

Our Lady of Hope Parish

Parish Office
570-852-5303
570-852-5310 Fax
www.ourladyofhope.us
Email: office@ourladyofhope.us

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 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 through May.
Grades K-8 10:00 am - 11:00 am

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 15, 2026



Our Lady of Hope has new phone numbers

Rectory # 570-852-5303 Fax# 570-852-5310

Lent

During Lent we have the opportunities to grow closer to our Lord through Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. May we make use of these opportunities so on Easter morning we will greet a Friend not a stranger.

Lenten Services

Distribution of Ashes - Ash Wednesday, 8:00 am mass, 5:30 pm mass, and 12:15 pm Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion
Stations of the Cross - Fridays at 5:30 pm
Evening Prayer - Sundays at 6:00 pm
Adoration with Confessions - Thursday evenings, 6-7 pm

Daily Lenten Exercises

Wednesday, February 18 - Choose one sacrifice to offer quietly to God alone.
Thursday, February 19 - Offer a small inconvenience as an act of self-denial.
Friday, February 20 - Fast from something meaningful and pray for someone suffering.
Saturday, February 21 - Identify one area in your life in need of Christ's healing and bring it to prayer.

Fast and Abstinence

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence. Fridays are obligatory days of abstinence.

When fasting a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. Fasting is obligatory from age 18 until age 59.

Abstinence means no meat should be consumed. This is binding from the age of 14 onwards.

Planned Parish Activities - thru July 2026

- Install bathroom on the main level of the Church
- Parish Social, fourth Sunday of the month, after 9:00 Mass
- Adult Faith Formation, during regular CCD hours
- Night at the Races, April 11
- Volunteer Appreciation Celebration, June
- Parish Family Picnic, July 12, Wilkes-Barre Twp. Settlement Camp

To accomplish these activities we need volunteers to chair them. We have had someone volunteer to chair the Choco-Fest, but we still need chairpersons for the other events. If interested please call the rectory.

Saturday, February 14

4:00 PM Ernest Jendrzejewski - Mayor Carl Kuren

Sunday, February 15

9:00 AM Edward Blazejewski - Son, David
Blazejewski & Family

Tuesday, February 17

8:00 AM Genevieve Buczynski - Godchild, Mary
Frances

Wednesday, February 18 Ash Wednesday

8:00 AM Ernest Jendrzejewski - Mr. & Mrs. Dennis
McNulty

5:30 PM John Paul Bielecki - Family

Friday, February 20

8:00 AM For the People of the Parish

Saturday, February 21

4:00 PM Mary Lynch - John, Nancy, Jim & Ada Lynch

Sunday, February 22

9:00 AM Anne Catherine Zawol Kochuba - Leonard &
Deborah Kochuba

Votives

Sanctuary - Peace in the World and in our Country

Please pray for the Sick of our Parish:

Deacon Joe DeVizia William McLaughlin
Lindsay Kurtz Ron Reiss
Theresa Belcastro Helen Novak
Mary Pat Gill

Weekend of February 8th

<u>Sunday Collection</u>	\$3,162.00
<u>Loose</u>	194.00
<u>Dues</u>	528.00
<u>Taxes</u>	65.00
<u>Air Conditioning</u>	28.00
<u>Maintenance</u>	35.00
<u>Fuel</u>	78.00
<u>Charity</u>	30.00
<u>Insurance</u>	40.00
<u>Care and Education of Priests</u>	36.00
<u>Christmas</u>	60.00
<u>Initial Offering</u>	30.00
<u>Retirement of Religious</u>	17.00
<u>Campaign for Human Development</u>	23.00
<u>Latin America</u>	36.00
<u>Eastern Europe</u>	35.00
<u>Cemetery - Holy Trinity</u>	188.00
- <u>St. Mary's Maternity</u>	344.00

Scripture Reflection

On this final Sunday before Lent, our readings remind us of the commandments. God’s infinite wisdom has given us laws that enable us to live a good, righteous life. Since we enter Lent later this week, today is a good opportunity to ask ourselves how we are keeping the commandments, especially the supreme commandment to love God and neighbor. Let us reflect on this as we prepare to receive the Lord in the Eucharist.

What I would like you to PRAY ABOUT:

When I was still in Formation, I read (most of) the book, **Discernment of Spirits**. This is still resulting in my considering what is “of God” and what is not. As we reflect on our day we can remember that feelings of life, love, joy, and hope are all OF GOD. Similarly, feelings of sadness, isolation, fear, or jealousy are NOT of God. Let us turn toward that which IS of God. Let us pray that OUR actions reflect God. Let us also pray we abandon those things which do NOT reflect God’s love for us - and our love for God and one another.

Thoughts from Deacon Bill:

Have you ever been hurt by the actions (or inactions) of others? This can be a very traumatic thing, something that can continue to affect you long after the initial sting has passed.



But what are we to make of these assaults? Do we sour against the world? Do we withdraw from what once gave us pleasure or satisfaction? Or do we rail against the authority that slighted us? Or, can we do something else? Love and grace are given to us unconditionally. We have to reach out and accept them. Such acceptance will be difficult if we have walled ourselves in and walled everything (and everyone else) out. We need to learn a lesson from our GPS system. When we find ourselves *lost*, the system will gently say *recalculating* and show us the way to get back on the right road. We should never **walk away**, but rather **walk around**. We must never lose faith, but rather find a new path to arrive at our destination. Will this be easy? No. It will not. Sometimes shutting ourselves off from the world may seem the logical thing to do, but that gives nothing in return. Ignore hurt. Embrace love and forgiveness. That will get you farther down the road on your journey to Heaven.

St. Joseph’s Table

For the month of February the request is for **Tea, Sugar, and Sweeteners**. Thank you for helping those who are hungry and cold. God Bless you!

Christian Women

The Christian Women of Our Lady of Hope Parish will meet on Wednesday, February 25, 2026 at 6:30 pm in the parish rectory. All women of the parish are invited to attend.



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

Are we really ready to celebrate Lent?

We celebrate Lent to imitate Christ who was tempted by Satan during His 40 days in the desert. Satan tempts us every day of our lives. We celebrate Lent to change our hearts and minds to respond like Jesus did. We call this change **metanoia**. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, this Wednesday! That’s just 3 days away! Are we ready to continue our **metanoia**? We have 3 days to think about how we will spend Lent to continue to change our hearts and minds to be more Christ-like. During Lent the Church invites us to take a step back and look at who we are and how we are doing in response to God’s call for us to grow in holiness. It is the perfect opportunity to form new life-giving habits and give up old self-destructive habits. This year we can use these 40 days to explore God’s plan for us and what it means to be more Christ-like. As Matthew Kelly once said, “We cannot change a moment of the past, so we need to grasp the present moment and change the future.” We can choose all or any combination of the 3 pillars of Lent: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Our choices lead to our **metanoia**. By taking these next 3 days to further develop our Lenten plan, we’ve taken the next step to further our **metanoia**. We can accept ourselves as we are or we can challenge ourselves to respond to Satan’s temptations as Jesus did in the desert. Now, what will we do to celebrate these 40 days of Lent and change our hearts and minds to be more like Christ? We need to pray and listen to God tell us His plans for our lives.

Now you know!

Deacon Steve

Interested in Donating

We are also looking for donations to help offset the cost of installing the new bathroom in the church and purchasing a 6 foot statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe. If interested , please call the rectory.

Interested in being a Sacristan?

We’re transitioning to high school aged sacristans starting Ash Wednesday. Duties include setting up for mass and ensuring all mass vessels and books are serviced after mass. If interested, contact Deacon Steve or call the rectory.

