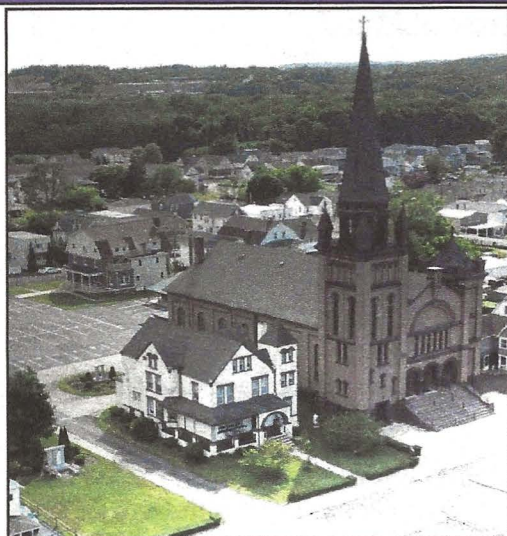


THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 14, 2025



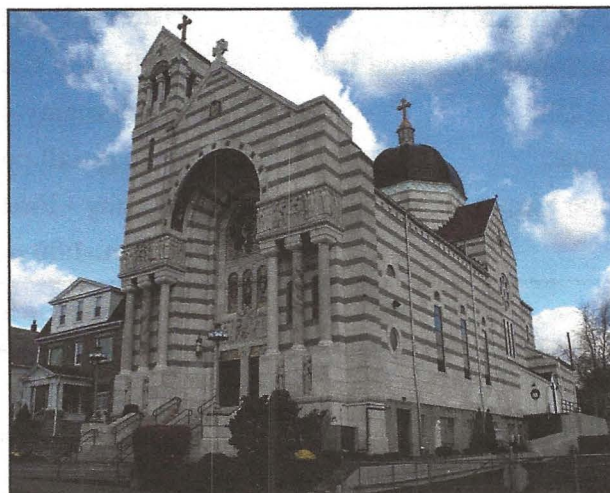
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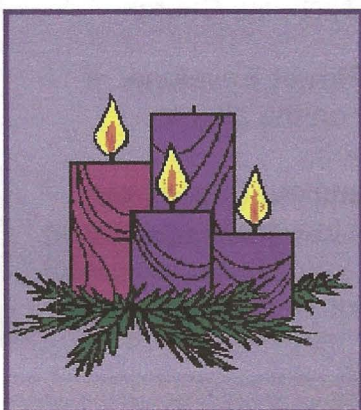


ST. ANDREW PARISH

316 Parrish Street

Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

Phone: (570) 823-1948



Observing the Season of Advent

Beginning the Church's liturgical year, Advent, meaning "to come to" is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas.

The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth on Christmas. Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.

Advent devotions including the Advent wreath, remind us of the meaning of the season. An Advent calendar (like the one offered on the US Bishops website: uscgb.org) can help you fully enter into the season with daily activities and prayers to prepare you spiritually for the birth of Jesus Christ.

ST. LEO THE GREAT & ST. ANDREW MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKEND

Saturday 4:00 p.m. (St. Leo), 5:30 p.m. (St. Andrew)

Sunday 8:30 a.m. (St. Leo), 11:00 a.m. (St. Andrew)

WEEKDAYS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday 8:00 a.m. (St. Leo)

HOLY DAYS

(Vigil) 5:15 p.m. (St. Leo), (Day) 8:00 a.m. (St. Leo), 5:15 p.m. (St. Andrew)

CONFESSION

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 7:45 a.m. (St. Leo)

Saturday 3:30 p.m. (St. Leo), 5:00 p.m. (St. Andrew)

BAPTISM & WEDDINGS

Call the Rectory



NEW PARISHIONERS: We, the parishes of St. Leo the Great & St. Andrew, welcome new parishioners to register with our parish by calling the Rectory at (570) 825-6669 or (570) 823-1948 or stop by during office hours. We are handicap accessible. We also invite you to visit our web pages.

PASTOR: REVEREND VINCENT H. DANG

Administrative Asst: Marina Kachinko
Mary Anne Malone
Director of Music: Robert Passetti
Director of Religious Ed: Michele Casey
Web Site: www.stleos-holyrosary.org
E-Mail: saintlhrc@gmail.com
Office Hours: Monday - Friday
9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Administrative Asst: Helene Skopek-Krygier
Director of Music: Jeff Papciak
Director of Religious Ed: Kristi Gibson
Web Site: standrewwilkesbarre.org
E-Mail: rectory@standrewwilkesbarre.org
Office Hours: Mon, Tue, Thurs & Fri
9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Readings for Sunday, December 21, 2025

First Reading: Therefore the Lord himself will give you this sign: the virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel. (Isa 7:14)

Psalm: Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory. (Ps 24)

Second Reading: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. (Rom 1:7)

Gospel: "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." (Mt 1:20-21)

ST. LEO CHRISTMAS CONCERT: Sun., Dec. 14 at 2:00 p.m. in St. Leo Church. St. Leo and St. Faustina Adult Choir will be joined by youth of the parish to present "A Christmas Carol in Bethlehem," a twist on the Charles Dickens' classic that places Scrooge in Bethlehem at the birth of Christ. Please join us in this celebration of the Christmas season. All are welcome!

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE: Monday, Dec. 15, 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. at St. Nicholas Church, 226 S. Washington St., Wilkes-Barre.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: We encourage Parishioners to use your Christmas Flower Envelope. It helps defray the cost of decorating our churches. The envelopes will be placed on the altar to remember and honor our loved ones. Thank you and May God Bless You.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION: Every Christmas brings new hope for our world and our lives as we celebrate the birth of Christ, the Prince of Peace. Let us pray that Christ will bestow greater peace on our society and world. As we ask for Christ's gifts of peace, our parish asks for your Christmas gift for our Christmas collection. Please be generous and thank you with all my heart for your special gift to St. Leo the Great Parish and St. Andrew Parish this Christmas.



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE: Christmas Eve, Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 4:00 p.m. (St. Leo) & 5:30 p.m. (St. Andrew). Christmas Day, Thursday, Dec. 25 at 8:30 a.m. (St. Leo) & 11:00 a.m. (St. Andrew).

ST. ANDREW JANUARY LOTTERY TICKETS: Are available in the church vestibule after mass or at the church office. Tickets are \$10. Payment must be made to validate the ticket.

ST. LEO LOTTERY TICKETS: The St. Vincent DePaul Society is running a phone sale of their annual lottery tickets until Jan. 31. Tickets are \$5, contain two numbers and cover the 7:00 p.m. drawings for the month of February 2026. Daily winners receive \$25; weekend winners \$50; Valentine's Day winner \$100. If the same number is pulled on Valentine's Day and Feb. 28, that ticket holder wins \$5000. Proceeds from the lottery sale allows the Society to continue its support of our Food Pantry, parish projects and local charities. For questions/order tickets, please call Christine Casey at (570) 262-5008.

COLD/FLU SEASON: We ask those who feel sick or vulnerable because of their age or underlying medical conditions to stay home. People feeling ill or have had recent contact with anyone with COVID-19 are directed not to attend Mass until recovered or until self-quarantine is complete. Live streaming Masses are on Catholic TV of the Diocese of Scranton. Comcast/Xfinity channel 12 & Service Electric Cable TV channel 18.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY MEETING: Sunday, Dec. 14 after the 8:30 a.m. Mass in St. Leo church hall.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Susie Ambrose, William Andahazy, Eugene Antos, Bonnie Balakier, Bailey Barnds, Alice Battista, Terri Belanchik, Ed Beleski, Marlene Beleski, Jared & Debbie Bellas, Msgr. Jack Bendik, Stella Bobrowski, Robert Bozek, Louise Brant, Valerie Brody, Chloe Brown, David Bukoski, Jr., Vivian Grace Busardo, Pat C., Judy Cannon, Thomas & Louise Cavanaugh, Jackson Chapasko, John Chernesky, Bob Ciritella, Michael Corcoran, Dylan Culp, John Devaney, Janice Divers, Tom Drozda, Hunter Durland, Maureen Ehret, Jonathan Elick, David Evanko, Fadden & Alfano Families, Molly Eysers, Ron Fedorczyk, Christopher Fee, Marion Ferguson, David Fisher, Jean Flanley, Regina Fillman, Catherine Gallagher, Pam Gibson, Mary Ann Gildea, Roslyn Glynn, Thomas Gorman, Quinn Gorman, Raymond Griffin, Karen Gula, Nicole Halversen, Karen Hannis, Ann Marie Harley, Jo Hart, Mary Himmel, Mary Hoffman, Ruth Kackauskas, Brian Kelly, Pat Kelly, Frank Kempf, Thomas Mark Kinney, Abigail Klass, Chris Klau, Jerry Korey, Charles Koulik Jr., Marie Koulik, Teresa Kucharski, Joseph Kulbaski, Nikki La Benda, Dee Lallier, Maryann Lavan, Cathy Linker, Cinde Linker, Rachel Lohman, Ed & Janet Lopez, Janice Lord, Robert Lusk, Loren Mankey, Jodie Martin, Ray Maykovitz, Lauren McDonald, Jillian Meehan, Debbie Mellas, Jesse Mendoza, Mary Ann Mihneski, Paul Milford, Christopher Mortensen, Terry Murphy, Margaret Nealon, Lois O'Hara, Lenny Okuniewski, Betty Oldfield, John Ostrum, Infant William Owen, Christine Owens, John Pac, Maria Parra, Janet Peake, Eileen Phillips, Laurie Phillips, Brian Pollick, Margaret Prestas, David Pudlosky, Dan R., Benjamin Rae, Ray Raykovitz, Michael Ralston, Tom Ralston, Bobby Ramage, Donna Ransom, Marie Lu Reinninger, The Reynolds Family, Cleo Rosemond, Libby Rush, Florence Ryder, Marie Saltz, Nick Santana, Josh Schlegel, Joyce Seiger, Helen Semanski, Cynthia Sickler, Kevin Sinnott, Margaret Sipple, Ed Sively, Tom Smith, Neil Smith, Frank Sorokach, Michael Sedon, Theresa Shrader, Jeff Statkiewicz, Nico Stavish, Tony Straka, Charlotte Thomas, Jim Thomas, Justin Thompson, Bonnie Usmail, Rose Wallace, George Warman, Elaine Warman, Barbara Wasilewski, Bob Weidow, Jean Wiernusz, Cameron Wilson, Mary Wisniewski, Maria Wujik, Joseph Yedlock, Patty Zukoski and the faithful departed, Phillip Gorham. If you know someone ill or who needs prayers, call the Rectory of St. Leo or St. Andrew.

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL: In this *Jubilee Year of Hope* please consider making a gift that provides essential funding for 5 ministries serving every Catholic parish, school and family and many community individuals and families in our diocese. Goal for St. Leo - \$42,544. We have raised \$14,617 to date. Goal for St. Andrew - \$19,248 and to date we have raised \$4,980. Thank you for your support!

ST. LEO EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION, LECTORS & YOUTH ALTAR SERVERS: The mass schedule for 12/20 to 1/11 is ready to be picked up in the Sacristy. Please get a replacement if you cannot serve when you are scheduled. Notify Toni at (570) 868-8215 or e-mail alrisc@hotmail.com with any special requests or if you can no longer serve. Thank you.

ST. ANDREW MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Saturday, Dec. 13, 5:30 p.m.: Lector: Kim Stepanski; Extraordinary Minister: Margaret Sharksnas; Altar Server: Pete Bonczewski.

Sunday, Dec. 14, 11:00 a.m.: Lector: Kristi Gibson, Amin Skibinski; Extraordinary Minister: Cheryl Gibson; Altar Server: Harley Dunbar, Thomas Dunbar, Colleen Jorda.

Saturday, Dec. 20, 5:30 p.m.: Lector: Steve Yenchak; Extraordinary Minister: Maryellen Sloat; Altar Server: Mia Ashton.

Sunday, Dec. 21, 11:00 a.m.: Lector: Patrick Bradshaw, Megan Bradshaw; Extraordinary Minister: Jim Shovlin; Altar Servers: Amelia Good, Abrielle Good, Helene Skopek-Krygier.



ASHLEY FOOD PANTRY

For clients residing in the 18706 zip code

Open: Thursday, January 8, 2026
10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. & 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Items in special need for December
Pasta Sauce

Thank you to all who have donated! May God Bless you for your kindness and generosity!

COMMITMENT OF TREASURE

*Each one must give as he has decided in his heart,
not reluctantly or under compulsion,
for God loves a cheerful giver.*

(2 Corinthians 9:7)

Weekly Collection 11/30/2025

St. Leo: \$5,896.00

St. Andrew: \$2,303.00

2nd Collection: \$336.00

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK AT ST. LEO & ST. ANDREW

Monday	12/15	8:00 a.m. (St. Leo)	Stella Cappellini	Marian Illiano
Tuesday	12/16	8:00 a.m. (St. Leo)	Susan Devaney-McClatchy	Elizabeth Rice
Wednesday	12/17	No Mass		
Thursday	12/18	8:00 a.m. (St. Leo)	Frank J. Aukstakalnis	Charles & Melissa Aukstakalnis
Friday	12/19	8:00 a.m. (St. Leo)	David Zabofski	Family
Saturday	12/20	4:00 p.m. (St. Leo)	Maryalice Koneski	Her Children
		5:30 p.m. (St. Andrew)	Mike Garbush	Rose Marie Vesek
Sunday	12/21	8:30 a.m. (St. Leo)	James Londergan	His Wife, Francie
		11:00a.m. (St. Andrew)	Jacky Sebastian	Father & Brothers Joey & Mike

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE WILL BURN THIS WEEK (ST. LEO): In Memory of Zach Kollar by His Grandparents Dorothy & Dominick Ferro, In Memory of Chester & Josephine Rygielski by Dobranski Family.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE WILL BURN THIS WEEK (ST. ANDREW): In Memory of Mary Ann Payne by Grandsons Kayle & Evan & Son-in-Law, Scott.

A BLESSED MOTHER CANDLE WILL BURN THIS WEEK (ST. LEO): In Memory of Florence Phillips by Phillips Family, For Health & Blessings of Bonnie Balakier by Friend, Theresa.

A BLESSED MOTHER CANDLE WILL BURN THIS WEEK (ST. ANDREW): In Memory of Stephen J. Yenchak, Wizda, Yenchak, Matsko & Machonis Families and Edward & Irene Polchin by Steve & Mary Yenchak, For Health & Healing for John Ostrum, In Memory of Joseph Stonikinis by Sister, Therese Klinefelter.

A SACRED HEART CANDLE WILL BURN THIS WEEK (ST. LEO): In Loving Memory of Jim Londergan by Wife, Francie.

A SAINT JOSEPH CANDLE WILL BURN THIS WEEK (ST. ANDREW): For Health & Healing of John Ostrum.

**If you would like to dedicate a candle for someone, please call the Rectory
(570) 825-6669 (St. Leo) or (570) 823-1948 (St. Andrew). Offering is \$10.**

SECOND COLLECTION: The week-end of Dec. 13/14 for Retirement Fund for Religious. Please be generous. Thank you.

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS: Until Jan. 4, candle requests or bulletin submissions will be due 2 weeks before the bulletin's date. Thank you for your patience.

ST. ANDREW 2026 LECTOR WORKBOOKS: Are in the Sacristy for pick up. Thank you.

THANK YOU: For your generosity last weekend for Care & Education of Priests. May God Bless You.

THANK YOU: To those who cleaned St. Leo the Great Church for Christmas. May God Bless You always.

ST. ANDREW PARISH OCIA: Preparation for joining the Catholic Church takes place on Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in St. Andrew Rectory.

THANK YOU: A sincere thank you to Rev. Joseph R. Kakareka for leading us in the Fall Bible Study of Luke's Gospel. After a break, we will resume on Monday, January 19 with Acts of the Apostles.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION INFORMATION

Our CCD Motto is "MASS AND CLASS or CLASS AND MASS"

ST. LEO

Classes are held from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on
Sundays in the Education Center
Mrs. Michele Casey, DRE (570) 760-9793

SAFETY OF OUR CHILDREN: Please look out for the safety of our children especially as they are arriving for class at 9:30 a.m. Thank you.

SAVE IMPORTANT 2026 DATES:

FIRST PENANCE: Saturday, Jan. 24 at 11 a.m.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & MAY CROWNING:
Saturday, May 2 at 11:00 a.m.

CONFIRMATION: Sunday, May 24 at 8:30 a.m.

WEATHER CONDITIONS: Your children's safety is always the primary concern of ours. Please use your discretion if you choose to send your children to CCD in inclement weather. Thank you.

CCD CHRISTMAS PARTY/CHILDREN'S MASS:
Sunday, Dec. 21, please bring your children to attend and participate in the 8:30 a.m. Mass. The CCD Christmas party will follow for children in CCD and their younger siblings in the Church Hall.

ST. ANDREW

Classes are held from 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.
on Sundays at the Rectory and Church Hall.
Ms. Kristi Gibson, DRE (570) 417-2505

SAFETY OF OUR CHILDREN: Please look out for the safety of our children especially as they are being dismissed from class at 10:45 a.m. Thank you.

SAVE IMPORTANT 2026 DATES:

FIRST PENANCE: Sat., Feb. 7 at 10:00 a.m.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & MAY

CROWNING: Sunday, May 3 at 11:00 a.m.

CONFIRMATION: Sun., May 17 at 11:00 a.m.

WEATHER CONDITIONS: Your children's safety is always the primary concern of ours. Please use your discretion if you choose to send your children to CCD in inclement weather. Thank you.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY PIEROGIE SALE PICK UPS: December 20 & 21 after Masses in St. Leo Church Hall. Thank you.

OPLATKI WAFERS: Sponsored by the Altar & Rosary/St. Ann's Society are available before/after weekend Masses in the vestibule at St. Leo the Great Church until Sun., Dec. 21 or call the Rectory (570) 825-6669. Available in packs of 5. Donations are appreciated. Thank you.

THANK YOU: To those who decorated St. Leo Church for Christmas on Saturday, Dec. 14. May God bless you always.

ST. LEO GIVING TREE: In the Sanctuary until Sun., 12/14. Your generosity provides gifts for infants - 17 years old whose parents/guardians are clients of the Ashley Food Pantry and who have pre-registered them for the gift distribution. Please take an ornament from the tree, tape the ornament on your UNWRAPPED gift and place it under the tree by the end of the 8:30 a.m. Mass on Dec. 14. Gifts will be distributed later that afternoon according to a pre-determined schedule. Any leftover/uncollected items will be delivered to "Toys for Tots". Additional ornaments will suggest items such as men's/women's under-garments, socks, sweats & sweaters to help those in need. These UNWRAPPED items should also be placed under the tree and will be delivered to the appropriate social-service agencies. Thank you for your kindness.

REMEMBERING ST. LEO HOMEBOUND: The Altar & Rosary/St. Ann Society & the Holy Name Society will offer a candle for each homebound parishioner at Christmas. If you know a parishioner who no longer comes to Mass because of age or ill health, call the Rectory by Mon., Dec. 15. Thank you.

ST. ANDREW MEMORIAL DONATIONS: Will be accepted for our ornament and poinsettia trees until Sun., Dec. 14. Poinsettia donations are \$10. Ornament donations are \$10 (red); \$25 (green); \$50 (blue); \$75 (silver); \$100 (gold). Order forms are available at the church entrance, church office or on our website.

FATHER JOSEPH LONG, C.S.C. ADDRESS: For those wanting to reach out to Father Long, his address is St. Joseph's Center, 495 Maple Lane, Valatie, NY 12184.

TAX STATEMENTS: All donations to be credited for 2025 must be received at St. Leo or St. Andrew offices by 12:30p.m. on Tue., Dec. 30 or in the collection basket the weekend of Dec. 27/28. Itemized statements of contributions for tax purposes will be issued to parishioners requesting one. Thank you.

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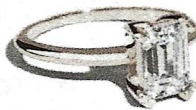
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