



First Sunday of Advent



November 29, 2020

Saints Peter and Paul Church

106 Third Street - Towanda, Pennsylvania 18848-1798

Phone: 570-265-2113

FAX: 570-265-2114

E-mail: stppp@yahoo.com Website: sspeterandpaulchurch.net

Pastor: Rev. Edward L. Michelini

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

Parish Office Hours

Mon-Thurs. 9:30-3:30

GREEN PHASE LIMITED RE-OPENING OF SSPP CHURCH

See Updates on Website
sspeterandpaulchurch.net

*A reminder that the Sunday
Mass obligation remains sus-
pended and that vulnerable
individuals should remain at
home for their own safety.*

Parish Prayer Line Requests

Call Annette at 570-265-9691

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.

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

No Reason to Miss Mass

MASS TIMES - TV and Online

SS Peter & Paul Church Saturday Vigil is now
livestreamed for viewing—youtube link is on our Web Page

Daily 8 AM, Noon, and 7 PM on EWTN television station

Sunday 8 AM and Noon on EWTN television station

Weekdays 12:10, 3:30 and 7 PM on CTW television; on website
www.dioceseofscranton.org; and streaming on Diocesan
Facebook, twitter, instagram, and youtube.

Saturday Vigil 4 pm on CTW television and Diocesan website
www.dioceseofscranton.org; and streaming on Diocesan
facebook, twitter, Instagram and youtube

Sunday 10 am on CTW and Diocesan website
www.dioceseofscranton.org; and streaming on Diocesan
Facebook, twitter, Instagram and youtube

Weekdays 9 AM livestream at TheDivineMercy.org Facebook
page

Weekdays 7 pm in Spanish livestream at LaDivinaMisericordia
(Official) facebook page

Jesus said to his disciples:

Be watchful! Be alert!

You do not know when the time will come.

... What I say to you, I say to all:

"Watch!"

Mark 13: 33...37



2020 Diocesan Annual Appeal – Online / In-pew Weekend

The parish community is very grateful for your generosity and response to the 2020 Diocesan Appeal and in so many other ways. A notice was sent to the parish this week from the Annual Appeal Office indicating that 105 (34.2%) of families from our parish have given or pledged \$22,975 (74.1%) of our parish goal of \$31K.

Thank You very much for your response and generosity in supporting various programs and people in the Diocese.

If you have not made a donation/pledge, please prayerfully consider making a pledge and helping people in need in our parish community and Diocese. You can donation by phone **570-207-2250**, by mail-in envelope (entrance to the church) or by access to the Appeal website **annualappeal.org/donate-now/**

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe – December 12, 2020

Saturday, December 12, 2020, we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Plans were being made to have a celebration after the 5 pm Mass; however, there is increased concern due to the upswing in positive cases of COVID-19 in the area. An additional factor is the recent fire which destroyed the house on the Rabago property and the results of that fire. Because of all these factors, the fiesta / dinner after Mass has been cancelled.

Nevertheless, the rosary in honor of the Blessed Virgin will be prayed prior to Mass, beginning 20 minutes before the Mass, at 4:40 pm. Please come and honor the Most Blessed Virgin Mary – Our Lady of Guadalupe—on her Feast Day.



Pope Quote:

“We were not created to dream about vacations or the weekend, but to make God’s dreams come true in this world.

God made us capable of dreaming, so that we could embrace the beauty of life. The works of mercy are the most beautiful works in life.”

Pope Francis’s Prayer Intention - December *For a Life of Prayer*

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

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:

Ottaviani Optometry
Wysox & Wyalusing

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.

Did You Know...



**You May Make a Gift
to Your Parish
or to the Diocesan
Annual Appeal
Directly From Your IRA**

If you are 70½ or older and have a traditional individual retirement account, you can use all or part of your *required minimum distribution* to support your parish or the Diocesan Annual Appeal without having to count the transfers as income for federal tax purposes.

Distributions must be sent directly to your parish or the Diocese by the plan administrator of your IRA.

For information, please contact
Jim Bebla,
Diocesan Secretary of Development,
Jim-Bebla@DioceseofScranton.org
570-207-2250

Prayer Intentions

This past Tuesday, special intentions at the Blue Mass were prayed for police, fire and first responder personnel; let’s continue.

As the COVID cases continue to rise here and elsewhere, please pray, not only for everyone affected by the disease, but also particularly all the hospital, health care, and medical workers besieged by this pandemic.

Our world, nearby and globally, is sick, is weary, is frightened, and perhaps angry. Let us remember to thank God for his loving care for all of us in every circumstance, and to plead for his merciful grace to guide us through our times of darkness.

Mass Intentions Nov. 28—Dec. 6

Weekend Masses only by Reservation

No reservation is needed for a weekday.

Sat. Vigil 5 pm: Our All Souls Intentions
Sunday 8:00 am: Kevin Barrett (Ron & Sue Gregus)
11:00 am: David W. Brubaker
 (wife Carol & son Charles Brubaker)
Mon. 8:30 am: All Deceased Members of the Priests'
 Purgatorial Society, and
 All the Deceased Priests of the Diocese)
Tues. 8:30 am: Helen Elizabeth Barrett
 (Patricia Kelly Sadler)
Wed. 8:30 am: Glenna Hoffmann
 (Ed & Barbara Ulatowski)
Thursday No Mass
Fri. 8:30 am: Mary Serecsko (Mary Ann Hobbs)
Sat. Vigil 5 pm: Jim Nalisnick (Family)
Sunday 8:00 am: Our Parishioners
11:00 am: Thomas Elliott (Patricia Benson)

This Sunday the Season of Advent Begins

Consider doing something special in preparation for the gift of the Incarnation – maybe spending some time individually, or as a family, reading about the Christmas story, or the life of a Saint, or something else that you would feel appropriate for this holy season.

Dec. 3: St. Frances Xavier

St. Francis Xavier, co-patron of foreign missions along with St. Therese of Lisieux, was one of the seven founders of the Jesuit Order. His travels led to the conversion of thousands throughout Africa, India, Japan and the Philippines. May his continued intercession lead to vocations to missionary work, and more native vocations through the efforts of missionaries.

Dec. 4-5: First Friday and First Saturday

This week, the First Friday and First Saturday Mass will be at offered at 8:30 am as usual.

Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration will be held this Friday, December 4, from 9 am to 9 pm in the main church.

Thank you for your generous participation last month. Sign-up sheets are in the back of the church, If you have questions, call Rosemary Hoffmann: 570-265-7126 or email her at spicejar@epix.net.

2020-21 Sunday Readings

The new navy blue Sunday Missal containing the 2020-2021 Sunday Readings is available now at the entrance to the church, or from the rectory. You are welcome to take a personal copies for yourself or others. If you know of parishioners at home who would like a copy ask them and then bring them one, or ask them to call the rectory 570-265-2113. This year is Cycle B – The Gospel of Mark . Enjoy them!

RESERVATION FOR WEEKEND MASS

<https://tableagent.com/scranton/sts-peter-and-paul/>

Or call Kathleen 570-364-5996

ONLY between 12-3 PM; ONLY Thursday / Saturday

Ministers Nov. 30—Dec. 6

Collections Mon. Nov. 30, 9:30 am: Team B

Altar Care Dec. Chair: Ed Krauss

Sat. Dec. 5: Carol Madill

Becky Basse, Jean Reilly

Lectors Dec. 5-6: Bob Pyznar

Mike Miller, Debbie West

Altar Care Workers:

Go to the recent schedule and mark July = December. If you have any health concerns, or can't work on your date, please notify your monthly chairperson so that a substitute can be scheduled. Thank you.

Offertory November 15

Sunday Offering	\$ 5,197
Aid to Education	\$ 249
Special Envelopes	\$ 340

Thank you for your generosity.

Mailed- Delivered-Automatic Contributions Appreciated

Second Collection

This weekend we will take up your Christmas flower (pink) envelopes. Next weekend will be for the Care & Education of Priests.

Do You Use or Need Contribution Envelopes?

We need to know if you plan to use your box of Parish Contribution Envelopes in 2021; **if not, please** notify the parish office, so that the box numbers will then be re-assigned, and the boxes will be available in December.

Anyone who did not pick up their 2020 box, will not have a new one for 2021, unless you ask for a box.

If you don't have a box now, and do want the convenience of weekly envelopes, please notify the parish office this week at 570-265-2113 or stppp@yahoo.com. Thank you.

Happy New 'Liturgical' Year ! In Advent, we begin the journey, again.



1841- 2016

**SS Peter
and Paul
Church**

OTTAVIDANI OPTOMETRY

1832 GOLDEN MILE RD
P.O. BOX 599
WYSOX PA 18854
PHONE: 570-265-6816

55 MAIN ST
P.O. BOX 505
WYALUSING, PA 18853
PHONE: 570-746-1610



Bob Hugo 570-265-6615

106 River St., Towanda, PA
Auto * Home * Life * Fin. Services
bob.hugo.bt7s@statefarm.com

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BARRETT LAW OFFICES

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Attorney and Counselor at Law

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Athens, PA 18810 Canton, PA 17724
570-888-0297 570-673-5180
Fax: 570-888-4142 or 570-364-5799
patrick@barrettllawofficepa.com patbar.law@frontiernet.net



Knights of Columbus

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

RICHARD M. FARLEY

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

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Before You Pay ~ See Rick or Ray

Give Comfort To My People.

Isaiah 40: 1

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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 _____

City, Zip _____ Phone _____

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PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Art Badger; Nancy Barrett; Josie Beale; Gus Branish; Carol Brubaker; Tom Burger; Angela Burke; Rosie Burlington; Beth Coleman; Patricia Coleman; Jon Curtis; Monica Curtis; Berneda Daly; Margaret DeMarco; Patricia Dibble; Mary Theresa Dorsey; Rachel Dugan; Stephanie Duggan; Margaret Dunkle; George Emery; Helen Finlan; Christina Fleury; Sally Groff; Linda Hilscher; Eric Hodgdon; Evelyn Hoff; John Hoffman, Sr.; Billy Hollenback; Polly Karschner; Annette McClure; Deany McGarrigle; Mickey McGarrigle; Sharon Mahaffey; Nate Miller; Gloria Minardo; Paul Moran; Charles Muchichko; Katrina Murray; Ethan Neuber; Noah Novickas; Irma O'Keefe; Jean Perry; Cindy Robinson; Mary Ann Schram; Robert Murphy; Eugenia Serpe; Pastor Rachel Stahle; Charmaine Stempel; Jack Stevens; Mackenzie Kempner Taylor; Noel Tramontana; Barbara Ulatowski; Prairie Rose Upton; Barbara Westfall; Sharon Wilson; Lani Wood; Joe Zak; and 5 Special Intentions.



PRAY
FOR THE SICK

Parish Spiritual Enrichment Book

Last year, John Petro left his Estate to the parish. Due to John's generosity, several parish programs were initiated to foster personal and parish spiritual advancement. One of those programs was for Adult/Youth Enrichment. Consequently, the parish has purchased two books for Advent: Matt Kelly's **"I Heard God Laugh,"** and **"Do Something Beautiful for God," -The Essential Teachings of Mother Teresa.**

Please select and take a copy of one of the two books. If you like the book, either keep it or pass it along to someone you feel would benefit from the book. If you do not like the book, return it to the church and place it in the box under the table at the entrance to the church for someone else to perhaps appreciate.

Christmas Angel Tree - Dec. 6 — Deadline to return

Again, our parish is participating in the Christmas Angel Tree program to assist families in our area. Please consider being an Angel to a family in the area. Thank You.

Gift cards only this year will be used, as specified by each 'angel.' Return your selected angel along with the gift card in an envelope marked with the amount into the CHRISTMAS BOX near the tree.

December 8 will be the final deadline in order to distribute gifts to families. If you can't get yours to church, mail it to: Sandra Kasenga, 331 York Ave., or Kathleen DeWan 111 Lundy Lane, both in Towanda.



Christmas 2020 – Help us Plan Ahead

This year because of the Pandemic, we will attempt to handle the Christmas Mass schedule using St. Agnes JFK Hall, so that more people would be able to attend. In an effort to accomplish this, we ask that you tell us which Mass you and your family will attend, and the number attending.

Christmas Mass Schedule:

Christmas Eve: 4:00, 6:00 and 10:00 PM and Christmas Day: 10:00 AM

Sign-up Sheets are on the tables at the entrance to the church, and you can also tell us by using the computer reservation system <https://tableagent.com/scranton/sts-peter-and-paul/>

Please note that it is essential for the parish organizers to know your intentions ahead of time, due to all the work that is needed to make things work in this COVID-19 Pandemic period., for the health and safety of all concerned.

If you can, please indicate your plans for Christmas Mass as soon as possible – you can change them later on, if needed, as long as you keep us informed. Sign up at church, or make the online reservation now.

The Sacraments:

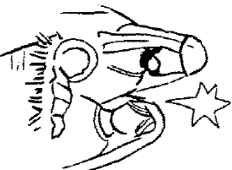
At this time, anyone interested in going to the Sacrament of Reconciliation can call Fr. Ed at the parish office 570-265-2113 and make arrangements. He is available at the usual times, but it would be good that he

Word of Life

“Having received the gift of the Gospel of Life, we are the people of life and a people for life. It is our duty to proclaim the Gospel of Life to the world. To proclaim Jesus is to proclaim life itself. Gratitude and joy at the incomparable dignity of the human person impel us to bring the Gospel of life to the hearts of all people and make it penetrate every part of society.

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
 “The Gospel of Life: A Brief Summary”
respectlife.org/gospel-of-life-summary

Advent 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November 29 Buy or make an Advent wreath. Bless it and light the first candle tonight and every night this week. Read Mark 13:33-37.	30 Advent is about waiting for the Savior to come. Offer a simple prayer of praise anytime you have to wait during Advent.	December 1 The presence of Jesus reminds us to hope in God's mercy. Make a list of reasons for your hope today.	2 Pick one habit that is keeping you from holiness. Identify your "go-to sin" and resolve to conquer it during Advent.	3 Add 20 minutes of daily prayer during Advent. Set an alarm to remind you to pray for 10 minutes each morning and night this month.	4 In gratitude that God provides for your needs, set aside gently used clothing and give it to the poor. Add a piece you love as a special sacrifice.	5 Perform an examination of conscience today. Then go to Confession, if your parish offers it, to get ready to greet the Savior.
6 At sundown tonight, light two violet candles in the Advent wreath and read Mark 1:1-8.	7 St. Nicholas was a generous man and a courageous bishop. Today, make at least one generous act of love in his honor.	8 The feast of the Immaculate Conception celebrates Mary's freedom from Original Sin. Attend or stream Mass and pray a Rosary.	9 Today, let nothing discourage you in honor of St. Juan Diego. He never gave up, placing his trust in Jesus and his Mother.	10 In your Christmas cards write a note about the blessings you received this year as a witness to God's love.	11 Buy Christmas gifts from merchants that carry "fair trade" items to support workers in developing countries.	12 To honor Our Lady of Guadalupe, place a rose in a vase in your home and pray a "Hail Mary" whenever you pass it.
13 Gaudete Sunday-Joy! Celebrate the halfway point of Advent. Light two violet candles and the rose one. Read John 1:6-8, 19-28.	14 Spend time in silence today. Say "no" to unnecessary distractions. In silence and peace, you will be open to God's will.	15 Think of Biblical accounts of God's mercy to sinners. Ask forgiveness from someone you have hurt and forgive those who wronged you.	16 In honor of Las Posadas remembering the Holy Family's trek to Bethlehem, pray for all those who have been forced from home.	17 Send a card to someone who lost a loved one in the last year. Offer your thoughts and prayers for healing and comfort.	18 Pray for the men and women in the armed services who won't be able to spend Christmas with their families.	19 Pray the Angelus at 6:00 am, 12:00 pm, and 6:00pm every day until Christmas.
20 Light all four candles in the wreath tonight and all week. Read Luke 1:26-38.	21 This can be a sad time for those who are alone, especially in a pandemic. Pray for anyone you know who will be alone on Christmas.	22 As a gift to the coming Savior, repair a relationship with a friend or family member that needs healing.	23 Make an effort to share God's love today. Say a kind word or listen with compassion to someone who is suffering.	24 Even if you live alone, put up and decorate a Christmas tree. Light it as a symbol of Christ, the Light of the World.	 Rejoice! Read the story of Jesus' birth in Luke 2:1-20 and meditate on each miraculous detail. Think of how joyful it will be to meet Jesus when he comes again.	
25						