

**Memorials Feb 6 – 12, 2017**

**Altar Candles ~ In Memory of**

Joseph Ofcharsky by Paul & Anne Carachilo & Family

**Mass Intentions February 6 – February 12, 2017**

**Monday, Feb 6**

6:50 am Aniska & Marcincavage family by Harriet & sons

**Tuesday, Feb 7**

6:50 am Robert Wall by mother, Francis

**Wednesday, Feb 8**

6:50 am John R. Cicilioni by Orlando Cicilioni

2:30 pm Mass at Lackawanna H&R

**Thursday, Feb 9**

6:50 am Mary, Edward, & James Kurtz by Theresa

**Friday, Feb 10**

6:50 am Yolanda Angeli by Marie & Judy Neri

**Saturday, Feb 11**

4:00 pm Anna & Joseph Berta by JoAnn

**Sunday, Feb 12**

8:00 am Mass for the People

10:00 am Michael & Inez DeLeo by Children

**Remember in Your Prayers**

Please pray for the sick, the suffering, the bereaved and the recently deceased including Nancy Giles.



edified, and supported by our presence? Do we bring the kind of flavor that enriches life with a taste of the authentic truth, beauty, and goodness that comes from God alone? Or have we become a bit bland, like salt that "loses its taste" or light that is hidden "under a bushel basket"? It's important to be on guard against any tendency to let our faith be reduced to a mere routine or ritual. Rather, when we nurture our faith to be a living force that defines us and our actions, it will be a source of joy and renewal not only for us, but for the world around us.

**World Day of the Sick – February 11<sup>th</sup>**



On Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>, the 25<sup>th</sup> World Day of the Sick will be celebrated throughout the Church and in a special way at Lourdes. The theme of this year's celebration is "Amazement at what God has accomplished: 'The Almighty has done great things for me....'" (Lk 1:49).

Pope Francis writes: "Instituted by my predecessor Saint John Paul II in 1992, and first celebrated at Lourdes on 11 February 1993, this Day is an opportunity to reflect in particular on the needs of the sick and, more generally, of all those who suffer. It is also an occasion for those who generously assist the sick, beginning with family members, health workers and volunteers, to give thanks for their God-given vocation of accompanying our infirm brothers and sisters. This celebration likewise gives the Church renewed spiritual energy for carrying out ever more fully that fundamental part of her mission which includes serving the poor, the infirm, the suffering, the outcast and the marginalized (cf. John Paul II, *Motu Proprio Dolentium Hominum*, 11 February 1985, 1). On *Saturday, Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>*, Bishop Bambera will celebrate the 12:10pm Mass in St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, during which he will administer the sacrament of the anointing of the sick.

**World Day of the Sick at Sacred Heart**

On February 11<sup>th</sup> we observe World Day of the Sick. At all the Masses next weekend, we will focus our attention on our many needs for healing at the varied levels of our human existence. Those who remain after the Masses will have the opportunity to reassemble in the front pews to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. The sacrament will also be given to our parishioners on our First Friday list. During the month of February, the Anointing of the sick will also be given to all Catholic residents confined at Lackawanna Health and Rehab, Mid Valley Health Care Center (skilled nursing), Mid Valley Manor (assisted living) and Elmcroft of Mid Valley.

**Statement by Bishop Bambera Regarding Executive Order on Refugees and Migrants**

The United States has a long and proud history of welcoming persons from other countries who come to our land seeking freedom to practice their religion, live in safety and work hard to provide a decent life for their families. Indeed, the region of the Diocese of Scranton owes much of its heritage and prosperity to immigrants who have & continue

**Collection for last Weekend: January 29, 2017**

356 Sunday Offertory Envelopes \$7,240.50

Catholic Campaign Human Development Total \$921.00

*We sincerely thank all who are consistently using their regular offertory envelopes or prearranged bank checks to support the work and mission of Sacred Heart Parish. We also commend those who are being conscientious to their commitments through our ongoing Parish Care Campaign.*

**5th Sunday In Ordinary Time**



"You are the light of the world."

Speaking to his followers, Jesus tells them of the influence they are meant to have. Like the seasoning that gives food its flavor, they are to be "the salt of the earth" and like a lamp on a lampstand that "gives light to all in the house." Clearly, their influence on the people around them is meant to be positive and substantial. But what is the source of this irreplaceable influence? Elsewhere in the Gospels, Jesus declares that HE is "the light of the world" (cf. Jn 8:12). So when he tells his disciples that "your light must shine before others," he is speaking about the light that comes from following him, from believing in him, from living their lives for him and with him. The light of Christ brightens the world, showing us the truth and meaning of our existence. And to the extent that we have that light in our hearts, it naturally spreads out to impact those around us.

So, today we must ask ourselves whether or not we are shining the way we are meant to shine as Christians. Do we brighten up our families, our workplaces, our neighborhoods and our parishes? Are people encouraged, inspired,

to contribute greatly to the fabric of life in northeastern and north central Pennsylvania.

Not unlike those who settled in the United States a century ago, the vast majority of today's immigrants simply seek a better life for themselves and their families. Sadly, many of these same individuals also look to our great land as a refuge in the face of persecution, war and terror in their homelands. These refugees are vetted through a rigorous program that has proven to be effective over the course of many years.

Our Catholic faith calls us to respect life: to welcome the stranger, to treat every life with dignity and respect, and to offer compassion to all, regardless of their country of origin or religious background. Simply put, turning our backs on the most vulnerable in need of our help is not consistent with the values upon which our country was founded and is not consistent with the message of the gospel of Jesus.

Pope Francis urged Americans to put aside fear and instead offer the world hope and solidarity. In 2015, he shared these challenging words to members of the United States Congress and to the people of America, "If we want security, let us give security; if we want life, let us give life; if we want opportunities, let us provide opportunities."



### Virtual Workshop

The Diocesan Virtual Workshops Liturgy Training Publications is offering several different series of online workshops for liturgical ministers, catechists, & anyone interested in ongoing formation throughout the year. These virtual workshops are different than other webinars in that they invite participants to engage with the presenter and one another in providing feedback, reflections on the topic at hand, and discuss best practices and strategies for enhancing engagement in their ministries. Here are some of the upcoming virtual workshops: *Become What You Receive: Living as a Disciple of Christ*, Feb. 15 at 7:30pm; *Proclaiming the Seasons: Entering into the Lenten Scriptures*, Feb. 23 at 7:30pm. The cost for each session is \$10 or you can participate in all three of the Extraordinary Minister of Communion workshops for \$25. For more information, to register, or to see what other sessions are available throughout the year, please visit [www.ltp.org/virtualworkshops](http://www.ltp.org/virtualworkshops).

### Spring Adult Faith Formation Opportunity

"Genesis to Jesus" Bible Study - See bulletin insert!

### Parish Leaders to Meet—Monday, Feb 13

The meeting will be held in the auditorium at 6:30 pm on the Eve of Valentine's Day with appropriate desserts provided. The meeting is for all parish leaders in our many ministries along with all members of the pastoral and finance councils. Other interested parishioners are also welcome attend.

The purpose of the meeting is to formulate certain remote parish preparations during this transition year as we contemplate the Bishop's initiative for ongoing parish renewal and a fitting observance for the 150th anniversary of our Diocese in 2018. At the same time, the meeting will also serve to

promote a smooth transition into the leadership of a new pastor sometime in the fall of 2017, as well as raise some timely awareness of our upcoming Parish Ministry Fair next month. (More information next weekend.)

### Guess What?

It's been eleven months since our first Parish Care Ministry Fair on the first weekend of March last year. Our second Parish Ministry Fair is slated again for the first weekend of March this year. Planning is already underway.

In today's Gospel we are called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. Being that salt and light necessarily requires of us to engage as generously as we can in the ministry that Jesus set down and encouraged us to embrace. He continues to invite us to the same servant ministries thru his Church—his Mystical Body as it is fleshed in us as members at this particular time and place.

### New Altar Servers



We happily welcome our new servers who came forward to offer their service at the altar: Sonia Skapyak, Nicholas Burak, and Sophia Laboranti. They have completed their training and are now doing their on-the-job formation. My God bless them and nurture their faith for years to come.

### Giving Tree Thank You from St. Joseph's Center

The amount of gifts from Sacred Heart was overwhelming. The residents and the families, which we serve here at St. Joseph's Center, are truly appreciative of the amount of time and energy that it takes to select and wrap the gifts that are given to us. Every year we know that we can count on the generosity of your parishioners to help make the holiday season here a wonderful time. Your support of our mission to our most fragile citizens is deeply appreciated. May you enjoy rest and peace throughout the New Year. Sincerely, Sister Maryalice Jacquinot, IHM, President/CEO.



### Blakely/Peckville Crime Watch Mardi Gras

Come Join Us for a Pre Lent Celebration on Friday, Feb 24<sup>th</sup> at Fiorelli's from 6pm to 10pm. Good food, beer, wine & soda, and many delectable desserts! Two bands will be performing (all included). For more info and tickets call Mayor Jeanette Mariani @ 570-383-9946 or Jo Ann Berta @ 570-383-0196. **No ticket sales at door.** Come support us while having a great time! Fun for all!

### Shopa-Davey VFW Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner

Shopa-Davey VFW Post 6082 will conduct a Pork and Sauerkraut Dinner at the post home 123 Electric Street Peckville on Sunday February 19<sup>th</sup>. Serving from 11am to 4pm or until sold out. Tickets are \$10 from a member or at the door. Take outs will be available.

We continue to thank our business advertisers, including **Hedley W. Mason Funeral Home, Peckville.** Please see back of our weekly bulletin for more information.