



# NATIVITY OF OUR LORD PARISH, DURYEA

127 Stephenson Street Tel: 570-457-3502 Fax: 570-451-3341 Office Hours: M-F, 9:00-4:00 unless otherwise noted in bulletin

E-mail: [rectory@nativityduryea.org](mailto:rectory@nativityduryea.org)

Web: [www.nativityduryea.org](http://www.nativityduryea.org)



Nativity of Our Lord Duryea

Rev. Michael M. Bryant Pastor

Deacon André Kabacinski, Parish Deacon

Masses: Daily, M-F – 7:00 am • Saturday (Vigil)- 4:00 pm • Sunday- 8:00 am, 11:00 am and 7:00 pm

Confession: Daily, M-F~6:40-6:55 am • Saturday- 3:15-3:45 pm, and anytime upon request.



The Fifth Sunday of Lent



March 17, 2024



A Lenten Reflection ~

## Planted In Our Gardens

This week it was so nice to see crocuses around the neighborhoods and the beginnings of daffodils and hyacinths. Those of you who are gardeners are probably making your plans for planting vegetables and flowers after Easter, or you are looking at a later time because Easter is so early this year! Some of you may have even started seedlings in your home. The launch of Spring with all its green and colors is happening all around us.

Jesus in St. John's Gospel this Sunday refers to this time of gardening, potting, and bedding. He says, "I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies it produces much fruit." We know he is speaking of his own approaching death. In fact, in this section of the gospel, Jesus is already in Jerusalem and his Passion has begun.

Jesus is quite conscious that his "hour has come." Because of his deep covenant with God, he is also fully aware that because of this "hour" all of humanity is to become glorified, including himself. We, like Jesus and all of his disciples, are called to move from crucifixion to resurrection. We are to die to our "selves," those times when we become totally absorbed with our wants and worries, and those times when we are becoming increasingly narrow minded about others and their needs. When we "plant" all of this on the cross of dying, then we are able to be lifted above all of this and recognize our solidarity with the glory of God and humanity.

We also get a peek of the glory of our humanity in the gospel and Jesus' oneness with it. Jesus speaks of his fears when he says, "I am troubled now. Yet what should I say?" Like in the other three gospels where he is in Gethsemane, Jesus' distress is evident. He understands the triumph of this moment through God's graces, but he has no misconceptions of the pain his humanity is to experience.

This is a lesson for all of our suffering. We do not walk our roads of Calvary alone. Indeed, God has planted in our hearts an instinctual intimacy with God. We are invited to write on the tablets of our hearts the same trust and confidence abiding in Jesus during the time of his Passion. Similar to Jesus becoming the Son of God through this process, this is how we become the children of God. By "keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus" (Hebrews 12:2), we enable our hearts to survive the tests and trials of living and dying. As Jeremiah announces the Word of the Lord, we no longer need to be taught by God "how to know the Lord." Jesus is so rooted in our very beings; all we have to do is continue to love and serve God and every neighbor planted in our gardens.

-Fr. Michael

Questions of the Week based on this Sunday's Scripture

► Jeremiah 31:31-34 ~ *The New Covenant* ► Hebrews 5:7-9 ~ *Jesus, Compassionate High Priest*

► John 12:20-33 ~ *The Coming of Jesus' Hour*

Adults: When and in what way have you seen life come from death?

Kids: When have you felt stronger because you sacrificed something for a friend or member of your family?



LITURGICAL CALENDAR, DEVOTIONS AND INTENTIONS  
FOR MARCH 17-MARCH 10, 2024

Mon	18	Lenten Weekday <i>St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</i>	7:00am 5:30 pm	For the deceased members, Kondratowicz, Kondrich, Anderson, Netz and Sheridan Families ( <i>by Mazalski Family</i> )  <i>Confessions: "The Light is On For You" 5:30-6:45pm</i>
Tue	19	St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary	7:00am	Eugene Madrak ( <i>by Lucille and Family</i> )
Wed	20	Lenten Weekday	6:30pm	Henry Hokien ( <i>30 day</i> )
Thu	21	Lenten Weekday	7:00am	Helen Champi ( <i>by Carol and Jim Boettger</i> )
Fri	22	Lenten Weekday <i>St. Turibius of Mogrovejo Bishop</i>	7:00am 9:00am 7:00pm	Louis Stefanowicz ( <i>by daughter Jackie</i> ) <i>Living Stations of the Cross, Presented by HRS</i> <i>Living Stations of the Cross, Presented by HRS</i>
Sat	23	Lenten Weekday	4:00pm	Deceased Members of the Felter Family ( <i>by Sons and Daughters</i> )
Sun	24	<b>Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord</b>	8:00am 11:00am 7:00pm	Lucille Keck ( <i>by John and Nancy Rafferty</i> ) For the Intentions of the Parishioners Walter and Carol Ameika ( <i>by Ed and Kathy Ameika</i> )

NO VOTIVE CANDLES THIS WEEK OR NEXT

**17 Sunday**

-Pierogi making 9:00am

**18 Monday**

-Faith Sharing, 1:00pm

**20 Wednesday**

-Eucharistic Service, Crossin Towers

-Choir Rehearsal, 6:30pm

-CEO Weinburg

**21 Thursday**

-Gift Certificates 8am-10am (*last before Easter*)

-Women's Society, 6:30pm, in Rectory

-Pastoral Council 6:30pm, in Hall

**28 Holy Thursday**

**29 Good Friday - Office Closed**

- *Decorating 7:30-9:30 pm, following Stations*

**31 EASTER SUNDAY OF THE  
RESURRECTION OF THE LORD**

~ A P R I L ~

**1 Monday - OFFICE CLOSED**

**3 Wednesday**

-Eucharistic Service, Crossin Towers

FINANCES AND ONGOING STEWARDSHIP

For the period ending March 5: TOTAL \$ 8,709.75; Sunday \$5,707.00 (\$1,076.00 OL) Loose Offering: \$309.25;

Other Envelopes \$2,448.00 (\$187.00 OL) Catholic Relief \$245.50

Thank You, and may God bless your wonderful generosity!

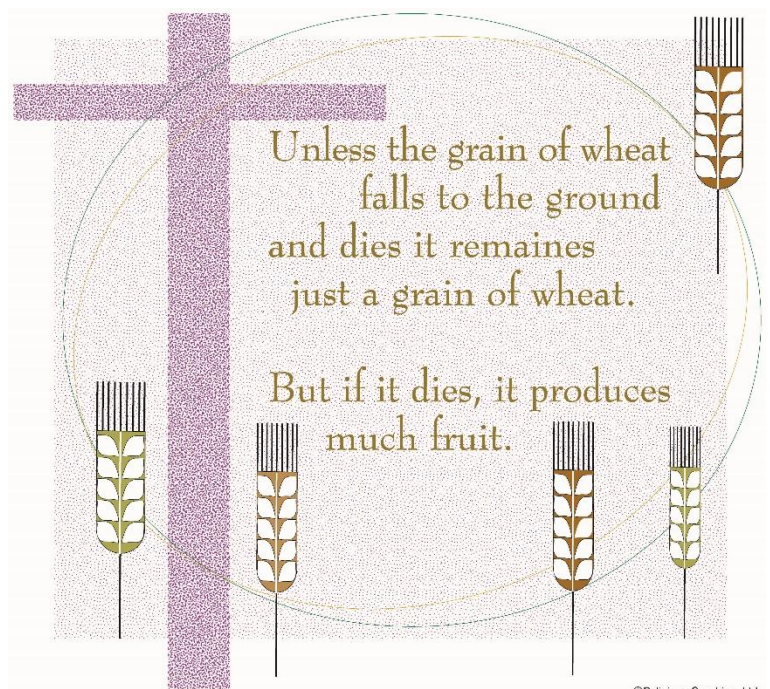


DIOCESE OF SCRANTON  
VOCATIONS OFFICE

**"Get Up  
and Pray"**  
Luke 22:46

Join us in praying for our  
priests and seminarians  
Holy Thursday, March 28th!

1. Assemble a group to visit the Altar of Repose in as many churches as you can
2. Look for the "Add Yours" sticker on @Scrantonvoc stories Thursday night
3. Share photos using the sticker & tell us which priests and/or seminarians you're praying for!



**Diocesan Appeal Update: THANK YOU!!!!**  
**Our Goal: \$40,000.00      Current: \$40,195.00**  
**Needed \$0**  
**(But anything over our goal,  
and we get money back!!!)**  
**THANK YOU FOR HELPING US REACH  
OUR PARISH GOAL!!!!**



**FAITH FORMATION :** March 17, Both Morning and Evening Classes will take place. On March 24, Only Morning Classes, as Scheduled.

**CEMETERY NOTES** Please be VERY CAREFUL in our cemeteries, as *good weather* can cause you to think you are walking on good ground YOU ARE NOT! STAY ON PATHS AS MUCH AS YOU ARE ABLE. With a lot of freeze/melt cycles, it was a tough season for settlement. Please notify the rectory if you notice a settled grave, a hole, or leaning stone. Thank You for all you do to keep our cemeteries so beautiful - and please be SAFE! ALSO, PLEASE TAKE TRASH WITH YOU. There is no dumping in either Holy Rosary or St Joseph's Cemeteries.

**GIFT CERTIFICATES :** to support Holy Rosary School be available on March 21. They will be sold from 8am -10am in the church hall, it will be the last sale day before Easter.

**PITTSTON DEANERY LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE** On Monday of Holy Week, March 25 at 6:30 pm, Saint John the Evangelist Parish, 35 William Street in Pittston, will host the Pittston Deanery Lenten Penance Service. Several priests from our deanery will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation during this time.

**WOMEN'S SOCIETY** There will be a Women's Society Meeting, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 pm. New Members Always Invited and Welcome.

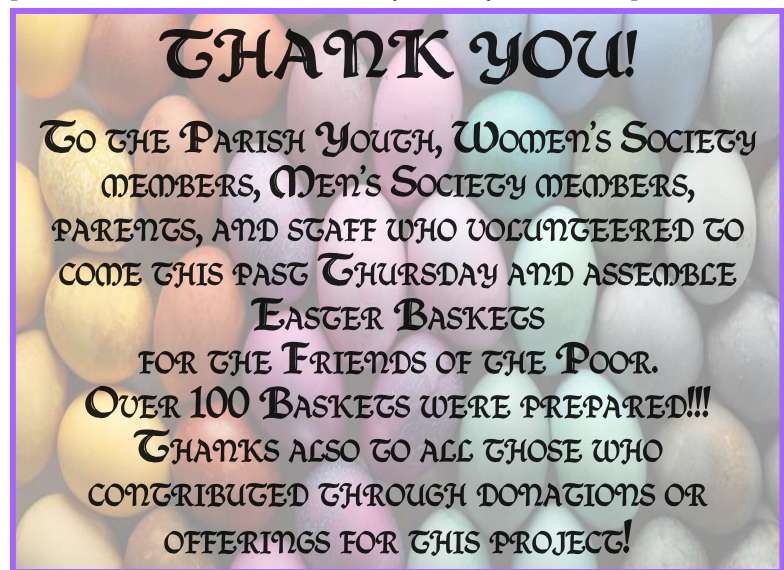
**FOOD PANTRY COMMUNITY SERVICE:** Parish Pastoral Council monthly food pantry volunteer opportunity will be Wednesday March 20, from 5-7PM at CEO Weinberg Food Bank, 185 Research Drive, Pittston. Call the rectory at 570-457-3502 for further information or to volunteer.

## IN THE COMMUNITY

**ANNUAL NOVENA TO ST. JOSEPH** begins this Sunday at the Oblates of St. Joseph Chapel, Route 315, Laflin. Masses are held daily at 12 Noon and 7:00 p.m. Novena preacher: Oblate Father Brian J. Crawford, O.S.J., vocation director for USA Oblate Province. Masses are preceded with confessions and praying of the rosary, concluding with novena devotions. The Novena continues all week, concluding next week on the Feast of St. Joseph, Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, with a special Mass at 7:00 p.m. celebrated by Bishop Joseph C. Bambera.

**GORZKIE ZALE (TODAY)** Sunday, March 17, 3:00 pm at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Dupont. All are invited to attend.

**DESIGNER PURSE BINGO**, St. Maria Goretti Church, 42 Redwood Drive, Laflin, PA. Saturday, April 13 - Doors open at 11:00am. Bingo from 1:00pm to 4:00pm. \$30-Includes \$5 Food Stand Voucher and 20 games of Bingo (extra games may be purchased) Food & Beverages will be available for purchase, Basket Raffle & Bake Sale. For tickets contact parish office at 570-655-8956 Monday - Friday 9:00am-2:00pm.



**THAT'S (ALMOST!) A WRAP**

## POP-UP PARTY & RAFFLE PULL

**PLEASE JOIN US TO CELEBRATE ...**

ST. JOSEPH'S DAY (JUST A DAY LATE),  
BREAKER BREWING'S ST. JOSEPH'S MONASTERY HISTORY,  
AND THE START OF SPRING WHILE WE RALLY TO BRING  
RECTORY, SET, COOK! 2024 TO ITS MOST SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION YET!  
HELP FINISH OFF OUR 40 DAYS BREW + WIN ONE OF OUR 16 FOODIE-THEMED BASKETS!  
(RAFFLE TICKETS SOLD ON SITE UNTIL 6:30 P.M. MARCH 20!)

**WHEN:** 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, March 20  
**WHERE:** Breaker Brewing Company, 787 E. Northampton St., Wilkes-Barre Township  
**COST:** \$20. Includes one draft beer plus a food buffet featuring:  
red + white/spinach pizza (in honor of St. Joseph's Day's Italian roots and the first greens of spring!),  
haluski (a salute to St. Joseph's Day's Polish traditions and a NEPA Lenten staple), veggies and dip,  
meat & cracker trays & a festive St. Joseph's Day dessert selection sponsored by  
our friends at **MURT'S DESSERTS IN NANTICOKE**  
and our pastor chef team of Fr. Gerald Gurka and cookie connoisseur Ed Koons!

For your entertainment, enjoy an interactive singalong featuring both the musical stylings of  
our pastor chefs, including Fr. Brian Van Fossen (who croons even better than he cooks!), and the  
**REEL IN THE YEARS TRIO** featuring  
**Sugar Ray Nemetz, Richie Kossuth (of Daddy-O & The Sax Maniax and Flaxy Morgan fame)**  
and **Brandon John (a Rectory, Set, Cook! alum with a gospel music background.)**

**Happy JOE Day!**  
**Happy Spring!**

REC'TORY, SET, COOK! 2024  
COLLARS + SCHOLARS

St. JOSEPH'S DAY!  
Happy Spring!

Help fight hunger  
and homelessness  
and buy your tickets here!

create for me  
a clean heart,  
O GOD



## CONFESSION SCHEDULE

**Monday ~ March 18**  
5:30-7:00 p.m.

**Monday ~ March 25**  
Deanery Penance Service 7:00 p.m. at  
St. John's in Pittston

**Wednesday ~ March 27**  
3:30-4:30 p.m. and 6:30-7:30 p.m.

**Good Friday ~ March 29**  
10:00 -11:00 a.m.

*There are no Confessions  
on Holy Saturday*



*This Bulletin is printed in Loving Memory of...*



John A., Theresa and John Jr. Adamiak	Alfred and Judith Akulonis	Anthony and Helen Akulonis	Baranoski, Gregorczyk, Janczyk, Polukard and Negvesky Families	Peter and Victoria Biga Mary Soltysiak	William, Ann, Gerard Brady Edward, Agnita, Claire Linsky
Ann Brudzinski	Frank & Regina Callis Zielinski and Callis Families	Chelland Family	Louis Robert Cremard Catherine and Louis Cremard	Irene DeAngelo Rev. Andrew J. Marcinko M/M Andrew Marcinko	Carmen and Idena DeBiasi
Dolan and Roche Family	Louis and Dorothy Doxbeck Family	Dulny and Kapish Families	Martin and Anna Dunay	Jack and Rita Fischer Zaladonis Family	John T. Freas Edward and Mary Matt
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Jasienski, Bozinko and Lewandowski Families	Edward A. Jones	Thomas and Geraldine Judge Judge and Antal Families	Michael and Cecelia Klaus	Kundrat and Simko Families	Bob and Rosemary Kundrat
Joseph Long, Jr., Carl Joseph Tucker, and Butler Family Members	John & Helen Lukus Tom & Mary McAndrew Paczkowski Family	Eugene Madrak	George and Lottie Matrone	William Maziarz Victoria Maziarz Estella Maziarz	Thomas J. and Cecilia McAndrew
Tom and Anna Rita McGlynn	John and Mary Mikovitch Gerald Mikovitch	Mary Ann Namatka Peter & Elizabeth Namatka William & Josephine Sowa	Stanley J. Nazarchuk & Helen A. (Echan) Nazarchuk and All Deceased Family Members	Agnes and Peter Olsheski Olszewski, Grudzinski and Madrak Families	Olszewski, Skowronski and Zoltowski Families
Bernard J. and Theresa Ostrosky	Teresa Ramiza Pace Loretta, Steve & Michael Haluschak, Anthony Pace	Walter F. Perhalla	Micheline & Anthony Perkowski Stella Hoffman A.Perkowski Family	Stanley A. and Mary Piontek Robert and Ruth Walsh	Stanley & Stella Rava and Family
Rincavage, Billick and Galinas Families	Anthony & Helen Rincavage and Anthony Singer	Michael and Irene Rostkowski	Jess L. & Beatrice Rutkoski	Victor L Salidas, Anna Salidas Victor J. Salidas	Thomas and Florence Skowronski Wascavage Family
Catherine and Bruno Smicherko	Mary and Joseph Solarchik	Margaret Stanavage and Son, Ronnie	George Strus	Joseph Sr., Bertha, Ronald, Francis and Joseph Swenton, Jr.	Dominic G. Toraldo
Jacob J. & Pauline M. Vitek and Theresa M. Vitek	Earl & Marion Vrabel and Michael & Grant Larronde	Michael and Jean Wasko	Don Wasta	Wasta and Hadley Family Priscilla Hadley Gike Joe Wrobo	Vincent & Mary Waszczak Marion and Cathy Bryk
Gertrude and Loretta Yachna & Deceased Yachna Family	<i>Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.</i>			Margaret Yauk and Romayne Solarchik	Zujkowski, Pribula, Klink and Nasiatka Families

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[www.murphyschardiencpa.com](http://www.murphyschardiencpa.com)

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 435 Main Street - Moosic  
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