



Third Sunday of Easter



April 30, 2017

Saints Peter and Paul Church

106 Third Street | Towanda, Pennsylvania 18848-1798

Phone: 570-265-2113 | Fax: 570-265-2114

Email: stppp@epix.net | Website: sspeterandpaulchurch.net/

Pastor: Rev. Edward L. Michelini

SAINT PETER AND SAINT PAUL, *PRAY FOR US!*

Parish Office Hours

Monday-Thursday: 9 am to 3 pm

The Parish in the heart of the Endless Mountains
Serving Bradford County since 1841

Mass Schedule

- Vigil Mass
(Saturday) 5:00 p.m.
- Sunday Mass
8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
- Weekday Mass
M, T, W, F 8:30 a.m.
- Confessions before daily
Mass; Saturday 4:15 p.m.

SPIRITUAL DEVOTIONS

The Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the ***Divine Mercy Chaplet*** are prayed in common before weekday Masses.

The Perpetual Novena of the Miraculous Medal is prayed in common every Monday after the 8:30 a.m. Mass.

Eucharistic Adoration is held from 9:00 a.m. on the Thursday preceding First Friday until 2:00 p.m. on Friday in Grotto Hall and the church.

Sacred Heart Devotions are prayed in common after First Friday Masses.

Devotions to the Immaculate Heart of Mary are prayed in common after the First Saturday Masses.

Parish Prayer Line requests
Call Annette at 570-265-9691.

SACRAMENTS

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated Sundays after the 11:00 a.m. Mass. First time parents are asked to attend a welcoming session prior to baptism. Godparents are asked to present a sponsor card. Please call the parish office as soon as possible after your child's birth to plan his or her baptism.

The Sacrament of Marriage—engaged couples should notify the pastor at least six months prior to their proposed date. Couples participate in a preparation program.

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick—please call the parish office for visitation of the sick at home, in the hospital, or health care facility.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) is the official process used by the Church to bring adults into the Catholic faith.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

SS. Peter & Paul Parish, a community of faith called by God to deepen our relationship with Jesus Christ, serves the Lord by sharing our time, talent and treasure. As disciples of Christ, we are called to bring Jesus Christ to ourselves and others: our children, the sick, the poor, the fallen away Catholics and those who need to hear God's message of unconditional love and forgiveness. SS. Peter & Paul Parish is a beacon of light rooted in Jesus Christ, passed on to his successor, our Holy Father the Pope, and is guided by our local bishop to build the Kingdom of God on Earth. It is our mission to shine the light of Jesus Christ in our world and to spiritually enrich the individual members of the parish as well as the larger community through word, worship, sacrament and service.

**Peter stood up with the eleven . . . and proclaimed,
“ . . . God raised this Jesus;
of this we are all witnesses.**

**Exalted at the right hand of God,
He received the promise of the Holy Spirit
from the Father and poured him forth,
as you see and hear.”**

Acts 2: 14, 33

Saints Peter & Paul CCD

Sundays 9:15-10:30 in St. Agnes School

May 5: First Communion Retreat

May 19: First Communion Practice

May 20: First Communion

Confirmation Class 2019 Registration

Confirmation registration forms (cream color) are now available for those students entering 7th grade or above in the Fall of 2017. Forms are being distributed at St. Agnes, at Sunday CCD class, and are also available on the table by the church entrance.

The Diocesan Confirmation program is a 2-year preparation program of study, prayer and service. All students desiring to prepare for and receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2019 **MUST** register at this time - Submit your registration by May 21, 2017. A student who is not registered this year is assumed will be registering next year to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2020. Confirmations will now take place each year rather than every three years – a two-year preparation program is required each time.

Trinity Lutheran Church and Saints Peter & Paul Church

Over the past several years, the Lutheran and Catholic Churches have been working toward clarifying differences, finding common ground, and working toward unity. This year, the Lutheran Church is celebrating the 500th Anniversary of Martin Luther's posting his 95 articles. Trinity Lutheran Church is inviting Saints Peter & Paul Church and the community to attend various events related to this 500th year Anniversary.

On **Sunday April 30, 2017 at 4 pm** in the Keystone Theater, there will be a free showing of the historical documentary movie, *Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World*. See the posted flyer in the vestibule. If you attend, please bring a non-perishable food item donation for the community outreach program.

Nominations to the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)

Members of the PPC are contacting those parishioners who were nominated for the PPC to determine if they would leave their names in consideration for the PPC. Please keep this selection process, and those who were nominated, in your prayers. Nominees will be announced next weekend. We have consistently selected members to the Parish Pastoral Council who are eager for and dedicated to the parish.

Sue and Joel Christian

Recently Sue and Joel indicated that they will be moving from the Towanda area to the Binghamton, NY, area. The parish is extremely grateful for their presence here in the parish for many, many years and for the outstanding contributions they have made to the parish, especially to the music ministry and to St. Agnes School. Please wish them well!

Sue and Joel, you will be greatly missed, but we offer you our prayers as you relocate and share your gifts with the people in your new community.

Maintenance Person / Handyman

The parish is in need of a person to do outside work and handyman-types of activities here at the parish buildings and grounds.

This is a part-time position and could be considered for an after-work or weekend time slot. If you or you know of someone who may be interested, please contact Fr. Ed 570-265-2113. Thanks!

Parish Dates To Remember

Apr 30: Catholic Home Missions Collection

May 2: Bible Study Group 1 pm in Grotto Hall

May 3: 3:30 pm Finance Council meeting Grotto Hall

7:00 pm Bible Study Group in Grotto Hall

May 4: Eucharistic Adoration begins 9 am

May 5: First Friday Mass 8:30 am

10:15 am Mass at Bradford County Manor

First Communion Retreat

May 6: First Saturday Mass 8:30 am

May 7: World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Social Activities Planning Meeting after 11 am Mass

May 19: First Communion Practice

May 20: 10:00 am First Communion

May 21: Deadline to register for Confirmation 2019

2:00 pm 175th Choral Concert @ SSPP church

Performing Arts

Congratulations to the members of our parish who performed in the Towanda HS production of "Beauty & the Beast." Max Vega, Meghan Mendler, Taylor Marshall, Katie Christian, Hannah Tavani, Dominic Tavani, Whitney Madill; and Sam Tavani, running sound. A wonderful and enjoyable performance!

Congratulations also to Sue Christian and Ed Krauss for their great support and work for this production.

Mass Intentions Apr. 29 - May 7

Sat. 5:00 pm: Debra McGovern (Farley/Calaman Family)

Sun. 8:00 Our Parishioners

11:00 am: Dr. Charles R. Wolfe (Lee Ann Wolfe)

Mon. 8:30 am: Deceased of the Huff Family (Sonia Huff)

Tues. 8:30 am: Robert & Mary Hilda Brenner
(Bob & Bev Brenner)

Wed. 8:30 am: Vivian Sullivan White (Sharon Wilson,
Pat McCracken, Marilyn Bonatti)

Thursday: No Mass

Fri. 8:30am: Mary Homan (Francis & Lucille Watkins)

10:15 am: Intentions of Margaret & Mike Dunkle

Mass at Bradford County Manor

First Saturday: Dan Bryington (Tricia Bryington)

Sat. 5:00 pm: Joe Ritsko (Family)

Sun. 8:00 am: Ray & Ida Fries (Bob Herda)

11:00 am: Our Parishioners

First Friday and First Saturday

May 4-5 this week, the First Friday and First Saturday Masses and devotions are scheduled as usual, with adoration beginning on Thursday morning in Grotto Hall at 9:00 am.

Sign up for a specific hour of Eucharistic Adoration on the sheet in the rear of the church, or drop in any time as you are able, to be with Our Lord.



A Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for:

Jimmy Lenox (Marilyn Miller)

Good Shepherd Sunday

Next Sunday, May 7, 2107, is Vocation Awareness Sunday. Please keep our current Diocesan seminarians in your prayers, and also the four young men who have been accepted so far this Spring to enter the seminary in the Fall. Continue to pray for vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood, Religious Life and permanent Diaconate. If you have been praying for a seminarian this year, see his picture on our bulletin board; consider sending him a note of support and encouragement.

Men's Convocation – Saturday May 6, 2017

Some seats are available. Contact Jerry Schram, Greg Steele, or Fr. Ed—SS Parishioners \$20 for Conference and bus; bus leaves One Progress Plaza 5:45 am.

Mother Theresa of Calcutta

"The biggest disease today is not leprosy or tuberculosis, but rather the feeling of being unwanted."



Liturgical Ministers May 6—7 Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist

Sat. Vigil 5 pm: Brandon Dickerson, Joanne & Patrick Barry

Sunday 8 am: Murray O'Donnell, Hank & Louise Schelter

11 am: Laurie Stroud, Ed & Barbara Krauss

Lectors:

Sat. Vigil 5 pm: Gwen Tama

Sunday 8 am: Theresa Sparrow

11 am: Albert Ondrey

Altar Servers:

Sat. Vigil 5pm: Natalee & Xavier Watson

Sunday 8 am: Enzo & Dante Ottaviani

11 am: Whitney Madill, Katherine West

Musicians

Sat. 5 pm: Joel Christian

Easter Sunday 8 am: George Dzus, Teresa Ondrey

11 am: Cindy Williams

Hospital & Personal Care Home: Murray O'Donnell

Altar Care 5/6/17 Geri DePaola,
Mary Alice Sullivan, Trudy Ventello
Collection Counters 5/1: Team A

Offertory April 16, 2017

Sunday Offering	\$ 3,656.02
Holy Thursday (Grace Connection)	\$ 193.00
Good Friday (Holy Land)	\$ 713.00
Easter Offering	\$ 7,789.69
Special Envelopes	\$ 72.00

Thank you for your generosity!

Second Collection

The annual Catholic Home Missions Appeal will be taken up this weekend; next week will be for the Care & Education of Priests.

Catholic Home Missions

East St. Louis-Belleville is one of the poorest communities in the nation. The Sister Thea Bowman Catholic School (STBCS) provides the only alternative to the troubled public school system. The population of the STBCS elementary school is comprised of 99% racial minorities; 90% of the families fall below the poverty line, and only 4% are Catholic. The children are often raised by someone other than their biological parents and know the realities of drugs, violence and crime.

Funding from the Catholic Home Missions Appeal helps STBCS to continue providing the best holistic Catholic education possible for the children enrolled and is a vehicle for evangelization. Despite the challenges that the children at STBCS face, 100% of its graduates enter high school, and 95% of its graduates are enrolled in college or university. This program and many more give testimony to the great benefit of the Catholic Home Mission Appeal.



1841-2016

**SS Peter
and Paul
Church**

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e-mail: rmfarley@epix.net



Knights of Columbus

TOWANDA COUNCIL, No. 3915
7 Poplar St., Towanda PA 18848
Meetings 2nd/4th Wednesdays at 7 pm
Contact: 570-265-2113

JoAnne Kizer



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If you would like to join our parish, contact:

SS. Peter & Paul Church—106 Third St.—Towanda PA 18848

Call 570-265-2113 or email stppp@epix.net

REQUEST FOR PARISH REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

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**PRAY
FOR THE SICK**

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Nancy Barrett; Rosie Beale; David Walsh Brubaker; Kathy Campbell;
Patricia Coleman; David Conklin; Margaret DeMarco; Patricia Dibble; Joe
Dorsey; Stephanie Duggan; Margaret Dunkle; Mike Dunkle; Helen Finlan;
June Gormley Goodrich; Jim Grimes; Sally Groff; Ann Thompson Haglich;
Linda Hilscher; Evelyn Hoff; Glenna Hoffman; Adam Kelly; Timothy Leo
Lenox; Connie Leone; Annette McClure; Deany McGarrigle; Mickey
McGarrigle; Sharon Mahaffey; Margaret Miller; Nate Miller; Charles Palmer;
Kathleen Lenox Reider; Fr. Richard Rojas; Eugenia Serpe; Sarah Sobolewski;
Craig Sullivan; Mackenzie Kempner Taylor; Two Special Intentions;
Lani Wood.

To add a name to this published Prayer List, call the office at 265-2113 or email your request to stppp@epix.net.

St. Agnes School - Night at the Races, Saturday, May 6

St. Agnes School will host a "Night at the Races" on Saturday, May 6th, in JFK Hall. There will be refreshments, basket raffles, a best-dressed contest, a favorite hat contest, and more! The ticket price for admission plus one horse is \$15; each additional horse is \$10. You do not need to be present to win; the cost for just a horse registration is \$10 per horse. Tickets are available at St. Agnes School in advance by calling (570) 265-6803, or at the door.



The doors will open at 5:30 p.m., and the first race will be run at 7pm. The Kentucky Derby will be broadcast at 6:30 pm. This event is open to the public, and all proceeds will benefit St. Agnes School.



Bible Study Program – resumes May 2-3, 2017

The parish Bible Study program resumes this week, May 2 and May 3, as previously scheduled — on Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. and Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

Even if you missed the previous sessions before Lent, you are still most welcome to join and to discover new insights into the Scriptures.

Full Online Parish Subscription – “Formed”

Turn on your computer and sign-in to the “Formed” program to enjoy and learn from a variety of sources and media. To access and register:

1. Login To: formed.org
2. Click on (bottom right on Screen): Register (sign up using Parish code)
3. Enter Parish Code RZ8ZR8 (case sensitive) and your e-mail address
4. Complete your record for our parish

Five (5) Million Rosaries

This is the last friendly reminder to pledge your Rosary in union with other parishes across our beautiful country. In Our Blessed Mother there is solidarity and unity. To Jesus through Mary. Pledge your rosary @ <http://dynamiccatholic.com/5million-rosaries>.

Thank you and God bless you, and remember, Be Bold, Be Catholic!



Campaign Care

Usually at this time of the year, the parish has major maintenance concerns that need attention. Thankfully, this year there does NOT seem to be a significant concern to address. Therefore, the parish will NOT have a Campaign Care in 2017. Thank you for your generosity in previous years, which allowed SO much to be accomplished: projects including: Paving of all Parking Lots and the Cemetery, Church Steeple repair, new Church bathroom, Grotto Hall improvements, and last year, the Convent interior.

The Trinity Dome at America’s Catholic Church

The Bishops of the United States have approved a special one-time second collection to take place in parishes across the nation on Mother’s Day 2017 to support the mosaic ornamentation of the Trinity Dome, the crowning jewel of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.

The National Shrine has been a century in the making, since the laying of its foundation stone in 1920. Thank you in advance for your support of this initiative to help complete America’s Catholic church in advance of its 100th anniversary.

www.trinitydome.org

www.nationalshrine.org

PARISH BULLETIN ADVERTISERS

We thank those businesses and individuals who have placed an ad in our parish bulletin. We ask parishioners to thank these individuals and to use these companies. This week we especially acknowledge:

Bowen Funeral Homes

Towanda and Ulster

Anyone wishing to advertise in the Parish Bulletin should contact the parish office 570-265-2113 or speak to Father Ed for more information—the pricing is very reasonable.



O Mary,
we crown thee with flowers today,
Queen of the Angels and
Queen of the May!

May is the Month of Mary

Mary: Something Dangerously New!

Traditionally, May is the month of Mary when we celebrate her unique place in salvation history. Because of God's initiative, through a young girl answering "Yes" to the unforeseen, the presence of God becomes vulnerable in human flesh. In the days of God's Old Testament people, it was the Ark of the Covenant that marked the presence of God. Now something new is happening: Mary of Nazareth is the tabernacle of God.

Like all mothers, Mary gives over her body and soul so that new life may be born. All mothers must wait for the gradual process that is happening within them; they must learn to let go of the child within them; they must not only nurture and protect the presence of the life within them, but also foster its leaving. The act of childbirth is

the painful act of letting go, so that the life within can take its own separate place in the life of the world. Mary's vocation is not only to hold Jesus within her, but also to let him go, to let him become the person he must be.

Mary assists the struggle of God to be one like us. There is something dangerously new about Mary, the woman at the centre of the Christian story. It is this woman, not a man, who brings God's real presence into the world. And through her, the presence of the Redeemer will be known and celebrated.

<http://www.hindleycatholic.org.uk/drupal/article/050513>

175TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR OF SS PETER & PAUL CHURCH - Mark Your Calendar Now

175th Anniversary Choral Concert - Sunday, May 21, 2017

Saints Peter & Paul Church – 2:00 p.m. Come & Enjoy it!

Refreshments after the concert in Grotto Hall

175th Anniversary Historic Cemetery Marker - Memorial Day Mass - May 29

Memorial Day Mass will be celebrated on Monday, May 29, 2017, at 9:00 am at the James Street Cemetery, weather permitting (otherwise at church); bring your own lawn chairs to the cemetery. That day, we will also re-dedicate the pioneer graves of our Catholic ancestors in this hallowed ground, where a historic marker will be installed.

175th Anniversary Closing Liturgy – Time Capsule – Parish Dinner - June 4

The 175th Anniversary Year will conclude on Sunday June 4, 2017, the Feast of Pentecost, with Mass at 11 am, followed by the burial of our Time Capsule, and then a Parish Dinner at St. Agnes – JFK Hall.

Everyone is invited; however, please sign-up for the dinner so we can plan enough food—see sheets on table at the entrance to the church. Please reserve this date and time to celebrate with parishioners and parish friends—the final event of our Anniversary Year.



Vacation Bible School, Mark your calendar!

SS. Peter & Paul is again joining several other churches in the area to sponsor Vacation Bible School, June 25-29, 2017, from 6-8 PM. VBS will be held this year at Towanda First Presbyterian Church.

Needed for VBS: Volunteers!

Adults or teens who would like to volunteer for all or part of VBS, please contact Marie Seibert at 570-265-3122.

Needed for VBS: Boxes and paint!

We need large boxes. If you are buying a new refrigerator, washer/dryer, any appliance, please save us the box! We are also looking for the boxes that reams of paper come in. Contact Deb at 570-265-5575 for pick-up or Marie Seibert. **Paint:** we can use your leftover latex paint in white, brown, or gray.