

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: 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 con-tact 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 and have not received First Eucharist or have not received 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

6th Sunday of Easter

May 25, 2025



Sunday May 25

10:30 AM Leonard Przywara– Friend

Tuesday May 27

8:00 AM George Martin– Dennis & Mary Jo
Kapaschinski

5:30 PM St. Anthony Padua Novena

Thursday May 29 The Ascension of the Lord

8:00 AM Barbara Wren– Family

5:15 PM Bernadine Elick– Family

Saturday May 31

4:00 PM In Memory of Joseph & Julia Zafia-
Children and Grandchildren

Sunday June 1

10:30 AM Theresa Richards– Bernard and Mary
Jane Barilla

Sanctuary Votives– World Peace

Sunday Collection

\$3,772.00

Loose

\$264.00

Dues

\$1,110.00

Fr. Terry's Anniversary Thanks– Father received hundreds of cards and gifts for his celebration of 50 years. He wishes to say a heartfelt thanks for your thoughtfulness and generosity. What a marvelous tribute for his many years of love and dedication in his priesthood. God bless him and God bless all of you.

If you would like to purchase a DVD of Fr. Terry's 50th Anniversary Mass & Banquet Celebration that was held on May 4th, please make check for \$15 made payable to John Beierle and mail it to Bogusko Music at 1150 Wilkes-Barre Twp. Blvd., W-B, PA 18702. A flash drive of all photos taken can also be purchased for \$45.

Make check payable to Curt Salonick.

Please place your orders by June 10th.

FYI!– The documentary film, “Face of Jesus” will be shown at the Cinemark Theater in Moosic on June 3, 2025 at 7 PM. The film strives to answer the question of what the face of Jesus looked like by examining three of the most popular images that reveal the Face of God.

Pilgrimage to Padre Pio Shrine– We are happy to announce that the reservations for the trip is full. No further reservations are being accepted. The pilgrimage is scheduled for Wednesday, June 18th. Departure is at 7:30 AM from Park and Ride on Rt 309 across from McDonalds. Departure from the shrine will be 3:30 PM with a stop for dinner on return, at one's own expense. Snacks provided on bus– but pack a lunch to be eaten on the grounds. Any info or cancellation, call Theresa Lisiewski @570.862.6298. By the way, pray for your miracle.

Christian Women– The Christian Women of Our Lady of Hope Parish will meet for May on Wednesday, May 28, 2025 at Holiday Inn W-B, 600 Wildflower Dr. Dinner will be at 5:30 PM.

Memorial Day Mass– This Monday, May 26th, at 10:00 AM, mass will be celebrated at St. Mary's Maternity Chapel, West Wyoming. With all the celebrations on this day, how about beginning your day by remembering our departed who gave themselves for our country. It is also an opportunity to pray for all of our dearly departed. Our sincere thanks to the cemeteries' custodian, Tom Buckler. Express to him appreciation for the great job he does to maintain the good condition of our parish cemeteries.

ASCENSION OF THE LORD

In our Diocese, this Feast Day is still celebrated on Thursday, May 29th. Mass will be celebrated at 8:00 AM and 5:15 PM. **It is a Holy Day of Obligation.**

On this day we celebrate that day when Jesus Christ, having risen from the dead and appeared to all His disciples with His gift of peace and His command to preach to all the nations, ascended to heaven to be with the Father forever. The portion of His mission which necessitated His physical presence here on earth had ended, but the mission was far from over. It was entrusted first to His disciples, then in turn to every baptized Christian. Let us pray for the courage and wisdom to carry on Christ's mission in our world today.

The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May your grace transform us in to tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise forever.

Amen

"I am with you always."

This Gospel reading comes from Jesus' farewell discourse at the Last Supper. As he prepared to face His Passion, death, Resurrection, and Ascension, Jesus sought to strengthen His disciples, a close-knit group who had followed Him for three years. In this poignant moment, He reassured them of His continued presence, even after His departure. Before ascending to heaven, Jesus promised, "I am with you always" (Matthew 28:20).

Jesus' message was clear: although His followers would no longer see Him physically, He would remain invisibly but powerfully present. If they kept His word, both He and the Father would dwell within them through grace. Furthermore, He promised to send the Holy Spirit as a guide and comforter, granting them the gift of His peace and the assurance of His return. It is natural to feel that being faithful would be easier if we could see and hear Jesus directly. Yet, He remains present in His Church— in her worship, prayer, Sacraments, and acts of charity.

Above all, Jesus is profoundly present in the Eucharist, where His Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity are truly present (CCC, #1374). We do not need to look back in time; we encounter Jesus at every Mass.

The Ascension brings us closer to Jesus

The ascension might have felt like a moment of separation of Jesus' disciples, but in reality, it brought them closer to Him in a deeper spiritual connection. Through His Ascension, Jesus became spiritually present everywhere, continually interceding on our behalf. He is always thinking of us, presenting our needs to the Father. When we pray, we are never alone – Jesus Himself is praying with us and for us.

Prayer "power-up." Prayer doesn't have to feel good to be good prayer. It can be a real struggle to pray throughout the day, to stay focused on God, and not get distracted. That's when we can lean on Jesus' perfect prayer to the Father. We can join our prayers to His, and know they are pleasing to God.

Offer it up. Whether it involves suffering, fulfilling a necessary duty, or performing an act of charity, when we unite these actions with Jesus' self-offering on the Cross, they gain profound spiritual significance and immeasurable value for souls— especially our own.

Mass intentions. During Holy Communion or right after Mass, take a moment to present your concerns, and your desires to God, dedicating them to the service and glory of His love. Remember, God is never outdone in generosity!



**FROM
THE
PASTOR**

Sharing with you a good article for reflection:

Virtues are the antidotes to sin. Virtues are good moral habits that shape our hearts to be like God's. They help us habitually do what is good. As the building blocks for Christian moral living, virtues help to encounter sin. For example: **HUMILITY** - This virtue is the antidote to pride. Humility helps us to recognize that God is worthy of our worship and obedience. Rather than focusing on ourselves, humility helps us to be willing to focus on God, live according to His ways. Ideas for practicing this virtue include always taking the less important position, drawing attention to others rather than ourselves, learning to love simple things.

FORGIVENESS - This sin of anger is defined as an uncontrolled feeling of hatred and wrath. Indulging in anger pauses us to hold onto hateful feelings for others. The antidote is forgiveness. When offended by someone, forgive quickly and work to heal the relationship. Refrain from gossip and avoid criticizing unless you can offer reasonable and useful solutions. **GRATITUDE AND GENEROSITY** go hand in hand. They remind us God is the source of all good, and that everything good we have is a gift to be enjoyed and shared. Stop the "compare-despair" cycle of envy and greed. Limit your time on social media and impulse shopping. Name something you appreciate daily or find a way to show kindness each day.

How can I make a consecration to Mary?

The Marian Consecration, or *Total Consecration to Mary*, is a devotion dating back to the 1700's, introduced by St. Louis de Montfort. It involves entrusting one's life to Jesus through the Blessed Mother. This practice has been highly praised by many saints and popes, including Pope St. John Paul II. Marian consecration does not involve worshiping Mary or treating her as divine. Instead, it acknowledges that Mary, as Christ's mother, always leads us to her Son. Mary serves as a bridge, guiding us closer to Jesus by the safest and most direct route. On the Cross, Jesus gave His mother to humanity, saying, "Behold your mother" (John 19:26-27). St. John Paul II saw this as an invitation to deeper intimacy with Christ by drawing closer to the one closest to Him on earth. Many who practice the consecration experience a deeper, more transformative prayer life, drawing closer to both Mary and Jesus.