

Our Lady of Hope Parish

Parish Office

570-852-5303

570-852-5310 Fax

www.ourladyofhope.us

Email: office@ourladyofhope.us

Office Hours

Mon Tues Thurs Fri

9:00 am to 12:30 pm

Closed Wednesday

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 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 Diocesan

Pre-Cana Program.

**ANOIDTING 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

Director of 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 to May.
Grades K-8 10:00 am - 11:00 am

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 19, 2026



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, July 18

4:00 PM Ondish Family - Daughter, Rose Marie

Sunday, July 19

9:00 AM Patricia Smeraglio - Family

Tuesday, July 21

8:00 AM Barbara Youngblood - Daughter, Suzanne

Friday, July 24

8:00 AM People of the Parish

Saturday, July 25

4:00 PM Rosemarie Tomasura - Bill and Jean Behm

Sunday, July 26

9:00 AM Alice Kwiatkowski - Sandy Hopkins

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Adoration is held after weekday masses until 9:00 AM,
and on Thursday evening from 6:00 to 7:00 PM

Votives

Sanctuary - In Memory of the Hertely Family
By Family

Please pray for the Sick of our Parish:

Deacon Joe DeVizia	William McLaughlin
Lindsay Kurtz	Ron Reiss
Theresa Belcastro	Helen Novak
Rosalie Reiss	Maria Healey
Judy Manganello	Theresa Talacka
Fr. John Terry	Carol Zafia
Pat Kinsman	Mary Greenburg

Weekend of July 12th

Sunday Collection	\$5,144.00
Portion going to the Diocese	117.00
Remaining at OLOH	\$5,027.00

Stewardship	\$600.00
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Vacation Bible School

St. Nicholas-St. Mary Parish is having a vacation bible school which is open to Our Lady of Hope children. It will run from Monday, July 27 to Friday, July 31st. All children from Kindergarten through 5th grade are welcome. A highlight of the week will be "God's Wonder Lab - Jesus Does the Impossible" with our own Religious Education Director, Diane Lakkis, as the "Mad Lab Professor." Registration is \$25 per child with sibling discounts available. **Come and join in the fun!** If interested call Diane Lakkis at 570-814-2567.

Annual Stewardship Campaign

Our Lady of Hope's Annual Stewardship Campaign is under way. Hopefully, you have received your STEWARDSHIP envelope. It was included in your August packet of monthly envelopes. Money received from this campaign will be used to supplement the Parish's general fund in critical ways including heating, air conditioning, upkeep of our church and rectory and so much more. By supporting this campaign you are helping to make Our Lady of Hope not only a VERY GOOD Parish but a GREAT ONE! If every household contributes \$100, we will have no problem reaching our \$20,000 goal. In case you don't receive envelopes or misplaced the one in the packet, there are extra Stewardship envelopes at the entrances to the church. Please be as generous as you can.

Summer Fest '26

Communion of Saints Parish in Pittston will hold "Summer Fest '26" at St. John the Evangelist Church from **Thursday, August 6 through Saturday, August 8 from 5:00-10:00 PM** each evening on the grounds of St. John the Evangelist Church at the corner of Church and Broad Streets. Featured entertainment this year will include "Smoke in Mirrors" on Thursday, "Bugeye McGuire" on Friday, and "Flaxy Morgan" on Saturday. A variety of foods will be available for purchase. Games of chance, big basket raffle, cash bingo, children's games, and other raffles will be available in the Monsignor Bendik Pastoral Center (former Seton Catholic H.S. Auditorium), and food and entertainment will be on the church grounds.

Family Picnic Rescheduled

Our Lady of Hope Family Picnic at the Wilkes-Barre Twp Settlement Camp has been rescheduled for Sunday, September 20, 2026. For this to happen we need a chairperson or chairpersons to coordinate this event. Getting together as "one big family" will be a wonderful thing but it does take some early planning. Additional volunteers will be needed the day of the picnic. If you are interested, please call the rectory so we can get this "good time" up and running.

Reflection

On this midsummer day, Jesus invites us to sit back and listen to the master storyteller tell three parables about the kingdom of heaven. In stead of describing it literally, Jesus uses parables to explore its aspects and express its richness. Once again, he speaks



Now You Know.... From the PLC

What I would like you to PRAY ABOUT:

The parables in today's Gospel seem utterly impractical, especially the one about the Sower and the weeds. Why wait until harvest to separate the weeds and the wheat. If they grow together the two will fight for water and nutrients - and will be difficult to separate at harvest. And it also defies logic that the tiny mustard seed can grow into the biggest of trees. But you know what? Maybe that's the point. Jesus makes it clear that the way of God is not necessarily the way of humans. Let us pray that we can remain open to God's "different way" and trust in his love.

Thoughts from Deacon Bill:



How are we "supposed to" react when people are unfairly treating us? Do we take our football and go home? Do we give the other person a taste of their own medicine? Or are we called to be more Christ-like? Now I want you to understand something - I am in no way suggesting you use ME as an example of how to behave. I'm human; that means I am a sinner. I honestly struggle with nasty people. But I also recognize we are to turn the other cheek. We are to answer nastiness with love. We are called to forgive, and that means forgive and forget; I know all of this is easy to talk about but difficult to follow. But follow we must. Why? Because that's the way Jesus showed us. He cautioned us to expect trials and tribulations on our journey. Being human, I realize that just because Jesus wants us to do something does not make it an automatic or easy thing. I believe, when all is said and done, we will not be judged only on our successes or failures; we will also be judged on how hard we tried. Let's try to return a scowl with a smile. This is a first-step, but even if it doesn't end in a renewed friendship, we will have the satisfaction of not returning anger with anger - despite our human nature that finds doing that to be very tempting.

St. Vincent DePaul Donations

For the month of July the St. Vincent DePaul Kitchen requests **Peanut Butter and Jelly**. God Bless You!

From Mary Magdalene to Saint Ann to the Blessed Virgin Mary, the women who encountered Christ in the Gospels have much to teach us. The Feast of Mary Magdalene is July 22 and the Feast of St. Ann is July 26. Hopefully, we learn more about our Faith through them. Except for the mother of Jesus, few women are more honored in the Bible than Mary Magdalene. Yet, she could well be the patron of the slandered, since there has been a persistent legend in the Church that she is the unnamed sinful woman who anointed the feet of Jesus in Luke 7:36-50. Most Scripture scholars point out that there is no scriptural basis for confusing the two women. Mary "of Magdala," was the one from whom Christ cast out "seven demons" (Luke 8:2). Writing in the New Catholic Commentary, Father Wilfrid J. Harrington says "seven demons" "does not mean that Mary had lived an immoral life, a conclusion reached only by means of a mistaken identification with the anonymous woman of Luke 7:36." In the Jerome Biblical Commentary, Father Edward Mally agrees that she "is not...the same as the sinner of Luke 7:37, despite the later Western romantic tradition about her." Mary Magdalene assisted Jesus and the Apostles and stood at the foot of the Cross. She is the first to know Resurrection joy and the first to share it. She is known as the "Apostle to the Apostles." Mary Magdalene bears the Good News to the Good News bearers. This Resurrection joy belongs to the whole world so she is sent to the Apostles, who are then sent to the ends of the earth. That is our mission, too!

Now you know!

Deacon Steve

Daily Mass Intentions and Schedule Updates

Just a reminder beginning October 6, 2026 there will be no weekday masses except for First Friday Masses. Most of the previously scheduled weekday mass intentions for 2026 and 2027 have been rescheduled or changed to votive candles. Please call the rectory if you have not rescheduled your requested weekday mass intentions.

Catholic Heart Workcamp

Special thanks to the Catholic Heart Workcamp Team. They did a great job of emptying the school and cleaning and polishing in our church. What a wonderful example they are of service to others!

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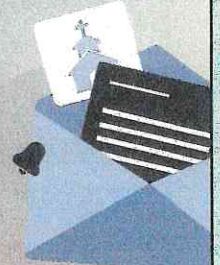
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