

# 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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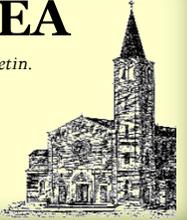
Nativity of Our Lord Duryea

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

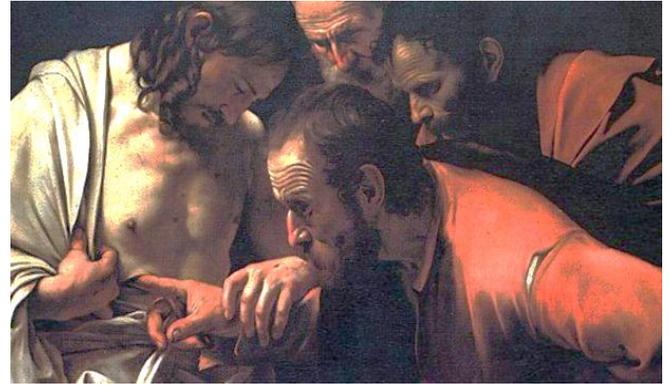
Confession: Daily, M-T-W-F~6:40-6:55am; Thur. – 6:10-6:25pm • Sat. 3:15-3:45pm, & anytime upon request.



❖ THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER ❖ DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY ❖ APRIL 27, 2025 ❖

## An Easter Reflection on Divine Mercy Sunday – *Jesus Always Comes Back*

*Instead of a reflection from me on this Divine Mercy Sunday, I found words which the late Pope Francis shared on Sunday, April 24, 2022, in St. Peter's Square. Offering his thoughts on the doubting St. Thomas, Pope Francis reminds us that Jesus does not expect us to be "perfect Christians." Instead, he wants us "to seek him, to call on him, or even like St. Thomas, to protest, bringing him our needs and unbelief." Pope Francis suggests that Thomas "represents all of us:"*



"We too struggle at times like the disciple: How can we believe that Jesus is risen, that he accompanies us and is the Lord of our life without having seen him, without having touched him? How can we believe in this? Why does the Lord not give us a clearer sign of his presence and love? Some sign that I can see better.

Here, we too are like Thomas, with the same doubts, the same reasoning. But we need not be ashamed of this. By telling the story of Thomas, in fact, the Gospel tells us that the Lord is not looking for perfect Christians. The Lord is not looking for perfect Christians. I tell you: when I see a Christian, some association of Christians who believe themselves to be perfect. The Lord is not looking for perfect Christians; the Lord is not looking for Christians who never doubt and always flaunt a steadfast faith. When a Christian is like that, something is not right. No, the adventures of faith, as for Thomas, consists of lights and shadows. Otherwise, what kind of faith would that be? It knows times of comfort, zeal and enthusiasm, but also of weariness, confusion, doubt, and darkness.

The Gospel shows us Thomas' 'crisis' to tell us that we should not fear the crises of life and faith. Crises are not sins, they are part of the journey, we should not fear them. Many times, they make us humble because they strip us of the idea that we are fine, that we are better than others, Crises help us to recognize that we are needy: they rekindle the need for God and thus enable us to return to the Lord to touch his wounds, to experience his love anew as if it were the first time.

Dear brothers and sisters, it is better to have an imperfect but humble faith that always returns to Jesus, than a strong but presumptuous faith that makes us proud and arrogant. Woe to those, woe to them!

Jesus does not give up, he does not get tired of us, he is not afraid of our crises, our weaknesses. He always comes back; when the doors are closed, he comes back; when we are in doubt, he comes back; when, like Thomas, we need to encounter him and touch him up close, he comes back. Jesus always comes back, he always knocks on the door, and he does not come back with powerful signs that would make us feel small and inadequate, even ashamed, but with his wounds; he comes back, showing us his wounds, signs of his love that has espoused our frailties.

Jesus is the Lord of 'other chances': He always gives us one another, always. So let us think about the last time – let's try to remember a little – that, during a difficult moment or a period of crisis, we closed in ourselves, barricading ourselves in our problems and shutting Jesus out of the house. And let us promise ourselves, the next time, in our fatigue, to seek Jesus, to return to him, to his forgiveness – he always forgives, always! – to return to those wounds that have healed us."

Questions for reflection based on this Sunday's readings:

- ▶ Acts 5: 12-16 ~ Peter's faith in Jesus enables him to work signs and wonders.
- ▶ Revelation 1: 9-11a, 12-13, 17-19~ He is the first and the last, the one who lives.
- ▶ John 20: 19-31 ~ How blessed are those who have not seen but still believed.

Where and when do I recognize Christ's wounds in the body of Christ?  
What can I do to heal those wounds?



We have become a new creation by our baptism



LITURGICAL CALENDAR, DEVOTIONS, AND INTENTIONS				
APRIL 27 <sup>TH</sup> - MAY 4 <sup>TH</sup> , 2025				
Mon	28	St. Peter Chanel, priest & Martyr & St Louis Grignon de Montforte, Priest	7:00 am	J B Denton (by Diane M. Plisga)
Tue	29	St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Dr. of the Church	7:00am	Beverly Rogalski (by John & Nancy Rafferty)
Wed	30	St Pius V, Pope	7:00am	Jack Rava (by Joseph & Diana Rava)
Thu	1	St Joseph the Worker	6:30pm	Frank Groblewski (By Ceil Groblewski)
Fri	2	St. Athanasius, Bishop & Doctor of the Church	7:00am 9:00am	Richard Slatky (by Janice McAndrew) Henry & Mildred Levandoski (by family) HRS Mass
Sat	3	Saints Philip & James, Apostles	4:00pm	The Intentions of the Parishioners
Sun	4	Third Sunday of Easter	8:00am 11:00am 7:00pm	Thomas Wollner (by John & Claire Pliska) <b>First Holy Communion</b> Don Wasta (by Robin & Donnie Barycki)
VOTIVE CANDLES OFFERINGS				
Sacred Heart of Jesus		Don Wasta (by wife, Judy)		
Blessed Virgin Mary		Dorothy & Louis Doxbeck (by family)		
Saint Joseph		Stanley Piontek (by Beverly Dulny)		
A candle will also burn at this time in prayerful memory of our departed Holy Father, Pope Francis.				

Upcoming April events...

- 27 Sunday**  
 - 9am Pierogi Making  
 - **Divine Mercy Holy Hour, 2:00pm**  
 - Women's Society Spring Social @ Arcaro & Genell 1pm-4pm
- 28 Monday**  
 -First Communion Rehearsal, 6:00pm
- 29- Tuesday**  
 -Soup and Spirituality @530-7pm

May Events...

- 2 Friday - First Friday**
- 4 Sunday**  
 -**First Holy Communion 11 AM**
- 6 Tuesday**  
 - Piggie Prep: core, clean, steam cabbage, juice, rice, onions @9am
- 7 Wednesday**  
 - roll and bake piggies 9am
- 8 Thursday**  
 - roll and bake piggies 9am

**FINANCES AND ONGOING STEWARDSHIP:** For the period ending April 22: SUNDAY TOTAL \$16,165.73; Sunday \$4,346.41 (\$1,271.00 OL); Other Envelopes \$1,927.27 (\$170.00 OL); Loose \$1,258.05; EASTER: \$6,813.00 (\$595.00 OL) Holy Land \$882.00 (\$15.00 OL); Holy Thursday \$939.11 (\$45.00 OL); CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL: 2024 GOAL \$44,982.00 So Far: \$46,896.00! ... 105.03 %!  
**Thank You, and may God bless your wonderful generosity!**



# QUO VADIS DAYS

HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER CAMP

JUNE

23-25



- Location: Marywood University
- Open to rising sophomores through graduating seniors in high school
- Adventure, Prayer, Dynamic Talks, Mass, Adoration, and Outdoor Activities
- Learn about vocations, better discern where God is calling you, & chat with priests, seminarians, and Bishop Bambera
- Cost is \$25.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JUNE 16TH



# FIAT DAYS

HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER CAMP

JUNE

23-25



- Location: Marywood University
- Open to rising sophomores through graduating seniors in high school
- Adventure, Prayer, Dynamic Talks, Mass, Adoration, and Outdoor Activities
- Learn about vocations, better discern where God is calling you, and chat with religious sisters, priests, & Bishop Bambera
- Cost is \$25.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JUNE 16TH





**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY HOLY HOUR**  
 April 27, 2025, here at Nativity of Our Lord  
 2:00pm Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament  
 followed by Mid-day prayer  
*Adoration and time for quiet reflection and prayer.*  
 3:00pm – the Hour of Mercy: Divine Mercy Chaplet and then  
 Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

✠ **Jesus,**  
 I trust ✠  
 ✠ **in You!**

#### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & FAITH FORMATION:

**Last Classes: Sunday April 27th**, Morning classes 9:45-10:45am 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grades. Evening classes 5:15-6:45pm 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades.

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

**HOSPITALIZATION AND ILLNESS** Parishioners, some hospitals do not give us names of parishioners who are patients. Other hospitals only give names when patients register as a Catholic and a parishioner of Nativity Duryea (not Holy Rosary, Sacred Heart of Jesus, St. Joseph's, St. Michael's, Peter's and Paul's etc.) Families, PLEASE call the rectory to let father know if a loved one is in the hospital, moved to a nursing home, is homebound, especially if they need a visit for anointing or Eucharist. It is not an inconvenience for Father Michael or the staff or ministers – it is the work of the church to care for those who are sick.

**PARISH EMAIL DATABASE** Our parish emails the bulletin each week, along with other mailings. Our address is a ".org" address, and distributed through a group email provider, so it sometimes gets filtered to a person's spam or trash inbox. This is a vital means of communication between your pastor and your household. Please check on this, and let us know if you are not receiving emails. Also, please inform us if you have an updated email or phone number.

**REDNER'S TAPES WANTED** The National Junior Honor Society of Holy Rosary School is collecting Redner's Save-A-Tape receipts to help earn money to support our various service projects. You must use your Redner's Rewards Card for the Save-a-Tape Amount to be printed. Please put them in an envelope labeled NJHS of Holy Rosary. Thank you in advance.

#### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

##### HOLY ROSARY SCHOOL:

**Administrative Assistant/Receptionist Needed** Full Time, Front Office Admin. Assist. position available at Holy Rosary School, Duryea. Hours 7:30-3:30 including summer. (SERIOUS INQUIRIES ONLY) If interested, please call Mrs. Skutack in the School Office at 570-457-2553.

##### DIocese OF SCRANTON: MAINTANCE POSTION

Looking for a dependable and experienced individual to perform maintenance duties at the Chancery building and Diocesan Pastoral center in downtown Scranton. Interested candidates can apply on the website by April 30, 2025:

[www.dioceseofscranton.org](http://www.dioceseofscranton.org)

#### IN THE COMMUNITY:

##### MARYWOOD CHAMBER SINGERS CONCERT

The Chamber Singers of Marywood University under the direction of Dr. Rick Hoffenberg will present a Spring Concert at St. John the Evangelist R.C. Church, 35 William Street in Pittston, on Sunday, **April 27 at 3:00 PM.**

**AT THE DURYEY AMERICAN LEGION ● PASTA DINNER** on Saturday May 3rd from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Duryea American Legion Post 585 at 3:29 Main Street Duryea. Cost of the dinner is \$12 and includes penne pasta meatballs, homemade meat sauce, side salad with Italian dressing packet, and bread and butter. Eat in our dining area or take out. Tickets are available from sales members or at the door the day of the event.

**Join Providence Pregnancy Center** on May 16, 2025 for our annual dinner at St. Mary's Center in Scranton. This year's featured guest speaker, Chris Bell, is the founder of Good Counsel Homes in New York City and will share about his important work of providing safe shelter to homeless pregnant women. The evening includes a cocktail hour with appetizers and a cash bar, a delicious dinner, dessert, live music and raffles. Join 500 others as we come together to celebrate and support the work of PPC, which provides critical resources to mothers in crisis including material help, counseling, housing at our maternity home Casa de Maria, and education. Tickets are only \$25 and can be purchased online at [www.ppcscranton.org/events](http://www.ppcscranton.org/events) or by calling Sandy at 570-862-3001.

**Catholic Choral Society Schedules Spring Concerts** - The annual spring concerts of the Catholic Choral Society of Scranton celebrating the 76<sup>th</sup> year of the choral group will be presented on Friday evening, May 16<sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup>, 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. The Catholic Choral Society, marking its 76<sup>th</sup> season, is comprised of members from Luzerne, Lackawanna, Wayne, Susquehanna and Wyoming counties. The director of the Catholic Choral Society is Ann Manganiello and the accompanist is Linda Houck. Brenda Grunza, Nicholson, and Lois Ostrowski, Pittston, are co-presidents of the choral group. Tickets: Adults \$12.00 – Seniors and students \$8.00 – Singers and ages 12 and under free.



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



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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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