

THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus says to Peter in today's gospel, "And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock, I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven." All of us know or almost of us know a few paintings or stories or jokes about heaven, more or less funny in which Saint Peter is at the Gate Of Heaven with a huge bunch of keys. All these images and stories remind us of what happened in today's gospel, that means that Jesus gave power to Peter, to lead His Church and the power to make decisions and to organize this Church. People who hate the Catholic Church should always have in mind that it's the only Church that is not human made or human invention. The Catholic Church is divine, that means created by God. Jesus is the Gate, we don't doubt it, but He gave the keys to Peter. It is mostly in the Catholic Creed, the 12 points in the Catholic Creed that we know clearly the power given to Peter, (thus to his successors. His current successor today is Leo XIV, the 266 Pope after Peter). Besides the Creed, we also have the Canon Law and the Denzinger and Schonmetzer (also called Enchiridion) - official teaching of the Catholic Church- All these decisions, declarations, and teachings are Peter's works. We can't end this paragraph without mentioning that it happens and it had happened in the past that Saint Peter's successor could be more on Satan's side, but it doesn't make the Church human. The Church is and still remains divine.

SML FAIR BASKET TICKETS

The Wyoming county fair baskets will be set up in the church hall next weekend, August 28 and 29th for you to buy chances on them before going to the fair. Stop over and see all 92 baskets, they're all beautiful. You can buy tickets on Saturday from 11 to 1 and Sunday after 9 am Mass. You get 6 CHANCES FOR \$1!!! They will then go up to the fair. Thank you for supporting our church fundraiser.

WYOMING COUNTY FAIR SET UP NEWS

We need a few volunteers to clean the building before the Fair gets started. The plan is to go up to the building on Saturday, August 29 at 1:00 pm. We can meet at St. Mary of the Lake parking lot and go up together and go in fewer cars if you need a ride or do not know the way. We can meet at 12:30 pm then go to the Fair Grounds from there.

I do not think it will take more than two (2) hours to clean if we have about ten (10) people. We have buckets, cloths, and cleaning solutions, we just need people! You could bring a broom. Please call Lisa Janoski (570) 587-1924 to get on the list or if you have questions! Thank you!

ST. PATRICK FALL FESTIVAL NEWS

The Fall Festival at St. Patrick's will be on Sunday October 4th from noon to 4pm. This year's co-chairs are Joanne Schofield and Karen Gardoski. Please come to see how you can use your talents and fellowship with your brothers and sisters in Christ! Questions? Contact Joanne at 443-528-8713.

CLOTHES CLOSET NEWS

The last day of the Clothes Closet will be September 3rd. The \$2 bag sale will continue until the last day. Come grab some great deals while they are still happening.

OLA FALL FESTIVAL NEWS

The OLA Fall Festival will be held on Saturday Sept 19 and Sunday Sept 20. White Elephant and Silent Auction donations can be dropped off in the OLA Hall after August 16. Items for the Silent Auction should be gently used and placed on the right side of the room (men's bathroom side). White elephant items should be in working condition and placed on the left side (women's bathroom). We are still in need of donations for Bountiful Baskets, Dining Out, Soda and Water and the Basket of Cheer. Volunteers are needed for the serving lines, kitchen, table maintenance/garbage and parking. Please sign up in parish hall. Contact Bruce and Nikki Weisenfluh at (570) 335-8135 if you wish to donate to this important fundraiser. Thanks.

AN EARNEST REQUEST TO ALL PARISHIONERS

As we enter our fundraising season, we earnestly encourage all parishioners to reach out to businesses both near and far and ask for their support of our parishes through gift cards and monetary or other donations. Many local businesses, including gas stations, grocery stores, garages, and restaurants, are often willing to support our fundraising efforts. Please reach out to your acquaintances, friends, neighbors, and business contacts and ask if they would consider donating. We also ask that, when you know a business has supported our fundraiser, you take the time to stop in and personally thank the manager or owner. Whenever possible, please support these businesses with your own patronage, and let them know that you are choosing to do business with them because they support our parishes. Your personal outreach, gratitude, and support can make a tremendous difference. Thank you for helping our parishes and for encouraging our community to support those who support us!

LITURGICAL MINISTERS / LECTORS SCHEDULE

August 29 & 30

Eucharistic Ministers

4 pm (OLA) Michele Zajac
9:00am (SML) Danny Williams Jr.
11 am (SP) Jill D'Antoni

Musicians

4 pm (OLA) Maria Fay
9:00am (SML) Danny Williams
11 am (SP) Maria Fay

Lectors

4 pm (OLA) Greg & Nicole
9:00am (SML) Jim Soltis
11 am (SP) Mary Ann Mulfino

Altar Servers

4 pm (OLA) – Kevin Jones, Margaret Jones
11am (SP) – Maci Harvatine
Shadow – Calla McHugh

UPCOMING EVENTS

Aug 26 – Clothes Closet at SP, 4 to 7pm
Aug 27 - Clothes Closet at SP, 4 to 6pm
Aug 27 - Bingo at SP doors open 5pm, bingo 6pm
Aug 27 – Prayer Shawl Ministry, SML, 5:30pm

ENTHRONEMENT OF THE SACRED HEART

On Tuesday, August 25th an Enthronement Mass will be held at Divine Mercy Parish in the Minooka section of Scranton at 7 p.m. If you are interested in an Enthronement for yourself or your family please contact Maria Pappa, Guild Coordinator, at 570-241-8172 to register for an Enthronement Packet at Mass. All are welcome to participate at this Mass in honor of the Sacred Heart and the Immaculate Heart.

SML FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

Family Faith Formation at SML Sundays following 9am Mass until 11:15am
Grades Pre-K thru 8th grade
It's back to school season!
Classes begin October 4
Contact Kerry Pieretti for more information
Redlightgreen343@gmail.com

PENNSYLVANIANS FOR HUMAN LIFE PRAISE FOR LIFE CELEBRATION

Come join the Pennsylvanians for Human Life celebration on September 13 from 1 to 3pm at the Whitetail Pavilion in Lackawanna State Park. The afternoon will feature live praise music, family activities, fellow ship and an inspirational speaker. Bring a dish to share, hamburgers & hot dogs will be provided. Admission is free but advanced registration is required. You can register by calling the OLA office at 570-563-1622.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday (August 25) St. Louis, St. Joseph Calasanz, Priest

8:00am (OLA) Harriet Walton
By Mary Beth Williams

Wednesday (August 26) Weekday

8:00am (SP) Health & Blessings for Fr. Arbo
By Anonymous

Thursday (August 27) St. Monica

8:00 am (SML) Ellen Wengen
By Lisa Janoski

Saturday (August 29) The Vigil of The Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 pm (OLA) David Gruss
By Noel & Susan Gruss

Sunday (August 30) The Twenty-Secons Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am (SML) Health & Blessings for Deacon Ray Pieretti
By Altar & Rosary Society
11:00 am (SP) Blessings for Maddy Colvin & her Family
By Maria Perez

WEEKLY OFFERINGS (COLLECTIONS)

SP Weekly \$ 4,562.00 Loose \$ 139.00
OLA Weekly \$ 1,792.00 Loose \$ 168.00
SML Weekly \$ 1,060.00 Loose \$ 135.00
May the Lord reward your generosity.

YOUTH MINISTRY DIRECTOR

The chancery is in search of a new Youth Minister Director: The Director of Youth Ministry is responsible for implementing a comprehensive vision of Youth Ministry in the Diocese of Scranton, integrating youth and their families into the total life and mission of the Church. Within the framework of "Renewing the Vision" and "Listen, Teach, Send" (USCCB), the Director of Youth Ministry will assist parishes in empowering young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ today, drawing young people to responsible participation in the life, mission and work of the Catholic community, and fostering the total personal and spiritual growth of each young person. If you are interested, please call the chancery at 570 207 2238.

SAINTS WITH UNUSUAL LIVES

Saint James the Faster: Saint James the Faster was a miracle worker in healing. He fell into a mortal sin. After his mortal sin, he spent 10 years of repentance in an open grave. What happened is that he cured a girl, then raped her. He then killed her and threw her body away in order to hide his sin. All together he spent 45 years in a cave. If Saints succeeded in turning their lives around and became Saints, so can we.

