

AS
THE
FATHER
HAS
SENT
ME,
I AM
SENDING
YOU.
—John 20:21

WORLD
MISSION
SUNDAY

ASCENSION PARISH and ST. KATHARINE DREXEL PARISH

Our Parish Staff

Pastor

Rev. Arun Lakra

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

Office will be closed on Holy Days of Obligation & most Federal holidays.



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.....Regularly scheduled daily mass, and 6:00 PM St. Joseph

MASS INTENTIONS & MEMORIALS

Week of October 19, 2026

Monday, October 19

8:30 AM-St. Joseph Judith Scheller by Mary Alice & Joe Remus

Tuesday, October 20

9:00 AM-St. James Marsha Carrubba by Denise & Pete Vauter

Wednesday, October 21

8:30 AM-St. Joseph Joseph & Blanche Musho by Daughter, Mary Ann

Thursday, October 22

9:00AM-St. James Joseph Gosciewski by Denise & Pete Vauter

Friday, October 23

8:30 AM-St. Joseph Communion Service

Saturday, October 24

4:00 PM-St. Joseph Thomas Risboskin by Pam Green

Sunday, October 25

8:00 AM-St. Juliana Nancy Lewis by Ignatovich Cousins

9:30 AM-St. Joseph Living & Deceased Members of FCR Class of 1957 by Maryann Dorin

11:00 AM-St James Ellen Masankay by Dan & Mary Malec

Sanctuary Candle Week of October 18-24

St. Joseph Church

Donald Ogozaly by Annette & Marty

St. James Church

Healing Prayers for Noah Wielebinski by Van Nguyen

*This is **World Mission Sunday**. World Mission Sunday is the one Sunday each year when the entire Catholic Church comes together in prayer and sacrificial giving for the sake of the missions. On that day, a global collection—the only one mandated by the Code of Canon Law (see Canon 791.4)—is taken in every parish, diocese, and country to support the missions.*

PARISH FINANCES

Ascension Parish Collection Report

September 17-18, 2026

Weekly Envelopes	\$2262
Other Parish Envelopes	\$994
Loose	\$202
Parish Second Collection	\$149
Total Parish Collection	\$3607
Diocesan Second Collection	\$0
Diocesan Envelopes	\$40

Saint Katharine Drexel Parish Collection Report

September 18, 2026

Weekly Envelopes	\$1008
Other Parish Envelopes	\$254
Loose	\$237
Parish Second Collection	\$175
Total Parish Collection	\$1674
Diocesan Second Collection	\$0
Diocesan Envelopes	\$0

This weekend: World Mission Sunday
Next week: Deficit Reduction

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.

Please take a moment to silence or turn off your cell phones or other electronic devices. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

CCD – Ascension & St. Katharine Drexel Parishes

- Classes are 9:45 AM to 10:45 AM at St. James Church in Pleasant Mount for both Ascension and St. Katharine Drexel Parishes.
- CCD classes are for students in grades 1-8.
- Confirmation is a 2-year program that begins in 7th grade.
- If you have any questions, please contact Danielle O'Neill at 570-642-1190 or oneill.danielle0005@gmail.com

A&RS OF SKD PARISH

Pierogi Making: Tuesday, 11/10, Wednesday, 11/11, and Thursday, 11/12. We are always looking for helpers. Please contact Gail McKeon 609-284-5648 or Barbara Sprovin 570-575-4072 for more information.

ESTATE PLANNING SESSION

The Susquehanna County Register of Wills Office is holding a free community education session on The Basics of Preparing and Administering an Estate on Saturday, November 7th at the Susq. Co. Public Safety Center (210 Public Way, Suite 2, New Milford, 18834) at 9:00am – 12:00pm. A presentation and materials will be given that include topics like: planning your estate, power of attorney, trusts, wills, duties of an executor, inheritance taxes, forms, and resources. Reservations are encouraged but not necessary – call 570-278-6645 to register. Light refreshments will be provided. Each person who makes a reservation will have their name entered into a drawing for a door prize – must be present to win.

A&RS OF ASCENSION PARISH

Membership – it's time to join or renew your membership to the Altar & Rosary Society! Not all members join in the monthly meetings but do support us in many ways. Please, come see what we are about!

COATS, new or gently used, (as well as mittens, gloves, scarves & blankets) will be collected from now through Sunday, October 18th, in support of Christ Episcopal Church's free coat distribution to be held Oct 23rd from 3-6PM & Oct 24 from 1-4 at the corner of Delaware and Dundaff



streets. Thank you in advance for your generosity - and for keeping many warm and cozy throughout the chilly months of winter! And, please share these dates with anyone who may be in need of warm clothing for the winter!

All Veterans and 1st Responders are cordially invited to attend Mass in their honor to be held on **Saturday, Nov. 7th at the 4PM Mass at St. Joseph Church** - Delaware Street - Forest City by Father Arun Lakra. Lite fare will follow in the Rectory next door to the Church. Please RSVP at 570-785-3838 by Nov. 3rd. All are welcome!

Our next meetings will be Tuesday, November 3rd at 6PM in St. Joseph Church.

VETERANS/1ST RESPONDERS MASS

All Veterans and 1st Responders are cordially invited to attend Mass in their honor to be held on Saturday, Nov. 7th at the 4PM Mass at St. Joseph Church - Delaware Street - Forest City by Father Arun Lakra. Lite fare will follow in the Rectory next door to the Church. Please RSVP at 570-785-3838 by Nov. 3rd. All are welcome!

HCHS CRAFT FAIR/HOME SHOWCASE

Holy Cross High School (501 E. Drinker Street, Dunmore) will hold a Craft Fair & Home Showcase on Sunday, October 18th 10:00am-4:00pm. Over 50 vendors, homemade food, basket raffles, door prizes, and more! Admission is \$3.00/adults, \$2.00/students and senior citizens, and children under 12 are free with proceeds benefitting the student activities fee.

REVERSE & BE PLAID! CATHOLIC SCHOOLS REUNION

Calling all alumni, faculty, and staff, from any Catholic school, open or closed, from any era: Please join us for this gloriously nostalgic Catholic schools throwback night celebrating the songs that shaped us, the food that fueled us, and the light that still leads us. We've chosen to "GATHER THE PEOPLE" at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish Center (241 William St, Pittston, PA 18640) on Wednesday, November 4th. The main event: a Sing-It-Over with Catholic YouTuber Chris Brunelle. Our main event is free and open to the public - "ALL ARE WELCOME" - but we do need you to register. Doors open at 6:30PM, event begins at 7:00PM. For more information, visit: www.boostmyschool.com/orgs/diocesefscanton/events/reverseandbeplaid.

MASS FOR SUICIDE HEALING/REMEMBRANCE

The Northeast Pennsylvania Mental Health Ministry team will hold a Mass for Suicide Healing and Remembrance on Sunday, November 8th at 3:00PM at the Church of Saint John (5171 Milford Road, East Stroudsburg). The Mass will serve to remember loved ones lost to suicide, and to promote healing for those who grieve their passing. All are welcome to attend.

DIOCESAN YOUTH RALLY

Students in grades 7-12 are invited to the 4th Annual Diocesan Youth Rally on Saturday, November 7th. This year's theme is "Do whatever HE tells you!" The Rally will focus on who God is, how to listen to His voice, and how we as the young Church can more fully align our wills to the will of God. It will be a day to deepen your faith, make new friends, and experience fun and fellowship! Registration fee is \$30 for students and chaperones. Must register through the parish office; deadline is October 16th.

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

The 2026-27 Catholic Ministries Appeal marks the 40th Annual Appeal of the Diocese of Scranton, continuing a tradition of generosity and stewardship that began with the Bishop's Annual Appeal, transitioned to the Diocesan Annual Appeal and now, the Catholic Ministries Appeal. While much has changed over four decades, the purpose remains the same: when we unite as one local Church, we can accomplish far more together. This year, we see that impact in a special way with the reestablishment of Saint Pius X Seminary in the former Cathedral Convent in Scranton. Through your prayers and financial support, the Appeal also helps care for those most in need, strengthens our parishes, and supports vital ministries - such as Vocations and Seminarian Support, Catholic Schools, Catholic Social Services, Catholic Media and Communications, Parish Life, and Parish Grant Support.



Diocese of Scranton Catholic Ministries Appeal 2026 Update Help us reach our goals!

Ascension Parish

CMA 2026-27 Goal: \$23,825.00
 Total Raised: \$8590.00
 Over (Under): (\$15235.00)
 % of Goal: 36.05%

Saint Katharine Drexel Parish

CMA 2026-27 Goal: \$16,772.00
 Total Raised: \$4060.00
 Over (Under): (\$12712.00)
 % of Goal: 24.21%

Hymns for October 17-18	4:00 pm & 9:30 am 29th Ordinary time
Entrance Hymn	#358 Come Now, Almighty King
Readings and Psalm	#937
Gifts	#649 Shelter Me, O God
Communion	#513 The Supper of the Lord
Recession	#365 Hail, Redeemer, King Divine

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time World Mission Sunday

The readings for this Sunday invite us to recognize God's authority above every earthly power to live faithfully in the responsibilities entrusted to us. They also remind us to serve both God and our country, becoming faithful citizens of the world while remaining true citizens of God's kingdom. In the first reading Isaiah reminds us that God is the one true Lord who directs all nations according to His plan; "I am the Lord, and there is no other." God's power is absolute, and His purpose transcends human kingdom and authorities. In the second reading, St. Paul, in his letter to the Thessalonians, encourages the early Christians by reminding them of the example of faith, love, and hope that comes from the Holy Spirit. Our faith is not passive but active, enlivened by the Spirit and lived out in love and perseverance. In today's gospel, Jesus is confronted with a difficult question about paying taxes to Cassar. His famous response, "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's," calls us to discern the proper place of worldly authority and divine allegiance. While we respect civil duties, we are ultimately accountable to God, whose kingdom transcends all earthly power. Let us ask for grace to balance our earthly duties with our divine calling.

~ *Father Arun*

October 18, 2026
WORLD MISSION SUNDAY
Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time



	SERVERS	LECTOR	E. MINISTER
<u>St. Joseph Church</u> 10/24 Saturday 4:00 PM 10/25 Sunday 9:30 AM	Lauren Tomazic & Aubrey Franks Paul Schror	John Sukenick John Risboskin	J. Janezic & P. Tomazic M. McCusker & B. Bennett
<u>St. Juliana Church</u> 10/25 Sunday 8:00 AM	Mark & Jonathan Nebzdoski	Pat Simpson	Deb Biondo
<u>St. James Church</u> 10/25 Sunday 11:00 AM	Jason Non	Denise Vauter	Pete Vauter

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

Prayers for the Sick: Cheryl Lynn Allen, Eileen Hicks, Pat Mikolon, Mike Osino, Carol Kneier, Bonnie Watson, Diane Mayenzet, Kathy Spencer, Jessica Moser, Brian Walawender, Lindsey "Ruby" Gorel, Chuck Spencer, Patricia Striefsky, Zack Hilburn, Jeff Sheldon, Joey Grecco, Richard Burleigh, Mary Giles, Kathy Demianovich, Donna Foster, Dottie Baysa, Megan Spaulding, Donna Feduck, Mel Sherry, Kayleen O'Hara, Tom Doheny, Mary O'Neill, Catherine Tasso, Diane Kimberley, Barbara Sprovin, Danny Gales, Dorothy Usher, Ann Marie Furdock, Jean Cyrilin, David Hamlyn, Bucky Biondo, Stephanie Dunn, John J. Jurkiw, Christopher Trusky, Maria Koslosky, Tom Zologa, Celestine Cicco, Dave Babich, Marge Armstrong, Dorothy Jones, Thomas J. Madridal, Heidi Rowe, Brendan Clune, Kate Magalski, Mollie Konczyk, Jean Welicka, Dan Kimberley, Carmen M. McClelland, Susan Glinkowski, Louise Brockdorf, Ruthie Sterchak, Robert Polinsky, Marilyn Perine, Joseph Gugliucci, Fulton Joseph Hood, Jessica Vigorito, Mark Polednak, Charlie Matthews, Maury Urmanec, Caitlyn Vauter, Susan Carpenter, Mary Connors, Amelia Giorgano, Ella Pearson, Erin Andersen, Kerry Henderson, Carol Bishop, Geri Duplatre, Brian Rock, Walter Welicka, Gerrit Vanderwell, Patricia Simpson, Ruth "Rudy" Peterka, Barbara Scott, Mary Lynott, Patricia Connor Mader, and Cheryl Williams.



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