



ASCENSION *of the Lord*

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

ASCENSION PARISH *and* ST. KATHARINE DREXEL 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.

This High Priest of ours is One who has taken His seat in heaven, on the right hand of that throne where God sits in majesty.

—Hebrews 8:1



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 Masses8:00 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 May 18, 2026

Monday, May 18

8:30 AM-St. Joseph Thomas Risboskin by Pete & Denise Vauter

Tuesday, May 19

9:00 AM-St. James Ruby Hagenmeier by Randy & Patricia Simpson

Wednesday, May 20

8:30 AM-St. Joseph Anna & Pauline Bokal by Nephew, Paul

Thursday, May 21

9:00AM-St. James Les Lotz by Jim & Debbie Biondo

Friday, May 22

8:30 AM-St. Joseph Communion Service

Saturday, May 23

4:00 PM-St. Joseph Marge O’Koren by Bernice Lukus

Sunday, May 24

8:00 AM-St. Juliana Alan Llewellyn by Ron & Bonnie Watson

9:30 AM-St. Joseph Eric Bodnar by Bodnar Family

11:00 AM-St James Living and Deceased Members of SKD Parish by St. Joseph Society

Sanctuary Candle May 17-23

St. Joseph

In Memory of Albert & Adele Armstrong by Linda & Family

Bread and Wine

St. Joseph

4:00PM 5/23

Marion & Walter Seber by Annette & Marty

St. Juliana

8:00 AM 5/24

Walter Whitney by Family

St. James

11:00 AM 5/24

*Living and Deceased Members of SKD Parish
By St. Joseph Society*



PARISH FINANCES

**Ascension Parish Collection Report
April 18-19, 2026**

| | |
|----------------------------|--------|
| Weekly Envelopes | \$2267 |
| Other Parish Envelopes | \$746 |
| Loose | \$184 |
| Parish Second Collection | \$174 |
| Total Parish Collection | \$3371 |
| Diocesan Second Collection | \$0 |
| Diocesan Envelopes | \$20 |

**Saint Katharine Drexel Parish Collection Report
April 19, 2026**

| | |
|----------------------------|--------|
| Weekly Envelopes | \$1594 |
| Other Parish Envelopes | \$236 |
| Loose | \$231 |
| Parish Second Collection | \$52 |
| Total Parish Collection | \$2113 |
| Diocesan Second Collection | \$0 |
| Diocesan Envelopes | \$357 |

**This weekend: Catholic Communication Campaign
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
before Mass begins.
Thank you in advance for your consideration.*

A&RS OF SKD PARISH

Membership dues - \$5 - (renewing and new members) are now being collected. Envelopes can be found in the pews of the churches. Please join us in our work to support our parish and the community.

The Rosary will be recited before Masses for the month of May. Please contact Denise (448-2455) if you would like to lead the rosary (1/2 hour before the Mass).

We hope to make a float for the **4th of July parade** this year and will need many hands!!

Food Pantry: May – paper products
June – cleaning products

ROCK LAKE PICNIC ANNUAL BOOKLET

You are requested to contact Deb Biondo if you have submissions that you may have for this year's booklet, i.e. photographs of church events that occurred between August 2025 and July 2026, including those from last year's picnic, pierogi making, church repairs, children's activities within the parish, Christmas, Easter, etc. and also any vintage flashbacks (baptism, first communion, confirmation, youth ministry awards, wedding or photos of the interior or exterior of the churches and rectories, also past priests and parishioners.) This booklet reflects the past and ongoing history of our churches and is an opportunity to share, with others, the dedication and love we have toward them and the parish. Deb can be reached at 579-798-2107.

ST. JOSEPH SOCIETY

The Sunday, May 24th 11:00am Mass at St. James will be sponsored by the St. Joseph Society for the intentions of the deceased members of St. Katharine Drexel Parish. On May 31st the 8:00am Mass at St. Juliana's will also be sponsored by the St. Joseph Society for the same intention. The men of the St. Joseph Society will lead the Rosary one half hour prior to these Masses, will be the Altar Servers, will serve as the lectors, will bring up the Gifts, and be the Greeters.

CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN COLLECTION

This week we take up the collection for Catholic Communication Campaign. Your support helps CCC fulfill its mission of love to share the gospel message of hope with the people of United States using the internet, TV, radio and print media. Half the funds stay in the Diocese of Scranton to support local efforts. Learn more at www.usccb.org/ccc. Please be as generous as possible!

BASKETBALL CAMP

Holy Cross High School Crusaders Boys Team will hold a basketball camp for boys June 22 - June 25 from 8:30 am – 12:00 pm for boys entering grades 4 – 9. The cost is \$100. Contact Coach Al Callejas (570-650-9858) or email: ac31078@aol.com for more information.

A&RS OF ASCENSION PARISH

***Change**, please: If you have some change in your pockets, your purse, your car, weighing you down, please drop it into one of the Change Jars which can be found at either of the main entrances. The A&R will be turning it into gift cards for those in need. Perhaps your generosity can make a *change* in someone's life...

***Children's Mass booklets** are now available to use during mass. Our children can follow along with their own version of the Mass. However, booklets are to be returned and not taken home, please and thanks!

Please note the **next A&R meeting will be May 27th** at 6PM. All are welcome!

DIOCESE WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

His Excellency, the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of Scranton, and the Office for Parish Life wish to invite couples celebrating their 10th, 25th, 40th or 50th wedding anniversary in 2026 to a Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, June 28th, 2026. The event includes a 2:30 PM mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter followed by a light reception. The registration deadline for this event is Sunday, June 7th, 2026. To register, please go to <https://www.dioceseofscranton.org> or contact Bridget Maille at (570) 207-2213 x 1133 or familylife@dioceseofscranton.org.

ROCK LAKE PICNIC

The next Rock Lake Picnic meeting will be held on Monday, June 8 in St. Juliana's Hall at 6:30pm. This will be a special year, in conjunction with our 250th celebration of the Constitution of the USA! We will be working together with the Altar and Rosary and St. Joseph's Societies to create a SKD Float, to participate in this year's Pleasant Mount 4th of July Parade. All are welcome to join this meeting!

BIBLE STUDY

Beginning Tuesday, April 7th, you can learn more about the biblical and historical evidence of Jesus. Continue the Easter season with informative and inspirational words about our Lord and Savior on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 pm at the Parish Office. Please know you do not have to make a commitment to attend every session so feel free to stop in on any Tuesday evening.

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.

| | SERVERS | LECTOR | E. MINISTER |
|---|---|----------------------------------|---|
| <u>St. Joseph Church</u> 5/23 Saturday 4:00 PM 5/24 Sunday 9:30 AM | Zachary Hicks-Baresse & Chrissy Piatkowski Paul Schror | Darlene Hamlyn Sue Kulasinsky | J. Janezic & A. Seber M. McCusker & B. Bennett |
| <u>St. Juliana Church</u> 5/24 Sunday 8:00 AM | Daniel & Bridget Diehl & Anna Nebzydowski | Pat Simpson | Chris Urban |
| <u>St. James Church</u> 5/24 Sunday 11:00 AM | Oscar Burleigh & Leo Stahl | Jim McCormick | Carrie McCormick |

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

Prayers for the Sick: Bonnie Watson, Diane Mayenzet, Kathy Spencer, Jessica Moser, Brian Walawender, Lindsey "Ruby" Gorel, Nancy Lewis, Chuck Spencer, Julia Whitney, Patricia Striefsky, Zack Hilburn, Michelle Criscera, 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 Sprovkin, Danny Gales, Dorothy Usher, Ann Marie Furdock, Jean Cyrilin, David Hamlyn, Bucky Biondo, Peggy Newak, 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, Phyllis Flynn, 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. To submit a name, call 785-3838.

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| Hymns for May 16-17 | 4:00 pm - See program and hymn board 9:30 am - See below |
| Entrance Hymn | #319 At The Lamb's High Feast |
| Readings and Psalm | #842 |
| Gifts | #376 Hail, Holy Queen |
| Communion | #476 Lord, Who at Thy First Eucharist |
| Recessional | #361 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus |

Holy Mass Celebrating Our Blessed Virgin Mary
in her month of May!

Where: St. Faustina Chapel at MY JESUS MERCY MINISTRIES,
1763 GREAT BEND TURNPIKE, PLEASANT MT. PA 18453

When: Saturday, May 30, 2026

Schedule: 10AM confessions with Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet. Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at 11AM will be celebrated by Fr. Charles Connor, retired Priest of the Diocese of Scranton, author and contributor to EWTN.

We will have fellowship in Our Lady's home with lunch afterward.

< KID'S > KORNER

Gospel Today | The Ascension of the Lord | Mt 28:16-20

Following the Resurrection, and before Jesus' Ascension into Heaven, He met with His eleven disciples on the mountain in Galilee. There, Jesus commissioned (gave permission to) His disciples to go out and teach The Commandments and baptize the new followers, "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

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"And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

-Mt 28:20



BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find all the words... left, right, up, down or diagonally.

- Great Commission
- Eleven Disciples
- Galilee Mountain
- Jesus Told
- Worshiped
- Doubted Authority
- Heaven Earth
- Given Therefore
- Make Nations
- Baptizing Name
- Father Son
- Holy Spirit
- Teaching Obey
- Everything Commanded
- Always With You
- End Age

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