

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

ALLELUIA

If then you were *raised* with Christ,
seek what is above,
where Christ is *seated*
at the right hand of God.
Think of what is *above*,
not of what is on earth.
For you have died, and your *life*
is hidden with Christ in God.
When Christ your life *appears*,
then you too will
appear with him in *glory*.

COLOSSIANS 3:1-4

EASTER SUNDAY RESURRECTION OF THE LORD



MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday March 31, 2024 EASTER SUNDAY

9:00 AM Deceased Beneficiaries of our parish
11:15 AM For the Children of our parish

Tuesday April 2, 2024

8:00 AM Lena Flynn - Robert, Sharon & Sean Flynn
5:30 PM **St. Anthony of Padua Novena**

Friday April 5, 2024

8:00 AM Stanley T. Buckley - Godchild, Mary Frances

Saturday April 6, 2024

4:00 PM Stephen & Anna Omasta - Daughter, Lorraine

Sunday April 7, 2024

10:30 AM Marvin Jayma, Jr. - Mom

SANCTUARY VOTIVES 1,2,3 - Health & Blessings
Dominic Matthew Aleo - By Grandparents

SACRED HEART VOTIVE - Successful surgery for
Shawna Romano

BLESSED MOTHER VOTIVE - In Memory of Stephen
& Emilie Hertely - By Family

PLEASE NOTE THE PARISH OFFICES WILL NOT BE OPEN ON MONDAY, APRIL 1ST. IT WILL BE OPEN TUESDAY, APRIL 2ND. OFFICE HOURS ARE 9 AM-12:30 PM.

OUR LADY OF HOPE ANNUAL NIGHT AT THE RACES - It will be on April 6th. Doors open at 6 PM. Post time is 7 PM. This is a 21+ Event. \$5 admission if you didn't sponsor a horse but would like to attend. Includes Food and Beverage. Any questions, please contact Sue Cosgrove at the rectory during normal business hours.

FIRST FRIDAY VISITATIONS - Fr. Terry plans to make First Holy Communion visits during the week. If not, he will come next week. If unavailable, please call the rectory to cancel. Devotions to the Sacred Heart and Benediction will fall on the First Friday Mass.

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL - The Appeal continues. Our Parish is proud in the amount of pledges it has received to date. If you have yet made a pledge, please do so! It is imperative that everyone supports this Appeal. Thanks to all who have done so! God Bless You.

ANNIVERSARY MASS -

ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL, SCRANTON - It is scheduled on June 23rd, 2024 at 2:30 PM. Anyone celebrating their 25th or 50th anniversary is invited. A reception will follow. Pre-registration is required, however. The form to register-go to the Diocesan website and search wedding anniversary. Deadline is May 26th.

LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT - When planning your estate, please consider our parish in your will. Besides family, it would be wonderful to remember the parish. The parish needs that little extra to pay its many bills and assessments.

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA DEVOTION - This devotion for thirteen weeks. The theme for reflection is: "The Real Presence-The Holy Eucharist - Miracle of all Miracles." We encourage you to attend this devotion. The holy half-hour consists of prayers of invocation and gratitude to this great saint, the reflection and the blessing with the relic of St. Anthony. Hopefully we can keep these devotions alive!

RICE BOWL - To those who made Lenten sacrifices by using the Rice Bowl, to help feed the hungry of the world, please place them in the offertory basket. God bless you for the sacrifices you made this Lent.

THANK YOU - Our sincere thanks to all those in our various ministries who contributed their time and energy to help our parish celebrate Easter. Our Church is decorated beautifully, once again. Our Altar Servers, guided by our Sacristans are to be commended. Ministers of Holy Communion, Readers and Choir Members deserve our appreciation. And to our ushers and those who made our Church clean for the holy days, God bless you all.

ST. JOSEPH'S TABLE - With a new month, we have a new request. The St. Vincent de Paul Kitchen has requested Canned Fruit. A number of our parishioners have been very kind and generous. Please remember that we share love to the least, we do it for the Lord.

EASTER SUNDAY RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

SUNDAY RELECTION

Mary Magdalene, Peter and John accompanied Jesus on his final mission and were key witnesses to his inspirational teachings, astonishing miracles, traumatic suffering and excruciating death on the cross. They were three of Jesus' most intimate friends and, besides his mother, they seemed to know him the best. We see in Scripture how Jesus tried to prepare those he loved for what was going to happen. Still, on that Easter morning when first confronted with the empty tomb, their human weakness and broken hearts gave way to sadness, suspicion, and fear. It would take them a little while before they would fully understand that Jesus had to rise from the dead through the saving power of God and then Scripture would be fulfilled.

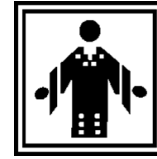
When we love Jesus with all our hearts and are sincerely trying to follow him, we must trust him and the Holy Spirit to help us be patient and guide our understanding of things we don't quite understand so we can stay in line with God's holy will for our lives.

Is life giving you challenges? Are people in your life disappointing you or has grief, pain, illness, or other misfortune come your way somehow? Everyone has crosses we must bear at different seasons of our lives, and we are called to carry them with faith and trust even when we don't understand everything just yet. We are also called to love others and share our faith with them as well. Sometimes it is our very crosses that connect us to the people to whom we are being led to share the Gospel of Christ! By holding intimately close to Jesus and trusting him, just as his closest disciples did in today's Gospel, we show what it means to be "Easter people." We know that God will turn our hurts and sacrifices into something beautiful in time and we, too, will rise.

What can you do to allow Christ to carry more of the load of your cross? Can you recognize when Christ is working through others to help carry your cross?

EASTER DINNER PRAYER

God, bless this delicious food, along with the hands that prepared it. May it nourish our bodies and souls and help lead us to the amazing heavenly banquet that Jesus' victory over death promises.
Amen.



**FROM
THE
PASTOR**

WELCOME TO OUR LADY OF HOPE PARISH!

We cannot help but rejoice on this day when Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. And we rejoice that YOU are one of the hundreds who came here to celebrate Easter. On this weekend there are probably many different people. There are the life long parishioners for 50 to 70 or 90 years. There are others from out of state or from another country. There are families from throughout the Valley. There are young singles and families who recently settled here from the Philippines, Latin America and Vietnam. And, of course, there is You and the person sitting next to you. There are Catholics in this Church, who I do not doubt, would give up everything they had to be true to their faith. There are the young people in High School, College and Beyond, raised Catholics, who are back for the holidays. Some of these young people are still very active in the Church. There are people here this Easter who perhaps are returning to Church for the first time in many years. And there are people here who are not even Catholic: relatives, guests or the many who are not registered as parishioners. Our message to all of you gathered in this Church this Easter is the same: Jesus Christ welcomes you here! Please consider joining our parish. Just call our parish office to register and we will welcome you with open arms. On this Easter Sunday, we are all called to give up our foot-dragging, to join His committed disciples, and to become active Ministers of God's Truth and Love victorious in our world through Christ! Alleluia!
Have a Blessed Easter!

Father Terry