



Good Shepherd Church

Second Sunday of Easter

April 7 & 8, 2018



† MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK †

- Saturday April 7**
- 4:00 PM Leo & Rick Pleban ~ Family
- Sunday April 8**
- 8:00 AM Ruth Ferdinand ~ Joseph Chura
- 10:00 AM Parishioners of Good Shepherd
- Monday April 9**
- 8:00 AM Debbie Capozzelli ~ Bob & Anita Kobilis and Family
- Tuesday April 10**
- 8:00 AM Moses Family ~ Janet
- Wednesday April 11**
- 8:00 AM Melane Pavlick Lafferty ~ M/M George Hayden
- Thursday April 12**
- 8:00 AM Viola T. Ritz~ Capparell Family
- Friday April 13**
- 8:00 AM Matthew Grieco ~ The Grieco Family
- Saturday April 14**
- 4:00 PM Joseph J. Generose, Jr. ~ Wife & Children
- Sunday April 15**
- 8:00 AM Parishioners of Good Shepherd
- 10:00 AM Donna Generose ~ Larry & Gary Generose, & Heather Generose Busch

The Rose for Life this week is for **Michael Mandrick** by Joe and Irene Slebodnick.

FROM THE PASTOR... Fr. McHugh:

Reducing the Blame Placed on "Doubting Thomas:"
 Most of us who are baby boomers never were remotely exposed to anything resembling biblical scholarship in our elementary and high school CCD or parochial school education. We were simplistically taught that Thomas was the "doubting apostle." Certainly, it is true that Thomas doubted Jesus' resurrection and made the most resounding statement expressing his doubt. We have to remember, also, that this same Thomas also made the most outstanding confession of faith when he stated "My Lord and My God!" In truth, none of the apostles, disciples, or holy women expected Jesus to rise from the dead. Even an angel, or angels, at the tomb (the Gospels differ on whether there were one or two angels at the tomb) could not convince them that Jesus rose from the dead. The word of the apostles or holy women also does not convince others that Jesus has indeed risen. Basically in the Gospels, individuals do not believe that Jesus has risen unless they encounter Him themselves. The only exception is the Beloved Disciple who does believe that Jesus has indeed risen after he views the burial cloths. The Beloved Disciple appears only in John's Gospel (chapters 13-21).

Priests' Convocation: This will be held from April 9th through April 12th at Skytop. I will offer Mass on Monday, April 9th. Monsignor Kaschenbach will substitute for me from Tuesday through Friday. However, if Monsignor gets any funerals at Holy Name of Jesus (Transfiguration), he will not be able to celebrate the daily Mass. Monsignor will tell you if he has any funerals and if he has to cancel Mass at Good Shepherd. I will not be able to take any funerals until Friday. The topic for the convocation is "The First Five Years of Pope Francis."

Stewardship

669 families received envelopes.

Offertory Envelopes for the weekend 3/31:

MASS TIME	NUMBER OF FAMILIES OFFERING	AMOUNT OF OFFERING	ATTENDANCE AT MASS
8:00 PM		\$ 426.00	208
8:00 AM		\$ 802.50	356
10:00 AM		\$ 717.00	494
1130 AM		\$ 226.00	153
	Loose	\$ 811.00	
	Total	\$2,982.50	1,211

Worship

The Tabernacle Candle burns this week in memory of **Ashleyann Temborski** by mother, Ann and daughter, Rhianna.

Sick Calls or Funerals: Contact Monsignor Kaschenbach at 570-335-1493 or Fr. Steven Brosk at 570-454-0881 if you need a priest for sick calls. You may also call them for funerals. I will be able to take funerals from Friday onward. You may reach me on my cell phone (570-578-6785) for funerals only. Do not call me for anointings.

Please keep Joe Chura in your prayers.

Faith Formation: Faith Formation will resume this Monday, April 9, at the regular 4:30 PM time.

Homebound: We have quite a few homebound at this time. The Shepherd's Hands delivered palm crosses to as many as they could. I will try to get around to see as many of those parishioners who are confined to their homes after the convocation week.

The parish office will be closed during the week of April 9th.

Word

Theme: We Have Seen the Lord – The Qualities of the Early Church Community: Today's Gospel is the original ending of John. Chapter 21 was added at a later date. The Gospel for today contains many important ideas. We have two of the post-resurrection appearances of Jesus presented. Jesus does not chastise His apostles for deserting Him, but rather greets them with, "Peace be with you." We have to recall that John does not employ the word "apostle" throughout his Gospel, but the disciples to whom Jesus appears are actually His apostles. Jesus gives them the power to forgive sins. We are told that Thomas is not present when Jesus appears the first time. Then, he emphatically tells the other apostles he will not believe unless he sees the nail marks in Jesus' hands and puts his fingers into them and his hand into Jesus' wounded side. A week later, Jesus appears again and invites Thomas to look and see and touch His wounds. Thomas sheepishly responds by making the strongest confession of faith in the New Testament: "My Lord and my God!" Jesus answers by saying, "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." The Acts of the Apostles will be read each day of the Easter season in place of the Old Testament reading. Today's selection offers us the qualities of the early Christian community. The first reading relates the unity of the early Christian communities – how they shared their possessions, prayed together, and offered strong witness to Jesus' resurrection.

Praying With Scripture:

1. How might you experience the peace and forgiveness of Jesus in your daily life?
2. Do you think most Christians in church communities (parishes) today share with the needy?
3. Make an effort this week to forgive at least one person who hurt you.

Scripture Sessions: These went well. We had 30-40 people attend 5 sessions. Over 20 people attended the videos of the two talks given by Ronald Rolheiser that were shown in the St. Joseph Room. They, in my opinion, were excellent preparation for Holy Week's Triduum.

The Easter Triduum: As one gets older, I think he appreciates more being able to celebrate the Triduum's three services. I know I was happy to be able to do so this year despite severe arthritis. These are the most moving liturgies of the year.

Music Ministry: Thanks to all who added so much to the Masses and services of Holy Week.

Altar Decorations: Thanks to Barbara Lawrence, Connie Marcino, and Marilyn Tedesco for decorating the church this year.

Community

Tuesday Night Bingo at Good Shepherd Church starts with our Early Bird game at 6:00 PM. We play 22 games each week and payouts range from \$50 to over \$500. Our regular games pay \$100 each. The kitchen opens at 5:00 PM with special soups, sandwiches, beverages, ethnic foods and a variety of other goodies including fries, pretzels, candy, chips, and more. We also provide complimentary coffee, tea, and cake to our players (and volunteers).



FR. CONNELL'S TRIVIA

1. This Pittsburgh Pirate Hall of Famer married tennis star Nancy Chaffee and once dated Elizabeth Taylor. Can you name him?
2. Who was the first player to be named the MVP in the League Championship Series, the World Series, and the regular season in the same year? Hint – Sister Sledge might know the answer.

Last Week's Answers:

1. Mike Mussina, who had a great career with the Orioles and Yankees, successfully coached high school basketball for Montoursville this year.
2. Jim Lonborg, who pitched well for the Red Sox and Phillies, and became a dentist after retiring from baseball, once directed the Cardinal's Appeal for the Diocese of Boston.

National Pilgrim Virgin Statue: Good Shepherd Church has been given the honor of hosting a visit of The National Pilgrim Virgin Statue on **Wednesday, April 11, from 12:00 Noon until 6:00 PM.** All area residents are invited to come and visit with Our Lady of Fatima, and hear her important message for stopping the moral decline of our American culture and securing God's blessings on our country and the whole world. Also, any Prayer Groups who would like to lead the recitation of the Rosary are invited to contact 570-708-1660 to sign up, with the Rosary to be recited each hour, after a short talk on the Message of Fatima, by Mr. E. William Sockey III of the National Pilgrim Virgin of the USA, World Apostolate of Fatima.



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.

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!

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

"Live" Mandated Reporter Training: A "live" session of the Mandated Reporter Training has been scheduled for **Sunday, April 15, at Annunciation Parish, 122 South Wyoming Street, Hazleton, from 2:00 – 5:00 PM.** The session is sponsored through PA Family Support Alliance who stipulates that no more than 50 people can be trained in one session. **Mandated Reporter Training is required for all adult volunteers who have direct or routine interaction with children.** If you are interested in attending, please contact the parish office at 570-788-3141 as soon as possible to reserve your spot. **The deadline to register is Thursday, April 12th.**

Part-Time Summer Help Needed: Calvary Cemetery is looking for part-time summer help. The position is for 29 hours per week and involves cutting and trimming grass on the cemetery grounds. Applicants must be at least 18 years old and able to work from April 23rd until late September. The job pays minimum wage. For more information, or to apply, visit the Calvary Cemetery office Monday through Friday from 9AM to 3PM, or Saturday from 9AM to 11AM (no telephone calls, please.)

Join Altus for Women, a Catholic Women's Ministry, as we meet in small groups all over the diocese, reading *Mary's Way* by Judy Klein. Klein shows us how to be powerful intercessors for ourselves, our children, and those we love. Annunciation Parish will be hosting an Altus Group meeting for 6 sessions to be held at Brandon's Forever Home, 187 N. Church Street, Hazleton, on Tuesdays from 9AM-11AM, beginning on Tuesday, April 17, though Tuesday, May 22, with a tea party finale on May 23rd at the Diocesan Pastoral Center in Scranton. Registration is \$20 plus the cost of the book. Online registration is open now at www.altusforwomen.com. Group size is limited, so sign up now. For more information, or if you do not have internet access, please contact Carol Matz at 570-956-0817 or carolmatz3@gmail.com.

Praying the Psalms: The Holy Dormition Byzantine Franciscans will host "Praying the Psalms" on Tuesday, April 17, and Tuesday, April 24, from 10:00 – 11:30 AM at the friary located at 712 State Highway 93, Sybertsville. Learn how the Psalms are laid out and a variety of ways the Psalms are used in prayer. The classes will be led by Dr. Phil Yevics, who is retired from the faculty of the University of Scranton. For more information, contact him at philyevics@gmail.com or 570-239-0611.

Craft and Vendor Fair: Come join us at the St. Jude School's 5th Annual Spring Fling Craft and Vendor Fair on Saturday, April 21, from 10 AM -3PM in the school cafeteria. There will be over 40 unique vendors and crafters along with basket raffles, face painting, food, and bake sale items! All proceeds from the event help support the technology programs in our school. If you have any questions, call Kristina or Dave at 570-474-7272.

Christ Lutheran Church, 467 Main Street, Conyngham, will present a Spring Handbell Concert featuring "The Jubilation Ringers" from Asbury United Methodist Church, Allentown, on Sunday, April 29, at 4:00 PM. Admission is free and all are welcome.

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.

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.

The Women of Good Shepherd

Our next meeting will be held on **Monday, April 9, at 6:30 PM**. Anita Kobilis, a complimentary holistic practitioner, will be our guest speaker. Come join us for an interesting evening! Membership is open to all women of Good Shepherd Church.

Attention: Graduating Seniors: The 2018 Women of Good Shepherd Scholarship applications are now being accepted. Please visit the Good Shepherd Church website to download the application. **The deadline for submission is Monday, May 14th.**

Companions on the Journey **Grief Ministry News**

On **Thursday, April 19, at 9:30 AM**, SpiriTrust Hospice representatives will speak on their experiences "walking with the grieving." The presentation will last about an hour and is open to any interested parishioner or friend. Pre-registration is not required and the group will meet in the St. Joseph Room.

