

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

4th Sunday of Advent



Saturday, December 20

4:00 PM Helen & Chester Kwashnik - Elaine Kostak

Sunday, December 21

9:00 AM Filomena Aiello - Stephen & Donna Menn

Monday, December 22

8:00AM Margaret Kerestes- W-B Twp. Mayor Carl Kuren

Tuesday, December 23

8:00 AM John & Marie Siemon - Daughter, Dyann, Jim & Jason

Wednesday, December 24 Christmas Eve

4:00 PM Rita Petlock - Mary Ruth

10:00 PM Leo Dougherty & Mary Bambrick - Family

Thursday, December 25 Christmas Day

9:00 AM People of the Parish

Saturday, December 27 Feast of the Holy Family

Vigil

4:00 PM Joseph Kostak - Mom

Sunday, December 28 Feast of the Holy Family

9:00 AM Leonard Przywara - Wife

Votives

Sanctuary - In Memory of Leonard Przywara
By Wife

Blessed Mother - In Memory of John & Peggy
Cosgrove By Sue, Lisa, & Rich

Sacred Heart - In Memory of Deceased Members of
Kinsel & Revitt Families By Geraldine Revitt

December 21, 2025

Bring the Little Children to Me

We will be continuing our Children's Liturgy of the Word this Sunday during the 9:00 AM Mass. Children age 3 through 6, will be invited to leave mass before the readings and with Miss Emily Pugh (an education major at King's College) they will participate in a Children's Liturgy of the Word. They will return to us before the Offertory.

Adoration

Christmas Day and New Year's Day fall on Thursday this year. Consequently, there will not be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on those holidays. Adoration will continue after our daily Masses until 9:00 AM.

"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 morning mass on Monday, December 22nd and 23rd, to continue the opportunity to participate in these "O" Antiphons. Hopefully, this will deepen our relationship with our Savior as we await His coming.

Christmas Wafers

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

Weekend of December 7th

<u>Sunday Collection</u>	\$3,374.00
<u>Loose</u>	223.00
<u>Dues</u>	40.00
<u>Charities</u>	244.00
<u>Fuel</u>	10.00
<u>Air Conditioning</u>	26.00
<u>Immaculate Conception</u>	476.00
<u>Care & Education of Priests</u>	207.00
<u>Retirement Fund for Religious</u>	10.00

Please pray for the Sick of our Parish:

Deacon Joe DeVisia	William McLaughlin
Lindsay Kurtz	Ron Reiss
Helen Novak	Theresa Belcastro
Joseph Kordek	

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!



Scripture Reflection

As we approach the festive day on which we may receive gifts and guests into our homes, we take a moment to recall that during this season of Advent we are called to prepare to receive Jesus into our hearts. Yes, we receive him in a most special way at Christmas, the day we celebrate the world receiving him in the flesh, but we also have the opportunity to receive him each and every day. Let us humbly ask God to prepare our hearts to receive him in the Eucharist here today.

What I would like you to PRAY ABOUT:

The importance of mystery extends beyond Joseph into our own lives. Joseph models for us the importance of listening to stories and experiences that are not necessarily our own. He probably struggled to understand Mary's experience and was filled with questions about the seemingly strange circumstances surrounding her pregnancy. But Joseph reserved judgment and listened with an open heart to the workings of God in his midst. As we come to an end of this Advent season and prepare to welcome Emmanuel - God with us - we pray that we, like Joseph, will remain open to God in our midst.

Thoughts from Deacon Bill:

One of the most difficult things I've had to accept as I age is my inability to shovel snow. I just can't do it anymore. If Jean goes out to shovel, it breaks my heart. I feel less than a loving husband. I've come to accept it when someone we hire comes to plow our driveway. The job gets done and I don't have to feel the indignity of aging. But listen, I still feel a bit lost as I realize I'm just not young anymore. As we go through life, particularly our spiritual life, we can sometimes feel we're less than God's favorite. The good thing here is, our God understands. Although he didn't have a long life as a human, he understands us. We can go to him and explain how we are feeling - and he will love us through it. It doesn't matter if we can't genuflect anymore when we come into church. It doesn't matter if we move slowly up the aisle at Communion. What matters is not the shape of our bodies, but the content of our hearts. No matter what shape we are in, our God is right there by our side. We still might not be able to shovel snow or genuflect, but being love-filled makes up for everything else. Honest!



Now You Know.... From the PLC

We are four days away from Christmas, the Celebration of God Becoming Man! On this Fourth Sunday of Advent, our Hope will soon be realized! For weeks we expressed Hope in the coming of Jesus into our lives. Mary said "Yes" to bringing the Son of God, the Son of David, and the Light into the world. The Trinity and the Incarnation are the two greatest mysteries of our Faith. The second Person of the Trinity, Jesus Christ, became fully human while remaining fully Divine. How can this be? Jesus was born of a human mother, Mary of Nazareth, through the power of the Holy Spirit descending upon her from God, who is His Father. Jesus is only one Person, but with two natures. He is fully God and fully human. As God, He is all-knowing, changeless, and eternal. As human, He has a body, mind, will, and feelings. His Divinity does not interfere with His humanity. Jesus lived a fully human life. He grew in age, wisdom, and grace before God and man, but He remained changeless as God. While on the Cross He remained Lord of the Universe! He experienced the same kind of death all human beings experience. But before His death, at His death, and after His death, He remained God, one who was, is, and always will be! How can this be? Jesus is one Person, the Second Person of the Trinity. He lives with the Father and the Holy Spirit, and also in our midst. He died and rose from the dead so we, with our human nature, might share in His Divine nature. How can this be? We cannot answer this question with our human intellect. This is the mystery of salvation we are all meant to share. May you have a Blessed Christmas! *Now you know!*

Deacon Steve

