



January 24, 2021 | 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Queen of the Apostles

Rev. Phillip J. Sladicka, Pastor
Deacon James A. Rose

Parish Office

715 Hawthorne Street
Avoca, PA 18641
Hours: Mon CLOSED
Tues-Fri 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Phone: 570-457-3412
staff@queenoftheapostles.com

Website

queenoftheapostles.weconnect.com

Like Us On Facebook:

Queen of the Apostles Parish
Avoca, PA

On-line Bulletin

Seekandfind.com

Director of Faith Formation

Deborah Yuschovitz
570-457-1284

Anointing of the Sick

If anyone is seriously ill, been admitted to the hospital, or wants a 1st Friday visit please call the Parish Office.

Baptism

Sunday after 10:30AM Mass.

Call the parish office to make arrangements.

Marriage

Please call the Parish Office six months, before setting your wedding date, to make an appt. with the Pastor. Pre-Canva program is required.

Rite of Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays: 3:15 - 3:45 PM

Anytime upon request

Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday - 4:00 PM

Sunday - 8:00 - 10:00 AM

Daily

Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri.: 8 AM

Wednesday: 7:00 PM*

*Followed by the Miraculous Medal Novena

First Friday

8:00 AM & 7:00 PM

Christian Initiation of Adults

Parish Office

570-457-3412

Committee Contacts

Parish Hall Manager

Paul Franceschelli - 570-430-9015

Social Concerns/Respect Life Ministry

Ann Jake - 570-457-3521

Women's Guild

Jeanette Gronski - 570-457-7804

New Members are always Welcome!



3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He walked along a little farther and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They too were in a boat mending their nets. Then he called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him. - Mk 1:19-20

MISSION STATEMENT

To Make Disciples of Jesus Christ

&

To Grow As Disciples of Jesus Christ

715 HAWTHORNE STREET, AVOCA, PA 18641

From the Pastor's Desk



Dear Parish Family,

A new adventure can seem exciting and rewarding. But once it begins it can prove to be difficult and scary. Jonah appears to be an enthusiastic and successful prophet in today's reading. But this is because we skipped past the first two chapters of the book. Jonah initially fled from the challenge of confronting Nineveh and ended up in the belly of a whale. Only after his rescue did he cooperate. It is difficult to imagine anyone responding more quickly and dramatically to Jesus than the first four disciples, leaving family and work behind to follow Jesus. But Simon Peter's enthusiasm dimmed later. He panicked when Jesus said he would suffer and be put to death ("Get behind me, Satan") and panicked again when Jesus was condemned to death, denying him three times. Meanwhile, James and John demanded to sit next to the risen Lord in glory. On the night Jesus was arrested, Peter, James and John all fell asleep in Gethsemane after being asked to keep watch and pray. Still, they are the ones on whom the Lord chose to rely. They are flawed human beings, as we all are. Paul warns the Corinthians that "the time is running out". May this urgency drive our commitment. Can we be relied on to carry out Jesus' mission? What holds us back?

From the 18th to 25th of January 2021, the Church celebrates the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, together with Christian communities throughout the world. At daily Mass we received thoughts and prayers for each day. This year's prayer: **"Gracious Lord, we pray for all the members of your holy Church, that all may abide in you and you in them, that they may be one in your love and bear much fruit. We also pray for the world that all may come to believe in your love for them by the fruit of our witness. We know that our divisions are a source of scandal to your world, and we know that in love we are called to unite as one in the vine and branches. The vine is our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son. We are meant to be his branches. Help us we pray, to love, to forgive, to seek justice and to be your prophetic voice in the world. May your grace effect growth of good fruit among us, that our world may realize peace. We ask all this in the name of Jesus, your Son and in the power of the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen"** (Graymoor institute)

First Penance will be held on February 13th at 10am at QAP in Church. The First Communion class is meeting virtually every week. We thank Deb Callahan for creating such an opportunity for our children. **Classes for Confirmation will resume on January 31.** They will continue to be held in the Parish Hall. Deacon Jim Rose will be contacting all the families involved. Thank you to Deb Yuschovitz who is keeping us all in the loop.

Alpha will continue on Zoom on Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm. All are welcome. We are in our 2nd week. The Topic is: Who is Jesus?" Please call the rectory to be placed on the Alpha email list.

Avoca Knights of Columbus Cardinal John O'Connor Council 12967 will meet on **Monday, January 25 at 7pm in QAP parish Hall.**

Finally, stay safe. Stay healthy during this time of pandemic. Thank you for all you are and all you do. God bless you and see you in Church, Fr. Phil



Liturgy of the Word



Liturgy of the Word: Jonah delivers a warning to Nineveh that their city will be destroyed in forty days. After only one day, the people listened and repented. In the Gospel, Jesus comes to Galilee with a call to repent and believe. Building a team committed to his mission, he invites four fishermen to follow him. Immediately they leave their work and families to do so. In between, we hear Paul, whose life was changed on the road to Damascus, calling the Corinthians to conversion. Let these readings inspire us to listen and respond.



Attention Eucharistic Adorers: Due to recent cancellations and lack of enough back up adorers, we regret that we will need to suspend Tuesday Eucharistic Holy Hour for the time being. Although the Eucharist will not be exposed on the altar on Tuesday from 8:30 am - 8:00 PM the church will still be open on this day for individual private adoration.



Eucharistic Adoration will be held from 7:00 - 8:00 PM. Also a Praise & Worship Service will be held the First Sunday of each month from 4:00 -5:30 pm. This includes Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction. The Across the Waters Group will perform for the Sunday Service.

Reflections

Communion Wafer

Question:

Do Catholics always need to receive communion in wafer form, or can it be different kinds of bread?

Answer:

In the Roman Rite of the Catholic Church, the most common form for the eucharistic bread is the small white communion "wafer" that is a ubiquitous part of the Catholic Mass. The instructions of the Church have been very specific regarding the make-up of the bread used in the Mass: "The bread used in the celebration of the Most Holy Eucharistic Sacrifice must be unleavened, purely of wheat, and recently made ... it follows therefore that bread made from another substance, even if it is grain, or if it is mixed with another substance different from wheat to such an extent that it would not commonly be considered wheat bread, does not constitute valid matter for confecting the Sacrifice and the Eucharistic Sacrament" (see Redemptionis Sacramentum by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, no. 48).

The Church's tradition of using a wheat-based bread is based on the bread that Jesus would have used at the Last Supper and is considered to be an essential part of the "matter" of the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

As we consider the question of whether a "wafer" — which is properly called a "host" — should be used, we also must keep in mind that in the Eastern Rites of the Catholic Church, leavened (i.e. "raised") bread is more often used. And so, while the thin, white "wafer" is most commonly used in the Roman Rite of the Church, the full expression of the Catholic tradition does allow for a more substantial form of bread to be used, but the tradition of using a simple wheat bread with no other additions or additives is considered essential.

Parish News



POT OF GOLD WINNERS

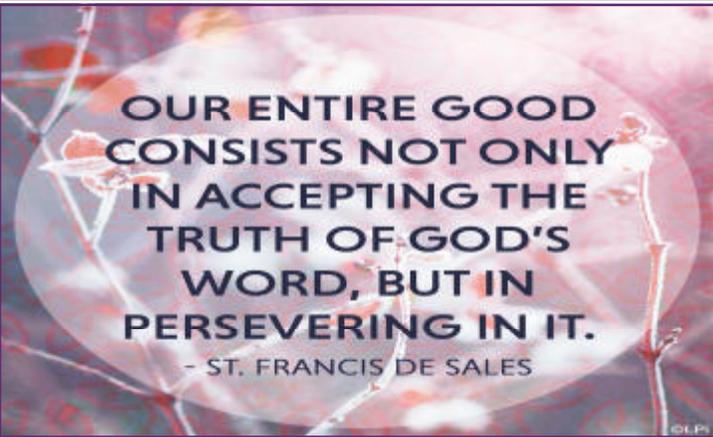
01/11/21	#682	\$ 75	Johanna Yachna
01/12/21	#863	75	No Winner
01/13/21	#709	75	Sr. Ann Marie OBrien
01/14/21	#827	75	No Winner
01/15/21	#826	75	Marie Wilk
01/16/21	#421	75	Pat Sladicka
01/17/21	#012	75	Abby Keffer

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Cardinal John J O'Connor
Knights of Columbus Council

Queen of the Apostles has reestablished our Knights of Columbus Council which was once operational at Sts. Peter & Paul's Parish. We will be hosting our initial meeting on **Monday, January 25th at 7:00PM in our Parish Hall**. All Knights are urged to attend where we will select and seat the officers which will run thru June 2021. State officers will be on hand to welcome and support our Council.

Please consider becoming a KNIGHT! Catholic men 18 years or older are welcome to join. Our goal is to be an asset to our Pastor, Parish and Community by lending our assistance wherever needed. Contact Grand Knight Bob Ryzner @ 570-885-2096 for more information.



"Paul's Famous Homemade Sauce and Meatballs" are still available. The cost will be \$6.00 for a quart of Sauce, and \$8.00 for a quart of Meatballs & Sauce. Please call Paul at 570-430-9015 or the Parish Office at 570-457-3412. Thank you for your support!

Our Holy Father's Prayer Intention for January, 2021

Human Fraternity: May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

Stewardship



01/17/21 Sunday Collection: \$4,124.00

Thank you for your generous support!

Please call the parish office at 570-457-3412 if you would like a 2021 Calendar. They will be available at the parish office.

The Parish Office has contacted Church Budget about our January/February envelopes and was told there is a backlog in the Post Office which is causing the delay in monthly envelopes being send out. Some people have received them, but for those who have not, please use a plain white envelope and mark where you want the money to go. Include your name and envelope number so you will get proper credit. Sorry for the inconvenience and Thank you for continuing to support our Parish!

Life, Family & Culture



"Many people know someone personally who is suffering because of an abortion. If a friend confided in you tomorrow that she had an abortion, would you be able to respond in a way that brings her closer to healing? ... Even a woman who doesn't go to church or think of herself as religious can be afraid that God will never forgive her for having an abortion. She should know that God loves and forgives those who are sorrowful. He wants to comfort them and give them his peace.

EASTER BASKET PROJECT: The Social Concerns/Respect Life Ministry will be conducting their Easter Basket project for those parishioners who are in need. Baskets provide food for the Easter Sunday meal. The baskets will be privately blessed Father Phil on **Holy Saturday, April 3 at 12:00 Noon. Recipients will be contacted and individual pickups will be conducted.** Anyone who is in need of a basket or knows of someone who would be in need of one, please contact the parish office at #570-457-3412. Deadline for submissions is **March 21**.



How do we live out the message of Christmas in the New Year?



9DAYS FOR
JANUARY 21-29, 2021

9DAYSFORLIFE.COM



Food Pantry Items for January
Coffee, Tea and Hot Chocolate



Ordinary Time

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Give Until It Hurts

One of the characteristics of Everyday Stewardship is to be committed — to persevere daily in a way of life acknowledging that everything belongs to God.

I know, I know. Easier said than done.

Just ask Zebedee. It's quite an image we get from the Gospel, after all. "So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him."

There was Zebedee, about his business, mending nets with his two sons, who were undoubtedly his best workers — they had to have been more dedicated than the hired men, who worked for wages rather than for family. And in an instant off they go, following this strange man.

I don't know about you, but if my kids left me on a hot summer day to finish the lawn by myself, I wouldn't be too happy.

But Zebedee must have been someone quite special. Perhaps he realized that his sons didn't belong to him — not really. They belonged to God, and from the beginning of time, it had been appointed that they would be among the first disciples of Christ. He passed, he called, they followed, and Zebedee obliged. He simply went back to mending his nets, I imagine.

Zebedee already understood what St. Teresa of Calcutta would say millennia later: "Give until it hurts."

"You're wasting my time." "I've done so much for her; she owes me this." How often do we think things, and even people and relationships, belong to us? The truth is none of them do. We must be ready, as Zebedee was, to surrender them to God when He comes walking past.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



Queen of the Apostles Parish has opened a virtual store with Mad Tees. The store includes several different items with the parish logo and/or name on it. **Orders, which take two weeks to complete, can be placed at the following revised email address: https://stores.inksoft.com/queen_of_the_apostles/shop/home.** For more information, please call the parish office at 570-457-3412. **Please note that our church benefits monetarily from items sold. Since our fundraising funds have been reduced greatly due to Covid restrictions, every little bit would help in trying to replenish them. We would like these items to remain available for the winter season which will be possible based on volume of orders. Thank you for all you can do to help.**

Community Events



American Red Cross Blood Drive

The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive on **Friday, February 5, 2021 in our Parish Hall from 1:00-6:00PM.** During this ongoing crisis, your help is needed now more than ever! Scheduled appointments are strongly recommended. Please remember to wear your mask and bring photo id. As a thank you for donating you will receive a \$5 Amazon gift card by email. Please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter Avoca to sign up. Any help will be greatly appreciated!



Al-Anon meetings are held every **Thursday night at 7 PM**, at the Brick United Methodist church on Foote Ave., Duryea. This is an anonymous 12-step program of recovery for families and friends of addicts & alcoholics. There are no dues or fees and meetings last approximately one hour and are open to anyone.

The Avoca Food Pantry is open on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month for anyone in need. Pickups can be made **@ 4:00PM** at the rear of the Bethel United Methodist Church, 532 Main St. distribute food from 1:30PM. Come join us and your help will be greatly appreciated! We are a community helping one another in need.

Outreach Services



AA Helpline:	1-800-640-7545
Al-Anon -- Friends & Family of those addicted	1-800-339-9006
Bread Basket of NEPA	570-343-2324
Consumer Credit Counseling Service	1-800-602-2227
Catholic Social Services Wilkes Barre	570-822-7188
Scranton	570-207-2283
Greater Pittston Food Pantry (St. John's/Seton)	570-654-9923
National Hotline for Abortion Recovery	1-866-482-5433
PA 24-Hour Child Abuse Hot Line	1-800-932-0313
Pennsylvanians for Human Life, W-B Chapter	570-826-1819
Rachel's Vineyard-Post Abortive Healing	1-877-467-3463
St. Joseph's Center-Mother Infant Program	570-207-6677

Mass Intentions for the Week

January 24, 2021 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

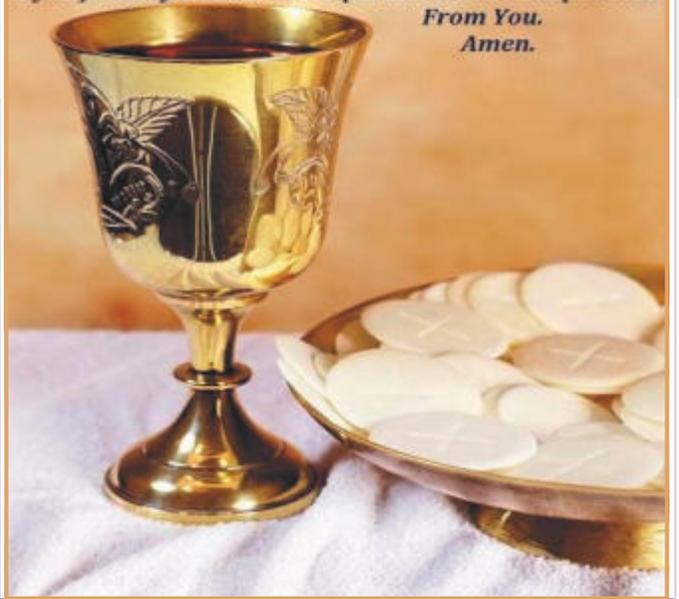
- Monday January 25 ~ Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle
8:00 AM Evelyn Gutkowski
By Family
Tuesday January 26 ~ St. Timothy & Titus, Bishops
8:00 AM Ann Twardowski
By Family
Wednesday January 27 ~ St. Angela Merici, Virgin and Religious Founder
7:00 PM Ann Battaglia
By Jeanette Gronski
Thursday January 28 ~ St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest & Doctor of the Church
8:00 AM The Patrick Carden Family
By Pat O'Brien
Friday January 29
8:00 AM Ann Joy Markowski
By Marita Shearer & Jordan
Saturday January 30
4:00 PM Theresa Walsh
By John & Ann Soy
Sunday January 31 ~ 4th Sunday in Ord. Time
8:00 AM Parishioners Intentions
10:00 AM John Kuchinski
By QAP Women's Guild

Ministry Schedule for the Week



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 if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated From You. Amen.



Eternal Rest Grant unto her, O Lord! May she rest in the peace of the Lord! Please pray for the soul of Lillian Bonczek. The parish community of Queen of the Apostles offers sympathy to her family and friends.

MEMORIAL OFFERINGS

Masses for the 2021 Calendar Year are now available. We also have openings for Sanctuary Light, Sacred Heart Shrine, & Sanctity of Life Memorials. Each of these run for 1 week. The donation for the Light and Shrine memorial are \$15, and the Sanctity of Life Memorial and daily masses are \$10.00. Please call the Parish Office to schedule these items for your loved ones.

Queen of the Apostles Parish Hall Reservations

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, our Parish Hall has been closed since March 15th. Strict CDC guidelines have forced us to cancel and suspend ALL rentals and events since then, and this will need to continue for the time being. We will not be accepting any new reservations and if you have something scheduled, we will be contacting you. We will continue to revisit this issue as rules and regulations change. The safety and well being of our parishioners and guests is our top priority. We apologize for this inconvenience, and if you have any questions, please call Paul at #570-430-9015. Thank you for your understanding!

Sacramental Bread & Wine

throughout January in loving memory of the Deceased Members of the Sladicka & Lopatofsky Families by QAP Parishioners

Sanctuary Candle in loving memory of William Wash by QAP Parishioners

Sacred Heart Shrine in loving memory of Philip John Reuther, Sr. by Paul & Marion Rayner

Sanctity of Life Memorial in loving memory of Rose Russo by Kathy, Paul & Nicole Franceschelli

SUPPORT THE ADVERTISERS THAT SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY



**PRESSURE WASHING - RAIN GUTTER CLEANING
SNOW REMOVAL - SIDEWALKS / DRIVEWAYS
GRASS CUTTING - FALL CLEAN UP/LEAVES**
Reasonable Prices - Free Estimates
570-417-1797

GREGORY A. TIMONTE PROPRIETOR
You make the memories of a lifetime
We make them last forever
DUPONT MONUMENT SHOP INC.
273 Main, Dupont, PA 18641
PH-570-654-0561 FAX-570-883-0380
email: dupontmonument@aol.com
www.Dupontmonumentshop.com

RUSSOMANO CLEANING SERVICE'S
For all your carpet and upholstery cleaning needs.
Call and book your
Fall cleaning today!
570-947-4368



**PROTECTING SENIORS NATIONWIDE
MEDICAL ALERT SYSTEM**
\$29.95/MO
BILLED QUARTERLY
PLUS SPECIAL OFFER
CALL NOW! 1.877.801.7772 • WWW.24-7MEDALARM.COM

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME **ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE**
Renee Puchalski • rpuchalski@4LPi.com • (800) 477-4574 x6453

**YUSCHOVITZ
BUILDING AND REMODELING**
AVOCA, PA
JOHN YUSCHOVITZ • 570-457-1284
DIANE YUSCHOVITZ • 570-594-6282

PROUD SPONSOR
Fidelity BANK
bankatfidelity.com • 570.342.8281 | 800.388.4380
Member FDIC

Carmen Ferranti, CFP®, ChFC®, RICP®
*Do you have a Retirement Income strategy?
Do you know your options for Social Security?*
Phone: 570-963-2228

ODAK
What's in your water?
Water is the single, most important ingredient to life. When you want the purest water, remember **Odak!**
A LOCALLY OWNED COMPANY SERVICING YOUR WATER
FILTRATION NEEDS SINCE 1979.
Say goodbye to bottled water with our K500 drinking water system cost effective, environmentally friendly, convenient & guaranteed!
Free basic installation for all church parishioners.
CALL NOW! 1-888-901-ODAK • odak.com

SPREAD THE WORD
A Thriving, Vibrant Community Matters
SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

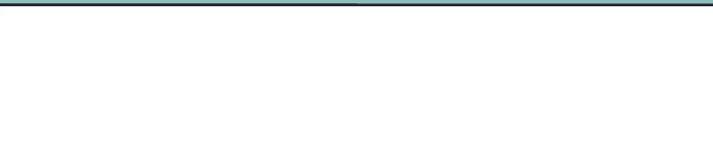
SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL PARISH.
Buy a bulletin ad space today!

LET US PLACE YOUR AD HERE

DOMIANO APPLIANCE REPAIR
Reliable Service For Over 25 Years
570-457-8982
Old Forge, PA 18618
JOE DOMIANO

FREE AD DESIGN WITH PURCHASE OF THIS SPACE.
- 800-477-4574 -

THIS SPACE IS **AVAILABLE**



LAMONICA LAW FIRM LLC
Carlo A. LaMonica
Attorney at Law
• Probate & Estate Administration
• Estate Planning
• Powers of Attorney
• Advance Health Care Directives
• Estate & Inheritance Taxes
• Veterans Disability Claims
Prepare For Your Future. Protect Your Family.
Schedule your FREE CONSULTATION today!
(570) 751-1571 • www.LaMonicaLawFirm.com

Too Sick for Mass?
SUPPORT OUR PARISH NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE!
Sign-up to get your bulletin delivered right to your inbox!
www.parishesonline.com

LINDA TOMLINSON, Proprietor
TOMLINSON FLORAL & GIFT
"Special Creations for Special People"
509 S. Main St., Old Forge, PA 18518
(570) 457-1790 • Find us on Facebook!

FUEL OIL DEALERS
FALCON OIL
570-383-3257 • 570-654-3441
1630 MAIN ST., BALKELY. | www.FalconOilpa.com
Wholesale Distributor of Gasoline Fuel Oil
"Call Today for Lowest Heating Oil Price" / It's Our Service That Makes The Difference

TROY MECHANICAL, INC.
HEATING • COOLING CONTROLS • DESIGN
100 State Hwy., Moosic, PA 18507
Voice: (570) 451-0140 • Fax: (570) 451-0150
mtroy@troymechanical.com
MICHAEL TROY

LET US PLACE YOUR AD HERE.

Kiesinger Funeral Services, Inc. for your peace of mind
Traditional & Contemporary Funeral Services • Advanced Planning • Serving All Faiths
Mark Kiesinger, Funeral Director - Supervisor
We specialize in providing professional, comforting, one-on-one attention in your time of need.
255 McAlpine St., Duryea Handicapped and Wheelchair Accessible • Ample Off Street Parking
570-457-4387