

THE EXULTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

In the days of old, before the celebration of the Feast of the Exaltation also called Holy Cross, there were 3 days called Ember Days (Thursday, Friday, and Saturday) which were the days to give thanks to God for the first fruits of the harvest. According to the Ordo (All sacristies in the world have an Ordo, which is the book that gives specific instructions of the liturgical celebration of each day of the year by giving the color of the vestments to wear, the degree of each celebration - that is Solemnity, Feast, Memorial of Obligation, etc... - the readings of the day, the prayers of the Breviary...) this Feast of The Exaltation of The Holy Cross celebrates a double anniversary: In Jerusalem, Constantine the emperor and new convert to the Catholic Church erected a round church called the Anastasis (Greek word for Jesus's Resurrection) above the empty grave of Jesus and also a Basilica, the Martyrium (a church to venerate martyrs). In between the two churches, he built a shrine, Calvarium, marking the place of The Crucifixion. They were dedicated in the year 335, and they were destroyed by the Persians in the year 614. The two churches (above mentioned) were rebuilt by Patriarch Modestus of Jerusalem in the year 626. Then they were destroyed again, this time by the Muslims in the year 1009. The present church of The Holy Sepulcher rebuilt by the Crusaders, was dedicated in the year 1149. This feast day also commemorates the discovery of the Lord's Cross by Saint Helena (the mother of the emperor Constantine) in the year 320.

OLA FESTIVAL WEEKEND

This is the weekend to have fun and great food with family and friends at the OLA Fall Festival.

SML ANNUAL PARISH BREAKFAST SEPTEMBER 21 AFTER 9AM MASS

The annual St Mary of the Lake Parish breakfast sponsored by the Social Concerns Ministry will be held on September 21st in our parish hall. It will be a morning of information, fellowship, a great menu, and a welcome to our Family Faith Formation class and their families. There will be no charge for this treat. Hope to see you there! God bless!

SP FALL FESTIVAL OCT 5 NOON TO 4PM

Please consider helping:

1. Distribution of flyers. 2. Sign up for dinner desserts (NOT refrigerated) LIKE PIES! 3. Pastries for sale on the Porch 4. HOT soup - HOT, HOT IN A CROCK! 5. Bountiful Baskets (\$25-\$50 value), Specialty Baskets (\$100-\$125 value) 6. Set-up/clean-up 7. Dinner Prep SAT Oct 4th 9:00am and more! Please call Joanne-443-528-8713 for information or questions! Thank you for all your support for our annual fundraiser!

ST. PATRICK BINGO NEWS

Bingo continues every Thursday. Please volunteer. Call Rita 570-575-9874. Make a homemade dessert or entrée. Call Bernice at 570-947-1677. See our weekly chef specials on Facebook. Thanks for your support.

MARIAN MINISTRY ROSARY

Please consider joining us Monday September 22 at St Patrick church at 6pm to pray the beautiful Fatima Rosary led by Ernie Pappa.

PA MARCH FOR LIFE

SEPTEMBER 22, 2025

The Diocese is coordinating a Bus Trip to The March for Life in Harrisburg. The bus will leave from Divine Mercy Church 312 Davis St. Scranton at 8:30am & return at 5:45pm. Registration fee is \$20. You can register online at <https://www.dioceseofscranton.org/parish-life/-/pa-march-for-life/>. Payment for registration can be made online by credit card or by mailing a check payable to the Diocese of Scranton & mail it to: Diocese of Scranton, c/o March for Life, 330 Wyoming Ave., Scranton, PA. 18503. If you have any questions, please call Bridget Guarnieri at (570) 207-2213 ext 1133.

DIOCESAN YOUTH RALLY ANCHORED IN HOPE

The Youth Rally will be on Saturday, September 27th, 2025, from 1:30-8pm at Notre Dame JR/SR High School (60 Spangenburg Avenue, East Stroudsburg, Pa 18301) Check in and registration begins at 12:30pm. The Keynote speaker is Mr. Daniel Harms who is passionate about having a personal relationship with Christ. Music will be provided by Scally Brothers. Their music can be found on Spotify and YouTube. The day will conclude with a closing Mass celebrated by Bishop Joseph Bambara at 7pm.

MAY HE REST IN PEACE

There was a Funeral Mass at OLA for John Holbert. Please pray for his soul and the consolation of his loved ones.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS / LECTORS SCHEDULE

September 20 & 21

Eucharistic Ministers

4 pm (OLA) Barbara Williamson
9:00am (SML) Ann Marie Gorko
11 am (SP) Pat Carpenter

Musicians

4 pm (OLA) Maria Fay
9:00am (SML) Pat Wall
11 am (SP) Kenny McGraw

Lectors

4 pm (OLA) Kathy Tumavitch
9:00am (SML) Lisa Janoski
11 am (SP) Nicole & Greg

Altar Servers

4 pm (OLA) Jace Biglin
11am (SP) Corinne Flynn

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Sept 18 – Prayer Shawl Ministry SML, 5:30pm
Sept 18 – Bingo at SP, doors open, 5pm, bingo, 6pm
Sept 21 – SML parish breakfast after 9am Mass
Sept 22 – Fatima Rosary with Ernie Pappa at SP, 6pm

MASS FOR SUICIDE HEALING & REMEMBRANCE

On Sunday September 21 at 12:15pm Bishop Bambara will celebrate the Mass at the Cathedral of St. Peter to raise awareness, offer mercy and healing, and remember those whose lives have tragically been cut short. This Mass is open to people all across the diocese and serves to remember loved ones lost by suicide and to promote healing for those who grieve their passing. During the Mass, those attending will be invited to bring forward a flower in remembrance of those lost to suicide. No registration is necessary, and all are welcome.

CELEBRATION WEEKEND

The Diocesan Annual Appeal was rebranded and is now called Catholic Ministries Appeal. Next weekend is the official date of the kickoff of this year's campaign. All Parishes in the Diocese will participate in this fundraiser which will also include the In-Pew commitment weekend and the Appeal Video.

CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE OCTOBER 4, 2025

All men are invited for the ninth annual Catholic Men's Conference. This year's theme is CHRIST IS KING. The event will be held at Holy Redeemer High School, 159 S. Pennsylvania Ave. Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Saturday, October 4th, 2025, from 8 am to 3 pm. Nationally known speakers will be Mike Aquilina, David Bereit, Fr. Charles Connors and concluding with Mass Offered by our own Bishop Joseph Bambara. Cost: \$40. Register online at www.BeACatholicMan.com. For more information, call 570-721-0872.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday (September 16) Sts. Cornelius, Pope & Cyprian Bishop, Martyrs

8:00 am (OLA) Clarence Evans
By The Wednesday Group

Wednesday (September 17) St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church, St. Hildegard of Bingen Virgin & Doctor of the Church

8:00 am (SP) Marianne Juszczak
By Aline J. Price

Thursday (September 18) Weekday

8.00 am (SML) George & Ginny Clarke
By Pat Stead

Saturday (September 20) The Vigil of The Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 pm (OLA) David Gruss
By Eleanor Gruss & Family

Sunday (September 21) The Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am (SML) 95th birthday Blessings for Helen Fabiani
By Disciples of Mary
11:00 am (SP) Mary & Anthony Rutkowski
By Joan Kupetsky

Sanctuary Candle at OLA

Burning this week for a special intention
By Angela Colombo

WEEKLY OFFERINGS (COLLECTIONS)

SP Weekly \$ 1,640.00 Loose \$ 88.00
OLA Weekly \$ 2,037.00 Loose \$ 24.00
SML Weekly \$ 1,620.00 Loose \$ 65.75

May the Lord reward your generosity.

SP/OLA FAMILY FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Great first day of Family Faith Formation Classes last week! However, there is still time to register your kiddos for Kindergarten to Confirmation! Contact jwharv03@gmail.com

September 21 - Class

September 28 - Class

October 4 - 5th grade mass at OLA 4pm

SML FAMILY FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Sunday Mass at 9am followed by religious education until 11:15am

Sept. 21st - Parish breakfast after 9am Mass. Children and parents please attend!

Sept. 28th - Class

Kerry Pieretti redlightgreen343@gmail.com

OUR SAINTS AND THE EUCHARIST

St Teresa of Avila: our beloved St Teresa saw so distinctly Jesus Himself, present in the host.