

**Mass Intentions January 23 – January 29, 2017**

**Monday, Jan 23**

6:50 am Mary Cicilioni by Orlando Cicilioni

**Tuesday, Jan 24**

6:50 am John Dubas by Robert Decker Funeral Home

**Wednesday, Jan 25**

6:50 am Donna Wilson by Joyce Swoyer

2:30 pm Lacka HR Mass

**Thursday, Jan 26**

6:50 am Joseph Collins by M/M Adrian Gooch

**Friday, Jan 27**

6:50 am Donna Williams by Laurie Mullen

**Saturday, Jan 28**

4:00pm Sophie A. Hazzouri by M/M Thomas DeLuca family

**Sunday, Jan 29**

8:00 am Marie Varzaly by husband

10:00 am Robert Wall by Joan Sedlak

**Remember in Your Prayers**

Please pray for the sick, the suffering, the bereaved, and the recently deceased, Msgr. John Sekellick, Pastor of Holy Ghost Byzantine Catholic Parish in Jessup.

**Collection for last Weekend: January 15, 2017**

328 Sunday Offertory Envelopes \$5,602.50

*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.*

**Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**



"He called them, and immediately they left their boat and their father and followed him." Peter, Andrew, James, and John's lives would never be the same. They were going about their usual business fishing on the Sea of Galilee when Jesus approached them and said, "Come after me." And that's just what they did. "At once they left their nets and followed him." Such a quick response to such a radical request! What compelled these men to leave their livelihood to follow the Lord? His promise to them was that he would make them "fishers of men." Perhaps they thought that promise sounded fabulous. But it seems more likely that it was Christ himself who drew the men. There must have been something utterly attractive about him, and completely trustworthy. Otherwise, it seems unbelievable that these men would have been so quick to respond to his call.

This compelling man is the same Christ who calls us. We hear his voice in a different way, of course, through the Church and through the Bible, through his Spirit in our hearts, but it is nonetheless the same Jesus of Nazareth who asks us to follow him. Have we allowed ourselves to be drawn by his voice? Are we open to a real encounter with the Lord who changes lives?

If our relationship with Jesus does not transform us, if it does

not change us into different, better people moment by moment and day by day, then chances are that we are not truly encountering him. He is too powerful to be inconsequential. It might take some courage and commitment to come into authentic contact with the Lord, but when we do, our lives will never be the same.

**Catholics Donate \$7 Million-Natural Disaster Collections**

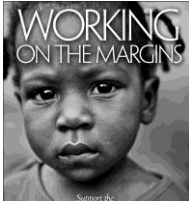
In 2016, dioceses across the country participated in three emergency appeals, donating over \$7 million for support in response to natural disasters. They included the 2015-2016 Calamities Collection created after storms that hit the south and mid-west regions of our country, the Louisiana Floods Collection in response to the extraordinary flooding occurring in southern Louisiana, and the Hurricane Matthew Collection in the aftermath of the disastrous category 4 hurricane that struck large portions of the Southeastern coast of the United States and countries in the Caribbean, especially Haiti. These collections funded humanitarian efforts in the form of water, food, shelter, and medical care, as well as long-term recovery efforts for pastoral needs. Faithful in the Diocese of Scranton contributed nearly \$273,000 to these three special collections. "When disaster strikes, the Church responds with compassion, prayers and material support," said Bishop Joseph C. Bambera. "I am very grateful to everyone here in our Diocese who has been so generous in contributing to these special collections. You are bringing the comfort of Christ to our sisters and brothers during their most urgent time of need."

**Diocese to Observe Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

"Reconciliation - The Love of Christ Compels Us" is the theme for the 2017 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, which is observed annually in January. Pope Francis, in his 2013 Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel), cited the quote from 2 *Corinthians* 5:14-20: "The Love of Christ Compels Us". The biblical text emphasizes that reconciliation is a gift from God, and those who have been reconciled in Christ are called in turn to proclaim this reconciliation in word and deed. This year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity coincides with the commemoration of the 500th anniversary year of the beginnings of the Lutheran Reformation. In that context, it provides an opportunity for us to reflect upon the concerns and divisions that have afflicted the unity of the Church, and encourages us to take steps toward reconciliation.

**Ecumenical Celebration** - The Diocese will host an Ecumenical Celebration of God's Word on Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup> at 12:10pm at the Cathedral. There will be no 12:10pm Mass that day. All are welcome to attend. In addition, Catholic Television will broadcast the service live. The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera will preside, and Rev. Dr. Robert Zanicky of First Presbyterian Church in Wilkes Barre will deliver the homily. Clergy and representatives from various Christian traditions and ecumenical agencies will be present. Liturgical music will be provided by Saint Clare/Saint Paul School.

**Catholic Campaign for Human Development**



The annual national collection for the CCHD will be taken up in parishes in the Diocese of Scranton next weekend, Jan 28-29. An estimated 43 million people live in poverty in the United States. The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) aims to help people break the grip of poverty and enhance their lives. The theme, "Working on the Margins," focuses our attention on the poor and vulnerable who can often be overlooked. This campaign is the primary source of funding for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' anti-poverty grants and education programs aimed at fostering a culture of life and hope in communities across the nation. The collection supports the work of groups that empower low-income people to participate in decisions that affect their lives and break the cycle of poverty. Many of the projects supported by CCHD embody the corporal works of mercy, including the protection of worker rights, expanding access to healthcare and reforming the criminal justice system. Twenty-five percent of funds collected through the CCHD remain in each diocese to support local human development projects. The CCHD continues to operate within the 2010 guidelines established by their governing bishops in *The Review and Renewal of CCHD*. This ensures that the recipients of these grants are providing programs and services which are in keeping with Catholic social and moral teaching. Additional resources to learn about poverty in the United States can be found at [www.povertyusa.org](http://www.povertyusa.org).

**6th Annual Snowflake Gala**

The 6th annual Snowflake Gala, hosted by the Eynon-Archbald Lion's Club, will be held Saturday, January 28th, from 6pm to 11pm at Fiorelli Catering in Peckville. The Gala will feature international tasting stations, open bar, live music, raffle baskets, and a silent auction. The cost is \$75 per person. The proceeds will benefit Leader Dogs for the Blind. For tickets call Fran at 570-470-7838.

**43rd Annual March for Life Registration Form**

The bus will be leaving for Washington D.C from the Keyser Oak Plaza Shopping Center in Scranton at 6:45am on Friday, Jan 27 and returning about 11:45pm. Please return this form to the rectory with a check payable to: "Pennsylvanians for Human Life" no later than **Sunday, Jan 22**. The cost is \$40 for adults, \$20 for students. *(Supplemental funding is available).*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
# \_\_\_\_\_ Adults # \_\_\_\_\_ Students Amt enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**2017 Respect Life Prayer Breakfast**

Held at Fiorelli's in Peckville on Jan 28<sup>th</sup> at 9am, sponsored by the Scranton Chapter of Pennsylvanians for Human Life (PHL). This year's theme is "The Brutality of China's One Child Policy: Forced Abortion as National Law."

**Breakfast Reservations for Sacred Heart Parish Table**

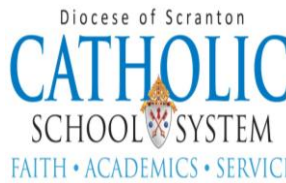
Please return this form to the rectory with a check payable to: "Pennsylvanians for Human Life" no later **This Sunday, Jan 22**. The cost is **\$21**-adults, **\$10**-children ages 6-12; Children 5 & under free. *(Supplemental funding is available).*

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ Adults \_\_\_\_ Children 6-12 \_\_\_\_ Children 5 & Under (free)  
Amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Respect Life Baby Bottles**

Please help support the local efforts of the Pennsylvanians for Human Life in Lackawanna County by returning baby bottles no later than February 5, 2017.

**Catholic Schools Week Jan 29<sup>th</sup> - Feb 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017**



Celebrate Catholic Schools Week by attending one of our Catholic School Open Houses! You are invited to come experience our communities of faith and academic excellence. From Pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade, our students live their faith, challenge their minds, serve their communities, and build lifelong friendships. For specifics about the Open Houses or for more information about our Diocesan Catholic Schools, including tuition assistance opportunities, please visit [www.DioceseofScranton.org/CatholicSchools](http://www.DioceseofScranton.org/CatholicSchools) or call the Catholic Schools office at 570-207-2251.

**18<sup>th</sup> Annual NE PA "Brain Bee" Academic Competition**

For area high-school students, sponsored by the Scranton Neuroscience Society and the University of Scranton's Neuroscience Program. On Feb. 4: competition begins at 1pm in the Loyola Science Center at the U of Scranton. Open free of charge to all students in grades 9-12. Features live, question-answer competition based on "Brain Facts," a book about the brain and nervous system published by the Society for Neuroscience. Registration is required Feb. 1. For more info or to register, contact Robert Waldeck, PhD, program director, at the University of Scranton at <[robert.waldeck@scranton.edu](mailto:robert.waldeck@scranton.edu)> or 570-941-4324.

**Tending to Self Workshop**

Diocesan Skills Workshop Series: "Tending to Self": Lisa Rigau, RN, MS, sports and wellness nutritionist, will share the importance of self-care for good ministry. She offers training in the practice of loving kindness and self-compassion through contemplative prayer, mindfulness, mindful eating and conversation. This workshop will involve teaching, discussion and trying out what you learn. February 11th from 9am-4pm at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 330 Wyoming Ave, Scranton. Participants are asked to wear comfortable clothing. The cost of registration for each workshop is \$30 payable to the Diocese of Scranton. Register online at [www.dioceseofscranton.org](http://www.dioceseofscranton.org)