



The Baptism of the Lord



January 12, 2020

Saints Peter and Paul Church

106 Third Street - Towanda, Pennsylvania 18848-1798

Phone: 570-265-2113

FAX: 570-265-2114

E-mail: 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.



*This is my
beloved Son
with whom I am
well pleased.*

Matthew 3:17

St. Agnes School

CCD Classes - Sundays 9:15 am @ St. Agnes School



This Sunday, enjoy a hot breakfast in JFK Hall—Fabulous Food for family-friendly prices! This St. Agnes PTG fundraiser for the school takes place on the second Sunday of each month during the school year 8-11 am.



Papal Intention for January 2020 *Promotion of World Peace*

We pray that Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of good will, may promote peace and justice.



HELP ! 12:15 PM Sunday, Jan. 12

We need helpers to take down the Christmas decorations after 11 am Mass this Sunday. Please help us to pack up and store the important items, clean up and remove the disposables, and restore its normal dignity to our worship space.

Parish Finance Council Meeting @ 3:30 PM Monday, Jan. 13

The Parish Finance Council will meet this Monday, January 13, 2020 at 3:30 pm **in the parish rectory**. This weekend, please pick up a copy of the half-year Financial Report from Fr. Ed.

Musicians Meeting @ 6 PM Monday, Jan. 13

Please note the time change for the musicians' planning meeting this Monday, Jan. 13, at 6 PM in Grotto Hall.

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting @ 6:30 PM Wednesday, Jan. 15

The PPC meets this Wednesday at 6:30 pm **in the parish rectory**. You should have received an agenda outline via e-mail this past week. If you are not able to attend, please notify the parish office 570-265-2113 or e-mail Fr. Ed

Pro-Life Rally / Walk / Worship: Sunday, Jan. 19, 2020

You are invited to join the annual Pro-Life Rally at 2 pm at the Bradford County Courthouse on Sunday, Jan. 19, 2010. The group will walk to the bridge and then back to the First Presbyterian Church for an ecumenical worship service followed by light refreshments. U.S. Representative Fred Keller will be the guest speaker. Please join in witnessing to the sanctity of human life, and to speak for the more than 60,000,000 American babies denied it in the past 48 years since abortion was made legal in our country.

D.C. National March for Life —Friday, Jan. 24, 2020

A bus chartered by Pennsylvanians for Human Life is available for transportation to attend the National March for Life in Washington, D.C. Your reservation and \$30 payment is required. Please contact Rob Howard at 570-395-3417 or email rshoward1@frontiernet.net.

World Marriage Day - Feb. 16, 2020 *(note date change)

World Marriage Day will be celebrated here on February 16, 2020. Additional information will soon be in the mail and the bulletin. Thank You and please plan to attend.

2020 Calendar:

- Jan. 12: after 11 am Mass - Un-decorate the church **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**
- Jan. 13: 3:30 pm in Rectory—Parish Finance Council (see note above)
6 pm in Grotto Hall—Musicians Planning Meeting (note change in time)
- Jan. 15: 6:30 pm in Rectory —Parish Pastoral Council
- Jan. 19: 2 pm Pro-Life Rally @ County Courthouse (See article above)
- Jan. 20: Martin Luther King Holiday: 8:30 am Mass as usual; parish office closed
- Jan. 21: 10:15 Mass @ Personal Care Home
- Jan. 24: Bus to D.C. March for Life (see article above)
- Feb. 1: Saturday all day Confirmation Retreat; assisting at 5 pm Mass afterward
- Feb. 7: Friday 6 pm First Penance Practice pm in the church
- Feb. 8: First Penance at 10 am Saturday; lunch in Grotto Hall afterward
- Feb. 16: World Marriage Day Celebration (details TBA)

Mass Intentions Jan. 11 - 19

Sat. Vigil 5 pm: Fran Buchholz (Lynn Buchholz)
Sun. 8:00 am: Our Parishioners
11:00 am: Joseph Dzus (SSPP Music Ministry)
Mon. 8:30 am: Jack Corbett (Ed & Barbara Ulatowski)
Tues. 8:30 am: Alice Rittell Grinnell
Wed. 8:30 am: Michael Yanak (Rob & Barb Wywiorski)
Thursday: No Mass
Fri. 8:30 am: Jean Rittell Rowe
Sat. Vigil 5 pm: Our Parishioners
Sun. 8:00 am: Jacqueline Vigil (Seibert Family)
11:00 am: Nicole DeFrancesco
(parents Rich & Sharon Frank)

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

Merry Christmas! Today marks the ending of the Christmas Season. Enjoy the day!

P.S. Ending the Christmas Season - means the decorations need to be taken down and put away. If you can assist in helping here at the church, it would be greatly appreciated—Sunday after the 11 am Mass, about 12:15 pm. Many hands will make light work. . .

The Parish Christmas Present

The Matt Kelly book, Rediscover the Saints, is a gift to you this Christmas. If you did not pick up a copy yet, make certain to do so this weekend since only a few copies remain. Parishioners who have already started reading the book have indicated that they are enjoying it. Matt Kelly will also use this book during the upcoming Lenten season. At various times during the coming year, we hope to feature a chapter from the book and to offer some reflective questions concerning the chapter and our individual and collective lives. Enjoy the book and "Thank You."

This weekend, in the Scriptures we hear about John the Baptist. Chapter 20 of Rediscover the Saints is about another rebel with an affinity for the desert: Saint Anthony.

What connections can we make today about being in the world of pop culture, or in the desert? Do you have a personal story about a saint's influence on your life?

Confirmation and First Penance Prayers Requested

Prayers are requested for the students of our parish (Lilli Bride, Sara Burrowes, Lara Vega, and Joey Weinman) and of our neighboring parishes, who will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this year.

Bishop Bambera will be here at SSPP Parish on Monday April 20, 2020, to confer the Sacrament of Confirmation upon all these students.

On Saturday, February 1, 2020, all the Confirmation students will participate in a retreat given by Br. David Dollerdorain FSC, along with several men studying to be Religious Brothers – De LaSalle Christian Brothers.

The young men and women to receive Confirmation will attend the 5 pm Mass that same Saturday and lead the congregation in several aspects of the liturgy. Please keep all these students, their parents and their sponsors in your prayers.

First Penance and First Holy Communion

On Saturday February 8, 2020, young members of our parish will receive the Sacrament of Penance for the first time. We ask that you keep them in your prayers. First Holy Communion is scheduled for May 16.

Liturgical Ministers Jan. 18-19

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist

Sat. Vigil 5 pm: Eileen Farrell, Bob & Jackie Pyznar
Sun. 8 am: Murray O'Donnell, Greg Steele, Barb Wywiorski
11 am: Tricia Bryington, Barbara & Ed Krauss

Lectors

Sat. Vigil 5 pm: Mary Alice Demangone
Sun. 8 am: Matt Tavani
11 am: Karen Stroud

Altar Servers

Sat. Vigil 5 pm: Logan Lambert, Cale Woodburn
Sun. 8 am: Sidney Bride, Emma Morgan
11 am: Shane Maghamez, Stan Vatnitsky

Hospital & Personal Care Home: Murray O'Donnell
Bradford County Manor: Mary Pfeffer

Altar Care January Chair: Ed Krauss

Jan. 18 - Week 3: Laurie Young

Linda Walsh, Rozanne Walsh

Counters Jan. 13: Team A

Offertory Dec. 29, 2019

Christmas	\$ 15,577.50
Sunday Offering	\$ 4,836.00
Special Envelopes	\$ 80.00

Thank You for your Generosity

Second Collection

This week Jan. 11-12 is for Aid to Education.

Next week (Jan. 18-19) will be for Insurance and Taxes.



1841- 2016

**SS Peter
and Paul
Church**

OTTAVIANI OPTOMETRY

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Knights of Columbus

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Meetings 2nd Wednesdays at 7 pm

Contact: 570-265-2113

RICHARD M. FARLEY

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Before You Pay ~ See Rick or Ray

**The voice of the Lord
is over the waters**

Psalm 29: 3

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

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REQUEST FOR PARISH REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ Date _____

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PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Art Badger; Nancy Barrett; Tori Barton; Josie Beale; Gus Branish; Donna Brown;
Carol Brubaker; Tom Burger; Angela Burke; Chris Cole; Beth Coleman; Patricia
Coleman; Jon Curtis; Monica Curtis; Margaret DeMarco; Patricia Dibble; Mary
Theresa Dorsey; Charles Discoll; Rachel Dugan; Stephanie Duggan; George
Emery; Helen Finlan; Christina Fleury; June Gormley Goodrich; Sally Groff;
Linda Hilscher; Evelyn Hoff; John Hoffman, Sr.; Billy Hollenback; Polly
Karschner; Annette McClure; Deany McGarrigle; Mickey McGarrigle; Sharon
Mahaffey; Nate Miller; Paul Moran; Ethan Neuber; Irma O'Keefe; Jean Perry;
Cindy Robinson; Mary Ann Schram; Eugenia Serpe; Mackenzie Kempner
Taylor; Ed and Barbara Ulatowski; Prairie Rose Upton; Barbara Westfall;
Sharon Wilson; and 5 Special Intentions.



PRAY
FOR THE SICK

Angel Tree Cards

The parish received numerous cards from families who received Angel Tree gifts from our parishioners. Here are a few of the notes inside the cards:

“To those who helped – “Thank you so much for helping out our family!” Always K

“Thank you so much for all the help give to people in need thank you for helping me and my family have a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year” C

“Christmas wouldn’t be possible without your help! Thank you!”

“Thank you so much for everything without people like you there would be no Christmas this year in my house. Love B

“We at Grace Connection wish to thank you all so very much for helping us give needy families a Christmas and letting them know that others care. What a wonderful feeling that is and they all are so very grateful to you for caring about them. Many tears were shed and many hugs were given. This makes our Christmas, knowing that a family will have a Christmas because of all of your help. Thank you again, and God bless you all.”

Recycle Used Clothing

Trinity Lutheran Church (908 Main St., Towanda) has a collection shed in their south parking lot for used clothing, shoes/sneakers, belts, purses, blankets, sheets, pillowcases, drapes and stuffed toys. These will be sent to needy people all over the U.S. and the world through St. Pauly Textiles mission. Please place items in a tied/closed plastic bag to keep them clean and dry before dropping off.

PLEASE, NO rags, scraps, pillows, toys or household goods; please don’t burden this mission with unwanted items that would incur time and expense for disposal.

T.A.C.O. Food Pantry

The Towanda Area Clergy Association sponsors the local food pantry located in Wysox. There is a box near the entrance of the church for collecting your donations of food staples (with unexpired usage date); also for simple personal hygiene items as well as kitchen/bath supplies (such as paper towels). Thank you for including the needy when you go shopping. Items from the box are picked up after 11 am Sunday Mass and delivered to TACO on Monday. Thank you for your consideration of neighbors in need.

Word of Life

Although we may feel unsure how best to comfort those who mourn, we must stand with them in their time of suffering. Miscarriage touches the lives of many people, yet all too often this tragedy remains unaddressed. ...As members of a community of faith ourselves, let us comfort those who mourn as we look forward together to a time when all tears are dried and our families are whole once again.

~ “Solace and Strength in the Sorrow of Miscarriage,”
2014-2015 Respect Life Program, USCCB

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:

Barrett Law Offices
Patrick J. Barrett, III
Athens and Canton

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.

From “Some Thoughts for a Better Life”

So why is a car’s windshield so large and the rear view mirror so small?

Because our past is not as important as our future. So, look ahead and move on.