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# The Church of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

1090 Carmalt Street, Dickson City, PA 18519  
Phone: 570-489-2091 ~ Email: [vbvm@comcast.net](mailto:vbvm@comcast.net) ~ Website: [www.vbvm.org](http://www.vbvm.org)



## PARISH STAFF

**Msgr. Patrick J. Pratico, J.C.D.**, Pastor  
**Karen Wallo**, Administrative Assistant  
**Robert Manento**, Director of Liturgical Music  
**Mary Jo Griffith**, Bookkeeper  
**Linda Skierski**, Director of Religious Education

## OFFICE HOURS

**Monday through Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**  
Closed 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.

## MASS SCHEDULE

**Weekdays:** Monday - Friday 7:30 am  
**Saturday Vigil:** 4:00 pm  
**Sunday:** 8:00 & 10:30 am  
**Holy Days:** See bulletin

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Kindergarten (optional), 1st to 8th grade (required) Sundays from 9:00 am to 10:15 am September to May.  
Catholic School students are required to register to receive the sacraments of First Communion, Penance, and Confirmation in 2nd and 8th grade.

## NEW MEMBERS/CHANGE OF ADDRESS

New members are most welcome!

Call the Parish office at 570-489-2091 or go to [www.vbvm.org](http://www.vbvm.org) to register.

Parishioners are asked to notify the office of change of address or when moving from the parish.

## SACRAMENTS

**Reconciliation:** Saturday 8:30 a.m., and other times by request.

**Baptism:** Second Sunday of the month at 11:30 a.m. Registered parishioners may call the parish office to make arrangements.

**Marriage:** Arrangements must be made at least six months in advance by registered parishioners.

**Monthly Visitation of the Sick/Homebound:** Call the parish office to be placed on the list.

**Care of the Sick:** Please notify us at any time of the seriously ill, hospitalized or those needing anointing.

*We, the parish community of The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, in union with the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the leadership of our bishop and our pastor are called through Baptism to live the gospel of Jesus Christ. Through the sacramental life of the Church, especially the Eucharist, we are strengthened to live as a community committed to share the Word with all those in need with love and compassion, and to celebrate the fullness of life in Christ.*

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Weekly Mass Schedule

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Monday</b><br>7:30 AM    | <b>May 6</b><br>Paul & Theresa Prorock and family offered by Peter & Theresa Rumensky |
| <b>Tuesday</b><br>7:30 AM   | <b>May 7</b><br>Joseph Barasha offered by the Avaschieri Family                       |
| <b>Wednesday</b><br>7:30 AM | <b>May 8</b><br>Mike Kula offered by St. Mary's Ushers                                |
| <b>Thursday</b><br>7:30 AM  | <b>May 9 - Ascension of the Lord</b><br>Living and deceased members of our Parish     |
| 5:30 PM                     | Sr. M. LeRoy Prymak 70th Jubilee offered by Kathleen Grushinski & Laura Wallo         |
| <b>Friday</b><br>7:30 AM    | <b>May 10</b><br>Charles W. Myskowski offered by mom Marie and family                 |
| <b>Saturday</b><br>1:00 PM  | <b>May 11</b><br>Wedding: Victor Sweet & Alannah Mazur                                |
| 4:00 PM                     | Joseph Rolinski (19th Anniv.) offered by family                                       |
| <b>Sunday</b><br>8:00 AM    | <b>May 12</b><br>Mother's Day Intentions  |
| 10:30 AM                    | Living and deceased members of our parish   |

May - The Month of Mary

Hail Mary



Hail Mary, full of grace, The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, Pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASS!



We are proud to welcome to the table of the Lord all the boys and girls who received the Holy Eucharist for the first time this weekend. We thank their teachers and offer our prayers and congratulations to the following children and their families:

Camia Hurst  
Kalyn Kerr  
Adaline Owens  
Kaylee Parduski  
Carson Boyarsky  
Matthew Crean

Andrew Davis  
Lincoln Sashko  
Matthew Schwenk  
Zachary Schwenk  
Dylan Walter  
Lucas Webber

IN MEMORIAM

Sanctuary Candle

Stephen J. Vavrck offered by wife Adrienne and children

Altar Candles

Stephen J. Vavrck offered by wife Adrienne and children

Bread & Wine

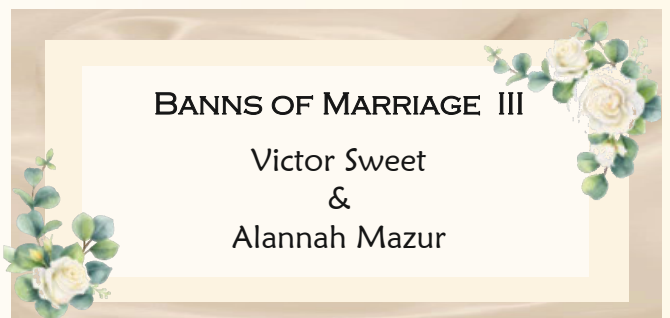
Ann Marie Daskiewicz offered by Mary Ann Ziomek

Steeple Lights

Mark Broskey offered by Rachel Rossi

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## UPCOMING EVENTS:

| <u>DATE:</u> | <u>EVENT:</u>                      |
|--------------|------------------------------------|
| May 14       | Bingo Bonanza meeting 6:00 PM      |
| May 18       | Rosary for Vocations 3:30 PM       |
| June 1       | Troop 21 Pancake Breakfast 8:00 AM |
| June 4       | Spark Planning Meeting 6:00 PM     |
| June 24      | Vacation Bible School              |

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JUNE 24 THROUGH 28 9:00 AM TO 12 NOON

REGISTRATION DUE BY MAY 26TH  
CHILDREN AGES 4 THROUGH 10 ARE WELCOME!

FOR MORE INFO E-MAIL JILL LENNON AT  
[dobreniecki@aol.com](mailto:dobreniecki@aol.com)

Registration forms are available in the  
Parish Office and the church vestibule.

The Tickets Will Be Mailed Soon  
for this years



## 50-50 DRAWING

to be held on Tuesday, July 2, 2024  
and can be seen on our Facebook Page

[www.facebook.com/vbvmc](http://www.facebook.com/vbvmc)  
following the drawing

FOUR CASH PRIZES  
BASED ON THE NUMBER OF TICKETS SOLD

## PRAY THE ROSARY WITH US!

Our parish rosary group prays Monday through Friday after the 7:30 AM Mass. On Thursdays the special intention is for vocations for men and women to generously say "Yes" to the priesthood and consecrated life. Please join us in praying the rosary.



If you need a rosary you can get a free one at the parish office. If you don't know how to, or haven't prayed the rosary in a while, don't worry. It's very easy to follow along.



Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L, Bishop of Scranton presented the Ad Altare Dei religious emblem to Boy Scouts in the Scranton Diocese after the Saturday 5:30 pm Mass on April 20 at St. Peter's Cathedral. The emblem represents several months of study of the sacraments and commitment to growth in the Catholic faith. It is earned by Scouts in the 12-15 age group. Four members of our parish's Boy Scout Troop 21 received the emblem. Starting from the left they are: Ethan Stangline, Thomas Cain, Ryan Fagan, Bishop Bambera, and Joseph Sandrowicz. May God bless them in their faith journey.

## Troop 21 Pancake Breakfast



June 1st  
8:00-11:00am  
\$8.00



Dine-In or Take Out  
St. Mary's Parish Center  
Dickson City

Pancakes, Sausage,  
Juice, Coffee/Tea



## PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

## Readings for the week of May 05, 2024

### Sunday:

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 (see 2b)/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17

### Monday:

Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Jn 15:26—16:4a

### Tuesday:

Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/Jn 16:5-11

### Wednesday:

Acts 17:15, 22—18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/Jn 16:12-15

### Thursday:

Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 16:16-20

### Ascension:

Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 (6)/Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20

### Friday:

Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Jn 16:20-23

### Saturday:

Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10/Jn 16:23b-28

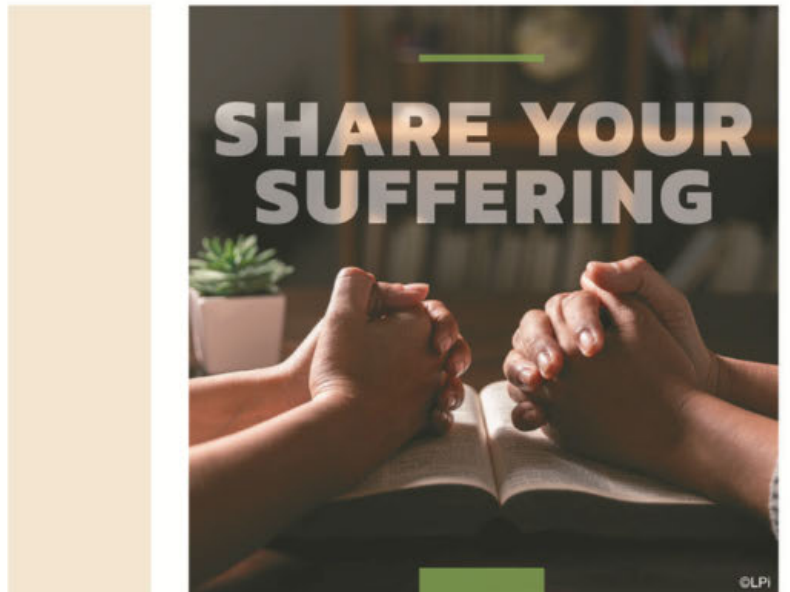
### Next Sunday:

Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 (6)/Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20

### Seventh Sunday of Easter:

Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26/  
Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20 (19a)/  
1 Jn 4:11-16/Jn 17:11b-19

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## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Once a man came to the Vatican and asked to see Pope John Paul II, claiming that they had been friends in Poland. When told of the man, the Pope said, “He is mistaken about our friendship. I don’t recall ever having suffered with him.” As it turned out, the man had never known the Pope. Now, I’m not sure if the story is totally factual. But doesn’t the juxtaposition of *suffering* with *friendship* sound exactly like JP II? He understood that the deepest and most lasting friendships are forged in the fires of shared suffering. No suffering, no friendship. Amazing.

This week we hear Jesus say to the apostles and to us, “**You are my friends if you do what I command you**” (John 15:14). In Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection, God entered the world of human suffering and transformed it into an avenue of friendship with Himself. Following His command — to love, to lay down our lives for others — will always entail suffering. But this suffering only deepens our friendship with Him. His suffering is ours; ours is His. We have become friends of God.

This week, how might you share your suffering with the Risen Jesus? How might he be sharing his suffering with you, in the lives of those around you? Be attentive to that, and you’ll find that you are indeed a friend of God, because you’ve suffered together a great deal.

— Father John Muir

## (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

### As I Love You

This week my children were learning about energy. We set up an experiment with toy cars — one was placed in front of another, and a third was pushed into the two stationary ones.

The forward motion caused the front car to move, but not much. “Most of the energy goes into the car in the middle, not the car on the end,” my daughter concluded.

I asked her why she seems to have so much energy, and I seem to have so little.

“Because you’re old,” she replied confidently.

Most days I feel like that first car, barreling at life with all my energy and love and good intentions, only to have it almost entirely absorbed by the proverbial middle car. It’s so easy to be discouraged. The devil so badly wants us to feel discouraged.

But the law of love is not unlike the law of conservation of energy. Love is neither created nor destroyed. It is only transferred from one form to another. And yes, sometimes it certainly seems like it disappears. It appears to get lost between my hands and the plate of dinner that goes uneaten or evaporates off of my lips as words I fear are never heard. It is spat upon as a commandment the world would prefer I do not keep.

But we are not called to simply love one another — to love when it seems effective and productive and appreciated. We are called to love as Christ loved: recklessly, selflessly, and yes, even without logic. We are called to love with a love that doesn’t give up and is never withdrawn. A love that doesn’t fear death or the world’s hatred. A love that stands willing to argue, to be reviled, to be dismissed.

We are called to be that first car, hurtling ourselves against a world that isn’t ready to accept or understand us. And we trust that, even when we can’t see how, the love that seems to disappear simply changes forms.

*“This is my commandment: love one another as I love you.”  
— John 15:12*

- Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

## Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

### Question:

My neighbor is just beginning to explore the Catholic faith but was raised agnostic. I grew up believing in God, praying, and attending Mass. How does one start from scratch as an adult to develop a relationship with God?

### Answer:

Start on a personal level! How did you and your neighbor become friends? How did you begin to discuss such a personal topic as faith? Communication, spending time together, and getting to know each other are essential to forming the bonds of a relationship. Personal prayer is essential to our relationship with God. We can’t be close to someone we don’t know! Invite your friend to explore the stories of Jesus in the Bible. Introduce them to the lives of the saints, especially ones you think they might be interested in.

Your neighbor might also have questions about the Catholic faith that you don’t know how to answer. If your friend hasn’t yet enrolled in RCIA classes, invite them to Mass at your parish. Introduce your friend to the faith formation director to make a connection. Personal support can be helpful as well, especially if few of your neighbor’s current friends are practicing their faith. Connect your neighbor to other people in your parish living their faith well. The good examples of other faithful people could help your neighbor to feel welcomed and supported. Our Church is vibrant and alive!

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## Catholic Women's Conference

Saturday, June 8, 2024  
Marywood University, Scranton, PA

Register at [cwcnepa.com](http://cwcnepa.com)



Jackie Angel  
Mother of 5  
Homeschooler

Women from around the Diocese of Scranton gather on Saturday, June 8, 2024 at Marywood University for the Annual *Refresh Your Faith* Catholic Women's Conference. The day includes Mass with Bishop Bambera, continental breakfast, Catholic Marketplace, 3 Keynote speakers, rosary, Eucharistic adoration, music and lunch. Register for only \$55, students \$20.

### Knights of Columbus Jessup-Peckville Chapter 10729



Bus trip on Memorial Day  
Monday, May 27  
To



Citi Field in New York City  
New York Mets vs  
Los Angeles Dodgers

Cost is \$140.00 per person (bus only \$90)  
Bus leaves from Jessup Hose Co. #1, 4th Ave. at 11 am  
Game time is 4:00 pm

For more info contact  
Bob Wasilchak at 570-954-2057  
John Bogdanovicz 570-687-6522

## 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))

## Catholic Choral Society Spring Concerts

The annual spring concerts of the Catholic Choral Society of Scranton celebrating the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the choral group will be presented on Friday evening,

May 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at Mary Mother of God Parish at Holy Rosary Church, 316 William Street in Scranton and on Sunday evening, May 19 at 7:00 PM at the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola, 339 N. Maple Ave., Kingston, PA.

On Friday evening, May 17<sup>th</sup>, at Holy Rosary Church, the Choral Society will host The Forest City Regional High School Chamber Singers directed by District 9 PMEA President Alison Yuravich.

On Sunday evening, May 19, at St. Ignatius Loyola Church, the Choral Society will host the Good Shepherd Academy Junior High Choir of Kingston under the direction of Thomas Hanlon.  
Tickets: Adults \$10.00 – Seniors and students \$8.00 – Age 12 and under free.

## SCRANTON PREPARATORY

This summer, Scranton Preparatory School will offer **BUILD**, a free, 5-week higher achievement program, for students entering 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, or 8<sup>th</sup> grades from June 24, 2024 through July 25, 2024. Foundational courses in mathematics, reading, and writing will be creatively intertwined with weekly workshops in music, art, athletics, science, and technology for an amazing, enriching, and fun educational experience. Weekly "Out & About Days" will allow students to engage with, explore, and give back to the Scranton community. Start building a better future this summer at BUILD! For more information or to apply, visit [scrantonprep.org/BUILD](http://scrantonprep.org/BUILD).

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