

# Our Lady of Hope Parish

**Parish Office**  
570-852-5303  
570-852-5310 Fax  
www.ourladyofhope.us  
Email: office@ourladyofhope.us

**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: 4:00 pm  
Sunday: 9:00 am  
Weekdays: Tuesday and Friday  
8:00 am (Main Church)

**SACRAMENT OF PENANCE**  
Saturday 3:15 - 3:45 pm  
After 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**  
**Casting a wide net to gather as many people as possible for the Kingdom of God.**

**MISSION STATEMENT**  
**To be a welcoming community that encourages and empowers our family of believers to use their gifts and talents to be active, intentional disciples of Jesus Christ.**

**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 the Church Parish Hall  
Sundays, September through May.  
Grades K-8 10:00 am - 11:00 am

# 3rd Sunday of Lent

March 8, 2026



## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, March 7

4:00 PM Joseph Pekol - Louise Kubek

### Sunday, March 8

9:00 AM Francis Flynn - Robert, Sharon & Sean Flynn

### Tuesday, March 10

8:00 AM Matthew Zedolik - Family

### Friday, March 13

8:00 AM Joseph & Stella Falkowski - Grandson,  
Norbert & wife, Patty

### Saturday, March 14

4:00 PM For the People of the Parish

### Sunday, March 15

9:00 AM Ernest Jendrzewski - Christian Women

### Votives

Votives 1,2,3 - In Memory of Karen Daly By Sue  
Cosgrove & Family

Blessed Mother - In Memory of John Richards  
By Brothers

### Please pray for the Sick of our Parish:

Deacon Joe DeVizia	William McLaughlin
Lindsay Kurtz	Ron Reiss
Theresa Belcastro	Helen Novak
Mary Pat Gill	Joseph Mrozowski
Albert Mrackoski	

### Weekend of March 1st

<u>Sunday Collection</u>	\$3,755.00
<u>Loose</u>	274.00
<u>Dues</u>	225.00
<u>Air Conditioning</u>	95.00
<u>Fuel</u>	210.00
<u>Charity</u>	218.00
<u>Lenten Sacrifice</u>	665.00
<u>Rice Bowl</u>	27.00
<u>Latin America</u>	45.00
<u>Care &amp; Education of Priests</u>	396.00
<u>Catholic Social Services</u>	45.00

### Meetings

**Parish Council** - Monday, March 9th, 6:00 pm, rectory

**Liturgy Committee** - Monday, March 16th, 6:00 pm,  
rectory

**Finance Council** - Monday, March 23rd, 6:00 pm, rectory

### St. Anthony Novena

Our 13 week devotion to St. Anthony will begin on  
Tuesday, March 17, 2026, at 5:30 pm.

## Our Lady of Hope has new phone numbers

Rectory # 570-852-5303 Fax# 570-852-5310

### Lenten Services

**Stations of the Cross** - Fridays at 5:30 pm

**Evening Prayer** - Sundays at 6:00 pm

**Adoration with Confessions** - Thursdays, 6-7 pm

### The Light is on for You

Our Lady of Hope - Confessions - Thursdays, 6-7:00 pm

St. Nicholas St. Mary - Confessions - Mondays, 5-6:00 pm

### Daily Lenten Exercises

**Sunday, March 1** - Thank God for a moment when His  
presence was clear in your life.

**Monday, March 2** - Offer mercy to someone today.

**Tuesday, March 3** - Do a humble task today without  
seeking recognition.

**Wednesday, March 4** - Serve someone in a quiet,  
loving way.

**Thursday, March 5** - Give something today to someone  
in need.

**Friday, March 6** - Pray the Stations of the Cross or  
meditate on Jesus' Passion.

**Saturday, March 7** - Pray for someone who has left  
the faith.

### 1st Scrutiny

Months ago, Richard Partington, Amy Michaels, and Brian Magness started their journey toward becoming Roman Catholics. They are now beginning the final phase of this long and emotional journey. Beginning this weekend, our three Elect of God will experience the First Scrutiny. This is part of the final discernment process that will conclude on Holy Saturday. Please keep these three amazing people in your prayers.

### Correction to location of OLOH picnic

Our OLOH picnic on July 12th will be at the **Wilkes-Barre Twp. Settlement Camp** not Wilkes-Barre Camp as listed in last week's bulletin's insert.

### Finders - Keepers

Since we no longer have functions in the school, we invite parishioner to come to the school on Saturday, March 14th, 9:00-1:00, and take items that you can use. This includes desks, tables, statues, trophies, and many more items that will no longer be used. We simply do not want them to go to waste.

### Annual Lenten Food Sale

St. Leo the Great Church Hall, 33 Manhattan St., Ashley  
Fridays - March 13, 20, & 27

Walk-up and Pre orders 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Pre orders must be made by Wednesday. Call 570-258-5006

Or email [lenten.food.sales@gmail.com](mailto:lenten.food.sales@gmail.com)

Mushroom Soup, Clam Chowder, Pirohy, Tuna Hoagie,  
Haluski, Homemade Potato Pancakes, and a Weekly Special

**Scripture Reflection**

In the sacred season of Lent, we are invited to acknowledge our thirst and our need for God. Let us not mask it or hide it with distractions or goods which cannot ultimately satisfy. We are invited instead to bring our thirst to God and, like the Samaritan woman, simply ask: Lord, *give me this water*, the water which will make us never thirst again.



***Now You Know....  
From the PLC***

***Are we “water jar” Christians or “artesian well” Christians?***

Do we run from well to well (church to church, preacher to preacher, Bible study to Bible study) to find enough water to fill our spiritual jars because they constantly go empty? Or do we have that wellspring of the Holy Spirit bubbling out of us constantly, like an artesian well, which then draws more people to Jesus? Today’s Gospel is the well-known story of Jesus and the woman at the well. What a remarkable model the Samaritan woman is for us. She teaches us about courage, about human dignity, about our conversion, and what it means to be in a relationship with Jesus. Are we like her, unaware we are close to Christ? When we are truly aware of how close we are to Him and the great gift He is offering us, when we converse with Him in prayer, we are able to ask Him for the grace of life-giving water. Jesus is thirsty, too. He thirsts for souls. He longs to give the woman the living water of eternal life. He wants to give these life-giving waters to us. Jesus used the human need for water to reach out to the woman. Maybe we need to ask ourselves, what is Jesus using in our lives to reach out to us? Watch out! Jesus may ask us for a drink of water and, before we know it, we are running around preaching the Gospel to family, relatives, friends, and neighbors. During Lent let us pray that God gives us the eternal life-giving water so we are not water jar Christians, but artesian well Christians, always drawing fully on God’s grace. *Now you know!*

*Deacon Steve*

**Paschal Candle**

We would like to thank Jim and Sandy Tomasura for donating this year’s Paschal Candle in memory of the living and deceased members of the Tomasura and Tometchko families.

**Interested in being a Sacristan?**

We transitioned to high school aged sacristans on Ash Wednesday. Duties include setting up for mass and ensuring all vessels and books are serviced after mass. If anyone is interested, please contact Deacon Steve or call the rectory.

**Rectory, Set, Cook**

Remember it’s not too late to vote (\$10/vote) for our Parish Team led by Fr. Mark, along with Deacon Steve and Deacon Bill. The proceeds benefit the hungry and homeless in our diocese. Just go to [dioceseofscranton.org](http://dioceseofscranton.org) and click on Rectory, Set, Cook. The Priests/Chefs are all pictured. Find Fr. Mark and vote/donate. Thank you for helping those in need.

**What I would like you to PRAY ABOUT:**

In today’s Gospel we see an incredible display of Jesus’ humanity. He is thirsty and asks the Samaritan woman for what he knows she can give. Jesus names a gift she can offer. Even when others would have ignored or betrayed her, Jesus invites this woman to share her gifts. This is an important model for each of us. Not only does God see and name our own unique gifts and talents, but God invites us to help others discover all they have to offer. May we pray we are open to God’s invitation.

**Thoughts from Deacon Bill:**

A few years ago, I was director of the Irish Teachers Program at King’s College. Over the length of the Program, we welcomed more than one thousand teachers, many of whom became life-long friends. I just watched a video of a married couple - Irish Teacher life-friends. After their retirement from teaching, they started a charity that supported students in Uganda. Through their efforts, Harry and Ursula set up a school. Their support included desks, chairs, books and they even provide uniforms so there is no distinction among the students. They have thought of virtually everything, even providing sanitary products for the school girls so they can attend classes all month long. I sometimes wonder why SOME people seem to care deeply while others do not. I would love to say, “We Catholics care,” but it is simply not that simple. Some of us do - some of us do not. But all of us are called to make a difference in our world. We can’t all start a school in Uganda, but we can all do small things with great love. Every Lent we are offered the opportunity to take part in the ***Rice Bowl Project***. Everything we decide to contribute, be it a single dollar or a king’s ransom, will help someone created in God’s image and likeness. Remember, we can’t help everyone, but everyone can help someone.



**St. Joseph’s Table**

For the month of March the request is for **Coffee and Tea**. Thank you for helping those who are hungry and cold. God Bless you!

**Interested in Donating**

We are continuing to accept donations to help offset the cost of installing the new bathroom in the church, purchasing a St. Joseph statue and exterior OLOH Church signs with mass times. If interested, please call the rectory.