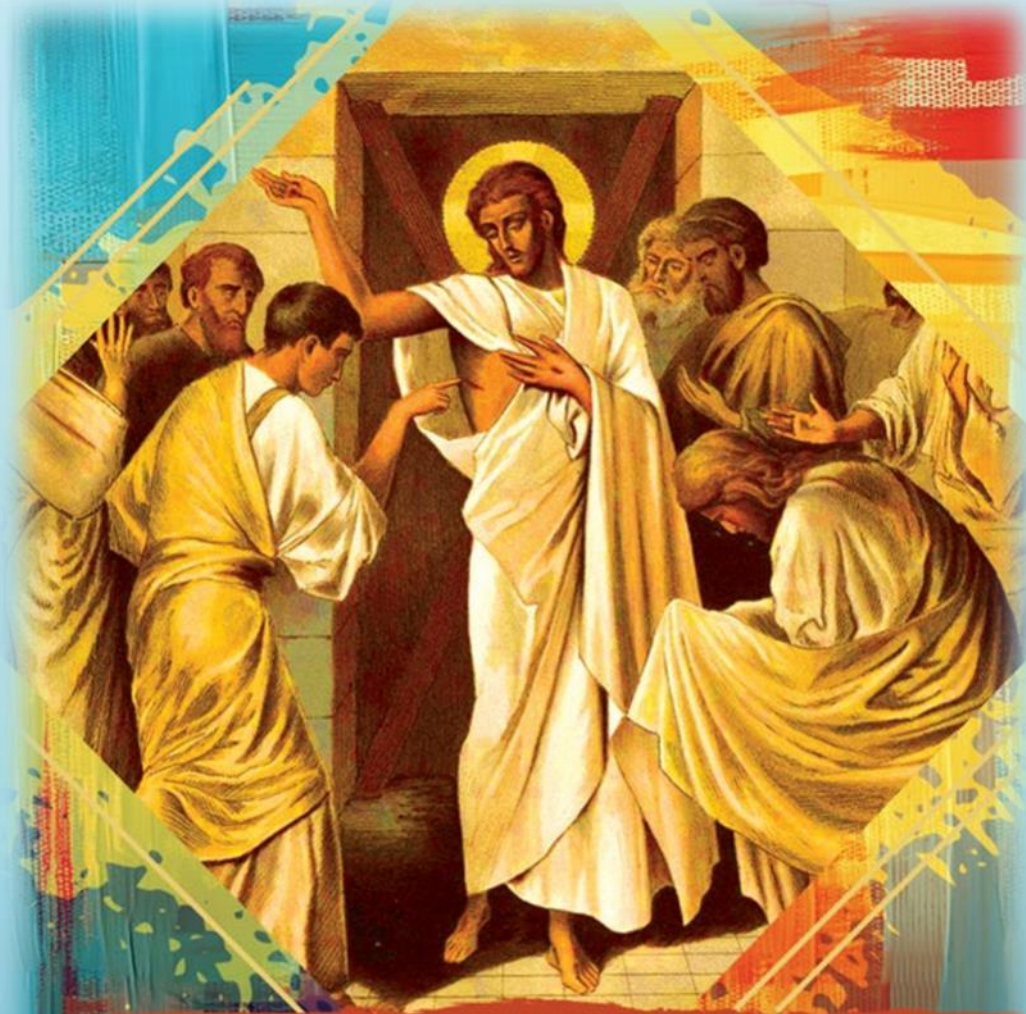




# ST. PAUL PARISH

*Second Sunday of Easter*  
April 7, 2023



## 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER (SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY)

“Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe.” - Jn 20: 27

### ST. PAUL CHURCH

Mon.-Sat. 8:00 a.m.- Daily Mass  
Saturday 4:30 p.m.– Vigil Mass  
Sunday 8a.m. & 10:30a.m.

### ST. CLARE CHURCH

Eucharistic Adoration & Rosary  
Monday-Friday 3:30p.m.-4:30p.m.  
Rosary begins at 3:45 p.m.

**Rev. Mon. Neil J. Van Loon, V.F., Pastor**  
Deacon John A. Hanni

**St. Paul Staff**

Rita Cicco - Director of Religious Education

Robert Fitzsimmons - Sacristan

Eugene Mentz - Director of Liturgical Music

Marci Stevens-Scanlon - Administrative Assistant

Phoebe Wilson - Operations Manager



## St. Paul Parish

### "God's Love Unites Us" Program

Over the next few weeks, you will be hearing about the upcoming "God's Love Unites Us" Program at St. Paul Parish. This effort is very

important as we move forward with the mission

and vision of St. Paul Parish. We, as a parish family, have changed so many lives in our community! In order to continue our mission and ministries, we encourage all parishioners to spend time in prayer and discussion with your family reflecting on the work we do. Our special Commitment Weekend will be celebrated on May 4 & 5. If you have any questions regarding the "God's Love Unites Us" Program, please feel free to contact the parish office.

#### **St. Paul Church**

Corner of Penn Avenue  
and Marion Street,  
Scranton, PA 18509

#### **St. Paul Rectory**

1510 Penn Ave.,  
Scranton, PA 18509

Phone: 570-961-1549

Fax: 570-961-0335

Office Hours: Mon-Fri

8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

#### **MASS SCHEDULE**

**CONFESSIONS- Sat.-4pm**

8 am Mass ~ Mon.-Sat.

4:30 Mass ~ Sat. (Vigil)

8 am & 10:30 am ~ Sun

#### **St. Clare Church**

2235 N. Washington Ave.

Adoration and Rosary

Monday ~ Friday

3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Rosary at 3:45 p.m.

#### **FOOD PANTRY**

FRIDAYS: 3pm ~ 4:30 pm

St. Clare Church Basement

#### **JOIN US FOR MASS**

Join us on Facebook at St.  
Paul's Parish for our  
live-streaming of the  
Celebration of Mass.

[info@stpaulscranton.org](mailto:info@stpaulscranton.org)

Facebook ~ Saint Paul's

Parish Scranton

[www.stpaulscranton.org](http://www.stpaulscranton.org)

#### **Sacrament of Baptism**

All first time parents are  
asked to attend  
a baptismal preparation  
meeting prior  
to the Baptism.

Please call the parish  
office to schedule dates.

#### **Sacrament of Matrimony**

A meeting with the  
parish priest should  
precede all other  
wedding plans. Contact  
the parish  
office at least six months  
before  
date of the intended  
marriage.

#### **Sacrament of Holy Anointing**

All who are seriously  
sick, hospitalized,  
or having surgery can  
receive this sacrament.  
Please call the rectory  
if you wish to be  
anointed.

#### **Sponsor Cards**

Sponsor cards for  
Baptism or Confirmation  
will be issued to  
parishioners who attend  
Mass regularly;  
are Baptized and  
Confirmed Catholics;  
are married in  
conformity with the  
laws of the Church.



## ST. PAUL MASS INTENTIONS

### SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Saturday, April 6 Vigil: Second Sunday of Easter

4:30 p.m. † Edwin Burkhouse (Ellen & Barbara Burkhouse)

Sunday, April 7 Second Sunday of Easter

8:00 a.m. † Gene Pidich, Mary Ellen, William & Regina Haggerty (Regina Pidich)

10:30 a.m. † Evely Family (Peggy O'Keefe)

Monday, April 8 The Annunciation of the Lord

8:00 a.m. † Damian Flasser (Joanne Ratchford & Family)

Tuesday, April 9 Easter Weekday

8:00 a.m. † Nicole Haddix (Joanne Ratchford & Family)

Wednesday, April 10 Easter Weekday

8:00 a.m. † Theresa Iffland (Mike & Libby Donohue)

Thursday, April 11 St. Stanislaus

8:00 a.m. † Marian & Dr. Joseph Demko (Eugene Mentz)

Friday, April 12 Easter Weekday

8:00 a.m. † Maryanne Donohue (Joe & Family)

Saturday, April 13 Vigil: Third Sunday of Easter

8:00 a.m. † Timothy Kapp (Family)

4:30 p.m. † Fr. Paul Cottone & Alice Cottone (Family)

Sunday, April 14 Third Sunday of Easter

8:00 a.m. † Lindsay Doherty (Family)

10:30 a.m. † Margaret M. Maines (Family)

## REMEMBERED AT THE ALTAR:

### St. Paul's Sanctuary Candle

In Loving Memory of:

† Isabelle Breslin

With Love From:

Alcia Dougherty

### St. Paul's St. Joseph Candle

In Loving Memory of:

† Maureen Siciliano

With Love From:

Aunt, Joan

### St. Paul's Marian Candle

† Margaret M. Maines

With Love From:

Family

### St. Paul's Wine and Host

† Ned Holmes



**Food Pantry Hours: Fridays 3-4:30pm**

**Food Pantry Volunteers for Friday April 12**

*U of S Students, Noreen Roland & Barbara Burkhouse*

## 2024 Wedding

### Anniversary Mass

His Excellency, the Most

Reverend Joseph C. Bambera,

D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of

Scranton, and the Office for Parish Life wish to

invite couples celebrating their **25th or 50th**

wedding anniversary in 2024 to a diocesan

Wedding Anniversary Mass on **Sunday, June**

**23rd**. The event includes a **2:30 PM mass at**

**the Cathedral of Saint Peter followed by a**

**reception. The registration deadline for this**

**event is May 26, 2024.** To register, please go

to <https://www.dioceseofscranton.org> or contact

Bridget Guarnieri (570-207-2213 x 1133 or

[familylife@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:familylife@dioceseofscranton.org).

A sincere thank you to everyone who donated to our Lenten Food Drive this year. With food pantry needs increasing— your contributions were so very needed and appreciated! So many people took the time to shop for just what was most needed at our pantry and it is truly heartwarming to see the level of compassion this Lent. ♥

## RECENTLY DECEASED

Please pray for the repose of the souls of those recently deceased. May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the Mercy of God, rest in peace!



## An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, And I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.



## SAVE THE DATE

**First Holy Communion:**

Saturday May 4th–10am

**Confirmation:**

Sunday May 19th–12pm



***Easter Sunday***  
**Offertory: \$ 4,728.00**  
**Online: \$ 3,699.00**  
**Easter Offering: \$10,811.00**



**RECENTLY BAPTIZED:**  
**Joseph Kimble**, child David & Stephanie,  
 has recently received the sacrament of  
 baptism at St. Paul Parish.  
**We welcome Joseph to our parish community!**



## FROM THE CATECHISM

### *Mercy & Sin* (Para 1846-1850)

What is God's most amazing quality?

Surely it must be His enormous mercy toward sinners.

This mercy is revealed in the Gospel through Jesus Christ.

Jesus' very Name means salvation for sinners, says the *Catechism*.

The Eucharist is the Sacrament of redemption.

There is a condition to God's mercy, however, and that is our knowledge and admission that we indeed have sinned and are in need of His mercy.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, the Gospel of John reminds us. But if we confess our guilt, God will mercifully cleanse us of all unrighteousness.

Pope St. John Paul II asserted that "conversion requires convincing of sin."

So, just as a physician must probe a wound before treating it, God through His Word and His Spirit casts a living light on sin.

But along with the sting of conscience comes the salve of the certainty of redemption, so the Holy Spirit is both surgeon and consoler. -Peggy Stanton, DM



JESUS I TRUST IN YOU!  
**IT'S DIVINE  
 MERCY SUNDAY!**  
 "The soul that will go to  
 confession  
 and receive Holy Communion  
 shall obtain complete forgiveness  
 of sins and punishment!"  
 - Our Lord to St. Faustina (Diary 699)

### How is the Divine Mercy Devotion Linked to the Scripture Readings for the Second Sunday of Easter?

The Divine Mercy image depicts Jesus at the moment he appears to the disciples in the Upper Room, after the Resurrection, when he empowers them to forgive or retain sins.

The Feast of Divine Mercy is a Catholic feast day that is celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter.

Divine Mercy Sunday focuses on the gift of mercy and love given through Christ's death, burial, and resurrection.

It was established by Pope John Paul II in 2000, and it is based on the revelations of Saint Faustina Kowalska.

He said to Sister Faustina, "I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and a shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy."

"No one who comes to Me shall ever be hungry, no one who believes in Me shall ever thirst. No one who comes will I ever reject" (Jn. 6:35-37).

**Notice Regarding Reporting Sexual Abuse of a Minor:** It is the policy of the Diocese of Scranton to report any allegation of sexual abuse of a minor to law enforcement. If you are a victim of sexual abuse committed by a priest, deacon, religious or lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton, you are encouraged to immediately report the matter to law enforcement. If any priest, deacon, religious, lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton has cause or reason to suspect that a minor has been subjected to any form of abuse, including child sexual abuse, the matter will be reported to law enforcement. In accordance with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Child Protective Services Laws, reports of suspected child abuse should also be made immediately by phone to the 24-Hour Child Abuse hotline (ChildLine) at 1-800-932-0313 or you may contact them electronically at [www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis](http://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis). It is also the policy of the Diocese to adhere to all civil and state regulations. To this end, the Diocese is equally committed to adhering to the norms of the Code of Canon Law and to upholding the tenets of the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, which includes supporting victims of sexual abuse in their pursuit of emotional and spiritual well-being. As such, information regarding an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor should also be reported to the Victim Assistance Coordinator, Mary Beth Pacuska at (570-862-7551).



# Liturgical Life

## (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

### Written in the Wounds

For all the condemnation Thomas the Doubter has received in 2000 years of homilies, I think there's something to admire in him.

Thomas is not unique. We all waver at some point, overcome by hesitation, distracted by the clamor of the world which seeks at every turn to shout above the whisper of the divine.

Thomas knows what he saw on Good Friday: his friend nailed to a cross, a sword driven through his body. He saw the blood and the water. He saw these things with his own eyes, eyes given to him by God, eyes which have never failed him before. And God doesn't ask us to suspend reality to believe in Him. He only asks us to be discerning about how that reality is interpreted in our hearts.

Thomas knows the man before him is either a fraud, preying on the hopes and anxieties of the traumatized disciples, or he is the Christ, the Savior of the world, accomplisher of impossible things. But where to look, to tell the difference?

Satan once appeared to the great mystic saint, Teresa of Avila, disguised as Jesus. She knew instantly that he was a fraud. Enraged, he demanded to know where his deception had failed. "You have no wounds," she told him simply.

Could we have accepted a savior who did not bleed? I don't think we could, because sooner or later, we would all stand before him and say, "Here is where the world hurt me. Here, and here, and here. What about you?" Christ can point to his hands, his feet, his side. "Here, and here, and here," he can say. "And I overcame them all."

It's the wounds, you see. The truth is in the wounds.

*Thomas answered and said to him,  
"My Lord and my God!" — John 20:28*

- Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

## Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

### Question:

After a civil divorce, is a Catholic obligated to pursue an annulment?

### Answer:

Many Catholics are not exactly sure what an annulment does. An annulment does not deny that a marriage took place, nor does it deny that there once was love. It does not mean that people say anything untrue, such as they never loved each other or that everything in their marriage was wrong. An annulment does not negate children, nor make them illegitimate. An annulment addresses the spiritual aspect of marriage. In effect, an annulment says that at the time of the wedding, there was either something present or something absent that prevented the sacrament from taking place. It is a spiritual determination that, if granted in the affirmative, allows a person to marry in the Church.

Annulments have no legal standing and are unable to be used in a civil court. Therefore, a Catholic has no moral obligation to pursue an annulment. However, when the tragedy of divorce occurs, and there is no hope for reconciliation, annulments may help bring some spiritual closure to a person's life. Some people have found the process to be healing and others have found it to be difficult. Speak to your priest or a member of the Diocesan Tribunal staff to decide what is best for you.



# EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Sponsored by the Diocesan Vocations Office



Thursday,  
May 2nd

7:00 PM

St. Maria Goretti Church  
42 Redwood Drive - Laflin

**SPEAKER, RECONCILIATION,  
AND SOCIAL.**

LIVE MUSIC BY JOEL KANKIEWICZ



# Earth Day

Saturday, April 20 | 11AM-3PM

McDade Park, 1 Bald Mountain Rd, Scranton  
Pavilion #2

Join us for a pre-event  
cleanup from 9am to 11am!

Registration is required for those who wish to participate in the clean-up.

Register at: [www.sierraclub.org/pennsylvania/upcoming-outings](http://www.sierraclub.org/pennsylvania/upcoming-outings)



Stop by for arts and crafts with local artists, music, and to interact with local organizations and businesses!



@Lackawanna County Environmental Office

## Diocese of Scranton DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL



**Every donation counts!!**  
*If you have not yet pledged, please...*  
**Help us reach our Annual Appeal Parish Goal!**

**OUR PARISH IS AT  
65% OF OUR \$66,000 goal**  
*Our parish is reimbursed 75% for  
any gifts made to the Appeal in  
excess of our Appeal goal.*



### Alhambra Caravan #4 slates dinner dance for Special Olympians

Local caravan Alhambra #4, Order of Alhambra is hosting a Spring Dinner Dance for Special Olympics bowlers and their families on Wednesday, May 1 on the campus of King's College, Sheehy-Farmer Campus Center: Snyder Room, 3rd floor. Address: 133 North Franklin St, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711 (Parking available in lot A).

All are invited to attend the gala which will be held from 5-8pm. Plated dinner includes: fruit salad cup, breaded chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans & apple pie for dessert. Coffee, tea, lemonade and soda will be provided.

Musical entertainment will feature Jester Entertainment.

Cost: \$35.00 each. Reservations, including guests' names and check payable to Alhambra Caravan #4 are required by April 18. Remit to: Alhambra Caravan #4, 17 English St. West Wyoming, PA 18644. For more info contact Ada Magni at 570-693-1338.

The Order of Alhambra was founded in 1904 and is a Catholic fraternal organization dedicated to assisting the intellectually disabled. Alhambra members meet on the 2nd Wednesday of the month on the campus of King's College in Wilkes-Barre.

UNITED NEIGHBORHOOD CENTERS  
of Northeastern Pennsylvania  
*designer purse*  
**BINGO**  
presenting sponsor **grimm**  
construction inc.

FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 2024  
HOLY CROSS HIGH SCHOOL, DUNMORE

For tickets and sponsorships:  
[uncnepa.org/bingo](http://uncnepa.org/bingo)