

Our Lady of Hope Parish
40 Park Avenue, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702
570-824-7832



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**MASS
INTENTIONS**

Sunday February 11, 2024

10:30 AM Mary Nguyen & Mary Nguyen - Nephew

Tuesday February 13, 2024

8:00 AM David L. Talacka - Leonard & June Swida

Friday February 16, 2024

8:00 AM Mary(Cathy) Sak

Saturday February 17, 2024

4:00 PM Carl Elick - Wife, Maureen

Sunday February 18, 2024

10:30 AM Genevieve Buczynski - God Child, Mary
Frances

SANCTUARY VOTIVES - Christian Royek - By Aunt
El, Rodney & Ronald

BLESSED MOTHER VOTIVE - In Memory of
Joan Hertely - By Family

SACRED HEART VOTIVE - In Memory of Albert J.
Graziano & Carmella Altavilla - By Carolyn Graziano

SUNDAY COLLECTION	\$4,610.00
LOOSE	\$431.00
CHARITY	\$592.00
EDUCATION OF PRIESTS	\$222.00

VISIT FROM BISHOP BAMBERA - I recently was notified that Bishop Bambera has decided to visit our parish and lead a **Holy Hour** on **March 18, 2024**. This is a very special opportunity for us. The Bishop himself decided to be with us. It is important to mark your calendar and come that day. Your presence and participation is very important. Soup & Sandwiches will be served at the Parish Center free of charge. Sign ups are required. More details to follow.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Phone No. _____

Please check one:

I am new in the parish & wish to register

Change of Address or Phone Number

Moving out of Parish

Please drop Membership Form into the offertory basket or mail to the Parish office.

****LENTEN SEASON NEWS****

LENTEN BOOKLETS - Available are spiritual reflection booklets for your spiritual benefit. They are free. For all concerned, they are: Walking in His Ways by Emily Jaminet; Returning to God by Henri Nouwen and Called to be Holy by Pope John Paul II, Pope Benedict and Pope Francis; A Season of Hope for Seniors; Sow, Now It's Lent for Teens and young adults and for the youngsters, Heroes for Lent and Be Like Jesus. There is a limited number of booklets. Please be considerate of others.

ASH WEDNESDAY - Masses will be celebrated at 8:00 AM and 5:30 PM. It is a day of obligatory fast and abstinence. The blessing and distribution of the ashes will take place following the scripture reflection. Blessed ashes are available for those not attending. They are in the container located in the front of the sanctuary. When you place the ashes on the forehead in the shape of the cross, use the traditional formula "Remember you are dust and unto dust you will return" or "Repent and Believe in the Gospel."

STATIONS OF THE CROSS - Every Friday beginning this Friday, we will observe this Lenten devotion at 5:30 PM. Booklets will be provided. Come and join us as we begin our Lenten journey.

SOCIAL CONCERNS LENTEN OUTREACH
Lent is just a couple of weeks away. Every Lent, besides the usual Lenten sacrifices, we like to make a special charitable outreach to some local need. Many of our local youngsters ages 10-13 could use basic hygienic items. Last year, over \$4,000.00 worth of various items were donated to local children. Here are some requested items: soap and shampoo (please be aware of Afro-American specific type); combs and brushes; toothpaste and tooth brushes; girls personal change of life kits; t-shirts and underwear, etc. Place your donations in the usual place on the altar railing area.

RULES OF FASTING AND ABSTINENCE - Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for all Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. Fasting is obligatory from age 18-59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon us Catholics from age 14 onwards.

LENTEN MEN'S RETREAT - March 15-16 at Holy Transfiguration Retreat Center in Dalton. The Theme will be "Spiritual Direction: I'm Not Lost - I'm Wondering". We will be examining the spiritual journey of men in our world and moving from wandering to wondering about God's will in our lives. The cost of the retreat is only \$75 for an overnight including food. There will be a number of Holy Priests including Fr. Pio Mandato, Fr. Stan Fortuna and Fr. Brian Van Fossen with adoration, confession and Holy Mass celebrated by our Bishop Joseph Bambera. This will be a great way to renew our hearts and minds before Easter. Please register by following this link:
<https://beacatholicman.com/register-for-retreat-1>

PRAYER FOR THE SICK - THIS SUNDAY IS THE WORLD DAY OF THE SICK

“Here am I Lord, I am in need of your healing touch. I call upon your loving kindness. Open my eyes, Lord, so that I might see you. Open my ears, Lord, that I might hear you. Open my heart that I might receive You. Open my lips that I might thank you. For I am sick and You comfort me. For I am ill and You offer healing. I am worried and You lift my burden. I am sad and You wipe away my tears. You are with me in this illness. You walk beside me in my struggle. I was sick and you visited me. You have heard my prayer.” Amen.

PRAYER OF HUSBAND AND WIFE - O God, we want to live our life together with you and always to continue it with you. Help us never to hurt and never to grieve each other. Help us to share all our works, all our hopes, all our dreams, all our successes, all our failures, all our joys and all our sorrows. Help us to have no secrets from each other so that we may be truly one. Keep us always true to each other, and grant that all the years ahead may draw us ever closer to each other. Grant that nothing may ever come between us and nothing may ever make us every drift apart. And as we live with each other, help us to live with you, so that our love may grow perfect in your love, for you are the God whose name is love. This we ask for your love’s sake. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE LOSS OF HUSBAND OR WIFE -

Dear Lord, I come to you right now because I am dealing with the challenge of the loss of my wife/husband. I ask that you bring relief from my sadness. Will you lessen those painful feelings and thoughts because you are my refuge and strength and very present help in time of trouble. Thank you, Lord, for hearing my cry. Amen.

MY VALENTINE JESUS - Jesus doesn’t give chocolate hearts in boxes of delight, instead He always lets me know I’m precious in His sight. He doesn’t send out pretty cards trimmed in shades of red, instead He gave His life for me. His precious blood was shed. He doesn’t give me teddy bears that whisper “Please be mine,” instead He gave His heart to me. I wear it all the time. He doesn’t give me roses, pink, for all the world to see. Instead He gave me eternal life. That’s good enough for me.

LENTEN RAFFLE - Since we have an updated ticket, it was decided to hold the raffle on the Sunday of Rejoicing, the Third Sunday of Lent. You should have received your tickets. If not, or if you need more, just contact the parish office during office hours - Monday thru Friday, 9AM-12:30PM.

CHRISTIAN WOMEN - The Christian Women of Our Lady of Hope Parish will meet on Wednesday, February 28, 2024 at 6:30 PM in the parish rectory. All women of the parish are invited to attend.



FROM THE PASTOR

This week we begin the Season of Lent. We continue this weekend with tips given by our Holy Father, Pope Francis on the Lenten season. 6) Prayer-”in the face of so many wounds that hurt us and could harden our hearts, we are called to dive into the sea of prayer. Which is God’s boundless love, of more intense prayer, more prolonged, more assiduous, more able to take on the needs of the brothers and sisters; intercessory of prayer to intercede before God for the many situations of poverty and sufferings.”

7) ***Fasting***-We must be careful not to practice a formal fast, or one which in truth “satisfies” us because it makes us feel good about ourselves. Fasting makes sense if it questions our security, and if it also leads to some benefit for others, if it helps cultivate the style of the good Samaritan, who bends down to his brother in need and takes care of him.”

8) ***Almsgiving***- “Today gratefulness is often not part of our daily life where everything is bought and sold. Everything is calculated and measured. Almsgiving helps us to experience giving freely, which leads to freedom from the obsession of possessing, from the fear of not wishing to share his wealth with others.”

9) ***Help the Poor***- “In the poor and outcast we can see Christ’s face; by loving and helping the poor, we love and serve Christ. Our efforts are also directed to ending violations of human dignity, discrimination and abuse in the world for these are so often the cause of destitution. When power, luxury and money become idols, they take priority over the need for a fair distribution of wealth. Our consciences thus need to be converted to justice, equality and simplicity and sharing.”

10) ***Evangelize*** - The Lord asks us to be joyous heralds of this message of mercy and hope! It is thrilling to experience the joy of spreading this good news, sharing the treasure entrusted to us, consoling broken hearts and offering hope to others experiencing darkness. You probably won’t be able to take huge steps forward in all these areas. Instead, pick a couple that stand out to you and try to find practical ways to grow in your love of God and your love of your neighbor.

LOTTERY WINNERS

January 31, 2024	098	
February 1, 2024	913	
February 2, 2024	339	R. Wren
February 3, 2024	982	J & M Sokoloski