

# 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: 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 Klinges

**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

# Nativity of our Lord



## MASS INTENTIONS

### 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

### Tuesday, December 30

8:00 AM Matthew Zedolik - WB Twp Mayor Carl  
Kuren

### Wednesday, December 31 Solemnity of Mary Vigil

4:00 PM Rita Tarnalicki - Prayer Shawl Ministry

### Thursday, January 1 Solemnity of Mary - New Year's Day

9:00 AM People of the Parish

### Friday, January 2

8:00 AM David Talacka - Ann Orbik

### Saturday, January 3

4:00 PM Walter & Florence Shubilla - Sons

### Sunday, January 4

9:00 AM Ernest Jendrzewski - Judy & Richard  
Partington

### Votives

Sanctuary - World Peace and End to Gun Violence

### Weekend of December 14th

<u>Sunday Collection</u>	\$2,816.00
<u>Loose</u>	135.00
<u>Dues</u>	210.00
<u>Charities</u>	27.00
<u>Immaculate Conception</u>	436.00
<u>Care &amp; Education of Priests</u>	49.00
<u>Retirement Fund for Religious</u>	272.00

# December 25, 2025

### Adoration

Christmas Day and New Year's Day fall on Thursday this year. Consequently, there will not be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on these holidays.

Adoration will continue after our week day Masses until 9:00 AM.

### Friday Mass

Due to the Christmas holiday there will not be 8:00AM mass Friday, December 26th. Friday, January 2nd, is 1st Friday and there will be 8:00 AM mass. Also First Friday visits will be made by Deacon Bill. If there is someone you know who is not currently receiving these visits but would like to, please call the rectory.

### Christmas Flowers/Poinsettia Tree

A big thank you to all who supported our Poinsettia Tree and Christmas Flower collections. Our church certainly looks beautiful for Christmas. What a wonderful way to honor our Lord's birth!

### Christmas Message

A Blessed Christmas Season to you! We've seen signs that say, "Keep Christ in Christmas." We seldom see signs that say, "Keep the Mass in Christmas." Christmas is the nativity of Jesus, the Mass of Christ, and reminds us to go to Mass! The 12 Days of Christmas leads to the Epiphany when our Savior is manifested to the world. The wise men bring Him gifts of gold (representing kingship), frankincense (pointing to divinity/priesthood), and myrrh (signifying sacrifice/death). We too are priest, prophet, and king. Let's live that way in a joyous New Year!

### Change in Communion under Both Species

Due to the significant flu outbreak, we are suspending the distribution of the Precious Blood at Mass beginning the weekend of January 3rd/4th.

Remember, reception of the Body of Christ includes the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus.

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

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

## Scripture Reflection

On the Sunday after Christmas, we honor the Holy Family and hold them up as a model for our own families. From the start, Jesus, Mary, and Joseph had to deal with hardships, uncertainty, and even danger. But together they placed their trust in God and grew ever stronger in their bond with each other. We too are called to trust in the Lord as we face the trials and difficulties of our own lives. As we continue our Christmas celebration, may our families be consecrated in the love of the Holy Family.

## What I would like you to PRAY ABOUT:

The experience of the Holy Family to flee for their lives into a foreign land gives strength and courage to millions of today's migrants. Those living in countries where those from different lands are establishing new lives should be challenged by the gospel to consider what kind of welcome they would offer newcomers if they were none other than Jesus' own family.

## Thoughts from Deacon Bill:

A good friend invited us to their home for pizza. I said, "That sounds great - when?" My friend said, "How about now?" I looked at how I was dressed and said, "I would need some time to change." He told me, "We're friends - come as you are." This got me thinking. God is constantly telling us the very same thing, ***Come as you are. I love you regardless of anything.*** How many of us have thought about renewing or developing our relationship with God but we hold back for one reason or another. God's response is COME AS YOU ARE. God doesn't look for what might be wrong with us, he only sees and understands what's in our hearts. If our hearts don't want a relationship with him, he's much too polite to insist on one. But if we do, he'll be on our side quicker than my dog when I drop something from the table. And most of all, may we always remember God isn't interested in our checkbooks - he's interested in how we love one another. If God created it - God loves it. And that includes ME and it includes YOU. Embrace that love. And "How about now? -And come as you are!"



## St. Joseph's Table

For the month of January the request is for **Baked Beans**. Winter is long and cold for all of us but especially for those who hunger. We are blessed, be a blessing for someone else. Thank you and God Bless you!



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

### ***What do we give and take?***

If I offered you 168 one-dollar bills, as a gift, would you accept it? Then if I ask you for \$1 back, would you give it to me? How about \$2? How about 10%, \$16.80? These shouldn't be difficult decisions since the \$168 was a gift. Each week contains 168 hours. Each hour is a gift from God. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (para 2043) says, "the faithful are obliged to assist with the material needs of the Church, each according to his own ability." But how much is that? The Church has never stated a specific amount. But the standard in the Bible is the tithe, 10 percent of everything. "*For every tenth part of herd or flock, whatever passes under the rod, the tenth one shall be holy to the Lord*" (Leviticus 27:32). God challenges us. "*Will a man rob God? Yet you are robbing Me! But you say, 'How have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings*" (Malachi 3:8). So, how can we cheerfully give nearly 17 hours each week to God? It's easy if we put God first by loving God and neighbor. Attend Mass, pray, especially the Rosary, go to Adoration, read Scripture and the Catechism. Perform corporal and spiritual works of mercy. And the list goes on. Think about giving. Pray about it. Come up with a plan that allows you to start with a daily effort that grows to 10% of your time, talent, and treasure given to God. With our desperate need of priests, it is especially important to pray for vocations and to contribute to the care and education of our priests and seminarians. Refusing means robbing God and, even more important, could lead to refusing the gift giver Himself.

*Now you know!*

***Deacon Steve***

## **Council and Committee Meetings**

Our Lady of Hope Councils and Committee will meet on a rotating basis on the first Monday of the month at 7:00PM, in the Rectory or via video conference. The initial order is Finance Council, Building & Grounds Committee, and Parish Council. The Security Committee will meet quarterly based on circumstances. The first Finance Council meeting for 2026 will be Monday, January 5th, at 7:00PM in the rectory.