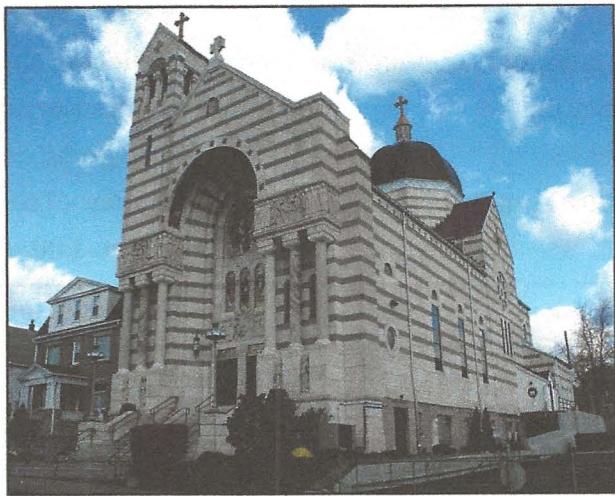
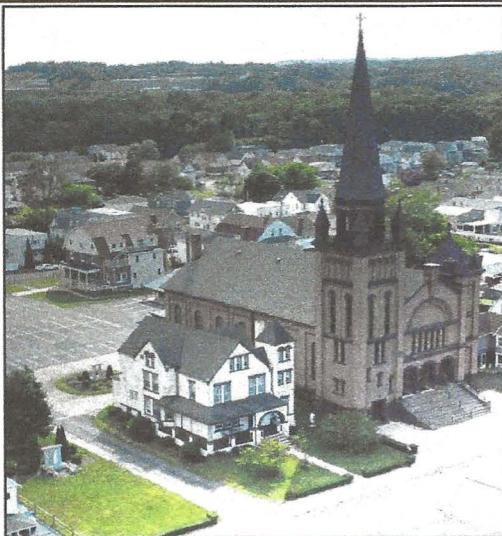


THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

DECEMBER 28, 2025



ST. LEO THE GREAT PARISH

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ST. ANDREW PARISH

316 Parrish Street

Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

Phone: (570) 823-1948

CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS - SOLEMNITY OF THE BIRTH OF THE LORD:

My Dear Sisters and Brothers,

At this time of gift giving, let us praise the One who gave us the greatest gift ever given to the world. Let us open our minds and hearts to welcome the Messiah, who comes at this sacred moment to save us from sin and deliver us from the darkness of evil. In the person of the tiny Christ child in the manger, the promise of salvation is made manifest. **O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!** May the infant Christ bless you richly with the Gifts of His LOVE as you share it with each other. Please know, you will be in ever prayer I utter throughout this Christmas Season.

Have a Blessed and Holy Christmas Season!

Devotedly,

Fr. Vincent Dang

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)



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

Administrative Asst:

Helene Skopek-Krygier
Jeff Papciak

Director of Music:

Robert Passetti

Director of Music:

Jeff Papciak

Director of Religious Ed:

Michele Casey

Director of Religious Ed:

Kristi Gibson

Web Site:

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Web Site:

standrewwilkesbarre.org

E-Mail:

saintlhrc@gmail.com

E-Mail:

rectory@standrewwilkesbarre.org

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday

Mon, Tue, Thurs & Fri

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Readings for Sunday, January 4, 2026

First Reading: Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you.. (Is 60:1)

Psalm: Lord, every nation on earth will adore you. (Ps 72)

Second Reading: It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body. (Eph 3:5-6)

Gospel: "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." (Mt 2:2)



*My best wishes for a
Happy, Healthy &
Blessed New Year!*

Father Vinnie

ESTABLISHMENT OF A PARISH SAFETY & SECURITY COMMITTEE: Our Parish is forming a Safety & Security Committee to help ensure a safe and welcoming environment for all who gather here. I would like to invite the participation of current and former law enforcement officers whose training and experience would be a great asset in guiding this important ministry of protection and preparedness. If you are interested in serving please contact the office at (570) 825-6669 or see Father Dang. Thank you.

NO CCD CLASSES: Sunday, December 28 in observance of the Christmas Holiday.

OFFICES CLOSED: Thursday, January 1, in observance of the New Year's Day.

NEW YEAR'S DAY, THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 2026 MASSES: The Church celebrates the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. This is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses will be celebrated at 8:30 a.m. at St. Leo and at 11:00 a.m. at St. Andrew. Please come to worship God and offer your life to God in this New Year.

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 feeling sick or vulnerable because of their age or underlying medical conditions to stay home. Live streaming Masses are on Catholic TV of the Diocese of Scranton. Comcast/Xfinity channel 12 & Service Electric Cable TV channel 18.

ST. ANDREW OCIA: No meeting on Monday, December 29. Sessions will resume on Monday, Jan. 5.

ST. ANDREW KAFFEE KLATCH: Will not meet on Tuesday, December 30. Gatherings will resume on Tuesday, January 6.



Saint Andrew Parish
Memorial Poinsettia List – 2025 *



In Memory Of:

Michael Bly
Florence Bly
Brian Bly
Charles Dougherty
Garbush & Schneikart Families
Dorothy Gluc
Stanley Gluc

Requested By:

Bly Family
Bly Family
Bly Family
Bly Family
Maureen & Family
M/M Len Kluchinski
M/M Len Kluchinski



Saint Andrew Parish
Memorial Ornament Tree – 2025 *



Red Ornaments

In Memory Of:

Garbush & Schneikart Families
Dorothy Gluc
Stanley Gluc
Kaycee Kreitzer

Requested By:

Maureen & Family
M/M Len Kluchinski
M/M Len Kluchinski
Bill & Margaret Sharksas

* The above ornament and poinsettia memorials were received after December 16, 2025.

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 Evers, 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, Dolores Grazio, Raymond Griffin, Karen Grula, 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 Koulak Jr., Marie Koulak, 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 Sivelly, 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 especially Mary Molitoris. If you know someone ill or who needs prayers, call the Rectory of St. Leo or St. Andrew.

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.

EMAIL/TEXT SCAMS: Father Dang **will not** contact you asking for money or gift cards. Thank you.

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

ST. ANDREW CROCHETING/KNITTING GROUP: The first meeting of the crocheting/knitting group will be Thursday, January 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the rectory. Please use the back door to avoid the steps. Parking is available at the back of the church and in the rectory driveway. All are welcome!

ST. LEO ADULT FAITH FORMATION: Our "Spring Semester" of Bible Study will begin on Monday, January 19 from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. The study will be **Acts: The Spread of the Kingdom** and Fr. Kakareka will lead us. Cost for the workbook is \$40. Please call Mary Anne Malone (570) 709-4963 if you are interested or you have questions. Stay tuned for all dates. All are welcome!

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.



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 January
Pancake Mix/Syrup*

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
12/14/2025**

St. Leo: \$8,994.00

St. Andrew: \$2,258.00

Rel. Retirement: \$459.00 2nd Collection: \$420.75

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

Monday	12/29	8:00 a.m. (St. Leo)	For all Living & Deceased Relatives of the Cooney - Musial Family	Family
Tuesday	12/30	8:00 a.m. (St. Leo)	George Strish	Children
Wednesday	12/31	No Mass		
Thursday <i>Mary, Mother of God</i>	01/01	8:30 a.m. (St. Leo)	Walter Laibinis	Dortha Slabinski
		11:00 a.m. (St. Andrew)	For Our Parishioners	
Friday	01/02	8:00 a.m. (St. Leo)	Stanley Koznetski	Barbara & John Koury
Saturday	01/03	4:00 p.m. (St. Leo)	Annette Laxton	Her Loving Parents, George & Toni Riscavage
		5:30 p.m. (St. Andrew)	Helene Sirak	St. Andrew Parish
Sunday	01/04	8:30 a.m. (St. Leo)	Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Altavilla & Daughter Anna May	Dan & Barb
		11:00a.m. (St. Andrew)	Joseph Pachucki	Maryclaire Langan

A SANCTUARY CANDLE WILL BURN THIS WEEK (ST. LEO): In Loving Memory of Deceased Family & Friends of the McCann and Oravic Families.

A SANCTUARY CANDLE WILL BURN THIS WEEK (ST. ANDREW): In Memory of Gene Belardinelli by Penny Mericle.

A BLESSED MOTHER CANDLE WILL BURN THIS WEEK (ST. LEO): In Memory of Stephen Opet, Jr. by Phillip & Rita Woods; In Memory of Bill Vancosky by Wife, Ann Marie; In Memory of Jack & Nancy McGovern by their Family; In Memory of Baldina Grilli by Linda Kulikuskas & Bob Chabak; In Memory of Bill Bly by Wife, Mary and Children; In Memory of Ellen & Patrick J. Clarke by Family; In Memory of Emily & Malachi Bly by their Family; In Loving Memory of Kathy Galardi by Nancy Galardi and Sons; In Loving Memory of Joseph & Ellen Drake and Daughter, Mary Anne by Susan Drake.

A BLESSED MOTHER CANDLE WILL BURN THIS WEEK (ST. ANDREW): For Health & Healing of John Ostrum; In Memory of Stephen J. Yenchak, Wizda, Yenchak, Matsko & Machonis Families and Edward & Irene Polchin by Steve & Mary Yenchak; For the Health of Mike Havrilosin by a Friend; In Memory of Mary M. Havrilosin by Mike Havrilosin, In Memory of Helen & Harry Havrilosin by Mike Havrilosin; In Memory of Susan Havrilosin Oravec by Mike Havrilosin; In Memory of Joe Shubilla by Mike Havrilosin; In Memory of Michael & Michelle Garbush & Missy Schneikart by Mom & Family.

A SACRED HEART CANDLE WILL BURN THIS WEEK (ST. LEO): In Memory of Zach Kollar by his Grandparents, Dorothy & Dominick Ferro; In Loving Memory of Jim Londergan by his Wife, Francie; In Loving Memory of Frank Dombroski by Daughter, Theresa; In Loving Memory of Ted McGovern by the McGovern & Galardi Families; Happy Wedding Anniversary to Mom & Dad Deno by Children, Grandchildren & Great-Grandchildren; In Memory of Baldina Grilli by Linda Kulikuskas & Bob Chabak; In Loving Memory of Thomas P. Malone on our 50th Wedding Anniversary by Wife, Mary Anne; In Loving Memory of Ron Rayno by Gary Burczy & Carole Kneal.

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.**

KEEP YOUR CAR DOORS LOCKED: When attending Mass, please keep your car doors locked and valuables out of sight.

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.

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.

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.

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! Thank you! Thank you!

THANK YOU: To those who donated to the giving tree at St. Leo the Great and to the Knights of Columbus for their coat donations. May God Bless you abundantly for your thoughtfulness and kindness.

THANK YOU: To those at St. Andrew who gave memorial donations for the poinsettia and ornament trees, purchased toys and provided warm winter accessories for those in need. May God Bless You for your generosity.

THANK YOU: To all those who donate food, money or time to the Ashley Food Pantry. May God Bless You for your kindness, generosity and love.

THANK YOU: A very special thank you to our Altar Servers, Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Cantors, Choir Members, Ushers, Money Counters, Members of the Councils, CCD Teachers, St. Leo Parish Festival Committee, all our Societies, Ashley Food Pantry Volunteers and all the Volunteers of our Parishes who made our parishes vibrant and alive throughout 2025. May God reward you for your devotion to serve our parishes.

THANK YOU: For the donation made to St. Leo the Great in loving memory of Bob and Caroline Cunningham and Dolores Gable Cunningham. Please remember them in your prayers.

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL: Please consider making a gift. Goal for St. Leo - \$42,544. We have raised \$15,647 to date. Goal for St. Andrew - \$19,248 and to date we have raised \$5,795. Thank you for your support!

ST. ANDREW MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Saturday, Dec. 27, 5:30 p.m.: Lector: Kim Stepanski; Extraordinary Minister: Margaret Sharksas; Altar Servers: Callie Drutchal, Helene Skopek-Krygier.

Sunday, Dec. 28, 11:00 a.m.: Lectors: Yanitsa Gonzalez, Mike Kelly; Extraordinary Minister: Lori Shovlin; Altar Servers: Joshua Gonzalez, Xander Commiso.

Thursday, January 1, 11:00 a.m.: Lector: Kathy Smith; Extraordinary Minister: TBA; Altar Server: Helene Skopek-Krygier.

Saturday, January 3, 5:30 p.m.: Lector: Steve Yenchak; Extraordinary Minister: Mesa Ashton; Altar Server: Patti Martin.

Sunday, January 4, 11:00 a.m.: Lectors: Kristi Gibson; Amin Skipinski; Extraordinary Minister: Cheryl Gibson; Altar Servers: Joshua Kioske, Helene Skopek-Krygier.

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