

A VERY  
HAPPY

Father's  
Day

## ASCENSION PARISH and ST. KATHARINE DREXEL PARISH

612 Hudson Street ✘ Forest City, PA 18421

Web Address: [apskdp.org](http://apskdp.org)

Phone..... 570-785-3838      Email..... [apskdp@nep.net](mailto: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.

### 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

I will guide you  
in the way of  
wisdom and I  
will lead you in  
upright paths.  
When you walk,  
your steps will  
not be hampered,  
and when you  
run, you will not  
stumble.

—Proverbs 4:11-12



### 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 June 22, 2026**

**Monday, June 22**

**8:30 AM-St. Joseph** James Matos by Robert & Rita Matos

**Tuesday, June 23**

**9:00 AM-St. James** Dr. John Nebzydowski by Alice O'Neill

**Wednesday, June 24**

**8:30 AM-St. Joseph** Margaret Hnatko by Sue Kulasinsky

**Thursday, June 25**

**9:00AM-St. James** Margaret Hnatko by Maryann McCusker

**Friday, June 26**

**8:30 AM-St. Joseph** Communion Service

**Saturday, June 27**

**4:00 PM-St. Joseph** Dolores & Frank Carra by Dave & Bernadette Druckenmiller

**Sunday, June 28**

**8:00 AM-St. Juliana** Robert Lewis by Lillian & Bob Weaver & Family

**9:30 AM-St. Joseph** Tom Risboskin by Beverly Bennett

**11:00 AM-St James** Margaret Hnatko by Alice O'Neill

**Bread & Wine**

**St. Joseph 4:00PM - June 27**

Angeline Svecz by Family

**Sanctuary Candle June 21-27**

**St. Joseph**

Donald Christina by wife Lourdes & Family

**What you hear...  
 proclaim**



**from the housetops.**

**PARISH FINANCES**

**Ascension Parish Collection Report  
 May 23-24, 2026**

Weekly Envelopes	\$2093
Other Parish Envelopes	\$105
Loose	\$425
Parish Second Collection	\$541
<b>Total Parish Collection</b>	<b>\$3164</b>
Diocesan Second Collection	\$0
Diocesan Envelopes	\$50

**Saint Katharine Drexel Parish Collection Report  
 May 24, 2026**

Weekly Envelopes	\$1909
Other Parish Envelopes	\$198
Loose	\$626
Parish Second Collection	\$445
<b>Total Parish Collection</b>	<b>\$3178</b>
Diocesan Second Collection	\$0
Diocesan Envelopes	\$84

**This weekend: Missions - Heralds of Good News**  
**Next week: Peter's Pence**

**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: 1<sup>st</sup> 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.*



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### **HERALDS OF GOOD NEWS COLLECTION**

Our second collection this weekend will be for the Diocese of Scranton Pontifical Missions, of which we are assigned the order of Heralds of Good News in India. Father Arun belongs to this order and completed his studies and ordination there. Heralds of Good News is an indigenous Missionary Society, founded in 1984 with the aim of promotion of vocations to the priesthood due to the shortage of priests. Training seminarians and supplying zealous and hardworking missionaries, they send their members abroad throughout India and the world. There are currently 496 permanent members and 290 students at various levels of formation, ready to minister to the students in the schools they have opened, educate and care for the poor, and other societal concerns when they arise. Please give as generously as you are able.

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### **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.

We are making a float for the **4<sup>th</sup> of July parade** this year and need many hands!!

**Food Pantry:** June – cleaning products  
July – personal products

With summer in our midst, so is the annual SKD Altar & Rosary **Labor Day Raffle!** This fun raffle with surprise prizes will be held after the 11 am mass at St. James Hall on Sunday, September 6<sup>th</sup>. First prize this year is \$500 CASH with many other great prizes! We welcome donations of prizes from the parish. If you would like to make a donation, please contact Peggy Sarno (570-798-2919), or one of our officers: Joyce Malicky (570-448-9031), Denise Vauter (570-448-2455), Barbara Sprovkin (570-727-8385), Sally Urmanec (570-785-5039), Gail McKeon (609-284-5648).

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### **ROCK LAKE PICNIC**

The next Rock Lake Picnic **meeting** will be held on Monday, July 6 in St. Juliana's Hall at 6:30pm. This will be a special year, in conjunction with our 250th celebration of the Declaration of Independence! 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 attend this meeting!

**BASKET RAFFLE:** anyone interested in donating a prize or an item for the cart of cheer, please contact Rose Ignatovich at 570-798-2539. Items are needed before the day of the picnic.

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### **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.

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### **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...

#### **Diaper & Wipes Drive**

- \*to benefit Catholic Social Services of Scranton
- \*Donate a pack of new, unopened diapers or wipes
- \*Any size or brand
- \*Through the month of June
- \*Place in the baskets at either entrance
- \*The Altar & Rosary Society Thanks you for your support!

**Next A&R meeting will be June 24<sup>th</sup>** at 6PM. We will be electing new officers. All are welcome!

**Daily Number tickets for July are available from members and at weekend Masses.**

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### **4<sup>th</sup> OF JULY PARADE FLOAT**



St. Katharine Drexel Parish A&RS, St. Joseph's Society, and Picnic Committee are crafting a float to enter the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade in Pleasant Mount on Saturday, July 4<sup>th</sup>! There will be a **meeting to get organized on Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM in St. James Hall.** EVERYONE is invited to attend this meeting and help us put together a float that honors America and the Declaration of Independence!!

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### **PRESTON COMMUNITY DAYS**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Preston Community Days will be held July 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> at the new Lakewood Park (643 Old Railroad, Lakewood). Friday's events include a parade at 7 PM. Saturday will feature a car show, corn hole & horseshoe tournament with fireworks after dark. Both days will have food & refreshment vendors, music, children's games, contests, raffles, and more. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram @PrestonCommDays. The mission of this event is to bring together and support our community.

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### **HELP FROM ST. JOSEPH SOCIETY**

The men of The St. Joseph Society are available to offer temporary assistance to anyone in our Parish who might need a helping hand with specific projects around their home or property that they might be struggling with due to illness, an



injury or something that they simply can't do alone. If you need some help please feel free to contact John Bilsky at 570-687-4827 and he will gladly gather some volunteers.

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**ONLINE GIVING!**

Ascension & St. Katharine Drexel Parishes offer Online Giving, a web-based electronic contribution application. We are providing this service so that you have the option to manage your contributions online or with your offering envelopes. This service is safe and secure and it is convenient for you. Sign up for Online Giving by visiting our parish website at [www.apskdp.org](http://www.apskdp.org).

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**SICK VISITS**

Please call the office at 570-785-3838 for Fr. Arun to visit if you are ill, or going to the hospital for any reason, or if someone might be entering hospice care. He will gladly come to your home or hospital for a blessing. It's never too early to call.

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**EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED**

Eucharistic Ministers are needed in St. Joseph Church for all Masses, daily and weekends.

Altar Servers are needed for our churches, especially St. Joseph Church. All children that have received First Holy Communion are eligible to be a server. Training will be provided. Children who have been Confirmed are especially

asked to help, as any younger children will miss a CCD class if they serve Sunday morning. However, it will be an excused absence.

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**CEMETERY GUIDELINES**

With warm weather here, we remind you of the guidelines for our cemeteries. Some points to consider: artificial flowers, wreaths and similar decorations are not permitted from April 1<sup>st</sup> to November 1<sup>st</sup>; walking and exercising of pets is not permitted; and no ATV's, golf carts, motorbikes, skateboards, or bikes are allowed in the cemetery.

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**BE A CATHOLIC MAN CONFERENCE**

The 11<sup>th</sup> annual Be A Catholic Man Conference will be held on October 10<sup>th</sup> at Holy Redeemer High School in Wilkes Barre. The theme is "Just Be Catholic". Stand fast with the Church founded by Jesus Christ, who "is the same yesterday, today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8). Through the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church, God has called men, not to be lukewarm, but to become strong in order to contend with a hostile world and imitate the heroic love Jesus possesses for all. Registration fee is \$40 (Early Bird \$30) and \$15 for students. Morning coffee and box lunch included.

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**Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

The readings for this Sunday invite us to reflect us on courage, faith and the transformation power of God's love in the face of fear and adversity. In the first reading from Jeremiah, we witness the prophet's anguish as he expresses his feeling of betrayal and isolation. Jeremiah faces opposition for proclaiming God's message, and yet, despite his fear and despair, he ultimately recognizes the unwavering truth and strength that comes from trusting God. His cries remind us that even the strongest believers can experience moments of doubt and struggle. In our lives, we may also feel the weight of rejection or hardship, but we are reminded that God hears our cries and is present in our pain. He is committed to caring for those who are suffering and overlooked. In the second reading, St. Paul reminds us of the immense gift of grace that comes through Jesus Christ. He emphasizes that while sin entered the world through one man, the grace of God, which abounds even more, brings hope and salvation. Through Christ, we are reassured that no matter our struggles or failures, we are enveloped in divine mercy and love. In today's gospel, Jesus speaks directly to our fears and anxieties. He encourages us not to be afraid, for we are more valuable than we can possibly imagine. Jesus challenges us to acknowledge Him openly, assuring us that those who stan with Him in this life will be recognize in the light of eternity. This profound invitation encourages us to live authentically and fearlessly for out faith, even when it is difficult or unpopular. ~Father Arun



	<b>SERVERS</b>	<b>LECTOR</b>	<b>E. MINISTER</b>
<b><u>St. Joseph Church</u></b> 6/27 Saturday 4:00 PM 6/28 Sunday 9:30 AM	Lauren Tomazic & Aubrey Franks Paul Schror	John Sukenick Sue Kulasinsky	J. Janezic & P. Tomazic M. McCusker & B. Bennett
<b><u>St. Juliana Church</u></b> 6/28 Sunday 8:00 AM	Daniel & Bridget Diehl & Anna Nebzydowski	Pat Simpson	Chris Urban
<b><u>St. James Church</u></b> 6/28 Sunday 11:00 AM	Oscar Burleigh & Leo Stahl	Jim McCormick	Carrie McCormick

**Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord:** Phyllis Flynn & Edmund Skarbez, Jr    *To add a name call 785-3838.*

**Prayers for the Sick:** Ely twin girls, Mike Osino, Carol Kneier, Bonnie Watson, Diane Mayenzet, Kathy Spencer, Jessica Moser, Brian Walawender, Lindsey "Ruby" Gorel, Chuck Spencer, Julia Whitney, 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 Cyrlin, 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, 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.*

<b>Hymns for June 20-21</b>	<b>4:00 pm</b> <b>9:30 am</b>
Entrance Hymn	#733 O God Beyond All Praising
Readings and Psalm	#886
Gifts	#716 Abba! Father
Communion	#600 Be Not Afraid
Recessional	#593 Faith of Our Fathers




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Give blood.**



PEANUTS x 



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