

The Parish Community of Saint Nicholas-Saint Mary

226 S. Washington Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701

February 1, 2026



4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter
every kind of evil against you falsely because of me. Rejoice and be
glad, for your reward will be great in heaven." - Mt 5:10-12a

"Dichosos los perseguidos por causa de la justicia,
porque de ellos es el Reino de los cielos.

Dichosos serán ustedes cuando los injurien, los persigan y digan cosas
falsas de ustedes por causa mía. Alégrense y salten de contento,
porque su premio será grande en los cielos". - Mt 5, 10-12

PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Office: 570-823-7736

Fax: 570-823-0256

Parish E-mail: snsn@parishwb.com

Parish Website: parishwb.com

St. Nicholas-St. Mary Elementary School:

Phone: 570-823-8089 Fax: 570-823-1402

St. Nicholas Federal Credit Union: 570-825-2640

Hours: Mon. 11 AM—7 PM Tues. & Thurs.: 11 AM—7 PM

Email: snfcu@snfcu.org

OFFICE HOURS The Parish Office will be open daily Monday — Friday, 9 AM 'til Noon and 1 PM until 5 PM.

PARISH WEBSITE For information, please go to our website: parishwb.com



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To learn more about online giving, check out our website at <https://stnicholasrc.weshareonline.org> or call 570-823-7736. THANK YOU to all who have forwarded contributions in support of our Parish.

SUNDAY MASS is live-streamed on Facebook on Sunday at **10:00 AM**. The Mass is posted on the homepage website and YouTube channel.

THE PASTORAL COUNCIL: Wants to hear from you! If you have Questions? Comments? Suggestions?

1. **EMAIL** us at SNSM@parishwb.com titled "ATTENTION PASTORAL COUNCIL".
 2. **SPEAK** directly with any Pastoral Council Member.
 3. **DROP A NOTE** in the collection basket titled "ATTENTION PASTORAL COUNCIL".
- (PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR NAME & PHONE NUMBER)

PARISH STAFF

Reverend Joseph D. Verespy, Pastor

Reverend Fidel Ticona, Parochial Vicar

Deacon Michael Golubiewski

**Justin DePasquale, Coordinator of Faith Formation and
The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.)**
Phone number: 570-550-2695

Ann Manganiello, Director of Music

Jason Tribbett, Principal ~ St. Nicholas-St. Mary School

Sister Anna Nguyen, SCC Social Ministries

Mary Fiske, Office Manager

Lynn Humanik, Administrative Assistant

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD



Candles will be blessed during Mass on **Monday, February 2nd** and will be available in the elevator lobby and at the Parish Office. A \$3.00 offering is requested.

THE BLESSING OF THROATS – in



honor of St. Blasé, **Tuesday, February 3rd**, a blessing will be offered at the conclusion of the 6:30 AM and 12:10 PM Masses, and also at the weekend masses on January 31st and February 1st.

"2" WEEKS AWAY! GET YOUR TICKETS!



**CELEBRATE IN STYLE WITH
YOUR FAVORITE VALENTINE!**



59TH ANNUAL "GERMAN NITE"

on Saturday, February 14th ~ "Valentine's Day"!

at St. Nicholas-St. Mary School Auditorium, doors open 5 PM



**Enjoy a German style meal
from 6:00 - 7:00 PM**
**Pork & Sauerkraut—Chicken
Francaise—Bratwurst—
Mashed Potatoes—Haluski &
Green Beans—Beer & Soda**

**Treat your Valentine
to a little bit of
Munich in Wilkes-
Barre!**

Dance the night away with live music from 7:30 PM until 10:30 PM with the band "Schnitzel". Tickets \$40.00 each (available at the Parish Office). Advanced tickets only (not sold at the door). Reserved seating available for groups of 8 or more. Call the Parish Office (570) 823-7736 (No Refunds ~ No Exchanges). (Posters available at the Parish Office).



WORLD DAY OF THE SICK MASS

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH AT 12:10 PM
at the Cathedral of St. Peter, Scranton**

Celebrant: Bishop Bambera

**CTV: Catholic Television will broadcast the mass live
Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be available.**

EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATION

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2

6:30 AM Samuel Zeto
12:10 PM Zita Cavanaugh

Req. by Family
Req. by Family

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

6:30 AM Anthony Verbyla
12:10 PM Charles J. Kosek

Req. by friends
Req. by Jackie Barkus on behalf of The Bereavement Committee

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

6:30 AM Doris English
12:10 PM Margaret Swanson

Req. by Family
Req. by The Bereavement Committee

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5

6:30 AM Keith Evan
6:00 PM (Spanish Mass)

Req. by niece

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

6:30 AM Thomas Ford
12:10 PM Robert Novak, Sr.

Req. by Brittany
Req. by wife and family

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

4:00 PM Daniel Cronen

Req. by Mr & Mrs Bernard Mengerhausen

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

8:00 AM Marie Rogers
10:00 AM Frank Oldziejewski
12:15 PM (Spanish Mass) Living and Deceased of the Parish

Req. by Cynthia and Richard Raynak
Req. by Anthony and Kelly Lofaro



SANCTUARY CANDLES



JANUARY 31ST — FEBRUARY 6TH

Church: In Memory of Dr. John Gaudio

Req. by Jane and Melissa.

Chapel: In Memory of John Swantko, Anniversary

Req. by Leona.

Convent: In Memory of Mary Callahan, Anniversary

Req. by Leona.

To request a Sanctuary Candle, the donation is \$10.00.

BREAD & WINE

To request the Bread and Wine for the weekend, the donation is \$25.00. Please call the Parish Office (570-823-7736).

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Each Monday in the Church from 5 until 6 PM. Please use the rear parking lot entrance.

GLUTEN FREE: Communion hosts/wafers that are GLUTEN FREE are available at Mass. Please speak to Father Verespy or Deacon Michael or give a call (570-823-7736)

REST IN PEACE A mass of Christian burial was celebrated this past week for Ann Dougher and Karen Nat. Our prayers go out to Ann's and Karen's family and friends. May they know the peace and consolation of the Risen Lord. May Ann and Karen rest in peace.

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 1**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Masses: 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM and 12:15 PM (Spanish)

Faith Formation Classes 11:00 AM–Noon School & Auditorium

Youth Group Vocations Night at St. Ignatius Church, Kingston, in Conlan Hall,
from 6:30–7:30 PM**MONDAY FEBRUARY 2**

Mass at 6:30 AM and 12:10 PM Chapel

St. Nicholas Federal Credit Union 11:00 AM–7:00 PM

Deadline to return Confirmation Record Forms to the Parish Office

Quilters 3:00–7:00 PM Community Room

Confessions 5:00 PM–6:00 PM Church

Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM Church

Prayer Shawl 6:00 PM–8:00 PM Community Room

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 3

Mass at 6:30 AM and 12:10 PM Chapel (Blessing of Throats)

Eucharistic Adoration 7 AM–10AM, and 2 PM–4 PM Church

Bible Study 11:00 AM–11:45 AM Rectory

St. Nicholas Federal Credit Union 11:00 AM–7:00 PM

**WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 4**

Mass at 6:30 AM and 12:10 PM Chapel

Food Pantry open from 10:00 AM–Noon Parish Office

AA 6:00 PM Community Room

Faith Formation Classes 5:30 PM–6:30 PM School & Cafeteria

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 5

Mass at 6:30 AM and 6:00 PM (Spanish) Chapel

St. Nicholas Federal Credit Union 11:00 AM–7:00 PM

Finance Council Meeting 6:30 PM Rectory

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 6

Mass 6:30 AM and 12:10 PM Chapel

Emmaus Group 6:30 PM–8:30 PM Community Room

**SATURDAY FEBRUARY 7**

Charismatic Retreat 2:00–6:00 PM Cafeteria

Vigil Mass 4:00 PM

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 8**FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Masses: 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM and 12:15 PM (Spanish)

Faith Formation Classes 11:00 AM–Noon School & Auditorium

Youth Group “Mardi Gras Party” School Gym 7:00 PM–8:00 PM

WEEKEND OF FEBRUARY 7TH & 8TH

Mass	Altar Servers	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors
4 PM		Marion Smith Patricia Donnelly	Robert Gawlas Joseph Janc
8 AM	Julia Gallagher	Terri Nowak Sr. Anna Nguyen	Liz Kaminski Jacqueline Barkus
10 AM	Sean McCaffrey Tim Lettier	Leona Luongo Charlie Revitt	Rich Burns Bill Thornton

**THE PARISH COMMUNITY OF
ST. NICHOLAS - ST. MARY
WEEKLY OFFERING JANUARY 18TH:**

Sunday Offering:	9,117.50
Loose:	2,072.15
Christmas:	345.00
Monthly Membership/Dues:	2,322.50
Utilities/Heat:	278.00
Cemetery:	260.00
Other:	284.00
Total Offering:	14,679.15

PARISH FINANCIAL NEWS:

Envelopes by the Numbers... Last week we talked about how using envelopes helps the parish plan responsibly and keep accurate records of our parishioner base. We are fortunate to have 2,230 families / households totaling 5,308 parishioners registered. (Of course, there are folks who regularly attend our parish who are not registered, which is a topic for another day).

When our parish was born (October 7, 2023) a letter was sent to all registered parishioners of both St. Nicholas and Our Lady of Fatima parishes, saying that it would be assumed that, unless we heard from you, all would automatically belong to the new parish of St Nicholas – St Mary and indeed, a relatively few number of folks contacted us, letting us know they would be joining another parish, which leads us to this situation:

Of these 2,230 families, 1,898 receive offertory envelope packets through the mail. Of this total, 267 households, regularly receiving envelopes, are not using them at all!

What's up? Some possible explanations:

- For some these are very challenging financial times. For right now, the parish offering must be put on hold. Completely understandable.
- You've joined another parish and didn't let us know. (Of course, that means you've been throwing the envelopes in the garbage for two years!)

So, the bottom line – what's the point of all this? As the “dust has settled” it seems time to see who is with us and who has moved on (and envelopes can help us do that) so that we can plan for the future and be reminded that each of us, as best we can, have the responsibility to build the Kingdom of God with our time, talent, and treasure in the parish of St. Nicholas – St. Mary.

OPEN HOUSE

**ST. NICHOLAS-ST. MARY SCHOOL
OPEN HOUSE HAS BEEN
RE-SCHEDULED TO SUNDAY,
FEBRUARY 1ST, FROM 2 - 4 PM.**

For more info., please call the school at 570-823-8089.



PARISH MEETINGS

YOUTH GROUP VOCATIONS NIGHT on Sunday, February 1st, at St. Ignatius Church, Kingston, at Conlan Hall, from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM. For more information, please email: SNSMyouthgroup@gmail.com. All Are Welcome!

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY on Monday, February 2nd, from 6:00-8:00 PM, in the Community Room.

FINANCE COUNCIL MEETING on Thursday, February 5th, at 6:30 PM, in the Rectory.

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING on Tuesday, February 10th, at 6:30 PM, in the Rectory.

YOUTH GROUP ACTIVITIES:

FEB. 1ST—Vocations Night At. St. Ignatius, Kingston

FEB. 8TH—Mardi Gras Party! School Gym, 7-8 PM

FEB. 22ND—Meeting, 7-8 PM, Community Room

Find us on Facebook: St. Nicholas-St. Mary Youth Group WB; email: SNSMyouthgroup@gmail.com and Instagram: snsmyouth_group_wb



Is open every Wednesday, at The Parish Office from 10:00 AM—Noon. Two forms of ID are required (one being a photo ID). Food items needed are: jelly, instant mashed potatoes, canned carrots and canned pasta. Food can be dropped off at the Parish Office or in the container in the elevator lobby.

WEEKEND **MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

is being prepared for the months of **March through June**. Please send any changes or unavailable dates to the Parish Office or email to snsched1@gmail.com by Sunday, February 8th.



Please call the Parish Office (570-823-7736) to request a financial statement for the year 2025.

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON Will sponsor a “XLT Holy Hour” which includes Reconciliation, Eucharistic Adoration, Live Music and snacks at St. Maria Goretti Parish, Laflin on **February 5th, at 7:00 PM**. “Youth and Young Adults” of the Parish are invited and encouraged to attend this Holy Hour.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

CONFIRMATION CLASS REMINDER:

Monday, February 2nd, is the DEADLINE to return Confirmation Record Forms. Please return your Record Form to the Parish Office. Thank you for your cooperation.

RETREAT: First Holy Communion Classes (receiving in May 2026): Attention Parents of students in the second/final year of preparation: Retreat Day for the 1st Holy Communion students and their parents is **Saturday, February 21st, from 10 AM to 12 PM**. Students gather in the Community Room at 10am, while the parents gather upstairs in the main Church. After some activities students join their parents in the Church. In the event that severe winter weather, the make-up day will be one week later on Saturday, February 28th, according to the same time schedule, etc.

Thank you, Justin D., FFC Co-Ordinator.

ASH WEDNESDAY AND FAITH FORMATION NEWS:

Attention Wednesday Evening FFC students and Parents: On **Ash Wednesday, February 18th**, we are requesting that our Wednesday students please report to the cafeteria a half an hour earlier, at 5:00 PM. We will gather early on this evening so as to take attendance and then we will go over to the main Church with our teachers so as to participate in the Mass and receive Ashes on our foreheads. When Mass concludes we will return to the cafeteria for our dismissal. (Parents are most welcome to take part in this Mass).

Thank you, Justin D., FFC Co-Ordinator.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to LIVE



STREAM the weekly 10 AM Mass. Surely there are some folks out there who could spare an hour a month or two or three so that folks at home could stay connected by viewing Mass celebrated at their parish church via live streaming. It's a simple procedure and the training would be provided. Please give us a call (570-823-7736).

ST. NICHOLAS FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

KEEP IN TOUCH Speaking of loans...if you are having a problem keeping up with the requirements of your loan contract, give us a call--stop in to talk to us — do not just ignore your responsibility. We can help; we know things happens!



Entre Semana:
Los jueves a las 6:00pm

Fin de Semanas:
Domingos: 12:15pm

¡SE NECESITAN CONTRATISTAS!



La Commission on Economic Opportunity (CEO) está buscando contratistas adicionales para realizar trabajos residenciales en viviendas del Condado de Luzerne bajo el Programa de Reparaciones Integrales del Hogar (Whole Home Repairs Program). ¡No pierda esta oportunidad de trabajo constante y pagos puntuales!

Para más información, comuníquese hoy mismo con Joe Calore en CEO al 570-288-8458 ext. 424.

LA BENDICIÓN DE GARGANTAS



Cada año, el 3 de febrero en memoria de San Blas, tenemos la bendición de gargantas. El martes 3 de febrero se habrá la bendición de las gargantas después de las 6:30am y 12:10 pm. fin de semana del 31 y 1 de febrero se solo se ofrecerá la bendición general al final de cada misa.

LA PRESENTACIÓN DEL SEÑOR



El 2 de febrero es la Fiesta de la Presentación del Señor. Las velas serán bendecidas durante la Misa del 2 de febrero y estarán disponibles en la salida de la iglesia por donde esta el ascensor y en la Rectoría durante los horariod de oficina. Costo: \$3.00.

ACTIVIDADES DEL GRUPO JUVENIL

- **1 DE FEBRERO:** Noche de Vocaciones en St. Ignatius, Kingston
 - **8 DE FEBRERO:** ¡Fiesta de Mardi Gras! Gimnasio de la escuela, 19:00-20:00
 - **22 DE FEBRERO:** Reunión, 19:00-20:00, Sala Comunitaria
- Encuétranos en Facebook: St. Nicholas-St. Mary Youth Group WB; correo electrónico: SNSMyouthgroup@gmail.com y Instagram: snsm_youth_group_wb

BAUTISMO DE NIÑOS



Los bautismos se realizan todos los **primeros sábados de cada mes** a las 12 del medio día y la **charla de preparación** para los papás y los padrinos es **cada 2 meses**. La próxima charla de preparación está programada para el **domingo 26 de abril del 2026** después de la misa de las 12:00 pm en el sótano de la iglesia para los Bautismos de **Sábado 9 de mayo y 6 de junio del 2026**.

Nota: Todos los **niños mayores de 6 años** de edad deben ir al programa de catecismo. Una vez que inician el catecismo ya se puede programar el bautismo.



Te invitamos al curso "Comprender la Biblia y el Plan de Dios",

Se lleva acabo todos los Domingo.

Lugar: Cafetería de la escuela.

Hora: 11:00 a.m. ¡Habrà café y donas para compartir! Trae tu Biblia, tu cuaderno. ¡Te esperamos!

ESTADO FINANCIERO 2025



Si usted necesita recibir su estado financiero de sus aportes a la Iglesia para hacer sus taxes, por favor comuníquese con la oficina parroquial o con Padre Fidel y nosotros gustosamente les enviáremos por correo. El informe de sus aportes estará disponible a partir del 30 de enero del 2026. Estamos infinitamente agradecidos por su generosidad con nuestra Iglesia, sin su apoyo no podemos continuar con nuestra misión como Iglesia. Mil gracias.

RETIRO ESPIRITUAL PARROQUIAL

La Parroquia invita a toda la comunidad a participar en nuestro **Retiro Espiritual Parroquial**, un espacio de encuentro personal con Dios, de silencio, reflexión y renovación interior.

Fecha: 31 de enero del 2026.

Hora: 2:00pm—6:00pm

Lugar: Cafeteria de la Iglesia.

Invitado especial: Padre Rafel Munoz De Leon de la Diocesis de la Vega, Republica Dominicana.

No se lo pierda.



ADORACIÓN AL SANTÍSIMO

Los martes estará abierta la capilla de la iglesia para la Adoración al Santísimo Sacramento desde las 7 am a las 10 am y de las 2 pm a las 4 pm.

CONFESIONES



Hay confesiones todos los **lunes de 5 a 6 pm** en la iglesia St. Nicholas **en español. Si usted no puede asistir en esos horarios llamar a la oficina para sacar una cita al 570-823-7736.**

ST. NICHOLAS-ST. MARY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Debido al mal tiempo, la jornada de puertas abiertas se ha pospuesto al domingo 1 de febrero, de 14:00 a 16:00. Para obtener más información o si tiene alguna pregunta, llame a la escuela al (570-823-8089).

CLASE DE CONFIRMACIÓN:

El lunes 2 de febrero es la fecha límite para entregar los formularios de registro de Confirmación. Por favor, entreguen su formulario en la oficina parroquial. Gracias por su colaboración.

RETIRO

Para los que reciban su Primera Comunión en mayo de 2026

Atención padres de los estudiantes del segundo/ último año de preparación: El día de retiro para los estudiantes de Primera Comunión y sus padres será el sábado 21 de febrero, de 10:00 a 12:00. Los estudiantes se reunirán en la sala comunitaria a las 10:00, mientras que los padres se reunirán en la iglesia principal, en la planta superior. Después de algunas actividades, los estudiantes se unirán a sus padres en la iglesia. En caso de que las inclemencias del tiempo obliguen a cancelar esta fecha, la fecha alternativa será una semana después, el sábado 28 de febrero, en el mismo horario.

REUNIONES SEMANALES

- **Renovación Carismática:** Los miércoles a las 7:00p.m.
- **Movimiento de Cursillo:** Los jueves después de la misa de las 6:00p.m.
- **Grupo de Emaús:** Los viernes a las 6:30p.m.

NOTICIAS FINANCIERAS:

Sobres de ofrenda en cifras... La semana pasada hablamos de cómo el uso de sobres ayuda a la parroquia a planificar de forma responsable y a mantener registros precisos de nuestros feligreses. Tenemos la suerte de contar con 2230 familias/hogares, lo que suma un total de 5308 feligreses registrados. (Aquí no está incluido personas que asisten regularmente a nuestra parroquia pero no están registradas).

De estas 2230 familias, 1898 reciben paquetes de sobres de ofrenda por correo. De este total, ¡267 hogares que reciben sobres regularmente **no los están utilizando en absoluto!** ¿Qué sucede? Algunas posibles explicaciones:

- Para algunos, estos son tiempos económicamente difíciles. Por ahora, la ofrenda parroquial debe posponerse. Eso es completamente comprensible.
- Se han unido a otra parroquia y no nos lo han comunicado. (¡Por supuesto, eso significa que han estado tirando los sobres a la basura durante dos años!).

En resumen, **¿cuál es el propósito de todo esto?** Ahora que la situación se ha estabilizado, **parece oportuno saber quiénes siguen con nosotros y quiénes se han marchado** (y los sobres pueden ayudarnos a averiguarlo) para que podamos planificar el futuro y recordar que cada uno de nosotros, en la medida de nuestras posibilidades, tenemos la responsabilidad de construir el Reino de Dios con nuestro tiempo, talento y recursos en la parroquia de San Nicolás-Santa María.

PALABRA DE VIDA 1 DE FEBRERO

“Una sociedad es tanto más humana cuanto más sabe cuidar a sus miembros frágiles y que más sufren, y sabe hacerlo con eficiencia animada por el amor fraterno. Caminemos hacia esta meta, procurando que nadie se quede solo, que nadie se sienta excluido ni abandonado.”

TALLER SOBRE FINANZAS

El domingo 15 de febrero tendremos un taller sobre educación financiera; cuentas de ahorro, tarjetas de crédito, prestamos, cómo Subir el Puntaje de Credito, etc.

Lugar: Salón de la Comunidad

Hora: 1-30pm—2:30pm

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