

MARY

TAKEN TO HEAVEN

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

And if I go and
prepare a place
for you, I will
come back and
take you to be
with me that
you also may
be where I am.

—JOHN 14:3



MASS INTENTIONS & MEMORIALS

Week of August 10, 2026

Monday, August 10

8:30 AM-St. Joseph Michelle Criscera by Husband

Tuesday, August 11

9:00 AM-St. James Owen O'Hara by Paul & Cathy Walker

Wednesday, August 12

8:30 AM-St. Joseph Paul Yanchitis by Family

Thursday, August 13

9:00AM-St. James Eleanor McGraw by Family

Friday, August 14

8:30 AM-St. Joseph Communion Service

Saturday, August 15

4:00 PM-St. Joseph Joanne Wychowanec by Sisters, Sue & Kathy

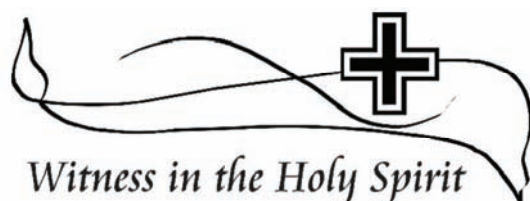
Sunday, August 16

8:00 AM-St. Juliana Marge Hnatko by Biondo Family

9:30 AM-St. Joseph Michael Lapera by Barb Sheptak

11:00 AM-St James Nick Nebzydoski by Jim Millett

Hymns for August 8-9	4:00 pm 9:30 am
Entrance Hymn	#456 All People That on Do Dwell
Readings and Psalm	#907
Gifts	#539 Here I Am, Lord
Communion	#610 You Are Near
Recessional	#612 O God, Our Help in Ages Past



PARISH FINANCES

Ascension Parish Collection Report July 11-12, 2026

Weekly Envelopes	\$2174
Other Parish Envelopes	\$728
Loose	\$384
Parish Second Collection	\$179
Total Parish Collection	\$3465
Diocesan Second Collection	\$0
Diocesan Envelopes	\$125

Saint Katharine Drexel Parish Collection Report July 12, 2026

Weekly Envelopes	\$2899
Other Parish Envelopes	\$319
Loose	\$481
Parish Second Collection	\$285
Total Parish Collection	\$3985
Diocesan Second Collection	\$0
Diocesan Envelopes	\$102

This weekend: Deficit Reduction
Next week: St. Vincent De Paul Fund

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.



FAMILY FUN DAY AT ASCENSION PARISH

Join us on Saturday, August 22nd 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM outside at St. Joseph Church (739 Delaware St.) 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.

A&RS OF SKD PARISH

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 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).

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

A&RS OF ASCENSION PARISH

We raised \$980 at the Basket Raffle last week!

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!

DIVINE CHILD VENERATION

Come to Venerate the Miraculous Statue of the Divine Child Jesus – Bring all your cares, hopes, dreams, desires, and place them into His tender and merciful Heart! Join us at St. Faustina's Chapel (1763 Great Bend Tpke, Pleasant Mount, PA 18453) on Tuesday, August 25th. Confessions are at 4pm and Holy Mass is at 5pm with celebrant Fr. Joseph Sibilano, Priest of the Oblates of St. Joseph. Please join us for dinner afterwards!

STEUBENVILLE YOUTH CONFERENCE EXPERIENCE

Parishioner Seamus Murphy recently attended the Steubenville Youth Conference (SYC) at Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio, and thoughtfully shared his experience with our parishes.

A few weeks ago, due to the generosity of Father Arun and the Parish, I had the privilege of attending the SYC. For fifty years, the conferences have gathered together Catholics from grades nine through twelve for a weekend of prayer, community, spiritual development, and the sacraments. During my time at this year's conference, I found my own faith not only renewed but strengthened. We had frequent access to Mass, confession, and adoration, in addition to hours of free time, during which time we were able to relax and hang out with friends. The speakers who gave us talks throughout the trip were excellent, and the atmosphere on campus was welcoming and extremely positive. By the end of the weekend, I wouldn't have changed a thing about my experience. The point of these conferences is to welcome and bring together young Catholics at various points in their faith journeys to better understand our religion and to learn how that religion applies to our daily lives. Whether you're firm in your faith or are seeking a deeper understanding of and connection with God, I invite you to consider joining me and the thousands of other high school attendees at next year's Steubenville Youth Conference. I promise it will be worth your time. Thank you!

OCIA PROGRAM START

Did you receive all your sacraments? Know someone that would like to join our faith, even if they were baptized at 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.

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.

FIRST AID/CPR CLASSES

Pleasant Mount Emergency Services are hosting first aid classes in August. Stop The Bleed on August 12th; Certified CPR on August 19th; and First Aid on August 27th. Class descriptions & registration information can be found on the Pleasant Mount Emergency Services Facebook page.



Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The readings for this Sunday invite us to contemplate the presence of God amid turmoil and uncertainty. In the first reading from the book of 1st Kings, we hear the story of the prophet Elijah. After experiencing a moment of triumph against the prophets of Baal, Elijah finds himself fleeing in fear, feeling utterly alone and desolate. Yet in the depths of his despair, God does not reveal Himself in the wind, the earthquake, or the fire but in the “gentle whisper.” This reminds us that God does not come to us not in grand gestures, but in quiet moments, urging us to listen closely. In the second readings from Romans, Paul expresses his deep love for his fellow Israelites, a testament to his profound sense of mission and identity. He longs for their salvation and recognizes that true belonging God’s grace. We, too, are called reflecting God’s love in our interactions. In today’s gospel, we find the disciples caught in a storm. Jesus walks on the water towards them, symbolizing His victory over chaos. Peter’s initial boldness to step out of the boat mirrors our own desire to take risks for faith. Yet, when he focuses on the wind and waves, he begins to sink. Jesus reaches out to him, just as He reaches out to us in our moments of doubt and fear. This Sunday invites us to ask ourselves: **Am I listening for God’s quiet voice amid the noise of daily life?**

When difficulties arise, do I focus on the storm or on Christ?

Do I stretch out my hand to Jesus in prayer, trusting that He will never let me sink?

~Father Arun

Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord: Trisha Theide *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 Cyrin, David Hamlyn, Bucky Biondo, Stephanie Dunn, John J. Jurkiw, Christopher Trusky, Maria Koslosky, Tom Zolga, 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.*

	SERVERS	LECTOR	E. MINISTER
St. Joseph Church 8/15 Saturday 4:00 PM 8/16 Sunday 9:30 AM	Lauren Tomazic & Aubrey Franks Paul Schror	John Sukenick Bernice Lukus	J. Janezic & P. Tomazic M. McCusker & B. Bennett
St. Juliana Church 8/16 Sunday 8:00 AM	Mark & Jonathan Nebzydoski	Pat Simpson	Chris Urban
St. James Church 8/16 Sunday 11:00 AM	Oscar Burleigh	Adeline Frisbie	Carrie McCormick

< KID'S > KORNER

Gospel Today | 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Mt 14:22-33

When Jesus performed miracles, He got people's attention! When He had their attention He preached the Good Word, and built their faith. Jesus tells us to have faith – do not doubt.

©2026 Bon Venture Services, LLC



start

Did you ever see a bug skimming the top of water in a pond, lake or river? They seem to walk or run on top, barely touching! These six-legged insects are sometimes called Jesus bugs or pond skaters. Imagine how Jesus looked to the Apostles as He walked on the water! What would you think if you saw that? Web search the Water Strider and see how this fascinating insect actually walks on water.

Jesus walks
on the water...



"You of little faith –
why do you doubt?"



finish



Oliveri's CRYSTAL LAKE HOTEL

Jones & Brennan Funeral Home

John P. Brennan, Supervisor
570-785-3500
430 Main Street • Forest City



MARTIN CAUFIELD
249 Sunrise Avenue
Honesdale, PA
• Affordable Cemetery
Memorials
• Largest Inventory
in Area
800-824-5293
martincaufieldmemorialworks.com

Help your community,
the environment,
& yourself

➤ Patronize your
local businesses

BE A FRIEND.

Give blood.



PEANUTS x American Red Cross



**SPECIALIZING IN WILLS,
ESTATES & REAL ESTATE LAW**
Marissa McAndrew, Esquire

McAndrew Law Offices, PC
630 Main Street • Forest City, PA 18421
Office: 570-785-3333
marissa@mcandrewlawoffices.com

570.785.3153



KEVIN M. LESJACK
FUNERAL HOME

WWW.LESJACKFUNERALHOME.COM

Auto • Home • Life • Business



MEAGHER
Insurance Agency

Nationwide **570-785-5454**
Paul@MeagherAgency.com
414 Main Street • Forest City, PA 18421
www.TheMeagherAgency.com

Dr. Gerard T. Genco

*"We Keep the Smile
in the Mile"*



(570) 785-9500

518 Main Street
Forest City, PA 18421

**PLEASE
SUPPORT OUR
ADVERTISERS
THEY SUPPORT
OUR PARISH**

TURN COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS INTO EXTRA INCOME!

We are seeking a **Part-Time
Advertising Sales Representative**
for this church bulletin.

This is a commission-based opportunity to work with
local businesses who want to reach our parish families.
The bulletin serves as a trusted community directory —
making it a valuable place for businesses to advertise.

Flexible Schedule • Meaningful Parish Involvement

Earn extra cash for College Tuition, Special Vacation,
Christmas Club or Holiday Expenses

*If you're outgoing, dependable and comfortable talking
with local business owners, this could be a great fit!*

For more information, email sue@bonventure.net

READY.GOV

Don't be afraid...Be Ready

CHURCH BULLETIN ADVERTISING

**A Simple Way To Support
Your Parish & Promote
Your Business!**



SCAN QR TO
E-MAIL ME TODAY!



KEN GREENWOOD 570-331-5565



**ONLY YOU
CAN PREVENT WILDFIRES**

**Beware of Social
Security Phone Scams!**

SLAM
THE
SCAM
oig.ssa.gov

Learn more at
oig.ssa.gov/scam