

THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Jesus came down with the Twelve.....with a great crowd of His disciples and a large number of the people”. These are Jesus’s first RCIA candidates. Who are these people and where are they from? They are from OLA Church. They are from Saint Patrick Church. They are from SML Church. They are from Clarks Summit, from Scranton, from Allentown, from Baltimore, from New Jersey, from Colorado, from Belize, from Luxembourg, from Taiwan, from Somalia, from New Guinea, from Australia. We are His disciples from all over the world and He is teaching us. Today’s gospel says “...a large number of people....”. We are that large number of people. What is He teaching us? He is saying: “Blessed are you who are poor.... who are now hungry...who are now weeping....when people hate you on account of the Son of Man”. What Saint Luke is talking about is Jesus’s sadness to see how some people harden their heart, and not only are they miserable, but make other people miserable. Jesus is only describing the human condition, using a few words: heart, poor, justice, suffering, tears,.... The Beatitudes (today’s gospel) are not an automatic guarantee of happiness. It’s a shout of hope. If we lose that hope, we destroy the Beatitudes. If we keep hope alive, our reward will be great.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS SCHEDULE

8 am Mass, OLA
with distribution of Ashes
9:30 am Mass at St Pat
with distribution of Ashes
6:30 pm Mass at SML
with distribution of Ashes.

**LENTEN THEME & DAILY PRAYER
FOR THIS YEAR**

“Lord, If You Remember Our Sins, Who Will Be Saved”. (from Ps 103).

This is our communal daily prayer, and also the end of every homily. It’s a prayer on forgiveness not based on our merit, but solely on God’s grace and His plan for our salvation.

LENTEN SERIES

“Falling in love with the book of Revelation”

Every Friday of Lent, after the Stations Of The Cross (6 pm), we will gather in the church’s hall (6:30 pm), for Soup And Scriptures. This year, the famous book of Revelation will lead us to Easter on our journey to repent.

Friday March 7: OLA

Friday March 14: St Patrick

Friday March 21: SML

Friday March 28: OLA

Friday April 4: St Patrick

Friday April 11: SML

PS. We will pay close attention to the weather which could affect some Fridays.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT FOR SML ONLY

SML Shed, Attic, and Boiler Room are in terrible, undesirable and messy conditions. A pure fire hazard. We started the project of cleaning up these spaces and are putting in the hall (by the windows on the parking side) all materials of mostly Christmas and Halloween (some have not been used for over 30 years). Please stop by and take what you can use. What is leftover will be thrown away. For this project, we have until Wednesday March 5, 2025, the beginning of Lent to stop by the hall and pick up whatever we find there.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT FOR SML

On February 23rd there will be a second collection at the 9am SML Mass, after the offertory collection for the Capuchin Nun’s food needs.

**ST. PATRICK DAY HAM & CABBAGE
CELEBRATION AT ST PAT’S HALL**

On Sunday March 16th we will once again celebrate St. Patrick after the 11am Mass. There are sign-up sheets at all churches. Sign up as early as possible. The last day to sign up is March 9. No donations are needed. Volunteers to help set up and prep the day before starting around 10am and volunteers for serving and cleanup the day of the dinner would be appreciated.

LENTEN SLEEPING BAG PROJECT

The Interact Club at Lackawanna Trail High School is making sleeping bags for our Homeless neighbors on Saturday, March 8 from 10 to 3PM at St Patrick Parish Hall in Nicholson. If you would like to help, you can join us for an hour or two, or donate blankets, comforters, fabric, sheets, men's ties or hygiene items. For details, contact Joan at 570-468-6903.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS / LECTORS SCHEDULE

February 22 & 23

Eucharistic Ministers

4 pm (OLA) Len Peters
9:00am (SML) Len Nash
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) Diane Fitzpatrick
9:00am (SML) Seb Naro
11 am (SP) Mary Jo Danoski

Altar Servers

11am (SP) Corrinne Flynn, Maci Harvatine
Shadow – Kevin & Margaret Jones

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Feb 17 – Church Office closed for President's Day

SP/OLA FAMILY FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Feb 23 Class

Mar 2 – Class, 3rd grade Mass 11am at SP

Mar 5 – Ash Wednesday

Mar 9 - Class

SML FAMILY FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Feb 23 – Class

Mar 2 – Class

Mar 9 – Off - Spring Break

SML EASTER CANDY SALE

SML parishioners are busy making handmade Easter Candy to be sold during Lent and Easter seasons. There are order forms available at all our churches. Candy will be sold at all our churches after the weekend Masses during the Lent & Easter seasons. Any questions call Dorothy at 570-378-2530 or Loretta at 570-378-2256.

SP POTATO PANCAKE FUNDRAISER NEWS

Thank you to everyone who bought some yummy potato pancakes on February 7 as well as all the volunteers. We raised a total of \$ 540.00.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS THANK YOU

The Knights of Columbus thank all those who supported our Superbowl hoagie sales! We enjoyed a net profit of nearly \$300, which will be used to directly support parish activities and local Catholic charities throughout the year.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday (February 18) Weekday

8:00 am (OLA) Stanley Rysz
By Mary Ann Hoch

Wednesday (February 19) Weekday

8:00 am (SP) Gene Hoch
By Janet Motyka

Thursday (February 20) Weekday

8:00 am (SML) Bill Stead
By Disciples of Mary Altar & Rosary Society

Saturday (February 22) The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 pm (OLA) Martin McAndrew
By Mary McGuigan

Sunday (February 23) The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am (SML) Peter Conforti
By Rick & Mary Lou Franko
11:00 am (SP) Health & Blessings for John & Pat Marrazzo
By The Perez Family

WEEKLY OFFERINGS (COLLECTIONS)

SP Weekly OLA Weekly SML Weekly

Unavailable this week

May the Lord reward your generosity.

ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL'S PRAYER

The greatest pope of exorcism (in recent memory) in our Church is Pope Leo the XIII. All or almost all prayers in exorcism today are from him. The prayers I used (Fr. Arbo) on Holy Saturday for the blessing of baskets are prayers of exorcism from Pope Leo XIII. The St Michael the Archangel Prayer was composed by Pope Leo XIII who saw Satan trying hard to destroy the Church, that's why he composed this prayer which was said at the end of Mass. When the Priest says at the end "Ite Missa Est", that is "Go, The Mass Is Ended", we need the help of St Michael the Archangel to let the Eucharist that we receive act in and through us.

POWER OF THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

"Put all the good works in the world against one Holy Mass; they will be as a grain of sand beside a mountain". Saint John Vianney.