



# NATIVITY OF OUR LORD PARISH, DURYEA

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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.



❖ THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER ❖ MAY 4, 2025 ❖

Marco Sebastian Agolino  
Nico Thomas Baldoni  
Evelyn Elizabeth Cafice  
Julianna Philomena Ciuccio  
Hannah Rosalie Cooley  
Samuel Ignatius Davitt  
Benjamin Sebastian Faulent  
Haley Lucy Karboski  
Maci Michelle Kresge  
Sofia Carmen Kroptavich  
Isabella Rose Kroski  
Abigail Elizabeth Lenceski  
Eli John Licari  
Mikaela Caroline Lohman  
Reagan Anastasia Martin  
Julia Joan Pilchesky  
Grace Elizabeth Schardien  
Carl Patrick Stevenson  
Brody James Yucas



## CONGRATULATIONS

### CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2025

*Confirmed on April 22*

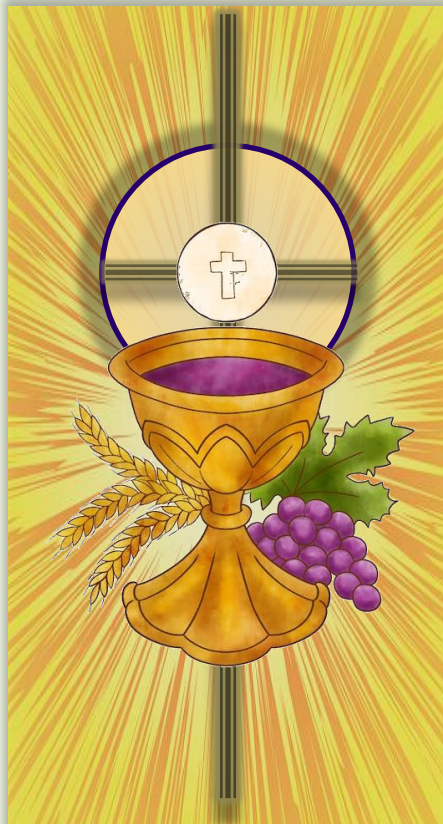


## CONGRATULATIONS

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASS OF 2025

*Received on May 4*

**JESUS**  
— REPLIED, "I AM THE  
**BREAD OF LIFE.**  
WHOEVER COMES TO  
ME WILL NEVER BE  
— HUNGRY AGAIN. —  
WHOEVER BELIEVES  
IN ME WILL NEVER BE  
**THIRSTY.** JOHN 6:35



Anna Alba  
Mina Boam  
Eli Bomber  
Louis Ciuccio  
Spencer D'aiello  
Carley Davies  
Aubrey DePrimo  
Aubree Evans  
Gianni Inman  
Harrison Lukasavage  
Camden Matos-Davis  
Nora McGowan  
Fiora Melucci  
Domnick Pizzola  
Roman Riviello  
Reagan Russick  
Bridget Soy  
Jackson Talarico  
Zoe Zlotek

## LITURGICAL CALENDAR, DEVOTIONS, AND INTENTIONS

MAY 4-11TH, 2025

Mon	5	Easter Weekday	7:00 am	John, Catherine & Joseph Polaski (by Eleanor O'Dell)
Tue	6	Easter Weekday	7:00am	Joseph & Eleanore Ogonosky (by a friend)
Wed	7	Easter Weekday	7:00am	Lottie Nyzio (by John & Diane Luke)
Thu	8	Easter Weekday	6:30pm	Joseph Namatka (30 day)
Fri	9	Easter Weekday	7:00am	Regina Bernard (by Carla Reck)
Sat	10	St. John of Avila, Priest & Doctor of the Church Damien de Veuster, Priest	4:00pm	Mother's Day Intentions
Sun	11	Fourth Sunday of Easter Mother's Day	8:00am 11:00am 7:00pm	Mother's Day Intentions Mother's Day Intentions Mother's Day Intentions

## VOTIVE CANDLES OFFERINGS

Sacred Heart of Jesus	Regina Bernard (by Carla Reck)
Blessed Virgin Mary	Regina & Frank Callis (by daughter, Carol)
Saint Joseph	Joseph & Eleanore Ogonosky (by a friend)
A candle will also burn at this time in prayerful memory of our departed Holy Father, Pope Francis.	

## Upcoming May Events...

## 4 Sunday

-First Holy Communion 11 AM Mass

## 6 Tuesday

- Piggie Prep: core, clean, steam cabbage, juice, rice, onions @9am

## 7 Wednesday

- roll and bake piggies 9am

## 8 Thursday

- roll and bake piggies 9am

## 10 Sunday - Mother's Day

-Carnation Sale after all Masses

## 20 Tuesday

-Piggie Prep: core, clean, steam @9am

-Soup and Spirituality 5:30-7pm

## 21 Wednesday

-roll and bake piggies 9am

## 22-Thursday

- roll and bake piggies 9am

**FINANCES AND ONGOING STEWARDSHIP:** For the period ending April 22: SUNDAY TOTAL \$6,914.00;  
 Sunday \$4,556.00 (\$964.00 OL); Other Envelopes \$1,687 (\$152.00 OL); Loose \$671.00;  
**Thank You, and may God bless your wonderful generosity!**

## An Easter Reflection

## Until Nothing Holds Us Back

Lent invited us to center more on our inward pilgrimage. Our fasting led us to consider what are some of the excessive things in our lives of which we need to let go. We were encouraged to give to those in need, so that we could share with them in their pain, emptiness and sorrow. Our openness to prayer hopefully guided us inwardly to a deeper trust in God's love for us and for all of humanity.

Certainly aspects of these inward searchings continues through Eastertime, indeed throughout all our passages in life. However, we also are challenged to spend more time focusing on how our Risen Lord truly lives in our daily worlds. Is Jesus' name a priority for us? Do we allow his name to guide our every thought, desire and action? Can we recognize his name as it motivates us even when facing heavy tasks? Who do we trust to lift us up, as we leave the tombs of indifference and selfishness where are culture pushes us to hide – Jesus or some other idol?

Pope Francis once said in a homily on this Sunday, that God "invites us to strip ourselves of our many idols and to worship him alone; to proclaim, to witness, to adore." (April 14, 2013) Each of the scriptures this Sunday emphasize how those first disciples witnessed to Pope Francis words. The apostles in the Acts of Apostles written by St. Luke previously have escaped prison through the assistance of an angel and return to the Temple area to live and act "for the sake of the name." They are arrested again, told to stop teaching "in that name," and are whipped and dismissed. More vigilant then ever, they rejoice "that they have been found worthy to suffer dishonor for the sake of the name."

There are countless angels crying out in loud voices, which St. John hears in the book of Revelation. Their words surround every living creature with "power and riches, wisdom and strength, honor and glory and blessing." It is the Lamb slain for our failures and now seated on a heavenly throne. This Lamb of forgiveness listens to all our prayers as we attempt to be more firm and persistent in orienting ourselves more to truly worship his name day-by-day.

In the Gospel of John, it is Peter who demonstrates how we must "strip away" the things that hinder us from naming who we really ought to be. Peter is "lightly clad," so that nothing can hold him back from making his way to Jesus. He loves Jesus and even if it is conditional at times, Jesus never gives up on him. We too seek to have our names synonymous with Jesus' name. We may need some angels to help us become more free of our idols, and being free of all that holds us back may take some time. Professor Mahri Leonard-Fleckman reminds us, "We follow Christ as best we can and in fits and starts. Yet the promise of Easter is that Jesus meets us where we are, drawing us gently and lovingly toward him until nothing holds us back." (Ponder, Contemplative Bible Study, Year C, p. 103)





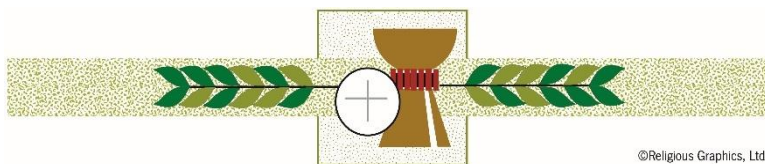
# SAVE THE DATES: PICNIC 2025

Our Annual Picnic will be held on  
**Friday July 11 and Saturday, July 12.**

Please watch future bulletins for Flea Market drop offs, donation needs, entertainment schedule, volunteer needs, and meeting dates.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Our multi-parish Vacation Bible School will take place from **Monday, July 28 to Friday, August 1.** A joint effort of the Catholic Parishes of Avoca, Dupont, Duryea, and Old Forge, our VBS takes place on the campus of Holy Rosary School and Church, here in Duryea. Please watch future bulletins and social media posts for planning meetings, registration, and information.



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**HRS GIFT CERTIFICATES:** Thursdays 8am-10am in church hall.

### IN THE COMMUNITY:

**AT ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST • FLEA MARKET** in the Msgr. Bendik Pastoral Center (former Seton Catholic auditorium) on **Thursday, May 29** and **Friday, May 30** from 5:00-8:00 PM and **Saturday, May 31** from 9:00 AM-12 Noon (Bag Sale). Entrance is on Church Street in Pittston with parking available nearby! **ALSO AT ST. JOHN'S • CASH BINGO** on **Sunday, June 29** from 1:00-4:00 PM in the Pastoral Center auditorium. Doors open at 12 Noon. Tickets are \$25 each which includes 20 regular games (extra may be purchased). Special games are \$5 each. There will be raffles, a 50/50, door prizes, and food available for purchase. Bring a new scratch-off lottery ticket (\$5 or more) to receive entry into a special drawing! We will be awarding over \$4,000 in prizes. Tickets will be available in the parish office Monday-Friday from 9:00 AM-4:00 PM and will also be available through Venmo (@StJohnsPittston) and PayPal.me/StJohnsPittston.

**Join Providence Pregnancy Center** on May 16, 2025 for our annual dinner at St. Mary's Center in Scranton. This year's featured guest speaker, Chris Bell, is the founder of Good Counsel Homes in New York City and will share about his important work of providing safe shelter to homeless pregnant women. The evening includes a cocktail hour with appetizers and a cash bar, a delicious dinner, dessert, live music and raffles. Join 500 others as we come together to celebrate and support the work of PPC, which provides critical resources to mothers in crisis including material help, counseling, housing at our maternity home Casa de Maria, and education. Tickets are only \$25 and can be purchased online at [www.ppcscranton.org/events](http://www.ppcscranton.org/events) or by calling Sandy at 570-862-3001.

**CATHOLIC CHORAL SOCIETY SPRING CONCERTS:** Friday evening, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at Mary, Mother of God Parish at Holy Rosary Church at 316 William Street in Scranton and on Sunday evening, May 18 at 7:00 PM at the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola at 339 N. Maple Ave., Kingston, PA. On Friday evening, May 16<sup>th</sup>, at Holy Rosary Church, the Choral Society will host the Mary, Mother of God Adult Choir directed by Kimberly Gnall. On Sunday evening, May 18, at St. Ignatius Loyola Church, the Choral Society will host the Good Shepherd Academy of Kingston Middle School Choir under the direction of Thomas Hanlon. The Catholic Choral Society, marking its 76<sup>th</sup> season, is comprised of members from Luzerne, Lackawanna, Wayne, Susquehanna and Wyoming counties. The director of the Catholic Choral Society is Ann Manganiello and the accompanist is Linda Houck. Brenda Grunza, Nicholson, and Lois Ostrowski, Pittston, are co-presidents of the choral group. Tickets: Adults \$12.00 - Seniors and students \$8.00 - Singers and ages 12 and under free.

Intention for the Month of May, 2025

### For working conditions

Let us pray that through work,  
each person might find fulfillment,  
families might be sustained in dignity,  
and that society might be humanized.

Questions for reflection based on this Sunday's readings:

- **Acts 5: 27-32, 40b-41 ~ The apostles openly give witness to the power of Jesus' name.**
- **Revelation 5:11-14 ~ John declares the glory of Jesus, the Lamb of God.**
- **John 21:1-19 or 21: 1-14 ~ The risen Christ welcomes his own at the seashore.**

When have I found the courage to speak out  
on behalf of what I believe?

## Heart to Heart Prayer



## Catholic Women's Conference

**Saturday, June 7, 2025**

Marywood University, Scranton

**Friday, June 6, 2025**

Overnight accommodations, dinner, and talk



Kara Kardell



Sr. Maria Kateri deFrancisco, SV



Sarah Hart

Register at [cwcnepa.com](http://cwcnepa.com)



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SCRANTON



*This Bulletin is printed in Loving Memory of...*



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

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