

Our Lady of Hope Parish

Parish Office

570-824-7832

570-822-0765 Fax

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

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



Sunday September 7

10:30 AM Michelle Marie Starzecki– Paul S Marko

Tuesday September 9

8:00 AM Maureen Bielecki - Eugenia Galli

Friday September 12

8:00 AM Debbie Moore - Ann Orbik

Saturday September 13

4:00 PM Vincent Barberio, Jr - Friends

Sunday September 14

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

Sanctuary Votives– End to Gun Violence

Blessed Mother Votive - In Memory of Dominick
Procida, Frances Zinich, & Anita Barbano
By Caroline Graziano

CCD (Religious Instruction) 2025-2026

CCD classes will begin next 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.

A Back-To-School Prayer

Loving God, thank you for the rest and relaxation we enjoyed over the summer. Today we pray for our children as they begin their new school year. Bless them with joy at seeing friends, excitement at new experiences, and a love of learning. Watch over all who learn, replacing fear with joy, anxiety with peace, and tiredness with energy. Grant teachers wisdom, patience, and joy in serving their students. In Jesus name we pray. Amen

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.

September 7, 2025

Collection for Gaza - Next Weekend

We have been requested as Catholic Christians 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. Next weekend we are asked 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 several donations but we need many 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. Autumn is almost here, so please help and 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 until September 14th, before and after all weekend masses. 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.

Diocesan Youth Rally 2025

On Saturday, September 27th, the Diocese of Scranton will host their annual Diocesan Youth Rally at Notre Dame Jr/Sr High School in East Stroudsburg, PA. This event is for students in grades 7 thru 12. The Rally will be from 1:30-8pm, with check-in beginning at 12:30pm. The theme is Anchored in Hope. To sign up, please contact Diane Lakkis at 570-814-2567. The deadline to sign up is September 12th.

National Day of Service and Recognition Sept. 11

This day, also known as Patriot Day, will always be remembered by all of us. We remember the victims and heroes of 9/11. We recall how our patriotism, unity, and commitment as Americans surged in our country. If you can, display your flag and keep it at half mast. God Bless The USA

Scripture Reflection

Over the last two thousand years, Jesus has been given many titles, from Bread of Life to Our Savior. One of his first titles, going back to when he first stood and proclaimed God's word in the synagogue, is Rabbi, or Teacher. How appropriate to focus on that title on this first Sunday of September, a time of year when millions of young people are returning to school. Today we hear Jesus teach the crowds what it means to be a disciple. May he teach us as well as we gather together in his name.

Honoring Our Blessed Mother's Birthday

There will be a celebration honoring our Blessed Mother's Birthday this Sunday, September 7th, at Our Lady of Fatima Grotto, 51 W North St, Wilkes-Barre. Festivities will begin at 6PM. All are welcome.

What I would like you to PRAY ABOUT:

Today's Gospel is always hard to hear. Jesus' call to hate our own family goes against our natural instincts to love, protect, and honor them. These instincts are GOOD, and put in place by God. They are a part of how God loves us in this life by enabling us to share love with each other. But being a follower of Christ means going beyond the natural affection that families share. It means participating in God's love in such a way that there are no favored ones among us. It means loving all as God does - equally and fully. Our human loves find their completion in the love of God, which does not divide or have preferences even as it loves each of us individually. This love does not erase our human loves. It perfects them.

Deacon's Corner: How many of us have told our young children, "There's nothing to fear about darkness - there's nothing in the dark that's not there in the light." I guess that's good advice for children who fear what might be lurking in the dark, but we adults can be fear-filled too. Our darkness can be a bit different than a child's, but darkness IS darkness. So what should we adults do when we face our own personal darkness? We can repeat what we tell our children - there is nothing in the dark that's not there in the light. Even in our darkness, the Light of Christ shines brightly. We need to trust; we need to believe; and we need to embrace God's light and presence. Remember, God never leads us to the dark - He leads us through it. If you find yourself in a spiritual darkness, talk to God. He is there...and He listens. It's never too dark to experience our Creator's love.



FROM THE PASTOR

As we begin the month of September, I cannot help but be a bit nostalgic and sentimental. There's an old and famous song entitled "September Song." We old timers could remember it sung by Willie Nelson, Frank Sinatra, and even Jimmy Durante, to name a few. The song is about love and the wasted opportunities in the past - precious moments of our lives. The refrain goes like this -

"Oh, it's a long, long time from May to December, but the days grow short when you reach September - September - November. And these precious days I'll spend with you. These special days I'll spend with you. Oh, the days dwindle down to a precious few, September - November."

I couldn't help but reflect upon these words as I spend this last month with you. I'm certainly sure you can relate to them as well. Where has the time gone, we all say. Yes, there were lost moments in times past - to live a little better - to love a little bit more. Time has passed us by so quickly but we have precious memories. In another poem about memories -

"Some we would like to forget. Some we love to treasure.
Some memories become precious gifts that live on forever and ever.
Yes, memories are precious moments and we all have quite a few.
The memories we treasure the most are those I spent with you." — John P. Read —

Grandparents' Day

This Sunday is Grandparents' Day. They play a tremendous role in family life today. Honor them-Thank them-Love them.

Grandparents' Prayer

God of love,

We thank you for our wonderful grandparents. They bring such joy and happiness into our lives. Thank you for all the special times that we have with them. Please watch over them, protect them and care for them now. May they know your goodness and love always.

St. Joseph's Table - For the month of September the request is **Condiments or Non-Dairy Creamer.**