

Memorials May 15 - 21, 2017

**Tabernacle Lamp, Altar Candles and Bread & Wine**  
In Memory of George & Dolly Safko by son George

Mass Intentions May 15 - 21, 2017

Monday, May 15

6:50am Theodore Kempa by Paul & Andrea Kempa & daughters

Tuesday, May 16

6:50 am Mary Ann Kotcho by family

Wednesday, May 17

6:50 am Mario Remedia by daughter Ann Maria & family

Thursday, May 18

6:50 am Frank Marcinek by family

Friday, May 19

6:50 am Ann Pascucci by Eleanor Ghilardi

Saturday, May 20

4:00 pm Rose, Frank, & Ann Burak by George & Agnes

Sunday, May 21

8:00 am Mother's Day Intentions

10:00 am Claude Fanucci by Roy & Dennis Fanucci

Remember in Your Prayers

Please pray for the sick, suffering, the bereaved, and recently deceased, including Stella Straka and Arthur Massetti.

Gospel, "Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater ones than these, because I am going to the Father." Greater ones than these?? Think about all the miracles of Jesus recorded in sacred Scripture! You and I can do works greater than those?

St. Teresa of Avila said, "Christ has no body now on earth but yours." We are Christ to a world that needs him. It is the Christ in you that responds to the Christ in me. If it were only you alone going about doing good works and deeds, then your stewardship would amount to little. **But if you bear the name Christian, and you approach your discipleship seriously, you can truly do greater things. If you understand your stewardship as a way that Jesus works in our world, then this way of life, cultivating and sharing your gifts at every turn, becomes more valuable than all the gold in the world.**

This of course presents a real challenge. Our lives are busy and our plates are full, just with the tasks and demands of daily existence. It can seem like a burden to serve others, to share the Gospel, to be actively involved in a faith community, to find time to pray. **But these are meant to be priorities for true disciples of Christ.** And as many will testify, when we sincerely ask God to help us get our priorities in order, **he has a way of miraculously multiplying our time.** Somehow, we find the opportunities right before us to follow God's will and bring our faith to life. **That simple prayer of asking for help may be where we need to start.** The first step is not so much to fill our calendar as to fill our hearts, or just to pray that God will fill our hearts, with the desire to "do the works" of Jesus.

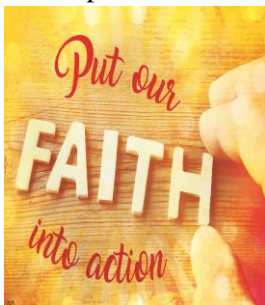
Collection for Last Weekend: May 7, 2017

397 Sunday Offertory Envelopes	\$7,768.50
Care and Education of Priests Total	\$637.50

*Many thanks to all who are supporting Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish by the consistent use of their offertory envelopes.*

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Much of Jesus' ministry was spent in carrying out what we call the works of mercy. But he did more than that; he also preached and publicly shared the good news, he fostered fellowship and community, and he prayed. All of this makes a kind of plan of action for us as Christians. As Jesus says today, if we truly believe in him, we will follow in his footsteps and do these same things.



What this all suggests is that **belief itself -- having faith, being Christian -- is only part of the picture.** Jesus expects us to take **this faith and put it into concrete, practical action.** Apparently this goes hand in hand with real faith. If actions don't follow, then faith is not being lived to its fullest.

What do you think is the value of your stewardship? Do you believe that through your actions both great and small that God can touch people, heal them, and change their lives? Too often we can mistakenly assume that what we do, say, or offer can have little effect in the grand scheme of life. We are simply poor sinners in need of salvation so what could we do anyway?

Jesus speaks very powerfully to what can be done by those who believe in him and follow him. He says in John's



You Are Invited!

Parish-Wide  
**EVENING OF REFLECTION**  
Monday, May 15th  
6:30pm to 8:30pm  
Parish Auditorium

**If you had to explain what it means to be a good disciple of Jesus, What would you say?** Being a good disciple includes the comfort of being loved by God and being part of a life-giving parish community. If you are thinking "**Well, that is for someone else to do. I am not called to that**", then come out this Monday to explore what being a disciple means!

Bernadette Rudolph, Director for Family and Community Development for the Diocese of Scranton, will offer some clear ideas about God's call for you and give you opportunities to reflect and talk with others about what this call can look like for you and our parish community.

**This evening will be a wonderful opportunity to get out this spring and gather together as a community of faith.**

**Let us make the most of this special opportunity!**

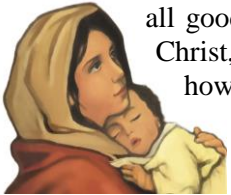
Come enjoy refreshments and time for fellowship. **Kindly respond by calling the parish office at 570-383-3244 x2 or by emailing us at [shjoffice@shipeck.org](mailto:shjoffice@shipeck.org) no later than Monday morning at 9am.** This will help us to plan for materials and refreshments. Come and see what God has for you. Please join us, we would love to see you!!

### *Happy Mother's Day!*


What a wonderful day to celebrate those women in our lives who cooperated with God to create new life and those in our lives who have nurtured our lives with love and compassion. Yes, we believe that when we are open to children we have cooperated with God in creation. The "Book of Blessings" has a profound blessing of mothers that recognizes that all blessings come from God. Mothers are a gift from God. This day honors all our mothers and their enormous sacrifices. It encompasses more than just the honoring of those who have borne children. It is the celebration of motherhood and the noble nature of women. One thing we may all agree on is the centrality of the figure of the mother in our families. It is that primary and central role of mother that draws a family together. May we all feel a deeper appreciation for the great blessing of motherhood on Mother's Day and every day!



*Mother's Day Blessing* ~ Good and gracious God, creator of all good things in the universe, your Son, Jesus Christ, loved his Mother and modeled for us how we should love our mothers. Bless our mothers and all the women in our lives who model for us the love of a mother. Bless and protect also those men in families who have no female partners and give them courage and strength to love their children in the absence of a mother. Protect all mothers in trouble pregnancies from the temptation of abortion. Encourage them to love generously as you have loved us and walk in confidence of your loving providence through the care and support of those around them. We ask all this in Jesus' name. Amen.



### **Mother's Day Respect for Life Carnation Sale**

 Pennsylvanians for Human Life's Annual Mother's Day Carnation Sale will take place after all the Masses this weekend. This fundraiser is intended to honor Mothers and to promote the value and dignity of human life. It also helps to raise funds to continue the chapter's pro-life work, including the operation of its Pro-Life Center. Thank you for supporting this important pro-life fundraiser.

### **Bereavement Ministry**

A Bereavement Support Group will work through a series of topics to help understand the grief process and to find healing. The group will meet for five weeks starting this Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> from 6:30pm to 7:30pm in the

Diocesan Pastoral Center, 330 Wyoming Ave, Scranton. If you would like to attend, please call the Cathedral Parish office at 570-344-7231.

### **Evening of Reflection Series for Liturgical Ministers**

David Baloga, Director for Worship for the Diocese of Scranton, will lead the evening and help liturgical ministers enter more deeply into the spirituality of their ministry. Tuesdays: 6:30pm, Diocesan Pastoral Center in Scranton. There is no cost to participate. To register for one (or more) of these evenings, please contact the parish office no later than the Monday morning before the Evening of Reflection. *Dates are as follows: 5/16: Lectors ; 5/23: Music Ministers*

### **Catholic Charismatic Formation Day & Healing Mass**

A Golden Jubilee celebration of the world-wide Catholic Charismatic Renewal movement will be held for the Diocese of Scranton on Saturday, May 20 from 9am-5pm at the Holy Family Center in Nanticoke. The day will include a presentation by Fr. Tomothy Cremeens. Registration and breakfast from 8am-9am. Theme: "Pentecost and Beyond: The Flow of the River of the Holy Spirit." Registration fee of \$25 includes three meals. Please contact Bob Valiante at 570- 344-2214 or [ccrenewal@comcast.net](mailto:crc renewal@comcast.net).

Local communities will host a Mass with Prayers for Healing on Sunday, May 21 at 7 pm, St. Mary's Church, Queen of Angels Parish, 715 Hawthorne St., Avoca. Fr. Gus Ricciardi will celebrate, rosary will be recited at 6:30pm.

### **Catholic Choral Society Schedules Spring Concert**

The annual spring concerts of the Catholic Choral Society of Scranton will be presented on Friday evening, May 19th at 7:30 at St. Peter's Cathedral. Tickets are available from society members or by calling 587-2753; tickets available at the door.

### **Summer Cash Raffle**

The mailings for our Summer Cash Raffle are available this weekend. Please go to the auditorium after Mass today to get yours. The raffle flier says it all. If for some reason you can't find yours, or you are not a parish member, by all means feel free to take an unaddressed envelope from the small table right inside the doors and make it your own. Good luck to all who support this raffle which netted profits of \$19,444.00.

The challenge this year is somehow to sell all 500 tickets which would boost profits by \$10,000.00. The reason for that is because we have found no one willing at this time to chair the annual summer flea fest, although various parishioners have been approached. In any event, the flea fest last year cleared \$16,000.00 and our best hope for making up some of that loss would be by selling all the tickets. To that end, we are offering a \$10 incentive for each ticket sold outside the parish membership list by any sellers who want to help. If you would like to be a seller (or chair a flea fest), please call the parish office as soon as possible.

At the May 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council, the idea of a purse bingo was discussed as one alternative and is being pursued. Maybe you know of other possibilities. Please call the parish office and let us know.

**AND THE  
WINNERS ARE ...**

