

ASCENSION PARISH and ST. KATHARINE DREXEL PARISH

Our Parish Staff

Pastor

Rev. Arun Lakra

Deacon

Deacon Carl S. Albright

Administrative Staff

Jill Bailer
Linda Bezek

Director of Religious Education

Danielle O'Neill
St. Katharine Drexel Parish
Ascension Parish

612 Hudson Street ✕ Forest City, PA 18421

Web Address: apskdp.org

Phone.....570-785-3838 **Email**.....apskdp@nep.net

Parish Office Hours.....Monday - Friday, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Office closed 12—1 pm for lunch

After hours—emergencies only: 570-785-7856



Mission Statement

Filled with faith, hope and charity, the faithful of Ascension and Saint Katharine Drexel parishes are united as disciples of Jesus Christ. With Christ and under the guidance and inspiration of the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to continue to celebrate the faith and traditions of the Catholic Church. We seek to inspire others to build a closer relationship with God by reaching out in love through worship, prayer, fellowship, and sharing the Gospel.

Our core values: Celebration ~ Tradition ~ Hope ~ Charity ~ Resilience

Sacramental Life

Sacrament of Baptism: Because of the importance of the celebration of the sacrament of baptism, please consider carefully the man and woman of faith you choose to inspire and educate your child in the ways of our faith for the entirety of their lives. Godparents must be practicing Catholics and submit a certificate of eligibility from their parish prior to the Baptism.

Please call the office for information regarding Sacrament of Marriage, Natural Family Planning, Anointing of the Sick, and the R.C.I.A. Program.

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil Mass..... 4:00 PM St. Joseph

Sunday Masses.....8:00 AM St. Juliana ♦ 9:30 AM St. Joseph
11:00 AM St. James

Daily Mass

Monday, Wednesday (Friday - Communion service only) 8:30 AM St. Joseph
Tuesday, Thursday 9:00 AM St. James

Holy Day Masses

Vigil..... 5:30 PM St. James
Holy Day..... 12:00 PM & 6:00 PM St. Joseph



MASS INTENTIONS & MEMORIALS

Week of May 22, 2023

Monday, May 22

8:30 AM-St. Joseph Anthony O’Peka, Jr by wife Rosalie

Tuesday, May 23

9:00 AM-St. James Patricia Biondo by Gerarda & Kevin

Wednesday, May 24

8:30 AM-St. Joseph Tom Trusky by Christine Ganser

Thursday, May 25

9:00 AM-St. James Patricia Biondo by Carrie & Jim McCormick

Friday, May 26

8:30AM -St. Joseph Communion Service

Saturday, May 27

4:00 PM-St. Joseph Joe Grecco by Jim & Roseann Swegel

Sunday, May 28

8:00 AM-St. Juliana Joan Bauman by Family

9:30 AM-St. Joseph Theresa Mlinar by Family

11:00 AM-St. James Patricia Biondo by Henry & Jean Nebzydoski

Bread and Wine

St. Joseph Church

May 27, 2023 4:00PM

Arthur Yanchitis by Barb Sheptak

May 28, 2023 9:30AM

Theresa Mlinar by Family

Sanctuary Candle

May 21-May 27

St. Joseph’s Church

Marion & Walter Seber by Annette & Marty

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

- St. Joseph: Monday, Wednesday 8:00 – 8:20 AM
- St. Joseph: Saturday 3:00 – 3:30 PM
- St. James: Tuesday, Thursday 8:30 – 8:50 AM
- St. Juliana: 1st Sunday of the month before Mass
- Also by appointment – please call the office.

PARISH FINANCES

**Ascension Parish Collection Report
 April 29-30, 2023**

Weekly Envelopes	\$2135
Other Parish Envelopes	\$325
Loose	\$140
Parish Second Collection	\$0
Total Parish Collection	\$2600
Diocesan Second Collection	\$220
Diocese Envelopes	\$102

**Saint Katharine Drexel Parish Collection Report
 April 30, 2023**

Weekly Envelopes	\$1072
Other Parish Envelopes	\$45
Loose	\$278
Parish Second Collection	\$0
Total Parish Collection	\$1395
Diocesan Second Collection	\$266
Diocese Envelopes	\$0

Second Collection

This Weekend: Catholic Communications Campaign
Next Weekend: Deficit Reduction

SPRING CEMETERY GUIDELINES

As warmer months approach, we remind you of the guidelines for our cemeteries. Some points to consider: artificial flowers, wreaths and similar decorations are not permitted from April 1st to November 1st; walking and exercising of pets is not permitted; and no ATV’s, golf carts, motorbikes, skateboards, or bikes are allowed in the cemetery.

SUICIDE GRIEF SUPPORT SERIES

Beginning April 18, monthly meetings based on an 8-part film series, titled *When a Loved One Dies by Suicide*, will be offered at **St. James Church**, for members of Ascension, Saint Katharine Drexel, and other parishes. The meetings will be held on the **third Tuesday of each month, April through November, at 6:30pm**. To learn more, please contact Deacon Carl at: carl.albright49@gmail.com.

FOREST CITY TEAGUE TRAIL TROT 5K/WALK 2023

Please join us for the second annual Forest City Teague Trail Trot 5K and walk in memory of Forest City citizen Donny Teague on Sunday May 21, beginning at 10 AM. Early registration ends April 30th. The trail trot starts at the D&H trail head, Commerce Boulevard, Forest City. Money raised supports outdoor assets in the area. The trot is organized by the local Greater Forest City Business Alliance. Contact info is: gfcba13@gmail.com or to register: www.visitforestcitypa.com.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Every summer, the Diocese of Scranton holds a Wedding Anniversary Celebration for couples celebrating their 25th and 50th years of marriage at the Cathedral of Saint Peter where couples renew their wedding commitment. This year's Mass will be held on Sunday, June 4, 2023 at 2:30PM. Mark your calendar if you are celebrating your 25th or 50th Wedding Anniversary in 2023, or share this news with others who may be doing so. To register for the Wedding Anniversary Celebration, contact Parish Life office at <https://www.dioceseofscranton.org/wedding-anniversary-liturgy-2023/> or call 570-207-2238.

COMMUNITY MEALS

Christ Episcopal Church, Delaware and Dundaff Streets, Forest City will host their Community Meals the third Saturday of every month until winter. Serving will begin at Noon and end at 1:00 PM. Next meal is **Saturday, June 17th**. We look forward to seeing our many friends and making new friends. Please join us! All are welcome to join the fellowship and share bread together. We welcome and serve all in Christ's name.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Father Arun and your parishes want you to know that their support is not finished after a funeral. They are

there to help support our fellow parishioners in their time of grief after losing a loved one. **Volunteers are welcome to join this group for both of our parishes at any time.** This group would come to your house to offer prayers, or if you prefer, meet in the church. The group will pray for all or specific deceased members and their families, help them to realize that they are not left alone but that their whole parish is praying and walking with them in this time of pain and sorrow, and to try to be their comforter and offer consolation. During the service, members offer opening prayer and Father will present the exposition of Blessed sacrament. Liturgy of the hour and the Divine Mercy Chaplet with the name(s) of deceased person will be prayed. There will be time for silent prayer or meditation, and the service will be closed with prayer and benediction. **Monthly prayer services of this group will be the 4th Wednesday of the month at 6:30PM at alternate church sites. The next meeting will be held at St. Joseph Church on May 24th.** For more information, you can contact Jim Biondo at 570- 466-1090 or Sue Kulasinsky at 570-960-2702.

ROCK LAKE PICNIC NEWS

The next committee meeting for the picnic will be held on **Monday, May 22nd, 6:30pm** at St. Juliana's Hall (downstairs). Anyone who is interested in participating or volunteering is welcome to join us. Call Jim Biondo 570-466-1090 or Al Snyder 570-798-2170 if you have any questions.

SKD A&RS NEWS

The SKD Altar & Rosary Society is starting to plan our 2023 Labor Day Raffle. The theme for this year is "Home Makeovers". It will consist of things for your house – like a lamp for the living room, small appliances for the kitchen, towels for the bathroom, or something for any other room in your house.

If anyone wishes to donate something for the raffle, please do so by leaving it in St. James Hall with your name and address on it. Thank you for your consideration and support. If you have any questions, you can contact Barbara Connor at 570-448-2546.

Cleaning products are needed for the month of **May** at the Food Pantry. **Paper products** are needed for the month of **June**.

FREE: Anyone interested in an old wood altar (to use as is or for scrap wood) that is in the hall at St. James, please contact Denise Vauter at 448-2455.

PASCHAL CANDLE MEMORIAL FOR ST. KATHARINE DREXEL PARISH AVAILABLE

The Paschal Candle is blessed with the solemn fire of the Easter Vigil and is used throughout the Easter Season and at each funeral. The Paschal Candle is a symbol of Christ's light shining in the darkness of our world and the hope of eternal glory and light in heaven. Any individual or family who would like to donate the paschal candle, please call the Office at 570-785-3838. Acknowledgment of this gift will be made in the bulletin.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Saturday June 10, 2023 will be an exciting day for the Scranton area! Women from the Diocese and beyond will have the opportunity to attend the **5th Annual day-long Refresh Your Faith Catholic Women's Conference**. This year's theme is "With the Holy Spirit"; it will be held indoors at Marywood University. Guest speakers are Johnnette Benkovic Williams and Kathleen McCarthy. Events for the day include Mass with Bishop Joseph Bambera, confessions available throughout the day, adoration/healing service led by Kathleen McCarthy, breakfast/ seated buffet lunch, and a curated vendor marketplace offering one of a kind Catholic gifts, books, art and jewelry. Cost for tickets is \$55 per person, with scholarships available for those in need.



ISLI YOUTH RETREAT

The International Student Leadership Institute is now open for registration. The peer-facilitated leadership retreat will be held Tuesday, June 20 – Friday, June 23 at Marywood University. It is open for students in 9th through 12th grades. During the weekend, the students participate in activities that help them learn about positive communication, develop self-motivational skills, learn problem solving and decision-making skills, practice leadership behavior, and examine different leadership styles. The students also celebrate Mass together and participate in Eucharistic Adoration. For more information, call the Diocese at 570-207-2213, ext. 1155 or go online at dioceseofscranton.org.

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

THE OLD TIME FIDDLERS, the popular bluegrass group will perform at the Forest City Area Historical Society, corner of Main and Dundaff Streets, **Friday, June 2, 2023 at 7:30 P.M.** Admission to this fund raising event for the Forest City Area Historical Society is \$5.00 for adults, Children under 12 Free. While at the Forest City Area Historical Society, view the many historical displays from the Forest City regional area and our vast Hometown Heroes display. Forest City Historical Society contact: 570-785-3800.

FEASTDAY OF OUR LADY AND JESUS' VISIT TO ZECHARIAH, ELIZABETH AND ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST!!

WHERE: St. Faustina Chapel at My Jesus Ministries, 1763 Great Bend Turnpike, Pleasant Mount, PA 18453. Call 1-866-448-6279 for more information. **WHEN:** **Wednesday, May 31, 2023** beginning at **3PM** with confessions, the Rosary, and Divine Mercy Chaplet. Mass will be celebrated at 4PM by Fr. Arun Lakra, a Priest of the Missionary Society, Heralds of the Good News. Fr. Arun is pastor of Ascension Parish in Forest City, PA and St. Katharine Drexel Parish in Pleasant Mount, PA. We will have fellowship in Our Lady's home with dinner afterward.

NEW ALTAR LINENS FOR BOTH PARISHES

To help us welcome the Liturgical seasons, **Ascension Parish** and **St. Katharine Drexel Parish** have purchased new altar linens. If anyone would like to make a donation to help cover the cost of this endeavor, please contact the Parish Office.

Seventh Sunday of Easter

The seventh Sunday of Easter reminds us that even though Jesus is not with us in his human body, we are still connected to him, and to teach others to pray. The first reading tells of how after the ascension of Jesus his followers grow in community by praying together. The psalm expresses our loving God. The second reading reminds us to glorify God always, even when we are suffering. In the Gospel Jesus prays as he prepares to ascend.

Dear friends in Christ, this Sunday reminds us of the importance of prayer in our daily lives. It calls us to love one another as Christ loved us. Through prayer and communion with one another, we can work towards the unity that Jesus prayed for his disciples and non-believers. ~ *Father Arun*

	SERVERS	LECTOR	E. MINISTER
St. Joseph Church			
5/27/23 4:00 PM	Lauren Tomazic	Darlene Hamlyn	Joseph Janezic
5/28/23 9:30 AM		Lauren Perry	Maryann McCusker
St. Juliana Church			
5/28/23 8:00 AM	Laura & Anna Nebzydoski	Nick DeLucia	Carol Kneier
St. James Church			
5/28/23 11:00AM	Claire, Sophia, & Aiden Lombardi	Emily Frisbie	Barbara Passarelli

Hymns for 5/21/23 Seventh Sunday of Easter	4:00 pm 9:30 am	8:00 am	11:00 am
Entrance Hymn	#319 At the Lamb's High Feast	#288 Where Charity and Love Prevail	
Readings and Psalm	#842	#842	#842
Offertory	#443 The Lord Is My Light	#767 Isaiah 49	
Communion	#476 Lord, Who at Thy First Eucharist	#370 Immaculate Mary	
Recessional	#376 Hail, Holy Queen	#714 All Creatures of Our God and King	

Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord: To add a name call 785-3838.

Prayers for the Sick: Frances Donovan, David Hamlyn, Donna Oleksa, Bucky Biondo, Peggy Newak, Melody Sherry, Stephanie Dunn, John J. Jurkiw, Stewart Heesh, Christopher Trusky, Maria Koslosky, Tom Zolaga, Celestine Cicco, Dave Babich, Caroline Krupovich, Marge Armstrong, Mary Zigon, Dorothy Jones, Ruth Ann Slis, Thomas J. Madridal, Stan Hadley, Barbara Sprovkin, Heidi Rowe, Brendan Clune, Kate Magalski, John Lillie, Mollie Konczyk, Jean Welicka, Dan Kimberley, Carmen M. McClelland, Karen Campbell, Susan Glinkowski, Debbie Trusky, Louise Brockdorf, Ruthie Sterchak, Robert Polinsky, Marilyn Perine, Joseph Gugliucci, Fulton Joseph Hood, John Reeder, Sr., Jessica Vigorito, Mark Polednak, Charlie Matthews, Vickie Ravnkar, Maury Urmanec, Phyllis Flynn, Caitlyn Vauter, Susan Carpenter, Mary Connors, Amelia Giorgano, Ella Pearson, Erin Andersen, Lydia Jones, Kerry Henderson, Carol Bishop, Geri Duplatre, Diane Kimberley, Brian Rock, Walter Welicka, Gerrit Vanderwell, Patricia Simpson, Ruth "Rudy" Peterka, Barbara Scott, Mary Lynott, Kathleen Connor, Patricia Connor Mader, Joyce Skinner, and Cheryl Williams. To submit a name, call 785-3838.

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