

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

Remembering

April 24 - 30

MONDAY

8:00am (SJ)

✠ **N. Arnold Vargas**
The Family

TUESDAY

12:00pm (SP)

✠ **Communion Service**

WEDNESDAY

12:00pm (SP)

✠ **Communion Service**

THURSDAY

8:00am (SJ)

✠ **Communion Service**

FRIDAY

NO MASS

SATURDAY

4:00pm (SJ)

✠ **Sheila Bundrick &
Joanne McReynolds**
Maureen Garramone

5:30Ppm (SP)

✠ **Anne Gallagher**
Joanne Dorniak

SUNDAY

7:30am (SP)

✠ **Mary O'Donnell**

Adeen & Bill Hanson

9:00am (SJ)

✠ **For the People of
St. Joseph's Parish**

11:00am (SP)

✠ **For the People of
St. Patrick Parish**



Our Parish COMMUNITY

April 23, 2017

Divine Mercy Sunday

Acts 2:42-47

1 Pt 1:3-9

Jn 20:19-31

Touching Jesus' Mercy

The memory and marks of our sufferings can lead us to lose our peace. For Christ, this is not so. He shows the disciples his wounds and says, "Peace be with you." It may seem contradictory, but it isn't. To touch Christ's wounded side is to touch his mercy, to touch a love that overcomes everything. In spite of my sins wounding him, he comes to me in loving mercy. Jesus' wounds bring peace.

When the apostles see his hands and side, they rejoice. His wounds are a sign that it is really him. No one else has those marks. His wounds are his identification! His wounds bring joy.

Thomas misses Jesus' first apparition, returning

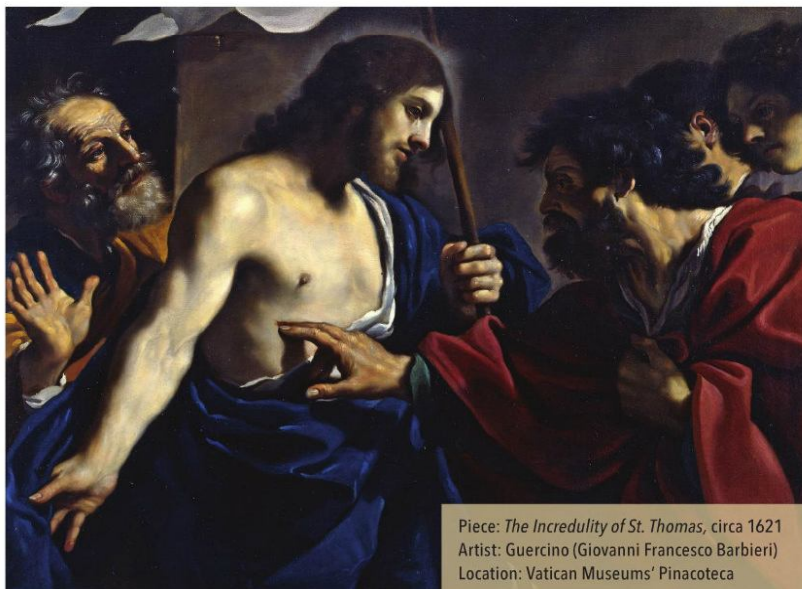
and demanding proof before he will believe. Rather than becoming angry, Jesus shows him his wounds. He invites Thomas to touch the signs of his suffering, and Thomas believes. Jesus' wounds bring faith.

We, too, need to insert our hands and hearts into Christ's side, to come into contact with his love and mercy. Only then can we be healed. Only then can we experience real peace, joy, and faith.

That's why Jesus breathes on his disciples and says, "Receive the holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them" (John 20:22-23). He wants to heal their wounds and see them produce joy and peace in others. God's grace is to reach all generations through the power of forgiveness he entrusts to his Church. The sacrament of penance is exactly that.

We acknowledge our sins and Jesus responds with understanding, forgiveness, and counsel.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC



Piece: *The Incredulity of St. Thomas*, circa 1621
Artist: Guercino (Giovanni Francesco Barbieri)
Location: Vatican Museums' Pinacoteca

For Reflection

How often and how sincerely do you receive mercy through reconciliation? How often do you show and share the forgiveness and mercy you have been blessed with?

*"Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them,
and whose sins you retain are retained" (John 20:23).*

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. If needed, please contact your Parish Office to register.

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

THIRD ANNUAL MEN'S CATHOLIC

CONFERENCE - "Be A Man: Mary's Call to BATTLE" will be held on May 6, 2017 at King's College, Scandlon Physical Education Center, 149 North Main St, Wilkes-Barre, Experience a prayerful, spirit-filled, life-changing day! Eucharistic Adoration 6:00am, Registration/Continental Breakfast 7:00am, with main Conference and Mass from 8:00am to 2:45pm. The Most Reverend Bishop Joseph Bambera will celebrate the closing Mass. Cost: \$35, \$30 early bird, \$15 students, Priests / Deacons free. Register on line at: www.beamanconference.com call 570-207-2213

ST. PATRICK'S LEGION OF MARY

The Legion of Mary from St. Patrick's Church will be hosting a movie on Sunday, April 30th immediately following the 11:00am Mass in the Parish Hall. The movie "Risen" will be shown. Admission is free and the length is 1 hour and 47 minutes and is rated PG-13. Please join us as we celebrate Jesus' Resurrection this coming Easter Season.

K OF C COUNCILS #471 & 13935

CHARITY GOLF OUTING Wednesday, May 24th at High Point Golf Club. Registration 10-11:00AM, Shotgun Start: 12:00 noon. Lunch on Course—Dinner @ Erie trackside after Golf. Scramble Format, assorted golf prizes and contests. \$100.00 per golfer—please pay by May 10, 2017. Contact Benny Marasa at 570 296-5564, Tom Hogan at 570 296-7210 or Walter Marcial at 570 491-4332.

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 M. Muldowney, V.G., at (570-207-2269).

SOCIAL JUSTICE CORNER

The Seven Themes of Catholic Social Teaching - Care for Creation, part 7

In his encyclical, "Laudato Si'", Pope Francis writes, "Climate change is a global problem with grave implications: environmental, social, economic...It represents one of the principal challenges facing humanity in our day. Its worst impact will probably be felt by developing countries in coming decades. Many of the poor live in areas particularly affected by phenomena related to warming, and their means of subsistence are largely dependent on natural reserves and ecosystemic services such as agriculture, fishing and forestry. They have no other financial activities or resources which can enable them to adapt to climate change or to face natural disasters, and their access to social services and protection is very limited...There has been a tragic rise in the number of migrants seeking to flee from the growing poverty caused by environmental degradation. They are not recognized by international conventions as refugees; they bear the loss of the lives they have left behind, without enjoying any legal protection whatsoever. Sadly, there is widespread indifference to such suffering, which is even now taking place throughout our world. Our lack of response to these tragedies involving our brothers and sisters points to the loss of that sense of responsibility for our fellow men and women upon which all civil society is founded.

Many of those who possess more resources and economic or political power seem mostly to be concerned with masking the problems or concealing their symptoms...However, many of these symptoms indicate that such effects will continue to worsen if we continue with current models of production and consumption. There is an urgent need to develop policies so that, in the next few years, the emission of carbon dioxide and other highly polluting gases can be drastically reduced, for example, (reducing use of) fossil fuels and developing sources of renewable energy. Worldwide there is minimal access to clean and renewable energy...Some countries have made considerable progress, although it is far from constituting a significant proportion. Investments have also been made in means of production and transportation which consume less energy and require fewer raw materials, as well as in methods of construction and renovating buildings which improve their energy efficiency. But these good practices are still far from widespread." (Continued in part 8)

Let us pray ... that we recognize our obligation to care for our world and all people, to share our resources with others, and to see all people as equal in the eyes of the Lord. Amen.

(To read the entire Encyclical Letter by Pope Francis, go to http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html)

FATHER AL'S E-MAIL ADDRESS

fatheral@ptd.net

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER

For St. Joseph's and St. Patrick's (570) 591-1405 please leave your name, phone number and a brief message.

The Catholic Community of St. Joseph

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

April 29-30

Saturday 4:00pm

Lector

Larry Marcial

Eucharistic Minister

Cristin Cavallaro

Diane Heater

Altar Servers

David Marcial

Lucas Helms

Sunday 9:00am

Lector

Matt Cavallaro

Eucharistic Minister

Joe Price

Makayla Csencsits

Altar Servers

Mikaela Parker

Draven Nitecki

April Altar Server Of the Month:

Eric Cabrera -Agostini

Milford Senior Care

4/23 Eileen Dorko

4/30 Lois Lazarczyk

CCD SHOWCASE

Please join our CCD kids downstairs in the Church Hall for the Annual CCD "Showcase" next Sunday, April 30th immediately following the 9:00am Mass. You don't want to miss it!!

COFFEE & CONVERSATION

Every Monday in the Rectory after the 8:00am Mass. Come join Father Vito and discuss current events, Church happenings, or anything on your mind. All are invited!

MASS AT MILFORD SENIOR CARE

Father Vito celebrates Mass at Milford Senior Care on the second Thursday of every Month at 9:30 am. Any family or friends of residents of Milford Senior Care are welcome.

COFFEE SOCIAL - Our next Coffee Social will be Sunday, May 21st. Anyone who would like to donate baked goods please call Lee Kenney at 570-491-2620. Thank you!

FOOD PANTRY

Our next food pantry will be Friday, May 5th from 6 - 8pm (Team B). To volunteer please call Clare Nied at 570-296-2506.

BROTHER JUNIPER



The Sanctuary Candle
burns In Memory of

Joseph W. Ricciardi

by
The Family

Weekly Offering

Easter, 2017

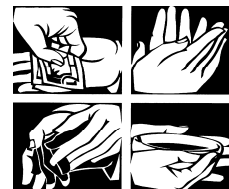
\$ 4534.50 (1st)

Last Year

Easter 2016

\$ 6345.25

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."

RELIGIOUS ED. SOUP AND BREAD DINNER. We missed you! The Religious Education program sponsored a "Lenten Soup and Bread" on Monday evening April 10th. We have about 30 people in attendance and 5 different soups were served. We hope to see you next year!

MORE RELIGIOUS ED. NEWS... First Holy Communion class will have a practice on Thursday evening at 6:30 in the church. All must attend this practice. First Holy Communion will be celebrated on Saturday May 6th at 11:00AM. Please keep all the Communicants in your prayers.

Sunday is the last class. The May Crowning will be after the 11:00 Mass followed by an Ice-Cream Sunday.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL It's time to "Gear Up" for Vacation bible School. Mark your calendars for July 10-14th 9:00am. More information about registration to follow. If you have any questions, please call Jo-Marie Totten at 570 296-7451 or e-mail patsdre@ptd.net.

MASS AT BELLE REVE

Mass at Belle Reve will be the 3rd Wednesday of every Month at 2:30pm

ROSARY AT BELLE REVE

The rosary is recited every other Tuesday, 2PM at Belle Reve Senior Care Home in Milford, parishioners from St. Patrick's join residents of Belle Reve for a half hour of prayer and fellowship. Why don't you join us in this worthwhile ministry? The next time they will meet will be May 2, 2016.

For more information, Call Eileen Harrington (570) 296-6137 or Pat Corcoran at (570) 409-9089.

ECUMENICAL FOOD PANTRY

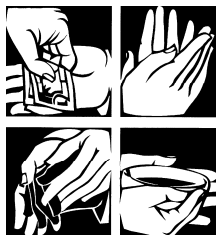
St. Patrick's team will serve at the Food Pantry on May 19th at 6:00pm

SAINT PATRICK'S KNITTERS & CROCHETERS

New members are needed and always welcome. Come join us on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 in the back room (old preschool entrance) of the Church Hall. We are currently working on blankets for veterans, prosthetics for cancer survivors, baby items for the Tri-State Pregnancy Center, chemo caps and more. For more information please contact Pat Santini at (570) 296-9469.

HAVE YOU JOINED TWITTER YET?

There has been an overwhelming response and we are getting present and past parishioners, local people and many from all over. Information will be posted about our parish, events, special announcements and in general, spiritual tweets that will connect you with our parish and our Catholic faith.



Weekly Offering
April 16, 2017(Easter)
\$ 1,980.00
Last year
April 19 2016
\$5,967.00

Weekly Mortgage Offertory
April 16 2017
\$1,964.00
Year to Date July 16' - Current
\$41,427.00
Goal for the Year \$100,000
Thank you for your generosity!

MINISTRY SCHEDULE April 29/30

Saturday 5:30pm (SP)

Lector Cheryl McCarthy

Communion Ministers

Janet Finnerty, Donna Hersca, Colleen Sheldon

Altar Servers Carli Lock, Abigail Vogel

Sunday 7:30am

Lector Ray Proulx

Communion Ministers

Karen Loeschorn, Ray Proulx, Rosemary Walsh

Altar Servers

Riley Mapes, Nicole Traxler

Sunday 11:00am

Lector Diane Dennis

Communion Ministers

Linda Coffey, Angela Gleason, Ray Weeks

Altar Servers

Roger Neff, Isabella Saski

*The Sanctuary Candle
burns in memory of
John C. Stierle
requested by
The Stierle 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.

After His Resurrection, Jesus greeted His disciples in the locked room saying, "Peace be with you". Then He said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them". Thomas was not present, but Jesus came a week later when he was there and said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands... and do not be unbelieving, but believe". John 20:27

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Believe...

in the mercy of God

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find all the words... left, right, up, down or diagonally.

Jesus wants us to...

- 1) Receive Penance during Lent, our preparation time.
- 2) Receive Communion on this day.
- 3) Venerate or respect the image of Jesus.
- 4) Perform deeds of mercy/acts of kindness for everyone out of love for Jesus.
- 5) For this, Jesus will grant complete forgiveness of sins and punishments.



"Blessed are those who have not seen, and have believed." John 20:29

Divine	P	E	A	C	E	J	E	S	U	S	T	C	A
Mercy	H	O	L	E	V	I	G	R	O	F	J	E	I
Jesus	S	T	O	V	E	R	J	O	Y	E	D	Y	M
Appears	E	V	I	E	C	E	R	D	I	V	I	N	E
Disciples	T	O	S	W	L	N	M	E	H	E	U	R	R
Locked	E	N	P	T	F	E	L	A	O	R	E	O	C
Room	L	T	I	P	A	E	I	E	L	Y	V	O	Y
Overjoyed	P	C	R	A	U	S	G	S	Y	O	E	M	D
Peace	M	E	I	M	S	S	E	N	D	N	I	K	E
With	O	P	T	E	T	D	E	S	S	E	L	B	K
You	C	S	M	D	I	S	C	I	P	L	E	S	C
Receive	K	E	T	D	N	E	G	A	M	I	B	D	O
Holy	Y	R	A	N	A	P	P	E	A	R	S	F	L
Spirit													
Forgive													
Seen													
Believe													
Blessed													
Messiah													
Everyone													
Complete													
Respect													
Image													
Acts													
Kindness													
Deeds													
Saint													
Faustina													

Calendar

Monday

April 24

Easter Weekday

Acts 4:23-31

Jn 3:1-8

Tuesday

April 25

St. Mark,

Evangelist

1 Pt 5:5b-14

Mk 16:15-20

Wednesday

April 26

Easter Weekday

Acts 5:17-26

Jn 3:16-21

Thursday

April 27

Easter Weekday

Acts 5:27-33

Jn 3:31-36

Friday

April 28

Easter Weekday

Acts 5:34-42

Jn 6:1-15

Saturday

April 29

St. Catherine of Siena,
Virgin and

Doctor of the Church

Acts 6:1-7

Jn 6:16-21

Sunday

April 30

Third Sunday
of Easter

Acts 2:14, 22-33

1 Pt 1:17-21

Lk 24:13-35

Daily Prayer this Week

This is a wonderful week to pray in joy at God's merciful love for us, and for the unending forgiveness we are offered. We know we have done nothing to deserve that forgiveness and that we cannot earn it, and yet it is ours, if only we can accept it.

Over and over this week, we are invited to place our trust in God. The ever-human disciples didn't always put aside their fears, and neither do we. We can imagine the terrified followers of Jesus hiding behind locked doors until he appears in their midst, inviting them not to be afraid.

This might be a good week to spend time with Jesus looking at the fears in our own lives which keep us locked up away from others. We can ask Jesus for the courage to trust in him. What would it cost us to let go of the fears that smother our lives? What would it mean for our lives and for the relationships in our lives if we were

willing to let go of "the way we have always done things" and to beg Jesus for help? Our lives can change. We have a standing offer from our Lord to fall into his forgiving embrace.

Dear Lord, it feels impossible to believe that my life can change, that I can move out of this rut I am in. I know I don't always live my life feeling your love and being my best self. Help me to trust in you, to drop my defenses and to feel how deeply I am loved and forgiven by you. Give me the courage to feel it in my heart when you say, "Don't be afraid" and "Peace be with you." I so long for that peace in my life but it feels so far away sometimes. Help me to believe in you, to drive away the doubts and unbelief that harden my heart.

I know my life can change, if only I can say with all my heart, "I trust in you, Lord. I believe in your mercy and I know that with your help, my life can be healed."

Creighton University's Online Ministries web site:
<http://www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html>
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