



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

Web: www.nativityduryea.org

 Nativity of Our Lord Duryea

Rev. Michael M. Bryant *Pastor*

Deacon André Kabacinski, *Parish Deacon*

Masses: Daily, M-T-W-F 7:00am 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.



APRIL 13, 2025



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD



HOLY WEEK

A Palm Sunday Reflection- **Who Am I?**

I have been reading the book The Hope of Lent: Daily Reflections from Pope Francis written by Diane M. Houdak. Ms. Houdak follows a pattern for each day of Lent right up to Divine Mercy Sunday. She begins each section with a passage from Pope Francis, followed by her reflection on his words, then a suggestion of a further action to consider, ending with a short prayer from Pope Francis.

Her thoughts on Pope Francis words are both stunning and challenging. Yet even though each section is no more than 2 or 3 pages, I have missed a few days. However, those days where I have sat with their thoughts, It has helped me discover even more what this Lenten pilgrimage of hope we travel every year, is all about.



The words offered by Pope Francis for Palm Sunday are modeled after St. Ignatius' exercise of placing ourselves in the Gospel. May they open our spirits and help us find some hope this Palm Sunday and throughout Holy Week.

Pope Francis offers us these words:

We might well ask ourselves just one question: Who am I, before the Lord? Who am I, before Jesus who enters Jerusalem amid the enthusiasm of the crowd? Am I ready to express my joy, to praise him? Or do I stand back? Who am I, before the suffering Jesus? ... Am I like one of them? Where is my heart? Which of these people am I like? May this question remain with us throughout the entire week.

Am I like Judas, who feigns loved and then kisses the Master in order to hand him over, to betray him? Am I a traitor?

Am I like Pilate? When I see the situation is difficult, do I wash my hands and dodge my responsibility, allowing people to be condemned – or condemning them myself?

Am I like that crowd which was not sure whether they were at a religious meeting, a trial or a circus, and then chose Barabbas? For them it was all the same; it was more entertaining to humiliate Jesus.

Am I like the Cyrenean, who was returning from work, weary, yet was good enough to help the Lord carry his cross?

Am I like those fearless women, and like the mother of Jesus, who was there, and who suffered in silence?

Using this exercise, as we hear St. Luke's Passion this Sunday or St. John's on Good Friday, we could also be the curious, but terrified disciples or the brave, betraying Peter. We could be Herod, filled with curiosity and contemptuous to the core. We could be one of the criminals who share with Jesus their last moments of life, or we could be the Jewish council member, Joseph, whose truth-seeking and virtuosity gave him the courage to provide Jesus a final resting place. No matter who we are this Holy Week, may this prayer offered by Pope Francis, lead us to God's blessed hope.

**“Let us allow ourselves to be wrapped in this mercy which comes to meet us;
and in these days, as we keep our gaze fixed on the passion and death of the Lord,
let us receive in our heart his boundless love and in silence await the Resurrection.”**

-Fr. Michael

LITURGICAL CALENDAR, DEVOTIONS, AND INTENTIONS

APRIL 14TH-20TH, 2025

Mon	14	Monday of Holy Week	7:00 am	Loretta Kulpak (30 day)
Tue	15	Tuesday of Holy Week	7:00am 4:30pm	Mark Rostkowski (by Marianne & Chuck Trotta) MASS OF THE HOLY CHRISM, Cathedral of St Peter, Scranton
Wed	16	Wednesday of Holy Week	7:00am	Roman & Olive Schafka (by daughter)
Thu	17	Holy Thursday	8:00am 7:00pm 10:30pm	Morning Prayer Mass of the Lord's Supper Night Prayer
Fri	18	Good Friday	8:00am 2:00pm 7:00pm	Morning Prayer Commemoration of the Lord's Passion Stations of the Cross
Sat	19	Holy Saturday	8:00am 2:00pm 4:00pm 8:00pm	Morning Prayer Blessing of Baskets Blessing of Baskets Vigil of the Resurrection
Sun	20	Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord	8:00am 9:30am 11:00am 6:00pm	Please note the extra Mass on Easter Morning. There is NO 7:00pm Mass this day. Evening Prayer

VOTIVE CANDLES OFFERINGS

No votive candles will burn this week and next, out of reverence for our Lord's sacred Passion.

Upcoming April events...

13 Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion
-Confirmation Rehearsal, 1:00pm

The Sacred Triduum

17 Holy Thursday
18 Good Friday-Office Closed
19 Holy Saturday

-Blessing of the baskets @ 2pm and 4pm

HE IS RISEN

20 Easter Sunday of the Resurrection

21 Easter Monday-Office Closed
-First Communion Rehearsal, 6:00pm

22 Easter Tuesday
-Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation with

Bishop Bambara, 5:00pm

25 Friday- 9am Potato Cheese Prep

26 Saturday-10am Mash & Ball Potatoes

27 Sunday- 9am Pierogi Making

28 Monday

-First Communion Rehearsal, 6:00pm

29- Tuesday

-Soup and Spirituality @530-7pm

FINANCES AND ONGOING STEWARDSHIP: For the period ending April 1: SUNDAY TOTAL \$6,490.00; Sunday \$4,870.00 (\$1,481.00 OL); Other Envelopes \$1,258.00 (\$479.00 OL); Loose \$299.00; Liturgy Needs: \$513.00 (238.00 2nd Collection; \$20.00 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

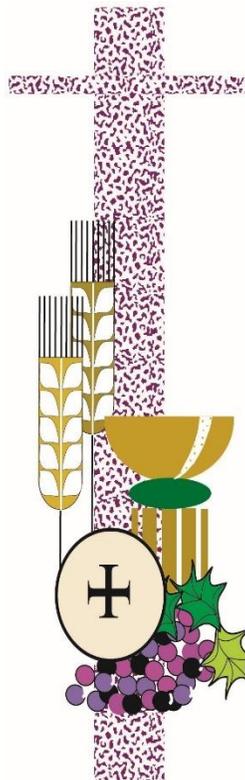
23-25



- 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 Bambara
- Cost is \$25.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JUNE 16TH

VOCATIONS



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 Bambara
- Cost is \$25.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JUNE 16TH

VOCATIONS



Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Holy Week ~ Daily Mass at 7:00 am
Mass of the Holy Chrism at the Cathedral on Tuesday, April 15, at 4:00pm

THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM

HOLY THURSDAY – April 17

- ❖ Morning Prayer ~ 8:00 am

Our church will be open for private prayer throughout the day.

- † Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper ~ 7:00 pm

Following Mass, the Church will remain open for prayer in the evening until Night Prayer.

- ❖ Night Prayer ~ 10:30 pm

GOOD FRIDAY – April 18

- ❖ Morning Prayer ~ 8:00 am

Our church will be open for private prayer throughout the day.

- † Commemoration of the Lord's Passion ~ 2:00 pm

- ❖ Stations of the Cross ~ 7:00 pm

HOLY SATURDAY – April 19

- ❖ Morning Prayer ~ 8:00 am

Our church will be open for private prayer throughout the day. (There is no 4:00 p.m. Mass)

- ✠ Blessing of Baskets ~ 2:00 and 4:00 *in church*

- † The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night ~ 8:00 pm



EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD – April 20

- † Easter Masses ~ 8:00 am, 9:30 am, and 11:00 am

- ❖ Evening Prayer ~ 6:00 pm (there is NO 7:00 pm Mass)

OCTAVE OF EASTER – DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY – April 27

- † Usual Weekend Schedule of Masses ~ 4:00pm Saturday, 8:00am, 11:00am and 7:00pm Sunday

- ❖ Holy Hour begins at 2:00pm and The Chaplet will be prayed at 3:00pm, All are encouraged to attend.

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.

CHRISM MASS AT CATHEDRAL All the faithful of the Diocese are invited to attend the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton on Tuesday, April 15, at 4:00 pm. At this Mass, priests from throughout the Diocese will renew....

...their priestly promises before the Bishop, and the oils to be used for the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Anointing of the Sick and Holy Orders will be blessed. Participation in the Chrism Mass is a beautiful way to pray for and support the priests of the Diocese. The Mass will also be available on CTV and YouTube.

MORNING, EVENING, AND NIGHT PRAYER Several times in the Holy Week Schedule you may see these prayer services listed. Each service lasts around 20 minutes, centers on the recitation of psalms, canticles, and short phrases called antiphons, which help focus our attention on the mysteries of our faith as we bless each moment of the day. Programs are provided, and for those who can't make the other services, or who appreciate some quiet time at prayer, the Liturgy of the Hours provides some very beautiful, reflective time with the Lord. Consider joining us for this addition to our schedule.

BLESSING OF BASKETS - WHAT IS IT? Strictly speaking, the fasting of Lent, and the Good Friday/ Paschal Fast extends until we celebrate our Easter Mass. The Easter Baskets, then, are blessed, as they are our first meal of the Resurrection Feast. Although baskets can really include any celebratory foods including candies, nuts, fruits, wine, etc., the descriptions offered below represent the traditional fare shared at Easter. Consider adding this tradition to your Easter celebrations!

HOW TO PUT TOGETHER A TRADITIONAL EASTER BASKET

"TEXT ADAPTED FROM AN ARTICLE BY FR. BASIL KRAYNYAK, GCU MESSENGER, APRIL, 1979" ILLUSTRATED BY FR. JONATHAN BANNON

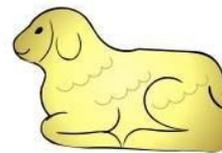
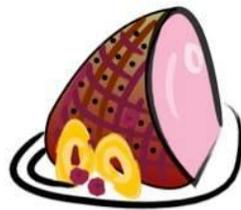


PASCHA - The Easter Bread (Pron. Pa-ska.) A sweet yeast bread rich in eggs, butter, etc. Symbolic of Christ Himself who is our True Bread. Usually round loaf baked with a golden crust decorated with a symbol indicative of Christ. Sometimes a cross (+) of dough is placed on top encircled by a plait given it a crowned effect or Greek

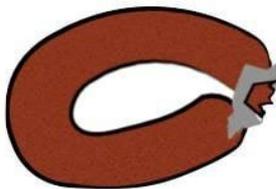
CHEESE - A custard type cheese shaped into a ball having a rather bland but sweet taste indicative of the moderation that Christians should have in all things. Also creamed cheese is placed in a small dish and both are decorated with symbols (see Pascha) out of cloves or pepper balls.



HAM - Flesh meat popular with the Slavs as the main dish because of its richness and symbolic of the great joy and abundance of Easter. Some may prefer Lamb or Veal. This is usually well roasted or cooked as well as other meats so the festivity of the day will not be burdened with preparation and all may enjoy the Feast.

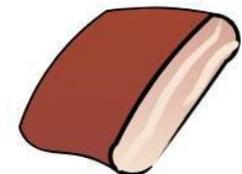


BUTTER - This favorite dairy product is often shaped into a figure of a Lamb or small cross and decorated as the cheese. This reminds us of the goodness of Christ that we should have toward all things.

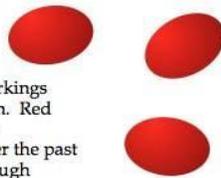


SAUSAGE - A spicy, garlic sausage of pork products indicative of God's flavor and generosity.

BACON - A piece of uncooked bacon cured with spices. Symbolic of the overabundance of God's mercy to us.



EGGS - Hardboiled eggs brightly decorated with symbols and markings made with beeswax, indicative of new life and resurrection. Red eggs are also traditional date back to a story with St. Mary Magdalene. Having been dyed with onion skins saved over the past year, red shows the color of life and victory that came through Christ's blood.



SALT - A condiment necessary for flavor reminding the Christian of his duty to others.



HORSERADISH - Horseradish mixed with grated red beets (optional) symbolizes the Passion of Christ still in our minds but sweetened with some sugar because of the Resurrection. A bitter-sweet red colored mixture reminds us of the sufferings of Christ.

These articles are placed in a wicker basket. A decorated candle is placed inside and is lit at the time of the blessing. A linen cover usually embroidered with a picture of the Risen Christ or symbol with the words "Christ is Risen" is placed over the food when brought to the Church. In some places a large Easter Bread (Pascha) is made and brought separately in a large linen cloth. If the origin of the people was from a wine growing area, a sweet wine may be brought



WITH PARISH SYMPATHY Our prayers are requested for Joseph Namatka who passed away this past week. May the Lord embrace him in his eternal love and peace and give comfort to his family and friends. We offer our parish sympathy.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & FAITH FORMATION: Palm Sunday, April 13th, Morning classes 9:45-10:45am for 1st-6th Grades. Evening Classes 5:15-6:45pm for 7-8th grades.

CONFIRMATION REHEARSAL WITH SPONSORS- Today -Palm Sunday, April 13, 1:00pm in Church

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Monday ~ April 14

Deanery Penance Service 6:30 pm at
St. John's in Pittston

Wednesday ~April 16

5:30 pm to 7:00 pm

Good Friday ~April 18

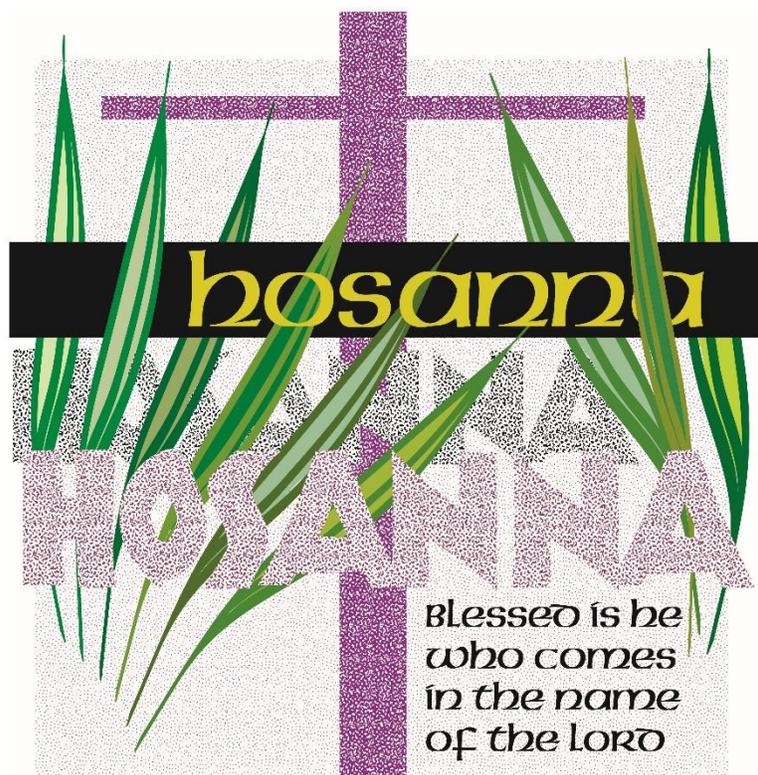
10:00 -11:00 am

There are no Confessions on Holy Saturday

HRS GIFT CERTIFICATES: No voucher sales Holy Thursday April 17th. Sales will resume April 24th.

CEO FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEER SESSION: our next food pantry volunteer session is **Wednesday of Holy Week, April 16th, 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.

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 the office at 570-457-2553.



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.

Questions for reflection based on this Sunday's readings:

- ▶ **Isaiah 50 : 4-7~ The Suffering Servant speaks to the weary .**
- ▶ **Philippians 2:6-11~ Jesus emptied himself, and God filled this emptiness with exaltation**
- ▶ **Luke 22:14-12:56or 23:1-49~ The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Who can I forgive with the Lord's mercy this Holy Week?

IN THE COMMUNITY:

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.

AT THE DURYEA 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.

You're Invited!

Nativity of Our Lord Parish Spring Social
sponsored by our Women's Society

Sunday, April 27, 2025, from 1:00-4:00pm at
Arcaro and Genell, 443 S. Main Street Old Forge

Our Spring Social will feature beautifully decorated spring themed tables, a chance to win a theme basket, and a light lunch menu, appetizers and desserts. If anyone is interested in donating a theme basket for the Social, we would appreciate it! Please contact Michelle Piontek at 570- 498-9442 for information and if you need a basket pick up! Cost is \$30.00 per person and reservations need to be made by April 20,2025. Please fill out the form below and return it with payment to the rectory via the collection basket, by mail or in person. We hope that you can join us for an afternoon of great food and fellowship!

Menu:

- **Appetizers:** Assorted Pizza, Homemade Stromboli, Gluten-free/Vegan bean salad.
- **Salad:** House Antipasto with Italian meats and cheese.
- **Soup of the day**
- **Meal:** Assorted Sandwiches & Wraps Platter (Turkey, Italian& Ham: Chicken Salad & Tuna)
- Or Steak & Cheese sliders
- **Coffee, Soda & Dessert**

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Number Attending _____

Payment Enclosed: \$ _____

*Please make checks payable to the Nativity of Our Lord Women's Society.
Reply with payment by April 20,2025.*



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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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
Stanley & Stella Rava and Family	Rincavage, Billick and Galinas Families	Anthony & Helen Rincavage and Anthony Singer	Michael and Irene Rostkowski Mark Rostkowski	Jess L. & Beatrice Rutkoski	Victor I. Salidas. Anna Salidas Victor J. Salidas
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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