

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 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 June 29, 2026

Monday, June 29

8:30 AM-St. Joseph Ben Price by Sue Kulasinsky

Tuesday, June 30

9:00 AM-St. James Joanne Stephens by Nancy Non & Family

Wednesday, July 1

8:30 AM-St. Joseph Antonia & Ludevick Ravnikar by Nephew, Paul

Thursday, July 2

9:00AM-St. James Donald Christina by Wife & Family

Friday, July 3

8:30 AM-St. Joseph Communion Service

Saturday, July 4

4:00 PM-St. Joseph Thomas Chesnick by Denise & Pete Vauter

Sunday, July 5

8:00 AM-St. Juliana Alan Llewellyn by Jim & Deb Biondo

9:30 AM-St. Joseph Michael Kovacic by Zembrzycki Family

11:00 AM-St James Joanne Wychowanec by Aunt Addie

Hymns for June 27-28	4:00 pm 9:30 am
Entrance Hymn	#570 All Are Welcome
Readings and Psalm	#889
Gifts	#552 Take Up Your Cross
Communion	#513 The Supper of the Lord
Recessional	#532 Sent Forth by God's Blessing

Thank you to everyone that donated and voted in *Rectory Set Cook!* Our 2 parishes will share \$841 of the donations!!

PARISH FINANCES

Ascension Parish Collection Report May 30-31, 2026

Weekly Envelopes	\$2206
Other Parish Envelopes	\$426
Loose	\$130
Parish Second Collection	\$205
Total Parish Collection	\$2967
Diocesan Second Collection	\$0
Diocesan Envelopes	\$55

Saint Katharine Drexel Parish Collection Report May 31, 2026

Weekly Envelopes	\$2610
Other Parish Envelopes	\$103
Loose	\$366
Parish Second Collection	\$215
Total Parish Collection	\$3294
Diocesan Second Collection	\$0
Diocesan Envelopes	\$20

This weekend: Peter's Pence
Next week: Care & Education of Priests

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.

We are making a float for the **4th 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 H all on Sunday, September 6th. 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).

CALLING ALL PIE MAKERS (AND PIE EATERS, AS WELL)!

The St. Katharine Drexel Altar & Rosary is once again sponsoring a **Pie Sale on the 4th of July, from 8:00 AM til "sold out"** at the St. James Church Hall. Pies can be delivered to the church hall either Friday, 3 pm – 5 pm or early Saturday morning. Proceeds of sales will help with winter fuel at St. James and St. Juliana's churches and community projects. If you are a baker, there is a limited supply of aluminum foil pie pans available in the back of each of the churches. Please consider helping with this fundraiser to benefit our parish and greater community. Please contact: Joyce (448-9031) or Denise (448-2455) for further information. Thank you!

ROCK LAKE PICNIC

The next Rock Lake Picnic **meeting will be held on Monday, July 6 in St. Juliana's Hall at 6:30pm.** 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.

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.



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.

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 24th at 6PM. We will be electing new officers. All are welcome!

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

4th OF JULY PARADE FLOAT



St. Katharine Drexel Parish is crafting a float to enter the 4th of July Parade in Pleasant Mount on Saturday, July 4th that honors America and the Declaration of Independence. Everyone is invited to help with the float, participate in the parade, or just come and watch!! Contact Kevin Burleigh or Joyce Malicky for more information on the float.

PRESTON COMMUNITY DAYS

The 2nd Annual Preston Community Days will be held July 17th & 18th 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.

EUCCHARISTIC 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.

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 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.

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.

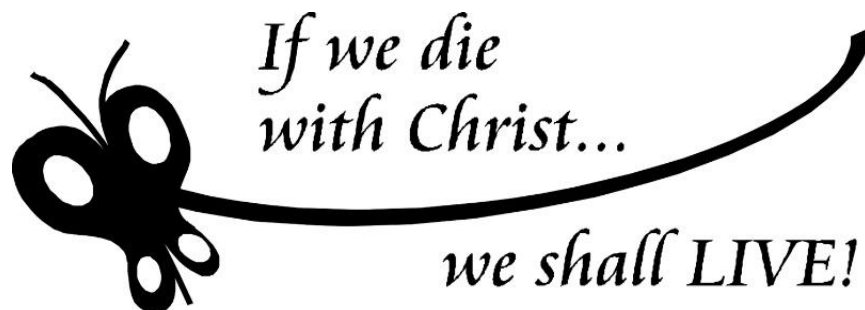
BE A CATHOLIC MAN CONFERENCE

The 11th annual Be A Catholic Man Conference will be held on October 10th 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.

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The readings for this Sunday invite us to grow ever deeper in our relationship with God and to express that relationship through love, compassion, and respect for those around us. In the first reading from 2nd Kings, we witness the profound hospitality of the woman who welcomes the prophet Elisha into her home. In her generosity, she not only provides a meal but also arrange a space for him, demonstrating that true hospitality goes beyond mere provision; it is a recognition of the sacredness of the other. In her kindness, she receives a great blessing. In this case, the promise of a son. This reminds us that when we open our lives to others, we may also invite divine blessings into our own. The second reading taken from St. Paul's letter to the Romans elaborates on our identity as followers of Christ. Through baptism, we have been buried with Him and have also risen with Him to new life. Our commitment to Christ is not just an individual journey but a shared vocation. In responding to His call, we are invited to live the new life of love and service, just as the woman did. In the gospel, Jesus establishes the radical nature of discipleship. "Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me." This strong language challenges us to evaluate our priorities and the extent of our commitment to the gospel. It's a call to love and serve generously, even when it requires sacrifices. Let us ask ourselves: how can I be more hospitable in my life? How can I embrace the sacrifices that come with following Christ? And in what way can I serve and uplift those around me?

~Father Arun



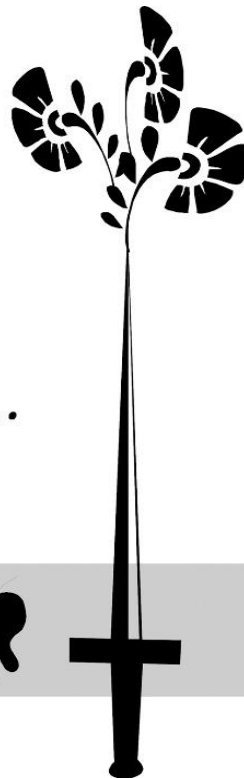
	SERVERS	LECTOR	E. MINISTER
St. Joseph Church 7/4 Saturday 4:00 PM 7/5 Sunday 9:30 AM	any Paul Schror	Joseph Sukenick Bob Trusky	J. Janezic & P. Tomazic M. McCusker & B. Bennett
St. Juliana Church 7/5 Sunday 8:00 AM	Mark & Jonathan Nebzydowski	Al Snyder	Roger Aguinaldo
St. James Church 7/5 Sunday 11:00 AM	Oliver, Seamus & Macson Murphy	Rose Burleigh	Gail McKeon

Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord: Helen Zedar, John Drewes, Robert Matoushek, Cheryl Litchfield
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 Sprovkin, 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.*

*Those who
lose
their life
for me*

will find it....




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For more information, email sue@bonventure.net

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