

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



ST. MARY
OF THE LAKE
LAKE WINOLA, PA

MAY 9-10, 2020



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
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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



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

stmaryofthelake@frontier.com
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
[@nativitystmary](https://www.facebook.com/nativitystmary)

FROM THE DEACON'S BENCH:

My Brothers and Sisters,

I'm sure that, just like my family, you wonder when we will be able to return to church and a more normal way of interacting with each other and struggle with our fears. I was talking with my wife about this and we both agree that, after eight weeks of staying at home, it will take some time – maybe a lot – to be able to find our comfort zone.



I'm a hugger; will I still do this? I like to be around other people; will we feel uncomfortable being close? Will giving and receiving communion feel safe? We are left with so many questions, so much uncertainty. One of the ways we have been trying to let you know you are not forgotten is by offering the Mass on weekends on our website and also on YouTube, and we hope you have been able to celebrate with us. I have been getting cards from many of you thanking Fr. Pat for offering all of us the chance to still experience the Mass at both of our churches. Also, many parishioners have offered other ways they have been able to "reconnect" to their faith. Here are some of what they shared with me:

- 1) The Rosary – gathering as a family and reciting it. For many, it has been a long time since they have said it.
- 2) Watching and reciting the "Divine Mercy Chaplet" as a family.
- 3) Private prayer – going to a quiet place and talking to God.
- 4) Calling friends and parishioners.
- 5) Technology – using their computers, tablets or phones to visit on line (Ginna and I, with the help of our kids, are learning how to do this).

I'm sure there are many more ways that are not listed here that you have been able to use to stay connected. I think that one of the good things that has come about because of this crisis is that we all will never take for granted how special we all are to each other.

May God Bless You,

Deacon Ray

MASS ONLINE: Until further notice, Fr. Pat is recording a Mass which is broadcast on our website (nativitystmary.org) and on our Facebook page (@nativitystmary) through a link to a YouTube site. Everyone is encouraged to join in.

There will be a Mass for the Fifth Sunday of Easter available this weekend. The Mass was filmed at Nativity BVM church.

We want to express our gratitude to **Dan Simrell of Simrell Media** for the beautiful presentation of the Mass for our viewing. The videography of the Mass significantly enhances the entire presentation.

ONLINE OFFERTORY IS NOW AVAILABLE

Nativity BVM and St. Mary of the Lake parishes depend on our faithful stewardship to pay our daily church expenses, make improvements and support our mission in the areas of worship, word, service, and community. Our Online Offertory system through Our Sunday Visitor provides us with the opportunity to contribute regularly and seamlessly.



A growing number of parishioners have begun to use the online giving portal through our website. We are grateful for your contributions. We encourage all of our parishioners and friends to utilize this quick, easy and safe means of supporting your parish. We intend to keep this donation option available for the foreseeable future.

To contribute, go to our website, www.nativitystmary.org, and click on your parish, either Nativity or St. Mary, at the top of the home page. Then click on the name of your parish under "Donate Securely". We accept most major credit cards as well as ACH donations using your checking or savings account.

For questions on the Online Offertory, please call Dick Schwoebel at 570-677-7634 or email him at stmaryofthelake@frontier.com.

We need – and are grateful for – your continued support. May our continued stewardship enable us "To Know, Love, and Serve the Lord and One Another, in Imitation of Mary."

HAPPY MOTHERS DAY: We want to express our gratitude and prayerful thoughts to all of the mothers, grandmothers, foster mothers, and mother figures who populate our parishes and who provide love, support, guidance and compassion every day of the year to all those in their family and community.



If you have an intention for Mothers Day that you would like to have remembered at every Mass that we celebrate in the month of May, please send the Mothers Day envelope in your set to the Parish Office. You can also send a remembrance using our online giving facility through our website. There is a Mothers Day option on the list for your donations. In the comments section, list your remembrance.

CAPUCHIN SISTERS SUPPORT FUND: If you would like to assist with this need, please put your donation in an envelope marked "**Capuchin Sisters**" and mail it to the Parish Office.

We are in need of a volunteer to join the group who shop weekly for the Capuchin Sisters. It requires a couple of hours of your time once every five weeks. If you can help, please contact Dick Schwoebel at 570-677-7634 or stmaryofthelake@frontier.com.



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

PARISH FINANCES: There is a great deal of concern among the members of our parish community regarding the mandatory closing of many of our businesses and the resultant uncertainty about earnings during the continuing coronavirus situation. Although some seem to be optimistic that the pandemic will be over shortly, most are aware that we could be under strict guidelines for a much greater period of time. Despite the closure of businesses and increasing unemployment, the financial impact has yet to be fully felt across our area.

Management of our parish resources is conservative by nature and we will weather this downturn. However, we have no other source of funds than the generosity of our parishioners. Some people have continued to make their contributions despite the fact that we are unable to come together weekly as was our custom. **We ask that you continue to remember to support your parish as best you can during these difficult times.** Envelopes can be mailed to your parish mail box; the address for your parish is on the front page of the bulletin. Any contribution that you can make will be gratefully received. **Thank you to those who have already sent their contributions.**

SACRIFICIAL OFFERING: May 02-03, 2020

Nativity BVM Church:

Weekly Collection Goal*\$ 4,800.00
 Actual Offertory**\$ 6,673.00
 Difference:.....\$ **1,873.00**

St. Mary of the Lake Church:

Weekly Collection Goal*\$ 2,000.00
 Actual Offertory**\$ 2,835.00
 Difference:.....\$ **835.00**

*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 Christmas, 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.

PIEROGI SALE: Until further notice, we will not be selling pierogis in Fr. Nallin Hall on Fridays. Pierogis will also not be available at the Parish Office. We thank you for your understanding and we will notify you when they are again available.



CCD NEWS: CCD classes for both Nativity BVM & St. Mary of the Lake have been **suspended until further notice.**

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



PARISH OFFICE CLOSED: In accordance with diocesan directives, we are exercising caution at this time and keeping the Parish Office closed to the public. We are still working and are available by phone (570-836-3275 or 570-378-2181) and by email either at nativitybvmchurch@frontier.com or at stmaryofthelake@frontier.com.

KEEPING IN TOUCH: During this extended period of time when we are unable to get together as a parish community to worship and to conduct the social interaction that is so much a part of being a parish, it is important that we stay in communication with one another. We will continue to produce our weekly bulletin, which is being shared on both our website (nativitystmary.org) and Facebook page (@nativitystmary). **We also need to update our list of email addresses**, which sadly is very incomplete. **We're asking all parishioners to send us their email address at this time** (Nativity parishioners – please send to nativitybvmchurch@frontier.com and St. Mary of the Lake parishioners – please send to stmaryofthelake@frontier.com).

We thank you for providing this information. It will be kept in strict confidence.

WRITERS NEEDED FOR THE SAINT MARY OF THE LAKE BULLETIN COLUMN:

Saint Mary of the Lake parishioners contribute one reflection per month to the bulletin column "From Saint Mary's Parish Community". We are in need of contributors for upcoming months. Can you help out? Here are some possible ideas you might develop: a personal anecdote about your faith life; a description of your experience in a parish ministry; a reflection on one of the readings for the week; a reflection relating the wonder of God's creation to nature; a description of how you get closer to God; a personal reflection on one of the sacraments; a description of your devotion to one of the Saints; other ideas that are personally meaningful to you. The act of writing your reflection can be personally fulfilling in and of itself! Please give this some prayerful consideration! Call Bill Waters at 570-378-2367 to get on the schedule!

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE: The sanctuary candle continues to burn each and every day in our churches. If you would like it to burn for your intention, please contact Mary Lou at the Parish Office (570-836-3275).



THE LOWER WYOMING COUNTY FOOD PANTRY: The Food Pantry will be **open on the first and third Thursday from 9:00-11:30AM** and the **first and third Monday evening from 6:00-8:00PM**. Please call me if there is anyone in need. We are doing a drive through system for minimal contact.

If the need arises, the Food Pantry is equipped to help feed 100 people for approximately 6 weeks.

God bless!

Mary Lou Franko (570-586-4811)

BIRTHDAY CARD SHOWER FOR PEGGY FINNEGAN: If you would like to send a birthday card to Peggy for her **90th Birthday** which is on **May 28, 2020**, please mail your card to:



Peggy Finnegan
c/o Nativity BVM Parish
PO Box 186
Tunkhannock, PA 18657

and we will deliver the cards to her.

Peggy has been Nativity's "card lady" for many, many years. It would be nice to treat her with cards.

Thank you for your consideration.



PRO-LIFE ROSE: Although there are no public Masses being celebrated in Nativity BVM church at the present time, Fr. Albert does say a private Mass each day in accordance with diocesan guidelines. **The rose is still present in front of the statue of Mary during these Masses and the intentions requested are being recognized.**

The intention for this week is:

IN HONOR OF ALL MOTHERS OF OUR PARISHES

Donated by the Pro-Life Committee

If you would like to donate for a Pro-Life Rose at Nativity, please contact Diane Stone (570-836-3055).

NATIVITY IS STILL LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD WRITERS:

Thanks to all who are participating in writing for our church bulletin. Your stories are inspiring and it's good for us to learn more about each other through this column.

Our schedule is filled through May, but the months go by quickly. **We still need writers for June through December** to fill our 2020 calendar. You can text Rita Fitzgerald @ 570-877-2695 or email her @ atir10_@hotmail.com. We hope you will share your faith story.



Seven Loaves Soup Kitchen, 54 Warren Street in Tunkhannock (formerly the P&G Credit Union building), is still serving a

hearty meal every Monday through Friday from 5:00-7:00PM. For the time being, it is take out only. 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.

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).



BOY SCOUT NEWS

Next Committee Meeting:

TBA – 6:30PM

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

CUB SCOUT NEWS

ADULT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Fr. Nallin Hall

TBA



ANNUAL DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS:

His Excellency, the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of Scranton, and the Office for Parish Life wish to invite couples celebrating their **25th or 50th wedding anniversary in 2020** to a diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass on **Sunday, June 14th**. The event includes a 2:30PM Mass at St. Peter's Cathedral followed by a reception. **At this time, the Mass remains open to the public.**

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. It is also the policy of the Diocese to adhere to all civil and state regulations.

In accordance with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Child Protective Services Laws, reports of suspected child abuse should also be made immediately by phone to the 24-Hour Child Abuse hotline (ChildLine) at 1-800-932-0313 or electronically at www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis. 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.

"Life isn't measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away."

- Unknown



LOCAL CATHOLIC RADIO STATION
JMJ RADIO 750AM or 98.9FM



MILITARY HONOR ROLL

PLEASE KEEP ALL MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY IN YOUR PRAYERS

- MAJOR JEFFREY O'DELL – U.S. ARMY
- LANCE CPL CHRISTOPHER HNATKO – U.S. MARINES
- CAPTAIN JOSEPH P. BREYMEIER – U.S. ARMY
- PVT JACOB BURGESS – U.S. MARINES
- CPL CHARLES BLISS – U.S. MARINES
- CADET RYAN ALFIER – U.S.A.F. ACADEMY
- PVT ANDREW SOLANIC – U.S. ARMY
- COL. JAMES J. CLANCY – U.S. ARMY
- PFC MATTHEW CLANCY – U.S. MARINES
- SEAMAN KAMRON HUBBARD – U.S. NAVY
- SPEC. NICOLE GRIFFITH – U.S. ARMY
- STAFF SGT ROBERT GOHLER – U.S. MARINES
- LT CHELSEA ZWICKER – U.S. NAVY
- COL. CRAIG KEYES – U.S.A.F.
- CPL GARRETT SUND – U. S. ARMY
- LIEUTENANT AMY LEBER – U.S. NAVY
- LT COL ANDREW STRALEY – U.S. MARINES
- LT JOHN D. PETERS, M.D. – U.S. NAVY
- SGT JOSEPH A. HARDISKY – U.S. ARMY
- PO2 ALEC FISHER – U.S. NAVY
- CWO4 TONY RICHARDSON – U.S. MARINES
- TECH SGT DONALD WEITZ – U.S.A.F.
- SGT SETH CAINES – U.S. ARMY
- CPO ERIC TOMCZAK – U.S. NAVY
- STAFF SGT. PETER FRANKO III – U.S.A.F.
- SGT THOMAS DILIONE – NATIONAL GUARD
- ET2 JACOB KINTNER – U.S. NAVY
- LCPL OLIVIA NICOLE CARICHER – U.S. MARINES
- STAFF SGT DAVID BALTRUSAITIS – NATIONAL GUARD
- SCPO KENNETH C. FRANK – U.S. NAVY
- SGT ROBERT J. POLSTER – U.S. ARMY
- AIRMAN 1st CLASS AVERY REECE NEWHART – U.S. AIR FORCE
- SFC RICKY BROWN – NATIONAL GUARD
- PFC RYAN M. ERDEK – U.S. ARMY
- SGT ROBERT D. BARBER III – U.S. MARINES
- CADET RYAN ELL – U.S.AIR FORCE ACADEMY
- SGT NICHOLE GRIFFITH – U.S. ARMY
- SN MICHAEL T. BARBER – U.S. NAVY
- PVT NIKKI CAPWELL – U.S. ARMY
- SPEC DEVIN BATTENBERG – NATIONAL GUARD
- CADET MARK AGUILAR – U.S.C.G. ACADEMY

We also want to recognize the service of the following veterans who have served our country:

- MAJOR GEORGE D. KASZUBA, U.S. AIR FORCE (IRAQ)
- CORPORAL JOSEPH IGNATOVICH, U.S. ARMY (KOREA)
- SPEC. FRANK GAUS, U.S. ARMY SPEC. FORCES (VIETNAM)
- SPEC. WILLIAM F. MARRONE, U.S. ARMY
- PRIVATE JAMES DEEGAN, U.S. ARMY (NO. AFRICA, ITALY)
- MAJOR FRANCIS TURNER, U.S. ARMY (WW II)
- SPEC. 4 RANDY GREENIP, U.S. ARMY (ASA TURKEY)
- AIRMAN 1st CLASS DONALD WHITE, U.S.A.F. (KOREA)
- AIRMAN BRUCE GELNETT, U.S.A.F. (KOREA)
- SPEC. 4 CARL I. PACKER, U.S. ARMY
- LANCE CPL RICHARD DOMBROSKI – U.S. MARINES (VIETNAM)
- STAFF SGT. RICHARD DOMBROSKI – NAT'L. GUARD (RET.)
- SGT. WALTER J. ZOLA, U.S. ARMY (KOREA)
- AE3 KENNETH C. FRANK, U.S. NAVY (KOREA)
- SSG WILLIAM SHAW, U.S. ARMY (GERMANY)
- SGT. JOHN WILPIZESKI, U.S. ARMY
- SFC TONY LANDI, U.S. ARMY (RET.)
- SGT. SAMUEL HERRING, US ARMY (KOREA)
- SGT. JERRY BEAUCHEANE, U.S. AIR FORCE
- PFC NICHOLAS KORDILLA, U.S. MARINE CORPS (WW II)
- SGT. NICHOLAS FERRUGGIA – U.S. MARINES
- SGT. E5 ROBERT SPRAGUE – U.S. ARMY
- SGT. JAMES SNYDER – U.S AIR FORCE
- LT. J.G. TIMOTHY LEBER – U.S. COAST GUARD
- CAPT ALAN B. FLANAGAN – U.S. NAVY
- AE1 JOSEPH YAKOSKI – U.S. NAVY (VIETNAM)
- STAFF SGT. STEPHANIE DANIELS SUND (AFGHANISTAN)
- COL. CARL PACKER (U.S. ARMY)

God Bless all who serve or have served our country.



ALTAR & ROSARY MEETINGS: Until we have a much clearer definition of how to conduct meetings in accordance with health & safety guidelines, both of our Altar & Rosary societies have suspended their monthly meetings. Watch the bulletin for more information in the coming months.

Your Gift Matters

Make a Lasting Impact With a Future Gift

Generosity comes in many forms, and consideration of a planned gift is often the best way for you to support important causes that matter the most to you in your life. When you give to the Diocese of Scranton, you help us make a difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Your estate gift can support your parish or any of our Diocesan ministries such as Catholic Social Services, seminarian education, tuition assistance for Catholic School students, parish life and care for our retired clergy.

Visit dioceseofscranton.org for the different gift options available to you.

We will work with you to find a charitable plan that lets you provide for your family and support the Diocese of Scranton. If you wish to discuss your estate plan, kindly contact Jim Bebla, Diocesan Secretary for Development, at 570-207-2250 or Jim-Bebbla@dioceseofscranton.org.

RETOUVAILLE: Stress in your marriage? Do you feel alone? Are you bored, disillusioned, frustrated or angry in your relationship? Do you experience coldness or conflict in your relationship?

Retrouvaille is a program that helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. This program has helped thousands of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriages. If you are thinking about, or already are, separated or divorced, there could still be hope for you.

For confidential information about, or to register for the program on May 29th – 31st, please call 631-338-5413 or 570-207-2213, or visit the website at www.HelpOurMarriage.org.

Line Dancing
Wednesday evening 7:00-8:30PM
Fr. Nallin Hall
Cancelled until further notice



If you have an Easter Candy order form (available on our website), it can be taken/mailed to the Parish Office (P.O. Box 1, Lake Winola PA 18625).

Contact the Parish Office (570-836-3275) regarding pickup of your order or call one of the following committee members:

- Dorothy Trauger.....(570) 378-2530
- Loretta Kenia.....(570) 378-2256
- Patti Zaleski.....(570) 280-6168

SCAM ALERT: Pennsylvanians should take steps to protect themselves from phishing scams that are **targeting people who are expecting a stimulus payment from the federal government** following the outbreak of COVID-19, the Department of Revenue and Department of Banking and Securities announced today.

"As we all work together to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, this unprecedented situation has created new opportunities for criminals to target Pennsylvanians, including those who are vulnerable or struggling," Revenue Secretary Dan Hassell said. "We want to remind everyone that they should not provide their direct deposit or other banking information to anyone who contacts them on the phone, through email or text messages, or on social media."

The stimulus payments, otherwise known as economic impact payments, are being distributed by the federal government as part of the federal economic stimulus legislation that was signed into law in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. According to the IRS, in most cases the payments will be directly deposited into the bank accounts that taxpayers previously listed on their federal tax returns.

However, **the IRS has reported seeing a surge of scam artists perpetrating phishing schemes where they pose as government officials to trick people into turning over their banking information.** Doing so may allow a criminal to steal your identity, file a fraudulent tax return in your name or use your personal data for other illicit purposes.

"If you have received an unsolicited email or phone call asking for your personal or financial information, **the safest response is to delete the email or hang up the phone,**" advised Acting Secretary of Banking and Securities Richard Vague. "Consumers must remain vigilant about protecting their finances, especially if they are being pressured to act quickly."

How to Recognize the Scam

According to the IRS, some of the electronic messages associated with these phishing scams say, "In order to receive your stimulus check via direct deposit, you will need to confirm your banking information." These messages are targeting not only individual citizens, but also tax professionals.

Pennsylvanians are encouraged to remember several warning signs from the IRS, which says scammers may:

- Emphasize the words "Stimulus Check" or "Stimulus Payment." The official term is economic impact payment.
- Ask the taxpayer to sign over their economic impact payment check to them.
- Ask by phone, email, text or social media for verification of personal and/or banking information saying that the information is needed to receive or speed up their economic impact payment.
- Suggest that they can get a tax refund or economic impact payment faster by working on the

taxpayer's behalf. This scam could be conducted by social media or even in person.

- Mail the taxpayer a bogus check, perhaps in an odd amount, then tell the taxpayer to call a number or verify information online in order to cash it.



WORDS OF LIFE: "O Blessed Mother, you received the good news of the incarnation of Christ, your Son, with faith and trust. Grant your protection to all pregnant mothers facing difficulties."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
"A Prayer for Pregnant Mothers"

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON ANNOUNCES ESTABLISHMENT OF CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY FUND

The COVID-19 pandemic has posed many challenges for all of us, including our parishes, kitchens, food pantries, shelters and Catholic schools. Our parishes and Diocesan ministries are facing increased risks of financial shortfalls and are struggling to pay bills and provide services due to the Coronavirus health crisis.

If you are in a position to do so, we kindly ask you to consider supporting the vital ministries provided by our parishes and our Diocese. **There is a link on the diocesan website where you can make a contribution to your parish, Catholic Human and Social Service programs or Catholic School tuition assistance.**

Prayer for Those Who Are Worried about the Spread of the Coronavirus

Father,

Worry and fear are not of Your heart. [1 John 4](#) reminds us that perfect love casts out all fear, and we pray Your perfect love upon the hearts of all those who are burdened with the fear of this virus. Lord, we know with no doubt that You are bigger than the threat of anything, especially illnesses. Please comfort those who are living in fear, please free them from the bondage that anxiety creates within. Remind them that You are still on the Throne and that You are still in control. Fully rain down the serenity that comes only from the Prince of Peace. Help those who are living in unease to trust You in this time so that in times to come we may rest assured that You will be faithful to be with us until the end of the age. We rest at the Throne of the Almighty such fears and cast them upon You ([1 Peter 5:7](#)), for Your burden is Light and Your Yoke is easy ([Matthew 11:30](#)), we know You cover us with Your wings ([Psalm 91:4](#)).

PRAYER FOR AN END TO INFANTICIDE

"Jesus, Lord of Life, transform the hearts of all elected leaders to recognize that infanticide is wrong and must not be tolerated. Open hearts and minds to recognize and defend the precious gift of every human life."

**DIRECTIVES FROM THE APOSTOLIC PENITENTIARY
OF THE HOLY SEE TO BE USED
IN THE DIOCESE OF SCRANTON**

Please disseminate the following information regarding Perfect Contrition widely.

PERFECT CONTRITION

With the increasing difficulty for individuals to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation due to the current health crisis, the faithful of the Diocese of Scranton are reminded that by having perfect contrition one can receive the forgiveness of sins, apart from going to confession.

Perfect contrition requires the following three things:

- A love of God above all else
- A sincere desire for the forgiveness from sin
- The resolution to go to confession as soon as possible when this health crisis subsides

CONFESSION: At this time, if an individual contacts a priest to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, an appropriate distance (at least six feet) should be maintained between the penitent and confessor. An appropriate location in the Church or sacristy should be chosen (not a rectory or parish office). Care should be taken to disinfect the space following each confession.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK: Prompted by many hospitals that have directed the suspension of individuals visiting patients, all Extraordinary Ministers of Communion must refrain from visiting hospitals and nursing homes until further notice. Communal celebrations of the Anointing of Sick are to be suspended. The sacrament should be offered on an individual basis. With any pastoral visits to the homebound, ministers of Communion, both ordinary and extraordinary, should practice meticulous handwashing. If the person being visited is ill with an infectious disease, he or she should be offered a mask. The minister may also wear a mask and if necessary, gloves.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION: It is highly likely that these celebrations will need to be postponed due to the cancellation of public Masses and Religious Education programs to a later date once the current health crisis has subsided.

WEDDINGS, BAPTISMS & FUNERALS: On Sunday, March 16, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control announced a recommendation that public events have no more than 50 people. Due to the rapidly changing nature of this situation, that number could certainly change. We encourage all pastors to make smart and prudent decisions in each individual circumstance and to use common sense and rely on the current guidance of national, state and local leaders. Social distancing and alternative row seating in pews is to be strongly advised.

In celebrating wedding and funeral Masses, all of the directives previously issued for the Celebration of Mass (eliminating the Sign of Peace, no offering the Precious Blood, etc) must be applied.

Communal baptisms are discouraged. Fresh water should be used for each baptism and then discarded. If more than one person is to be baptized, water should be blessed in individual vessels and then poured over the head.

The use of cemetery chapels for final committal services is temporarily discontinued. Committal services should be grave-side only, weather permitting.

Tax Benefits of the CARES Act

The new CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act is designed to help you, businesses and nonprofits facing economic hardship during the coronavirus pandemic.

Here are a few key provisions of the CARES Act that may affect you and your charitable goals:

Required Minimum Distributions Suspended

The new law temporarily suspends the requirements for required minimum distributions (RMD) for the 2020 tax year. This probably comes as a relief to many of you who would have had to withdraw from your retirement accounts. Many of our donors use their RMD to make a gift from their IRA. Despite the RMD suspension, remember that if you are 70½ or older, you can still make a gift from your IRA or name your parish or the Diocese of Scranton as a beneficiary.

New Tax Incentives

The CARES Act expands charitable giving incentives and **allows taxpayers who take the standard deduction to make up to \$300 of charitable contributions to qualified charities this year.** You might think that this is a small amount and would not make a difference. But what if all of our donors gave "just" \$300? Such support would have a huge impact on those we serve.

For those who do itemize their deductions, the new law allows for cash contributions to qualified charities such as your parish or the Diocese of Scranton to be deducted up to 100% of your adjusted gross income for the 2020 calendar year.

ST. MARY-THON 2020: Pandemic got you down? We've gone virtual for 2020! Let's pound the pavement (or treadmill) to support the 2020 St. Mary-Thon (June 6th). It's easy! Just follow these simple steps. The first 100 racers to complete their registrations will receive an official 2020 St. Mary-Thon T-Shirt!

1. Between now and June 6th, 11:59PM, run, jog, or walk 4 miles.
2. Submit your information and time on the digital form found on our race page at stmarython@weebly.com.
3. Proceed to the Shop to complete your registration. The cost is \$20.00.

Race t-shirts will be mailed out to the first 100 registrants as soon as production resumes.

"You must do the thing you think you cannot do."

~ Eleanor Roosevelt

ST. MARY OF THE LAKE MASS SCHEDULE - WEEK OF MAY 10, 2020

SATURDAY	MAY	09	4:00PM	NO MASS
SUNDAY	MAY	10	9:00AM	NO MASS
MONDAY	MAY	11	8:00AM	NO MASS
TUESDAY	MAY	12	8:00AM	NO MASS
WEDNESDAY	MAY	13	8:00AM	NO MASS
THURSDAY	MAY	14	8:00AM	NO MASS
FRIDAY	MAY	15	8:00AM	NO MASS
SATURDAY	MAY	16	4:00PM	NO MASS
SUNDAY	MAY	17	9:00AM	NO MASS

LAY MINISTER SCHEDULE

SAT MAY 09 & SUN. MAY 10	SATURDAY 4:00PM	SUNDAY 9:00AM
DEACON		
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER(S)		
LECTORS	NO MASS	NO MASS
ALTAR SERVER(S)		
USHERS		
GREETERS		
OFFERTORY GIFTS	SELECTION BY USHERS	SELECTION BY USHERS
COLLECTION COUNTERS		
SAT. MAY 16 & SUN. MAY 17	SATURDAY 4:00PM	SUNDAY 9:00AM
DEACON		
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER(S)		
LECTORS	NO MASS	NO MASS
ALTAR SERVER(S)		
USHERS		
GREETERS		
OFFERTORY GIFTS	SELECTION BY USHERS	SELECTION BY USHERS
COLLECTION COUNTERS		

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: LORI PIERCE, LISA FREITAS, TRACY IRISH, CHRISTINA REEVES, JACKI NIERATKO, CARMEN PIERCE, ELAINE HUG, CHASE RUSSELLO, AVA MASON, LYNN McGLYNN, BONNIE KILGANNON, 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, MARY PETERSEN, SUE MIGLIORI, JOE SCHIAVONE, LINDA NIEMIEC, CAROLE GREENIP, JANE CAWLEY, FLORENCE KEYES, JEROME LAMONICA, JEAN LAMONICA, THEO FREAR, BROGAN PERFILIO, DICK & FLORENCE KELLY, MIKE HAMBURG, HARRIET McGARRIGLE, JONI JAMES, KAY NOREIKA. NATHAN REEVES, JOHN IRISH.

--- 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 CANDLE WILL BURN DURING
THE WEEK OF MAY 10TH FOR
MARYANN KASZUBA
OFFERED BY HER HUSBAND GEORGE

YOUR CONTRIBUTION:

Weekend Offering	\$ 2,835.00
Easter Offering	\$ 125.00

ST. MARY OF THE LAKE CALENDAR (TENTATIVE)

JUN. 06 ST MARY-THON

NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY MASS SCHEDULE – WEEK OF MAY 10, 2020

SATURDAY	MAY	09	5:00PM	NO MASS
SUNDAY	MAY	10	7:30AM	NO MASS
			9:00AM	NO MASS
			11:00AM	NO MASS
MONDAY	MAY	11	7:00AM	NO MASS
TUESDAY	MAY	12	7:00AM	NO MASS
WEDNESDAY	MAY	13	7:00AM	NO MASS
THURSDAY	MAY	14	7:00AM	NO MASS
FRIDAY	MAY	15	7:00AM	NO MASS
SATURDAY	MAY	16	5:00PM	NO MASS
SUNDAY	MAY	17	7:30AM	NO MASS
			9:00AM	NO MASS
			11:00AM	NO MASS

LAY MINISTER SCHEDULE

<u>SAT. MAY 09 & SUN. MAY 10</u>	<u>SATURDAY 5:00PM</u>	<u>SUNDAY 7:30AM</u>	<u>SUNDAY 9:00AM</u>	<u>SUNDAY 11:00AM</u>
DEACON				
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER(S)				
LECTOR	NO MASS	NO MASS	NO MASS	NO MASS
ALTAR SERVER(S)				
OFFERTORY GIFTS	SELECTION BY USHERS	SELECTION BY USHERS	SELECTION BY USHERS	SELECTION BY USHERS
COLLECTION COUNTERS				

<u>SAT. MAY 16 & SUN. MAY 17</u>	<u>SATURDAY 5:00PM</u>	<u>SUNDAY 7:30AM</u>	<u>SUNDAY 9:00AM</u>	<u>SUNDAY 11:00AM</u>
DEACON				
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER(S)				
LECTOR	NO MASS	NO MASS	NO MASS	NO MASS
ALTAR SERVER(S)				
OFFERTORY GIFTS	SELECTION BY USHERS	SELECTION BY USHERS	SELECTION BY USHERS	SELECTION BY USHERS
COLLECTION COUNTERS				

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, CHERYL MacDONALD SWEET, AIDAN HOLMAN, TRISTAN EVANS, JOSEPH E. QUINN, ANGELIQUE ALEXANDRA PREVOST, MARGE HOLUB, BEN BROWN, ELEANOR FOSTER, MATTHEW LEWIS, DONALD TRAVER, DAWN DOMMES, MICHELLE HUERBIN, CAROLYN ROZANSKI, DON WHITE, DARRIN McGAVIN, FATHER BILL WILSON, EDWARD KIMBEL, CHERYL SANDS, MARY DELMAR, CHARLES CAREY, GARRET CONOVER, ANALISA DOMINIC, LUCAS SETH BOYANOWSKI, 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, 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, LINDA RUEHLMAN, ROY PREVOST, ALLEN KEYES, CATHERINE LITWIN, JUDI HOWE, LEAH WILSEY, ANN ZACKARIAS, NATHAN DELMAR, LINDA, KATHLEEN ALTEMUS, CARL ALTEMUS, MARY LOUISE BECKETT, PAULA MOELLER, GEORGE ZALDONIS, PAT STASCavage, JOHN RUEHLMAN JR, PEGGY FINNEGAN, JOAN STEPHENS, PEG BALL, JOSEPH YAKOSKI, PENNY ZONNEVILLE, ALLAN FITCH, ALICE WALSH, BOB & BETTY FORBA, JONATHAN STEFANICK, CAMILLE STEFANICK BERROCAL, EMMA BRODA, MARI CLAIRE JONES, CARMEN BOLIN, RICHARD MORYKON, AVA MASON, FLO TROWBRIDGE, TIA DERMCHACK, CURTIS EDWARDS, DOROTHY STODDARD, SEAN COLLETT.

----- 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	\$ 6,673.00
Easter Offering	\$ 225.00

NATIVITY BVM CALENDAR (TENTATIVE)