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-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**SEPTEMBER 29. 2024** 



An Ordinary Reflection...

## A Cup of Water to Drink

Recently, I received a notecard from someone with this quote, "There are plenty of difficult obstacles in your path. Don't allow yourself to become one of them." Initially, I wondered what the person knew that I didn't! However, once I let go of my paranoia, I realized how true this statement is for all of us!

The Scriptures this Sunday pick up on this theme of being careful of who is the real obstacle on my journey of faith. It is so easy to see other people as the problem and to even perceive God as the one standing in the way of a particular "plan" I have for my life.

Both the Book of Numbers and St. Mark's Gospel offer similar themes of becoming upset about someone who is not in our "camp." In Numbers, Eldad and Medad are not at the initial gathering with Moses and seventy others when the Lord bestows on them the spirit. They were invited, but seem to have missed the instructions to go "out of the tent" and now they are "prophesying in the camp." How can this be?

The disciples in the Gospel had been sent out by Jesus to heal and drive out demons. They really feel great as his followers about doing some "mighty deeds" on behalf of Jesus. But imagine what they discover, there is someone else out there driving out demons, and he isn't one of us! They try to stop him from being successful, but that doesn't work either. Can you stop him, Jesus, from doing this?

Seems like "the greatest" who the Apostles arqued about among themselves earlier, has expanded to include people not even in the inner circle. Once again it is being pointed out to us that greatness isn't confined to any particular grouping, including those who feel they have a deeper, more intimate, linkage to God, or God's truth.

God's spirit, God's vibrant presence, cannot be limited. Jesus tells us here is where greatness is found, in the little ways with sincere and genuine intentions that we bring about good for another. We may not be in the right tent or camp or following, but as long as our motives focus on the One who fills us with grace and ignores our "littleness" - we can do great things!

Even the conclusion of St. James letter this Sunday, appeals to us to take care of the community and not be distorted by attitudes that are steeped in wealth or power. Such arrogances about oneself, are the wrong riches or values to be treasuring. They only fatten our hearts with emptiness and wickedness.

How can we possibly hope to build up God's kingdom, as we tear down the kingdoms of the "littles ones" around us? God's wisdom is given to the simple servant. God does not resist any opportunity to show us we belong, no matter our age or ability, our intelligence or interests, our formation or foundation. Our reward comes when we don't allow the obstacles of life, even the obstacle of our self, to keep us from bringing everyone "a cup of water to drink."

-Fr. Michael

#### Questions of the Week based on this Sunday's Readings

▶ Numbers 11:25-29~ Sharing the Gift of Prophecy

▶ James 5: 1-6~ Saving the Right Focus ▶ Mark 9: 38-43, 47-48~ Sharing Our **Possessions** 

**Adults:** What are the three most important values motivating

your daily decisions?

**Kids**: Could a poor person who is wise be richer in a way than

a foolish person who has many things?



		LITURG		LENDER, DEVOTIONS, AND INTENTIONS EPTEMBER 30-OCTOBER 6, 2024	<b>30 Monday</b> -Novena and Rosary. 6:30pm in Church				
Mon	30	Saint Jerome, Priest and Dr. of Church	7:00am 6:30pm	Cecelia Sepkoski (by Raymond and Deborah Pesta) Miraculous Medal Novena and Rosary	OCTOBER 1 Tuesday				
Tue	1	St. Therese' of the Child Jesu <b>s,</b> Virgin and Dr. of Church	7:00am	Robert Sepelyak (by Kevin Chromey)	-Men's Society, 6:30 Church Hall -Soup and Spirituality, 5:00pm in Rectory				
Wed	2	The Holy Guardian Angels	7:00am	Edmund Mlodzienski (by Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Cooper)	<ul> <li>4 Friday         <ul> <li>First Friday Mass @ 9:00am</li> <li>Blessing of Animals, 6:30pm, church steps</li> <li>7 Monday - Our Lady of the Rosary</li> <li>Annual Day of Solemn Adoration,</li> <li>Evening Prayer, 7:00pm followed by                 Rosary, and Candlelight Procession</li> </ul> </li> <li>11 Friday         <ul> <li>9am- Pierogi making - potato/cheese prep</li> </ul> </li> <li>12 Saturday         <ul> <li>10am- Mash and ball potatoes</li> </ul> </li> <li>13 Sunday         <ul> <li>9am -Pierogi Making</li> </ul> </li> <li>14 Monday -Columbus Day- Office Closed</li> </ul>				
Thu	3	Weekday	6:30pm	A Special Intention					
Fri	4	Saint Francis of Assisi	7:00am 9:00 am 6:30pm	Bernadine Franciscan Sisters who served our community Yvonne V. Witkowski (by the HRS Family) Blessing of the Animals					
Sat	5	Weekday	4:00pm	A Special Intention (by Jean Turowski)					
Sun	6	27th Sunday in Ordinary Time	8:00am 11:00am 7:00pm	For the Intentions of the Parishioners  Ken & Mary Francis (25 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary)  Alfred & Judith Akulonis (by David, Judith, John &  Joseph Akulonis and, Alfred & Anissa Akulonis)					
			_	VOTIVE CANDLES OFFERINGS	19 Saturday -Octoberfest Social, following 4:00 Mass				
		ed Heart of Jesus	1	Intention (by Joan Hynoski)	20 Sunday				
Blessed Virgin Mary Lucille Keck (By Family)  Saint Joseph Ann Frances Kurzweil (by the Parish Choir)  -Octoberfest Social, following 8:00 and 11:00 N									

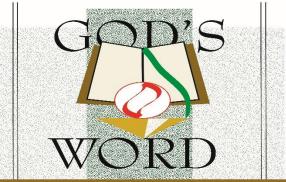
#### FINANCES AND ONGOING STEWARDSHIP

For the period ending September 24: TOTAL \$6,501.55; Sunday \$4,689.00 (\$928.00 OL) Loose Sunday Offering: \$233.55.00; Other Envelopes \$757.00 (\$125.00OL); Semi-Annual Insurance: \$822.00 (\$40.00 OL; \$227.00 2nd Loose)

Thank You, and may God bless your wonderful generosity!

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

CHOIR REHEARSAL BEGINS Our Choir will begin rehearsal on Wednesday, October 2, at 6:30pm in the loft, in preparation for the Parish Eucharistic Day, All Soul's Mass of Remembrance, and the songs of the season. All are welcome! We would love to welcome some new members, particularly men and altos, as well as anyone who plays an instrument and would like to enhance our liturgical music. If you have any questions or concerns, please see David Tighe, organist, or Father after Mass.



The law of the LORD refreshes the soul

#### 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.* 

Name					
Phone					
I would like					
dinners at \$14.00 each	= \$				
additional piggies at 2.50 ea. = \$					
I am enclosing \$	_ for my order.				



#### NATIVITY OF OUR LORD PARISH

"Anyone who gives you
a cup of water to drink
because you belong to Christ,
amen, I say to you,
will surely not lose their reward."

Gospel of Mark

**SERVICE**: How a parish with the Church includes in its mission works of charity and justice which serves the need of others and eradicate the causes of injustice.

**Goal I:** We will increase outreach to the poor and needy through community service by researching and generating additional volunteer opportunities for parishioners.

1. To have the Ministry Team form a Social Concerns Committee including representatives from Women's Society, Men's Society and PC to support the current important outreach by these groups and develop with other interested parishioners additional outreach within our parish, community, and region

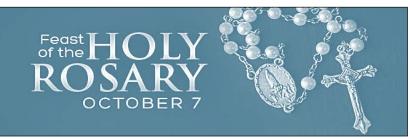
Goal II: We will expand our ministry outreach to the homebound and senior citizens.

- 1. To have the Ministry Team continue to offer Sacraments and liturgies for people at Crossin Towers, Wesley Village, Hospitals and Hospices, and regularly assess other ways to respond to our senior citizens
- 2. To have the Ministry Team continue the offering of the Sacraments and visits to Homebound, First Friday Calls, Anointing of the Sick at homes and to regularly assess other ways to respond to our homebound and parishioners

<u>Goal III:</u> We will investigate ways that we as a parish family might act to protect and preserve our local environment.

1. To have the Ministry Team, Pastoral Council and interested parishioners discuss and coordinate with Borough/Town Council on Clean Up days and other educational events on the environment.





# Our Parish Annual Day of SOLEMN EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Our Parish's annual Day of Solemn Eucharistic Adoration here at Nativity of Our Lord is set for Monday, October 7th, the Feast of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary, Patroness of our church building.

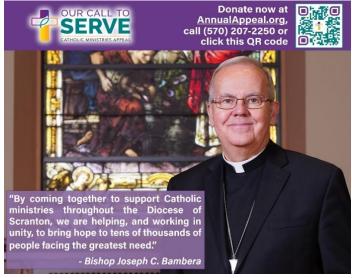
The Eucharist will be exposed after the 7:00 a.m. Mass until Evening Prayer and Benediction at 7:00 p.m. Sign-up sheets are in the church vestibule. Our Guest Speaker for Evening Prayer this year will be Father Ryan Glenn, pastor of Christ the King Parish, Archbald.



Someone must be at prayer in the church at all times during exposition, and all members of societies and ministers are expected to make every effort to spend some time with Our Lord in prayer and adoration on this day. All parishioners should make the effort, but even if you cannot do a holy hour, do a holy half-hour, or a quarter-hour, or sacrifice a little of whatever time is available in your busy lives. Do not wait to ask for God's assistance, thank Him now for what peace we have in our lives, and come to Him in prayer and petition veiled in this Great Sacrament of the Altar while "the wood is green," asking for continued security, peace, and blessings for you and your family.

Our usual Monday Miraculous Medal Novena will move to 6:45pm this day, and our Monday rosary will be prayed following Evening Prayer and Benediction, with a candlelight procession. Light refreshments following.

"The rediscovery of prayer in various forms, and particularly Eucharistic Adoration, is a source of hope for the Church to grow and take root." -Pope Francis



### PAPAL PRAYER INTENTION FOR OCTOBER For a Shared Mission

We pray that the Church continue to sustain in all ways a Synodal lifestyle, as a sign of co-responsibility, promoting the participation, the communion and the mission shared among priests, religious and lay people.

#### **MORNING OFFERING**

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer You my prayers, works, joys, and sufferings of this day in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world. I offer them for all the intentions of Your Sacred Heart: the salvation of souls, reparation for sin, and the reunion of all Christians. I offer them for the intentions of our bishops and of all Apostles of Prayer, and *in particular for those recommended by our Holy Father this month*.

The Apostles of Prayer offer themselves to God each day for the good of the world, the Church, one another, and the Holy Father's intentions



#### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Classes continue Sept  $29^{th}$ . The 26th Sunday in Ordinary time. **1-6**<sup>th</sup> Grades: 9:45-10:45 am.

October 6<sup>th</sup>. The 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time. **1-6**<sup>th</sup> 9:45am - 10:45. **7-8**<sup>th</sup> 5:15-6:45pm.

MONDAYS WITH MARY With a world in need, needs in our families and communities, we will turn to Our Lady each Monday at 6:30pm, as we gather in church for the Miraculous Medal Novena, and the Rosary. Prayer should last about 25 minutes, though the church will be open early for those who wish.

MEN's SOCIETY meeting, Tuesday Oct. 1, in the Church Hall.

GIFT CERTIFICATES/VOUCHERS For Catholic Education: the next sale dates will be Thursdays, Oct. 3,10,17,24th, from 8am-10am in the Church Hall. For more information, stop in during sale hours. Anyone may participate.

**BLESSING OF ANIMALS:** The Church celebrates the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi on Friday, October 4. Blessing of Animals will take place at 6:30 pm on the steps of the church. We invite you to bring your pets for the blessing on this special day.

**CEO FOOD PANTRY COMM. SERVICE** Our next Parish monthly food panty volunteer opportunity will be on Wednesday Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>, 5-7pm at the CEO Food Pantry located at 185 Research Dr. Pittston.

NATIVITY PARISH MENS' SOCIETY
INVITES YOU TO OUR 2nd

# Oktoberfest Weekend

#### **Saturday and Sunday**

October 19 and 20 - following Masses

Fun | Friendship | Free of Charge

Saturday: German and Polish foods for dinner

Sunday: Coffee, Tea, and Juices, Eggs and Sausage, Pastries

and Cookies

Please let us know if you are attending: ~BY OCTOBER 10~

Follow the QR code to the right, or go to <a href="https://forms.gle/gWFt6fmrHFpkNnKC7">https://forms.gle/gWFt6fmrHFpkNnKC7</a> or fill out the form below:



We hope to see you there!

OCTOBERFEST SOCIAL

Number of People Attending\_\_\_\_\_

**Following what Mass?** 

4:00\_\_\_\_\_\_ 8:00\_\_\_\_\_

11:00\_\_\_\_

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.

#### IN THE COMMUNITY:

AT QUEEN OF THE APOSTLES, AVOCA ● FALL CRAFT FAIR AND SOUP SALE sponsored by Social Concerns/Respect Life Ministry. Saturday, October 5, 2024. 9 AM - 2 PM in the Parish Hall, 742 Spring St. Avoca, PA. Along with a variety of beautiful crafts items being sold will be jewelry sales including watch battery Tupperware, engraved glass, Crocheted items, replacement, Christmas wreaths & ornaments, quilts placemats pillow, wreaths more. A Raffle will be held for prizes donated by our vendors and donors. Food items will be available: Wimpies, Turkey Chili, Piggy, Vegetable, & Broccoli Cheddar Soup (pint or bowl), Hot dogs, Funnel cake, Haluski, Desserts and Beverages. Treats will also be available for the children. ALL ARE WELCOME!! Admission is free. Soups available for order by quart: Red or White Clam Chowder - \$10 Haluski - \$7 Vodka Sauce - \$10 Call Carol #570-457-8843 or Ruth #570-457-2111 by 9/29.

AT PRINCE OF PEACE, OLD FORGE ● A CHARISMATIC HEALING MASS sponsored by the Diocesan Charismatic Renewal will be held at St Mary's Church, 123 West Grace St. Old Forge. Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

AT DIVINE MERCY PARISH, MINOOKA ● ANNUAL CANDLELIGHT ROSARY NOVENA: Beginning on Saturday, October 5th and continuing every evening until Sunday, October 13th. For more information, contact the Divine Mercy parish at (570) 344-1724 or email: <a href="mailto:nkatchur@divinemercyparish.us">nkatchur@divinemercyparish.us</a>

TAKE OUT PASTA DINNER to benefit the HOLY ROSARY SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION – Monday, October 21, 4:30-6:30. Pick up at Amadeo's Restaurant, 4001 Birney Ave., Moosic. Dinner includes Amadeo's Famous Pasta, Meatballs, Bread, Salad, & Dessert. \$17.00 Per Person. Call HRS at 570-457-2553. No orders or payments accepted the day of pick up. Questions to Colleen, 570-406-5141.

AT SACRED HEART OF JESUS, DUPONT - A FALL THEOLOGY SERIES will be held in their School of Religion, 219 Lackawanna Ave., Dupont, for adult learners on Wednesdays Oct. 23, 30 and Nov. 6 from 6 - 7 p.m. Bill Jones will conduct the classes. Proposed classes: Oct. 23, "Mary is: the Mother of God; Our Lady; and much, much more." In this presentation we will discuss the Protestant myths about the Mother of Our Lord and the Jewish biblical roots of Mary. Oct. 30, "The Qur'an and Its References to Jesus, Mary and Christians." This class will explore passages from the Qur'an that refer to these themes. Nov. 6, "Modernism: The Unknown Threat." This class will discuss the meaning of modernism and why it has been called the "synthesis of all heresies." The presentation will expand on its influence upon the Church and society, and our relationship with God. All are invited to attend this free series.



🛂 🛂 This Bulletin is printed in Loving Memory of 🛂 🕸 🕸										
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Gertrude and Loretta Yachna & Deceased Yachna Family	Eternal res	t grant unto the	m, O Lord.	Margaret Yauk and Romayne Solarchik	Zujkowski, Pribula, Klink and Nasiatka Families					



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