



St. Mary of the Assumption Wyalusing and St. Joachim Meshoppen

Our Lady of Catholic Parish Perpetual Help



Extends a Warm Welcome to All

JN 4:5-42

Mission Statement: We bring together a new parish family to worship God, to evangelize the community, to encourage participation of youth and young adults in parish life, to pass on our faith to the next generation, to respect life and be good stewards of God's gifts.

ADMINISTRATOR

Rev. Peter Tran

petertuyentr@gmail.com

PARISH PASTORAL AND FINANCIAL SECRETARY

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PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIR

Geraldine Zionkowski

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE CHAIR

Charles Bullock

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS ED.

Robyn Burns Kennedy

CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTORS

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Softening the Heart

In today's [Gospel](#), Jesus promises the Samaritan woman "living water which shall become a fountain within her, leaping up to provide eternal life." The liturgy on this Lenten Sunday places Jesus' promise within the context of the Exodus account of water coming from the rock of Horeb.

The Responsorial [Psalm 95](#) refers both to the "Rock of our salvation" and also to hardened hearts. On the one hand, there is the Rock from which the water of eternal life flows (God). On the other hand, there are rocks (our hearts) which we seek to soften in Lent by "prayer, fasting and works of mercy."

We believe, with Paul, that "the love of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit." That love of God should make us a forgiving people, one that enables the world to "be brought together in unity and peace."

Our goal is to "harden not our hearts:" to be concerned for the poor and suffering, to forgive the criminal, to welcome the stranger, to love our enemies. "If only you recognized God's gift. ..."

By becoming for people a model of merciful love for others, Christ proclaims by his actions even more than by his words that call to mercy which is one of the essential elements of the gospel ethos.

In this instance it is not just a case of fulfilling a commandment or an obligation of an ethical nature: it is also a case of satisfying a condition of major importance for God to reveal himself in his mercy to man: "The merciful ... shall obtain mercy."

Pope John Paul II, [Dives in Misericordia](#), 1980: 3

Gerald Darring

READINGS

MARCH 16

MONDAY

LENTEN WEEKDAY
2 KGS 5:1-15AB/LK
4:24-30

MARCH 17

TUESDAY

SAINT PATRICK, BISHOP
DN 3:25, 34-43/Mt
18:21-35 OR 1 Pt
4:7B-11/LK 5:1-11

MARCH 18

WEDNESDAY SAINT

CYRIL OF JERUSALEM,
BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF
THE CHURCH
Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19
OR 1 JN 5:1-5/JN 15:1-8

MARCH 19

THURSDAY SAINT

JOSEPH SPOUSE OF THE
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
2 SM 7:4-5A, 12-14A,
16/ROM 4:13, 16-18,
22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24A
OR LK 2:41-51A

MARCH 20

FRIDAY

LENTEN WEEKDAY
Hos 14:2-10/Mk 12:28-34

MARCH 21

SATURDAY

LENTEN WEEKDAY
Hos 6:1-6/LK 18:9-14

MARCH 22

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

1 SM 16:1B, 6-7, 10-13A/EPH 5:8-14/JN 9:1-41 OR JN 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT MARCH 15, 2020

Parish Worship, The Lord's Day

Vigil: 5:00 pm St. Mary
Sunday: 9:00 am St. Joachim 11:00 am St. Mary
Weekdays: 12:00 pm St. Mary (*or as posted)
Fridays: 12:15 pm St. Joachim (*or as posted)
Holy Days: Vigil 7:00 pm SJ 12 noon and 7:00 pm SM
Confessions: 4:15 pm Saturdays SM,
Sundays 8:30 am SJ 10:30 am SM
* On the back cover of this bulletin

PARISH BULLETIN CALENDAR
COMING EVENTS, MEETINGS, GATHERINGS, ETC.

Every Friday During Lent Mass with Stations of the Cross 12:15 pm St. Joachim and 6:30 pm St. Mary's

Every Tuesday—Eucharistic Adoration will begin on Tuesday, 2/25 at 12:30 to 2 PM at St. Mary's and will continue throughout the season of Lent

Throughout Lent, Beginning Monday March 2nd, the 10 Minute Club begins. St. Mary's open daily 8:00 am to 5:00 pm for private Adoration & prayer.

Throughout Lent, St. Mary CCD Students "Let's Can Hunger" Food drive. See elsewhere in the bulletin

March 22, Sunday—Deanery Lenten Penance Service 2:00 pm Wyalusing 4:00 pm Dushore.

March 30th, Monday—Annual Parish Picnic Planning Meeting 12:30 pm in the Parish Office.

April 19th, Sunday—Outdoor Mass 11:00 am at the Divine Mercy Shrine SM

April 23rd, Thursday—Presentation on Addiction SM Hall at 6:00 pm. For Middle School and High School children and their parents

April 25th, Saturday—Sixth Annual Men's Conference "Called to Fatherhood" 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. Details coming soon

May 16th, Saturday—Save the Date! Elimination Party 2020!

Deadline for weekend bulletin is Wednesdays at the Parish Office by 12:30 pm.---



Please Pray for the Faithful Departed

And

Please Pray for those entrusted to our prayers:

Joshua Douglas, Lilly Salsman, Tina Clapper, Joyce Thomas, Doris Donnora, Tony Turner, Sally Turner, Beth Coleman, Joanne Mucha, Virginia Fly, Stella Polny, Geri Mokris, Debbie Otis, Elizabeth Poepperling, Paul McIntyre, June Kinney, Carlton Repsher, Queenie Ciprich, Art Badger, Ruby Boyanowski, Link Wells Jr., Bobby Williams, Sally Rosencrance, Joe Donovan, Kathy Teel, Sue Roberts, Fr. Philip Ryappan, and Michael Peterson, Raymond Tenasco, Robert Korsman, Sue Mullen, Cathy Stienbaugh, Dorothy Stoddard, John Kulp, Wilmer Deconti, and the Robert Tucker Family stuck in China.

Sick, Hospitalized and Homebound. Please call to notify Fr. Peter

To add any names to the list, please contact the parish office.

OUR WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Our current weekly collection needed to meet our financial obligations currently is \$4,210.00

Collection March 7&8 2020

Budget goal **\$4,210.00**

General Fund Offering **\$3788.75**

Under Goal **\$421.25**

Thank you for your generosity!

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

You must be a registered member of the Parish to receive Baptism, First Holy Communion, Confirmation, Marriage and to receive Sponsor Certificates/letters etc. Anyone who is not registered is asked to contact the Parish Office. **New parishioners are always welcome!**

SACRAMENTS

▪ **Sacrament of Baptism:** Please call the Parish Office to make arrangements for your child's Baptism.

Sacrament of Marriage : Couples contemplating marriage should notify the Parish Office at least 6-9 months before your date to allow for necessary preparations.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick: Urgent calls will be attended to as soon as possible.

RCIA: The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process to bring non-Catholics into our faith. Additionally, it is also for previously baptized Catholics seeking to complete their sacraments of initiation. If you are seeking information or are interested in becoming a part of our faith community, please call the Parish Office for further information.

LENTEN DEANERY PENANCE SERVICES

Sunday, March 22nd

2pm Wyalusing 4pm Dushore

Sunday, March 29th

2pm Canton 4pm Towanda

Sunday, April 5th

3pm Sayre



STATIONS OF THE CROSS WITHIN MASS

Fridays during Lent

12:15 pm St. Joachim

6:30 pm St. Mary's



2020 PARISH PICNIC BASKET RAFFLE

It's that time! Time to start planning what kind of basket to donate to OLPH Parish Picnic.

A few suggested themes:

Pets—Plants—Baking—Picnics—Cooking—Birds—Snacks

Kids—Relaxation—Groceries—Gift Cards—Games.....

Watch for due date to be announced in the bulletin.



2020 PARISH PICNIC PLANNING MEETING

Many hands are needed to plan and work for this year's picnic. There will be a planning meeting on Monday, March 30th in the Parish Office at 12:30 pm. Please remember in addition to a social event this is also a major fundraiser for the parish. Past committee members and new ones alike are needed. If you are able to help in any way, please come to this meeting.



TEN MINUTE CLUB FOR LENT

The 10 Minute Lenten Club has resumed on Monday, March 2nd. St. Mary's Church is open from 8 AM to 5 PM. Please stop by and enjoy some quiet time with Our Lord in the real presence of Jesus in the tabernacle.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Eucharistic Adoration Every Tuesday,
12:30 to 2 PM at St. Mary's and will
continue throughout the season of Lent



TIPS FROM A MOM OF 13

Tip #224



IF it WASN't FOR My CHILDREN, I WOULD HAVE BEEN overWHElMed WITH WORK. My daughters WASHed the CLothes and the DISHes. They HUNG up the CLothes to dry and FOLDED them WHEN they WERE ready. THANK you My GIRLS!



SANCTUARY CANDLES

will burn in loving memory
throughout the entire month for

March 2020

St. Mary's –Jim Harris

St. Joachim –Collin Burton

Please remember them in your prayers

Brothers and Sisters!
Thank you for your
stewardship!



STEWARDSHIP

Envelopes are available to all registered families in the Parish. Offering envelopes are intended to be an aid for Christian stewardship. Having an offering envelope designated for each worship service and for special funds can serve as a REMINDER to set aside an offering from our firstfruits as a gift of thanksgiving to the Lord. *"On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper..."* (1 Corinthians 16:2) As we hear God's Word and grow in appreciative love for all that He has done and continues to do for us, we will find every reason to show our thanks and offer our gifts for the work of His Kingdom.

Christian Stewardship

Your Offering Last Week

Loose	304.75
Offertory Envelopes	2826.00
Mary Mother of God	
Easter	
Christmas	
Initial Offering	
Dues	26.00
Ash Wednesday	2.00
Easter Flowers	620.00
Total Offering to Parish General fund	3788.75

National Collections (Funds go to Diocesan Offices)

Mission Sunday	
Care & Ed/Priests	
Retirement Fund/Religious	
Eastern Europe	
Catholic Relief Services	
Total National Collections	

Additional Account Deposits

St. Anthony Cemetery	73.00
St. J/St. B Cemetery	50.00
Building Fund	20.00
Total Additional Accounts	143.00
Total Deposits	3931.75
Your Offering Last Year	3284.00

Time to consider a Catholic education for your children or grandchildren?

Several years ago our parish set up a Parish Education Fund within the Ministry of Mercy account. The purpose of this fund is assist Parish children in attending Catholic schools, K-12th grade. By easing the financial burden, we hope to convince more parents to choose a Catholic education for their children.



Guidelines: Applicants must be registered members of the Parish for at least 12 months prior to application. At least one parent must be a baptized and regularly practicing Catholic with our Parish. The maximum contributed by the Parish would be \$2,000 per student or 100% of the cost of St Agnes whichever is less. Specific financial need is not necessary. If there is financial need, the family is encouraged to apply to the school and the Diocese first and then use the Parish fund to make up the difference up to 100% or **\$2,000**. The committee will review and recommend applications to Father, who must grant final approval before funds are granted to the students family. The Parish office has copies of financial aid applications from the Diocese and St Agnes. The deadlines to apply to the Diocese is **April 17th**. Since St Agnes is the only Catholic school near our Parish, we presume that the students would go there. The cost is approximately **\$ 5,100** per year. If you have any questions please call the Parish office or Kim Homer at kafromaz@yahoo.com

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

His Excellency, the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of Scranton, and the Office for Parish Life wish to invite **couples celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversary in 2020 to a diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, June 14**. The event includes a 2:30 PM mass at St. Peter's Cathedral followed by a reception. Requests for an invitation, with an April mailing address, should be made through your parish office before March 23



A Minute with St. Faustina of Divine Mercy

My sister came to me today. When she told me of her plans, I was horror-stricken. For no other soul did I bring so many sacrifices and sufferings and prayers before the throne of God as I did for her soul. I felt that I had forced God to grant her truly a miracle. how much power intercessory prayer has before God (Diary, 202).



It's often the case that the older we get the more people we have to pray for. The more we promise to pray for, and we want to keep these promises. And the same with intentions. For this and for that. Each important, each helped by our prayers. Still, it can be challenging to remember all of them when praying. How kind God is, how understanding, that he listens when we summarize with "and for all those people and intentions for whom I've promised to pray." That, too, has "much power...before God."

Dear Lord, I pray for all those for whom I've promised to pray. My spirit is willing even when my memory is weak. Jesus, I trust in YOU!!

CCD FOOD DRIVE

The students of St. Mary's CCD program will be participating in the "Let's Can Hunger" for Lent food drive hosted by the Helping Hands food pantry in Wyalusing. Students will be bringing 1 canned food item for each day of Lent. Should any anyone wish to contribute to this worthy cause, a box is located under the coat hooks near the restroom in St. Mary's. Helping Hands food pantry is currently looking for the following: peanut butter, pancake mix, canned vegetables and fruit, soup, jelly, instant potatoes, toiletries, frosting, salad dressing, crackers, spaghetti sauce, crackers, apple sauce, pasta, and spices.



MESSAGE FROM BISHOP BAMBERA

As public health officials in Pennsylvania and beyond continue to track the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and widespread flu activity, the Diocese of Scranton is announcing new precautions for the celebration of Mass. Effective immediately, I am implementing the following directives:

- 1> **The distribution** of the Precious Blood via the Chalice is temporarily suspended
- 2> **The Sign of Peace** will now be exchanged without physical contact
- 3> **Parishioners are also** reminded that if they are sick, especially with flu-like symptoms, they should stay home for their own well-being and that of others. If parishioners are sick or suspect they are sick with a contagious illness, they are not bound by the Sunday Mass obligation

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. In accordance with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Child Protective Services 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

It is also the policy of the Diocese to adhere to all civil and state regulations. 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 Beth Pacuska at (570-862-7551) or to Diocesan officials, including the Vicar General, Monsignor Thomas M. Muldowney, V.G., at (570-207-2269).

Attention Catholic Men,

Please Register for the 6th annual Be A Man Conference. The early bird deadline of April 1 is only 30 days away. We don't want you to pay more to attend the conference. The Conference **will be held on Saturday, April 25, 2020, from 8am to 3pm at Holy Redeemer High School, 159 South Pennsylvania Ave. Wilkes Barre, PA 18701.**

The cost for registering is \$40 (Early Bird \$30 until 4/01/20), Students \$15,

OUR LADY OF PERPTUAL HELP PARISH



ELIMINATION PARTY SATURDAY, MAY 16th, 2020

Held at the Church Hall at St. Joachim

Doors Open 6 pm—Dinner served at 6:30 pm

GRAND PRIZE--\$3000.00

Over \$8,000.00 in Prizes

We are asking each parish family
to get one sponsor of \$100.

please contact **Chuck Bullock** or the Parish Office

**The following Parishioners, Businesses and Friends have graciously
donated \$100.00 each toward our \$100.00 Sponsors.**

Mike and Judy Bauman
Eva's Bar and Restaurant
Gerri Zionkowski
Ron and Nikki Dobranski
Route 6 Mini Storage Sales
Frank Romanowski
Stretch Builders
Memory of Paul Kemmerer
Borel Builders
Gloria Harris
Paul and Tina Poepperling
Mountain Energy
Kilmer Group
Ottaviani Optometry

Geri and Myron Mokris
Sanford and Son Antiques
Richard and Kathy Vosik
Jack and Pat Baker
Dominic and Virginia Cariello
American Legion Post 510
Marilyn Burton
Gerald and Donna Shumbris
Knights of Columbus Council #12406
Joyce Hussong
Outback Ventures LP
John and Janis Smurkoski
Ottaviani Optometry

Chuck Bullock
John and Ellen Armitage
Altar Rosary Society
Ed and Kathleen Brogenski
Joeseeph and Virginia Bell
American Legion Post 510
Bus #2 & Bus #23
Marty's Market
People's Security Bank
St. Joachim Holy Name Society
Mountain Energy
Walton Surveying
Ottaviani Optometry



Diocese of Scranton Coronavirus Update March 13, 2020

Effective immediately, and until further notice, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera, in union with the Bishops of Pennsylvania, has dispensed the faithful of the Diocese of Scranton from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass. Despite the suspension of the obligation to attend Sunday Mass, all regularly scheduled Masses will remain open to the public for those who wish to attend.

Also, during a news conference Thursday afternoon (3/12/20), Governor Wolf encouraged religious leaders statewide to exercise discretion in order to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus and encouraged the suspension of large gatherings and events of 250 individuals or more. In the Diocese of Scranton, it is now strongly recommended that all non-essential parish and Diocesan events be temporarily cancelled or postponed.

Also, attached to this letter, is the latest updates regarding the Diocese of Scranton's response to COVID-19.

Your careful adherence to these important matters is appreciated. Let us continue to pray for one another.

Diocese of Scranton Coronavirus Update March 12, 2020

This document reflects the most recent guidance from the Diocese of Scranton regarding the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and steps our communities can take to help prevent its spread. The Diocese of Scranton will be updating this guidance in accordance with recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Pennsylvania Department of Health and local public health officials.

General Prevention and Preparedness

The health and safety of our parishioners, staff, students, families and clients that we serve are of paramount interest to the Diocese of Scranton. While there is much to learn about the coronavirus, based on what is currently known about the virus, spread from person-to-person happens most frequently among close contacts (within about six feet). Current evidence suggests that the coronavirus may remain viable for hours to days on surfaces made of a variety of materials.

On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the coronavirus a pandemic, because of its severity and the rapid rates at which it has spread. However, the WHO stressed that deliberate preventative actions can stop the virus from spreading.

We ask that all members of our parishes, schools and human/social service agencies assist with the prevention of spreading viruses by following the following recommendations:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Travel Considerations

The Centers for Disease Control continues to update the Risk Level for each country. The Diocese of Scranton will continue to monitor this information and work to prevent this virus from spreading in our community. With that in mind, the Diocese of Scranton may require employees, students and/or families and clients that we serve who have been exposed to COVID-19 or are returning from countries designated as Risk Level 3 to remain home for 14 days upon returning to the United States or after contact with someone known to have or someone who may have been exposed to COVID-19. Those individuals will also be required to provide a notice from a healthcare professional that they are free from flu-like symptoms in order to return to work or school.

As of March 12, 2020, the CDC indicated the following risk levels related to COVID-19:

Level 3: China, Iran, Italy and South Korea

If you have travelled or are planning to travel to countries indicated with Risk Level 3, please contact your supervisor or principal to discuss plans for return to work or school.

Parish Gatherings

During a news conference Thursday afternoon (3/12/20), Governor Tom Wolf encouraged religious leaders statewide to exercise discretion in order to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus and encouraged the suspension of large gatherings and events of 250 individuals or more. In the Diocese of Scranton, it is now strongly recommended that all non-essential parish and Diocesan events be temporarily cancelled or postponed.

Parish/Liturgical Recommendations

Effective immediately (3/12/20), and until further notice, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera, in union with the Bishops of Pennsylvania, has dispensed the faithful of the Diocese of Scranton from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass. Despite the suspension of the obligation to attend Sunday Mass, all regularly scheduled Masses will remain open to the public for those who wish to attend.

Masses continue to be offered at parish churches across the Diocese of Scranton and churches remain open.

It is important that Catholics use vigilance when deciding to attend Mass. If you are sick, especially with flu-like symptoms, you should stay home for your own well-being and that of others. If parishioners are sick or suspect they are sick with a contagious illness, they are not bound by the Sunday Mass obligation.

Elderly parishioners who are not sick, but are concerned about being in crowded spaces, are also not bound by the Sunday Mass obligation.

The faithful are strongly encouraged at this time to receive the Body of Christ (via the Sacred Host) in the hand, but the right of each individual to receive on the tongue, as guaranteed by the universal law of the Church,

remains in place and is to be respected. This request is made in order to curtail the spread of germs to the communicant, the minister of Holy Communion and other communicants.

The faithful should refrain from the use of holy water upon entering and exiting our churches. Out of an abundance of caution, pastors should remove holy water from fonts in an effort to reduce the possible transmission of the virus.

Parishes should make proper provisions for persons with celiac disease who cannot digest the gluten in wheat hosts or have other sensitivities.

The distribution of the Precious Blood via the Chalice is temporarily suspended.

The Sign of Peace will now be exchanged without physical contact.

Priests, deacons and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion should practice good hygiene, washing their hands before Mass begins or even using an alcohol based anti-bacterial solution before and after distributing Holy Communion.

Religious Education

In regards to parish faith formation programs, Catechists should remind students of proper handwashing techniques and coughing and sneezing etiquette.

If threat is moderate to severe, faith formation programs or other parish gatherings should be postponed or canceled. Parishes should follow the lead of their Diocesan school or local public school districts in canceling Religious Education classes.

Parish Religious Education programs should plan on offering remote or online learning if possible.