



Good Shepherd Church

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

March 24 & 25, 2018



† MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK †

Saturday March 24
4:00 PM Katherine Wright ~ Josephine LaRock, Jay Sharrer, & Aliandra Smith

Sunday March 25
8:00 AM Michael & Julia Stanek ~ M/M Richard Stanek

10:00 AM Parishioners of Good Shepherd

Monday March 26
8:00 AM Elmer Poncheri ~ Wife & Children

Tuesday March 27
8:00 AM Stephen L. Hudak ~ Harry & Rose Buchman

Wednesday March 28
8:00 AM June Sipple ~ Richard & Joann Chura

Thursday March 29 – Holy Thursday
8:00 AM No Mass
7:00 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper

Friday March 30 – Good Friday
8:00 AM No Mass
1:00 PM Service of the Lord's Passion
Stations of the Cross will not be held.

Saturday March 31 – Holy Saturday
11:00 AM Blessing of Baskets
8:00 PM Solemn Vigil of Easter

Sunday April 1 – Easter Sunday
8:00 AM Parishioners of Good Shepherd
10:00 AM M/M Connell A. McHugh ~ Son, Fr. Connell
11:30 AM Pearl M. Sipple ~ Judith Whitaker

Worship

The Tabernacle Candle burns this week in memory of Elizabeth Hennick by Louise and Edward Quinn.

The Rose for Life this week is in memory of Joan by her sister, Jean.



The Passion Narrative of John: The Passion of John is appropriately the narrative that is always read on Good Friday. This is because Jesus is always in control of His destiny in the Gospel. Jesus calmly lays down His life in John. He does not have an Agony in the Garden as He does in the Synoptics. Jesus carries His own crossbeam in John. Simon of Cyrene assists Jesus in the other Gospels. Jesus is much more aggressive in John. Unlike the Synoptic Gospels, Jesus speaks up when questioned. John also always presents the Father being with Jesus throughout His Passion. There is no sense of abandonment as in Mark and Matthew. The cross in John is the greatest sign of Jesus' glory. He reigns over all from the wood of the cross. Besides presenting Jesus as a sovereign king, John also offers a much more appealing image of Jesus, that of a Good Shepherd. John's Passion is the only one to tell of women beneath the cross of Christ.

Scripture Sessions: These were especially well-attended this Lent for which I am very grateful. I put a great deal of time in trying, by the historical-critical method, to provide in-depth presentations of the topics I treat.

Stewardship

669 families received envelopes.

Offertory Envelopes for the weekend 3/17:

MASS TIME	NUMBER OF FAMILIES OFFERING	AMOUNT OF OFFERING	ATTENDANCE AT MASS
4:00 PM	77	\$1,019.00	201
8:00 AM	55	\$ 782.00	113
10:00 AM	70	\$1,236.00	207
	Loose	\$ 201.00	
	Total	\$3,238.00	521

Easter Collection: Please be generous to the Easter collection. While our Christmas collection was higher than last year, we have been down over 10% in the weekends following Christmas. While weather has not helped, there are other reasons for declining collections as well. Quite a few registered parishioners (not counting shut-ins) rarely attend Mass or contribute to the support of the parish or the Diocesan Appeal for that matter. Parishes just cannot continue to function properly, or function at all, if only one-third of the parish is actively involved in the support and activities of the parish.

No Appointments During Holy Week: I will not take any personal appointments during Holy Week since I will be taking all the services of the Triduum which demand a great deal of preparation. I will have all the Masses of Palm Sunday through Easter except the 8:00 AM Palm Sunday and the 8:00 AM Easter Sunday Masses, which Father Steven Brosk will celebrate.

The Catholic Light Anniversary Edition: These are free to families and individuals who want them. *The Catholic Light* is mailed to those who support the Annual Appeal. There is a wealth of information and fascinating old photos in the edition. It is well worth reading and saving.

Fish Dinner: Thank you to all who assisted with the fish fry and those who supported it. We had a nice attendance and the dinner was very good.

Word

Theme: The Passion of Jesus: Today's liturgy bears the cumbersome title of "Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion." The title does indicate the dual aspect of today's liturgy, namely Jesus' triumphal entrance into Jerusalem and then His Passion. The waving of palms recalls the Feast of Tabernacles when people waved branches and sang Psalms 113-118 in memory of their liberation from Egypt or the triumphal entrance of the Maccabees into Jerusalem to rededicate the Temple. The word *Hosanna*, which the people call out, means "Save us, we pray." Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem on a donkey indicates that He is a man of peace, not a military figure. Many of the people who greeted Jesus with "Hosanna" became part of the crowd calling out, "Crucify him. Crucify him." Just a few days later, Fr. John Donahue astutely points out the Passion narratives, though they are the foundation stones of the Gospel, are only proclaimed in Holy Week. John's Passion narrative is always the one proclaimed on Good Friday. On Palm Sunday, we alternate among Matthew, Mark, and Luke, the Synoptic Gospels. This Sunday, we proclaim the bleakest and most sorrowful of the Passion narratives, that of Mark. John's Passion

narrative presents Jesus' suffering and death from the viewpoint of His attaining glory. John presents Jesus as totally in control of all events in His Gospel.

Praying With Scripture:

1. Attend the public Stations of the Cross this week, or recite them on your own.
2. Read Psalm 22 which begins with "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?" but concludes with trust and hope in God.
3. Jesus speaks of there being no greater love than laying down one's life for another. Can you think of ways that you might do this?

Easter Triduum and Easter Sunday Schedule:

Holy Thursday, March 29 – 7:00 PM – Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday, March 30 – 1:00 PM – Service of the Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday, March 31

11:00 AM – Blessing of Baskets

8:00 PM – Easter Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday Masses – 8:00, 10:00, and 11:30 AM

If someone is handicapped or is uncomfortable in crowds, the 11:30 AM Mass is your best bet.

The Holy Thursday collection will benefit our own parish.

Holy Land Collection: This will be taken up on Good Friday. The collection is for the upkeep of the Holy Land. The Franciscans are entrusted with caring for this.

Extra Confessions: I intend to hear confessions after Mass on Tuesday and Wednesday providing there are no funerals. Wednesday will be the last day for confessions until after Easter.

Priests' Convocation: This will take place from April 9th through April 12th at Skytop. I will be able to offer the Monday, April 9, Mass. Monsignor Kaschenbach has graciously consented to offer Mass from Tuesday, April 10, through Friday, April 13, provided there are no funerals at Holy Name of Jesus in that stretch. He will let you know if there are any funerals.

150th Anniversary Documentary: This program was produced specifically for the anniversary year. The documentary will be re-broadcast on WVIA on Saturday, March 24, at 6:00 PM; and Sunday, April 1, at 3:00 PM. Re-broadcast dates on CTV will be Tuesday, April 3, at 8:00 PM; Wednesday, April 4, at 10:00 AM; Monday, April 9, at 9:00 AM; Thursday, April 12, at 2:00 PM; and Friday, April 13, at 8:00 PM. The documentary will also be available for viewing on the Diocesan website at www.dioceseofscranton.org.

Congratulations to the Hazleton Area boys' varsity basketball team on a wonderful season!

Do You Want to Know More about the Annulment Process? In the Diocese of Scranton, the annulment process is now 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.

FR. CONNELL'S TRIVIA

1. Can you name the 7 teams that comprised the old Catholic League from the Wilkes-Barre area?
2. What Catholic League player, in 1957, led his team to a 27-0 Catholic School Class B championship and broke Wilt Chamberlain's then stat record of scoring 90 points in a game by scoring 92?

Last Week's Answers:

1. Dave Popson is the leading all-time scorer in the Wyoming Valley Conference with over 2,500 points.
2. Jerry Moye, of St. Gabriel's, and Tommy Brislin, of MMI, were teammates on Fordham's basketball teams of the late '40s and early '50s.

Queen of Our Hearts Rosary Group invites you to come pray with us on **Saturday mornings at 11:00 AM** at Good Shepherd Church. We will be praying the Infant of Prague chaplet, the Holy Rosary, and the Divine Mercy chaplet. Join us in praying for Our Lady's intentions, your intentions, and all those that have asked us to pray for them. All are welcome. For any questions or comments, contact us at angelmia@ptd.net. We hope to see you there! **We will not pray the Rosary on Saturday, March 31, in observance of Holy Saturday. We will resume our prayers on Saturday, April 7th.**

Thank you to everyone who donated baked goods for our Fish Fry. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!



The Valley Food Pantry helps those in need of food, paper products, and hygienic articles. We have been asked to collect tissues, tuna, applesauce, stewed tomatoes, spaghetti sauce, rice, cereal, and pancake mix and syrup. Please check expiration dates.

Holy Childhood Missions: For Lenten giving, the children, except for third grade, received a "rice bowl" to put money in for the missions. Lent, just like Advent, is a special time to "do what Jesus would do." Jesus said, "Whatsoever you do to the least of my brothers, that you do unto me." **Please return the mission money by Monday, April 9th.** The total given for Advent was \$180. Thank you and have a blessed Easter!
- submitted by Jean Klinger, Missions Coordinator

VIRTUS: Protecting God's Children for Adults Program will be held at **Holy Family Academy, 601 N. Laurel Street, Hazleton, on Sunday, April 8, beginning at 1:00 PM.** The session will take place in the school cafeteria. **This training session is required for all adult volunteers who have direct or routine interaction with children.** During the three-hour training session, a facilitator will incorporate techniques in a discussion format to help you recognize the warning signs of child sexual abuse and how to respond to it appropriately and effectively. If you are interested in attending the training session, please call the Holy Family office at 570-455-9431 to register.

Community

Tuesday Night Bingo at Good Shepherd Church **will not be held on Tuesday, March 27**, due to Holy Week. Bingo will resume on Tuesday, April 3rd.



Flame of Love Amazing Grace Retreat: Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, 1402 Route 209, Brodheadsville, will be holding The Flame of Love Retreat to the Immaculate Heart of Mary on Saturday, April 21, from 9:00 AM to 2:30 PM. Fr. James Blount, SOLT, will be the celebrant/homilist, and Eileen Piergiovanni, Philadelphia Regional Director for The Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary will be the featured speaker. Admission is a free-will offering. Bring your own lunch – coffee, tea, and cookies will be provided. For more information, visit the website at www.flameoflove.us.

The 2018 Catholic Men's Conference - "Be A Man: Christ is Here, Come and See" – will take place on Saturday, May 5, at King's College, Scandlon Physical Education Center, 149 North Main St, Wilkes-Barre. Eucharistic Adoration with Rosary will be at 6:00 AM, registration/Continental Breakfast will be at 7:00 AM, and the conference main program will be from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Register online at www.BeAManConference.com (click the "Register" button), call the Diocesan Pastoral Center at 570-207-2213, or pick up a registration form on the table in the church vestibule. We are still looking for a parish captain. Please call the parish office if you are interested.

Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine: Bishop Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L., will lead a pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. on **Saturday, September 22nd**, in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Diocese of Scranton. Events of the day and transportation to and from the National Shrine for all regions of the diocese are being planned. It is Bishop Bambera's hope that each one of us will take advantage of this unique opportunity to join together with fellow parishioners and friends from the eleven counties of the Diocese of Scranton for a day of pilgrimage and prayer at Mary's Shrine in our nation's capital.

1st Annual Catholic Women's Conference – Refresh Your Faith: Does your faith need a boost? Are you looking to be inspired and uplifted? Join hundreds of women, at all levels of faith from Northeast Pennsylvania and beyond, as they gather at the 1st Annual Catholic Women's Conference. The conference includes Mass with Bishop Joseph Bambera, and keynote speakers include Judy Landrieu Klein, Father Richard McAlear, and Megan Murphy. "His Own" will provide music and ministry. Enjoy a continental breakfast, lunch, and shopping at the Catholic Vendor Marketplace. The conference will be held at the University of Scranton, Byron Complex, on Saturday, June 23, from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. For registration and information, go to www.dioceseofscranton.org/catholic-womens-conference. A parish coordinator for Good Shepherd is needed. If you are interested, please contact the parish office for contact information.

The Women of Good Shepherd

The children of Good Shepherd had a fun time at our Easter Bingo. We had lots of lucky winners. The kids enjoyed hot dogs, chips, and cookies, and everyone went home with a bag of Easter candy. Thank you to Wendy's and Vesuvio's in Drums. A big thanks to the ladies who helped out in the kitchen and to those who baked cookies and donated candy to the event. Happy Easter to all!

Our next meeting will be held on **Monday, April 9**, at **6:30 PM**. Membership is open to all women of Good Shepherd Church.

Lonely Dancer in the Dark

Lonely dancer in the dark
Bright ballerina of the shadows
Who can move to silent music
Who can dance without applause?

The sidewalk is your stage
The stars your spotlights
Express your heart to midnight
The sun will soon melt him.

Praising the quiet universe
Leaping to the lyrics of leaves
Your orchestra is the wind.
Glide to his whispered rhythms.

Lonely dancer in the dark
Bright ballerina of the shadows
Who will love you,
Who will become you?

Rev. Connell A. McHugh