



## FEBRUARY 23-24, 2019



**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

## SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



**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*

**NOTES FROM OUR PARISH COMMUNITY:**

I have noticed one thing since I have gotten older. How fast time flies. In what seems to be a blink of an eye, we went from preparing for Jesus' birth to preparing for Lent. Ash Wednesday is only a few days away.

While in deep conversation with my girlfriend about Lent and our ideas on decorating our church for Easter, we got to the question "So what are you giving up for Lent?" Well, truth be told, last year was the first year I didn't mess up. That's a lot of oops! My girlfriend then asked if I fasted on Sundays. Yes I do. She was also raised to fast on Sundays.

Well, we know Lent is 40 days, but there are 46 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter. We both knew that, but again we don't mess with our Lenten beliefs. But.... I just had to do a Google search. Since all Sundays are days to celebrate Christ's Resurrection, Christians were forbidden to fast and do other forms of penance on those days. Therefore, when the Church expanded the period of fasting and prayer in preparation for Easter from a few days to 40 (to mirror Christ's fasting in the desert), Sundays could not be included in the count.

OK... so now after reading all of this, will it change our fasting? Sorry, not us two. We're old school and will still strive to go straight through. (If we mess up hopefully it's on a Sunday!)

Maybe this could be enough to encourage you to strive for those 6 days and then reflect on Sunday for a "job well done."

You can choose to do many things for Lent. Perhaps you can attend daily Mass ... Pray the sorrowful mysteries of the rosary ... Attend Stations of the Cross on Fridays ... Pray for those who have nobody to pray for them. These are just a few of many options. Whatever you choose, may you have an enlightening Lent.

God Bless,

*MaryAnn Barni*

SML Word Ministry Committee Chair

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR:** The Annual Potluck Dinner date has been changed to March with a **Mardi Gras** theme. So, start thinking of something to bring and get ready to have some fun! **Save the date: Next Saturday March 2<sup>nd</sup> - 6:00PM at Father Nallin Hall.** See the enclosed insert for more information.



**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.

**UPCOMING SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

**Clergy Care .....March 02-03**

**CARE AND EDUCATION OF DIOCESAN PRIESTS:** The monthly collection for the care and education of priests of the Diocese of Scranton **will be taken up next weekend.** An envelope for this collection is in your set. Thank you for your generosity and prayerful support.



**DIVINE MERCY PRAYER SERVICE:** Deacon Ray is conducting a Divine Mercy prayer service on the first Sunday of the month at 3:00PM in St. Mary of the Lake Church. **The next service will be next Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>.** All are welcome.

**SML EASTER CANDY:** Thank you to everyone who has offered to work on our Easter Candy fundraiser. We really appreciate your willingness to help. We still don't have anyone who will take charge of the fundraiser and shepherd it through to completion. Without that guidance, completing the project in time for sales before Easter will be difficult (if not impossible). We're asking for someone to step up to that responsibility so that we can get started. If we don't find someone to lead this project, we'll probably have to forego this fundraiser for this year, a loss of approximately \$5,000-\$7,500 in our financial plan for this year.



**NATIVITY BVM PARISH SURVEY 2019**

Thank you to all who responded to our survey. The data has been compiled and is being reviewed by the Parish Pastoral Council. Please watch the bulletin in the upcoming weeks for the results of the survey.

Thank you,  
Nativity Pastoral Parish Council Survey Committee

**ATTENTION PIEROGI BRIGADE:**



**We have begun pierogi-making on Mondays.** We always welcome new members to our group and lunch will be provided. This is an important effort on the part of the parish as well as a needed fundraiser. So come out and join us for a morning of good conversation, fellowship, and time well spent.

**ANNUAL CLEANUP AT NATIVITY B.V.M. CEMETERIES:** Our annual cleanup of Christmas and winter decorations has begun at Mount Carmel and Pieta Cemeteries. Any items remaining after March 5<sup>th</sup> will be removed and discarded. Questions/concerns can be clarified by contacting the Parish Office during normal business hours. Thank You.



**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>.**

**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.

### SECOND ANNUAL CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Reverend and dear Father,  
Dear Parish Life Coordinator,

As many of you are aware, last year the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Catholic Women's Conference was launched in connection with the Diocesan anniversary. Continuing with the overall conference theme of "Refresh Your Faith", the committee is pleased to announce this year's Catholic Women's Conference will be Saturday, June 22, 2019. This year the Conference is again hosted at the University of Scranton and the focus is "Come to the Well". The day will be filled with faith, hope and joy for Catholic women of all ages.

Included in the program for the day will be: speaker Teresa Tomeo, syndicated Catholic talk show host; Jill Metz, artist and personal faith witness; and Sr. Mercy Marie, Sister of Life. The Nashville music group, His Own, will be providing music ministry again this year.

Please extend this invitation to the women of your parish. More detailed information and registration is available at: Catholic Women's Conference. Announcements will be sent over the next few months to your Parish Secretaries with bulletin alerts, flyers to post, and invitations for groups to gather to come representing your parish. A request will also be coming for confessors to give an hour or two within the day.

Faithfully yours in Christ,  
† Joseph C. Bambera  
Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L.  
Bishop of Scranton

### NATIVITY BVM ALTAR & ROSARY



#### "Flower Power"

Our trip to the  
**PHILADELPHIA FLOWER SHOW**

Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>

- ▶ **Bus leaves Nativity parking lot @ 7:15AM**
  - ▶ **Breakfast stop @ Hickory Run**
  - ▶ **Bus departs Philadelphia @ 4:15PM**
  - ▶ **Cost: \$85.00 per person (bus + admission + tip)**
- Make checks payable to NATIVITY ALTAR & ROSARY**  
**Call Sue (570-836-1351) or Mary Lou (570-836-3275)**  
**for reservations/questions**

**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.

**VIRTUS:** A live **Mandated Reporter Training** is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 6:00PM at LaSalle Academy, Jessup**. In the event of bad weather, the snow date is Thursday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 6:00PM. To register, contact Kathy Bolinski at [Kathleen-Bolinski@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:Kathleen-Bolinski@dioceseofscranton.org) or call her at 570.207.1453. Trainings are limited to the first 50 participants.

*This notice pertains to those individuals who are identified as mandated reporters of child abuse but have not yet completed the online training thru the University of Pittsburgh.*

### 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.

**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

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





**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW MINISTERS:** We extend our congratulations to the following parishioners who have completed their training to be **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:**

**St. Mary of the Lake**

Danny & Santina Williams  
 Patricia Zaleski  
 Diane Schwiezer

**Nativity BVM**

John Parduski  
 Mary Jean Vikara

We also congratulate our **new lector at Nativity BVM**  
 -- Alyssa Vikara



**LENTEN REFLECTION:**  
**Come and spend Monday afternoons in Lent reflecting on**

**a program by Bishop Robert Barron entitled "THE MASS".** The sessions will be held over seven weeks on **Monday afternoons in the Rectory.** The material to be used is from the "Word On Fire" series and is Bishop Barron's study on "The Mass". **If you would like to attend or would like more information, please call Cindy Brown at 570 836-4744.**

**Study:** Bishop Robert Barron's THE MASS  
**Date:** Starting **Monday March 4<sup>th</sup>** with the last session being held on April 15<sup>th</sup>  
**Time:** 1:00 - 2:30PM  
**Place:** Rectory Meeting Room

**Senior Isolation Workshop**

The Scranton Area Ministerium will host a Senior Isolation Workshop at the **Diocesan Pastoral Center on Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> from 10:00AM to 1:00PM.** The morning will begin with a presentation from Prof. Jim Siberski of Misericordia University, addressing the challenge of senior isolation in our communities. Lunch will be provided with an opportunity for fellowship and discussion of pastoral solutions.

**We encourage any community member to attend this event.** All pastors, youth ministers, and advocates of any faith tradition who are interested in combatting this serious challenge in our communities are welcome.

**SACRIFICIAL OFFERING: February 16-17, 2019**

**Nativity BVM Church:**  
 Weekly Collection Goal\* .....\$ 4,800.00  
 Actual Offertory\*\* .....\$ 4,147.00  
 Difference:.....\$( 653.00)

**St. Mary of the Lake Church:**  
 Weekly Collection Goal\* .....\$ 2,000.00  
 Actual Offertory\*\* .....\$ 1,651.74  
 Difference:.....\$( 348.26)

*\*Weekly Collection Goal represents the amount needed weekly if we are going to make our 2019-2020 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.

**VIRTUS:** A training session for adults in the Protecting God's Children (PGC-VIRTUS) program has been scheduled:

► **Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at Ascension Parish, Forest City, beginning at 6:00PM.**

Complete information is posted at:

**[www.dioceseofscranton.org](http://www.dioceseofscranton.org) (safe environment-child protection-VIRTUS)**

If you are an adult employee or volunteer who has direct contact or routine interaction with children, please make every effort to participate in this training. Your attendance is important. Thank you.

**Diocesan Catholic Men's Conference  
 Planned for April 27**

More than 700 men are expected to attend this year's conference to be held on **Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at Holy Redeemer High School in Wilkes-Barre.** The theme is "What Is Truth." In these difficult times, the world asks what Pontius Pilate asked 2000 years ago: What is Truth? The world thinks "Man is the measure of all things." This conference will remind us that God is the measure of all things and His truth is revealed in His son Jesus Christ.

Registration: [www.BeAManconference.com](http://www.BeAManconference.com).



2018 DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL	
As of February 19 <sup>th</sup>	
<b>NATIVITY BVM CHURCH:</b>	
GOAL:.....	\$34,000.00
PLEDGED:.....	\$19,965.00
STATUS:.....	58.7%
<b>UNDER GOAL:</b> .....	<b>\$14,035.00</b>
PARTICIPATION: 13.64% (130 FAMILIES OUT OF 953)	
<b>ST. MARY OF THE LAKE CHURCH:</b>	
GOAL:.....	\$13,000.00
PLEDGED:.....	\$ 5,990.00
STATUS.....	46.1%
<b>UNDER GOAL:</b> .....	<b>\$ 7,010.00</b>
PARTICIPATION: 8.39% (37 FAMILIES OUT OF 442)	

**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)**

**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.

**REMEMBRANCE OF THE DEAD:** Your prayers are requested for the soul of Nativity BVM parishioner **MARY KUKUCHKA**, who was buried from our church this Saturday. Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord, and let perpetual Light shine upon her. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.



**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.

**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.



**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.

**BOY SCOUT NEWS**



**Next Committee Meeting:  
March 11<sup>th</sup>**

Upstairs Classroom @ Father Nallin Hall  
Alison Delano, Committee Chairperson  
570-233-4000 [adelano1230@gmail.com](mailto:adelano1230@gmail.com)

**CUB SCOUT NEWS**

**ADULT COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Fr. Nallin Hall  
**February 25<sup>th</sup>**



**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.

**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/>



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

**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**

**Disability Ministries**

In the coming months, the Diocese of Scranton will be hosting Open House opportunities for persons with disabilities and their families. We want to learn more about your experiences and see how we can develop ministries to welcome all members of our parish communities.

**CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER**

An Engaged Encounter is a retreat weekend for engaged couples. It is an opportunity to gather with other engaged couples, to enjoy time both in groups and alone as a couple, and to dialogue about your future married life together.

A team of married couples, as well as a priest, present ideas related to many pertinent topics. The weekend concludes with a Sunday Mass celebration. With your pastor's permission, an Engaged Encounter Weekend can qualify as PreCana preparation.

Engaged Encounter Weekends are held throughout the year, both through the Diocese of Camden and through the Diocese of Harrisburg. To learn more about Engaged Encounter, or to register for a weekend, go to <http://www.engagedencounter.org/>.

**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.

**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!!!

**Prayer Resources for Those  
Suffering from Addiction**

The Diocese of Erie is providing a variety of resources for parishes and individuals to help pray for those suffering from addictions. Although designed with the opioid crisis in mind, these resources could also be helpful for those suffering from other addictions as well, including alcoholism and gambling. Visit <https://www.eriecd.org/opioid.html> to access the prayer services on the Diocese of Erie website, or visit <https://store.faithcatholic.com/meditations-and-prayers> to order a booklet of Catholic prayers for family members whose loved ones are suffering from addiction.

**2018 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS**

Contribution statements for the 2018 calendar year are now available. To request a statement of your contributions for 2018, please complete the form below and drop it in the collection basket or mail it to the Parish Office. You may also call the Parish Office (570-836-3275) to request the statement.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Envelope Number: \_\_\_\_\_



## DIGITAL DISCIPLES MINISTRY

### Like our Facebook Page

When you think about it, being a Digital Disciple is all about four things:

**Information** – learning what you need to know about our parishes

**Education** - learning about our Catholic faith and how we are implementing that faith here in our parishes

**Communication** - making sure we all know what's going on

**Evangelization** – spreading our faith to others

If you are on Facebook, THE biggest way you can help INFORM, EDUCATE, COMMUNICATE, and EVANGELIZE is by LIKING our Facebook page, @nativitystmary, and by LIKING and SHARING our Facebook posts. When you like our page, you affirm that you want to know about your faith and how we are practicing it at Nativity and St Mary. By liking and sharing our posts, you affirm that you want others to know about our faith as well.

We currently have about 150 "likes" for our page. Realistically, we should have many more likes for two parishes of our size. We have set a goal of doubling the number of likes for our page. Here's how you can help:

- If you are on Facebook and have not yet liked our page, by all means do so.
- If you have already liked our page, start liking and sharing our posts to your friends, and encourage them to like the page as well.
- If you are not yet on Facebook, create a Facebook profile and like our page. If you need help, ask a friend or family member to help you.
- If you are a "computer person", offer to help a friend or family member create a Facebook profile.

Liking our Facebook page is one way of being an active parishioner. Support your parish by helping us reach our goal.

### 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**.

### Living Your Strengths Workshops Coming Soon!

Do you envision a parish community in which every member is valued for his or her unique gifts and talents? Could your parish benefit from having parishioners serve in ways they enjoy and in which they can do a great job? Would you like to see parishioner engagement move from a "slots to fill" approach into a strengths-based ministry approach?

When parish members serve in the ministries that are well-suited to their God-given unique strengths and abilities, a dramatic shift in parishioner engagement can occur. In order to help facilitate strengths-based parishioner engagement, the Office for Parish Life will be offering Living Your Strengths Workshops beginning in early 2019. These workshops can help your parishioners identify their unique strengths, and explore the ways in which those strengths can be used to best serve the parish community. A workshop can also serve to help your ministry teams learn how the strengths of each team member can complement and enhance the strengths of those with whom they serve. This knowledge can lead to greater understanding, appreciation, and productivity within ministry teams.

To learn more about Living Your Strengths Workshops, or to schedule a workshop for your parish group, please contact Jennifer Housel, Director for Community and Family Development, (570) 207-2213 x 1104, [jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org).

### 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.



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



**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**

There are 2 Pro-Life red roses in front of the statue of Mary at Nativity this week.



The first rose is in memory of **John Pasternak**  
 Offered by Peggy Finnegan

The second rose is in memory of **Mary Ostrowski & David Trowbridge**



Offered by Aunt Rose Marie McAndrew

**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



**Mardi Gras Pot Luck Dinner  
 Saturday March 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**6:00PM – Father Nallin Hall**  
 Everyone is welcome

Bring your favorite dish to share  
**RSVP by February 25<sup>th</sup>**

Cindy Brown (570-836-4744)  
 Parish Office (570-836-3275)

See the enclosed insert for more information



St. Mary of the Lake

**Ham & Cabbage Dinner  
 Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>  
 4:00PM 'till SOLD OUT  
 in the Parish Hall**



Ham, cabbage, potatoes, carrots,  
 dessert & beverage

**Tickets:**

Eat in..... \$10.00  
 Take out..... \$10.00

**Tickets sold at the door  
 See the enclosed flyer**



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



**ALTAR FLOWERS FOR THE GLORY OF GOD**



We all love to see our altars decorated so beautifully at Christmas and Easter. But we like to see our altars reflect floral beauty all year long. You are encouraged to offer a floral bouquet in memory of a loved one, for a special intention or in thanksgiving.

**Intentions and donors will be listed in the bulletin unless you request otherwise.**



**FIRST FRIDAY**

**Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>** is the First Friday of March. Confessions will be heard 15 minutes prior to the 7:00AM morning Mass at Nativity. Deacon Ray will conduct a Communion Service at St. Mary's at 8:00AM.

**Deacon Ray & Diane Stone** will take Communion to the **Tunkhannock** area on **Friday beginning at 9:30AM.**

**Fr. Pat** will take Communion to the **Lake Winola** area on **Friday beginning at 9:00AM.**



**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).



## Community News

Lake Winola United Methodist Church  
**Super Soup Supper**  
**Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> 5:00-7:00PM**  
Different soups, salad, bread, beverage & dessert will be available  
Come sample all the soups offered  
This is a mission project sponsored by the Emmaus community of the Church  
Free will offering accepted



Bring your instrument and play along with the Northern Tier Symphony at their OPEN REHEARSAL  
**Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup> 7:30 - 9:30PM**  
Meet-and-Greet at the Break  
Tunkhannock Middle School Auditorium  
200 Franklin Ave, Tunkhannock PA  
Strings Welcome  
All Instruments Invited  
Percussionist - needed instruments will be provided by the Orchestra  
**We are also looking to expand our Saxophone section**

### SPRING 2019 PROGRAM

Masquerade Waltz - Aram Khachaturian  
The Second Waltz (for Jazz Orchestra)  
- Dmitri Shostakovich  
Symphony No. 8 - Anton Dvorak  
Music from Der Rosenkavalier  
- Richard Strauss  
Marche Slav, Op. 31  
- Piotr Ilych Tchaikovsky  
Colonial Song - Percy Grainger  
Carousel Waltz (Concert Version)  
- Richard Rodgers  
Call ahead if you would like music in advance: 570 289-1090

### The Humane Society of Wyoming County, Inc.

570-836-4745  
[www.hswcPA.org](http://www.hswcPA.org)

The Humane Society of Wyoming County is a non-profit, tax-exempt, all volunteer organization. Volunteers and donations always needed.  
If anyone is having trouble affording spay/neuter surgery, they should contact us; we may be able to help them find an affordable plan.  
If anyone suspects animal neglect/abuse, they should contact us. All calls are confidential.  
Don't let them suffer in silence. **If you witness animal abuse or neglect, please contact us.** Our humane officer will investigate.

## Nativity BVM CCD News

Our third grade CCD students will be hosting the 9:00AM Mass this Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. Participants are:

**First Reading** ..... Ophelia Matalavy  
**Second Reading** ..... Sophia Sobek  
**Petitions** ..... Taryn Newswanger  
..... Kaden Delvey  
..... Johanna Diaz  
..... Kianna Hannon  
**Gifts** ..... Isabella Kuffa  
..... Kyle Montross  
..... Kinsley Seachrist  
**Teacher** ..... Matthew Colavitti  
**Aides** ..... Skylar Roerig  
..... Ian Barbini

### Change of CCD Class Location for March 3<sup>rd</sup> Only:

The **fourth grade** will be meeting in the Rectory on March 3<sup>rd</sup> only. The **fifth grade** will meet Mrs. Burke in the lobby of Father Nallin Hall that day only. Both classes will return to the hall on March 10<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your cooperation. **Mrs. B**

## Words of Life

"Abortion affects countless marriages more than many people recognize. But there is no doubt that God will bring great healing to those who trust in his infinite mercy. If a past abortion can be acknowledged and addressed, a married couple can make great strides in experiencing even more fully God's design that 'the two shall become one' (Mt 19:5)."

**"Healing within Marriage from an Abortion"**

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities  
NABRE © 2010 CCD  
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## St. Mary of the Lake Altar & Rosary

Reminder: Annual dues are due now. An envelope for your dues for 2019 was in the envelope packet that you previously received. If you don't have envelopes, you can use one of the Welcome envelopes found at the entrances to the church.

## 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.

## NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY MASS SCHEDULE – WEEK OF FEBRUARY 24, 2019

SATURDAY	FEB	23	5:00PM	DANIEL DULE – OFFERED BY THOMAS & JANICE SUSZ
SUNDAY	FEB	24	7:30AM	JOSEPH FRANK – OFFERED BY HIS PARENTS
			9:00AM	PETER FRANKO JR. – OFFERED BY HIS PARENTS
			11:00AM	ANTON PFUNDT – OFFERED BY LYLE & GRACE STURDEVANT
MONDAY	FEB	25	7:00AM	BARBARA JONES – OFFERED BY MARY REILLY
TUESDAY	FEB	26	7:00AM	<b>NO MASS</b>
WEDNESDAY	FEB	27	7:00AM	MARY KOZIELSKI – OFFERED BY MARY ANN & FAMILY
THURSDAY	FEB	28	7:00AM	<b>NO MASS</b>
FRIDAY	MAR	01	7:00AM	GENE YONCHIUK – OFFERED BY HIS FAMILY
SATURDAY	MAR	02	5:00PM	DONALD OLSHAN – OFFERED BY HIS WIFE & FAMILY
SUNDAY	MAR	03	7:30AM	WALTER ZOLA – OFFERED BY BRUCE GELNETT
			9:00AM	BERTHA HOLOD – OFFERED BY HER FAMILY
			11:00AM	NORM HARDING – OFFERED BY MICHAEL & SUSAN DISTADIO

### LAY MINISTER SCHEDULE

<b>SAT. FEB. 23 &amp; SUN. FEB. 24 SATURDAY 5:00PM</b>		<b>SUNDAY 7:30AM</b>	<b>SUNDAY 9:00AM</b>	<b>SUNDAY 11:00AM</b>
<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER(S)</b>	CHARLOTTE SMITH	DEACON RAY	GENE SCHWEITZER	DOLORES MANGANELLA
<b>LECTOR</b>	DAVID KUFFA	SUSAN BARZILOSKI	<b>3<sup>RD</sup> GRADE CCD</b>	JOHN BURKE
<b>ALTAR</b>	JOSEPH CASEY	JOSEPH COLAVITTI	MARCUS BINNER	HEIDI WILLIAMS
<b>SERVER(S)</b>	ALYSSA KOVALCHICK	CORA MILNER	EMMA ELIAS	MATTHEW WILLIAMS
	MATTHEW PREBOLA	HANNAH MILNER	ZAK KEISER	SEAN WILLIAMS
<b>OFFERTORY GIFTS</b>	<b>SELECTION BY USHERS</b>	<b>SELECTION BY USHERS</b>	<b>3<sup>RD</sup> GRADE CCD</b>	<b>SELECTION BY USHERS</b>
<b>COLLECTION COUNTERS</b>			D. NOLE, R. NOLE, G. LUPINSKI	

<b>SAT. MAR. 02 &amp; SUN. MAR. 03 SATURDAY 5:00PM</b>		<b>SUNDAY 7:30AM</b>	<b>SUNDAY 9:00AM</b>	<b>SUNDAY 11:00AM</b>
<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER(S)</b>	DEACON RAY	AGNES MASSACESI	DEACON RAY	DEACON RAY
<b>LECTOR</b>	PAT MURRAY	CHRIS DeMARCO	RITA FITZGERALD	GLORIA PASTERNAK
<b>ALTAR</b>	ANTHONY ECKERT	AIDEN BURRY	EVAN BRODY	IAN BURKE
<b>SERVER(S)</b>	HANNAH ECKERT	MAIA BURRY	JOSEPH CASEY	SOPHIE BURKE
	LAUREN KOVALCHICK	KATHRYN CUSATIS	ALEX KEISER	MATTHEW KALETA
<b>OFFERTORY GIFTS</b>	<b>SELECTION BY USHERS</b>	<b>SELECTION BY USHERS</b>	<b>NORA SOBECK &amp; FAMILY</b>	<b>SELECTION BY USHERS</b>
<b>COLLECTION COUNTERS</b>			K. FRANK, M. FRANK, G. & B. KOVALCHICK	

#### REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

----- **THE SICK, THE SUFFERING AND HOSPITALIZED**, ESPECIALLY: CAROLYN MYERS, ELISSA ROSE, LYLE STURDEVANT, MARYN KUKUCHKA, LILLIAN KRISTUNAS, JENNIFER BUNNELL, MARIE STAIR, MARY ANN BROWN, ELIZABETH CALLAHAN, RICHELE 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, 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 ZALDONIS, PAT STASCavage, JOHN RUEHLMAN JR, MICHALINE WIERNUSZ, MARY BOLOUSKI, PEGGY FINNEGAN, JIM RAIL SR., JOAN STEPHENS, PEG BALL, NORM BALL, BARBARA LOCKER, JOSEPH YAKOSKI.

----- **THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED ESPECIALLY MARY KUKUCHKA** 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 WILL BURN DURING THE WEEK OF  
FEBRUARY 24<sup>TH</sup> FOR **DAVID TROWBRIDGE**  
OFFERED BY CATHY & JEAN LEMONCELLI

#### YOUR CONTRIBUTION:

Weekend Offering \$ 4,147.00

## NATIVITY BVM CALENDAR

<b>FEB. 24</b>	<b>CCD CLASS/3<sup>RD</sup> GRADE MASS – 9:00AM</b>	<b>MAR. 10</b>	<b>CCD CLASS</b>
<b>FEB. 25</b>	<b>MAKING PIEROGIES – FNH – 9:00AM</b>	<b>MAR. 11</b>	<b>MAKING PIEROGIES – FNH – 9:00AM</b>
<b>FEB. 26</b>	<b>PACKING PIEROGIES – FNH – 1:00PM</b>	<b>MAR. 11</b>	<b>ADULT EDUCATION – STUDY OF THE MASS – 1:00-2:30PM</b>
<b>MAR. 02</b>	<b>CONFIRMATION RETREAT – DIOCESAN PASTORAL CENTER, SCRANTON 9:00AM-2:00PM</b>	<b>MAR. 12</b>	<b>PACKING PIEROGIES – FNH – 1:00PM</b>
<b>MAR. 02</b>	<b>MARDI GRAS POT LUCK DINNER – 6:00PM – FNH</b>	<b>MAR. 17</b>	<b>CCD CLASS/PRE-K, K AND 1<sup>ST</sup> GRADE MASS – 9:00AM</b>
<b>MAR. 03</b>	<b>CCD CLASS</b>	<b>MAR. 18</b>	<b>MAKING PIEROGIES – FNH – 9:00AM</b>
<b>MAR. 04</b>	<b>MAKING PIEROGIES – FNH – 9:00AM</b>	<b>MAR. 18</b>	<b>ADULT EDUCATION – STUDY OF THE MASS – 1:00-2:30PM – RECTORY</b>
<b>MAR. 04</b>	<b>ADULT EDUCATION – STUDY OF THE MASS – 1:00-2:30PM – RECTORY</b>	<b>MAR. 19</b>	<b>PACKING PIEROGIES – FNH – 1:00PM</b>
<b>MAR. 05</b>	<b>ALTAR &amp; ROSARY MTG. – 12:45PM – FNH</b>	<b>MAR. 24</b>	<b>CCD CLASS</b>
<b>MAR. 05</b>	<b>PACKING PIEROGIES – FNH – 1:00PM</b>	<b>MAR. 25</b>	<b>MAKING PIEROGIES – FNH – 9:00AM</b>
<b>MAR. 06</b>	<b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>MAR. 25</b>	<b>ADULT EDUCATION – STUDY OF THE MASS – 1:00-2:30PM – RECTORY</b>

