Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

Reverend Michael S. McCormick, Pastor

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 29, 2023

800 Mulberry Street, Montoursville, PA 17754
(570) 368-8598 **Fax: (570) 368-2912**
E-mail: parishoffice@ourladyoflourdesrcc.org
Website: www.ourladyoflourdesmontoursville.org
Facebook—Our Lady of Lourdes Montoursville

Mass Schedule
Saturday Vigil ~ 4:00 p.m.
Sunday ~ 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday-
Friday ~ 9:00 a.m.
Thursday ~ no daily Mass

Adoration
Monday ~ 6:00 p.m. ~ 7:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Baptism
Baptismal instruction offered at 7:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of every month. Call the office to register.

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Friday ~ 5:00 ~ 6:00 p.m.
Saturday ~ 3:00 ~ 3:30 p.m.
Anytime by appointment.

Sacrament of Marriage
Arranged at least six months in advance

Pastoral Care of the Sick
Notify the parish office whenever someone ill, hospitalized, or homebound wishes to receive Communion.

RCIA
Mondays ~ 7:00 p.m.

Parish Membership
New parishioners are always welcome
Please call the parish office to register.

Knights of Columbus
Council 14329

Parish Council
Rita Clayton
Deb Steinbacher
Paul Moerschbacher
Jamie Wieder
Mary Etta Legarski
Sharon O'Malley
Keith Kuzio
Colleen Brown
Kaycie Gerrity
Lydia Baylor

Parish Office Hours
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday: 9:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.
Thursday—OFFICE CLOSED
Friday: 9:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven. *Matthew 5:12*

Mission Statement

We are a Christian Community rooted in Word and Sacrament striving to fulfill our Baptismal commitment by following the example and teaching of Christ. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we endeavor to pass on our faith, through the Roman Catholic Tradition, to the next generation for the greater glory of God.

From the Pastor's Desk

To Love & Serve Jesus Christ

Dear Parish Family and Friends,

The Gospel this weekend is the Beatitudes. These eight Beatitudes are part of a larger sermon given by Jesus called the Sermon on the Mount. This was a discourse on the law of Moses, and was meant to show all people that it was impossible to fulfill all of the law, and that we must approach God to ask for mercy and grace that became available through the sacrifice that Jesus made on the Cross. What a glorious reminder to all of us of the blessings our Lord gives to those who follow His Son.

This weekend we are participating in our program To Love and Serve Jesus Christ by offering all in the parish an opportunity to assist in our mission and ministries here at Our Lady of Lourdes. As a faith-filled community, each of us is making a covenant with God to support our parish. Let us together ask God to pour forth His blessings upon our parish, our community and all those in need.

Last week I mentioned how blessed we are as a parish as I enumerated all the activities and ministries we offer. Those numbers, which are found in the pamphlet, *To Love and Serve Jesus Christ*, are only a small part of the blessings God has given us. Although to some, talking about donating to your parish is a private matter, we do have the responsibility to remind people from time to time that we depend on you to make our ministry and services possible through your time, talent and treasures.

You should have received the commitment card and the beautiful pamphlet in the mail this past week. If you have not, please contact the office and/or provide your address when we fill out the commitment cards at Mass this weekend. Let us all work and pray together to keep Our Lady of Lourdes a viable, growing and effective parish as we proclaim the Gospel and live for Christ Jesus.

Joyfully Yours,

Fr. Michael

Holy Hour with Bishop Bambera

On Wednesday, March 8, we will be honored to host Bishop Bambera for the Deanery Holy Hour. The hour will include Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Vespers (Evening Prayer), Adoration, Benediction and Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Please mark your calendars for March 8 at 7:00 p.m. and join us in a quiet time of prayer and reflection in Lent with our Bishop.

Deanery Wide Lenten Holy Hours

7:00 p.m. in all locations

February 23—St. Rose of Lima, Carbondale
February 28—Most Holy Trinity, Cresco
March 8
Our Lady of Lourdes
Montoursville
March 9—SS Peter & Paul, Towanda
March 13—St. Robert Bellarmine, Wilkes-Barre
March 14—Mary, Mother of God, Scranton
March 20—St. Gregory, Clarks Green
March 22—Corpus Christi, West Pittston
March 23—SS Cyril & Methodius, Hazleton
March 27—Queen of Peace, Hawley
March 28—SS Anthony & Rocco, Dunmore
March 29—St. John the Baptist, Larksville

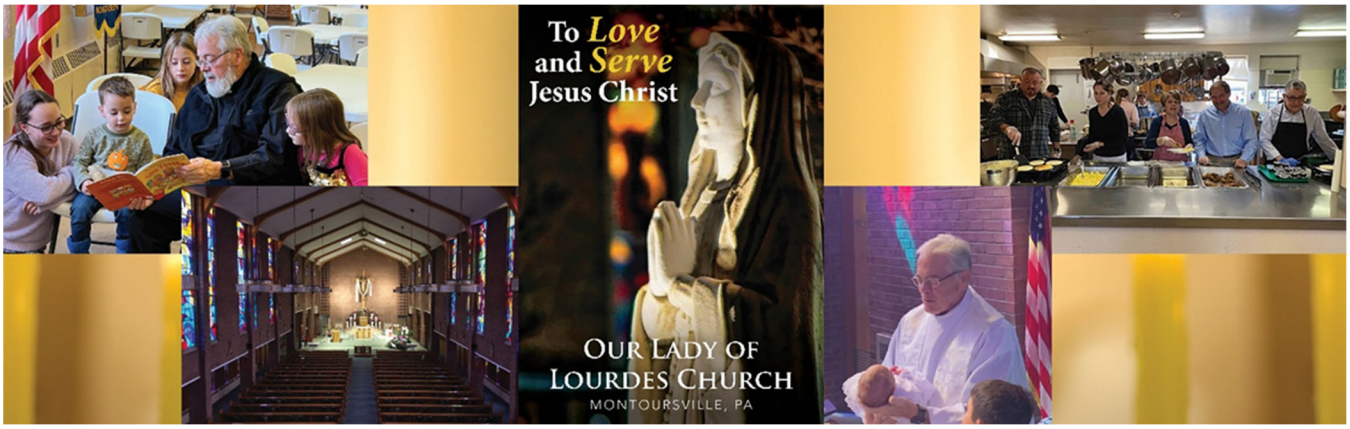
January is dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus

To Love and Serve Jesus Christ

Thank you for celebrating Commitment Sunday with us this weekend. Your commitment to our parish through our "To Love and Serve Jesus Christ" Program will continue to bring life to our community.

If completing your Commitment was not possible at Mass, you may visit our parish website at https://www.ourladyoflourdesmontoursville.org/ and complete an electronic Commitment Card or you can mail your card to the church.

Our goal is 100% participation! Thank you for your generosity and support of Our Lady of Lourdes Church!



2022 Tax Statements Now Available

Tax statements for contributions to Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in 2022 are now available. Please call the church office to have one sent to you.

Knights of Columbus Clam Chowder Sale

The Knights of Columbus Council No. 14329 will be selling clam chowder on ***Ash Wednesday, February 22***, after the 9:00 a.m. Mass, after 12:00 ashes distribution, and after 6:00 p.m., while supplies last. Please support our Knights as they support the parish.

Spaghetti Dinner

OUR LADY OF LOURDES
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2023
5:00 P.M. ~ 7:00 P.M.
PICKUP IN THE CHURCH HALL

Take Outs Only

DINNER TO INCLUDE:
SPAGHETTI AND HOMEMADE MEATBALLS, DINNER SALAD
BREAD/BUTTER & DESSERT

*TICKETS AVAILABLE IN CHURCH OFFICE
BEGINNING JANUARY 16
ADULTS ~ $12.00
CHILDREN ~ $5.00 (AGES 10 & UNDER)

Community

This Week at Our Lady of Lourdes

~Sunday, January 29
Religious Ed ~ Grades 1-8 ~ 9:00 a.m.
~ Monday, January 30
Holy Hour ~ 6:00 p.m.
Confessions ~ 6:00 p.m.
~ Thursday, February 2
Candlemas Mass ~ 9:00 a.m.
Choir practice 6:30 p.m. ~ choir loft
~ Friday, February 3
Blessing of Throats at 9:00 a.m. Mass
Confessions ~ 5:00-6:00 p.m.
~ Saturday, February 4
First Saturday Mass & Devotions ~ 9:00 a.m.
Spaghetti Dinner ~ 5:00-7:00 p.m.
~ Sunday, February 5
Religious Ed ~ Grades 1-8 ~ 9:00 a.m.

Blessing & Commissioning of Parish Pastoral Council

This month a Blessing and Commissioning of Parish Pastoral Council members took place at the 10:30 a.m. Mass. A special thank you and welcome was given to new members, Colleen Brown, Kaycie Gerrity, and Lydia Baylor. At the February meeting new members will be joining our existing Council members, Rita Clayton, Deb Steinbacher, Paul Moerschbacher, Jamie Wieder, Mary Legarski, Sharon O'Malley and Keith Kuzio to discuss the pastoral planning initiative.

We also thank the outgoing members, Wendy Bonus, Bob Nolan and Russell Gombosi, for their service to the parish via the Parish Pastoral Council.

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.

It is also the policy of the Diocese to adhere to all civil and state regulations. 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 electronically at www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis . 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.

Ministry Corner

Chemical Abortion
By Deb Steinbacher

In the interest of brevity, because this topic requires a very long discussion for which we do not have the space, chemical abortion involves obtaining an abortion through the use of two medications, as opposed to surgical abortions. The problem with this, as has been pointed out by Bonnie Finnerty of the PA Pro-Life Federation in a Jan. 16 article, is that chemical abortion is being touted as safe by two Philadelphia OB/Gyn physicians "What The Doctors Didn't Tell You: The Truth about Chemical Abortion" is worth the read! Among other facts, Bonnie's article points out that chemical abortion has four times the complication rate as surgical abortion. Some of the complications can be deadly. There are so many factors involved in screening a woman for this so-called treatment - certainly they deserve to be seen in person by a physician. These drugs are dangerous. So, this writer would like to extend to you the opportunity to ask questions. I would be willing to talk to anyone. I would also like to suggest that if you want to take action, there is a way for you to do so. There are pharmacies that will be dispensing these drugs and you can contact them. CVS, Rite Aid, and Walgreens have the following phone numbers:

CVS: 1-800-746-7287
Rite-Aid: 1-800-748-3243
Walgreens: 1-800-925-4733.

If you would like their mailing addresses, or would like to ask questions, please call me at 570-433-3757.

Thank you and God bless you!

What Is Candlemas Day?

On February 2, followers of Jesus bring candles to church to have them blessed. This practice is in preparation for Candlemas, an important Christian celebration. However, did you know that Candlemas has religious and cultural significance in many countries? Besides commemorating the presentation of Jesus in the Temple, Candlemas signifies hope, the coming of spring, and so much more.

Candlemas is a Christian holiday celebrating the Presentation of Jesus at the Temple, based on Luke 2:22-40, where Joseph and Mary brought Jesus to Jerusalem for the purification rites. This day celebrates the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus Christ, the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the Feast of the Holy Encounter (of Jesus, Mary and Joseph with Simeon and Anna).

Candles are traditionally blessed on Candlemas in recognition of Jesus Christ as the Light of the World. *Father Mike will bless candles, salt and water after 9:00 a.m. Mass on Thursday, February 2. Please bring your own container for blessed water*.

Worship and Service

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 28
St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest & Doctor of the Church
Vigil of the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:00 p.m. Joe Mazzante *(J., M., L.)*
Heb 9:2-14; Ps 47:2-9; Mk 3:20-21

Sunday, January 29
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 a.m. Robert & Dorleen Probasco *(Family)*
10:30 a.m. Ethelyn Ulkus *(John & Mary Lou Fulginiti)*
Zeph 2:3-13; Ps 146:6-10; 1 Cor 1:26-31; Mt 5:1-12

Monday, January 30
9:00 a.m. Mary Eck *(Sue & Gerry Kimble & sons)*
Heb 11:32-40; Ps 31:20-24; Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday, January 31
Miraculous Medal Novena
St. John Bosco, Priest
9:00 a.m. Mary Kranz *(The Fagnano Family)*
Heb 12:1-4; Ps 22:26-32; Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday, February 1
9:00 a.m. Viola Tudor *(Claire & Family)*
Heb 12:4-15; Ps 103:1-18; Mk 6:1-6

Thursday, February 2
The Presentation of the Lord
9:00 a.m. Robert Kranz *(Rita Runnels Kittka)*
Mal 3:1-4; Heb 2:14-18; Ps 24:7-10; Lk 2:22-40

Friday, February 3
St. Blaise, Bishop & Martyr
First Friday
9:00 a.m. Patricia Bonus
(Children: Joyce, Joni, & David & Families)
Heb 13:1-8; Ps 27:1-9; Mk 6:14-29

Saturday, February 4
First Saturday
9:00 a.m. Timothy Crotty *(Lorraine Lecce)*
Vigil of the Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time
4:00 p.m. Eleanor & Louis Mazzante *(Family)*

Sunday, February 5
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 a.m. Jean Taylor *(Ann Kelly & Family)*
10:30 a.m. People of the Parish
Is 95:6-7; Ps 112:4-9; 1 Cor 2:1-5; Mt 5:13-16

Holy Father's Prayer Intention-February 2023
For parishes

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the center, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity, and welcome towards those most in need.

Offertory Collections
(Includes on-line contribution)

1/21-22/2023

Loose	**$**	**759.00**
Offertory	**$**	**4,915.00**
Maintenance	**$**	**58.00**
Votives	**$**	**131.00**
Religious Education	**$**	**1.00**
Initial Envelopes	**$**	**10.00**
Easter Flowers	**$**	**20.00**
Total	**$**	**5,911.00**

Diocesan Collections		
Care & Education of Priest	**$**	**1.00**
Mission-Latin America	**$**	**227.00**
Total Diocesan Collections	**$**	**228.00**

Collection Counters Schedule

January 30—Group 3—Judy DeGregorio, Barbara Gallagher, Jan Ransdorf
February 6—Group 1—Darl Simms, Mary Ann Hollenbach, Wendy Marshalek

Faith in Action

For the month of February, we will be collecting adult and children's toothbrushes and toothpaste. Place any donations in the collection bins.

We continue to collect ***16 ounce jars of peanut butter*** to help support the Montoursville Area School District Backpack Program. Please help us feed the hungry. Drop off donations inside the church.

Sponsor of the Week
Open Arms Internal Medicine & Pediatrics

We want to highlight our sponsor of the week, ***Open Arms Internal Medicine & Pediatrics.*** We appreciate their support, and that of all our advertisers. Please support them as they do Our Lady of Lourdes.

Blessed be the Most Holy Name of Jesus!

Prayer List for the Month of January

If you or a loved one would like to be added to our prayer list, please contact the parish office.

Dave Bonus, Karen Boyle, Ann Marie Dorin, Margie Foulds, Carissa Foulds, Charles Gries, Geraldine Hamm, Michael Hook, Cliff Hales, Chuck Ligosh, Kathleen Maiolo, Karen Marlett, Tyler Morton, Linda Phillips, Nicole Selleck, Sylvia Rook, Harry Specht, Robert Steinbacher, Sofia Steinbacher, Carl Ulsamer, Debbie Winterer

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