



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 7:00am Thursday 6:30pm • Saturday (Vigil)- 4:00 pm • Sunday- 8 & 11am, & 7pm

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



❖ March 30, 2025



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



A Lenten Reflection- **A Blessed Hope**

This week on our Parish Mission Retreat, Fr. Ryan's homily on Tuesday spoke of *freedom*. The freedom he spoke of was not the notion that once free "I can do anything I want, say anything I choose, or be anything that I am able to be." Our freedom is as St. Paul says a freedom that realizes God has made us "a new creation." It is a freedom which the Israelites embraced after a forty-year journey from Egypt. It is a freedom that invited them to reorient their lives after their pass over from slavery and this day to celebrate their first Passover since their captivity. Finally, this freedom enables us to approach the Father humbly and trust in God's mercy even though seemed undeserved. This is a freedom given by God, which leads us into a celebration bigger than any party over any material wealth or accomplishment we ever achieved.



On Wednesday, Fr. Ryan referred in his words at liturgy to a quote from Pope Francis about how unfortunately many people have "spiritual amnesia." He invited us to close our eyes, after mocking me that I was not allowed to fall asleep and think of the belongings in our homes that meant the most to us. He then acknowledged how important people are in our lives, especially our families. He later pressed us deeper to consider what might be the spiritual elements of our daily activities which we cherished. Too often, we have a memory loss on how all the "things," as well as the persons in our lives, are gifts from our Loving God. It is God who brings us into the promised experiences of our lives of which we always dreamed. It is Christ who transforms us through reconciliation when we have sinned against those we must love. It is the Spirit inviting us to rejoice even though our lives might be marked by hurting, confusion and sin, because the offer of holiness is always there.

This is the amnesia muddling our understanding of the depth of God's mercy, especially through the sacraments, which are freely offered to our hearts and souls. It is our challenge to trust God's promise of redemption and reconciliation. We can choose to remain lost in our spiritual amnesia - forgetting the power of God's compassion and forgiveness - or we can return

to our Father. We can continue living in the emptiness of our sins, believing that God never offers us a feast, or we can swallow our pride and become alive again. It is these memories we are looking for and which set us free. Can we truly believe that God's blessing of hope is offered to us and all of God's people?

-Fr. Michael

looking for that blessed hope

BEHOLD
new things have come.
And all this is from
GOD
who has reconciled us
to himself through
JESUS CHRIST
and given us the
ministry of reconciliation,
entrusting to us
the message of
reconciliation.

So we are
ambassadors for
JESUS
CHRIST



Questions for reflection based on this Sunday's readings:

- ▶ **Joshua 5: 9a, 10-12~ The people celebrate the first Passover in the Promised Land**
- ▶ **2 Corinthians 5: 17-21 ~ Jesus reconciles us to his Father**
- ▶ **Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32 ~ Forgiveness and reconciliation are reasons for celebrations.**

How can I be merciful like the father in this parable?

What resentments do I need to overcome?

Can I be truly forgiving to someone who has hurt me or those I love?

**Intention of the Holy Father
for the Month of April 2025**

**For the use of the new
technologies**

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR, DEVOTIONS, AND INTENTIONS

MARCH 31-APRIL 6, 2025

Mon	31	Lenten Weekday	7:00 am 5:30-7pm	Eugene Madrak (by wife, Lucille & Family) <i>Confessions – The Light is on for You</i>
Tue	1	Lenten Weekday	7:00am	Tessie Lenartowicz & Konstanty (daughter MaryAnn & Family)
Wed	2	<i>St. Francis of Paola, Hermit</i>	7:00am	Andrew Murman (by Pat, Christa, Carla)
Thu	3	Lenten Weekday	6:30pm	Darlene F. Payne (By Joyce Skowronski Jones)
Fri	4	<i>St. Isidore, Bishop & Doctor of the Church</i>	7:00am	Bernadette Moleski, Eleanor Moleski & Barbare Yankowski (by Carla Reck)
			9:00am	Jamie Yachna (by Edward Yachna Family)
			1:00pm	<i>Stations of the Cross</i>
			6:15pm 7:00pm	<i>Adoration of The Most Blessed Sacrament</i> <i>Stations of the Cross and Benediction</i>
Sat	5	<i>St. Vincent Ferrer, Priest</i>	4:00pm	Robert Kelly (by wife MaryAnn & Family)
Sun	6	Fifth Sunday of Lent	8:00am	For the Intentions of the Parishioners
			11:00am	Louis Slonina (by Michaelene Slonina)
			7:00pm	Jess L. & Beatrice Rutkoski (by Plisga & Rutkoski Families)
VOTIVE CANDLES OFFERINGS				
Sacred Heart of Jesus		Jackie Depretis (by Linda Depretis)		
Blessed Virgin Mary		Anna Skowronski (by Val Olszewski)		
Saint Joseph		Andrew Murman (by Pat, Christa & Carla)		

Upcoming events...

A P R I L

4 Friday

- First Friday Mass 9:00am

-Lenten Friday Dinner, 4:30-8:00pm

10 Thursday

- Women's Society Meeting @ rectory

6:30pm

-Men's Society Meeting in Church Hall @ 6:30pm

11 Friday

- Living Stations @ 1pm and 7pm

17 Thursday- Holy Thursday

- 7pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

18 Friday

-2pm Commemoration of the Lords Passion

-7pm Stations of The Cross

19 Saturday

-Blessing of the baskets @ 2pm and 4pm

-Easter Vigil 8:00pm

20 Easter Sunday**FINANCES AND ONGOING STEWARDSHIP:** For the period ending March 25: SUNDAY TOTAL \$6,830.95;

Sunday \$4,357.00 (\$954.00 OL); Other Envelopes \$1,994.00 (\$132.00 OL); Loose \$479.95;

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL: 2024 GOAL \$44,982.00 So Far: \$46,896.00! ... 105.03 %!**Thank You, and may God bless your wonderful generosity!**

Our Parish Men's and Women's Societies, as well as our Religious Education Students will be teaming up again to provide for this worthy cause. We ask for donations of candy, small Easter toys or items, and cash donations to help defray the cost of this joint effort. Together, our parish, with our local Catholic School will try to provide 200 baskets this year...Can You Help? If providing cash or check, please place in an envelope marked "Easter Basket Giveaway." Thank You!

CONFESSIONS "The Light Is On For You" 5:30-7:00 p.m. Mondays here at Nativity and throughout the Diocese of Scranton**ROAD TO RESURRECTION** in the Greater Pittston Deanery on Wednesdays of Lent according to the following schedule:

Wed, Apr 2nd at 7:00pm

Corpus Christi Parish at St. Anthony of Padua Church, Exeter

Wed, Apr 9th at 7:00pm

Nativity of Our Lord Parish at Holy Rosary Church, Duryea

ADORATION of the MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT each Friday from 6:15pm until Stations at 7:00pm. Spend quiet time with Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. Pour out your troubles, give thanks for your blessings, and adore our Eucharistic Redeemer even present body, blood, soul and divinity – for us. Benediction will take place following the 7:00pm Stations each week.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS Meditate on the final hours of Christ's Passion as we make the Way of the Cross. Students will lead at 1:00pm each Friday (with the HRS community), and we also gather at 7:00pm for this devotion.

LENTEN RICE BOWL The customary RICE BOWL appeal is being made throughout our country during Lent. Rice Bowl containers and other information can be found on the tables at the doors of our churches. Envelopes are also included in your sets for your convenience.

WITH PARISH SYMPATHY Our prayers are requested for Michelle Williams who passed from this world to the next. May our Lord embrace her with his eternal love and peace, and give comfort to her family, friends, and neighbors. We offer our parish sympathy at this time of loss.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & FAITH FORMATION: Sunday, March 30th, Morning classes 9:45-10:45am for 1st-6th grades. Evening classes 5:15pm-6:45pm for 7th-8th grades.

REDNER'S TAPES WANTED The National Junior Honor Society of Holy Rosary School is collecting Redner's Save-A-Tape receipts to help earn money to support our various service projects. You must use your Redner's Rewards Card for the Save-a-Tape Amount to be printed. Please put them in an envelope labeled NJHS of Holy Rosary. Thank you in advance.

You're Invited!

Nativity of Our Lord Women's Society Spring Social

Sunday, April 27, 2025, from 1:00-4:00pm at
Arcaro and Genell, 443 S. Main Street Old Forge

Our Spring Social will feature beautifully decorated spring themed tables, a chance to win a theme basket, and a light lunch menu, appetizers and desserts. If anyone is interested in donating a theme basket for the Social, we would appreciate it! Please contact Michelle Piontek at 570-498-9442 for information and if you need a basket pick up!

Cost is \$30.00 per person and reservations need to be made by April 20, 2025. Please fill out the form below and return it with payment to the rectory via the collection basket, by mail or in person. We hope that you can join us for an afternoon of great food and fellowship!

Menu:

- **Appetizers:** Assorted Pizza, Homemade Stromboli, Gluten-free/Vegan bean salad.
- **Salad:** House Antipasto with Italian meats and cheese.
- **Soup of the day**
- **Meal:** Assorted Sandwiches & Wraps Platter (Turkey, Italian & Ham: Chicken Salad & Tuna)
- Or Steak & Cheese sliders
- **Coffee, Soda & Dessert**

Name: _____
Email: _____
Phone: _____
Number Attending _____
Payment Enclosed: \$ _____

*Please make checks payable to the Nativity of Our Lord Women's Society.
Reply with payment by April 20, 2025.*

Be reconciled
to GOD



IN THE COMMUNITY:

NAZARETH GROUP MEETING ● - The Capuchin Sisters of Nazareth invite all young women (grades 9 - 12) to join us on Saturday, April 5, 2025, from 11:00AM - 4:30PM. Come and learn more about the Faith, make wholesome friendships, and grow more in love with Jesus through prayer and hearing inspirational talks. To RSVP by April 3, or for more information, please call Sister Angela in Tunkhannock at 570-836-2737 or Sister Clare in Williamsport at 570-745-3334. Calling times are Mon-Thurs & Sat - 9am-11:30am; 1pm-4:30pm; 7pm-8:15pm. Please join us!

AT SARED HEART, DUPONT ● Gorzkie Żale, the traditional Polish-language Lenten devotion known as the "Bitter Lamentations," will be held on Sunday, April 6, at 3 pm in Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, 215 Lackawanna Ave., Dupont. The devotion is a sung reflection on the Passion of Christ and his Sorrowful Mother. Msgr. Neil Van Loon, pastor of St. Paul's Church in Scranton, will be the guest homilist. A light reception will follow in the church hall. All are invited to attend.

AT ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, PITTSTON ● **MARYWOOD CHAMBER SINGERS CONCERT** The Chamber Singers of Marywood University under the direction of Dr. Rick Hoffenberg will present a Spring Concert at St John's on **Sunday, April 27 at 3:00 PM**. Their Spring 2025 concert program includes music by Lasso, Łukaszewski, Ešenvalds, Elgar, Lauridsen, William Henry Harris, Christopher Harris, and Kevin Puts, as well as a set of vocal jazz.

AT THE DURYEY AMERICAN LEGION ● **PASTA DINNER** on Saturday May 3rd from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Duryea American Legion Post 585 at 3:29 Main Street Duryea. Cost of the dinner is \$12 and includes penne pasta meatballs, homemade meat sauce, side salad with Italian dressing packet, and bread and butter. Eat in our dining area or take out. Tickets are available from sales members or at the door the day of the event.

LAST CALL



Dine-In
Or
Take Out



NATIVITY OF OUR LORD PARISH

LENTEN FRIDAY DINNER

Friday, April 4th 4:30 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.

Featuring

BAKED HADDOCK, SMASHED POTATOES & COLESLAW --- \$15.00

MACARONI AND CHEESE & STEWED TOMATOES --- \$12.00

KIDS MEAL: MACARONI & CHEESE WITH APPLESAUCE --- \$8.00

SIDE PORTION OF MAC & CHEESE AVAILABLE --- \$5.00

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

Please Circle One: Take-Out Eat-In

--- FISH DINNER
\$15.00

--- KIDS MAC & CHEESE
\$8.00

--- MAC & CHEESE DINNER
\$12.00

--- SIDE OF MAC & CHEESE
\$5.00

Checks made payable to NOOL Parish

Total Enclosed: _____



This Bulletin is printed in Loving Memory of...



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
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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	<i>Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.</i>			Margaret Yauk and Romayne Solarchik	Zujkowski, Pribula, Klink and Nasiatka Families

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