

**February 23, 2025**

**Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

## MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday:

4:00pm - Saints Peter & Paul

Sunday:

7:30am - Saints Peter & Paul

10:30am - Saints Peter & Paul

Eucharistic Adoration:

First Friday of Every Month 1:00pm - 3:00pm

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*



13 Hudson Road,  
Plains, PA 18705-2015



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# STEWARDSHIP

## Mass Schedule

Saints Peter and Paul

Tuesday: 12:15pm

Wednesday: 12:15pm

Thursday: 12:15pm

Friday: 12:15pm

Saturday: 4:00pm

Sunday: 7:30am & 10:30 am

We Live Stream weekend Mass on the parish website:  
[www.sspeterandpaulplains.com](http://www.sspeterandpaulplains.com)  
as well as on the parish Facebook page.

## Sunday Stewards

Saturday, Feb. 15 - 4:00pm:

183 people attended

96 envelopes received

Offering: \$1,756.00

Sunday, Feb. 16 - 7:30am:

70 people attended

56 envelopes received

Offering \$1,321.00

Sunday, Feb. 16 - 10:30am:

201 people attended

107 envelopes received

Offering: \$2,894.00

*Thank You for your Generosity.*

## Ash Wednesday Mass Schedule

March 5, 2025

Masses

12:15 and 5:30

***The Second Collection  
next weekend will be for  
Care and Education of  
Priests***

# WORSHIP

## WE REMEMBER

### MASSES THIS WEEKEND

Saturday	Feb 22	4:00pm	<b>Michael &amp; Mark McGivney</b> by Father, Patrick and Connor
Sunday	Feb 23	7:30am 10:30am	<b>Attilio Giovanelli</b> by Pat Stella <b>Special Intention</b>

### DAILY MASSES

Tuesday	Feb 25	12:15pm	<b>Margaret Janerich</b> by Daughters, Teri & Joanne
Wednesday	Feb 26	12:15pm	<b>Peter Jastremski</b> by Daughters, Phyllis & Karen
Thursday	Feb 27	12:15pm	<b>Larry Martin</b> by Whitey & Angie
Friday	Feb 28	12:15pm	<b>Patricia Voitek</b> by Family

### NEXT WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday	Mar 01	4:00pm	<b>Josephine Serafin</b> by Jill Miraglia
Sunday	Mar 02	7:30am 10:30am	<b>Susan &amp; Tony Kapinas</b> by Family <b>Matthew Vinciarelli</b> by Mom, Dad, & Madelyn



### SANCTUARY CANDLE Special Intention

# The Sunday Good News

Church of Saints Peter & Paul

February 23, 2025

*Suffering Servant,  
who experienced  
the worst human  
beings had to offer,  
yet presented love  
and forgiveness to  
your enemies,  
help me love and  
forgive MY  
enemies.*

*Help me to be slow  
to anger, and  
patient.  
Help me not  
return evil with  
evil or insult with  
insult, but to do  
good to those who  
are tough to be  
around.*

*And over time,  
transform my  
negative feelings  
toward my  
enemies into love  
that desires what's  
best for them.*

*Amen.*

## SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### First Reading: 1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

Saul wanted to harm David and went into the desert to locate him. David and his companion Abishai visited Saul and his troops while they slept. Abishai wanted to kill Saul, but David would not allow it, as he refused to kill the Lord's anointed.

### Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:45-49

Paul portrays Adam as the first physical man and Jesus as the first man to give us our spirituality. One man was formed from dust, the other sent down from heaven. Just as we resemble the first being physically, we should model ourselves after Jesus spiritually.

### Gospel: Luke 6:27-38

Jesus explains that loving only people who love us is no great achievement. He also reminds us that doing a favor for someone while expecting something in return is not what he asks of us. Instead, we should emulate God by being compassionate and non-judgmental, even towards individuals who hate and mistreat us.

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

### Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time February 23, 2025

**“Jesus said to his disciples: ‘To you who hear I say, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. To the person who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other as well, and from the person who takes your cloak, do not withhold your tunic. Give to everyone who asks of you, and from the one who takes what is yours do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you.’”**

We are familiar with the ‘golden rule’. And it seems quite logical. BUT are you sure the Christian life is easy? The teaching of Jesus tells us otherwise. Maybe my task is to make sure I have no enemies, except the devil. Hate has no place in the heart of a Christian. I may disagree with someone, but no hate. I can find something positive to say about another person and always I can hold them in my prayer.

It is easy to fall, but when I listen carefully to the teaching today, I ask the grace I need, and take positive steps to put His words into practice. With Paul I can say ‘I can do all things in him who strengthens me.’



# WORD

## MINISTRY OF THE MONTH - FEBRUARY

*Each month, a Ministry of the parish is highlighted.  
For February we will focus on love of neighbor*

One of the most cherished days we celebrate in February is Valentine's Day. Through adds, emails, and texts, we are bombarded with gift ideas. While receiving a gift is certainly wonderful, it is the love coming from that gift that is most important. We love so many people in so many different ways- spouses, children, friends, pets, and relatives, to name a few. But we are bound by God to love all creatures. "For if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them" (Luke 6:32). Jesus loves us always, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. It is this love we need to imitate.

Now, we can take this love and perform it through church ministry. Donate food to the Food Pantry, or some of the extra clothing you have to Treasures. Sacrifice to God by attending mass every Sunday, or, if able, at one or more of the daily Masses each week at 12:15. Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Become an usher or a lector. If you enjoy giving praise to God through song, consider signing up for the choir. These are just a few suggestions, and I am sure you can think of even more!

So you can see how love and ministry are bound together. Pray on this, and you may discover much in your heart this month.

This cannot be said too many times – a Parish needs a vibrant community to survive. So take the opportunity in reflective silence and seriously consider being an active Lay Ministry participant. This will lead you to a life of deeper and strengthening faith.



**Love. Grow. Serve.**

## WEEKLY READINGS

### Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### Sunday

1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23;

1 Cor 15:45-49;

Lk 6:27-38

#### Monday

Sir 1:1-10;

Mk 9:14-29

#### Tuesday

Sir 2:1-11;

Mk 9:30-37

#### Wednesday

Sir 4:11-19;

Mk 9:38-40

#### Thursday

Sir 5:1-8;

Mk 9:41-50

#### Friday

Sir 6:5-17;

Mk 10:1-12

#### First Saturday

Sir 17:1-15;

Mk 10:13-16

# 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 **February** we will collect  
**Canned Soups**.

### Food Pantry

Anyone in the Plains, Miners Mills, and Parsons  
area in need of food can **contact Pauline at  
570-472-1646 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 **Winter  
clothing** for men, women, and children. Donations  
may be dropped off at 155 Austin Ave in Parsons  
during business hours only.

**Mondays 4pm-6pm & 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

### Saints Peter & Paul Parish Ministries

Pauline Makowski, *Food Pantry*

Mary Jo Marek, *Prayer Shawl*

Laura Rudloff, *Treasures*

Kathy Grinaway, *Hospitality*

Claire Koshinski, *Women's Society of Saints Peter & Paul*

## Memorial Donations

**The following donations/memorials have recently  
been given to our parish to support: Food Pantry;  
Bernardine Hall; Parish Scholarships; and General  
donations.**

### Food Pantry

\$100 Patrick & Donna Malys

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.





**Saints Peter and Paul Church will hold a Night at the Races in  
Bernardine Hall on Saturday, March 15th.**

**Doors open at 5:30pm –Post Time is 7:00pm.**

Admission is \$10.00– and includes Food (Haluski, Ziti, Pierogies, Hot Dogs,  
Mac n Cheese, Chicken Fingers and Pizza) and Refreshments.

Must be 21 years of age to enter.

\$10.00 per horse - \$100.00 per Sponsor per Race.

**Horses and Admission Tickets will be sold after all Masses and at the  
Parish Office.**

**We recommend you buy tickets in advance, as last year we sold out.**

If you would like to donate, we need the following items:

**Spirits (for Basket of Cheer) & Desserts.**

**Please call the Parish Office (570-825-6663) if you are going to donate any of  
these items OR if you would like to purchase a ticket or horse.**

We hope everyone contributes to this Church fundraiser by buying a horse and  
attending this fun night out!

**HOPE TO SEE EVERYONE THERE!**

**If anyone is interested in taking Night at the Races tickets to sell to their  
family, friends, and neighbors, please contact Mary Ann at the office.  
In addition, if anyone would like to sponsor a race for \$100, it would be  
greatly appreciated in order to cut down costs of the event.**

## February/March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
23 <i>Faith Formation-9-10am</i>	24 Treasures 4-6pm Rosary 6pm	25	26	27	28 <i>Treasures-10am-12pm</i>	1 <i>March</i>
2 <i>Faith Formation-9-10am</i>	3 Prayer Shawl 5pm Treasures 4-6pm Rosary 6pm	4	5	6 <i>Night at the Races meeting 6:30pm—Conference Room</i>  <i>Women's Society 6:30pm-Parish Dining Hall</i>	7 <i>Treasures-10am-12pm</i>	8
9 <i>Faith Formation-9-10am</i>	10 Prayer Shawl 5pm Treasures 4-6pm Rosary 6pm	11	12	13 <i>Parish Council 6:30pm-Parish Dining Hall</i>	14 <i>Treasures-10am-12pm</i>	15 <i>Night at the Races-Doors open at 5:30pm—Races begin at 7pm</i>
16 <i>Faith Formation-9-10am</i>	17 Prayer Shawl 5pm Rosary 6pm	18	19	20 <i>Food Pantry Prep</i>	21 <i>Food Pantry Treasures-10am-12pm</i>	22

## Save the Date

Night at the Races— March 15, 2025





## Women's Society Religious Retreat

Women's Society of Saints Peter and Paul is planning a religious retreat on Saturday, March 15, 2025 in the Church Parish Center Dining Hall from 9:00am-3pm.

Confession-3pm Mass-4pm

Presenter: Father Brogan Ryan, C.S.C. Director of Campus Ministry King's College

Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

Cost: \$30

Make reservations by calling Claire Koshinski at (570) 479-3671 or Sandy Toloczko at (570) 823-5918

Reservations, with check payable to Women's Society of Saints Peter and Paul, are due by March 8, 2025.

All are welcome!

## COMMUNITY

**A Polish Lenten Food Sale** will be held on **Ash Wednesday, March 5, from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.** in the garage behind the **Sacred Heart of Jesus Rectory, 215 Lackawanna Ave., Dupont**. Homemade foods include potato pancakes (*placki*- \$20 a dozen), fried cabbage and noodles (*haluski* - \$10 a quart, \$5 a pint) and homemade meatless soups (\$12 a quart). Our homemade fresh food will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. Pierogi will also be available!

### ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST SELLING POTATO PANCAKES AND PIZZA

**St. John the Evangelist Parish, 35 William Street in Pittston**, will hold food sales **each Friday in Lent as well as Good Friday (March 7 through April 18)**. This year, we will be selling Potato Pancakes at 3 for \$5.00 and your choice of take-and-heat Red Pizza or White Pizza with Broccoli for \$15.00 a tray. **Pickup will be from 3:30 to 6:00 PM each Friday** in the Msgr. Bendik Pastoral Center (entrance on Church Street). Please call the parish office at 570-654-0053 by Thursday of each week to place your orders.

### St. Joseph Mareello Parish to host Big Prize Bingo

St. Joseph Mareello Parish, **237 William Street in Pittston**, will hold their annual **BIG PRIZE BINGO** on **Sunday, March 30, with doors opening at 12:30pm and games beginning at 2pm**, in their Parish Hall. Prizes include home goods, outdoor items, purses and several CASH PRIZES. Tickets for this bingo will cost \$25 when purchased in advance or \$30 if purchased at the door (if tickets are still available). Bingo tickets include entrance and 20 regular games. Special games will be available for purchase, along with additional regular games, Bingo dabbers and other fun extras. Food and beverages will be available for purchase through our kitchen. Tickets are now available: please call the Parish Office at 570-654-6902 to reserve your tickets. We will reserve tables on a first-come, first-served basis for any PARTIES OF 8-10. Seating for parties less than 8 will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

# Saints Peter and Paul Parish

**Pastor:**  
**Rev. John C. Lambert**

## Wilkes-Barre Deanery

-Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Hanover Township  
-Our Lady, Help of Christians, Dorrance  
-Our Lady of Hope, Wilkes-Barre  
-Saint Andrew, Wilkes-Barre  
-Saint Elizabeth, Bear Creek  
-Saint Jude, Mountain Top  
-Saint Leo the Great, Ashley  
-Saint Nicholas-Saint Mary, Wilkes-Barre  
-Saint Rita, Gouldsboro  
-Saint Robert Bellarmine, Wilkes-Barre  
-Saints Peter and Paul, Plains

## PARISH DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Number of Households	1250	1246	1483	1306	935
Number of Parishioners	1930	1993	-	2115	-
Total Number of Week-end Masses	3	3	3	3	3
Total Average Weekend Mass Attendance	548	560	552	465	304

## SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Baptisms	16	28	17	24	31
First Holy Communions	25	14	36	12	26
Confirmations	15	26	15	28	28
RCIA/Baptism	2	0	3	0	0
RCIA/Full Communion	0	0	0	0	2
Marriages	3	2	3	1	2
Funerals	55	86	69	57	-

## FAITH FORMATION PARTICIPATION

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Religious Education K-8	53	91	109	117	168
Religious Education 9-12	0	0	0	0	0
Catholic School Students	4	6	39	12	-
Adult Faith Formation	0	0	1	0	0

*\*All data in this report has been supplied to the Diocese by your Parish. 2024 data is from July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024.*

# 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)

## **Parish Cemeteries**

Mary Gregor

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

Saints Peter & Paul                      Saint Joseph

Sacred Heart (Plains)                      Saint Francis

Sacred Heart (Dallas)                      Saint Stanislaus

## **Bernardine Hall Coordinator**

Amy Vissotski

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

## **Music Ministry**

Scott Coates - Music Director

## **Maintenance**

Michael Lambert

Jim Cunningham

## **Ushers**

Candice Berrini & Mary Ann Gottlieb

## **Sacristan**

Ben Berrini

## **Ministers Scheduler**

Kathy Grinaway

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

## **Faith Formation Coordinator**

Gabrielle Gottlieb

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

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

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

## **Business Office**

Nina Cinti

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

## **Pastoral Council**

Kathy Grinaway, *Chairperson*

Donna Mansfield, *Vice Chairperson*

JoAnn Chukinas, *Secretary*

Barbara Gubbiotti                      Jack Keeley

Debby Zuzelski                      Joan Cavanaugh

Harold Golomb                      Joanne Bague

Janice Canterini

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

Don Prescavage, *Chairman*

Ben Berrini, *Vice Chairman*

Charlotte Dominick, *Secretary*

Gerald Cross

Tracy Schooley

Deacon Don Crane

Paul Dreabit

Jody Gurnari