



Reverend Michael J. Piccola, V.F., M.Th., M.Ed., Pastor
 Deacon Leonard Kassick, Parish Deacon
 Deacon Thomas Kostic, Parish Deacon

SS. CYRIL & METHODIUS PARISH

at the
Church of St. Joseph
 Hazleton, PA

~ Welcome ~

If you are a visitor to our parish community, we want you to know that you are welcome whether you have come from another state or another Parish. Please feel comfortable in our Father's house and thank you for worshipping with us.

Rectory: 604 North Laurel Street, P.O. Box 2099
 Hazleton, PA 18201
 Office: 570-454-0881 Fax: 570-454-1285
 Email: sjc2@ptd.net
 Website: www.ssemparish.com
 Office Hours: Monday-Friday: 9:00AM-3:30PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 2:45—3:30 PM

Thursday prior to First Friday:
 as scheduled in the bulletin

Mass Schedule

Saturday Evening: 4:00PM

Sunday: 8:00 AM, 10:30 AM

Daily Mass: As scheduled in the bulletin

Holy Day Mass: As scheduled in the bulletin

Eucharistic Adoration

On the First Friday as scheduled in the bulletin

Devotions

Novena of the Miraculous Medal, St. Peregrine and the Infant of Prague following the morning Mass each Monday.

Tuesday mornings after Mass, the Novenas to St. Jude and St. Joseph are prayed.

The Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet are prayed each weekday before Mass.

The Rosary is prayed each Saturday afternoon prior to the 4:00 Mass.

Sacrament of Marriage

Those interested in getting married should schedule an appointment with the parish priest at least 6 months prior to the intended wedding date. No wedding date will be given until the first appointment with the parish priest.

Hospital and Nursing Home Visitation

If your loved one is in the hospital or nursing home and you would like a parish priest to visit please call the rectory. If you would like your loved ones names to be printed in our bulletin please call the rectory. If you would like to be added to our monthly homebound communion visitation list, please call the rectory. Please keep all of our sick and homebound in your prayers.

A Community Who Shares The Word

Catholic Education: Please consider giving your children a Catholic Education. Our local parishes support Holy Family Academy in Hazleton. To register or for more information on Pre-K to 8th Grade, call 455-9431 or go to our website at: www.holyfamilyacademy.info

CCD Classes: Held every Sunday for grades K-8, from 9:00 - 10:00AM at Holy Family Academy.



SEPTEMBER 7, 2025
(23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME)

MONDAY, September 8th

(Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

8:00 AM Emily Nilles by Family

TUESDAY, September 9th

(St. Peter Claver)

8:00 AM Joseph Koval, Jr by Mom & Dad

WEDNESDAY, September 10th

**8:00 AM John & Margaret Skantz by
Children**

THURSDAY, September 11th

**8:00 AM Ann Marie Acri by Theresa
Piccola**

FRIDAY, September 12th

**8:00 AM Jane Guadiano by Deacon Tom &
Patty Kostic**

SATURDAY, September 13th

2:45 PM to 3:30 PM Confessions

**4:00 PM Mary & Vigillio by Bill &
Ruth Rigotti**

SUNDAY, September 14th

(24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME)

**8:00 AM Living & Deceased Members of the
SSCM Holy Name Society**

10:30 AM Ray Swankoski Jr by Sister, Lisa

**INVITE the Fatima Pilgrim Statue into
your home for a week. Call (570-454-
3341).**



YOUR PRAYERS: are asked for all who are confined to their homes, nursing homes and the elderly. May God bless and keep them in His tender care. Also, please remember in your prayers all members of our Army, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard and Air Force: may God keep them from all harm.

CONGRATULATIONS to Bernard and Mary Jane Barilla who celebrated their 67th Wedding Anniversary on Sept 1st.

HOLY FAMILY ACADEMY:

~~Registration for the 2025-2026~~ school year is being held. For more information call the school (570-455-9431).

HOLY FAMILY ACADEMY students will attend the Opening of School Liturgy on Friday, Sept 12th at 8:00 a.m. in the School Gymnasium

GIFT CARDS on hand at the school. Contact the main Office (570-455-9431) if interested in purchasing any.

FALL FLOWER SALE sponsored by the Holy Family Academy PTO. Orders are due by Wednesday, September 17th. Flowers can be picked up at the school on September 30 at Dismissal time. Forms are available in the church vestibule

MASS INTENTIONS FOR 2026: Starting on ~~Tuesday, September 9, 2025~~ you may send in your Mass Intentions for 2026.

WE ASK that you please consolidate your Mass Intentions into one or two Masses. Remember, we have only one Mass during the week.

NO INTENTIONS are scheduled for the following days: All Souls - Christmas - Paschal Triduum - Easter - Mother's Day and Father's Day. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

PLEASE NOTE: If anyone is planning a Marriage, this is a Sacred and Lifelong commitment, couples are required to begin meeting with the Pastor at LEAST ONE YEAR IN ADVANCE OF THE WEDDING DATE. ***NO Date Will Be Reserved Until The Couple Meet With The Pastor.***

With Heartfelt Gratitude to Almighty God
for the
Sharing in the Priesthood of His Son Jesus Christ and for
Forty-seven years of Ministry to God's Holy People

The Reverend Michael J. Piccola, V.F.

*Invites You to Join him in Offering Thanksgiving to God
on the Occasion of his*

**Retirement From Active Ministry
A SOLEMN MASS OF THANKSGIVING**

will be Celebrated at

**The Church of Saint Joseph
Saints Cyril and Methodius Parish
604 North Laurel Street
Hazleton, Pennsylvania**

on the

28 September 2025

at

2:00 P.M.



A Reception will be held immediately following the Mass in the

**GAVENDA CENTER
Holy Family Academy**

R.S.V.P. Requested by 15 September 2025



**Retirement Mass of Thanksgiving
'THE REVEREND MICHAEL J. PICCOLA, V.F.**

Name: _____

Number attending: _____

I am unable to attend: _____

R.S.V.P. requested before 15 September 2025

... If you wish to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion?

... In the same way, anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple." - Lk 14:28, 33

Parish Office: 570-788-3643, 1900, 2nd Floor

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

September 7, 2025

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Luke 14:25-33

One hot Arizona summer afternoon my car ran out of gas. I phoned the parish office and begged for help. My secretary came and helped me fill the gas tank. She chided me, "If you can't manage getting your car from A to B, how can we expect you to guide the parish where it needs to go?" Point taken, Julie. I vowed to always make sure I have plenty of gas in my car.

The Lord Jesus chides us in this week's Gospel, too. He uses the two images of a man building a tower and a king marching soldiers into war to make this single point: acquire what is needed to follow him or look ridiculous. We rightly mock the builder who lacks money for his tower and the king with a short-handed army. But our mocking boomerangs back on us. How do we expect to follow Jesus to the end with insufficient detachment from our possessions and divided hearts?

The good news is, there is still time. Jesus is building a great tower to heaven-his own body. So we renounce all and give ourselves to him as his precious stones. Jesus is waging a battle against our enemy. So we forsake all and swear allegiance and march under his banner. In this way, we will finish what has begun in our discipleship. Or better yet, our Lord will have the stones and soldiers required to see his great work through.

— Father John Moir

OLPI

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND ST CYRIL & METHODIUS PARISH

SUNDAY	\$4,046.60
LOOSE	290.00
DUES	770.00
BUILD/MAINT	327.00
UTILITIES	225.00
MISSION	88.00
CANDLES	412.00
CARE & ED	1,115.00
SCHOOL SUPPORT	34.00
MIS	8.00
TOTAL	\$7,315.60

Thank you! Our weekly collections continue to be very important to the operation of our parish, especially at this time. Thanks to all who are generous and faithful in parish support!

BIG BUCKS WINNERS FOR 2025:

8/29 (340) Not Sold -
8/30 (384) \$50-Judy Montone
8/31 (004) \$50-Jim Seitzinger
New Big Bucks Tickets
9/1 (762) Not Sold
9/2 (084) Not Sold
9/3 (233) Not Sold
9/4 (272) Not sold

CHARISMATIC MASS and Healing Service at St. John Bosco Church, Conyngham will be Tuesday, Sept. 16th at 7 PM. Fr. Christian Ekeh will preside, and Sue Shaw will begin her music ministry at 6:45 PM. Any questions, please call Ariene at 570-788-3643 or at rgslagg@frontier.com

THE VOICE OF JOHN Ministry will host a bus trip to Pennsylvania March for Life in Harrisburg on Monday, Sept 22nd. We will be leaving from the upper lot of St. John Bosco Church at 8:30AM (immediately after the 8:00 AM Mass). Return is at about 4:00 PM. Cost of the bus is only \$20. To reserve your seat, contact Maryan at 570-788-JOHN (5646). A beautiful opportunity to show that PA is Pro-Life!

HELP US FEED LOCAL FAMILIES

United Way Food Bank of the Lehigh Valley

SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL HUNGER AWARENESS MONTH!

HOW YOU CAN HELP:
Please consider purchasing and donating dry goods to help the clients of St. Joseph's Food Pantry.
Donations can be placed in the marked collection containers near the entrances of the church during the month of September.
Thank you for supporting our community!

DONATE!

100% RECYCLED PAPER

DEGENHART CHIROPRACTIC HEALTH CENTER
1749 E. Broad St., Hazleton, PA
- 454-2474 -
God is Love!
God Bless the Sick & Aching & Suffering
1 Dr. John P. Degenhart
Dr. Sybil Seide

Frank J. Bonin
FUNERAL HOME, INC.
542 N. Wyoming St., Hazleton, PA 18201
... 454-3341 ...
Supervisor - JOHN S. PRASKAVICH
Funeral Director - Jeffrey J. Stock - Funeral Director - John S. Polakos III
- Family Owned and Operated Since 1893 -

Hazle Park Quality Meats
Specializing in fresh cut meats
and Hazle Brand Products
Locally owned and operated
meat processing since 1975!
Clean and experience our factory
direct meat and fresh items!
288 Washington Ave., Hazle Township
PHONE # MAIN OFFICE:
(570) 455-7571

HAYDEN POWER GROUP
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS
VISIT US:
www.haydenpower.com
CALL US:
1-800-649-6545
Hazleton & Bloomsburg, PA

John Nilles
OWNER, J. Nilles Ltd.
Aspirant of Hazle Park
C 570-57424
E johnnilles@nilles.com

GO FORCE
VETERAN OWNED AND OPERATED

SERVICE • INTEGRITY • PRICE
NEW LAYOUT | RE-STRIPE
PARKING LOTS | VAULT HOUSES
SIGN INSTALLATIONS | ADA COMPLIANCE

GOFORCE.COM

LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS
Place Your Ad Here
and Support Our Parish!

CONTACT ME
Anthony Praskavich

apaskavich@4LPi.com
(800) 477-4574 x6656

MOORE
& Associates, PC
Accountants • Advisors

Robert M. Moore, CPA

751 North Church Street
Hazleton, PA 18201
P: 570-455-9809
F: 570-454-3613
E: rmoores@moorecpa.com

Hazle Park Quality Meats
Specializing in fresh cut meats
and Hazle Brand Products

MOORE
& Associates, PC
Accountants • Advisors

Robert M. Moore, CPA

L. Przewdzik, M.D.
L. Rudero, CRNP
Proudly Serving Our Community!

Freeland • (570) 636-0550
Hazleton • (570) 459-1485

Place Your Ad Here and Support our Parish!
Instantly create and purchase an ad with

AD CREATOR STUDIO

4lpi.com/adcreator

GARY RENTZ
PLUMBING & HEATING
Licensed & Insured
570-454-4558
Fax: 570-454-2739
Oil & Gas Boilers • Hot Water Heating
New and Remodel Homes
Drains and Sewer Lines
Kitchens and Bathrooms
and All Your Plumbing Needs

ALL CARE HOME CARE
All Care Home Care
Your Comprehensive
Home Health Care Provider
We offer: Skilled Nursing,
Physical Speech & Occupational Therapy
Social Workers • Home Health Aides

1710 E. Broad St., Ste. B, Hazleton, PA
Phone: (570) 459-2022 | 1-800-353-3372 • F: (570) 459-3009

570-788-4178
PERSONAL CARE
INDEPENDENT LIVING
SECURE MEMORY CARE

FRITZINGER TOWN
159 SOUTH OLD TURNPIKE RD.
DRUMS, PA 18222

GEISINGER GOLD
Local Medicare plans.
Local Medicare support.

Choose a plan that puts you first.
Call 866-959-1213 (TTY: 711)

Geisinger HEALTH PLAN

Y0032.25009 10.C

DOES YOUR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION NEED A NEWSLETTER?

Engaging, cost-supported
print and digital
newsletters to reach
your community.

Visit ipicomunities.com

OUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER
COMMUNITY EDITION

Scan to contact us!

The Laurels
Independent Living
Personal Care
Respite / Short Term Support
Veteran's Benefits Program
26 Faith Ave., Hazleton, PA 18202
570-455-7757
www.laurels-seniorliving.com

WE'RE HIRING!
AD SALES EXECUTIVES
BE YOURSELF
BRING YOUR PASSION
WORK WITH PURPOSE

• Paid Training • Flexible Hours
• Growth Opportunity • Full-time with benefits
• A place where you belong

Contact us at
careers@4lpi.com or
www.4lpi.com/careers

RE/MAX
RE/MAX Property Specialists
Anna Truskowski - Realtor
C: (570) 855-6309 | P: 570-972-2940
Anna.Truskowski@remax.net
928 Route 94E, Pocono Lake, PA 18347

SUPPORT OUR PARISH

U.G.C. Truck Parts & Service, LLC
Heavy Duty Professionals
Gary Viechow
570.436.7330 • 570.788.4703
Exit 256 off I-480
24 Old Berwick Rd
Drums, PA 18207

STARZ & STRIPES
Roofing and Construction LLC
Roofing • Siding • Decking • Gutters • And more!
Licensed and Insured Exterior Specialist
(570) 790-7680 | www.starzandstripesllc.com

RE/MAX
RE/MAX Property Specialists
Anna Truskowski - Realtor
C: (570) 855-6309 | P: 570-972-2940
Anna.Truskowski@remax.net
928 Route 94E, Pocono Lake, PA 18347

"Specializing in buying and selling the best homes for you
and making the best decisions for you"