

**THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Jesus addressed a great crowd: “If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple”. Here we go. These words don’t allow ANY interpretation nor explanation. They are crystal clear. They are meant for those who want to be in God’s kingdom. Unfortunately, these words are misunderstood, and people give them different meanings: some people might be shocked and seeing this as Jesus’s relentless demand (that means aloofness or lack of emotional involvement or even indifference or unconcern feeling towards others even one’s own parents). On the other hand, other people might just be disappointed and discouraged. In both cases, they are wrong. Jesus just wants us to have priorities if we want eternal life. We are called not to be heroes, but to go beyond oneself, to surpass ourselves, that means to push one’s limits. According to Saint Luke, the only obstacle to surpassing oneself is the hardening of our hearts. We cannot follow Jesus by doing what we want, but what He wants.

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**SPECIAL BLESSING FOR FAITH  
FORMATION TEACHERS**

This Sunday Sept. 7, Fr. Arbo is blessing the Faith Formation Teachers, through them our children are blessed. May they have a Blessed Fruitful Year.

**SML BASKET RAFFLE NEWS**

To all parishioners of our parishes who worked so hard at the Wyoming County Fair also to all our Parishioners who supported the Basket Raffle, we sincerely thank you. This year all our efforts reaped a total profit of \$9,011.82.

**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 8. Dinner Prep SAT Oct 5th 9:00am and more! Please call Joanne-443-528-8713 for information or questions! Thank you for all your support for our annual fundraiser!

**DIOCESAN YOUTH RALLY  
ANCHORED IN HOPE**

The Youth Rally will be on Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, 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.

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**OLA FALL FESTIVAL SETUP**

We will be putting up the tents for the Fall Festival, beginning this Monday September 8<sup>th</sup> at 5pm and every day this week at 5pm until it is completed. We appreciate all who can come to help us.

**OLA FALL FESTIVAL NEEDS**

The OLA Fall Festival on Sept.13(5 to 10pm) & 14(12 to 6pm) is drawing closer.

Please consider donating to our booths.

**Bountiful Baskets:** \$25 (or more) NEW items or gift cards. Please wrap in clear cellophane. You can drop off your baskets in the OLA church hall.

**Dining Out:** gift certificate to your favorite restaurant. You can drop it off at the OLA office or put it in the collection basket at any weekend Mass.

**Basket of Cheer:** please share your favorite wine, beer or liquor. You can drop it off at the OLA office.

**Bake Stand:** time to gather your favorite recipes.

**White Elephant & Silent Auction:** you can drop off your donations at the OLA church hall

Donations for the food stands will also be accepted.

We are still accepting donations of bottles of water and cans of soda that can be dropped off in the church hall. Volunteers are also needed. Please share some of your time. Contact Tony Sandy at 570-945-3655 if you would like to donate or volunteer.

**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.

**MAY SHE REST IN PEACE**

There was a Funeral Mass at St. Patrick Church for Malsenia Crea. Please pray for her soul and the consolation of her loved ones.

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS / LECTORS SCHEDULE

### September 13 & 14

#### Eucharistic Ministers

4 pm (OLA) Michele Zajac  
9:00am (SML) Bob Andrews  
11 am (SP) Cynthia Singer, Jill D'Antoni

#### Musicians

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

#### Lectors

4 pm (OLA) Judy Zipay  
9:00am (SML) Jim Soltis  
11 am (SP) Barry Singer

#### Altar Servers

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

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS**

Sept 8 – Disciples of Mary Mtg. at SML, 6:45pm  
Sept 11 – Prayer Shawl Ministry SML, 5:30pm  
Sept 11 – Bingo at SP, doors open, 5pm, bingo, 6pm  
Sept 13 – OLA Fall Festival, 5 to 10pm  
Sept 14 – OLA Fall Festival, 12 to 6pm  
Sept 14 – Family Faith Formation classes

### **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.

### **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.

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Tuesday (September 9) St. Peter Claver, Priest

8:00 am (OLA) Mary Ann Ketcher  
*By Olga & James Scrobola*

### Wednesday (September 10) Weekday

8:00 am (SP) Deceased Members of the Marrazzo & Riccardo Families  
*By John & Pat Marrazzo*

### Thursday (September 11) Weekday

8.00 am (SML) Ellie Dougherty  
*By Rick & Mary Lou Franko*

### Saturday (September 13) The Vigil of The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

4:00 pm (OLA) Ned Clarke  
*By Robert & Andrea Walsh*

### Sunday (September 14) The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

9:00 am (SML) Virginia Gorko Rayson  
*By Ed & Linda Zalewski*  
11:00 am (SP) Jim Shedlauskas  
*By Paul & Jane Shedlauskas*

#### **Sanctuary Candle at OLA**

Burning this week for Health & Blessings for Charles Carpenetti  
*By Bob & Andrea Walsh*

### **WEEKLY OFFERINGS (COLLECTIONS)**

**SP Weekly \$ 1,603 .00 Loose \$ 140.00 Gaza \$348.00**  
**OLA Weekly \$ 1,771.00 Loose \$ 23.00 Gaza \$535.00**  
**SML Weekly \$ 1,480.00 Loose \$ 198.00 Gaza \$293.00**  
*May the Lord reward your generosity.*

### **SP/OLA FAMILY FAITH FORMATION NEWS**

SPOLA classes start this weekend! Make sure you have enrolled your student. The online link has expired but send an email to: [jwharv03@gmail.com](mailto:jwharv03@gmail.com) if you still need to register. Be sure to review the calendar and keep up to date with the latest information by getting a bulletin after mass each week!

### **SML FAMILY FAITH FORMATION NEWS**

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

Sept. 14th Class

Sept. 21st Class

Kerry Pieretti [redlightgreen343@gmail.com](mailto:redlightgreen343@gmail.com)

### **OUR SAINTS AND THE EUCHARIST**

St Stanislaus Kastka: This saint stayed at the house of a relative of his, a Protestant and because he couldn't receive Communion, he prayed to Our Lady Queen of Heaven, and the Blessed Virgin Mary sent St Barbara from heaven to give him Communion.