



St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church Wyalusing

# Our Lady of Perpetual Help

*Extends a Warm Welcome to All*

*Mission Statement: We bring together a 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.*

**PASTOR**

Rev. Jose Joseph  
Kuriappilly

**PARISH SECRETARY**

Kathy Stoddard

**PARISH PASTORAL  
COUNCIL CHAIR**

Tammy Tewksbury

**FINANCIAL  
COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Alice Berger

**DIRECTOR OF  
RELIGIOUS ED.**

Cathy Hagadorn

**CONFIRMATION  
INSTRUCTOR**

Ann Marie Kusmierz

**ADDRESS**

245 State Street  
Wyalusing, PA 18853

**PARISH OFFICE  
HOURS**

Mon – Fri – 9:00-2:00

**PHONE**

570-746-1006  
570-746-0389

**FAX**

570-746-1852

**EMAIL**

olophparish@gmail.co

**WEB**

WWW.OLOPHPARISH.ORG

**FACEBOOK** Our Lady of  
Perpetual Help Parish

**Preparing Our Hearts And Our Homes**

Christmas is so close now that we can nearly taste it! Children can hardly contain their excitement while adults panic about all they still need to do. But for now, let us consider Mary and Joseph, just days before she would give birth, struggling to make their way up an unfamiliar and dangerous road, hoping to make it to a warm, comfortable place to stay in the city of David. As we well know, nice warm places were no longer available, but it all worked out, even if not exactly as they had hoped. May we keep that in mind during these final days of preparing our hearts and our homes for Jesus' birth.

**Fourth Sunday of Advent  
December 22, 2024**

**Mass Schedule at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Wyalusing**

Saturday Vigil – 6:00 PM      Sunday – 11:00 AM

Wednesday & Friday – 12:00 Noon

Holy Days – 12:00 Noon\*\* OR Scheduled Inside Bulletin

Confessions – 5:30 PM Saturday and 10:30 AM Sunday

**Mass Schedule at SS Peter and Paul Towanda**

Saturday Vigil – 4:00 PM      Sunday – 9:00 AM

Monday – No Mass

Tuesday – 6:00 PM

Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday – 8:30 AM

Confessions – 3:45 Saturday AND 7:45-8:15 Wed., Thurs., Fri.  
And by Appointment #570-357-1619

Website: sspeterandpaulchurch.net (570-265-2113)

**Readings**

**December 23rd**

**Monday**

**Advent Weekday**

**Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24**

**Gospel-Luke 1:57-66**

**December 24th**

**Tuesday**

**Christmas Vigil**

**2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-**

**12, 14a, 16**

**Gospel- Luke 1:67-79**

**December 25th**

**Wednesday**

**Christmas**

**Isaiah 52:7-10**

**Hebrews 1:1-6**

**Gospel: John 1:1-18**

**December 26th**

**Thursday**

**St. Stephen, The First**

**Martyr**

**Acts of the Apostles**

**6:8-10; 7:54-59**

**Gospel: Matthew**

**10:17-22**

**December 27th**

**Friday**

**St. John, Apostle &**

**Evangelist**

**John 1:1-4**

**Gospel: John 20:1a &**

**2-8**

**December 28th**

**Saturday**

**The Holy Innocents,**

**Martyrs**

**1 John 1:5-2:2**

**Gospel: Matthew**

**2:13-18**

**December 29th**

**The Holy Family of**

**Jesus, Mary & Joseph**

**Gospel: Luke 2:41-52**

## PARISH BULLETIN CALENDAR

### COMING EVENTS, MEETINGS, CATHERINGS, ETC.

EVERY FIRST FRIDAY: ROSARY AT 11:00 AM, ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AT 11:30, MASS TO END ABORTION AT 12:00 NOON

FIRST FRIDAY & FIRST SATURDAY: MASS AT SS PETER & PAUL AT 8:30 AM

TUESDAY, DEC. 24<sup>TH</sup>: CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDREN'S MASS AT 6:00 PM – ST. MARYS SS PETER & PAUL – 4:00 PM & 10:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 25<sup>TH</sup>: CHRISTMAS DAY MASS AT 11:00 AM – ST. MARY'S SS PETER & PAUL – 9:00 AM

TUESDAY, DEC. 31<sup>ST</sup> MASS AT 6:00 PM AT SS PETER & PAUL

WEDNESDAY, JAN 1<sup>ST</sup>: NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS AT 12:00 NOON- ST. MARY'S SS PETER & PAUL – 9:00 AM

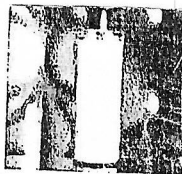
PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED –Margaret Maryovich & Father Thomas Major - Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

THOSE ENTRUSTED IN OUR PRAYERS FOR HEALING: Robert Stabinsky, Jacob Hoffmann, Chris, Larry Burke, Tolise Otis, Leona Fitzgerald, William DiMascio, Frank Mucha, Ben Mueller, Terry Ruhf, James Schnure, Rafael Delgado, Dave Green, Glenn Layaou, Jr., Bob Franko, Ivette Gonzalez, Richard Bennett, Ginny Amoroso, William Walter, Jr., Chuck Bullock, Joan Abrey, Donna Elchin, Kelly Kulsicavage, Joe Friery, Joyce Hussong, Irene McMahon, Grace George, Marian Miller, Fred Storey, Stephanie McDevitt, Barbara Bodine, Cathy Stienbaugh, Sue Mullen, Robert Gaumer, Silver Dempsey, Jean Caine, James Perella, Paul & Sandra McIntyre, Keensley Middlecamp, Carmel Buneo, Tina Clapper, Mark Borel.

We pray that You restore Your Servant to health again. Above all, grant us the grace to acknowledge Your holy will and know that whatever You do, You do for the love of us. Amen.

Sick, Hospitalized and Homebound, please call the office or notify Father Jose.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE will burn in loving memory throughout the entire month of December 2024 for Douglas & Rita Cogswell AND James & Alice Armitage -- by John & Ellen Armitage. Please remember them in your prayers.



*The Sanctuary Lamp  
The light that  
symbolizes the  
Eternal Sacrifice*

## Mass Schedule for Week of DEC. 23rd- DEC. 29th 2024

	INTENTION	OFFERED BY
Christmas Vigil Tuesday, Dec. 24 <sup>th</sup> 6:00 PM	Our Parishioners	Father Jose
Christmas Day Wednesday, Dec. 25 <sup>th</sup> 11:00 AM	Our Parishioners	Father Jose
Friday, Dec. 27 <sup>th</sup> 12:00 Noon	Repose of the Soul of John Loftus	Joan Ross
Saturday, Dec. 28 <sup>th</sup> 6:00 PM	Repose of the Souls of Martin and Margaret Bodnar	Bea & Dennis Wygrala
Sunday, Dec. 29 <sup>th</sup> 11:00 AM	Healing for Jane Ryan	Bea Wygrala

<b>MINISTRY</b> Lector Schedule  <u>Tues. Dec. 24th – 6 PM</u> Bergers  <u>Wed, Dec. 25- 11 AM</u> Connie Whren  <u>Sat., Dec. 28<sup>th</sup> – 6:00 PM</u> Bill Prichard <u>Sun Dec 29<sup>th</sup> -11 AM</u> Lou Ann Kilmer
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<b>SERVERS</b> Christmas Day Shaffers Sunday- 11:00 AM Trowbridges
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<b>CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP</b> WK 12/15/24	
Loose	220.00
Offer Env	2,148.00
Dues	14.00
Immac. Conc.	20.00
Christmas	530.00
Flowers	135.00
Total Offering to Parish General Fund	
<b>\$3,067.00</b>	
Building	16.00
Cemetery	229.00
Total	\$245.00
<u>National Collections</u>	
Care & Ed	5.00
Religious Retire	15.00
Nat'l Shrine	127.00
Total	\$147.00
<b>TOTAL DEPOSITS</b>	
<b>\$3,459.00</b>	

### OUR WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION

WEEKLY Financial Obligations - \$4,000.00

General Collection Dec. 14th & Dec. 15th = \$3,067.00

Thank you for your generosity to our Parish!

### CCD PROGRAM – 2024/2025

The Diocese requires two years of religious education before the reception of the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Communion, and three years of religious education before the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation. If you have any questions about the CCD program, please contact Cathy Hagadorn, DRE at 570-250-2311 or [cathyhagadorn@hotmail.com](mailto:cathyhagadorn@hotmail.com).

### CCD STUDENTS

The CCD Students are participating in the Christmas Vigil, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. Thank you, Students and your Teachers!

### SINGING WITH THE CHOIR

On Christmas Day, the Choir will be singing Christmas Carols starting at 10:40 AM before the 11:00 AM Mass. Thank you Choir!

### FATHER JOSE VACATION

Father Jose will be leaving Dec. 29<sup>TH</sup> after Mass for 3 weeks to visit his family in India. We wish Father Jose a restful and joyous vacation. There will not be any weekday Masses during that time. Father Jose will return for Mass on January 25<sup>th</sup>.

### DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL UP-DATE

Thank you for your donation to the Diocesan Annual Appeal. The donations to the Appeal total \$7,355.00. There is still time to donate at [www.annualappeal.org](http://www.annualappeal.org) as well as packets available at the entrances of the Church.

### 2025 CHURCH CALENDARS AND PARISHIONER ENVELOPES

The 2025 Calendars are available at each entrance of the Church. Parishioner Envelopes are in the back pew in alphabetical order.

### TIPS FROM A MOM OF 13

My Christmas wish for all of you this year is that you enjoy your babies (especially if they are still little) and to hug and kiss the grown ones because everyone needs to be shown your love. Ask baby Jesus to help you, like I do. He will. Then they will carry your love throughout the whole year. May Jesus, Mary and Joseph bless you abundantly!

### CALLING ALL YOUNG ADULTS!

With the New Year approaching, I'm sure we could all benefit from some renewal. Join us for a Day Retreat to start off the New Year by being renewed in Christ! Saturday, January 4, 2025, for ages 21-40, at Saint Maria Goretti Parish, Laflin, Doors open at 1:30 pm, \$10 donation at the door. RSVP to Bridget Guarnieri at [familylife@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:familylife@dioceseofscranton.org)

### WOMEN'S RETREAT

The Diocese of Scranton invites you to a weekend full of fun, fellowship and praise for an Adult Women's Retreat. The weekend begins on Friday, January 24, 2025 at 6:45 PM and will end on Sunday, January 26 at 1:30 PM.

The Retreat will feature discussions and reflection on the teachings of St. Catherine of Siena who said, "Be who you are meant to be and you will set the whole world on fire."

You may register at:

<https://www.dioceseofscranton.org/2025-catholic-womes-retreat-registration-if> (credit card)

<https://www.dioceseofscranton.org/2025-catholic-womens-retreat-registration> (check)

**2024 CHRISTMAS FLOWERS THAT ADORN THE ALTAR ARE DONATED IN HONOR OF AND IN MEMORY OF:**

**IN HONOR OF:**

Armitage Family  
Jim & Tess Adams

Ann Marie & Mike Kusmierz

Barb & Daryl Knapp

**IN MEMORY OF:**

Helen Ahern  
James & Alice Armitage  
Doug & Rita Cogswell  
Jason Bennett  
Ralph J Bride  
Catherine Bride  
Ben Bride  
Ralph E Bride  
Mary Bride  
Martin & Dorothy Stoddard  
Gerald & Jean Burke  
Hiram & Gertrude Stoddard  
John & Gertrude Burke  
Blanche & James Finan  
Casiuk Family  
Griswold Family  
Jeannine Chiusano  
Matthew Angelo Manzi Jr.  
Joseph Bianco Sr.  
Joseph Bianco Jr.  
Ignatius F. Ciprich  
Geraldine Ciprich  
Jenella Ryan  
George Ciprich  
George Ryan

**IN MEMORY OF:**

John & Emma Duda  
Joe & Peg Devine

Louise Wildrick

Allyn Kusmierz

Bret Keefe

Hugh & Beverly O'Mara

Valerie O'Mara

Dennis Frost

Nicholas Gushka

Irene Gushka

Irvin Duffy

Patricia Ann Gushka

Virginia Duffy

The Harvat Family

The Malone Family

Darwin Jones

Mary Jones

Ann Marie Jones

Martha Yanavitch

Gene Ball

Joseph Keblitsch

Ruth & George Thomas

Thurman Stewart

Icy & Fred Hickman

Jim Nichenke

Joseph Keblitsch

Wilhelmina Keblitsch

August Keblitsch

Robert Kaps

Helen Terascavage

**IN MEMORY OF:**

Tom Duda  
U.B. Devine

Jack Fenton

Joseph Kusmierz-Mobley

Michael & Anna Kusmierz

Anthony & Dorothy Ferretti

Father Thom Major

Pitcaage Family

Latoski Family

Rose Polomski

Anna Polomski

Marie Polomski

Peter Polomski Jr.

Irene Lauda

Carlton Repsher

Michelle Salsman

James & Anna Burke

Earl Burke

James Belcher Sr.

Rose Marie Belcher

Michael Rouse

Rouse Parents

Waldron Parents

Anita Ottaviani

Helen Ottaviani

Geraldine Arey

Elaine Shaw

Beatrice Chamberlain

Sophia Solowiej

Ted Solowiej

**IN MEMORY OF:**

**John Terascavage**

**Chet & Helen Suszko**

**Joseph & Cassie Yanuicz**

**David & Lena Jones**

**Lahman & Darleen Stoddard**

**John & Helen Terascavage**

**Larry Terascavage**

**Alvin & Viola Brink**

**Doris Allen**

**Fred Brink**

**Emily & Joseph Stabinsky**

**Deceased Members Maryovich Family**

**Deceased Members Stabinsky Family**

**Poor Souls in Purgatory**

**The Juenger Family**

**The Unborn**

**Souls in Purgatory**

**IN HONOR OF:**

**The Allen Family**

**The Weaver Family**

**The Hunsinger Family**



# A LIGHT

The Fourth  
Sunday

## IN THE DARKNESS

### “My Soul Magnifies the Lord”

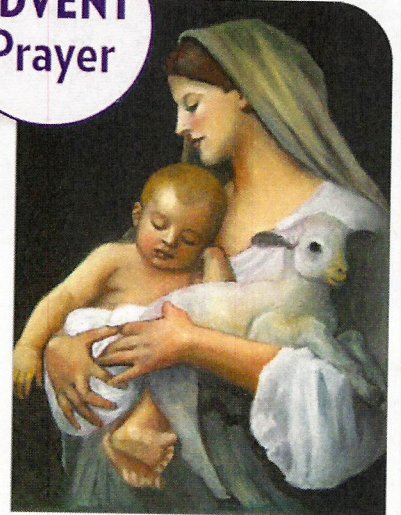
Luke 1:39–45

When Mary visits Elizabeth, she exclaims, “Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled” (v. 45). Blessed was Mary for her hope and her faith. Blessed are we, to have this same hope and faith in the fulfillment of God’s promise to his followers!

The way that Mary’s faith was fulfilled was amazing. It wasn’t quite the royal birth that one would expect for the King of Kings. Instead, it was quite radically the opposite. As the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* notes, “In this poverty heaven’s glory was made manifest” (525, cf. Lk 2:6-7).

It makes you think, doesn’t it? Perhaps your faith is shaken when things don’t seem to be going according to plan. The situation of the Lord’s birth certainly wouldn’t match most parents’ hopes. But God has a plan, and he never fails. And what joy this brings! Even in the dark of winter or the dark of a spiritual winter, we can find joy in the fulfillment of our hope and faith. Our souls can magnify the Lord — he is coming!

ADVENT  
Prayer



**Lord God,  
thank you for  
the hope and joy  
that you offer us!**

*“The Virgin today brings  
into the world the Eternal*

*And the earth offers a  
cave to the Inaccessible.*

*The angels and shepherds  
praise him*

*And the magi advance  
with the star,*

*For you are born for us,*

*Little Child, God  
eternal!”*

— *Kontakion of  
Romanos the Melodist  
(CCC 525)*



## INSPIRATION FOR THE SEASON

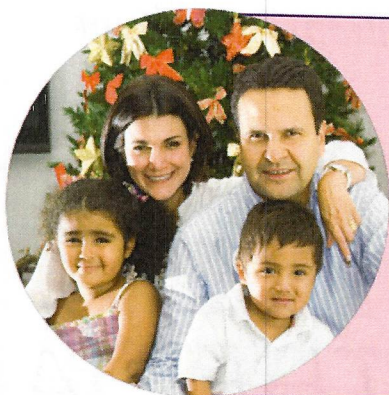


### Saint Joseph

If anyone had to rely on a feeling that things will turn out for the best, it was Saint Joseph. He took in Mary, risking his reputation and accepting a responsibility that he at first didn't understand. But he had hope and faith, and he forged on to serve as the father and protector of the Savior.

Saint Joseph's trust was called upon again when Jesus was a baby. An angel appeared to Saint Joseph in a dream and told him to take Mary and Jesus to Egypt to escape King Herod, who was seeking to kill the newborn king (see Mt 2:13-18). Joseph didn't call up his friends in Jerusalem to confirm or Google places to stay in Egypt. He fled with faith, believing that what he desired — safety for his family — would be fulfilled.

Like Saint Joseph, we can proceed with the quiet confidence that Saint Joseph exhibited so well in such a tremendous role.



## Daily LIVING

"The more a person loves God, the more reason he has to hope in him. This hope produces in the saints an unutterable peace, which they preserve even in adversity, because as they love God, and know how beautiful he is to those who love him, they place all their confidence and find all their repose in him alone."

— Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Doctor of the Church

## FAMILY FOCUS

# Celebrate Mary's Hope

This week, in addition to lighting the fourth candle of your Advent wreath, light a candle for Mary to celebrate her steadfast faith and hope in the darkness. You can even decorate it. Choose a white pillar and place it in a glass candleholder. If you have time, cut and glue an image of Mary to the outside of the glass. The kids can add beads, stickers, and other decorations to make the candle as joyful as Elizabeth and Mary were when they met! Roses are traditionally associated with Mary. The star over the manger is a symbol of Jesus' birth in the manger. And blue is often the color of Mary's robes. Help your kids say the Hail Mary together while they decorate.



## TALK About It:

*How can Mary help our family find faith and hope?*

## Catechism CONNECTION

Advent teaches us that joyful expectation unfolds in the present, moment by moment. Our liturgical prayer teaches us that the Spirit of Christ is offered to us at all times. Yet, an encounter can only happen in the present: "It is in the present that we encounter him, not yesterday nor tomorrow, but today."

— Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2659

## FOR REFLECTION:

*What does the season of Advent teach us about trusting God?*