

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 (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 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

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 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

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Saturday, October 4

4:00 PM Ed & Mary Klosowski - Sons, Edward,
Robert & Patty

Sunday, October 5

10:30 AM Andrew Polifko, IV - Grandparents

Tuesday, October 7

8:00 AM Koval Family - Mary Ruth

Friday, October 10

8:00 AM Edward Blazejewski - Son, David
Blazejewski & Family

Saturday, October 11

4:00 PM Joan Hertely - Cousin, Norb Falkowski
& Wife, Patty

Sunday, October 12

10:30 AM Maryann Allen - Alaine Fegal Chang

Sanctuary Votives— In Memory of Ronald Royek
By Wife, Pat

<u>Sunday Collection</u>	\$3731.50
<u>Loose</u>	384.00
<u>Air Conditioning</u>	647.00
<u>Insurance</u>	817.00

OCIA (RCIA)

We are thrilled to announce we will be welcoming a newcomer to our parish family again this year. Until the Rite of Acceptance, he will be known as an Inquirer. Our sessions, led by our team, will continue on Thursday evenings at 6:30 in the Rectory. If there is anyone else who might be interested in becoming Catholic - or if you have not received all the Sacraments of Initiation, please call Deacon Bill or Jean Behm at 570-991-0984. There is always room for one more - or even twelve more. Think and pray about it.

St. Joseph's Table - For the month of October the request is **Hot Chocolate Mix**. Thank you for helping those in need. God Bless You!

October 5, 2025

Welcome to our New Leadership

The torch has been passed to our new pastoral team. With Deacon Steve Frye as Parish Life Coordinator (PLC) and Father Mark DeCelles as our Sacramental Minister, we are looking forward to continuing, uninterrupted, as the parish family of Our Lady of Hope.

We recognize the PLC model of parish leadership is new to us, but we are looking forward to continuing to worship our God and support one another - just as we always have.

We confidently welcome Deacon Steve to our parish family as our new leader. Likewise, we welcome Father Mark as our sacramental minister.

Will there be changes at Our Lady of Hope? Undoubtedly yes. But may we recognize these changes as an opportunity for continuing spiritual growth and blessings. Remember, these changes have the blessing of Bishop Bambera, and, as successor of the Apostles, our Bishop's decision reflects the will of the Holy Spirit.

May God continue to bless Father Terry - and may God also bless Deacon Steve, Father Mark, and Deacon Bill, as we all walk together on our slow but sure journey to the eternal joys of heaven.

Let us pledge our sincere cooperation as our parish family continues to prosper. May God Bless us all!

Weekday Masses

Weekday masses will continue on Tuesdays and Fridays. However, they will be celebrated in the main church not in the rectory chapel.

Catholic Ministries Appeal (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. Please consider contributing. If you have not received a pledge card, there are still cards available in the pews. Do your best and give from your heart in gratitude for our Diocese and Bishop Bambera.

October - Month of the Rosary

Members of the Christian Women of Our Lady of Hope Parish will lead us in the rosary before all weekend masses during the month of October. Please consider coming a few minutes early and join us as we honor our Blessed Mother.

Scripture Reflection

Each week we gather here as a family of faith, expressing our faith and deepening our faith as we celebrate the Eucharist together. Yet, we may still feel that our faith is weak, especially if we compare ourselves to others we know. But do you know what? So did the twelve apostles. Today we hear them ask the Lord to increase their faith. May his response hearten us, his present-day disciples, as we struggle with our own faith.

What I would like you to PRAY ABOUT:

The evils we face in the world run ragged against today's psalm, which encourages us to, "Come and sing joyfully to the Lord." How and why should we sing a song of gladness when we see destruction all around us? But what would happen if we DIDN'T? Age after age, God had called our ancestors in faith to live in righteousness, to seek justice, to pursue peace, and to love with joy. God also calls US. God defies death with joy, calling us to hope in him and not harden our hearts. Hardened hearts feed a culture of violence and death. In faith alone we will make his justice known to the world.

Thoughts from Deacon Bill:

Once while I was strolling through a bookstore on a rainy vacation day I saw a book that really got me thinking. Its cover featured a modified version of the Sistine Chapel ceiling showing God reaching out to touch his creation - fingertip to fingertip. This image demonstrates how God created us, but more intimately, how the relationship between God and his creation sprang into being. The book that stopped me in my tracks, however, showed God reaching out and touching a green finger. The title of the book was Would You Baptize an Extraterrestrial? My first thought was that this was a really stupid premise. God created US, right - not some alien. But the image kept gnawing at me. At my first opportunity I asked my friend, Monsignor Vince Grimalia, what he thought. He said, "Give me a minute to think." When he spoke, he said if we believe God is the creator and ruler of the universe then the Alien with the green finger is as much a child of God as You and I. It made sense to me - and it got me thinking. What about the brown, black, red, and yellow hands reaching out to God and US in our world today? You know, they are all God's sons and daughters, too. And that means they deserve our love and respect as strongly as we treat those who look like us. God creates and love unites US ALL. If we are open to it.



Now You Know.... From the PLC

Dear Our Lady of Hope family,

As you learned a few weeks ago, Bishop Bambera has appointed me to serve as your Parish Life Coordinator upon Father Terry's retirement. I am so blessed and thankful for his confidence in me. I am excited to serve this parish congregation, and I look forward to getting to know all of you in the next few years.

As I hope you learned in the bulletin insert with the announcement, I served in the Air Force for twenty-seven years and as a civil servant in the Department of Defense, mostly in the Pentagon, for the last twenty three years. Most of that time, I was involved in strategic planning, budget, finance and personnel, among others. I hope to be able to use my experience and the knowledge I gained for the benefit of Our Lady of Hope.

As far as my diaconate experience, I was ordained in 2008 and have served as a Master of Ceremonies for bishops in the Archdiocese of Washington, and for Bishop Bambera here in Scranton. In those seventeen years, I have trained all ministries involved in liturgy, served at the Pregnancy Center in Rockville, Maryland, for nine years, taught Confirmation CCD classes, plus OCIA and Adult Faith Formation classes, all of which, and more, I plan to continue at Our Lady of Hope, following the four tenets, shown in the logo at the top of this column, that I promised the Archbishop of Washington when I was ordained: 1) to receive the Book of Gospels; 2) to believe what I read; 3) to teach what I believe; and 4) to practice what I teach.

Again, I thank Bishop Bambera for this opportunity, and I am excited to begin our journey together. I ask for your prayers as we begin, and please be assured that you all are in my prayers.

Deacon Steve