

# 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

# 2nd Sunday of Lent

# March 1, 2026



## Saturday, February 28

4:00 PM Ernest Jendrzejewski - Grandchildren- Rosalyn, Richard, & Sydney Partington

## Sunday, March 1

9:00 AM Gabriel Spak - Daughter, Kimberly Blazejewski & Family

## Tuesday, March 3

8:00 AM For the People of the Parish

## Friday, March 6

8:00 AM Ernest Jendrzejewski - Sharon Peck

## Saturday, March 7

4:00 PM Joseph Pekol - Louise Kubek

## Sunday, March 8

9:00 AM Francis Flynn - Robert, Sharon & Sean Flynn

### Votives

Votives 1, 2, 3- Peace in the World

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

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

### Weekend of February 22nd

<u>Sunday Collection</u>	\$4,614.88
<u>Loose</u>	286.00
<u>Dues</u>	277.50
<u>Taxes</u>	28.00
<u>Air Conditioning</u>	247.00
<u>Fuel</u>	799.00
<u>Charity</u>	19.00
<u>Initial Offering</u>	10.00
<u>Ash Wednesday</u>	1,098.00
<u>Christmas</u>	60.00
<u>Rice Bowl</u>	740.00
<u>Central &amp; Eastern Europe</u>	122.00

### Meetings

**Building and Grounds Committee** - Monday, March 2nd, 6:00 pm rectory.  
**Parish Council** - Monday, March 9th, 6:00 pm, rectory  
**Liturgy Committee** -Monday, March 16th, 6:00pm, rectory  
**Finance Council** - Monday, March 23rd, 6:00pm, rectory

## Our Lady of Hope has new phone numbers

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

### Lenten Services

**Stations of the Cross** - Fridays at 5:30 pm

**Evening Prayer** - Sundays at 6:00 pm

**Adoration with Confessions** - Thursday evenings, 6-7 pm

### The Light is on for You

Our Lady of Hope - Confessions - Thursday, 6-7:00 pm

St. Nicholas St. Mary - Confessions - Monday, 5-6:00 pm

### Daily Lenten Exercises

**Sunday, February 22** - Identify one temptation that weakens you and ask Jesus for strength.

**Monday, February 23** - Perform a hidden act of charity.

**Tuesday, February 24** - Pray the Our Father slowly, meditating on each phrase.

**Wednesday, February 25** - Spend 5 minutes in silence, asking Jesus to speak to your heart.

**Thursday, February 26** - Ask God for one specific grace today.

**Friday, February 27** - Seek reconciliation or pray for the desire to reconcile.

**Saturday, February 28** - Pray a Hail Mary for someone you struggle to love.

### 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.

### St. Anthony Novena

Our 13 week devotion to St. Anthony will begin on Tuesday, March 17,2026, at 5:30 pm.

### What's Cooking Fr. Mark?

Our own Father Mark is participating in the Rectory, Set, Cook project, which benefits the hungry and the homeless. The whole parish leadership team - Deacon Steve, Father Mark, and Deacon Bill gathered in the rectory kitchen as Father prepared his dish - Hungarian Mushroom Paprikash Stew. If you would like to see our Great Chef perform his culinary magic and vote for him (\$10/vote), you can visit the dioceseofscranton.org website and search for Rectory, Set, Cook. Our own Deacon Bill is on the Board of Directors of St. Vincent de Paul Kitchen and spoke glowingly of Father Mark's effort. Particularly during Lent, we can share what we've saved by fasting to feed the hundreds of hungry men, women, and children who visit the Kitchen each day. Thank you, Father, for showing us one very special way to help.

**Scripture Reflection**

The Transfiguration is a sign of hope. When Jesus was transfigured before his disciples, they had a glimpse of the glorified future that awaits the faithful. Through the power of Jesus Christ, we can be transformed, leading the holy lives to which he calls us. Filled with his light and goodness, we will shine with his glory in this life and in the world to come.



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

***Did Jesus need the transfiguration?***

No. He did it for the Apostles and us. The Preface for the Feast of the Transfiguration says, "For He revealed His glory in the presence of chosen witnesses ... that the scandal of the Cross might be removed from the hearts of His disciples." In that brief moment, the disciples Peter, James, and John got a partial glimpse of the glory that Jesus has. He could not show them His full glory since they could not bear such brightness. But this glimpse of His glory was meant to strengthen them for the difficult days ahead. It was intended to help them know His true and lasting glory in those coming times when all they would see are His bloody face and tortured body. The presence of Moses and Elijah signal that the Old Testament Scriptures prophesized both Christ and His Passion and that these prophesies are being fulfilled in Jesus. Moses represents the Law contained in the Pentateuch. Elijah represents the prophets. The ancient Exodus and Passover point to Christ's exodus and Passover. The prophets also spoke of the Messiah and what He would do. Here, too, Jesus did not need to talk to Moses and Elijah. He does this for our sake to show us that His Passion and Death are in accordance with what the Old Testament set forth. Our exodus occurred at our Baptism when we were transfigured by dying to death and rising to new life. Our passion comes as part of our struggles in life as we follow Jesus. We are transfigured when we are freed from sin in the Sacrament of Penance and join the Divinity of Christ when we receive Him in the Eucharist.

*Now you know!*

*Deacon Steve*

**Paschal Candle**

We would like to thank Jim and Sandy Tomasura for donating this year's Paschal Candle in memory of the living and deceased members of the Tomasura and Tometchko families.

**Interested in being a Sacristan?**

We started to transition to high school aged sacristans on Ash Wednesday. Duties include setting up for mass and ensuring all mass vessels and books are serviced after mass. If anyone is still interested, please contact Deacon Steve or call the rectory.

**50/50 Winner**

We are happy to announce the winner of our 50/50 drawing was Nancy Lynch. The winner was picked during our Choco-Fest on February 13th.

**What I would like you to PRAY ABOUT:**

Take note of Jesus' final words in today's Gospel. Following the incredible transformation, the shining light, and the very presence of God, Jesus tells his disciples, "Do not tell the vision to anyone until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead." There will be suffering before glory. There will be death before life. Jesus cannot make it more clear to his disciples - and us - that while death will not have the final word, there will be dying to do on the way to resurrection. Let us pray for the strength to accept this, and continue to follow Jesus from death to life.

**Thoughts from Deacon Bill:**

What did you give up for Lent? In my younger days it was always chewing gum. I never thought about WHY giving up gum would teach me anything, or how it might help Jesus' church. When I got older that changed a bit. The WHYS became as important as the WHATS. When I was a director of a local non-profit, our secretary (who was Methodist) once said, "You Catholics! You should worry more about what comes out of your mouth than what does, or does not, go into it." As much as I hate to admit it, she was right. Not chewing gum is a childish sacrifice. Not spewing racism, not criticizing others, not telling everyone to "do it my way" is a whole different thing. I told our Catechumens to think of Ash Wednesday as a car's "check engine" light. If it comes on, it's time to look under the hood. Lent is a time to look under your spiritual hood. If you find something wrong, spend forty days trying to fix things. And while you're at it, ask for God's help. He'll be very happy to hold the flashlight.



**St. Joseph's Table**

For the month of March the request is for **Coffee and Tea**. Thank you for helping those who are hungry and cold. God Bless you!

**Interested in Donating**

We are looking for donations to help offset the cost of installing the new bathroom in the church. If interested, please call the rectory.