

Sunday Obligation (Mostly) Back in Effect

Beginning October 1, 2020, Bishop Lopes modified the commutation of the obligation to attend Mass. *As of that date, the commutation applies only to those persons who are at higher risk for the Coronavirus* (60+ years of age, or with underlying medical conditions). Persons not in this vulnerable group are now encouraged to return to Mass and the Sacraments.

Pledge Cards

Sunday, November 1 was Stewardship Sunday, when pledge cards from our annual Stewardship mailing were gathered in during Mass, or mailed back to the office. If you have not yet returned a pledge card, we invite you to prayerfully consider a pledge for the coming year. Stewardship packets are available on the back table, and the same materials were also emailed to all households.

Plenary Indulgences for All Souls / All Saints Extended Throughout This Month

Please note that due to the trying circumstances of the coronavirus pandemic, the Vatican has extended the availability of the Plenary Indulgences for All Souls and All Saints to the entire month of November:

Plenary Indulgence for All Souls Day

Piously visit a church to pray for the faithful departed; Say one "Our Father" and the Creed in the visit to the church; Say one "Our Father" and one "Hail Mary" for the intentions of the Pope and worthily receive Holy Communion (ideally both on the same day but may precede or follow by several days); Make a Sacramental Confession within 20 days of (before or after) All Souls Day.

Plenary Indulgence in the Octave of All Saints Day

Devoutly visit a cemetery and pray for the dead, even if the prayer is only mental; Say one "Our Father" and one "Hail Mary" for the intentions of the Pope and worthily receive Holy Communion (ideally both on the same day but may precede or follow by several days); Make a Sacramental Confession within 20 days of (before or after) All Souls Day.

MKA Fruit Sale

Maria Kaupas Academy is raising funds through a pre-Christmas fruit sale through Florida Fruit Association, October 26 - November 20, with fruit arriving between December 6 & 12. Please see Katy Kadonoff or any Academy family for a product & price list, to put in your order.

Vigil Mass for Thanksgiving Day

In keeping with Parish tradition, the **5:30 p.m.** Mass on **Wednesday, November 25** will be a Solemn Vigil Mass for Thanksgiving Day.

Academy Advent Retreat Dec. 12

There will be an Advent retreat for all students, parents, and teachers of Maria Kaupas Academy on Saturday, December 12, beginning with the 8:00 a.m. Mass. All participants in our school program are welcome.

Volunteer Needed: Post Homilies to Website

Fr. Bergman's Sunday homilies are typed up each week by a committed volunteer, but other pressing needs have prevented these from being uploaded to the website in a timely fashion. If you have reasonable facility with a computer and would like to be trained to undertake this brief volunteer task each week, please speak with Paul Campbell. Thank you!

Altar Server Schedule Reestablished

After months of impromptu scheduling of Altar Servers as we have adjusted to the pandemic and the addition of the Saturday Vigil Mass, Fr. Bergman has overhauled the schedule. Servers this weekend are listed on the previous page; the full schedule is now posted on our website.

Verger Training

There is interest in the Parish in forming a team of *Vergers* – men who serve both a ceremonial and a protective role in the liturgy, escorting the clergy and servers in the processions to and from the sanctuary, and also standing at the ready to stave off any malicious disruptions to the Mass or Office. On **first Saturdays of the month after the 8:00 a.m. Mass**, parish-ioner and self-defense teacher Corey Comstock will instruct volunteers in the use of the *virge*, the staff brandished by vergers. Please speak with Mr. Comstock or Fr. Bergman if you are interested in learning to serve in this capacity.

2021 Mass Intentions Now Being Booked

The **Daily Mass Record** book for recording Mass intentions has arrived at the Parish Office, so we may begin scheduling Mass intentions on a first-come, first-served basis for 2021. Lists may be submitted to the Parish Office in writing or by email, or you may schedule intentions one at a time by phone call. Please be sure to specify whether each name submitted is Catholic or not, living or deceased. contact@stmscranton.org / 570-343-0634

Bishop's Appeal

God bless all who have so generously responded to the 2020 Bishop's Appeal, which provides for services and programs that will widen the Ordinariate's ministry to those who seek full communion with the Catholic Church. If you have not yet responded, please do so today; pick up a pledge card, or visit www.ordinariate.net/bishops-appeal to give.