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.

E-mail: rectory@nativityduryea.org Rev. Michael M. Bryant Pastor Web: www.nativityduryea.org f Nativity of Our Lord Duryea 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 TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OCTOBER 13, 2024



An Ordinary Reflection...

Faith-It's not about a Grand Slam

It is the time of year that many people are caught up in "American's favorite pastime" - baseball. Unfortunately, my favorite team is nowhere to be seen! Yet, a lot of people - young or old, men or women, year-round enthusiasts or only semi-constant World Series fans - are keeping their eye on the ballgames. Even when I was opening car doors the other day for school children standing in the opposite location where I usually stand, a father said to me, "Father, you threw us a curve ball, you're not in your usual spot!" Baseball is everywhere!

> I'm sure that girls and boys had some sort of game in Jesus' time, that involved hitting and catching balls and swinging bats. Jesus receives a curve ball this Sunday in St. Mark's Gospel. A man runs up to him, falls on his knees, and sincerely asks, "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" This man isn't out to test Jesus. He hasn't been tricked by some scribe or Pharisee to catch him off-quard. It seems that he is genuinely interested in the path of faith which lies ahead for him.

Jesus senses his sincerity and yet, wants to make sure the man has a focus that is centered on the right teacher of goodness -God alone. So, he searches for his understanding of goodness by asking him about the commandments. Again, in all earnestness, the man answers, "Teacher, all of these I have observed from my youth." Jesus is deeply impressed of his authenticity. The man's faith-filled pursuit touches Jesus deeply and he feels the man's hunger for God. So, with heartfelt love he offers one more pitch, "Go, sell what you have, and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me."

It is the invitation of a lifetime, a homerun for anyone who would choose to follow Jesus. However, St. Mark tells us the man's hope seems to collapse.

He feels the game just might be over for him. He might never be able to make such a sacrifice, and he goes away crushed with sadness.

I suspect we can understand his sadness. Not necessarily because we have "many possessions," although we might. But more because it sounds so impossible, so hard to envision. Jesus is asking him, and ourselves, to not be in control, to be willing to let Jesus be the coach, the manager, the umpire and the team owner of our lives. This is how we enter the kingdom of God. Truly, there is nothing easy on this path of faith. It involves "keeping-your-eye-on-the-ball" now and focused on a future where the spirit of wisdom always quides how we play this eternal game of life.

We may feel sad for the man, but we should not necessarily think that his "time at bat" is over. St. Mark doesn't give us a conclusion. There could be some "extra innings" for the man. His honest search might push him to search his heart even more. Does he truly reject Jesus, or does he just need more time for converting his desire into reality? Isn't this how true decision-making actually occurs? All of us need time to think it over and then with the same conviction as the man choose to follow Jesus. We also must believe that Jesus sees, knows and loves us completely. Jesus wants us to discover that the rewards of discipleship far outweigh any "grand slam" we could make in life! -Fr. Michael

Questions of the Week based on this Sunday's Readings

▶ Wisdom 7:7-11 ~ Solomon and the Richs of Wisdom ▶ Hebrews 4:12-13 ~ God's Living Word ▶ Mark 10: 17-=30 or 10:17-27 ~ The Danger of Riches: Jesus and the Rich Man

Adults: How can the pleasures and comforts of this world become barriers to your relationship with God?

Kids: What is your favorite toy, game, video etc. of yours would you be willing to share with someone this week?

LITURGICAL CALENDER, DEVOTIONS, AND INTENTIONS FOR-OCTOBER 13-20, 2024									
Mon	14	St. Callistus I, Pope & Martyr	7:00am	Bob Armbruster (by Julie & Frank Walsh)					
			6:30pm	Rosary and Novena with Mary					
Tue	15	St. Theresa of Jesus, Virgin & Dr. of the Church	7:00am	Patrick Ruane (by Richard Shotto)					
Wed	16	St Hedwig, St Margaret Mary Alacoque	7:00am	Theresa Vitek (by Jaqueline Vitek)					
Thu	17	St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop & Martyr	6:30pm	Pat & George Sanderson (Special Int. by sister Daphne Cole)					
Fri	18	St Luke, Evangelist	7:00am	Ann Francis Kurzweil (30 day)					
Sat	19	Saints John de Brebeuf & Isaac Jogues, Martyrs	4:00pm	For the Intentions of the Parishioners					
	20	29th Sunday	8:00am	Lillian, Carl & James Witkowski (by family)					
Sun		in Ordinary	11:00am	Ken Francis Sr. (by wife, Ann)					
51		Time	7:00pm	Ann Brudzinski (by family)					
VOTIVE CANDLES OFFERINGS									
Sacred Heart of Jesus George "Nipper" Nowakowski (by Lois Balchune)									
	Blessed Virgin Mary Theresa Vitek (by Jacqueline Vitek)								
	Saint Joseph Edward Jones (by Joyce Skowronski Jones)								

Upcoming events...

13 Sunday

9am -Pierogi Making

-No religious education classes this week

14 Monday -Columbus Day- Office Closed

-Novena and Rosary, 6:30pm

17 Thursday

-Women's Society Meeting 6:30pm

19 Saturday

-Octoberfest Social, following 4:00pm Mass **20 Sunday**

-Octoberfest Social, following

8:00 and 11:00 Mass

21 Monday

Novena and Rosary, 6:30pm

-Revelation Bible Study, 7:00pm

27 Sunday

-Cemetery Visitations

NOVEMBER

1 FRIDAY - ALL SAINTS

(Holy Day of Obligation)

-Mass for the Departed of the Last Year, 6:30pm

FINANCES AND ONGOING STEWARDSHIP

For the period ending October 8: TOTAL \$7,045.15; Sunday \$4,996.00 (\$1,701.00 OL) Loose Sunday Offering: \$290.00; Other Envelopes \$1225.00 (\$519.00OL); Care and Education of Priests: \$534.15 (162.15 Second Loose)

Air Conditioning Repair to offset \$7,000 bill so far:: \$1,375.00 - THANK YOU!!

Thank You, and may God bless your wonderful generosity!

This week's Second Collection is for the Care and Education of Priests.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION



Perhaps no book in the Bible fascinates people more than Revelation. Yet relatively few people have studied the book, especially from a Catholic perspective. Revelation: The Kingdom Yet to Come is an intriguing Bible study that shows how the kingdom established by Christ in this Church is intimately connected with the kingdom of heaven.

In this intriguing look at one of the most talked-about books in Scripture, Jeff Cavins explores Revelation to demonstrate how the kingdom established by Christ in his Church is intimately connected with the kingdom of heaven, especially through the celebration of the Mass. You will learn what all the mysterious figures and images of Revelation present, as well as what will happen during the Second Coming of Christ, what has already happened, and what is happening now in salvation history.

Our parish will hold a Bible study~ Revelation: The Kingdom Yet to Come on Monday's at 7:00pm, beginning October 21. (We will move to 6:30PM in November) Participants will meet every week to view an engaging video presentation followed by a time of lively group discussion and fellowship. We ask for a \$25.00 donation to help defray the cost of the materials. For more information or to register, please fill out the slip below or go to our Parish Web Page.

REVELATION: The Kingdom Yet to Come

NAME	PHONE
EMAII.	

Take-Out Piggy Dinner October 22, 4:30pm-6:30pm

In the Parish Hall

Including:

2 Piggies, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, a Roll, and a Piece of Cake

for \$14.00

with Additional Piggies available for \$2.50 Each

Please return to the rectory by Wednesday, October 16.



NATIVITY OF OUR LORD PARISH

"Indeed the word of God
is living and effective,
sharper than any two-edged sword ...
and able to discern reflections
and thoughts of the heart."

Letter to the Hebrews

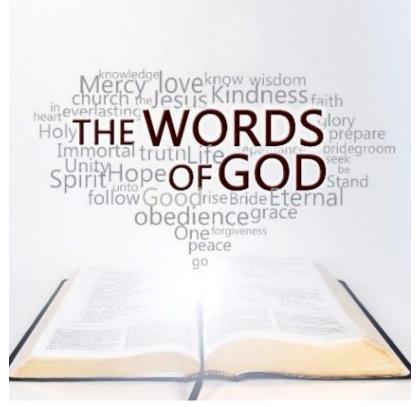
WORD: <u>"How a parish provides the spiritual formation for the ongoing process of maturation and growth of the parishioners' Christian journeys."</u>

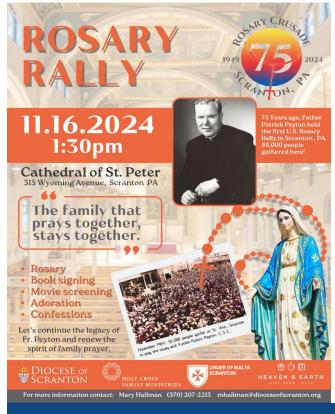
Goal I: We will offer our parishioners opportunities to grow in their understanding of Scripture to enhance their spirituality.

- 1. To have the Ministry Team continue offering Faith Sharing, Bible Study and Spiritual Book Club in various formats, each at a minimum of twice a year.
- 2. To have the Ministry Team offer an informational gathering on the Liturgy of the Hours by September 2024 to determine interest in praying as a parish.
- 3. To have the Ministry Team and Pastoral Council research during the Fall of 2024 the possibility of a Parish Mission or Pilgrimage to be planned for the Fall 2025/Spring 2026.

Goal II: We will provide renewal opportunities on Church and Parish Life to guide and educate parishioners to see that we are all called to spread the Gospel.

- 1. To have the Ministry Team explore retreat opportunities for our parish by October 2024 for a Retreat to be offered in Spring 2025.
- 2. To have the Ministry Team formulate plans in the Summer 2024 for an Evening or Day of Reflection on Jesus' Call to Discipleship to be presented to those who offer their service to the parish in any way in the later Fall of 2024.
- 3. To have the Ministry Team and Pastoral Council develop a Parish Ministry Fair to be offered the end of Summer 2025 or Fall 2025 on opportunities available for serving in our parish.
- 4. To develop a plan for parents of students in Religious Education and Holy Rosary School to better understand their role and responsibility in the Faith Formation and the Sacramental Preparation of their children steered by the Faith Formation Coordinator, with assistance from Catechists, Teachers, interested parents and Pastor











Four Principles of Catholic Social Teaching*

The central and enduring themes of Catholic social teaching are organized under four principles that provide a moral framework for decisions in public life.

The Dignity of the Human Person



Human life is sacred. The dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. Direct attacks on innocent persons are never morally acceptable. In our society, the gravest example is abortion. Euthanasia, assisted suicide, human cloning, in vitro fertilization and the destruction of embryos for research are others. Protecting the dignity of life

also includes overcoming poverty, ending use of the death penalty, and opposing racism, torture, unjust war, human trafficking and all activities that contribute to the "throwaway culture" identified by Pope Francis.

The Common Good



The common good is achieved when social conditions allow people to reach their fulfillment more fully and easily. It upholds the fundamental right to life, which makes all other rights possible. It asserts the right to food, shelter, education, employment, health care, housing, freedom of religion and conscience, and family life. It requires an economy that serves people,

not the other way around. It calls on employers to uphold the dignity and rights of workers by offering productive work, decent and just wages, adequate security in their old age, the choice of whether to organize and join unions, and the opportunity for legal status for immigrant workers. Workers should contribute a fair day's work for a fair day's pay, treat employers and co-workers with respect, and contribute to the common good. This principle requires we protect and care for all of God's creation, especially the most vulnerable among us, and the earth, our common home.

Subsidiarity



The human person is social. The family is the fundamental building block of society, based on marriage between a man and a woman, a sanctuary for creation and nurturing of children. Policies and programs should defend, strengthen and respect this foundational unit and uphold parents' rights and responsibilities to care for and educate their children.

Further, every person and association has a right and duty to actively shape society and promote the well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable. Subsidiarity means that society's larger institutions should not overwhelm or interfere with smaller or local ones. These larger institutions are obliged, however, to protect human dignity and meet human needs when smaller institutions cannot adequately do so.

Solidarity



We are one human family, despite our national, racial, ethnic, economic and ideological differences, called to love our neighbor as ourselves. We must work to eradicate poverty, disease and racism, and welcome immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers who are seeking employment, safety, education and a better life for their families. Solidarity requires preferential

concern for the poor. A basic moral test of any society is how it treats those who are most vulnerable. This preferential option for the poor and vulnerable includes all who are marginalized—unborn children, persons with disabilities, the elderly and terminally ill, victims of injustice and oppression, and immigrants.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & FAITH FORMATION NEWS NO CLASSES, Sunday, October 13. Classes resume for grades

1-6 next Sunday, October 20, from 9:45-10:45am. There are no evening classes on October 20.

MONDAYS WITH MARY This Week's Novena Prayers continue at 6:30pm, with Rosary following.

GIFT CERTIFICATES/VOUCHERS For Catholic Education: the next sale dates will be Thursdays, Oct. 17 & 24th, from 8am-10am in the Church Hall. For more information, stop in during sale hours. Anyone may participate.

PARISH SPCA COLLECTION organized by our parish Women's Society. We are collecting pet supplies for the SPCA during the month of October. Your help will be greatly appreciated. Please place items in the receptacle in the Church vestibule. If you have any questions, please call or see Michelle Piontek or Beverly Dulny.

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSES:

HOLY REDEEMER HIGH SCHOOL OPEN Sunday Oct 27th from 1:00pm-3:00pm. Discover ans enriching, supportive, faith filled environment where academic excellenace and serrvent leadership are persued daily. Talk to parents, students, faculty, and couches to learn why you belong in the Holy Redeemer family. Holy Redeemer High School 159 S. Pennsylvania Blvd. Wilkes Barre. 570-829-2424.



IN THE COMMUNITY:

AT PRINCE OF PEACE, OLD FORGE ● HEALING MASS sponsored by the Diocesan Charismatic Renewal will be held at St Mary's Church, 123 West Grace St. Oct. 15th at 7:00pm. Music will be provided by members of the Diocesan Charismatic music ministry. Father August Riccardi, pastor, is the Diocesan Spiritual Moderator for the Scranton Diocesan Charismatic Renewal. All are invited, especially those who need prayers for healing whether it be physical, spiritual, or emotional. • CASH BINGO, SUNDAY, November 3rd 2024 at The Eagle McClure Fire Dept., 375 Milwaukee Ave., Old forge, Pa. 18518 Doors open at 11:00 AM, Bingo starts at 1:00 PM. Tickets cost: \$30 for 20 regular games, With a cash prize of \$100 each. Additional game booklets are \$10.00. There will be 3 Special Games with Jackpots of \$250. And 1 Special Game with a Jackpot of \$500. There will also be A BASKET RAFFLE and 50/50. The snack bar opens at 11 A.M. CALL 570-457-5900 to purchase Advance Tickets

AT SACRED HEART OF JESUS, DUPONT ● EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES EXHIBITION: In response to the United States Catholic

Bishops call for a National Eucharistic Revival to enkindle belief and a living relationship with Jesus truly present in the Blessed Sacrament, a Vatican approved Exhibition of the Eucharistic Miracles from around the world will be held in the their parish hall on Saturday, October 26 from 2:30 to 5 p.m. and Sunday, October 27 from 8 to 11:30 a.m. This Eucharistic Exhibition presents some of the principal Eucharistic Miracles that took place throughout the ages in various countries of the world, and which have been recognized by the Church. By means of the posters, one can virtually visit the places where the miracles took place.

AT ST. JOHN'S, PITTSTON ● ORGAN CONCERT FOR ALL HALLOWS EVE Sunday, October 27 at 2:00 PM. Parish organist and music director Michael Sowa will present this program featuring organ music that is both powerful and peaceful for the upcoming celebrations of All Saints Day and All Souls Day, with a little bit of Halloween mischief, just for fun! During the concert, we will hear readings about death and life and the celebrations of these days. A free-will offering will be accepted.

AT SAINT JOSEPH MARELLO PARISH, PITTSTON ANNUAL CRAFT FAIR, sponsored by their Altar and Rosary Society, on Sat. Nov. 9th from 10 am to 3 pm in their Parish Center. The event will include dozens of specialty vendors, including a wide variety of crafts, goods, and direct sales items. Food and beverages will be available for purchase. There also will be a raffle held featuring selected items from participating vendors.

Space is still available for vendors to be present at our fair! Those interested in participating can contact Pattie Gregorio, event chairperson, at craftypattiecf@gmail.com or by contacting the St. Joseph Marello Parish office at 570 654-6902 for an application.

> HEALING SERVICE AND CONFERENCE ON THE BREAD OF LIFE WITH

FATHER PIO MANDATO, FMHJ



Saint Maria Goretti Church Thursday, October 24, 2024 at 6PM

"In this Eucharistic Year of Revival, we open our minds and hearts to the Lord to His Word and to His Bread of Life in the Eucharist"

- Father Pio Mandato

Reconciliation 6PM

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Homily 7PM Benediction Blessing with Holy Oil and relic of Saint Padre Pio

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John A., Theresa and John Jr. Adamiak	Alfred and Judith Akulonis	Anthony and Helen Akulonis	Baranoski, Gregorczyk, Janczyk, Polukard and Negvesky Families	Peter and Victoria Biga Mary Soltysiak	Thomas and Stella Blasco
William, Ann, Gerard Brady Edward, Agnita, Claire Linskey	Ann Brudzinski	Frank & Regina Callis Zielinski and Callis Families	Chelland Family	Louis Robert Cremard Catherine and Louis Cremard	Irene DeAngelo Rev. Andrew J. Marcinko M/M Andrew Marcinko
Carmen and Idena DeBiasi Jason and Louis DeBiasi	Dolan and Roche Family	Louis and Dorothy Doxbeck Family	Dulny and Kapish Families	Martin and Anna Dunay Jacob and Nellie Vitek	Jack and Rita Fischer Zaladonis Family
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Martin D. Hastie and Martin K. Hastie	Margaret and Jack Hoover	Jasienski, Bozinko and Lewandowski Families	Thomas and Geraldine Judge Judge and Antal Families	Michael and Cecelia Klauss	Kundrat and Simko Families
Bob and Rosemary Kundrat	Joseph Long, Jr., Carl Joseph Tucker, and Butler Family Members	John & Helen Lukus Tom & Mary McAndrew Paczkowski Family	Eugene Madrak	George and Lottie Matrone	Thomas J. and Cecilia McAndrew
Tom and Anna Rita McGlynn	John and Mary Mikovitch Gerald Mikovitch	Mary Ann Namatka Peter & Elizabeth Namatka William & Josephine Sowa	Stanley J. Nazarchuk & Helen A. (Echan) Nazarchuk and All Deceased Family Members	Judy and George Nowakowski	Agnes and Peter Olsheski Olszewski, Grudzinski and Madrak Families
Olszewski, Skowronski and Zoltowski Families	Bernard J. and Theresa Ostrosky	Teresa Ramiza Pace Loretta, Steve & Michael Haluschak, Anthony Pace	Walter F. Perhalla	Micheline & Anthony Perkowski, Stella Hoffman A.Perkowski Family	Stanley A. and Mary Piontek Robert and Ruth Walsh
Stanley & Stella Rava and Family	Rincavage, Billick and Galinas Families	Anthony & Helen Rincavage and Anthony Singer	Michael and Irene Rostkowski Mark Rostkowski	Jess L. & Beatrice Rutkoski	Victor L Salidas. Anna Salidas Victor J. Salidas
Thomas and Florence Skowronski Wascavage Family Edward A. Jones	Catherine and Bruno Smicherko	Mary and Joseph Solarchik	Margaret Stanavage and Son, Ronnie	George Strus	Joseph Sr., Bertha, Ronald, Francis and Joseph Swenton, Jr. & Michael Matiko
Dominic G. Toraldo	Jacob J. & Pauline M. Vitek and Theresa M. Vitek	Earl & Marion Vrabel and Michael & Grant Larronde	Michael and Jean Wasko	Don Wasta	Vincent & Mary Waszczak Marion and Cathy Bryk
Gertrude and Loretta Yachna & Deceased Yachna Family	Eternal res	t grant unto the	Margaret Yauk and Romayne Solarchik	Zujkowski, Pribula, Klink and Nasiatka Families	



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