

First Saturday

1 Jn 3:11-21; Jn 1:43-51

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

December 30, 2018





O Lord God, in exultation our hearts go out to you and your revelation in heaven, your revelation of the Spírít, who can fill our hearts so that we remain steadfast throughout our earthly life. It is still dark on earth. Sin and death hold sway, but we stand unafraid and seek repentance. In spite of all our failures we look to you and know you are our Savior. You send us Jesus Christ in your own glory. The world will be filled with light. Everywhere on earth, even among those who do not know you, the sincere-hearted will come to acknowledge that you, the Father of Jesus Christ and our Father, are God over all the world. You will show your glory to all people so that they may come to you, worship you, and walk in the light, to the everlasting glory of your name. Amen

First Reading: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

Sirach emphasizes the importance of honoring one's parents. He explains that spiritual riches will come to those who are kind to their mother and father.

Second Reading: Colossians 3:12-21

Paul advises us to treat each other with kindness and mercy and to forgive as God forgives us. His words remind families to always love and respect one another and let Christ's peace reign in their hearts and in their homes.

Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

When Jesus was twelve years old, the Holy Family traveled to Jerusalem to celebrate the feast. Jesus did not return with the company. Instead, he stayed in Jerusalem, sitting among the teachers while amazing them with his understanding and questions. When found by his concerned parents, Jesus reminded them that he must be in the house of his Father. Returning together, Mary kept these things in her heart.

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

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph December 30, 2018

"Because you are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with heartfelt mercy, with kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another; forgive whatever grievances you have against one another. Forgive as the Lord has forgiven you. Over all these virtues put on love, which binds the rest together and makes them perfect... Joseph went to the region in Galilee. There he settled in a town called Nazareth."

We are still admiring the many gifts of Christmas. The packages have been opened and their contents displayed. There are gifts you still have to be shared with others. You did not deliver them yet. They are the virtues enumerated by St. Paul in his letter. Surely there is someone waiting to receive your gift of patience, humility and kindness. It is not too late to make sure they receive it. The gift of love is the gift wrap, bow or ribbon to bring everything together.

Can't you see the Holy Family, settling down after their journey from Bethlehem to Egypt, happy to take a few minutes to relax and be glad that they have a home. As this special family began to accustom themselves to a new experience, they surely must have been glad the infant Son was with them. As we settle, as we approach a new year, may we find the same Lord as the center of our attention with our family in our home.

Worship

			We Remember							
			Solemnity of Mary							
Saints Peter and Paul – Vigil										
Monday	12-31	4pm	Raymond Butch Deiter by Veronica Valentukonis							
			Saint Benedict—Vigil							
	12-31	5:30pm	Charles, Edward Rinaldi by Mr. & Mrs, Charles J. Rinaldi							
			Saints Peter and Paul Only							
Tuesday	1-1	10am	Grace & Michael Mack by Cathy Mack							
	A	Communion	Service will be held at Saint Benedict at 8am Wednesday & Friday							
		N	Masses at Saints Peter and Paul this week							
Wednesday	1-2	7am	Communion Service							
Thursday	1-3	7am	Catherine Neishell by Mr. & Mrs. John Baranski							
			Joan E. Snarski by Tony & Karen Menendez							
Friday	1-4	7am	Edward Augustine by Wife							
			Hrobiski & Hoffman Families by Family							
			Weekend Mass Schedule Saints Peter & Paul							
Saturday	1-5	4pm	Irene Koschak by Dombroski Family							
Sunday	1-6	7:30am	Jack & Teresa Keeley by Jack Keeley Jr.							
		10am	Joseph Klepadlo (A) by Family							
			Weekend Mass Schedule Saint Benedict							
Saturday	1-5	5:30pm	Living and Deceased Parishioners							
Sunday	1-6	11:30am	Mr. & Mrs. Tito Lisi & Angelo by Family							

Saints Peter and Paul Parish
Sanctuary Candle

Paul Hession

Saint Benedict Parish
Sanctuary Candle
Special Intention

Lady of Lourdes

Joseph Canterini

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.

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, 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. Music will be provided by The Third Degree

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 Zirnhelt, Council of Catholic Women
Kathy Grinaway, Hospitality
Donna Mansfield, Hospitality

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.

December/January Activities

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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 Women's Holiday Luncheon 1pm
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	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	Quilting 9am Food Pantry Prep Women's Society Meeting 6:30pm	18 Treasures 9am Food Pantry 9am	19
20	Prayer Shawl 5pm Quilting 5pm Treasures 6pm Rosary 6:30pm Faith Sharing 7pm	Quilting 9am Chess Club 6:30pm	23	24 Quilting 9am Finance 6:30pm	25 Treasures 9am	26

Happy New Year!!!!!!!

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 Yencha 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!!!!

A Special Thank You

to all who participated in the many
Works of Mercy this past Advent Season.

Gift giving Tree, Food for the Poor, Saint Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen,
Making of Blankets

May God Bless You and Your Families this Christmas Season!!!!!

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