

Our Lady of Hope Parish

Parish Office

570-824-7832

570-822-0765 Fax

www.ourladyofhope.us

Email: office@ourladyofhope.us

Marymount Parish Center

570-823-4740

Office Hours

Monday thru Friday

9:00 am to 12:30 pm

Bulletin Deadline

Articles and announcements
must be submitted to the office
by Noon Monday.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday evening: 4:00 pm

Sundays: 9:00 am

Weekdays: Tuesday and Friday

8:00 am (Main Church)

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturday 3:15 - 3:45 pm

Before Daily Mass or by
appointment.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

You must be registered in the Parish for six months. Arrangements for the Baptism must be arranged by the parents. All sponsors should be carefully selected and must be at least 16 years of age. Non-practicing, fallen away Catholics are not eligible for sponsorship, even if they are close relatives or friends. The Sponsors are required to bring a letter of eligibility from their Church.

**SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY**

Couples planning a wedding must contact the rectory six to nine months before the date. Couples are obligated to follow Parish Policy and are required to attend the Diocese Pre-Cana Program.

**ANointing OF
THE SICK AND SICK CALLS**

In case of serious illness or advanced age, please call the Parish Life Coordinator. Also notify the rectory if admitted to hospitals and nursing homes. Arrangements can be made to bring Holy Communion.

**VISION STATEMENT
Faith-Family-Friendship
MISSION STATEMENT**

The people of Our Lady of Hope Parish are called to be a welcoming community of faith, hope and love; committed to Jesus Christ and to His Gospel; to grow in our love for others as Jesus loves us. Through the prayerful intercession of Mary, our Patroness, we seek to live in unity and hope as we strive to assist those in need through our good works, sacrifices and stewardship.

By celebrating the Mass and Sacraments, by providing various opportunities for Catholic Education, by calling forth more of our members to ministries and service, we seek to help one another grow closer to the Lord in this life as we journey together towards the complete happiness that awaits us in Heaven

Parish Life Coordinator

Deacon Steve Frye

Sacramental Minister

Rev. Mark DeCelles

Pastors Emeriti

Rev. John S. Terry M. Div.

Rev. Theodore L. Obaza

Deacon

Deacon William Behm

Parish Secretary

Jean Behm

Business Manager

Suzanne Cosgrove

Director of Music

Andrea Yorkonis

Liturgy

Noah Klings

Director of Religious Education

Diane Lakkis

OCIA**(Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)**

Adults interested in becoming Catholic or those who have not received First Eucharist or Confirmation should call the rectory. Program runs from September through Pentecost.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Classes are held in Marymount Parish Center on South Hancock Street Sundays, September through May. Grades K-8 10:00 am - 11:00 am

40 Park Avenue, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

We are now on Facebook
@olohweb

3rd Sunday of Advent



Saturday, December 13

4:00 PM Robert Delescavage - Eddie Day Pashinski

Sunday, December 14

9:00 AM Arthur J Long - Mary Ann & Sons

Tuesday, December 16

8:00 AM Debbie Moore - Ann Orbik

Wednesday, December 17

8:00 AM Rita Petlock - Prayer Shawl Ministry

Thursday, December 18

8:00 AM Rita Tarnalicki - Shirley Klauss

Friday, December 19

8:00 AM Deceased Members of the Long & Kapiak Families - Mary Ann & Sons

Saturday, December 20

4:00 PM Helen & Chester Kwashnik - Elaine Kostak

Sunday, December 21

9:00 AM Filomena Aiello - Stephen & Donna Menn

Votives

Blessed Mother - In Memory of Deceased Members of the Hertely Family By Family

Sacred Heart - In Memory of Bernard Mushinsky By Bob, Sharon, & Sean Flynn

Please pray for the Sick of our Parish:

Deacon Joe DeVisia	William McLaughlin
Lindsay Kurtz	Ron Reiss
Helen Novak	

Weekend of November 30th

<u>Sunday Collection</u>	\$4,528.00
<u>Loose</u>	237.00
<u>Dues</u>	373.00
<u>Fuel</u>	70.00
<u>Air Conditioning</u>	462.00
<u>Immaculate Conception</u>	70.00
<u>All Souls Day</u>	10.00
<u>All Saints Day</u>	65.00
<u>Campaign for Human Development</u>	10.00
<u>Care & Education of Priests</u>	45.00
<u>World Missions</u>	10.00
<u>Retirement Fund for Religious</u>	40.00

December 14, 2025

Bring the Little Children to Me

Starting this Sunday, children age 3 through 6, will be invited to leave mass before the readings for an age-appropriate Liturgy of the Word. They will return to us before the Offertory. This will be during the Sunday (9AM) Liturgy. We see this as an opportunity to welcome children's participation, hopefully leading to a life-long journey of faith. We also hope this will encourage families to come to church.

Penance Service

Wilkes-Barre Deanery will hold a Penance Service on Monday, December 15th, at St. Nicholas Church from 5:00 until 6:30 PM. There will be several priests available to hear confessions. Let's welcome Jesus with a clean slate.

Adoration and Sacrament of Reconciliation

Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament will continue after our daily Masses until 9:00 AM and on Thursday evenings from 6:00-7:00 PM. This Thursday, December 18th, will be the last Thursday that confessions will be heard during the Thursday Holy Hour, 6-7:00PM.

"O" Antiphons of Advent

The "O" Antiphons are Catholic prayers dating back to at least the seventh century. They are used during the season of Advent from December 17th to 23rd to anticipate the birth of Christ. We will have the opportunity to attend mass from December 17th to 23rd and participate in these "O" Antiphons. Hopefully, this will deepen our relationship with our Savior as we await His coming.

Christmas Wafers

Christmas wafers are available at the parking lot side exit. We ask for a donation of \$2.00 or more per packet.

Christmas Season Mass Schedule

December 24 Wednesday
Christmas Eve 4:00 PM and 10:00 PM

December 25 Thursday
Christmas Day 9:00 AM

December 27 Saturday - Vigil
4:00 PM Feast of the Holy Family

December 28 Sunday
9:00 AM Feast of the Holy Family

December 31 Wednesday - Vigil
4:00 PM Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

January 1 Thursday
9:00 AM Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Scripture Reflection

On Gaudete Sunday, we rejoice, for we know that the Lord is near. With eyes of faith, we can sense his presence even as we prepare for the celebration of his coming to us as a newborn infant. With eyes of faith, we can see his coming as well as the prophet, Isaiah or the New Testament prophet John the Baptist, who each prepared his people for God's transformative presence. With eyes of faith, let us glory in Jesus' presence right here, right now: in God's word, in the Eucharist, and in those around us.

What I would like you to PRAY ABOUT:

Advent is a time when we are, as members of the Body of Christ, to prepare the way of the Lord. As we mark the halfway point of Advent, where has God been present with you in the previous two weeks? How might Jesus be inviting you to draw closer to God's love in the remaining time in this season? Why not take a few minutes each day to talk to God about the task of redemption and what role we are asked to play.

Thoughts from Deacon Bill:

I sometimes (ok frequently) wonder what God means when he tells us to love our neighbor as we love ourselves. I don't always find this an easy task. Thinking about this begs the question: **What IS love?** All too often we confuse the word LOVE with the word LIKE. In my dictionary, love means we at least try to see an image of the divine in someone else. We recognize that others besides ourselves were created in the image and likeness of God. That would seem to rule out discrimination. After all, how could we think less of someone created in God's own image. This would also seem to rule out hatred for the same reason. But does love always include LIKING someone? I don't think so. We all have people in our lives we are to love, but we don't invite them to our home for dinner. But in the same sense, we should not refuse to make eye contact, or God forbid, refuse to acknowledge them in church at the Sign of Peace. May we all go through life trying to find a spark of the divine in even the most difficult people. May we never assume it is OK to hate or even to be indifferent. **Especially being indifferent!**



St. Joseph's Table

For the month of December the request is for **Canned Fruit and Canned Vegetables**. We are blessed, be a blessing for someone else. Thank you and God Bless you!

Giving Tree

If you picked an ornament from our parish's Giving Tree **please return the ornament with gift by December 14th.**

Parish Hall Painting

Our parish hall painting will begin December 17th. Contact Dave Jacobs.



Now You Know.... From the PLC

Do we have a good understanding of the Mass?

If we did have a good understanding, we would never miss Mass! But people choose not to attend. We hear comments such as, "I'm not being fed at Mass" or "I don't get anything out of Mass." Why are these sentiments so common? Most folks would say that they experienced bad Liturgy. This could have been terrible music, poor preaching, difficulty understanding the priest, unwelcoming Parishioners; and the list goes on. On the surface, these excuses may seem valid. We make decisions based on our experiences.

At Mass we drift. We become more interested in what people are wearing or doing and we lose focus on what we should be paying attention to. That's the problem! We are not actively participating! We get so distracted that we fail to see the greater reality of what is happening right before our eyes. If people had a complete understanding of the Mass, they would never leave the Catholic Church. The Mass is the Wedding Feast of the Lamb. It is the participation in the heavenly banquet of the King. It is Heaven on earth! We are fed with the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus in Holy Communion. There is no greater food than this Bread of Life.

For people who say they don't get anything out of Mass, it's like everything else. We get out of it what we put into it. How well are we listening? How much do we understand the things that are being said and done? Have we studied the deeper meaning behind the words, rituals, and gestures? We should, it is our Faith.

Now you know!

Deacon Steve

Building and Grounds Committee

We are starting an advisory committee for our buildings and grounds and we are looking for anyone with experience in facility maintenance, electrical, plumbing, grounds keeping, HVAC, carpentry, roofing, or concrete /paving to be part of this committee. This committee will assess the facility not perform the work. Please if you are interested call the rectory to volunteer.

Christmas Flowers

Beautifying our church for Christmas is appropriate to honor our Lord's Nativity. It's only possible because of our parishioners. Be sure to print your names/intentions clearly on the envelopes. All intentions should be handed in by Sunday, December 14th. A donation of \$10.00 per flower is requested.