Mass Intentions September 11 - 17, 2017

Monday, September 11

6:50 am Mario Cascioli & Della Cascioli Fioretti by Fran

Tuesday, September 12

6:50 am Francis Fanucci by Beverly & Sal Palumbo

9:30 am Funeral Mass for Joan Ciaglia

Wednesday, September 13

6:50 am Rena Romitelli by Mayor Jeanette & Mario Mariani

2:30 pm Mass for Lackawanna H&R residents

Thursday, September 14

6:50 am Beverly McMorran by Joan Kelley

Friday, September 15

6:50 am Theresa Gasparini by Eleanor Ghilardi

9:30 am Funeral Mass for Mary Stefin

Saturday, September 16

1:00 pm Nuptial Mass of Katie Gallagher & Kyle Harcher 4:00 pm Romaine DeAngelis by husband and family

Sunday, September 17 – Retirement Party & Family Day

8:00 am AJ Giombetti by Kim & Bob Wolfel

11:00 am Benedict & Elizabeth Andreoli by grandchildren

Remember in Your Prayers

In the charity of your prayers, please remember the sick, the suffering, the bereaved, and the recently deceased, Mary Stefin, Joan Ciaglia and Patricia Atherton.

Collection for Last Weekend: September 3, 2017

343 Sunday Offertory Envelopes

\$7,713.50

Total collection for clergy education and care

616.00

We offer many thanks to all who are supporting Sacred Heart Parish by the consistent use of their offertory envelopes.

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." This is a fascinating promise. Jesus enlightens us today about the power of communal faith. He emphasizes that a gathering of like-minded believers, small

though it may be, has a powerful effect. As he tells his disciples, "If two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father."

So what are we waiting for? We should take Jesus up on this amazing offer! Going to Mass is one way to do so. When we gather together every Sunday, we do more than listen to readings and receive the Eucharist. We also PRAY together. The priest leads us in these prayers, of course, but we are meant to join with him, as the Second Vatican Council put it, with "fully conscious, and active participation" (Sacrosanctum Concilium, #14). We are to make the prayers our own by attentively joining in with them from our hearts. Mindlessly reciting "Amen" or absently whispering the words of the Our Father likely loses the effect Jesus was talking about in today's Gospel. But truly praying together with our parish community surely fits the bill.

We need not be at church to fulfill this kind of prayer, however. It only takes two! Those of us who live with others can exercise communal prayer every day in our own homes, just by joining each other for a few moments of petition or praise. Those who live alone may need to reach out more deliberately, but it only takes a phone call to "gather together" with another believer and offer up our prayers. May we have the courage to invite others to join us as we bring our needs to God.

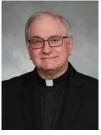


WALK TOGETHER
IN THE Light of Christ

You are invited to join with parishioners across the Diocese as they "Walk Together in the Light of Christ" proclaiming the Gospel by supporting the many ministries and services made possible through gifts to the 2017 Annual Appeal throughout the 11 counties of our Diocese. Our Holy Father tells us, "God's heart has a special place for the poor, so much so that he himself became poor." He explains that the proclamation of the Gospel "is itself the prime form of charity."

"Since our earliest days we have been taught how to pray by the words that Jesus himself shared with us in the scriptures. He began that prayer by saying 'Our Father.' We walk together as brothers and sisters in the light of Christ by the very nature of our faith. In his great instruction to us, Evangelii Gaudum (The Joy of the Gospel), Pope Francis invites us all to missionary discipleship as authentic followers of the Lord Jesus. Missionary discipleship calls us to go out of ourselves and to preach the Gospel and to respond to the needs of our brothers and sisters with whom we walk." - Bishop Joseph C. Bambera

Msgr. Madus Retirement Party & Family Fun Day



Parishioners, visitors and friends of Msgr. Madus are invited to celebrate his last weekend at Sacred Heart & his September 20th retirement from parish administration on Sunday, September 17th from 12 noon until 3pm in the Parish Auditorium and on the church grounds. The 10am Mass will be celebrated at 11am that day. Enjoy

an afternoon of complimentary catered food and refreshments. There will also be treats and fun for the kids including an ice cream truck, bouncy house and even a horseback ride! **Kindly RSVP by this Sunday September 10th to help us plan accordingly.** The picnic is informal with no program or speeches; come and go as you please. All are welcome! (RSVP inserts available at church entrances)

Movie Night at Sacred Heart – September 13th

Join us in the rectory conference room on Wednesday, September 13th at 6:45pm as we gather to watch the 2010 highly acclaimed feature film, Finding Fatima. This powerful and in-depth docudrama combines archival

footage, dramatic reenactments, and original interviews with Fatima experts, and stunning visuals to tell the whole story of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima and the world events related to her appearances of 1917.

Fall Faith Formation Opportunity

This Fall, Brendan Murphy will lead participants through the Gospel of Matthew in depth while also learning how to get more out of our personal reading of Scripture—particularly how we can learn to apply it to our own lives. *See back page of bulletin insert for more details!* Thursday evenings at 6pm for 9 weeks beginning 9/21.

Faith Formation Resumes This Weekend

Welcome 1st Graders! We look forward to meeting and greeting incoming 1st graders. Contact Mrs. Castellani at 570-383-7777 to schedule your child's registration appointment. Please keep in mind that Diocesan guidelines require a two-year participation in a faith formation program prior to receiving a sacrament.

Class Times and Location (all at the Parish Center)

Grades 1-4 9:00am to 9:50am (Parish Center)
Grades 5-8 11:00am to Noon (Parish Center)
Grades 9-12 11:00am to Noon (Parish Center)

Designer Purse Bingo Fall Fundraiser – November 5th

Designer Handbag

We are very grateful for the below new sponsors this week who have been generous in lending their support thus far! Robert E. Decker Funeral Home. Legacy Sponsors: CALM of NEPA,

and a Friend of Sacred Heart. Interested in helping make this fundraiser a success? Donations of raffle baskets and baked goods are needed! Plan to attend our next planning meeting Monday, Sept. 11th at 6pm! For tickets & donations, call Pam at 489-1965 or Elaine at 510-0372.

Feeling Called to be Minister of Holy Communion?

The Office for Parish Life will offer an all-day training session for new Extraordinary Ministers of Communion on Saturday, Sept. 30 from 9am to 2:30pm at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 330 Wyoming Ave., Scranton. This session will cover the theology of the Eucharist and the Mass, the history and spirituality of the ministry, the particular functions, and more. Interested candidates please call the parish office by Sept. 25th.

Save These Dates

Wednesday, September 13 Movie Night: Finding Fatima Sunday, September 17th Retirement Party, Family Fun Day Wednesday, Sept 20th Fr. Andy Kurovsky arrives Sunday, October 22nd – Annual Beef Dinner—take-out only Sunday, November 5th - Designer Purse Bingo Fundraiser

<u>Prayer Shawl Ministry</u> - Next gathering will be on Sept. 20 at 6pm in the Pastoral Center at the Old St. James Church, Jessup. For more info call Livia Clark at 489-6596

Praise and Adoration at XLT!

The next XLT (Exalt!) will be held Friday, Sept. 22, from 7-9pm at Divine Mercy Parish, 312 Davis Street, Scranton. This event consists of Eucharistic Adoration; praise &

worship music; a talk by Laura Wendt; reconciliation; and a social. Father Jeffrey Walsh, Episcopal Vicar for Clergy, will preside and serve as homilist. All are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact Dominick Costantino at 570-780-2996.

Hospitalized Parishioners

Hospital visitation is a very important part of every parish's ministry. It frequently happens that we have parishioners hospitalized for significant periods of time about whom we never hear. When a family member or friend is admitted to a hospital, please call the parish office if you think he or she may welcome a visit, blessing or the anointing of the sick.

St. Lucy's Penne Pasta Dinner

St. Lucy's Church, 949 Scranton St. will be having their annual "Take Out Penne Pasta" dinner on Thursday, Sept. 21, 2017 from 3:00-7:00 pm. Dinners include: penne pasta, meatballs, salad, bread and dessert (containers provided). Dinner can be picked up at church auditorium or the drive thru available in church parking lot. Dinners are \$10 each.

St. Joseph's Center 7th Annual Chicken Dinner

Sunday September 24th 12pm – 4pm at St. Joseph's Center, 2010 Adams Avenue Scranton. Drive thru take out or limited seating available. Tickets \$10 purchased in advance only. Call for tickets or info at 963-1290.

Drug & Alcohol Awareness Symposium

The Christopher P. Lewis Memorial Fund Foundation will host its 1st Drug & Alcohol Awareness Symposium at the Olyphant Ambulance & Rescue Building located at 530 Park Street in Olyphant, on Sunday, September 24 from 1pm to 4pm. The topic of the symposium is "Let's Fight the Opioid Epidemic by Saving One Life at a Time!" A panel discussion will be held from 3pm to 4pm. This event is free to the public. Middle School and High School students are encouraged to attend. Refreshments will be served and there will also be a Basket Raffle. For more information, please call 876-4595.

Notice Regarding Reporting Sexual Abuse of a Minor

It is the policy of the Diocese of Scranton to report any allegation of sexual abuse of a minor to law enforcement. If you are a victim of sexual abuse committed by a priest, deacon, religious or lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton, you are encouraged to immediately report the matter to law enforcement. If any priest, deacon, religious, lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton has cause or reason to suspect that a minor has been subjected to any form of abuse, including child sexual abuse, the matter will be reported to law enforcement. It is also the policy of the Diocese to adhere to all civil and state regulations. To this end, the Diocese is equally committed to adhering to the norms of the Code of Canon Law and to upholding the tenets of the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, which includes supporting victims of sexual abuse in their pursuit of emotional and spiritual well-being. As such, information regarding an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor should also be reported to the Victim Assistance Coordinator at 570-862-7551 or to Diocesan officials, including Monsignor Thomas Muldowney, VG, at 570-207-2269.