

THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

We heard Jesus in today's Gospel saying to Martha "Martha, Martha you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing, Mary has chosen the better part, and it will not be taken from her". Mary and Martha. Action and Contemplation. Prayer and Work. Can we really separate them? Should we really choose one over the other? How to really understand Jesus' words? The debate between Mary and Martha is renewed every day, at every moment and instant. Deep within us live Mary and Martha. It's yet to be determined which one of the two we prioritize. In today's world where we identify life to productivity (don't we say, "time is money?"), the verb to do suffocates or better said strangles the verb to be. We judge ourselves (and judge other people also) by what we do rather than by who we are. Jesus has never said that Martha was wrong, but that we must not mistake what is essential (Anthony of St. Exupery put it well in his book, titled 'Little Prince' when he said, "what is essential is invisible to the eye "). Finally, on this subject, St. Therese of Lisieux said that if all the flowers in the garden wanted to be roses, nature would lose its beauty. But St. Augustine on this subject said, "love and do what you like". (Sermon on Saturday in the Octave of Easter 407)

**PROVIDENCE PREGNANCY CENTER
BABY BOTTLE DRIVE**

Our parishes are hosting a baby bottle drive to benefit Providence Pregnancy Center of Scranton. PPC provides critical resources to pregnant mothers in crisis including education, counseling, material support and a maternity home for pregnant mothers. Please consider filling your baby bottle with coins, cash or checks (written to Providence Pregnancy Center) and return your bottle to church no later than July 27th. Thank you for helping moms and families in need.

**HALLOW PARISH PARTNERSHIP
FOR OUR THREE PARISHES**

Be part of our prayer community. We have teamed up with Hallow in 2025-2026 to pray together as a parish community. We'd love for you to download the app and sign up, enjoy some of the free content and get ready for our prayer challenges over the next year, which will hopefully enhance your prayer life and sense of community. To download, go to your smart device or phone's app store and search for Hallow. Once you've logged into Hallow, tap Community on the bottom right, from the drop-down menu in the upper left select "Join a Church" and enter our parish office's zip code 18414. From there select Our Lady of the Abingtons and tap Join.

OLA FALL FESTIVAL UPDATE

For our Fall Festival we need large dinner-size, hinge Styrofoam takeout boxes and smaller sandwich-size takeout boxes. The takeout boxes can be dropped off in the OLA hall on the Donation Request table. Thank you.

SML BASKET RAFFLE NEWS

Due to the remodeling of the hall and limited space we are mainly looking for donations of monetary gifts in a frame, lottery tickets or gift cards. We will also take baskets that are wrapped or in original boxes. Please give your donation to Pat Wall or Dee Pasco. All donations need to be received by August 17. This year the Wyoming County Fair runs from August 27 to September 1. Any questions please call Pat at 570-575-6266 or Dee at 570-378-2834.

CLOTHES CLOSET NEWS

Thank you to everyone who donated to the clothes closet. We are very well stocked. Please tell your family & friends all about it. It is open on Wednesdays from 5 to 7pm till the end of August. Please consider being a volunteer. To volunteer call Jane Decker 570-942-6078.

ST. PATRICK BINGO NEWS

We are still in need of bingo helpers. If you have time to assist us (even for a short time) we would surely welcome you. Please call Rita at 570-575-9874 if you can help. The menu for this Thursday July 24th includes pigs in a blanket, broccoli pasta alfredo, cabbage & noodles & mac & cheese. We also need homemade desserts and entrees to be donated each week. Please call Bernice at 570- if you can make a dessert or entrée.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS DINNER

On Sunday August 3rd after the 11am Mass at St Patrick's, the Knights of Columbus Council 6611 will treat us to a free pasta and sausage dinner that includes salad, bread & beverages. Free will offerings will be accepted.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS / LECTORS SCHEDULE

July 26 & 27

Eucharistic Ministers

4 pm (OLA) Nikki Weisenfluh

9:00am (SML) Len Nash

11 am (SP) Cynthia Singer

Musicians

4 pm (OLA) Maria Fay

9:00am (SML) Danny Williams

11 am (SP) Maria Fay

Lectors

4 pm (OLA) Nicole & Greg

9:00am (SML) Don Ames

11 am (SP) Barry Singer

Altar Servers

4 pm (OLA) Jace Biglin

11am (SP) Kali Harvatine

Shadow – Conor McHugh

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

July 23 – SP Clothes Closet, open 5 to 7pm

July 24 – Prayer Shawl Ministry SML, 5:30pm

July 24 – Bingo at SP, doors open, 5pm, bingo, 6pm

PARISH MISSIONARY APPEAL

OLA/SML 2025

Our Lady of the Abingtons' missionary will be Fr. Joseph Arul Raj for the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales (Tanzania) at the 4pm Mass **on July 26**. The collected funds are used to support the missionaries work among the poor, disadvantaged, marginalized and the illiterate through Children's homes, orphanages and schools as well as poor and voiceless women in Tanzania. Your generous support in the second collection next Saturday for the missionaries is greatly appreciated.

St. Mary of the Lake's missionary will be Fr. Wieslaw Bajor for the Prelature of Esquel, Argentina at the 9am Mass **on July 27**. Fr. Bajor will invite us to support the missionary work of the Prelature of Esquel (Patagonia) in Argentina. Without funds collected during Mission Appeal Prelature of Esquel cannot sustain its pastoral work e.g., evangelization activities, children and youth catechetical programs, lay ministry training and help for the poor. Your generous support in the second collection next Sunday during this time of struggle is greatly appreciated.

ST. ANN'S NOVENA

We will continue to pray the St. Ann Novena after the final blessing after all Masses until Friday July 25.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday (July 22) St. Mary Magdalene

8:00 am (OLA) Catherine Motyka & John Hoch

By Janet Motyka

Wednesday (July 23) St. Bridget, Religious

8:00 am (SP) Health & Blessings for Veronica Hay

By Geneva Kuzara

Thursday (July 24) St. Sharbel Makluf, Priest

8:00 am (SML) Thomas & Rose Janoski

By Lisa Janoski

Saturday (July 26) The Vigil of The Seventeenth

Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 pm (OLA) Clarence Evans

By Bob & Andrea Walsh

Sunday (July 27) The Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary

Time

9:00 am (SML) Frances Mollusky

By Disciples of Mary Altar & Rosary Society

11:00 am (SP) Kristen Hallisky

By Barbara Kelly

Sanctuary Candle at SML

Burning this week: Health & Blessings for Yvonne Snyder

By The Prayer Shawl Ministry

OFFERINGS

SP Weekly \$ 1,351.00 Loose \$ 107.00

OLA Weekly \$ 1,960.00 Loose \$ 69.00

SML Weekly \$ 1,100.00 Loose \$ 69.00

May the Lord reward your generosity.

CONGRATULATIONS

We congratulate Martin and Taryn McAndrew on the baptism of their daughter Mae last Saturday at OLA. Please pray for Mae and her family.

MAY HE REST IN PEACE

There was a Funeral Mass at OLA this past Tuesday for Clarence Evans. Please pray for the repose of his soul and consolation of his loved ones

MAY SHE REST IN PEACE

There was a Funeral Mass at OLA this past Friday for Mary Ann Ketchur. Please pray for the repose of her soul and consolation of her loved ones

OUR SAINTS AND THE EUCHARIST

Saint Catherine of Siena: one day as she received Communion in her hands from a Priest, it was the Eucharist, but what she saw in the hands of that Priest was the Infant Jesus.