



NATIVITY OF OUR LORD PARISH, DURYEA

127 Stephenson Street Tel: 570-457-3502 Fax: 570-451-3341 Office Hours: M-F, 9:00-4:00 unless otherwise noted in bulletin.

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Nativity of Our Lord Duryea

Rev. Michael M. Bryant Pastor

Deacon André Kabacinski, Parish Deacon

Masses: Daily, M-T-W-F 7:00 am Thursday 6:30 pm • Saturday (Vigil)- 4:00 pm • Sunday- 8:00 am, 11:00 am and 7:00 pm

Confession: Daily, M-T-W-F~6:40-6:55 am; Thur. - 6:10-6:25 • Saturday- 3:15-3:45 pm, and anytime upon request.



THE THIRTY- SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



NOVEMBER 10, 2024



An Ordinary Reflection...

TWO WIDOWS



Remember how on last Sunday Jesus encountered a thoughtful scribe and pronounced him as “not being far from the kingdom of God.” This conversation seems to be one of the few where Jesus was not confronted by the scribes or Pharisees. This Sunday is the culmination of the same chapter in St. Mark's Gospel where many of these clashes take place.

The scribes who Jesus describes in this Sunday and who he invites us to “beware of,” are those who actively seek out being honored, and even revered. They are also the ones who take advantage of the poverty of others. In particular, Jesus zeroes in on poor widows. Widows were on the bottom rungs of society and often the little that they possessed was exploited by the greed of those around them, like the scribes whom Jesus opposes.

St. Mark then tells an event of Jesus observing a widow making an offering at the treasury of the temple. Jesus points out her vulnerability and her trust in God. This occasion matches a similar encounter with a widow and her child by Elijah, the prophet, in our first reading from the Book of Kings. This incident takes place during a 3-year drought. Elijah, who chastised Ahab and Jezebel, the rulers of Israel, for their unfaithfulness and abusive behavior, escapes in the midst of the drought. With no one to turn to, he turns to a widow whose survival with her son is about to end. Despite her poverty, she feeds Elijah with their last morsel. Her charity is rewarded by God with her “jar of flour” and “jug of oil” remaining full for another year.

Though there is a difference in both these tales' endings about generosity. The widow in Zarephath receives a reward for her kindness, whereas we do not know the future for the widow at the temple. They are witnesses to Jesus' great commandment to love God and love our neighbor. Their concrete example speaks to their self-surrender to God, whose love is overflowing. We must be careful though not to allow the sacred truth of these stories to idealize the marginalized poor of our own country and other nations. I quote Mahri Leonard-Fleckman in Ponder: Contemplative Bible Study,

These texts do not romanticize poverty, nor do they necessarily promote giving beyond one's means. Instead, they invite us to ask ourselves how we give in ways that go beyond our comfort, and how we care for the most vulnerable and confront hypocrisy in our lives, our societal structures, and our religious systems.

We bear responsibility for this, now more than ever! As this Sunday's psalm tells us, it is God who “secures justice for the oppressed” and “gives food to the hungry,” and “raises up those who were bowed down.” Will we join God and provide for our neighbors, even with only our “two small coins”? Will we give “all that we have” and trust that God will take care of us? Can we speak with Jesus against those who “devour the houses of widows” and not allow our personal desire for a “whole livelihood” keep us from loving God and neighbor?

-Fr. Michael

LITURGICAL CALENDER, DEVOTIONS, AND INTENTIONS FOR- NOVEMBER 11-17, 2024				
Mon	11	Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop	7:00am	Frank, Lena, Gene, Paul & Madeline Branas <i>(by Mazaleski family)</i>
Tue	12	Saint Josephat, Bishop & Martyr	7:00am	Stanis Kunicki <i>(by family)</i>
Wed	13	Saint Francis Xavier Cabrini, Virgin	7:00am	Raymond Smitka <i>(by Helen Smitka and family)</i>
Thu	14	Weekday	6:30pm	Gertrude Abent <i>(daughters, Mariann & Kelly)</i>
Fri	15	Saint Albert the Great, Bishop & Doctor of the Church	7:00am	Robert Kelly <i>(by wife, Mary Ann Kelly)</i>
Sat	16	Saint Margaret of Scotland & St Gerturde, Virgin BVM	4:00pm	Paulette Dalton by <i>(Andrea & Andrew Lentowski)</i>
Sun	17	32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	8:00am	Chester & Annette Symosh <i>(by children, grandchildren & great-grandchildren)</i>
			11:00am	For the Intentions of the Parishioners
			7:00pm	Brady family <i>(by William & Mary Kay Brady)</i>
VOTIVE CANDLES OFFERINGS				
		Sacred Heart of Jesus	Frank & Regina Callis <i>(by daughter, Carol Callis)</i>	
		Blessed Virgin Mary	John & Stanis Kunicki <i>(by family)</i>	
		Saint Joseph	For the Intentions of All of Our Veterans	

Upcoming events...

- 11 Monday**
-Veteran's Day -Office Closed
-NO Bible Study this week
 - 12 Tuesday**
-Soup and Spirituality 5pm-7pm
-Pastoral council 7:00pm
 - 14 Thursday**
-Gift Certificates (8am-10am, Church Hall)
 - 18 Monday**
- Bible Study @6:00pm
 - 19 Tuesday**
- Soup and Spirituality 5pm-7pm
 - 25 Monday**
- Bible Study @6:00pm
 - 27 Wednesday**
-Thanksgiving Family Mass 7:00pm
 - 28 Thursday - Thanksgiving** -Office Closed
-Mass 9:00am
 - 29 Friday** Office Closed
- D E C E M B E R**
- 1 Sunday** - ADVENT BEGINS
 - 7 Saturday**
-Duryea Christmas Stroll - traffic patterns change
 - 8 Sunday**
-Christmas Breakfast, 8:30-12:30pm

FINANCES AND ONGOING STEWARDSHIP: For the period ending October 29: TOTAL \$8,662.61; Sunday \$5,943.00 (\$1,828.00.00 OL); Loose Sunday Offering: \$351.25; Other Envelopes \$1,982.00 (\$474.00OL); Care and Education of of Priests: \$386.36 (\$20.00 OL)
AC donations to offset \$7,000 repair bill so far:: \$3,375.00 - THANK YOU!!
CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL: 2024 GOAL \$44,982.00 So Far: \$23,036.00 ... 51.21% to goal!
Thank You, and may God bless your wonderful generosity!

ANNUAL THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE here at Nativity will take place until Thanksgiving. Please bring non-perishable food items to the 7:00 pm Thanksgiving Eve Mass on November 22, or to Thanksgiving Day Mass on November 23, or drop off anytime before then to the vestibule or rectory. Donations will help fill the need at local food pantries and the Greater Pittston Meals on Wheels. **ALSO,** Help is needed for distribution of collected food to the various agencies following Thanksgiving - please call the rectory to let us know if you can help.

PRE-CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST - Our parish Men's Society invites you to their Annual Pre-Christmas Breakfast on Sunday, December 8th, 8:30AM to 12:30PM. Featuring: scrambled eggs, pancakes, keilbasa, ham, homefries, juice, coffee & danish. Adults: \$12— Children 10 and under - free. Call the rectory for details. For pre-orders, please return form below by Tuesday, December 3rd. Tickets will also be available at the door.

CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST PRE-ORDER

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Address: _____

Number of Breakfasts: Adults (\$12): _____
Children 10 & under (free): _____

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____
(Checks payable to NOOL Men's Society)

Questions of the Week based on this Sunday's Readings

- ▶ 1 Kings 17:10-16 ~ *Elijah and the Widow*
- ▶ Hebrews 9:24-28 ~ *The Sacrifice of Jesus*
- ▶ Mark 12: 37-44 or 12: 41-44 ~ *Hypocrisy of the Scribes, and the Widow's Mite*

Adults: What are you willing to give out of your love for God that would be a hardship for you?
Kids: When do you show that you love God and your neighbor with your whole heart?

BAPTIZED IN CHRIST: We welcome to the Church Weston Joseph Jugus, who was baptized on Nov. 3rd. May the Lord fill him with many graces and blessings through his Christian life. We offer our parish congratulations and prayerful best wishes to him and his family on this happy occasion!

GRANT ETERNAL REST: Prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Henry Lewandowski, whose funeral took place on Saturday. May he rest forever in the peaceful embrace of Jesus, and may the Holy Spirit bring consolation and comfort to Henry's family and friends during this time.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & FAITH FORMATION NEWS: Nov. 10th Morning Classes for Grades 1-6th, from 9:45-10:45am. Evening classes, 5:15pm-6:45pm, Grades 7-8th.

GIFT CERTIFICATES/VOUCHERS: For Catholic Education: the next sale date will be **Thursdays Nov. 14 and 21st**, from 8am-10am in the Church Hall. **There will be no sales the week of Thanksgiving.** For more information, stop in during sale hours. Anyone may participate.

CEO FOOD PANTRY COMMUNITY SERVICE: our next Parish monthly food pantry volunteer session is Wednesday November 20th, 5-7PM AT CEO Food Pantry 185 Research Drive, Pittston. Please call the rectory 570-457-3502 for further information or to volunteer.

IN THE COMMUNITY:

AT HOLY CROSS HIGH SCHOOL ● HOLY CROSS CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT: Friday Nov. 15, 2024. At The Holiday Inn Dunmore, 200 Tigue Street. All are welcome! \$50 per team for Competitive & Social Divisions. \$20 per team High School Division. Registration begins at 6:00pm. Games begin at 7:00pm. Prizes will be awarded in each division! Come and play, watch or take some chances. Baskets -50/50 - cash prizes. For more info. Call Lisa 570-313-0353 or Katie 570-499-4982.

AT HOLY REDEEMER HIGH SCHOOL ● MUSICAL: The Adams Family. Friday Nov. 15 and Saturday 16 at 7:00pm. Adults \$10 Seniors \$9 and children \$8. All are welcome.

AT ST. JOHN'S, PITTSTON ● CASH BINGO with over \$4,000 in prizes on Saturday, November 16 from 12 Noon to 3 PM in the Msgr. Bendik Pastoral Center. Doors open at 10 AM. Tickets are \$25 each and include 20 regular games (extra ones may be purchased). Tickets are available in the parish office by calling 570-654-0053, by Venmo (StJohnsPittston), or by PayPal (PayPal.me/StJohnsPittston).

AT ST. MARIA GORETTI PARISH: ● HOLIDAY GIFT AND CRAFT FAIR Sat. & Sun. Nov. 23 & 24. 9am- 3pm. 25 + Vendors, food stands, bake sale and specially basket & Gift Raffle. Free Admission.

AT SCRANTON PREP ● The Scholarship Entrance Exam will be held on Saturday Dec 7th for eighth grade students interested in applying for fall term 2025. Students should register by applying online at www.scrantonprep.org/preptest. Please call 570-947-PREP Ext.1141 or email admissions@scrantonprep.org with any questions.

AT SACRED HEART OF JESUS, DUPONT ● ADVENT CONCERT SERIES: A series of classical piano music reflections will take place at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, 215 Lackawanna Ave., Dupont, that will focus on the Baroque Era, the Classical Era, and the Romantic Era. The first recital will take place on Sunday, December 1, at 10 a.m. and will feature the Baroque Era of classical music and will feature preludes, fugues, and other works by Johann Sebastian Bach. The second recital will be on Sunday, December 8, at 10 a.m. It will feature excerpts of piano sonatas of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Ludwig Van Beethoven, among others. Finally, the third recital, to be held on Gaudete Sunday, December 15, at 10 a.m., will illustrate the romantic era of classical music and feature the works of Russian composer Sergei Rachmaninov and German composer Johannes Brahms. These recitals will be performed by Mr. Anthony J. George, Jr. who serves as the Parish Music Director/Organist in Dupont, and studied piano performance under renowned concert pianist, Thomas Hrynkiw. All are welcome to attend this free Advent concert series prior to Sunday 10:30 a.m. Mass. ● **A CHRISTMAS COOKIE WALK** will be held Saturday, Dec. 14, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Sacred Heart of Jesus Church Hall, 215 Lackawanna Ave., Dupont. Choose from dozens of delicious homemade cookies available for only \$10 a pound. Try your luck at winning a lottery ticket theme basket or the 50/50 raffle just in time for Christmas! Be aware that this will not be a nut-free environment.

A PRAYER FOR OUR VETERANS
Lord God, Almighty Father,
creator of mankind and author of peace,
as we are ever mindful of the cost paid for the liberty we possess, we ask you to bless the members of our armed forces. Give them courage, hope and strength.
May they ever experience your firm support, gentle love and compassionate healing.
Be their power and protector, leading them from darkness to light. To you be all glory, honor and praise, now and forever. Amen.

LORD
✠ Bless those who have
served our country

CHRISTMAS PIEROGI 2024

We are making Christmas Pierogi to brighten the holidays of parishioners and friends alike. Pierogi will be available for **\$10.00 a dozen**, frozen and bagged. Orders are limited to **3-Dozen per customer**, and orders will be taken on a first come, first serve basis until Thursday, Dec 5th, or until supplies run out. **Pick-up Dates and Times:** Tuesday, December 10th, 11:30am-12:30pm and Wednesday December 11th, from 5:00 to 6:00 pm at the Church Hall.

CHRISTMAS PIEROGI 2024 Order Form

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

of Pierogi: 1 Dozen, 2 Dozen 3 Dozen Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Please make checks payable to Nativity of Our Lord Parish.

Office use... Order # _____ LB: _____ Paid: _____ CASH or CHECK # _____



This Bulletin is printed in Loving Memory of...



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