

Welcome to the Parishes of St. Joseph and St. Patrick

Remembering
March 25-31



Our Parish COMMUNITY

March 24, 2019
Third Sunday of Lent (C)
Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15
1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12
Lk 13:1-9

Monday
8:00am (SJ)

John J. Scialdone
Lena Fitzpatrick

Tuesday
12:00pm (SP)

Lauren Farrington
Phil Brennan

Wednesday

12:00pm (SP)
Lou Black

Ray & Carol Proulx

Thursday
8:00am (SJ)

Charles Capitano

Friday

Stations of the Cross
5:30PM (SJ)
7:00PM (SP)

Saturday
4:00pm (SJ)

Bennie Bauguess
Dan & Marilyn Bradley
& Family

5:30pm (SP)

Patricia Delaney
Dolores & Christine
Mcglew

Sunday

8:30am (SJ)

For the People of
St. Joseph's Parish

11:00am (SP)

For the People of
Saint Patrick's

Appreciating God's Patience

God is very patient, but his patience doesn't last forever.

In the Old Testament, after God spoke to Abraham and Lot's subsequent rebellion, some 500 years passed before God revealed himself again—this time to Moses. God takes the first step toward Abraham and, when his descendants turned away, he steps back. He reached out again to Moses and revealed his name so that Moses could enter into a personal relationship with him and explain his name to others. God wants to be known by his people and by you!

So here we learn that with this revelation of God comes a responsibility. He unveils his mysterious face but he also desires a loving response and for us to witness about him to others.

Saint Paul makes it clear that God eventually ran out of patience with the Chosen People in the desert. After freeing the Israelites from Egypt with signs and wonders, giving them his law, and feeding them in the desert, they complained against him.

For Reflection

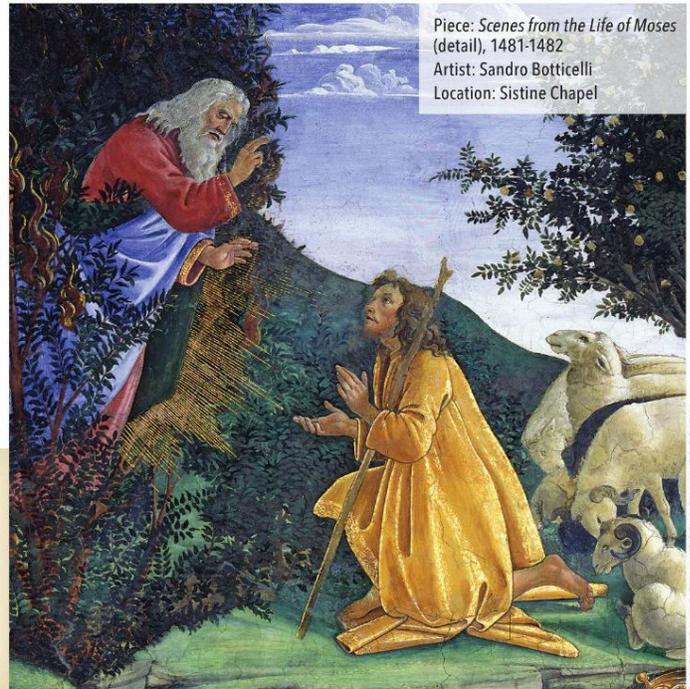
Is there a particular way I "desire evil things," as St. Paul says in the second reading?

God shows me patience and mercy yet again this year. How shall I respond?

Like the fig tree in the gospel, he gave them ample time and multiple encores of his love and mercy. Yet eventually, his love took the form of tough love—forty years of desert wanderings.

Lent is another expression of God's patience toward us. He is once again sowing the seeds of conversion, hoping for the fruits of our change of heart—fruits of love, forgiveness, repentance, and renewal.

He gives time for his cultivating efforts to take effect and for fruit to appear, but our life on earth is finite, so that time isn't unlimited. —Fr. Mark Haydu, LC



Piece: Scenes from the Life of Moses (detail), 1481-1482
Artist: Sandro Botticelli
Location: Sistine Chapel

PHOTO © GOVERNATORATO S.C. - DIREZIONE DI MUSEI

"Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future."

Luke 13:8

Welcome

Our entire Parish Families welcome all of you who have come to worship with us today. We encourage you to participate fully in the spiritual, ministerial and social life of our parish community.

Sacrament of Baptism

All parents are required to attend a pre-baptismal instruction. Please contact your Parish Office to make arrangements for this opportunity for spiritual renewal

Sacrament of Marriage

Couples contemplating marriage should notify your Parish Office at least six months before the date of their intended marriage.

Sacrament of the Sick

The Sacrament of the Sick is for the comfort and strength of the ill. It is not just intended for those in immediate danger of death. It is a help and comfort to the living. If a parishioner is homebound or hospitalized, please contact your Parish Office.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

A resource number that would help meet the needs of many people is sponsored by United Way. The way it helps is by the person in need calls 211 which connects you with your zip code resource area or they will give you the direct number to call i.e. Pike County is 855-567-5347. If you need help with food, paying bills, health care, employment, housing etc. call 211 and be connected to your zip code resource area in Pike County or dial directly 855-567-5341.

COLD AND FLU SEASON

We ask you not to shake hands with the Priest, Deacons, altar Servers and Eucharistic Ministers before or after Mass. During the "Sign of Peace" just use an acknowledgement to each other, like a nod or a wave. Beginning January we will not distribute the Cup of Precious Blood until Holy Thursday, April 18, 2019. God Bless, Father Joseph

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FAMILY & FRIENDS DINNER

This Sunday 3/24 and the Fourth Sunday of each month from 1-3PM. If you plan to attend call Al Helms at 845-699-4143. Thank you.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION MASS

His Excellency, the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of Scranton and the Office for Parish Life wish to invite couples celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversary in 2019 to a diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, June 30th. Requests for an invitation, with a mailing address, should be made through your pastor before April 2nd.

ANNULMENT PROCESS

In the Diocese of Scranton, the annulment process is more "user friendly" than you might expect, and there is no longer a processing fee. Please contact your pastor or the Diocesan Tribunal Office (570) 207-2246 to begin a conversation. It is possible to get clear answers to these questions and to renew your connection with the Church.

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER

This number is for a death or Anointing of the Sick only for St. Joseph's and St. Patrick's Parishes (570) 591-1405 please leave your name, phone number and a brief message. Any messages or questions left at this number pertaining to regular Office business will not be answered.

ST JOHN NEUMANN/ST. ANN'S PENANCE SERVICE

This Sunday, March 24th St. John Neumann's Church will have their Penance Service at 2:00pm and St. Ann's will have their Penance Service at 4:00pm.



LENTEN / EASTER SCHEDULE

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Friday Evenings
5:30 PM (SJ)
7:00 PM (SP)

CONFESSIONS

"The Light Is On" every Monday during Lent
5:30PM - 6:15PM (SJ)

6:45PM - 7:30PM (SP)

Regular Confessions Saturday's 3:00PM (SJ)
Tuesday & Wednesday 11:30AM (SP) and
following the 5:30PM Mass Saturdays (SP)

COMBINED PENANCE SERVICE (SP)

Monday, April 15th at 7:00PM

HOLY THURSDAY

Evening of the Lord's Supper 7:30PM (SP)

GOOD FRIDAY

The Passion 2:00PM (SP)

HOLY SATURDAY

Blessing of the Food 12:00PM (SP)

EASTER VIGIL 8:00PM (SJ)

EASTER SUNDAY MASSES

8:30AM (SJ)
11:00AM (SP)

24HOUR LENT EUCHARIST ADORATION

March 29 following the Stations of the Cross at St. Patrick's. Sign up sheets are in the Narthex.

Please check future bulletins for any additional services that may be added during the Lenten Season.

The Catholic Community of St. Joseph

MINISTRY SCHEDULE
March 30-31

Saturday 4:00pm
Lector <i>Tom McMullen</i>
Eucharistic Minister
Altar Servers <i>Mark Cavallaro, Lukas Schutz, Cole Corcoran</i>
Sunday 8:30am
Lector <i>Diana Sierra</i>
Eucharistic Minister
Altar Server <i>Brenna Cavallaro Draven Nitecki</i>
Milford Senior Care 3/24 Lois Lazarczyk <i>3/31 Chuck Pike</i>

EASTER LILY MEMORIALS

Again this year we will be memorializing the Easter Lillie's that are placed in the Sanctuary for Easter. The cost will be \$20.00 per plant. Special **YELLOW** envelopes are at all entrances to the Church. Please fill out the front of the envelope (please print clearly) and enclose your payment. You may drop the envelopes into the collection basket or at the Parish Office. The "Flower" envelope included in your monthly envelope packet is for the general Easter Flowers not the Lillie's.

The deadline is April 15th. A list of memorials will be inserted in the bulletin Easter Sunday.

WE WELCOME BACK THE PALM SUNDAY BRUNCH!!

Sponsored by St. Joseph's Altar & Rosary Society, Sunday, April 14 after the 8:30am Mass. Sign-ups will begin next weekend in the Vestibule and continue through April 7th. Cost is \$3.00 per person or \$7.00 per family and must be paid at sign-up.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE MASS

Want to do something different to enrich your spiritual life this Lent? Join Deacon Thomas Spataro during the Lenten Season on Tuesdays, March 26, April 2 and April 9 at 7:00pm at St. Patrick's Church, as he continues his weekly enlightening discussions based on Bishop Robert Barron's series "The Mass". All are welcome! For more information call St. Patrick's Parish Office at 570 296-7451

ECUMENICAL FOOD PANTRY

Our next food pantry will be Friday, March 26, 2019 from 6 - 8pm (Team B). To volunteer call Clare Nied at 570-296-2506. Thank you for your continued support.

5th ANNUAL DIOCESE OF SCRANTON "Be A Man Catholic Men's Conference"

What is Truth? In these difficult times, the world asks what Pontius Pilate asked 2000 years ago. What is Truth? The world thinks "Man is the measure of all things". This conference will remind us that God is the measure of all things and His truth is revealed in His son Jesus Christ. Guest speakers include Fr. Philip Bochanski, Catholic Priest & Director of Courage International, the Catholic Apostolate for men and women and their loved ones who struggle with same sex attraction (SSA), Dr. Ray Guarendi, Author, TV Host, & Psychologist and Doug Barry, Evangelist and TV Host. The Conference will be held April 27, 2019 from 8am-3pm at Holy redeemer High School 159 S. Pennsylvania Avenue, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701. Registration is necessary and may be done on-line at www.BeAManConference.com. Questions about the registration? please call 570-207-2213.



The Sanctuary Candle
burns for the

Deb Cook

By

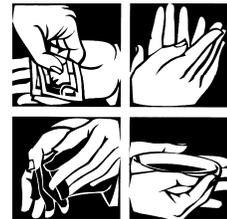
Anne & David Dunn

Weekly Offering

March 17, 2019
\$ 3,359.00

Last Year

March 18, 2018
\$ 3,331.00



Thank you for your generosity!

"We, the parish of St. Joseph's, in union with our Holy Father, our bishop, and our pastor, seek to grow in holiness as a welcoming and caring family reaching out to all. As a faith-filled community celebrating the Eucharist, we strive to enrich our spiritual lives by cultivating a deeper relationship with Christ through the sacraments. We are united in faith and find unity in diversity as we pray for the grace to use our gifts and talents to promote the knowledge of God's love."

EASTER LILY MEMORIALS

Again this year we will be memorializing the Easter Lily's and flowers that are placed in the Sanctuary for Easter. The cost will be \$20.00 per plant. Special **YELLOW** envelopes are at all entrances to the Church. Please fill out the front of the envelope (please print clearly) and enclose your payment. You may drop the envelopes into the collection basket or at the Parish Office. The deadline for this is April 15th. A list of memorials will be placed in the bulletin Easter Sunday.

ST. PATRICK'S KNITTERS & CROCHETERS GROUP

WELCOME SPRING! We will resume meeting weekly starting Wednesday, March 20, 2019 at 2:00pm (weather permitting). The group meets in the Parish hall (use side entrance) from 2 to 4pm on Wednesdays. Everyone is welcome. We supply the yarn and needles.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE MASS

Want to do something different to enrich your spiritual life this Lent? Join Deacon Thomas Spataro during the Lenten Season on Tuesdays, March 26, April 2 and April 9 at 7:00pm at St. Patrick's church, as he continues his weekly enlightening discussions based on Bishop Robert Barron's series "The Mass".

FOOD PANTRY

St. Patrick's Team will serve at the Food Pantry on Friday March 29th 6:00pm

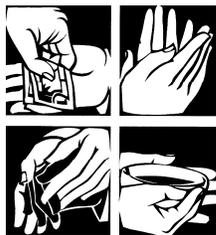
NOTICE REGARDING REPORTING SEXUAL ABUSE OF A MINOR

It is the policy of the Diocese of Scranton to report any allegation of sexual abuse of a minor to law enforcement. If you are a victim of sexual abuse committed by a priest, deacon, religious or lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton, you are encouraged to immediately report the matter to law enforcement. If any priest, deacon, religious, lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton has cause or reason to suspect that a minor has been subjected to any form of abuse, including child sexual abuse, the matter will be reported to law enforcement. In accordance with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Child Protective Services Laws, reports of suspected child abuse should also be made immediately by phone to the 24-Hour Child Abuse hotline (ChildLine) at 1-800-932-0313 or electronically at www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis. It is also the policy of the Diocese to adhere to all civil and state regulations. To this end, the Diocese is equally committed to adhering to the norms of the Code of Canon Law and to upholding the tenets of the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, which includes supporting victims of sexual abuse in their pursuit of emotional and spiritual well-being. As such, information regarding an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor should also be reported to the Victim Assistance Coordinator Mary Beth Pacuska at (570-862-7551) or to Diocesan officials, including the Vicar General, Monsignor Thomas

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

March 30-31

Saturday 5:30pm	
Lector	<i>Joe Casmus</i>
Communion Ministers	
Altar Servers <i>Nicholas Dinos, Nicole Traxler</i>	
Sunday 11:00am	
Lector	<i>Ray Proulx</i>
Communion Ministers	
Altar Servers <i>Caterina Catizone, Vincent Saski</i>	



Weekly Collection
March 10, 2019
\$2,658.00

March 17, 2019
\$2169.00

This time last year
\$2,356.00

Weekly Mortgage Offertory
March 10, 2019
\$ 686.00

March 17, 2019
\$607.00

Year to Date July '18- Current
\$21,062.00

Goal for the Year \$100,000
Thank you for your generosity!

*The Sanctuary Candle
burns in memory of
Wanda Pierkarski
requested by
The Platt Family*

St. Patrick's Parish is the presence of the Catholic Church in a diverse and vibrant area of northeastern Pennsylvania. As disciples, we dedicate ourselves to hearing, learning and sharing the good news of God's Word as we reverently celebrate the presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. Together, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we seek to know, love and serve God. We strive to promote a culture of love and respect for all human life and for the beautiful world in which we live. We welcome all people to participate in the spiritual and social life of our parish family.

KID'S KORNER

Gospel Today Third Sunday of Lent | Luke 13:1-9

The parable uses a barren fruit tree to help us understand God's patience and love for His creation. Given the proper nurturing, unfruitful people can again become pleasing to God.

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This tree has no fruit. It can be home to birds & animals, but it is capable of so much more! It just needs to be nurtured.

Nurture: to feed, nourish, train, educate, cultivate



Jesus believes in us, is willing to give us another chance. We need to say we are sorry for not always doing the best we can.

Thank Jesus for His forgiveness & faith in us as we
FOLLOW OUR FAITH FOR 40 DAYS.

Draw fruit and leaves on the tree.
Add any fruit that would be good to eat.
Example: apples, oranges, peaches, pears, figs. Don't forget to add a bird to the nest!

Now the tree represents people — ready to share & give good things to others. **What can people give others that trees can't give?** Example: a hug

Year C

Calendar

Daily Prayer

Monday
MARCH 25
Annunciation of the Lord
Is 7:10–14; 8:10
Heb 10:4–10
Lk 1:26–38

Tuesday
MARCH 26
Lenten Weekday
Dn 3:25, 34–43
Mt 18:21–35

Wednesday
MARCH 27
Lenten Weekday
Dt 4:1, 5–9
Mt 5:17–19

Thursday
MARCH 28
Lenten Weekday
Jer 7:23–28
Lk 11:14–23

Friday
MARCH 29
Lenten Weekday
Hos 14:2–10
Mk 12:28–34

Saturday
MARCH 30
Lenten Weekday
Hos 6:1–6
Lk 18:9–14

Sunday
MARCH 31
Fourth Sunday of Lent
Jos 5:9a, 10–12
2 Cor 5:17–21
Lk 15:1–3, 11–32

This is a pivotal week of Lent. We can solidify the patterns we have begun or we can make a new start, if we haven't been able to get started yet. If we have begun to recognize what needs realigning in our lives and have begun to fast and abstain from some things that get in the way of our relationship with the Lord, then we are engaging in a struggle. We are likely uncovering resistance and experiencing our personal sinfulness face-to-face.

This is all preparing us for a deeper conversion, a readiness for reconciliation with God and the graces that will allow us to be a source of reconciliation with others. This is the time when we begin to see and experience how much God loves us at a new and more personal level. These graces prepare us to keep our eyes focused on Jesus in the weeks ahead - to learn from him, to fall in

love with him more deeply and to be drawn to imitate him more completely. If we are just getting started with our Lenten journey, renewing our desires for these graces will be all we need to begin with a renewed openness. God does not need a lot of time to convince us of his love for us.

This is a week about God's love for us and our call to love others the same way. It is a week to keep our daily focus on naming a desire each morning. The day ahead will shape what we ask for as our feet hit the floor in the morning. Pausing to thank the Lord for this day and to ask for the grace to let our mind and heart be renewed in the concrete circumstances, relationships and obligations of our day. Throughout the day, we can then return to those desires in background of our awareness. Our request for the Lord's help is always there and our consciousness of it will help us make the choice we desire to make, to let go of what we need to let go of, to add what we need to add. This will take us deeper and deeper into self-awareness and a sense of our need for a Savior, who is right there to embrace us and give us the graces we ask for.