

THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus says in today's gospel: "For behold, some are last who will be first and some are first who will be last". This phrase somewhat "strange" comes as a conclusion to a debate that we hold rather often: "Who will be saved"? Or "How many people will be saved"? Hot issue question. It's a question from people of not only our times, but from people of all times. But it's really not a good question. Notice that Jesus doesn't answer. He takes the opportunity to send each one to his/her attitude. Instead of answering the question (who will be saved?), Jesus instead says: "strive to enter through the narrow gate". That is why He came, to lead us, to show us the path, the way ("I am The Way, The Truth, and The Life"). Those who will enter the kingdom of God that means who will be saved are those who will follow His path. That is what Isaiah is saying in today's First Reading when he writes: "They shall bring all your brothers and sisters from all the nations..."

**SML WYOMING COUNTY FAIR BASKET
RAFFLE AUG. 27 TO SEPT 1**

Thank you to all the people who have volunteered for shifts at the Wyoming County Fair Baskets Galore stand. Please come to the Fair to support our Parish. Parishioners of OLA and St Pat are also invited (as soon as you get through the Gate at the fair, turn right and SML booth is about 100 yards on your left.)

SP FALL FESTIVAL OCT 5

The Fall Festival at St. Patrick's will be on Sunday October 5th from noon to 4pm. Questions? Contact Joanne at 443-528-8713. Stay tuned for more info after this weekend's meeting after 11am Mass at St. Pat's Hall.

CLOTHES CLOSET NEWS

Thanks to everyone who donated and/or purchased the many items in this year's clothes closet. On Wednesday August 27 between 12 and 3pm, we will bag or box everything left, put away racks, and set up the rooms for Family Faith Formation classes. We need men, women or teens. If you can donate even an hour of your time, we would really appreciate your help.

**DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL 2024
FINAL REPORT**

Thank you to all who contributed to this worthy cause.

St. Pat. Goal: \$13,120.00

Raised: \$7,834.98

OLA Goal: \$12,849.00

Raised: \$7,503.00

SML Goal: \$12,951.00

Raised: \$5,865.00

ST. PATRICK BINGO NEWS

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

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.

Dining Out: gift certificate to your favorite restaurant
Basket of Cheer: please share your favorite wine, beer or liquor

Bake Stand: time to gather your favorite recipes.

White Elephant & Silent Auction: donations can be brought to the hall beginning **August 23**.

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.

**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.

SPECIAL REQUEST FROM FR. ARBO

Please pick up the missal and sing along when the cantor or organist announces a song. Singing is a profound way of connecting with the Divine. "When we sing, we experience God's presence in a new way," as Pope St. John Paul II beautifully articulated.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS / LECTORS SCHEDULE

August 30 & 31

Eucharistic Ministers

4 pm (OLA) Barbara Williamson
9:00am (SML) Andrea Walsh
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) Kevin Jones, Margaret Jones
11am (SP) Corinne Flynn
Shadow – Conor McHugh

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Aug 27 – SP Clothes Closet clean up, 12 to 3pm
Aug 27 – Sept 1 – SML Basket Raffle at WC Fair
Aug 28 – Prayer Shawl Ministry SML, 5:30pm
Aug 28 – Bingo at SP, doors open, 5pm, bingo, 6pm

SML SOCIAL CONCERNS MINISTRY REQUEST

Dear friends, the Lower Wyoming County Food Pantry is currently serving about one hundred clients monthly, we are in need of your help, canned soups are at a low on our shelf and we ask you to help members of our community to supply their kitchen shelf. Food pantry donations can be left at SML entrance and monetary donations can be placed in an envelope labeled “food pantry” and placed in the collection basket. Thank you! God bless ❤️

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT FOR OLA

We continue to help Raymond in his project to have the bench in memory of Ned Clarke made by NexTrex using recycled plastics. He still needs our help in collecting the plastic to be recycled. Here are some of the types of **clear plastic** needed: produce, store, ice, Ziploc, bread or drycleaning bags, cereal box liners, bubble wrap, newspaper sleeves, and case overwrap. You can put the plastic in the container in the hall.

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR HUMANITARIAN AID FOR GAZA

Next weekend 8/30 & 8/31 at the request of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops & Bishop Bambara, we will have a second collection at all our parishes to support Catholic Relief Services & Catholic Near East Welfare Association, which are providing vital emergency aid, medical care & relief to those suffering in Gaza.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday (August 26) Weekday

8:00 am (OLA) Richard Ruckowski
By Pat Webster Estate

Wednesday (August 27) St. Monica

8:00 am (SP) Mark Scala
By Anonymous

Thursday (August 28) St. Augustine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

8:00 am (SML) Lori Pierce
By Timothy Pierce

Saturday (August 30) The Vigil of The Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 pm (OLA) Edward Sandy
By Pat & Mike Mould

Sunday (August 31) The Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am (SML) Margaret Nauroth
By St. Mary of the Lake Choir
11:00 am (SP) Maureen Hannon
By Mr. Joseph Hannon

OFFERINGS

SP Missionary \$ 824.00 August 10

OLA Missionary \$ 735.00 July 26

SML Missionary \$ 760.00 July 27

May the Lord reward your generosity.

SP/OLA FAMILY FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Register now for family faith formation classes this school year. Need more information? Contact jwharv03@gmail.com or call/text 570-357-4314. Classes start 9/7/2025.

SML FAMILY FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Welcome back Families!

Our first class will be on Sunday Sept. 7th following the 9am Mass. If you were in the program last year you should have already received an email or text. If you are new to our program or have any questions, please reach out to Kerry Pieretti by email redlightgreen343@gmail.com

CLASSES FOR OCIA CANDIDATES

New OCIA classes will be starting on Sunday Sept. 7. Anyone interested in becoming a Catholic, anyone interested in returning to the Catholic faith or anyone who knows of someone who may be interested in becoming a Catholic, please contact Lucy Ziman at the parish office ,570-563 1622 or Greg Solfanelli at 570-281-8083 for further information. WELCOME!

OUR SAINTS AND THE EUCHARIST

St Catherine of Genoa: throughout Advent and Lent she lived on the Eucharist alone.