

## MASS SCHEDULE

### Saturday:

4:00pm - Saints Peter & Paul

5:30pm - Saint Dominic

### Sunday:

8:00am - Saints Peter & Paul

10:30am - Saints Peter & Paul

### Eucharistic Adoration:

(at Saints Peter & Paul)

First Friday of every month Noon - 3:30pm

### Confession:

Saturday 3:00pm - 3:30pm



## CONTACT US

13 Hudson Road  
Plains, PA 18705-2015

Phone: 570-825-6663

Fax: 570-823-4556

Email: [parishoffice@sspeterandpaulplains.com](mailto:parishoffice@sspeterandpaulplains.com)

[www.sspeterandpaulplains.com](http://www.sspeterandpaulplains.com)

### Office Hours:

Monday: 8am - 4pm

Tuesday: 8am - 4pm

Wednesday: 8am - 2pm

Thursday: 8am - 4pm

Friday: 8am - Noon

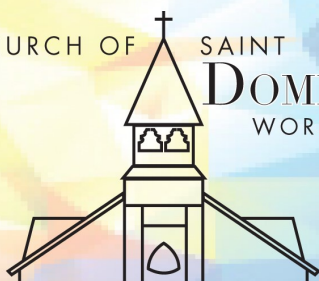
*\*Closed daily Noon - 12:30pm\**

Reverend John C. Lambert M.S.W.  
*Pastor*

Email: [pastor@sspeterandpaulplains.com](mailto:pastor@sspeterandpaulplains.com)

Deacon Don Crane  
*Permanent Deacon*

CHURCH OF SAINT  
**DOMINIC**  
WORSHIP SITE



155 Austin Ave.,  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18705-2603



13 Hudson Road,  
Plains, PA 18705-2015



Like us on Facebook!  
[Facebook.com/sspeterandpaulplains](https://www.facebook.com/sspeterandpaulplains)



Overflow will be in  
Bernardine Hall.

## **Christmas Mass Schedule**

We have four days to  
celebrate Christmas.

Please do not feel as  
though you need to come  
to 4PM or 10PM.

There are many options,  
every liturgy will  
be exactly the same.

### **Christmas Eve**

**Saints Peter & Paul**—4PM and 10PM

*(will be livestreamed via YouTube and Facebook)*

St Dominic—4PM with Father Ryan

### **Christmas Day**

**Saints Peter & Paul**—8AM and 10:30AM

### **Saturday, December 27th**

**Saints Peter & Paul**— 4PM

**St Dominic**—5:30PM

### **Sunday, December 28th**

**Saints Peter & Paul**— 8AM and 10:30AM

# STEWARDSHIP

## SUNDAY STEWARDS

Contributions for week ending

December 13, 2020

Saints Peter and Paul

Combined Collection

\$7,984

## Mass Schedule

**Effective Until Further Notice**

**Saints Peter and Paul**

Monday - Communion Service 7am

Tuesday thru Friday 7am

Wednesday & Friday 12:15pm

Saturday-4:00pm

Sunday-8:00am & 10:30 am

**Saint Dominic**

Saturday-5:30pm

We will continue to Live Stream Mass on the parish website [www.sspeterandpaulplains.com](http://www.sspeterandpaulplains.com) as well as on the parish facebook page.

God has entrusted us with many gifts:

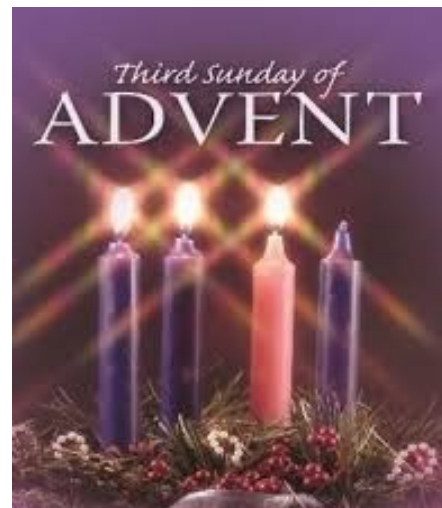
Time, Talent & Treasure. We hope and pray that all members will share their gifts, and continue to share the Good News of Jesus with all people.

## SAINTS PETER & PAUL LOTTERY

Dec. 07	#842	Kathryn Lambert
Dec. 08	#862	Melissa Mahle
Dec. 09	#299	Saints Peter & Paul
Dec. 10	#072	Saints Peter & Paul
Dec. 11	#437	Kevin O'Conner
Dec. 12	#708	Saints Peter & Paul
Dec. 13	#072	Saints Peter & Paul

## For the safety of all our parishioners...

1. If you are not feeling well please stay home.
2. Please practice proper social distancing.
3. Everyone must wear a mask.  
If you do not have one, we can provide you with one.
4. Sanitize appropriately.



LIVING A  
**STEWARDSHIP**

It is all about your heart...

Everything we have is a gift from God  
that we are to use to help others.

*Life*

# WORSHIP

## WE REMEMBER

### MASSES AT SAINTS PETER & PAUL

Monday	12-14	7am	<b>Communion Service</b>
Tuesday	12-15	7am	<b>Marie Mido</b> by The Shutacowskis
Wednesday	12-16	7am	<b>Clarence, Julia &amp; Catherine Ozgo</b> by family
Thursday	12-17	7am	<b>Romaine Ercolani</b> by family
Friday	12-18	7am	<b>Rose Florio</b> by Mr. & Mrs. Frank Sabattini

### WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE SAINTS PETER & PAUL

Saturday	12-19	4pm	<b>Living &amp; Deceased Parishioners</b>
Sunday	12-20	8am 10:30am	<b>Andrea Abraham</b> by Diane & Rich Gubbiotti <b>Patricia Mlodzienski</b> by family

### WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE SAINT DOMINIC

Saturday	12-19	5:30pm	<b>Romayne Gernhart</b> by Family
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#### SAINTS PETER & PAUL PARISH

##### **Sanctuary Candle**

Janet Johnson

##### **Lady of Lourdes**

Elizabeth & Edward  
Glazenski



##### **Floral Arrangement**

Special Intention

##### **Holy Family Votive**

Paul Binker Sr.



# WORD

## MINISTRY OF THE MONTH-DECEMBER

*Each month, a Ministry of the parishes will be highlighted. You are asked to prayerfully consider each ministry, and to participate in whatever capacity that suits your availability, interest, and needs.*

### Lectors

Readers proclaim the Word of God at Eucharistic celebrations. Their goal is to provide inspiration to those listening to the Gospel readings. They serve at weekend liturgies, Holy Days, and, if available, at daily Masses.

Any parishioner who is in high school or older is available to participate in this Ministry.

Lectors are scheduled in advance for dates and Masses of preference. The scheduling program allows for individuals to submit substitute and volunteer requests.

**Contact:** *Dave Loiacono* [dav040@comcast.net](mailto:dav040@comcast.net)

## WEEKLY READINGS

### Third Sunday of Advent

#### Sunday

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; 1

Thes 5:16-24;

Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

#### Monday

Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a;

Mt 21:23-27

#### Tuesday

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13;

Mt 21:28-32

#### Wednesday

Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25;

Lk 7:18b-23

#### Thursday

Gn 49:2, 8-10;

Mt 1:1-17

#### Friday

Jer 23:5-8;

Mt 1:18-25

#### Saturday

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a;

Lk 1:5-25

Exciting news! We have Christmas Cards available at the Parish Center! Your children can fill them out and return them to the church to be shipped out to our Military overseas!

Please help us spread some Christmas cheer to our valued service women and men.

## Faith Formation



# The Sunday Good News

CHURCH OF SAINTS PETER & PAUL

DECEMBER 13, 2020

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



*God of my heart,  
Some days I just feel  
like I am stumbling  
around in the darkness.  
It is then - and only  
then - that I turn to  
you.*

*Soften my hardened  
heart, open my closed-  
in spirit and take away  
the darkness in my life.  
If I just let myself feel  
your glory dawning,  
full of brightness,  
I could look around to  
see myself revealed in  
you.*

*Let me be a child of  
your light and feel the  
fire of your love and  
the glory of your  
words.*

*Most of all, let me be  
grateful to you.*

*Amen.*

### **First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11**

Isaiah describes the joy and salvation which will accompany the coming of Christ. He compares the plants which spring from a garden to the justice that will spring from all nations.

### **Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24**

Paul reminds the Thessalonians to constantly ready themselves for Christ's arrival. He tells them to "avoid any semblance of evil" so that they may be found irreproachable when Jesus does arrive.

### **Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28**

John explains that he is only a messenger to the people for one more powerful than himself. John stresses to them that they must make a path for the one so powerful that he is not fit to unfasten the strap of his sandal.

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

### **Third Sunday of Advent December 13, 2020**

**"Rejoice always, never cease praying, render constant thanks: such is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. Do not stifle the spirit. Do not despise prophecies. Test everything, retain what is good. Avoid any semblance of evil. May the God of peace make you perfect in holiness. He who calls you is trustworthy, therefore he will do it."**

Midway through this holy season, we are provided great encouragement. Find the joy which comes from the presence of the Lord. Use these days as days of prayer. Paul tells his readers that this is God's will.

How often do we reflect on the words we pray, 'Thy will be done.' We are called to conform our will to His. What is His will for me, now, at this moment? The prophets have spoken, the church supports and encourages us. Paul told his followers that the will of God is that all be saved and come to knowledge of the truth.

During the past year we have heard and learned much about testing. People were tested to see if they were infected, had antibodies. People waited on lines to be tested and anxiously awaited results. We are told today to test everything and retain what is good. There are but two short weeks for us to take and pass the test. 'Come, Lord Jesus.'

# 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)*

## Loaves and Fishes

For the month of **December** will be collecting  
**canned vegetables**

## 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. Please place them in the basket in the  
vestibule of the Church.

## Treasures

We are now accepting clean, gently used **Fall/  
Winter clothing** for men, women, and children.  
Donations may be dropped off during business  
hours only.  
**Mondays from 6-8pm and Fridays 10am-12 pm.**

## Prayer Shawls

can be given to anyone for many reasons! Comfort,  
illness, occasions, friendship & joy. If there is  
anyone that would like to receive a shawl or request  
one for someone, please contact the Parish Office  
at 570-825-6663 or call Mary Jo at 570-825-6969.

## Saints Peter & Paul and Saint Dominic Ministries

Pauline Makowski, Food Pantry

Janet Soller, Quilting

Mary Jo Marek, Prayer Shawl

Laura Rudloff, Treasures

Irene Martin, Women's Society of Saints Peter & Paul

Barbara Zirmhelt, Council of Catholic Women

Kathy Grinaway, Hospitality

Donna Mansfield, Hospitality



## Christmas Flowers

Anyone who would like to help  
sponsor our Christmas Flowers can fill  
out a form and return it to the Parish  
Office or drop in collection basket. Forms are in the  
back of the Church so you can take one as you are  
leaving. The offering is \$10 PER NAME. Thank you!

## Parish Cemeteries

Available plots in each of our Parish Cemeteries  
(Saints Peter & Paul, Sacred Heart, St. Joseph and St.  
Francis) for purchase.  
For information contact the Parish Office.

With the season of Christmas upon us,  
what better way to support the Church  
than to give your friends a lottery ticket!  
Lottery tickets also make great  
stocking stuffers, or gifts for Teachers,  
Mail Carriers, etc. Thank you for your  
support!

God bless  
and Merry Christmas!!!



## Winter Lottery Tickets

Awards will begin Jan.1 - March 31

Prizes are \$25 Mon. through Sat., \$100 on Sun.

\$300 on Special Days

Solemnity of Mary-Jan. 1

Ash Wednesday-Feb. 17

Feast of St. Joseph-March 19

Cost is \$10

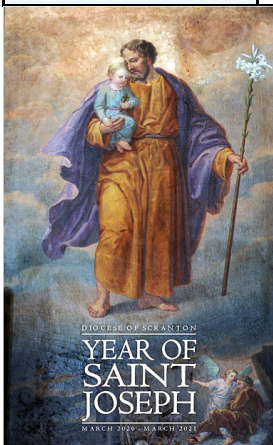
Winners match the PA Lottery Pick 3 Evening Drawing

**Tickets will be sold in the Parish Office  
during business hours.**

# SERVICE

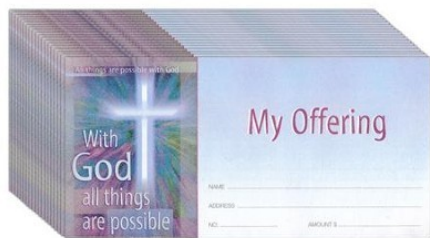
## DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Giving Tree Gifts Due	14	15	16	17 Food Pantry Prep	18 Food Pantry Giving Tree gifts distributed	19
20	21	22	23	24 Office Closed	25 Office Closed	26
27	28	29	30	31 Office Closed	1 Office Closed	



**Year of Saint Joseph** This year marks the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Pope Pius IX's decree naming Saint Joseph, husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary and foster-father of Jesus, as the Patron of the Universal Church. In commemoration of this anniversary and recognizing the fitting time for the Church to invoke the intercession of this guardian, His Excellency, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera has declared this year as a "Year of Saint Joseph" to be observed in the Diocese of Scranton from March 19, 2020 to March 19, 2021. Bishop Bambera states, "Just as Saint Joseph watched over and protected the Lord Jesus while he was on earth, we need Saint Joseph to watch over and provide for the Church today. His intercession on behalf of the Universal Church is vital as the world faces so much upheaval and pain, and particularly as it confronts the uncertainty and pain of the coronavirus epidemic."





## Envelopes for Saint Dominic's Church

Starting in January 2021, envelopes for Saint Dominic's Church **will be sent via mail** instead of being picked up in Church.

Checks should be made out to Saints Peter & Paul Church.

## Suppression of Saint Benedict's Parish

In June 2017 Saint Benedict Parish, Wilkes-Barre, was linked to Saints Peter and Paul Parish, Plains, with the Reverend John C. Lambert serving as Pastor of both parishes. The buildings of Saint Benedict Parish in Wilkes-Barre consist of Saint Dominic's Church and Rectory. Following extensive consultation among its members and in consideration of its desire to maintain its primary mission of service, a request has been made of the Bishop of Scranton to close Saint Benedict Parish. The parishioners previously belonging to Saint Benedict Parish will now belong to Saints Peter and Paul Parish, and the new territorial boundaries of Saints Peter and Paul Parish will take in the previous territorial boundaries of Saint Benedict Parish. The Church of Saint Dominic will remain open as a secondary worship site of Saints Peter and Paul Parish.

## Virtual Grief Support Group

Winter and the post-holiday season can be difficult times to navigate grief, particularly during an ongoing period of social distancing. Please consider joining the virtual grief support group offered by Cathedral of Saint Peter Parish in Scranton. Anyone is welcome; you do not have to be a member of the parish to participate. The group will convene online, Wednesday evenings 6:30 to 7:30. The dates of the virtual meetings will be January 6, 13, 20 and 27.

For more information please contact Deacon Ed Shoener at 570-814-5133

or the parish office at 570-344-7231.



## Christmas Wafers/Oplatki

Are now available after all Masses or at the Parish Center during office hours.

Donations are appreciated.

# SAINTS PETER & PAUL PARISH STAFF

## **Pastor**

Rev. John C. Lambert

[pastor@sspeterandpaulplains.com](mailto:pastor@sspeterandpaulplains.com)

## **Permanent Deacon**

Deacon Don Crane

## **Administrative Assistants**

Mary Ann Gottlieb

Mary Pilarcik

[parishoffice@sspeterandpaulplains.com](mailto:parishoffice@sspeterandpaulplains.com)

Nina Cinti

## **Faith Formation Coordinator**

[faithformation@sspeterandpaulplains.com](mailto:faithformation@sspeterandpaulplains.com)

## **Scholarships (Awarded to High School Seniors)**

[scholarships@sspeterandpaulplains.com](mailto:scholarships@sspeterandpaulplains.com)

## **Business Office**

[businessoffice@sspeterandpaulplains.com](mailto:businessoffice@sspeterandpaulplains.com)

## **Youth Ministry**

Jason Garcia

[youthministry@sspeterandpaulplains.com](mailto:youthministry@sspeterandpaulplains.com)

## **Music Ministry**

Scott Coates - Music Director

[music@sspeterandpaulplains.com](mailto:music@sspeterandpaulplains.com)

Gina Macaravage –Organist

Jay Garcia –Organist

Jill Fiedorczyk– Organist

## **Maintenance**

Greg Day

Michael Lambert

## **Sacristan**

Ben Berrini

## **Ministers Scheduler**

Dave Loiacono

[davl040@comcast.net](mailto:davl040@comcast.net)

## **Ushers**

Paul Muczynski

[pmuczynski@epix.net](mailto:pmuczynski@epix.net)

## **Altar Servers**

Nathan Smith

[nrsmith822@gmail.com](mailto:nrsmith822@gmail.com)

## **Bernardine Hall Coordinator**

Jason Garcia

[hallrental@sspeterandpaulplains.com](mailto:hallrental@sspeterandpaulplains.com)

## **Parish Cemeteries**

Nina Cinti

[cemeteries@sspeterandpaulplains.com](mailto:cemeteries@sspeterandpaulplains.com)

Saints Peter & Paul

Sacred Heart

Saint Joseph

Saint Francis

## **Combined Pastoral Council**

Kathy Grinaway, *Chairperson*

Donna Mansfield, *Vice Chairperson*

JoAnn Chukinas, *Secretary*

Barbara Gubbiotti

Debby Zuzelski

Harold Golomb

Jack Keeley

Joanne Bague

Lou Zuzelski

Steven McGough

## **Saints Peter & Paul Finance Committee**

Don Prescavage, *Chairman*

Ben Berrini, *Vice Chairman*

Charlotte Dominick, *Secretary*

Gerald Cross

Tony Dente

Tracy Schooley

## **Saints Peter & Paul 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.

Every donation counts !!!

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

*Help us reach our Annual Appeal Parish Goal!*

**Saints Peter & Paul is at**

**15.18%**

We are grateful to the parishioners who supported the 2020 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.DiocesefScranton.org](http://www.DiocesefScranton.org)

Every donation counts !!!

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

*Help us reach our Annual Appeal Parish Goal!*

**Saint Dominic is at**

**14.10%**

We are grateful to the parishioners who supported the 2020 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.DiocesefScranton.org](http://www.DiocesefScranton.org)

## **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. In accordance with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Child Protective Laws, reports of suspected child abuse should also be made immediately by phone to the 24 hour Child Abuse hotline (Childline) at 1-800-932-0313 or electronically at [www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis](http://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis). 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 B Pacuska at 570-862-7551

# VISION 2020

## *Seeing a Future Full of Hope*

### **SHAPING A BLUEPRINT FOR THE FUTURE OF THE DIOCESE**

In Today's homily for the Second Sunday of Advent, Bishop Bambera explained to us that it is time for the whole Church of Scranton to take a good look at the life of our parishes and to project a future vision in response to God's call today.

Your Pastors have taken first steps in this conversation in recent deanery meetings, and now it is essential to broaden this conversation to include all of the faithful. Bishop Bambera Pointed out to us the reality of change in our world and in our local communities, and so we know that we will continue to face and respond to change within the church. "I'm inviting all of the faithful," he said, "to simply focus on how we best engage the mission of the gospel in these changing times." Some of these changes include shifting demographics, differing attitudes about formal church participation, and diminishment in numbers of ordained priests available to serve as full-time pastors.

In the coming year, then, Bishop Bambera is asking us to continue working together to fashion a "blueprint" if you will— a pathway for our local Church, tailored to each deanery and to each parish—for how we will meet both the challenges and opportunities we will face in the next ten year period.

In his Homily he stressed that, "while every parish is similar in what is being asked to do and to be, each parish will respond to this process in ways that are unique to its situation and circumstances.

### **PLANNING GUIDANCE FOR EACH DEANERY**

Guiding the overall process are these planning assumptions as common elements across the Diocese:

- The benchmarks for vibrant parishes are in accord with the vision expressed in Bishop Bambera's Pastoral letter, especially pages 7-13
- In every local circumstances, efforts are made to best utilize the particular ministry gifts of the clergy and, at the same time, to mobilize the gifts of all the baptized.
- Each deanery blueprint implementation is unique, and may consider such questions as: number of worship sites, Mass schedules and wise investment of resources.
- No deanery is planning in isolation—the circumstances in one may occasion change in another.
- Parish pastoral plans are respected and help to inform deanery level plans.
- Recommendations from deaneries or parishes are brought to Diocesan review.
- Parishes in linked relationship, sharing a Pastor, will be given additional planning support to evaluate and craft the best path forward.
- Every parish calls forth those individuals whose capacity for pastoral leadership could be developed through vocational discernment for priesthood, religious life, lay ministry or permanent diaconate.

The Wilkes-Barre Deanery, which consists of the following parishes:

Sts. Peter & Paul (Plains), St. Dominic (Wilkes-Barre), Our Lady of Fatima at St. Mary's (Wilkes-Barre), St. Nicholas (Wilkes-Barre), Our Lady of Hope at St. Mary's Maternity (Wilkes-Barre), St. Andrew at St. Patrick's (Wilkes-Barre), St. Andre Bessette (Wilkes-Barre), St. Robert Bellarmine at St. Aloysius (Wilkes-Barre), Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Hanover), St. Leo/Holy Rosary (Ashley), Holy Family (Sugar Notch), Our Lady Help of Christians - St. Mary's (Dorrance), St. Jude (Mountaintop)