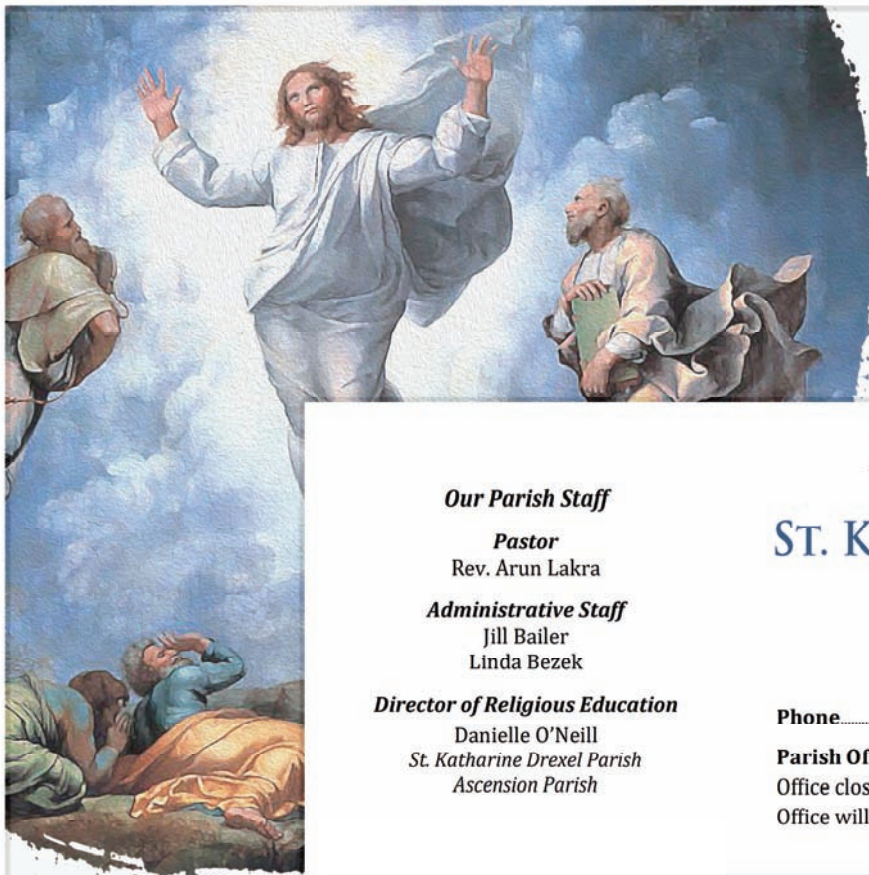




# The TRANSFIGURATION of the Lord

## 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](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.

"This is my Son,  
whom I love.  
Listen to him!"

—Mark 9:7



### 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 August 3, 2026

### Monday, August 3

8:30 AM-St. Joseph Dolores Carra by William Penn  
Bingo Group

### Tuesday, August 4

9:00 AM-St. James Healing Mass for Nancy Non and  
other Parishioners in ill health

### Wednesday, August 5

8:30 AM-St. Joseph Peggy Newak by Beverly Bennett &  
Sharon Hanna

### Thursday, August 6

9:00AM-St. James Nancy Lewis by Paul & Cathy Walker

### Friday, August 7

8:30 AM-St. Joseph Communion Service

### Saturday, August 8

4:00 PM-St. Joseph Thomas Chesnick by Mary Ann Prince  
& Family

5:30 PM-St. Juliana Living & Deceased Members of St.  
Katharine Drexel Parish

### Sunday, August 9

8:00 AM-St. Juliana Gail Jones by Dan & Diane Kimberley

9:30 AM-St. Joseph Dr. Michael DeStefano by Dr. Henry  
& Jean Nebzydoski

11:00 AM-St James Dan & Elizabeth Leonard & Family  
by A Friend

**Don't forget:**

**The Rock Lake Picnic is next  
weekend on Saturday August 8<sup>th</sup>!!**



## PARISH FINANCES

### Ascension Parish Collection Report

July 4-5, 2026

|                            |        |
|----------------------------|--------|
| Weekly Envelopes           | \$2314 |
| Other Parish Envelopes     | \$695  |
| Loose                      | \$221  |
| Parish Second Collection   | \$0    |
| Total Parish Collection    | \$3230 |
| Diocesan Second Collection | \$366  |
| Diocesan Envelopes         | \$0    |

### Saint Katharine Drexel Parish Collection Report

July 5, 2026

|                            |        |
|----------------------------|--------|
| Weekly Envelopes           | \$2819 |
| Other Parish Envelopes     | \$223  |
| Loose                      | \$759  |
| Parish Second Collection   | \$0    |
| Total Parish Collection    | \$3801 |
| Diocesan Second Collection | \$405  |
| Diocesan Envelopes         | \$30   |

**This weekend: Care and Education of Priests**

**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: 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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### A&RS OF SKD PARISH

#### **Food Pantry:** 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 Sprovin (570-727-8385), Sally Urmanec (570-785-5039), Gail McKeon (609-284-5648).

*The Altar & Rosary Society thanks you for your support of all our projects, collections, and fundraisers!*

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### A&RS OF ASCENSION PARISH

**Membership** Also, yearly membership dues for the Society are now due! You can place your \$10 in an envelope (with your name, etc.) in the basket at Mass, drop it off at the office or give it to any member. **New members**, please complete a yellow card that can be found at the entrances of the St. Joseph Church and in the pews. Join us in the many projects we do for our Church, as well as the community!

**Change**, please: If you have some change 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.

*The Altar & Rosary Society thanks you for your support of all our projects, collections, and fundraisers!*

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### ST. ANTHONY CEMETERY PROJECT

A rendering of the replacement cross and base at St. Anthony Cemetery is now in St. Joseph Church. The cross will be polished granite with beveled edges, and the foundation will be made of local natural ledgerstone boulder pieces. Solar lights and landscaping will also be added. If you would like to donate to this project, please contact the office.

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### CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS

Gifts for Kids Christmas Drive – Carbondale is under way!



Catholic Social Services is collecting gifts to brighten Christmas for local kids ages 9-17 (that often get overlooked in other donation drives) in the greater Carbondale area. Gift donations can be purchased on a special Amazon Wish List – scan the QR code here and it will be delivered directly

to CSS. Monetary donations can be sent to: Catholic Social Services Office, ATTN: Carbondale Christmas Gifts, 300 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton PA 18503. Make checks out to Catholic Social Services and include “Christmas Gifts Carbondale” in the memo.

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### ROCK LAKE PICNIC – WAYS TO HELP

**KITCHEN HELP NEEDED:** help is needed in the kitchen for food prep on Thursday August 6<sup>th</sup> at 9AM and Friday August 7<sup>th</sup> at 4PM. Dishwashers are needed for prep days and the day of the picnic. Please call Sandi at 570-643-1344 if you can help or with questions.

**CART OF CHEER:** anyone interested in donating an item for the cart of cheer, please contact Rose Ignatovich at 570-798-2539. Items are needed before the day of the picnic.

**BAKED GOODS NEEDED:** Calling all bakers for pies, brownies, cookies, breads, muffins etc!!! Donations can be dropped off as early as 7am day of picnic. Any questions, please contact Rick or Sue Latournas at 717-579-2947 or 717-805-7411.

**BASKET RAFFLE:** anyone interested in donating prizes or a basket for the raffle contact Rose Ignatovich at 570-798-2539. Baskets/prizes needed by August 1<sup>st</sup>.

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### FAMILY FUN DAY AT ASCENSION PARISH

Join us on Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM for some family fun before school starts! All children and teens from our parishes and the community are invited to participate in activities and games and receive some great giveaways! A summer cookout will be provided for all in attendance.

Volunteers - please call the office if you are able to help us! We need help setting up, cooking, running games/activities, and cleanup.

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### OCIA PROGRAM START

Did you receive all your sacraments? Know someone that would like to join our faith, even if they were baptized in a different denomination? OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) classes are starting soon in September! After learning about the Roman Catholic faith and our sacraments, candidates will be brought into full communion at the Saturday evening Easter Vigil in a beautiful Mass. Please call the office to sign up or for more information.

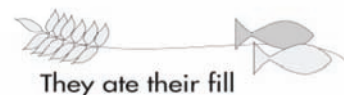
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### HELP FROM ST. JOSEPH SOCIETY

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.

Come  
to the water...  Rest!





## Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The readings for this Sunday invite us to trust in God's generosity and love. When we feel small or inadequate in the face to life's challenges, but just the disciples, we are called to present ourselves and our resources to Christ. In the first reading from the Book of Prophet Isaiah, we hear the Prophet inviting us to come and partake freely of the waters of life- an image of God's grace that is boundless and unmerited. He calls us to "come, everyone who thirsts," reminding us that in world often filled with hunger and emptiness, God provides for all our needs. This invitation is not just to physical sustenance but to the spiritual nourishment that comes from a relationship with Him. In the letter to the Romans, we are reminded that nothing can separate us from the love of Christ. Not hardship, not persecution, not any other challenge we may face can diminish His unwavering love for us. This powerful assurance for us, especially during times of trails when we might feel isolated or abandoned. In the gospel, we witness the miracle of the loaves and fishes. The disciples were faced with a daunting task- feeding a multitude with seemingly nothing to offer. Yet, in their willingness to present what little they had to Jesus, an incredible miracle unfolded. Five loaves and two fish became sufficient to feed thousands. This is a testament to what happens when we bring our needs and offerings to God. He transforms our scarcity into abundance.

~Father Arun

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

| Hymns for<br>August 1-2 | 4:00 pm<br>9:30 am                  |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Entrance Hymn           | #646 I Heard the Voice of Jesus     |
| Readings and Psalm      | #904                                |
| Gifts                   | #692 Your Words Are Spirit and Life |
| Communion               | #492 Behold the Lamb                |
| Recessional             | #493 I Am the Bread of Life         |

|                                                                        | SERVERS                                                   | LECTOR                        | E. MINISTER                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| <u>St. Joseph Church</u><br>8/8 Saturday 4:00 PM<br>8/9 Sunday 9:30 AM | Zachary Hicks-Baresse & Chrissy Piatkowski<br>Paul Schror | Joseph Sukenick<br>Bob Trusky | Joseph Janezic<br>M. McCusker & B. Bennett |
| <u>St. Juliana Church</u><br>8/9 Sunday 8:00 AM                        | Daniel & Bridget Diehl & Anna Nebzydoski                  | Pat Simpson                   | Roger Aguinaldo                            |
| <u>St. James Church</u><br>8/9 Sunday 11:00 AM                         | Oliver, Macson & Seamus Murphy                            | Rose Burleigh                 | Gail McKeon                                |

# THE FAMOUS ROCK LAKE PICNIC

*Celebrating 188 years 1838-2026*

**SAT. AUG. 8<sup>TH</sup> 2026, 10 am ~ 7 pm**

*Sponsored by Saint Katharine Drexel Parish*



**FOOD & LIVE MUSIC ALL DAY**

**FINDER'S MARKET 10 AM ~ 5 PM**  
**Pierogi, Pie & Bake Sale, Raffles**  
**Games & Children's Art**

**Pastor Arun Lakra invites you to participate in a**  
**Special Triduum Novena July 27-29 6:30 pm**  
**for a successful picnic**  
**[apskdp.org/picnic-triduum-novena-masses/](https://apskdp.org/picnic-triduum-novena-masses/)**

2048 CREAMTON DRIVE, PLEASANT MOUNT, PA  
INFORMATION 570-798-2107 [apskdp.org](https://apskdp.org)



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