Blessed are they who follow the Lord!

PSALM 119
Our Mission Statement

We, the people of Our Lady of the Snows and the Church of Saint Benedict, comprise a joyful Catholic Community of the faithful united in Baptism in Christ Jesus the Son, guided by the Father and sustained by the Holy Spirit.

We are dedicated to serving God and one another with love and understanding. We also recognize the diversity of cultural, ethnic and religious traditions among us and extend our hands and hearts to all with care and compassion.

Challenged by the Word of God, we are nourished by the Eucharist and strengthened by prayer and the sacraments to attain our ultimate goal of eternal life and everlasting happiness in complete union with God.

Sacramental Life in Our Parish

Baptism: First time parents are asked to attend a pre-Baptismal class. Call the Parish Center to schedule an appointment.

Eucharist: Questions regarding this cornerstone of our faith can be directed to our Parish Center.

Confirmation: Administered yearly to all 8th graders who have been enrolled in our religious education program for at least two years.

Marriage: Couples, please contact the Parish Center at least six months in advance of your desired wedding date so that appropriate preparations can be made for your celebration.

Anointing of the Sick: Please contact the Parish Center when a member of your family has become sick or hospitalized.

Visitation of the Sick: Any parishioner who is homebound and would like to regularly receive the Eucharist is asked to contact the Parish Center to schedule a visit.

Funerals: Please notify the Parish Center at the time of your loved one’s death so that we may assist in the planning of the funeral.

Our Catholic Schools

Our Lady of Peace School
OLPClarksSummit.com  (Grades PK 4 to 8)  570-587-4152
Holy Cross High School
HCHSpa.org  (Grades 9 to 12)  570-346-7541

Remembering
Msgr. McGarry

June 16, 1944 - February 15, 2019

It is hard to believe that one year has passed since we bid a fond farewell to our beloved former pastor, Msgr. McGarry. May our cherished memories of him live on in our hearts as we continue to give thanks to God for his twenty years of service to our Parish community.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord.
And let perpetual light shine upon him.
May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

16 February 2020 I Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jesus was not an enemy of Moses nor of his commandments, though He vigorously opposed a religious system that twisted them into prescriptions for gaining status with the Creator. As for the commandments themselves, He assured His listeners that not one of them would ever become invalid. “Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets,” He said. “I have come not to abolish them but to fulfill them” (Matthew 5:17).

Having affirmed the commandments, however, Jesus demonstrated their purpose was to point the way to a loving community. First, He showed that traditional rules clustering around the divine commandments were invalid if they kept people from the humanizing intent of the law.

The second thing Jesus saw in the law was this: the commandments depend on love. Love turns the negative into positive. Love turns the passive avoidance of evil into the active doing of good. Love translates the morality of “live and let live” into a morality of “love and help others live.” Law without love tells us not to kill a stranger; law with love moves us to go out of our way to help a wounded enemy.

He who leads us through the wilderness by His command is the Father who made us and wants us only to be true to our own being. He cares for us, loves us, and seeks us by means of His own commandments; and He thereby offers us the best way to keep our balance on the slippery shingles of human existence. As Psalm 119 notes: “Blessed are they who follow the Lord!”

CELEBRATING PRESIDENTS’ DAY

As our beloved United States commemorates Presidents’ Day on Monday, may we look once again to the wisdom filled words of President Abraham Lincoln, who always desired that we would find our way beyond divisiveness to a greater sense of harmony and peace as American citizens. With gratitude for the blessings that are ours, let us hear his voice anew:

“With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation’s wounds... to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and a lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations.”
**Visiting the Sick:** Our Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion visit by request homebound parishioners as well as bring the Eucharist to them. Volunteers set their own visitation schedules.

**Comfort the Grieving:** Join trained volunteers who provide grief support to those dealing with losses in their lives. In our Bereavement Ministry, volunteers lend an ear and share their hearts and time with those who have experienced the death of a loved one.

**Feeding the Hungry:** Each week, parishioners are encouraged to place non-perishable canned goods and boxed foods in the designated basket in our church foyers. All food is stored temporarily in our food pantry and then distributed from the Dalton Food Pantry to more than 75 local families each and every month of the year.

**Women’s Guild:** This dedicated group meets each month at the parish and helps provide needed services to agencies like Women’s Resource Center.

**Prison Ministry:** These caring individuals help those in our local jails by supplying positive reading materials that can aid in educating, encouraging and inspiring those who are imprisoned.

**NEXT SUNDAY: MASS FOR LOVING AND LOVED HEARTS**

Next Sunday, February 23rd, the Diocese will be celebrating its annual **Mass for Persons with Disabilities.** The liturgy is set for 10am at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in downtown Scranton, and will be sign-language interpreted for the hearing impaired.

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera will be the principal celebrant and homilist. The liturgy prayerfully celebrates the many gifts that those with developmental or intellectual disabilities bring to the Church and our community. Partners in this celebration include St. Joseph's Center in Scranton, the Diocesan SPRED Community (Special Religious Education) and the Catholic Deaf Community of the Diocese of Scranton.

All are welcome. CTV, Catholic Television, will also broadcast the Mass.
If your marriage is in distress, even if you are currently separated or divorced, Retrouvaille can help get your relationship back on track. Retrouvaille is a peer ministry of volunteer couples who can help you better learn the tools of healthy communication, healing and intimacy. While it is Christian-based, Retrouvaille welcomes couples of all faiths as well as non-religious couples.

To learn more about attending the weekend May 29th - 31st, or to learn more about helping to bring this weekend to life, please contact: Phil & Sue Milazzo, philmilazzo@outlook.com, (631) 338-5413, or Jen Housel, 570-207-2213.

**AN EXAMINATION ON THE USE OF MY TIME**

Killing Time
How do I kill time?
Let me count the ways.

By worrying about things
over which I have no control.
Like the past, like the future.

By harboring resentment
and anger
over hurts
real or imagined.

By distaining the ordinary
or, rather, what I
so mindlessly
call ordinary.

By concern over what’s in it for me,
rather than what’s in me
for it.

By failing to appreciate what is
because of might-have-beens,
should-have-beens,
could-have-beens.

These are some of the ways
I kill time.
Jesus didn’t kill time.
He gave his life to it.
His own.

- Leo Rock, S.J.
Whether you are currently a parishioner or are interested in becoming one, we love having you with us at OLS. If you are not registered as of yet, fill out this form and send it back to the Parish Center.

Name: ________________________
Address: ______________________
______________________________
Phone: _________________________
Email: _________________________
___ New Parishioner
___ Change of Address/Telephone

FINANCE COUNCIL
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Peter Brokus
Mary Ellen Buckbee
Christopher Calvey, Jr.
Antoinette Goldstein
Malcolm MacGregor, Esq.
Christopher O’Boyle
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Valarie Clark
Eileen Cosgrove
John Cuck
Thomas Cummings, Esq.
Patricia Lawler
Kenneth Okrepkie

HOW CAN YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE?
For over a hundred years, Our Lady of the Snows Parish has served the Catholic Community in the Diocese of Scranton by spreading the gospel message, celebrating the sacraments and serving the poor in the Abingtons. You can help keep that activity alive by providing for the future financial needs of your parish. As we move into 2020, please consider Our Lady of the Snows Parish in your estate planning and when making your charitable gifts. Some ways you can provide lasting benefits to your parish include:

• **Bequests through Will**: Designate a dollar amount or percentage of your estate.
• **Annuities**: Donations of stocks, bonds, or mutual funds. You receive the interest or dividends and upon death, the remainder of the gift goes to Our Lady of the Snows Parish.
• **Life Insurance**: Name Our Lady of the Snows as the beneficiary to an existing insurance policy
• **Qualified Charitable Donation**: Tax-free gift through your IRA (IRA holders 70 or older are eligible).

Please contact your financial advisor for more information on how you can benefit from a charitable donation to your parish.
### MINISTRY SCHEDULE
**FEBRUARY 22-23**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>CANTOR</th>
<th>ACOLYTES</th>
<th>LECTOR</th>
<th>MINISTERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4:00 PM (CSB)</td>
<td>Jo Ann Durdan</td>
<td>Kyle Degnon</td>
<td>Joseph Barrett</td>
<td>Anne Brokus, Peter Brokus, Susan Burke</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sydney Degnon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30 PM (OLS)</td>
<td>Jamie Boerio</td>
<td>Joey Arcuri</td>
<td>Diane Alberigi</td>
<td>Robert Clark, Evelyn Fontanella</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Richard Arcuri</td>
<td>Sharon Barrett</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 AM (OLS)</td>
<td>- - - - -</td>
<td>Kevin Foley</td>
<td>Louise Powell</td>
<td>Dorothy Lynott, Linda Wandalowski</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>McLafferty</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 AM (CSB)</td>
<td>- - - - -</td>
<td></td>
<td>- - - - -</td>
<td>Noreen Blewitt, Grazyna Wolujewicz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 AM (OLS)</td>
<td>Marina Rinkunas</td>
<td>Henry Barbrack</td>
<td>Eric Barbrack</td>
<td>Laurie Fleming, Michael Fleming, Joseph Rinkunas</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mark Barbrack</td>
<td>Emilie Deery</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sara Barbrack</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15 AM (OLS)</td>
<td>- - - - -</td>
<td>Graceann Davis</td>
<td>Tyler Blaum</td>
<td>Germaine Carey, Anne McQueen</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Carly Regan</td>
<td>Frances Li Vecchi</td>
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### WEEKLY REPORT

**WEEKEND OF FEB. 8 & 9**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Envelopes</th>
<th>Online Giving</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$9,192.26</td>
<td>$2,303.50</td>
<td><strong>$11,495.76</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you would like to donate online, visit OLSParish.net and click Online Giving, or call the Parish Center at (570) 586-1741. Donating is simple, safe, & secure.

Thank you!

...IN SERVICE WITH AND FOR OTHERS.

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**Valentine’s Day Mystery Dinner**

A 1920s Mafia Murder Mystery

February 14, 2020 | 5pm-9pm
Italian Buffet & Show included

General Admission: $39.99
VIP: $49.99
**reserved seating closest to the show**
**Valentine’s Day Packages: $179**
**includes 2 VIP tickets and 1 Night's Stay**

Tickets Available on Eventbrite and at Shadowbrook Resort

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