

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF  
**NATIVITY**  
OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY  
TUNKHANNOCK, PA



**ST. MARY**  
OF THE LAKE  
LAKE WINOLA, PA

**DECEMBER 15-16, 2018**



**NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**  
99 EAST TIOGA STREET  
P.O. BOX 186  
TUNKHANNOCK, PA 18657  
(570) 836-3275 (570) 836-4268 (Fax)  
(570) 836-8946 (Kitchen/CCD)  
[nativitybvmchurch@frontier.com](mailto:nativitybvmchurch@frontier.com)  
[nativity@nativitystmary.org](mailto:nativity@nativitystmary.org)

**MASS SCHEDULE**

**Saturday: 5:00PM**

**Sunday: 7:30, 9:00 & 11:00AM**

**Pastoral Council: Diane Stone, Chair**

**Finance Council: Chris DeMarco, Chair**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



**ST. MARY OF THE LAKE**  
1872 DALTON ROAD  
P.O. BOX 1  
LAKE WINOLA, PA 18625  
(570) 378-2181

[stmaryofthelake@frontier.com](mailto:stmaryofthelake@frontier.com)  
[stmary@nativitystmary.org](mailto:stmary@nativitystmary.org)

**MASS SCHEDULE**

**Saturday: 4:00PM**

**Sunday: 9:00AM**

**Pastoral Council: Bernie Garvey, Chair**

**Finance Council: Don Ames, Chair**

**Rev. Patrick L. Albert, Pastor**  
**Deacon Raymond A. Pieretti, Pastoral Associate**  
**Rev. Dennis Bajkowski (Ret.)**

**Parish Office: Fr. Nallin Hall, Tunkhannock**  
**Business Manager: Dick Schwoebel (570)677-7634**  
**Secretary: Mary Lou Chackan**  
**Office hours: 9:00AM – 2:00PM**

**WELCOME:** We warmly welcome all to join us in worship of our God. If you are new to our parish community, please be sure to tell Fr. Pat that you will be joining our parish community. Contact the parish office if you have any questions. Visitor envelopes are available at all entrances.

**MARRIAGE:** Christian marriage is a sacred and serious commitment. Couples contemplating marriage should notify a parish priest at least nine months before the date on which they intend to marry. This should be done before any other arrangements are made so that a couple may be suitably served by the parish and diocese. All couples are required to take part in a Pre-Cana program or Engaged Encounter Weekend. **Sunday Weddings are not permitted.**

**RCIA:** The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults is a community journey that leads to transformation of mind and spirit. Guided by the gospel and the examples of parish members, newcomers can find their place in the RCIA community of believers and discover their own relationship with Christ. The program runs from September through Pentecost with reception of the Sacraments at the Easter Vigil. Information is available at the parish office.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:** Knowing the Catholic faith and tradition is essential if faith and tradition are to continue to be nourishing facets of our lives. Religious formation is valuable for both youth and adults. Classes are conducted from September to May following the 9:00AM Mass on Sunday. Information on religious education programs for youth of all ages and educational opportunities for adults are available at the parish office.

**BULLETIN:** If you have information that you would like to place in the bulletin (community news, society/social news, etc.), please have it at the parish office no later than Tuesday morning.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Forty-five minutes before Saturday evening Mass or by appointment.

**SHUT-INS:** If someone you know is unable to attend Mass but would like to receive Communion or receive a copy of our weekly bulletin, please contact the parish office.

**BAPTISMAL PREPARATION PROGRAM:** All parents must attend a Baptismal Preparation meeting before this sacrament will be celebrated. Contact Father Pat at the parish office (570-836-3275) to schedule an appointment to discuss your child's baptism.

**HOSPITAL VISITS:** Visits are made on a regular basis.  
**PLEASE NOTE:** The new privacy laws limit the amount of information that we receive from the hospitals or nursing/convalescent homes. It is necessary that family or friends notify us of these admittances.

**HANDICAPPED SEATING AREA:** Please note that the front pew nearest to the side door is reserved to accommodate those who have need due to disability. Please be kind enough to leave this pew available for that purpose.

**PARKING LOT:** [St. Mary's] Please keep the emergency lane in front of the church clear at all times. It is essential that vehicles are able to get in and out of the parking lot in case of an emergency. Please adhere to the parking spaces as delineated. Please be considerate of your fellow parishioners when you are backing up or turning to park or to exit the parking lot. There is ample parking on the upper level and supplemental parking on the side of the church.

**PARISH MISSION STATEMENT**

**"TO KNOW, LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD  
AND ONE ANOTHER  
IN IMITATION OF MARY"**

*Approved by both Parish Pastoral Councils  
January 2007*

[www.nativitystmary.org](http://www.nativitystmary.org)  
[@nativitystmary](https://www.facebook.com/nativitystmary)

## FROM THE PASTOR'S NOTEBOOK:

And so we come to the third Sunday of Advent (the rose candle) and we ask ourselves, "So how is our Advent doing? Are we coming to any conclusions about the new year as we reflect back on 2018?"



This season affords us the opportunity to reflect on the past, the recent past (that is, the present) and most important, the future. Who will be in the new year? How will our spiritual life be different? How will our outlook be more positive?

Advent is a new beginning, a new start with the help of God, to approach 2019 with renewed zeal and determination toward charity, kindness, mercy, patience – take your pick from a multitude of possibilities and begin the process of being a new you to build a better world for all.

God bless,

*Fr. Pat*



**NATIVITY GIVING TREE:** The annual Giving Tree is set up in the church. If you haven't already, you are invited to take a paper ornament from the tree and to purchase the requested gift for the recipient. **Place the gift (including the ornament) under the tree this Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>.**

**LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS:** We will be decorating, setting up the Christmas trees and the crèche in **Nativity BVM church on Friday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 8:00AM.** Anyone interested in volunteering their time can call the Parish Office at (570) 836-3275 or simply come to the church at 8:00AM on that Friday. Thank you.

**BVM ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED:** We need altar servers for **Christmas Eve and Day** and also **New Year's Eve/Day** for all Masses. Please call Mary Olshan at (570) 836-1457 if you can help.

**CAPUCHIN SISTERS SUPPORT FUND:** If you would like to assist with this need, please put your donation in an envelope marked "Capuchin Sisters" and deposit it in the collection at any time.

**A WELCOMING COMMUNITY:** *You enter this church ... not as stranger, but as a guest of God. He is your heavenly Father. Come, then, with joy in your heart and thanks on your lips into His presence, offering Him your love and service. Be grateful to the strong and loyal ones who, in the name of Jesus Christ, built this place of worship, and to all who have beautified it and hallowed it with their prayers and praise.*



## UPCOMING SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

**Christmas ..... December 24-25**

**CAN YOU HELP?** Both of our parishes are in need of volunteers to **help count the collection each week.** At **Nativity**, the counting takes place on **Sunday morning** starting at about 9:00AM. **St. Mary of the Lake** counting takes place on **Monday morning** at about 9:00AM. If you can help out **approximately once a month** in either parish, please contact Dick Schwoebel at the Parish Office (570-836-3275) or at 570-677-7634. It doesn't take long and we could really use your help.



**SML CCD CHRISTMAS PARTY:** This year's CCD party at Saint Mary's is being sponsored by our Disciples of Mary and will be held **this Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> from 10:00AM to 1:00PM.** **Instead of a Christmas Pageant**, the children will be treated to a **movie, crafts, music, snacks and lunch and a visit from Santa!** The twist is that, during this party, we encourage parents to shop local for your last minute gifts while we watch the kids!

### THE WORD MINISTRY

Please keep Christ in Christmas. One simple way to do this is to write "**Christmas**" whether you are texting, jotting your Christmas list or just adding Merry Christmas to your Christmas cards. Let those few extra seconds that it takes to write Christ in Christmas have you remember what this holiday is all about. God Bless and Merry Christmas.

St. Mary of the Lake Word Ministry

**THE MYSTERIES OF CHRISTMAS:** Paul Binner explores a number of questions surrounding the feast of Christmas in a forum to be held in **Fr. Nallin Hall (2<sup>nd</sup> floor) this Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8:30PM.** See the enclosed flyer for more details and how to register (space is limited).

**NATIVITY'S HOMEMADE PIEROGIES:** Sorry – **we're SOLD OUT!!** We will start to make pierogies again in January. Watch the bulletin for more information.



**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 **25<sup>th</sup> or 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in 2019** to a diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass on **Sunday, June 30<sup>th</sup>.** The event includes a **2:30PM Mass at St. Peter's Cathedral** followed by a reception. **Requests for an invitation, with a mailing address, should be made through your pastor before April 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

AED IS LOCATED IN NATIVITY BVM CHURCH & ALSO IN FR. NALLIN HALL



**SACRIFICIAL OFFERING: December 08-09, 2018**

**Nativity BVM Church:**

Weekly Collection Goal\* .....\$ 4,800.00  
 Actual Offertory\*\* .....\$10,671.00  
 Difference:.....\$ **5,329.00**

**St. Mary of the Lake Church:**

Weekly Collection Goal\* .....\$ 2,000.00  
 Actual Offertory\*\* .....\$ 1,341.00  
 Difference:.....\$) **659.00)**

\*Weekly Collection Goal represents the amount needed weekly if we are going to make our 2018-2019 Parish Collections goal (envelopes and loose). It does NOT include Fundraising, Religious Education Income or any other income.

\*\*Actual Offertory represents the total amount received in the weekly collection (not including Easter or special collections).

The generosity of our people is truly appreciated. We may not always reach our budgeted goals, but we are grateful to those who make a sacrifice on a weekly basis to sustain our parish ministries.

**MEMBERS NEEDED FOR ST. MARY MINISTRY COMMITTEES**



The Saint Mary of the Lake Parish Pastoral Council has established four Ministry Committees which will assist in developing goals for the future development of Saint Mary of the Lake as well as action plans to ensure the achievement of these goals. The Worship Committee will focus on the prayer and worship life at Saint Mary of the Lake. The Word Committee will focus on the faith education and catechesis of all parishioners at Saint Mary of the Lake. The Service Committee will focus on serving those in need, making justice a lived value at Saint Mary of the Lake. The Community Committee will work to enhance and communicate the sense of community at Saint Mary of the Lake.

**We are asking that you prayerfully consider giving your time and talents as a member of one or more of these four Committees. The time commitment would be four meetings per year, not to exceed 1.5 hours in length, plus whatever other time commitment you are able to give to the process.**

If you are interested in being considered for membership on a committee, please call the Parish Office at 570-378-2181 and give your name, phone number and preferred Committee. You may also contact one of the Committee Chairs directly and let them know of your interest:

- Worship Committee Chair..... Bill Waters.....570-378-2367
- Word Committee Chair..... MaryAnn Barni.....570-687-3070
- Service Committee Chair..... Mary Lou Franko...570-586-4811
- Community Committee Chair... Bernie Garvey.....570-862-7651



**LOCAL CATHOLIC RADIO STATION  
 JMJ RADIO 750AM or 98.9FM**

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AT NATIVITY B.V.M.**

**Wednesdays  
 2:00 to 5:00PM**

**This is a personal invitation to you  
 from Jesus.**

**"Jesus waits for us in this sacrament  
 of love."**

**(Pope Saint John Paul II)**

**ALL ARE WELCOME**



**"Come Visit Me In The Blessed Sacrament: Won't You, Please?"**

HAVE you nothing to annoy you, My child, tell Me your annoyances with every detail.

Who has pained you? Who has wounded your self-love? Who has treated you contemptuously? Tell Me all, and then say that you forgive and Forget; and I will give you My blessing.

DO you dread something painful? Is there in your soul a vague fear which seems unreasonable, and yet torments you? Trust fully in My providence. I am here, I see everything; I will not leave you.

**Holy Hour is the Roman Catholic devotional tradition of spending an hour in Eucharistic Adoration in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.**

During INCLEMENT WEATHER:

If school is closed for the day – No Adoration.

If there is early dismissal – No Adoration.

If there is a school delay (report 2 hours later) – There will be Adoration.

Diocese of Scranton  
**2018 DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL** THE JOURNEY MAKES US ONE

**2018 DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL  
 As of December 11<sup>th</sup>**

**NATIVITY BVM CHURCH:**

GOAL:.....\$34,000.00  
 PLEDGED:.....\$16,930.00  
 STATUS:.....48.8%

**UNDER GOAL:**.....\$17,070.00  
 PARTICIPATION: 10.61% (101 FAMILIES OUT OF 954)

**ST. MARY OF THE LAKE CHURCH:**

GOAL:.....\$13,000.00  
 PLEDGED:.....\$ 4,475.00  
 STATUS.....34.4%

**UNDER GOAL:**.....\$ 8,525.00  
 PARTICIPATION: 5.66% (25 FAMILIES OUT OF 443)

**Your support is necessary to maintain the programs and resources funded by the Appeal. Please consider making a pledge or donation to the Appeal today.**

**More information is available on the diocesan website – [www.dioceseofscranton.org](http://www.dioceseofscranton.org)**

**THE LOWER WYOMING COUNTY FOOD PANTRY:** The food pantry is open the first and third Thursday of the month. **We are always in need of dessert items (cake mixes, sugar, flour, pudding, bread mixes)** as these items are not purchased for the pantry shelves but are certainly enjoyed by our clients. If you or someone you know is in need, please don't hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your support.

Mary Lou Franko

**MONTHLY HOME VISITATIONS:** On or near the First Friday of every month (weather permitting), Fr. Pat, Deacon Ray and Diane Stone visit the homebound and bring them Holy Communion. **If you or a loved one is unable to attend Mass due to advanced age, sickness or disability/handicap, and desire to receive communion at home, please contact Mary Lou at the Parish Office (570-836-3275) with your name, phone number and address and you will be placed on our monthly visitation list.**

### BOY SCOUT NEWS



**Next Committee Meeting:  
January 14<sup>th</sup>**

Upstairs Classroom @ Father Nallin Hall  
Alison Delano, Committee Chairperson  
570-233-4000 adelano1230@gmail.com

### CUB SCOUT NEWS

#### ADULT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Fr. Nallin Hall  
January 7<sup>th</sup>



**CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:** The Diocese of Scranton offers compassionate counseling in a safe, comfortable environment where your privacy is always respected. Catholic Social Services accepts Medicaid plans and some insurance plans. Counseling is made affordable for everyone. For more information call (570) 207-2283.

*What is tolerance? ..it is the consequence of humanity. We are all formed of frailty and error; let us pardon reciprocally each other's folly – that is the first law of nature.*  
Voltaire

**HAVE YOU BEEN ASKED TO BE A SPONSOR?** It is a wonderful honor to be asked to be a sponsor for Baptism and Confirmation. It signifies that you are being asked to live your life as an example and in imitation of God's love for the person you sponsor. To serve as a sponsor, it is required that a person obtain a sponsor letter from his/her pastor. Sponsors must be at least 16 years of age, have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Eucharist, Confirmation, (If married) be married according to the regulations for marriage as provided by the Roman Catholic Church, officially registered and participating weekly in the Sunday Eucharist & actively striving to live out your own baptismal commitment to Christ.

**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) electronically at [www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis](http://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis) or at 1-800-932-0313.

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, Msgr. Thomas M. Muldowney, V.G., at 570-207-2269.

**UNRAVELLING THE MYSTERIES:** Paul Binner is planning two additional sessions in his discussion of the mysteries of our faith. On **Wednesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>**, the topic will be **Reconciling Science, Faith and Reason** and on **Thursday, January 17<sup>th</sup>**, it's **How to Read the Bible**. Both sessions will be held in **Fr. Nallin Hall (2<sup>nd</sup> floor), 6:30-8:30PM**. See the enclosed flyer for more information on the topics and how to register.

**ZUMBA & YOGAFIT:** Zumba classes are held on **Wednesdays in St. Mary's Parish Hall starting at 6:00PM with a Yogafit class to follow at 7:00PM**. The cost for each is **only \$5.00 per session**. We hope to see you all there!!!

**PARISH MEMBERSHIP:** All adult Catholics (age 18 and over) are expected to be officially registered in a Parish and participating at Mass and the other Sacraments on a regular basis. If you have graduated from College or High School and are now employed, you are expected to join on your own unless you are attending college or a trade school. In order for a child to receive First Penance, First Eucharist or Confirmation, at least one of their parents or legal guardian must belong to and participate in our Parish. If you need to register or have any questions, please feel free to contact the Parish Office at 570-836-3275.

### **Independent Compensation Program for Survivors of Sexual Abuse**

The Diocese of Scranton announced November 8<sup>th</sup> the creation of an Independent Survivors Compensation Program for those who have suffered sexual abuse by clergy, religious or lay employees. Participation in the Program by survivors is entirely voluntary.

The Program will be administered by Kenneth Feinberg and Camille Biros, two leading experts in mediation and alternative dispute resolution. They will have absolute autonomy in determining compensation for survivors, and the Diocese of Scranton will abide by their decisions. Mr. Feinberg and Ms. Biros are currently managing a number of high-profile compensation programs nationwide, including similar programs started by five Catholic Dioceses in New York. Those programs collectively have provided over \$200 million in compensation to more than 1,000 survivors. They have received positive feedback from those who participated.

An Independent Oversight Committee will oversee the implementation and administration of the Program. The Diocese will have no authority over this committee. Compensation decisions are final and cannot be appealed or overturned by the Diocese or the Independent Oversight Committee.

"Providing compensation to these survivors is the right thing to do," said Bishop Joseph C. Bambera. "Several weeks ago, Pennsylvania's Bishops announced support of such a program, which was recently discussed but not enacted by the Pennsylvania General Assembly. The Diocese of Scranton is therefore moving forward and is offering this Program for survivors."

Parish and school assets, as well as contributions and bequests from parishioners and donations to the Diocesan Annual Appeal, will not be used to fund the Program. Rather, the Diocese will use available reserves and will sell assets and borrow money as needed. While the Program will require significant resources, the Diocese will strive to maintain its core mission to serve the local community.

The Diocese continues to refine the Program so that it better serves survivors. Further details concerning the Program will be made available in the near future, including a website for survivors to obtain information and claim forms. The Program is anticipated to launch in January 2019.

**LIGHTHOUSE MEDIA:** We want to remind you that our parishes are pleased to offer the Lighthouse Media bookracks in our churches and in Fr. Nallin Hall. Many of our parishioners have taken the opportunity to read one or more of the excellent printed materials and to listen to the CDs. There's a wealth of good information in these resources and we encourage all of our parishioners to pick up one of the items and give it a try. Be sure and let us know how you feel about these resources.

### **BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GATHERINGS OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS PARISH, CLARKS SUMMIT**

- Support group meetings held on the first Wednesday of the month at 10:00AM and the third Sunday of the month at 2:00PM
- The Gathering Room (lower level) of Our Lady of the Snows Church, 301 South State Street, Clarks Summit

All are welcome; no registration is required.

**CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:** The Diocese of Scranton offers compassionate counseling in a safe, comfortable environment where your privacy is always respected. Counseling is about self-discovery and can be used for personal growth or when distressing conditions exist and you need a bit of extra support. Help is available. Anyone who struggles with anxiety, depression, grief and loss, life transitions or a variety of emotional or psychological conditions is welcome. Catholic Social Services accepts Medicaid plans and some insurance plans. Counseling is made affordable for everyone. For more information or to make an appointment, call (570) 207-2283.

### **Historic sites in the diocese - there's an app for that!**

One of the ways we can partake in the celebration of the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Diocese is through a visit to some of the historic sites here. The Office of Parish Life 2018 calendar features a number of those locations, and now there is a **free app** to guide you there. **The Diocese of Scranton Pilgrimage app** includes directions to each site, a description of what you will find when you arrive, a brief history, some photos and a "punch card" to help you keep track of the sites you have visited. Get the app and get on the road! (You can also use the app to enjoy a virtual pilgrimage without leaving home.)

The app is easy to get: simply search for "Diocese of Scranton" on the **Android/Google Play App Store** or the **iOS/Apple App Store**.

**WORLD YOUTH DAY 2019:** World Youth Day will be held in **Panama City, Panama from January 22 - 27, 2019**. World Youth Day is an initiative from St. John Paul II to gather Young Catholics of the world every two to three years in a celebration of faith and culture. The World Youth Day events gather millions, including Pope Francis, young Catholics, clergy, and religious brothers and sisters.

**The Diocese of Scranton is sponsoring two separate pilgrimage packages for young adults ages 18-35.** If you, or a young adult you may know, are interested in learning more about the World Youth Day Pilgrimage, contact Shannon Kowalski, Coordinator for Youth & Young Adult Ministry at [Shannon-Kowalski@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:Shannon-Kowalski@dioceseofscranton.org) or (570) 207-2213 x1155.

*You can demand courtesy but you have to earn respect.*  
**Lawrence Goldstone**

## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

### Nativity BVM

Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup> ..... 6:00PM  
 .....10:00PM  
 Tuesday, December 25<sup>th</sup> ..... 11:00AM

### St. Mary of the Lake

Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup> ..... 4:00PM  
 Tuesday, December 25<sup>th</sup> ..... 9:00AM

### CHURCH: A PLACE FOR "SACRED SILENCE"

**"Be still, and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10)**

Many of us grew up with the custom of being very quiet when in church because we recognized it as the House of God. **Sacred silence is essential for us to hear God speaking to us in prayerful conversation.** We cannot do all of the talking; prayer is two way conversation. We can hear God speaking to our hearts when we are quiet and still. Exterior silence can lead us to an inner peace and serenity where God's will for our life can be heard more easily. In paragraph 45 of the General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GRIM), our Church teaches us: **"Even before the celebration itself, it is commendable that silence be observed in the church, the sacristy, in the vesting room, and in adjacent areas (hospitality room, choir loft or vestibule), so that all may dispose themselves to carry out the sacred action in a devout and fitting manner."** Let us take these words to heart and begin our weekend liturgies with a period of silence. Your cooperation will be deeply appreciated by those who desire to pray and become properly disposed for the Sacred Liturgy.

**Holy Redeemer High School**  
 159 S. Pennsylvania Blvd. Wilkes-Barre  
 570-829-2424  
[www.holyredeemerhs.org](http://www.holyredeemerhs.org)



**Holy Redeemer High School**  
**"Sounds of the Season"**  
**Choral Concert and Elementary Band**  
**Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:00PM**  
**Holy Redeemer McCarthy Auditorium**  
**Ticket donation is \$4.00 for Adults**  
**and \$3.00 for Students and Senior citizens.**  
**Ticket purchase at the door.**  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!!!**

**Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**  
**Holy Day of Obligation**  
**January 1, 2019**  
**MASS SCHEDULE**



### Nativity BVM

Monday, December 31<sup>st</sup> ..... 5:30PM  
 Tuesday, January 1<sup>st</sup> ..... 11:00AM

### St. Mary of the Lake

Monday, December 31<sup>st</sup> ..... 4:00PM  
 Tuesday, January 1<sup>st</sup> ..... 9:00AM

## Traditional Home Health and Hospice

### **Come help the team that helps the community**

As the volunteer coordinator at Traditional Home Health and Hospice, I would like to extend an invitation to join our team. Volunteers are an integral part of our community support network.

As a volunteer, you can expect to:

- Provide companionship to patients through conversation, reading, letter writing, music appreciation, movie/TV watching, walking or sitting outside to get some fresh air, and all sort of hobby sharing.
- Help patients and their families by running errands, doing light household chores, doing yard work, or preparing a meal.
- Provide respite to family caregivers, so they may take a break from their caregiving duties for a couple of hours, i.e., doctor appointments, errands, etc.

If you would like to volunteer, but prefer not to have patient involvement, we would gladly have you volunteer in the office assisting with various community projects.

We offer a comprehensive training program which includes both video and one-on-one training.

Contact Lisa Morgan at (570) 207-9286.

### Follow the Diocese on Social Media

[www.twitter.com/DioceseOfScr](http://www.twitter.com/DioceseOfScr)

If you're not already doing so, you can follow Bishop Bambera on Twitter by going to:

[www.twitter.com/BishopBambera](http://www.twitter.com/BishopBambera)

Also check out our Facebook page:

[www.facebook.com/DioceseOfScranton](http://www.facebook.com/DioceseOfScranton)

Other Diocesan departments are listed at:

<http://www.dioceseofscranton.org/media/social-media/>

**ANNULMENT PROCESS:** Do you want to know more about the annulment process? In the Diocese of Scranton, the annulment process is now more "user friendly" than you might expect, and there is no longer a processing fee. Please contact Fr. Pat or the Diocesan Tribunal Office (570-207-2246) to begin a conversation. It is possible to get clear answers to these questions and to renew your connection with the Church.

To laugh often and love much; to win the respect of intelligent persons and the affection of children, to earn the approbation of honest critics; to appreciate beauty; to give of one's self, to leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch or a redeemed social condition; to have played and laughed with enthusiasm and sung with exultation; to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived – that is to have succeeded.

**Ralph Waldo Emerson**



**ST. MARY'S AED IS LOCATED IN THE FOYER  
 BETWEEN THE CHURCH & HALL**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT:** The third Sunday of Advent is known as “Gaudete Sunday.” In the readings, we hear about miracles associated with the Messianic age, its coming, and what we need to do to prepare. We also learn about the doubts of John the Baptist, how he dealt with them, and the blessing that makes us even more fortunate than John was.



Here are some things to know and share . . .

● **Why is the third Sunday of Advent known as Gaudete Sunday?**

Its name is taken from the entrance antiphon of the Mass, which is:

*Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.*

This is a quotation from [Philippians 4:4-5](#), and in Latin, the first word of the antiphon is *gaudete* (Latin, “rejoice”; it’s also pronounced with three syllables: *gau-de-te*)

● **What significance does this have?**

Advent is the season of preparing for the arrival of the Lord Jesus (both his first coming and his second coming), and by the third Sunday of Advent, we are most of the way through the season. Thus it is appropriate to rejoice as we see the goal of the season approaching: “The Lord is near.”

● **What is the appropriate liturgical color for this day?**

According to the rubrics:

In this Mass the color violet or rose is used. It can thus be either one. It doesn’t have to be rose; it can also be violet.

● **What does the first reading say?**

It opens with a prophecy that the desert region will rejoice and sing and bloom with abundant flowers. The reason is: “They will see the glory of the Lord, the splendor of our God.” It then contains an exhortation to strength and courage, and explains the reason why:

*Here is your God, he comes with vindication; with divine recompense he comes to save you.*

It then contains the significant statement:

*Then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared; then will the lame leap like a stag, then the tongue of the mute will sing.*

And it concludes:

*Those whom the LORD has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy; they will meet with joy and gladness, sorrow and mourning will flee.*

● **What does this mean?**

This prophecy uses nature imagery to convey the sense of joy that the Jewish people would experience upon their return from exile. This is what is meant by the statements that the desert will sing and be covered with flowers that “see the glory of the Lord.” It depicts God’s coming with vindication to save his people after their exile, and it urges patience until it arrives.

● **What does the responsorial Psalm say?**

The responsorial Psalm contains a series of praises of God, stressing the good things that he does: He keeps faith forever, secures justice for the oppressed, gives food to the hungry, sets captives free, etc.

● **What does this mean?**

The Psalm gives voice to the worship of God’s faithful on behalf of his wondrous deeds, including miracles, such as the restoration of sight to blind people. The conclusion of the reading—the statement that God will reign forever—gives voice to our confidence in God and his ever-present providence in our lives.

● **What does the second reading say?**

The second reading contains an exhortation to be patient until the coming of the Lord. James compares the patience the reader must have to that of a farmer, who must wait until his crop “receives the early and the late rains.”

● **What does this mean?**

Rain did not fall year-round in Israel, but only at certain times. The early rains took place from mid-October to mid-November, and later rains took place from mid-December to mid-January. There were also rains in March and April. Farmers were thus dependent on the arrival of these rains for the success of their crops and had to wait patiently for the rains to come and the crops to ripen.

● **What does the Gospel reading say?**

The reading contains two parts.

In the first, John the Baptist, who is in prison, sends messengers to Jesus to ask “Are you the one who is to come or should we look for another?” Jesus replies by telling them to report to John what they have seen: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them.

Jesus pays tribute to John the Baptist by asking the crowd a series of rhetorical questions about why they went out into the desert to see John when he was ministering.

Jesus affirms that they did go out to see a prophet, “and more than a prophet.” He then identifies why John is more than a prophet. Finally, Jesus states: Amen, I say to you, among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

● **What does this mean?**

The Jewish people in Jesus’ day had certain ideas about what the Messiah would be like and what he would do. It was common to envision him as an earthly king who would deliver Israel from the dominion of the hated Romans by violent revolution. Jesus pays tribute to John, stating that he was a genuine prophet—and even more than that—he was the messenger prophesied in Malachi, who would be the herald of the Messiah.



**MILITARY HONOR ROLL**  
**PLEASE KEEP ALL MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY IN**  
**YOUR PRAYERS**  
**DURING THIS TIME OF UNCERTAINTY**

**If you have a relative or friend serving in the military, please let us know so that we can include their name on our Honor Roll**

**A Prayer for our Military**

Father, we could never thank our military men and women enough for their courageous service and sacrifice to our country and its people. We lift up our voices to express gratefulness and honor to these military troops both from the past and present.



**NIGHT PRAYERS**  
**with DEACON RAY**

**Tuesday evening prayers**  
**4:00PM @ St. Mary's Church**  
**All are welcome!**



**PRO-LIFE ROSE**

The Pro-Life red rose in front of the statue of Mary at Nativity this week is in loving memory of



**Agnes Remetz**

Donated by Nancy Kovalchick

**If you would like to donate for a Pro-Life Rose at Nativity,**

**please contact Diane Stone (570-836-3055)**



Seven Loaves Soup Kitchen, 54 Warren Street in Tunkhannock (formerly the P&G Credit Union building)), serves a hearty meal every Monday through Friday from 5:00-6:30PM. There is no charge and all are welcome.



Those who desire to volunteer to work at the kitchen or to donate food or make a financial contribution are asked to contact 570-996-5005 or 570-836-3145.



**Line Dancing**

Wednesday evening  
**7:00-8:30PM Fr. Nallin Hall**  
**All are welcome**



**ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES**

Advent penance services are scheduled in the churches of our deanery. All services begin at 6:00PM.

- ~~December 09~~ ..... **Nativity BVM**
- December 17** ..... **Corpus Christi, Montdale**
- December 18** ..... **Our Lady of the Abingtons**
- December 20** ..... **Our Lady of the Snows**

**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 more information, please contact Jim Bebla, Diocesan Secretary of Development, at [Jim-Bebla@DioceseofScranton.org](mailto:Jim-Bebla@DioceseofScranton.org) or 570-207-2250.**



If your child's crying or talking becomes excessive or disruptive to others, please be considerate and use the cry rooms in our churches.



**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRIES**



**St. Mary of the Lake**  
**Thursdays from 5:30-7:00PM**  
**in the Parish Hall**

All women of the parish are invited to join us.

**Nativity BVM**

In need of a prayer shawl?  
 Please call Sue Barzilowski (570-836-1351)



As seen on TV - Only **\$5.00**  
 Available at the Parish Office

**THE MOST BLESSED  
SACRAMENT IS RESERVED  
WHERE MASS IS SAID  
We respectfully ask that all  
observe a reverent silence  
and appropriate dress**

## Sacramental Preparation

### BAPTISM

Parents must be registered in the Parish. In order to understand and appreciate the Sacrament of Baptism, first time expectant parents are required to attend one pre-Baptism instruction. A call to the Parish Office 4 months before your child is due will make the scheduling of your session easier and give you ample time to prepare for this Sacrament of Initiation to the life of grace.

### MARRIAGE

The engaged couple is asked to call the Parish Office and arrange an appointment with the priest. Please allow 12 months for the completion of the necessary preparations. Do not enter into any other commitments before confirming a wedding date and time in the parish.

## Confession Schedule

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) is celebrated **every Saturday:**

**St. Mary of the Lake**

.....**3:15-3:45PM**

**Nativity of the BVM**

.....**4:15-4:45PM**

or **at any time by appointment.**

Contact the Parish Office (836-3275).

## Cemetery Lots Available

**Pieta Cemetery**, one of our Parish Cemeteries (located on Dark Hollow Road in Tunkhannock Township) **has burial lots available.** For further info, to view the map of available lots and to inquire about prices & regulations, please contact our Parish Secretary, Mary Lou, at the Parish Office (570-836-3275).



## CHRISTMAS WAFERS

Traditional Christmas wafers (Oplatek) are available at the doors to the church and also in the Parish Office.



Donation is \$2.00 per pack (6 wafers).

The breaking of the Christmas wafer is a custom that began in Poland in the 10<sup>th</sup> century and is practiced by people of Polish ancestry around the world. It is considered the most ancient and beloved of Polish traditions.

In Poland and some parts of **Central Europe**, these Christmas wafers are dyed and used as ornaments. They are also sent as small trinkets with greeting cards to loved ones who are away from home.

The **Christmas** wafer symbolizes the unity of the family, which many consider to be the main pillar of society. According to beliefs, the bond of unity should exist between family members. The father is seen as the link in the unbroken chain of One Body, One Bread, One Christ, and One Church, while other family members join him in this eternal procession. The wafer also symbolizes forgiveness and reconciliation.

## PRO-LIFE ROSE

Looking for a wonderful way to remember a loved one on a special day? **Why not donate the Rose that is placed before the statue**



**of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Nativity BVM Church?**

Simply **contact Diane Stone (570-836-3055) to schedule the date that you desire and how you want it listed in the bulletin.** Many weekends are available.

## Have You Moved?



If you have recently moved or had an address change, please contact the parish office at 570-836-3275 so that our records may be updated. **If we don't have a mailable address on file for you, we will have to remove your name from our parish roster.**

## St. Mary of the Lake CCD News

This week's Mass is hosted by Mrs. Williams' 7<sup>th</sup> grade class. Participants are:

**Greeters:.....Whole class**

**Altar Servers.....Daniel Driscole**

.....**Adrien Franko**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reader:.....Owen Berkheimer**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reader:.....Kylie Zaleski**

**Petitions:.....Madison Degilio**

.....**Sara Mikus**

**Ushers:.....Owen Berkheimer**

.....**Payton Walsh**

**Gifts:.....Madison Degilio**

.....**Sara Mikus**

.....**Kylie Zaleski**

**Parents: Today will be our Christmas Party!**

There will be **no CCD for the next 2 weeks.** See you January 6, 2019.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Blessed New Year!

God bless,

**Jenny Sinker**

## Nativity BVM CCD News

CCD classes continue this week following the 9:00AM Mass. **Mrs. B**

## Words of Life

"In 1531, when the indigenous peoples of Mexico were subjugated and the practice of human sacrifice was still a recent memory, the Mother of God appeared to St. Juan Diego as a pregnant native woman, now known as Our Lady of Guadalupe.

She sent him with miraculous flowers in his cloak to tell the bishop to build a church where people could receive her Son and her loving, tender care. When St. Juan Diego opened the cloak before the bishop, an image of Our Lady was revealed that remains to this day. The chapel was quickly built, millions embraced Christianity, and the Church increased its protection of the indigenous peoples."

**USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities  
2018-19 Respect Life Reflection**

## Parish Bulletin Advertising

Space is currently available in our weekly parish bulletin for your business advertisement. Contact our Parish Business Manager, Dick Schwoebel, at (570) 836-3275 or (570) 677-7634 for information and pricing. Various sizes are available; the cost is reasonable.

## ST. MARY OF THE LAKE MASS SCHEDULE - WEEK OF DECEMBER 16, 2018

SATURDAY	DEC	15	4:00PM	JOSEPH FRANKO – OFFERED BY RICK & MARY LOU FRANKO
SUNDAY	DEC	16	9:00AM	ANGIE HNATKO – OFFERED BY GEORGE & ELLIE DOUGHERTY
MONDAY	DEC	17	8:00AM	<b>NO MASS</b>
TUESDAY	DEC	18	8:00AM	SARA ELLEN CLEAVELAND – OFFERED BY LISA JANOSKI & TOM JANOSKI
WEDNESDAY	DEC	19	8:00AM	<b>NO MASS</b>
THURSDAY	DEC	20	8:00AM	ANDREW CHACKAN – OFFERED BY ST. MARY'S ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY
FRIDAY	DEC	21	8:00AM	<b>NO MASS</b>
SATURDAY	DEC	22	4:00PM	JOAN DAVITT – OFFERED BY THE RICK FRANKO & CARL PACKER FAMILIES
SUNDAY	DEC	23	9:00AM	JOSEPH IGNATOVICH – OFFERED BY THE PARISHIONERS OF ST. MARY OF THE LAKE

### LAY MINISTER SCHEDULE

#### SAT DEC 15 & SUN. DEC 16

**EUCCHARISTIC  
MINISTER(S)**

**LECTORS  
ALTAR  
SERVER(S)**

**USHERS  
GREETERS  
OFFERTORY GIFTS  
COLLECTION COUNTERS**

#### SAT. DEC 22 & SUN. DEC 23

**EUCCHARISTIC  
MINISTER(S)**

**LECTORS  
ALTAR  
SERVER(S)**

**USHERS  
GREETERS  
OFFERTORY GIFTS  
COLLECTION COUNTERS**

#### SATURDAY 4:00PM

DEACON RAY  
LISA JANOSKI  
CARMEL WILLIAMS  
DON AMES  
ZACH ZELNA

BERNIE GARVEY & CARL PACKER  
MARIE PACKER  
**SELECTION BY USHERS**

#### SATURDAY 4:00PM

DEACON RAY  
MARIE PACKER  
PETER POLINSKY  
BOB ANDEWS  
DANNY DRISCOLE

JIM BILLINGS & BILL SHAW  
DEE PASKO  
**SELECTION BY USHERS**

#### SUNDAY 9:00AM

DEACON RAY  
TOM WOLFF  
JOAN STROKA  
**SEVENTH GRADE CCD CLASS**  
ADRIEN FRANKO  
DANNY DRISCOLE  
JAMES MIKUS

**SEVENTH GRADE CCD CLASS**  
**SEVENTH GRADE CCD CLASS**  
**SEVENTH GRADE CCD CLASS**  
DICK SCHWOEBEL & LEN NASH

#### SUNDAY 9:00AM

DEACON RAY  
BRANDON PIERETTI  
SEAN PIERETTI  
SEB NARO  
OWEN BERKHIMER  
ADRIEN FRANKO  
ANTHONY WILLIAMS  
RANDY PIERETTI & STEVE ZDANIEWICZ  
JOYCE NARO  
**SELECTION BY USHERS**  
DICK SCHWOEBEL & KAY NOREIKA

Father of goodness and love, hear our prayers for the sick members of our community and for all who are in need. Amid mental and physical suffering may they find consolation in your healing presence. Show your mercy as you close wounds, cure illness, make broken bodies whole who healed those who believed. Amen.

#### **REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

- THE SICK, THE SUFFERING AND HOSPITALIZED, ESPECIALLY: SANDRA SLOWEY, LORI PIERCE, LISA FREITAS, TRACY IRISH, CHRISTINA REEVES, JACKI NIERATKO, CARMEN PIERCE, ELAINE HUG, CHASE RUSSELLO, ANNETTE SMITH, LYNN POLLINI, AVA MASON, LYNN McGLYNN, BONNIE KILGANNON, MSGR. DAVID L. TRESSLER, RUSTY PERKINS, JULIA KAIFER, MICHELLE HUERBIN, JENNIFER BUNNELL, JOSEPH PIERCE, THELMA SHEBBY, EDD KILGANNON, AUDREY DAVIS, SHIRLEY ROCHA, DOT JOHNSON, JAMES DOUGHERTY, STACIE MAGNECZ, TAMMY MIGLIORI, CAROLLYN DAVIS, LINDA ZALEWSKI, MELISSA HENNING HILL, MICHAEL BOGDON, JANET EVANS, ZACHARY WILLIAMS, PAT STEAD, BILL STEAD, RON GORKO, KATIE PACKER, PETER POLINSKY, DAVID TRESSLER, SR., ANN SMITH, DELORES HEAGY, FRAN MOLLUSKY, PEARL PIERCE, BERNICE BURANICH, CEIL IGNATOVICH, MARY PETERSEN, LOUIS C. POLLINI JR., SUE MIGLIORI, JOE SCHIAVONE, LINDA NIEMIEC, CAROLE GREENIP, JANE CAWLEY, FLORENCE KEYES, JEROME LAMONICA, JEAN LAMONICA, THEO FREAR, BROGAN PERFILIO, RON WILLIAMS, DICK & FLORENCE KELLY.
- THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED AND THE NEEDS OF OUR PARISH AND PARISHIONERS

**PLEASE NOTIFY THE PARISH OFFICE (378-2181) IF ANYONE IS HOSPITALIZED OR ILL OR IN NEED OF PRAYERS.**

#### **SANCTUARY LIGHT:**

THE SANCTUARY LIGHT WILL BURN DURING THE WEEK OF  
DECEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup> FOR **DOMINIC GRANDINETTI**  
OFFERED BY THE SNYDER FAMILY

#### **YOUR CONTRIBUTION:**

Weekend Offering	\$1,341.00
Religious Retirement	\$ 224.00

### ST. MARY OF THE LAKE CALENDAR

DEC. 16	7 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE CLASS MASS/CCD CHRISTMAS PARTY – 10:00AM – HALL	FEB. 03	CCD CLASS/BANNER DAY 1 PARENT MUST BE PRESENT
DEC. 23	NO CCD CLASS	FEB. 11	CCD CLASS/VALENTINE FUN BREAKFAST
DEC. 24	CHRISTMAS EVE MASS – 4:00PM	FEB. 17	NO CCD CLASS
DEC. 25	CHRISTMAS DAY MASS – 9:00AM	FEB. 24	CCD CLASS
DEC. 30	NO CCD CLASS	FEB. 26	PARISH COUNCIL MTG. – 6:30PM – HALL
DEC. 31	NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS- 4:00PM		
JAN. 01	NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS – 9:00AM	MAR. 03	CCD CLASS
JAN. 06	CCD CLASS	MAR. 10	CCD CLASS
JAN. 13	CCD CLASS	MAR. 17	CCD CLASS/CONFESSIONS/3 <sup>RD</sup> GRADE CLASS MASS
JAN. 20	CCD CLASS/4 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE CLASS MASS	MAR. 24	CCD CLASS
JAN. 22	MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE MTGS. – 6:30PM – HALL	MAR. 31	CCD CLASS/PRE-K, KINDERGARTEN & 1 <sup>ST</sup> GRADE CLASS MASS
JAN. 27	CCD CLASS		
FEB. 02	FIRST RECONCILIATION @ 10:00AM		

## NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY MASS SCHEDULE – WEEK OF DECEMBER 16, 2018

SATURDAY	DEC	15	5:00PM	CHARLES & DOROTHY KOVALCHICK – OFFERED BY THEIR FAMILY
SUNDAY	DEC	16	7:30AM	HEALTH & BLESSING FOR SARA RUEHLMAN – OFFERED BY HER FAMILY
			9:00AM	HELEN YONCHIUK – OFFERED BY HER FAMILY
			11:00AM	JIM MANGANELLA – OFFERED BY DOLORES, CHERYL ANN & JENNIFER
MONDAY	DEC	17	7:00AM	SYLVIA ODGERS – OFFERED BY HER FAMILY
TUESDAY	DEC	18	7:00AM	<b>NO MASS</b>
WEDNESDAY	DEC	19	7:00AM	MARY CASSIDY – OFFERED BY KEN, ROSE & FAMILY
THURSDAY	DEC	20	7:00AM	<b>NO MASS</b>
FRIDAY	DEC	21	7:00AM	NORMAN HARDING – OFFERED BY THERESA ZOLA & FAMILY
SATURDAY	DEC	22	5:00PM	MARGARET DOYLE – OFFERED BY ROBERT & CHARLOTTE SMITH
SUNDAY	DEC	23	7:30AM	BONNIE LaFLEUR – OFFERED BY JIM & DOLORES KENNEDY
			9:00AM	LORRAINE GELNETT – OFFERED BY ADA HARVEY
			11:00AM	JOHN & ETHEL WAGENHOFFER – OFFERED BY GLORIA PASTERNAK

### LAY MINISTER SCHEDULE

<u>SAT. DEC 15 &amp; SUN. DEC 16</u>	<u>SATURDAY 5:00PM</u>	<u>SUNDAY 7:30AM</u>	<u>SUNDAY 9:00AM</u>	<u>SUNDAY 11:00AM</u>
<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER(S)</b>	SUSAN BARZILOSKI CHARLOTTE SMITH JOAN CHAPDELAIN	DEACON RAY NAN DeMARCO ALISHA NUDO	JOHN KEEFE CARL SHINKO ROY BRODY	GARY TEWKSBURY LISA RANSOM DOLORES MANGANELLA
<b>LECTOR ALTAR SERVER(S)</b>	PAT MURRAY ALYSSA KOVALCHICK JACOB POWERS NOAH POWERS	SAM ELIAS NICHOLAS DeMARCO ALEX KEISER ZAK KEISER	BARBARA KALISH MARCUS BINNER PAUL BINNER EVAN BRODY	GLORIA PASTERNAK HELEN BELLUCCI THOMAS BELLUCCI MATTHEW KALETA
<b>OFFERTORY GIFTS COLLECTION COUNTERS</b>	<b>SELECTION BY USHERS</b>	<b>SELECTION BY USHERS</b>	<b>SELECTION BY USHERS</b> B. KIRBY, W. OLIVER	<b>SELECTION BY USHERS</b>
<u>SAT. DEC. 22 &amp; SUN. DEC 23</u>	<u>SATURDAY 5:00PM</u>	<u>SUNDAY 7:30AM</u>	<u>SUNDAY 9:00AM</u>	<u>SUNDAY 11:00AM</u>
<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER(S)</b>	SUSAN BARZILOSKI CHARLOTTE SMITH DONNA KASKUS	DEACON RAY NAN DeMARCO TAMMY NUDO	JOHN KEEFE GENE SCHWEITZER RITA FITZGERALD	GRACE STURDEVANT DIANE STONE DOLORES MANGANELLA
<b>LECTOR ALTAR SERVER(S)</b>	SABRINA TRAVER THOMAS ELIAS MATTHEW PREBOLA JACK ZEUNEN	CHRIS DeMARCO ELIZABETH DeMARCO LEAH DeMARCO SARAH DeMARCO	ART DAVIS CARA EVANS CORAL MILNER ANNA EVANS	GLORIA PASTERNAK HELEN BELLUCCI THOMAS BELLUCCI MATTHEW KALETA
<b>OFFERTORY GIFTS COLLECTION COUNTERS</b>	<b>SELECTION BY USHERS</b>	<b>SELECTION BY USHERS</b>	<b>SELECTION BY USHERS</b> P. BROWN, C. KOVALCHICK, A. DAVIS	<b>SELECTION BY USHERS</b>

#### REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

----- **THE SICK, THE SUFFERING AND HOSPITALIZED**, ESPECIALLY: CAROLYN MYERS, ELISSA ROSE, LYLE STURDEVANT, MARYN KUKUCHKA, LILLIAN KRISTUNAS, JENNIFER BUNNELL, RITA BERCHEM, MARIE STAIR, MARY ANN BROWN, ELIZABETH CALLAHAN, RICHELLE MORTIMER, SHERI RAIL, DAVID TRESSLER, SR., CHERYL MacDONALD SWEET, AIDAN HOLMAN, TRISTAN EVANS, JOSEPH E. QUINN, ANGELIQUE ALEXANDRA PREVOST, HEATHER STEGNER, MARGE HOLUB, BEN BROWN, ELEANOR FOSTER, MATTHEW LEWIS, DONALD TRAVER, DAWN DOMMES, MICHELLE HUERBIN, CAROLYN ROZANSKI, DON WHITE, MARY KUKUCHKA, EMMY COIA, DARRIN McGAVIN, FATHER BILL WILSON, EDWARD KIMBEL, CHERYL SANDS, MARY DELMAR, CHARLES CAREY, NANCY ROBINSON, SUSAN BOLOUSKI McANDREWS, GARRET CONOVER, ANALISA DOMINIC, LUCAS SETH BOYANOWSKI, BILL IVEY, VERNA PRAWDZIK, MATTHEW FORTESE, JACOB WALTER, CURTIS, ARTHUR BUNNELL, TED BUNNELL, HELEN TALARICO, PAUL GOODRICH, MYRON LaBAR, TIKI LYONS, GRACE STURDEVANT, CAROL COBB, BRENT RANSOM, JEAN YABLONSKI, AUSTIN THOMAS, JIM BORDEN, JERRY STROKA, LINDA NIEMIEC, DIANE THOMPSON, ROSEANN GEORGE, SHELLIE SEYMORE, MARILYN BRODY, MONTANA COLE, CAROL GAYLORD, CHRIS OLSHAN, JR., HELEN RAIL, CHARLOTTE SMITH, FLORENCE KEYES, LINDA RUEHLMAN, ROY PREVOST, ALLEN KEYES, CATHERINE LITWIN, JUDI HOWE, LEAH WILSEY, ANN ZACKARIAS, CHRISTOPHER BELL, NATHAN DELMAR, LINDA, KATHLEEN ALTEMUS, CARL ALTEMUS, MARY LOUISE BECKETT, PAULA MOELLER, GEORGE ZALEDONIS, PAT STASCavage, JOHN RUEHLMAN JR, MICHALINE WIERNUSZ, MARY BOLOUSKI, PEGGY FINNEGAN, JIM RAIL SR., JOAN STEPHENS, PEG BALL, NORM BALL, BARBARA LOCKER.

----- THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED AND THE NEEDS OF OUR PARISH AND PARISHIONERS.

PLEASE NOTIFY THE PARISH OFFICE (836-3275) IF ANYONE IS HOSPITALIZED OR ILL OR IN NEED OF PRAYERS.

#### SANCTUARY LIGHT:

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE IS AVAILABLE TO BURN FOR YOUR INTENTION. CALL THE PARISH OFFICE AT (570) 836-3275

#### YOUR CONTRIBUTION:

Weekend Offering	\$10,671.00
Religious Retirement	\$ 480.00

## NATIVITY BVM CALENDAR

DEC. 15	PAINTING PARTY – FNH – 6:00PM	JAN. 27	CCD CLASS
DEC. 16	CCD CLASS/CLASS PARTIES	FEB. 03	CCD CLASS
DEC. 23	NO CCD CLASS	FEB. 05	ALTAR & ROSARY MTG. – 12:45PM – FNH
DEC. 24	CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES – 6:00PM & 10:00PM	FEB. 09	FIRST PENANCE SERVICE – 10:00AM (SNOW DATE FEBRUARY 16 <sup>TH</sup> – 10:00AM)
DEC. 25	CHRISTMAS DAY MASS – 11:00AM	FEB. 10	CCD CLASS/BANNER SUNDAY
DEC. 30	NO CCD CLASS	FEB. 17	CCD CLASS
DEC. 31	NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS – 5:30PM	FEB. 24	CCD CLASS/3 <sup>RD</sup> GRADE MASS – 9:00AM
JAN. 01	NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS – 11:00AM	MAR. 02	CONFIRMATION RETREAT – DIOCESAN PASTORAL CENTER, SCRANTON – 9:00AM – 2:00PM
JAN. 06	CCD CLASS		
JAN. 13	CCD CLASS		
JAN. 20	CCD CLASS/4 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE CLASS MASS – 9:00AM		