

# Our Lady of Hope Parish

**Parish Office**

570-824-7832

570-822-0765 Fax

[www.ourladyofhope.us](http://www.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: 10:30 am

Weekdays: Tuesday and Friday

8:00 am (Rectory Chapel)

**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 priest. Also notify the rectory if admitted to hospitals and nursing homes. Arrangements can be made to bring Holy Communion.

**OUR LADY OF HOPE 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

**Pastor**

Rev. John S. Terry M. Div.

**In Residence**

Rev. Richard G. Ghezzi

**Pastor Emeritus**

Rev. Theodore L. Obaza

**Deacon**

William Behm

**Parish Secretary**

Jean Behm

**Business Manager**

Suzanne Cosgrove

**Director of Music**

Andrea Yorkonis

**Liturgy**

Noah Klinges

**Director of Religious Education**

Diane Lakkis

**RCIA**

*(Rite 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  
September through May.  
Grades K-8 9:15 am - 10:15 am

40 Park Avenue, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

We are now on Facebook  
[@olohweb](https://www.facebook.com/olohweb)

# The Exaltation of the Holy Cross



## Sunday September 14

10:30 AM Living & Deceased Members of  
Marymount H.S. Class of 1959 - Class of '59

## Tuesday September 16

8:00 AM Anna Omasta - Daughter, Lorraine

## Friday September 19

8:00 AM Ronald Royek - Family

## Saturday September 20

4:00 PM Eleanor Kuboski - Daughter, Mary Ruth

## Sunday September 21

10:30 AM Birthday Blessings Vincent Aleo -  
Wife & Family

Sanctuary Votives— World Peace

Blessed Mother Votive - In Memory of Eleanor  
Kuboski By Daughter, Mary

### **Weekend of August 31st**

<u>Sunday Collection</u>	\$4,288.50
<u>Loose</u>	241.50
<u>Air Conditioning</u>	1,073.50

### **Weekend of September 7th**

<u>Sunday Collection</u>	\$4,137.00
<u>Loose</u>	293.00
<u>Care &amp; Education of Priests</u>	543.00
<u>Diocesan Charity Offering</u>	531.00

### CCD (Religious Instruction) 2025-2026

CCD classes will begin this Sunday, September 14th. The bell will ring at 9:15 AM in Marymount Parish Center. If you have not registered yet, you can do so that day. Registration fees are \$25 for the first child and \$10 for each additional child. Contact Diane Lakkis at 570-814-2567, with any questions.

### Blessings and Farewell

We have been blessed having Father Terry and Father Ghezzi at our parish for many years. Please join us for coffee and donuts, the weekend of September 27-28th, after the masses as we lovingly say farewell to our two wonderful priests who will most definitely be missed.

## September 14, 2025

### Collection for Gaza –This Weekend

We as Catholic Christians have been asked to help relieve the awful, horrendous plight of the people of Gaza. They are dying from starvation by the thousands. It's unimaginable. On TV you may see little children who are just skin and bones, being held in their mother's arms, crying for some type of nourishment. The suffering is unbearable. Besides the lack of food, the lack of fuel, water and other vital aid continues to undermine efforts to prevent famine and death, especially among children. We are asking you to help these devastated people with a donation. The money will be used by Catholic Charities. Yes, we are blessed -now let us be a blessing to others.

### Prizes for Fall Raffle

Our Raffles have been very well received and supported. We have received many donations but we could always use more to put together an excellent ticket. Consider putting together a nice basket, e.g. a wine basket, household basket, an entertainment basket, etc. Gift certificates are a great idea as well. We will be accepting donations until next Sunday, September 21st. You can drop your donations off at the rectory or church.

### Pizza Sale

The Social Concerns Ministry is having a pizza sale in support of their many projects. Orders will be taken before and after all weekend masses. This is the last weekend to place orders. The pizza is from Sanitary Bakery and the cost is \$11.00 per box of 12 cuts. Payment is due at the time of ordering. Pick up will be September 20, 2025, from 3:30 to 5:30 at the Marymount Parish Center. For further information, or phone orders, please call Denise Carey 570-239-4649.

Stewardship Campaign - God bless you who realized the great need to continue our ministry here at Our Lady of Hope. We have exceeded \$20,000.00. Congrats! We still need generous gifts from those who have not yet given. Please consider helping our Parish.

2025 PA March for Life - The Diocese of Scranton is coordinating a bus trip to the Pa March for Life in Harrisburg, PA on September 22nd. The registration fee is \$20 and includes the bus trip, snacks, and a t-shirt. To register, please visit [dioceseofscranton.org](http://dioceseofscranton.org). If you have any questions, please call Bridget Guarnieri at 570-207-2213 ext 1133.

Christian Women of Our Lady of Hope Parish will meet on Wednesday, September 24th, at 6:30 pm in the parish rectory. All women of the parish are invited to attend.

## Scripture Reflection

By his crucifixion, Jesus transformed the cross from a profane instrument of execution to a symbol of triumph. Jesus sanctified the cross, making it holy, by sacrificing his life to win our salvation. We exalt the holy cross in a special way today, but we also exalt it every time we make the sign of the cross to express and bear witness to our faith. May the cross be a sign for us of Christ's power to overcome death and give new life.

## What I would like you to PRAY ABOUT:

Today can feel like an odd feast; we raise up and exult an instrument of torture - in fact, the cross was the means of our Savior's death. But remember, it is not about the cross itself, it is about the whole story, including the love story of God never giving up on humanity. God's love is self-emptying and life-giving. God enters into human life, enduring even suffering and death in order to unite us with God. That love is what makes the cross beautiful. It transforms it from a death-dealing device to a sign of HOPE. If God can make this transformation happen, ANYTHING is possible for Him ... even what might be troubling you and me.

## Thoughts from Deacon Bill:

I recently sat with someone who anticipates becoming a Catholic this Easter. I always enjoy these early days of discernment. It gives me a chance to reflect on what it means to be an active and practicing Catholic - and then to think about what I might have forgotten in my own journey. To me, being a Catholic means that fulfilling my Sunday obligation to attend mass is not an end in itself. It is the beginning of a brand new week where I now have the strength to BE a Catholic all weeklong. It means I should see everyone around me as being created in God's image - and created in love. It should be seeing everyone as my brothers and sisters. After all, we are all God's children. It means I am to foster a RELATIONSHIP with God through daily dialogs with him. It means I should help the poor. It also calls me to learn about God, but never allowing my pursuit of knowledge to take the place of actually getting to know him personally. When I stop to think about it, being a Catholic is an awesome responsibility and a terrific honor. One that goes well beyond spending an hour or so each week in church.



## **FROM THE PASTOR**

I have spent a lot of time packing the past several months. Unfortunately, I am a hoarder. Now I am paying the price, determining what I can save and what to forget. As you know I love baseball and over the years have collected many baseball paraphernalia. I've come across many photos of family, friends and experiences throughout my career. However, the one item that I shall take with me will be a crucifix. This crucifix hangs over my bed and will hang over it in my new residence. It originally hung in my grandparents home for many years. Later it was displayed in my parents home. It is very precious and meaningful to me. On this special day, the Exaltation of the Holy Cross speaks volumes to us as Catholics. In years past it could be found in every room of a home. I had one as a child in my bedroom. I can still picture this milky plastic cross with a gold painted body of Jesus on it. How about you? Can it be found in your home? How about in your child's or grandchild's room? When was the last time you bought one? Is it a gift any more to someone in the family? The cross symbolizes Christ's victory over sin and death. It is also a declaration that these have no power over you and your family. It doesn't have to be fancy. Let us commit ourselves to its bold statement. "Behold the wood of the Cross on which hung the Savior of the world."

## **10th ANNUAL "BE A CATHOLIC MAN"** **CONFERENCE**

It is scheduled for Saturday, October 4, 2025 at Holy Redeemer High School from 8 AM - 3 PM. The theme is "Christ is King." Today, as our Catholic faith becomes increasingly marginalized by society, we publicly acclaim that Jesus Christ is King of our hearts, our homes, our work, and our public actions.

Registration fee: \$40 Early registration \$30 until 9/15/25. Registration forms available at the rectory. Online registration: **[www.BeACatholicMan.com](http://www.BeACatholicMan.com)**

**Annual Appeal** - There is much asked of us to support the works and ministries of our Diocese. They address many things - Education - Social Justice Outreach - Retired Clergy and their Health - Seminarian Formation - to name a few. Next weekend is Celebration/Commitment Weekend with in-pew pledge cards available for those who have not received them thru the mail. Do your best and give from your heart in gratitude for our Diocese and Bishop Bambera.

**St. Joseph's Table** - For the month of September the request is **Condiments or Non-Dairy Creamer**. Thank you for helping those in need. God Bless You!