




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.

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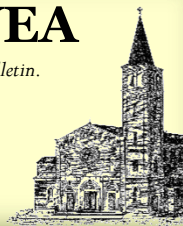
 Nativity of Our Lord Duryea

Rev. Michael M. Bryant *Pastor*

Deacon André Kabacinski, *Parish Deacon*

Masses: Daily, M-T-W-F 7:00am Thursday 6:30pm • Saturday (Vigil)- 4:00 pm • Sunday- 8 & 11am, & 7pm

Confession: Daily, M-T-W-F~6:40-6:55am; Thur. – 6:10-6:25pm • Sat. 3:15-3:45pm, & anytime upon request.



❖ THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ❖ MAY 11, 2025 ❖



An Easter Reflection –

Don't Let Your Hope Be Stolen

As I was beginning to look at the readings for this Sunday, I was watching the end of the evening news and a story on Pope Francis was broadcast. It was a story about a pasta factory in Rome located right outside a juvenile detention center, which employed detainees to help rehabilitate them back into the community. Pope Francis went to this center on Holy Thursday to wash the feet of those incarcerated. According to the news story, he also had left in his will the instructions to give all of the remaining money in his banking account, over 200,000 euros, to the factory to pay their mortgage.

The report didn't end there, social media had picked up this story about Pope Francis and now the factory was receiving many requests for their pasta, even from outside of Italy! The story showed the workers preparing boxes of pasta to be shipped and in each box was a piece of paper with a quote from Pope Francis. The quote in Italian was translated: *Don't let your hope be stolen.*, from the writings of Pope Francis.

This Sunday is the 4th Sunday of Easter. It is also World Day of Prayer for Vocations. We are invited to ponder vocations, not only to priestly ministry, but also the vocation of women and men to a religious community, the vocation to the permanent diaconate in parishes, the vocation of marriage, and the vocation to lay ministry in the church both as a single person and as married couples. All of these calls to ministry have a particular role in every Christian's invitation to discipleship.

We are all quite aware that the source of any vocational call is the grace of God. It is, as Jesus tells us in Sunday's Gospel from St. John, the "voice" of the shepherd who says, "My sheep hear my voice, I know them, and they follow me." This knowledge that the Good Shepherd has of us is not of the intellectual or brainy kind. It is a familiarity that is very relational and involves an intimacy with each of us greater than even some of our deepest human relationships.

There is a boldness in this intimacy, as witnessed to by Paul and Barnabas in our reading from the Acts of the Apostles. To live out our vocation, we must be courageous and confident enough to face the contradictions offered by others. These disagreements often are motivated by jealousy. Yet, underneath this envy is fear – a fear of losing the power one has, as the boldness of hope spreads to more and more people. Our vocations must embrace this boldness, never allowing jealousy or fear shut down our hope as we work for the betterment of others, especially the poor.

John, in the Book of Revelation, reminds us that our vocation is led by "life-giving waters" given us from God. It is through these "waters" poured into us by the Holy Spirit that we reach out to the multitudes "from every nation, race, people and tongue." It is not an easy task because of the distress of the many who are ignored and displaced in our society. Indeed, there may be tears that only God can wipe away. Somehow though, our vocation calls us to continually provide shelter, reach out to the hunger and thirst of our neighbors, and bring peace and hope to those who are burnt up by the heated anger and passion for power of the narrow-minded.

Whatever our vocation may be, we cannot let our hope be stolen. We must seek leadership that guides us in this pursuit of hope. All of us ought to rely on the Risen Lord, the Good Shepherd, who takes us by the hand and whose voice is a joyful song of gladness, kindness, faithful endurance and the good for every person whom God invites us to tend to forever.

-Fr. Michael

Questions for reflection based on this Sunday's readings:

- ▶ Acts 13:14,43-52 ~ Paul and Barnabas preach to the Gentiles.
- ▶ Revelation 7:9,14b-17 ~ The Lamb of God is our shepherd who leads us to life-giving water'
- ▶ John 10:27-30 ~ No one can harm one of Jesus' lambs.

How has my mother (or mother figure) been a good shepherd for me? Make sure you thank her today!

LITURGICAL CALENDAR, DEVOTIONS, AND INTENTIONS
MAY 11-18TH, 2025

Mon	12	St. Nereus & Achilleus, Martyrs St. Pancras, Martyr	7:00 am	John Abent (by daughters, Joan & Mary Ann)
Tue	13	Our Lady of Fatima	7:00am	Rosemary Kondrat (by Jeff, Diane, Cheryl, Joe, Sean Matthew, Julianna, Aubrey & Abby)
Wed	14	St. Matthias, Apostle	7:00am	Andrew & Regina Dalton (by Andrew & Andrea Lentowski)
Thu	15	St. Isadore	6:30pm	Josephine & Jack Endres (by Mr & Mrs Robert McDermott)
Fri	16	Easter Weekday	7:00am	William Odell (by wife, Eleanore Odell)
Sat	17	Easter Weekday	4:00pm	Frank & Regina Callis (by Carol Callis)
Sun	18	Fifth Sunday of Easter	8:00am 11:00am 7:00pm	Hantz & Kabacinski Families (by family) The Intentions of the Parishioners Theresa Patterson Orkwis & Richard Patterson (by Bernice Patterson)
VOTIVE CANDLES OFFERINGS				
Sacred Heart of Jesus		For Blessings on Pope Leo XIV		
Blessed Virgin Mary		Agnes & Peter Olsheski (by son, Peter)		
Saint Joseph		Joseph Namatka (by NOOL Women's society)		

Upcoming May Events...

11 Sunday - Mother's Day

-Carnation Sale after all Masses

15 Thursday

-Women's Society Meeting @ 6:30pm

20 Tuesday

-Piggie Prep: core, clean, steam @9am

-Soup and Spirituality 5:30-7pm

21 Wednesday

-roll and bake piggies 9am

22-Thursday

- roll and bake piggies 9am

27 Tuesday

-Soup and Spirituality 530-7pm

29 Thursday -- the ASCENSION

FINANCES AND ONGOING STEWARDSHIP LAST WEEK: SUNDAY TOTAL \$10,489.00;

Sunday \$7,256.00 (\$1,967.00 OL); Other Envelopes \$2,041.00 (\$379.00 OL); Loose \$627.00; Care of Priests: \$565.00 (\$256.00 2nd Collection, \$20.00 OL) **Thank You, and may God bless your wonderful generosity!**



POPE LEO XIV

Robert Francis Prevest

We welcome our new supreme pontiff, the former Robert Francis Cardinal Prevest, OSA, who was just elected by the College of Cardinals as the 267th Pope, successor to St. Peter. Cardinal Prevest, now Pope Leo XIV, is the first American to assume the throne of St. Peter.

Born on the south side of Chicago, IL, Pope Leo XIV earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Villanova University. He was ordained a priest for the Order of St. Augustine in 1982, and obtained a Licentiate of Canon Law in 1984, followed by a Doctorate in Canon Law from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas. In November of 2014, Pope Francis appointed Prevest as Bishop of the Diocese of Chiclayo in Peru. In January of 2023, Prevest was appointed prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops and was created a Cardinal.

We at Nativity of Our Lord Parish pray for our new "Peter," that he lead the Church in boldly following the teachings of Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to the Glory of God the Father.

Blessings, Holy Father!

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM We welcome to the Church Aubree Dructor, Madelyn Lucas and Layna Norton, who were baptized recently. As they received their new life in Christ in the Sacrament of Baptism, may the Lord fill them with many graces and blessings, through their Christian life. We offer our parish congratulations and prayerful best wishes to them and their families.

WITH PARISH SYMPATHY Our prayers are requested for Elizabeth Weickowski, John McGlynn Jr. whose Christian burial was celebrated this past week. Also for Robert McDermott whose burial plans are pending. May our Lord embrace them in His eternal love and peace and give comfort and consolidation to their family and friends.

SAVE THE DATES:

PICNIC 2025

Our Annual Picnic will be held on Friday July 11 and Saturday, July 12. Please watch future bulletins for Flea Market drop offs, donation needs, entertainment schedule, volunteer needs, and meeting dates.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Our multi-parish Vacation Bible School will take place from **Monday, July 28 to Friday, August 1**. A joint effort of the Catholic Parishes of Avoca, Dupont, Duryea, and Old Forge, our VBS takes place on the campus of Holy Rosary School and Church, here in Duryea. Please watch future bulletins and social media posts for planning meetings, registration, and information.

Today, on the occasion of Mother's Day, we offer these prayers for all mothers and grandmothers:

Lord God, we give you thanks for the many gifts you have given us — the gift of life, the gift of those who love us.

We thank you today for the gift of our mothers and grandmothers.

We give thanks for our mothers and grandmothers who have died and for the unique way they have revealed for us your love.

We ask that you bless them and keep them in your care until the time comes for us to join them in your Kingdom.

We ask your blessing upon the mothers and grandmothers who are unable to be with us today. May they know how much we love and care for them.

We ask your blessing this day upon all mothers and grandmothers and all women who are raising children.

Give them the strength to live the faithful and loving lives you call them to live.

Protect them, guide them and keep them in your care.

We ask all of this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

HRS GIFT CERTIFICATES: Thursdays 8am-10am in church hall.

CEO FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEER SESSION: our next food pantry volunteer session is **Wednesday May 21st, 5-7PM**, at the CEO Food pantry, 185 Research Drive, Pittston. Please call the rectory at 570-457-3502 for further information or to volunteer.

IN THE COMMUNITY:

AT ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST ● FLEA MARKET in the Msgr. Bendik Pastoral Center (former Seton Catholic auditorium) on **Thursday, May 29 and Friday, May 30 from 5:00-8:00 PM and Saturday, May 31 from 9:00 AM-12 Noon (Bag Sale)**. Entrance is on Church Street in Pittston with parking available nearby! **ALSO, AT ST. JOHN'S ● ORPHEUS CHORAL SOCIETY TO PERFORM** On **Sunday, June 1 at 3:00 PM**, under the direction of Gabriel Jenceleski and accompanied on piano by Susan Lauer. The program will include choral arrangements of many beloved selections including *The Prayer*, *Bridge over Troubled Water*, and *Amazing Grace*. Other selections will include music from *Lord of the Rings*, Mozart's Alleluia from *Exsultate*, *Jubilate*, and a setting of the Irish Blessing. A free-will offering will be accepted at the concert. ● **CASH BINGO on Sunday, June 29 from 1:00-4:00 PM** in the Pastoral Center auditorium. Doors open at 12 Noon. Tickets are \$25 each which includes 20 regular games (extra may be purchased). Special games are \$5 each. There will be raffles, a 50/50, door prizes, and food available for purchase. Bring a new scratch-off lottery ticket (\$5 or more) to receive entry into a special drawing! We will be awarding over \$4,000 in prizes. Tickets will be available in the parish office Monday-Friday from 9:00 AM-4:00 PM and will also be available through Venmo (@StJohnsPittston) and PayPal.me/StJohnsPittston.

CATHOLIC CHORAL SOCIETY SPRING CONCERTS: Friday evening, May 16th at 7:00 PM at Mary, Mother of God Parish at Holy Rosary Church at 316 William Street in Scranton and on Sunday evening, May 18 at 7:00 PM at the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola at 339 N. Maple Ave., Kingston, PA. On Friday evening, May 16th, at Holy Rosary Church, the Choral Society will host the Mary, Mother of God Adult Choir directed by Kimberly Gnall. On Sunday evening, May 18, at St. Ignatius Loyola Church, the Choral Society will host the Good Shepherd Academy of Kingston Middle School Choir under the direction of Thomas Hanlon. Tickets: Adults \$12.00 – Seniors and students \$8.00 – Singers and ages 12 and under free.

AT PRINCE OF PEACE OLD FORGE ● TAKE-OUT PASTA DINNER SUNDAY JUNE 1st 2025 11am -3pm. Arcaro & Genell's Take-Away Counter. Old Forge \$15 Includes Penne Pasta, Meatballs, Salad, Roll & Dessert. Tickets may be purchased by calling the rectory 570-457-5900. Also they will be sold before and after all week-end Masses at the Main Entrance to the Church. Walk ins are welcome.





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	Thomas and Stella Blasco
William, Ann, Gerard Brady Edward, Agnita, Claire Linskey	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
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John T. Freas Edward and Mary Matt	Joseph W. Frew	Dominick "Beaver" Gigliello and Anthony & Mary Naida	Margaret & Leo Glodzik, Sr., Lea Glodzik and Bob Glodzik	Capt. Francis A. Hantz U.S.N. Ret. Frank and Mary Hantz Robert Hynoski	Stanley & Anna Hantz Catherine & Andrew Knopik Stanley Hantz Family
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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	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	Judy and George Nowakowski	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
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Thomas and Florence Skowronski Wascavage Family Edward A. Jones	Catherine and Bruno Smicherko	Mary and Joseph Solarchik	Margaret Stanavage and Son, Ronnie	George Strus	Joseph Sr., Bertha, Ronald, Francis and Joseph Swenton, Jr. & Michael Matiko
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	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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