



# 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-T-W-F 7:00 am Thursday 6:30 pm • 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 Easter



April 28, 2024



An Easter Reflection –

## Bearing Good Fruit

From early Lent through to this last Tuesday in Easter, fifteen parishioners read and reflected on a book titled, Let This Be the Time: Spiritual Essentials for Life's Second Act. It was a small book about the 12 needs of the eldering. The needs traveled from The Need to Live a life of Meaning and Purpose to The Need to Prepare for Dying and Death. In between we looked at love and relationships, gratefulness, forgiveness, simplifying, questioning, navigating change, coping with loss, and a few more eldering needs. These conversations and some homemade soup every week made for a wonderful time together!

On the front cover of the book is a beautiful picture of a vine and a branch of bountiful grapes. Little-did-we-know that this would be the theme of this Sunday's scripture – the vine and the branches! But to get us started in our Sunday Word is the story in Acts of the new disciple, Saul, who is now named Paul, and who previously savagely persecuted those early Christians. He arrives in Jerusalem, wants to join the disciples even though they fear him and do not trust his newfound belief in Jesus Christ.

Talk about needs! Most of us in our younger years can relate to the desire to fit-in with other people and facing rejection, sometimes including in our own families. It was not a happy time! We are also aware of how our values grow throughout our lives, and at times we are challenged into recognizing that others might not appreciate our transforming progress or our evolving truths for living.



This is where Jesus sees the vine and its branches relating to our spiritual lives with the Father. Jesus preaches that God prunes those branches that do not bear fruit. If we chose to remain close to God on the vine, we must accept this pruning and indeed, be willing to do some pruning ourselves. Jesus reminds us that all of this is possible if we identify his abiding presence in our lives. Through Christ's permanent place in our loving actions, we will certainly bear much fruit.

Like Saul, we too must love, as St. John tells us, "not in word and speech but in deed and truth." Whether we are in our eldering times, or establishing the roots that help us

develop strong branches of faith, we must believe in the name of Christ and love one another. This was how Saul "proved" he was a disciple and removed the fear of others. So, we too must "belong to the truth" and bring our hearts to a greater understanding and appreciation of how the Spirit builds us up. It is his Spirit which helps us to walk in awesome wonder with God and become a Church whose legacy is to bear the good fruit of peace among all women and men.

-Fr. Michael

▶ Acts 9: 26-31 ~ *Saul Visits Jerusalem*

▶ 1 John 3: 18-24 ~ *The Actions of Believers*

▶ John 15: 1-8 ~ *The Vine and the Branches*

*Adults:* When have you been "pruned" by your experiences in a way that led to greater abundance?

*Kids:* When have you felt stronger or better because you did something hard to help another person?

**LITURGICAL CALENDAR, DEVOTIONS, AND INTENTIONS  
FOR APRIL 28 – MAY 5, 2024**

Mon	29	St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin, and Dr. of the Church	7:00am	John and Irene Moskaitis (by Godchild)
Tue	30	St. Pius X, Pope	7:00am	Mary McAndrew (by Jacqueline Ezdebski)
Wed	1	St. Joseph the Worker	7:00am	Ruth Trakimas (by Son, David and Trakimas Family)
Thu	2	St. Athanasius, Bishop, and Dr. of the Church	6:30pm	John and Catherine Poloski (by Daughter, Eleanor Odell)
Fri	3	Sts. Phillip and James, Apostles	7:00am 9:00am	Theresa Drogalis (by Gerard and Michele Mrykalo) Henry and Mildred Levandoski (by Ann Levandoski)
Sat	4	Easter Weekday	4:00pm	Frank and Regina Callis (by Daughter Carol Callis)
Sun	5	Fifth Sunday of Easter	8:00am	Anna and George Fallot (by Rick and Chris Shuleski)
			11:00am	<b>*First Holy Communion</b> (*Mass will be a bit longer, and some seats reserved for families)
			7:00pm	Donald Wasta (by Janice McAndrew)
<b>VOTIVE CANDLES OFFERINGS</b>				
Sacred Heart of Jesus		Kathy Spatzer (by Nativity of our Lord Women's Society)		
Blessed Virgin Mary		Florence Skowronski (by Joyce Skowronski Jones)		
Saint Joseph		Frank and Regina Callis (by Ann Francis Kurzweil & Robyn and Dena)		

- 28 Sunday**  
-Pierogi Making, 9:00am  
-Women's Society Spring Tea, 2pm-5pm  
**29 Monday**  
-First Holy Communion Rehearsal, 6:00pm

**MAY**

- 5 Sunday**  
-First Holy Communion, 11:00 am Mass  
**7 Tuesday**  
-Men's Society, 6:30 pm  
**8 Wednesday**  
-Choir Rehearsal 6:00pm  
-CEO Weinberg community service 5-7pm  
-Mass, Vigil of the Ascension, 7:00pm  
**9 ASCENSION THURSDAY (Holy Day)**  
-Masses at 7, 9 and Noon  
**12 Sunday - Mother's Day**  
**15 Wednesday**  
-Choir Rehearsal, 6:00pm  
**30 Thursday**  
-Picnic Meeting, 7:00pm

**FINANCES AND ONGOING STEWARDSHIP**

**For the period ending April 23: TOTAL \$8,258.49; Sunday \$5,387.00 (\$868.00 OL) Loose Sunday Offering: \$551.49; Other Envelopes \$2,320.00 (\$150.00 OL)**

*Today's Second collection is our parish response to the Catholic Home missions Appeal.  
Next Weekend's Second Collection is for the Care and Education of Clergy.*

**Thank You, and may God bless your wonderful generosity!**



**FIAT DAYS**

**HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER CAMP**

**JUNE 24-26** High school women are invited to join us for 3 days of adventure, prayer, dynamic talks, Mass, Adoration, and outdoor activities at **Marywood University!**



Fiat is a 3-day summer camp for high school women that is designed to teach them about vocations, help them better discern where God is calling them, and enrich their faith through prayer, fellowship, speakers, small group discussion, activities, and more. Cost is \$25.

Scan the QR code to register!



Prayer Intention of our Holy Father, Pope Francis for the Month of May:  
**For the formation of religious and seminarians**

We pray that religious women and men, and seminarians, grow in their own vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses to the Gospel.

**VOCATION DICERNMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG WOMEN AND MEN**

High school men and women (Rising Sophomores through Graduating Seniors) are invited to join the Diocesan Vocations Office for **Quo Vadis** or **Fiat Days, June 24-26th** at Marywood University! Each is a 3-day summer camp that is designed to teach them about vocations and enrich their faith through prayer, fellowship, speakers, and activities.

Participants will have the opportunity to connect with other young faithful in the Diocese through games, sports, music, small group discussion, and more!

At **Fiat Days**, young women will connect with religious communities serving in the Diocese of Scranton, hear discernment stories from various religious sisters, and chat one-on-one with a sister if they wish. At **Quo Vadis**, the seminarians of the Diocese of Scranton will also visit with participants.

*Those interested in participating must have a recommendation from their pastor, youth minister, Director of Religious Education, Deacon, or other parish minister. For more information, please email [info@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:info@dioceseofscranton.org) or call (570) 207-1452. The cost is \$25, which our parish will cover.*



**QUO VADIS DAYS**

**HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER CAMP**

**JUNE 24-26** High school age men join us for 3 days of adventure, prayer, dynamic talks, Mass, Adoration, and outdoor activities at **Marywood University!**



During the retreat, they discover how to better discern where God is calling them, learn about different vocations, interact with our priests and seminarians, and meet Bishop Bambera! Cost is \$25.

Scan the QR code to register!



**WITH PARISH SYMPATHY** Our prayers are requested for the repose of the souls of Dr. Christopher Barbarevech and Lucille Camp whose Masses of Christian Burial will take place on Monday and Tuesday of this week respectively. May our Lord embrace them both in His eternal love and peace, and give His comfort and consolation to their family and friends. We offer them our parish sympathy.

**FAITH FORMATION NOTES:** Classes will take place this week, for all grades according to the usual schedule, both Morning and Evening Classes. This is our last week of Regular Classes for the year - and we would like to thank our Teachers, Aides, Parents and Students for a wonderful year!!!

**FIRST COMMUNION REHEARSAL** will take place on Monday at 6:00pm, in the church.

**FOOD PANTRY COMMUNITY SERVICE:** Parish Pastoral Pantry Community Monthly Food Pantry volunteer opportunity will be May 8<sup>th</sup>, from 5-7pm at CEO Weinberger Food Bank, 185 Research Dr. Pittston. Call the rectory at 570-457-3502 for more information or to volunteer.

**GIFT CERTIFICATES:** To support Holy Rosary School. Sales on Thursday May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8am-10am.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS - NEXT SUNDAY AT 11:00am** Please be aware that the 11:00 Mass may be a little longer than usual next weekend, and several rows of pews will be reserved for the family of our First Holy Communion Class. Please take some time this week to pray for our children who will receive our Lord in Holy Eucharist for the first time next weekend.

**CHOIR REHEARSAL** - Wednesday May 8 and Wednesday May 15, at 6:00 in the Loft.

#### SUMMER DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR . . .

**ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC** -Friday July 12<sup>th</sup> with Flaxy Morgan and Saturday, July 13<sup>th</sup> with the Sperazza Band. We will open for the Early Bird Flea Market on Thursday July 11<sup>th</sup>, and will begin accepting flea market items once Holy Rosary School begins their summer vacation - Dates and Times for drop-off will be announced later.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** - Save the date! This Year's Vacation Bible School will take place mornings from July 29<sup>th</sup> to August 2<sup>nd</sup>. More details to follow. Anyone interested in volunteering is asked to email or call the rectory.

**CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE** Women from around the Diocese of Scranton gather on Saturday, June 8, 2024 at Marywood University for the Annual Refresh Your Faith Catholic Women's Conference. The day includes Mass with Bishop Bambera, continental breakfast, Catholic Marketplace, 3 Keynote speakers, rosary, Eucharistic adoration, music and lunch. Register for only \$55, students \$20. You'll be inspired by this year's speakers. Father Justin Cinnante, O.Carm. brings in the truth of the real presence in the Holy Eucharist and the miracles he has seen!! Jackie Francois Angel loves being part of the Body of Christ. She fell in love with God at a youth retreat, and now is a full-time

traveling speaker, singer/songwriter, and worship leader. Father Giuseppe Maria Siniscalchi, CFR gave up a career in law to follow his vocation. He will shine great light on the importance of the Eucharist for our times, the link between the Eucharist and the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, and the healing journey into God's Merciful Love. Just added: Special programming Friday night, June 7 - with accommodations at Marywood University. Register at cwcnepa.com.

#### IN THE COMMUNITY:

**Catholic Choral Society Spring Concerts to Celebrate Society's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season** on Friday evening, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at Mary Mother of God Parish at Holy Rosary Church at 316 William Street in Scranton, featuring The Forest City Regional High School Chamber Singers directed by District 9 PMEA President Alison Yuravich, and on Sunday evening, May 19 at 7:00 PM at the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola at 339 N. Maple Ave., Kingston, PA, featuring the Good Shepherd Academy Junior High Choir of Kingston under the direction of Thomas Hanlon.. The Catholic Choral Society, marking its 75<sup>th</sup> season, is comprised of members from Luzerne, Lackawanna, Wayne, Susquehanna, and Wyoming counties. Tickets: Adults \$10.00 - Seniors and students \$8.00 - Singers and ages 12 and under free.

**ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST FLEA MARKET:** At 35 Williams Street, will be holding its annual Flea Market in the Msgr. Bendick Pastoral Center (Seton Auditorium) On Thurs. May 23, and Fri May 24 from 5-8pm and Sat May 25th from 9-12noon (bag sale). Refreshments will be available for purchase on Thursday and Friday only. The entrance is on Church Street in Pittston with parking available

#### MISSIONARY IMAGE OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

We are pleased to announce that this Missionary Image will be available for Veneration in our area according to the following schedule from May 10 -16, 2024:

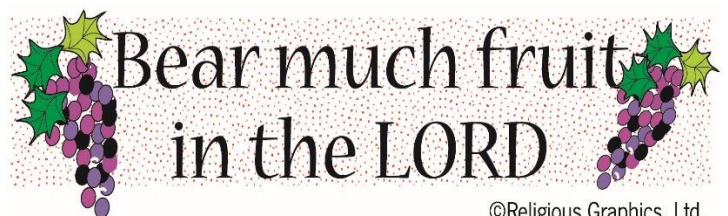
Holy Transfiguration Ukrainian Catholic Church, Nanticoke -May 10 (Friday) 10:00 am Divine Liturgy; 11:00 am Talk; 11:15 am Hour of Prayer; 12:15 - 2:00 pm Veneration of the Image  
May 11 (Saturday) Noon to 4:00 pm Veneration of the Image; 6:00 pm Divine Liturgy; 7:15 pm Talk

Sts. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church, Plymouth - May 12 (Sunday) 8:30 am Divine Liturgy; 9:45 am Talk; 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Prayer & Veneration of the Image

Gate of Heaven Parish, Dallas - May 14 (Tuesday) 1:00 - 5:00 pm Eucharistic Adoration & Veneration of the Image

Our Lady of Fatima Grotto, North Street, Wilkes-Barre - May 16 (Thursday) 9:30 am Meet & Process with the Image to Planned Parenthood, 101 Main Street, to Pray for the Life of Unborn Children

Holy Spirit Parish - St. Mary Church, Mocanaqua - May 16 (Thursday) 1:30 pm Eucharistic Adoration & Veneration of the Image; 6:00 pm Holy Mass; 7:00 pm Talk; 7:15-8:30 pm Veneration of the Image.





*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
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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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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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 Anne M Schardien CPA  
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[anne@murphyschardiencpa.com](mailto:anne@murphyschardiencpa.com)  
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 435 Main Street - Moosic  
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