



April 18, 2021 | 3rd Sunday of Easter

# 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!



## 3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. And he said to them, "Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day." - Lk 24:45-46

#### **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,

Jesus gave the disciples work to do in today's Gospel. He told them "that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, should be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem." The disciples, witnesses to this, were to see that this was done. In the first reading, we hear Saint Peter doing exactly that. And he does not shy from confrontation, accusing the people of Jerusalem of being responsible for Jesus' death, hammering them repeatedly: "you handed him over ... you denied him... you put him to death." Peter closes by offering them an opportunity for repentance and the assurance of forgiveness, as Jesus asked them to do, as Jesus had effectively offered him. Saint John does the same in the second reading, calling Jesus an advocate on our behalf, having died for the sins of the whole world. We are now those disciples, witnesses in a spiritual sense. Assured of forgiveness, we are called to repent of our sins and share that forgiveness with one another. We might ask ourselves: For what do I need to repent? Whom should I forgive?

Continue to wish each other "Happy Easter!" Remember that Easter is fifty days of joy and celebration. Each year the Fifty Days of Easter have a kind of "shape" formed by the Sunday scriptures: The second and third Sundays offer encounters with the risen Christ. The fourth Sunday always brings us into the arms of the Good Shepherd. The gospels of the fifth, sixth, and seventh Sundays are drawn from Jesus' "farewell discourse" in John's Gospel, and often the subject is Christian love. In these passages, as in the other places in John's Gospel, Jesus identifies himself with the divine title "I Am," followed by another title – such as "the way, the truth and the life" or "the true vine," etc... At our Baptism we were grafted onto Christ, the true Vine. He is the source of life for all who believe in him. As a vine needs to be pruned and nourished in order to bear fruit, we come into God's presence in order to lead fruitful lives, serving others as Christ invites us to do.

**The month of April is Child Abuse Prevention Month** and we are reminded of the call to be instruments of justice, working for the common good of all, which includes the protection of children. As Jesus entrusts to Peter the care of the flock, we are reminded that this responsibility belongs to everyone as a matter of charity and justice. Throughout the Gospel, Christ calls upon His followers to care for the most vulnerable among us, especially children. Our faith also calls for us to uphold the value of human life and the dignity of the human person. The protection of children is the responsibility of the entire Church, including all the faithful.

We have about 30 little white books left for the Easter Season. They are at the exit of the church for any who are interested in taking one home. They can help us move through the Easter season with some spiritual refreshment.

Pray also for our First Communion children who will soon be receiving their special sacrament the first Sunday May. That is just a few weeks ahead. Keep them in prayer as well as our Confirmation youth who are looking forward to receiving Confirmation on Pentecost Sunday at 2pm.

And, finally, please continue to remember to drop off or send in your weekly contributions to the parish office during this time of special need or drop them at Church.

Thank you for all you are and all you do. God bless you and perhaps I will see you in Church soon, Happy Easter, Fr. Phil



## Liturgy of the Word



**Liturgy of the Word:** Our readings today take us back in time to the days that followed Jesus' resurrection. Peter preached in the temple, promising forgiveness for those who repent and convert. John wrote to the early Christian community, promising the love of God to those who keep the commandments. Before all this, Jesus appeared to his disciples, assuring them of his bodily presence and charging them to testify in his name to the whole world. Let us listen, knowing we are called to do the same.



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. The Knights of Columbus will pray the Rosary for Life every second Sunday of the month. Also a Praise & Worship Service will be held the first Sunday, of each month at 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

### Confession & First Communion

Question:

**Do children need to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation before their First Communion?**

Answer:

For centuries the Catholic Church has taught that a person needs to be in a state of grace (free from mortal sins) in order to worthily receive the Eucharist. To that end, Catholics should make an effort to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation any time they recognize the need for the sacrament (and in keeping with the precept of the Church that asks that we celebrate this sacrament at least once each year).

In the case of children preparing for their First Communion, the Code of Canon Law is very clear that they should also celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation before receiving the Eucharist for the first time: "It is the responsibility, in the first place, of parents and those who take the place of parents as well as of the pastor to see that children who have reached the use of reason are correctly prepared and are nourished by the divine food as early as possible, preceded by sacramental confession" (Canon 914).

While some might question the significance of the Sacrament of Reconciliation — especially in the case of children who might not fully understand the reality of sin or the meaning of the sacrament itself — a child's "First Confession" can be a wonderful time for families to reflect together on the quality of their relationships, how they put their faith into practice, and, when it is possible, to celebrate the sacrament as a family. In the end, the celebration of these two sacraments marks important moments in the spiritual journeys of children and we hope their "First Confession" and "First Communion" help instill in them a love of the sacraments of the Church.

Parish News



Queen of the Apostles

Avoca, Pa

Christmas in July Pot of Gold

The July Pot of Gold Tickets have arrived and are available at the Parish Office. Tickets will be \$10 and prizes will be based on the evening Pick 3 Daily number. Prizes will be awarded beginning July 1st. Daily prized will be \$75 and \$250 will be awarded every Sunday, beginning July 4th. Tickets can be purchased by calling the Parish Office. We thank you for your support. If you have previously received tickets from Ann Marie Piccini and would like those numbers please let us know by calling the parish office.

Stewardship



**04/11/21 Sunday Collection: \$3,708.50**  
Next Sunday's Second Collection:  
**Catholic Home Missions Appeal**  
**Thank you for your generosity!!**

Life, Family & Culture



“Christ invites us to trust in his invisible grace that prompts us to the generosity of supernatural charity, as we identify with everyone who is ill: ‘Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me’ (Mt 25:40).” Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith “Samaritanus bonus: On the Care of Persons in the Critical and Terminal Phases of Life”. (© 2020, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved.)

Congratulations to **Kaylee May** daughter of Timothy and Kristi Kistler Cravetts who was baptized last weekend and **Arya Juliet Grega**, daughter of Jonathan Grega and Bridgett Barrett who will be baptized this weekend. May they stay close to Jesus all of their lives.



**Our  
"Aha"  
Moment**

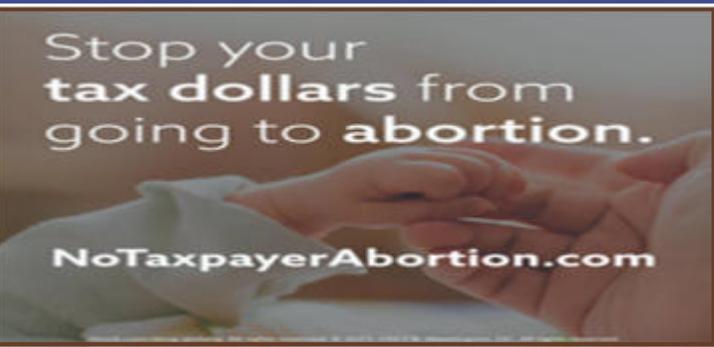
NOTICE TO THE ROMAN CATHOLIC FAITHFUL OF THE DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

The Fraternité Notre Dame Community, since its acquisition of the former Saint Mary of the Assumption Parish complex in South Scranton, Pennsylvania in 2020, has generously provided support to the poor, particularly during the course of the current health crisis. The Community, however, describes itself as a Traditional Catholic Religious Order that is not in union with the Pope. As such, it is not a legitimate religious order of the Catholic Church.

The faithful of the Diocese of Scranton should not attend Masses nor receive the sacraments provided by the Fraternité Notre Dame Community when Masses are available in nearby Churches of the Diocese. Particularly regarding the sacraments of Confirmation and Marriage, these celebrations would not only be illicit, but also invalid.

Our Holy Father's Prayer Intention for April, 2021

**Fundamental Rights** We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.



**Easter Season**



It's the tightrope walk we all try to balance every day, honoring our human emotions while still answering God's call to be better. Being perfect isn't the domain of the Christian — that's the domain of Christ only. Trying and failing, then trying again (and failing again) and again and again? That's the domain of the Christian.

**Community Events**

The Avoca Sesquicentennial Committee are once again selling calendars as a fundraiser for our town's celebration which has been moved from 5/23/21 to early September due to COVID. Cost is \$10.00 per ticket. Cash, check, Venmo and Cash App are accepted for your chance to win. The prizes are exceptional and all winning names will be put back in for another chance to win. Drawing will be live on Facebook beginning 5/1. Calendars are available at the Avoca Borough Building or QAP Parish Office during business hours. All entries and payment are due by 4/30. Contact Colleen Velehoski at 570-466-0492 or the Parish Office. Venmo@Colleen-Velehoski or CashApp: ColleenVelehoski

**Avoca, Pa. Sesquicentennial – May Raffle Calendar**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																												
	Check out the Avoca 150 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Facebook page daily at 7:00 pm for the Live Drawings. Weekend drawings will take place on Fridays. <u>Winning number will be back in the hat for the rest of the month!</u>	App Not Available! Name: @ColleenVelehoski CashApp: @ColleenVelehoski Send payment with your name and phone number in the account. No Tilt on the table for you!		2 Kate Spade deal Purse	3 Amazon Echo Dot	4 	5 	6 Fossil Jori Zip Clutch	7 	8 Anker eufy RoboVac	9 Pioneer Woman Speckle Cookware Set	10 \$25 Calarazzo's Gift Card	11 \$25 Dunkin Donuts Gift Card	12 Fossil Madison Clutch	13 \$25 Valley Meat & Deli Gift Card	14 \$25 McAlpine St. Pub Gift Card	15 \$50 Darden Gift Card	16 Keurig Duo Coffee Machine	17 \$30 Sub Division Gift Card	18 Pioneer Woman Knife Set	19 Fossil Bucket Bag	20 Ring Video Doorbell	21 Schlage Touchscreen Deadbolt	22 \$50 Bill's Sharper Gift Card	15 <sup>th</sup> 55" Smart TV Anniversary Week	23 Blackstone 28" Outdoor Griddle	24 Michael Kors Jet Set Travel Bag	25 Patio Furniture Set	26 KitchenAid Mixer	27 \$50 Cash & \$100 Lottery Tickets	28 Apple Watch (Series 3)	30 28" Propane Fire Pit	31 \$250 Cash Prize	<b>ENTRY FORM</b> Please return this portion to a Sesquicentennial Committee member with your payment. Make checks payable to Avoca Anniversary. State and payment can also be mailed to: "Avoca Anniversary, c/o 950 Main St., Avoca, PA 18641." **If you pay with CashApp or Venmo, this card does NOT need to be returned.** Name: _____ Phone: _____ Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ (\$10 per entry)

**Parish Meetings: April, 2021**

Knights of Columbus	MON	04/26/21	6:30 PM	Parish Hall
---------------------	-----	----------	---------	-------------



**Cursillo**



The Cursillo Movement in the Diocese of Scranton is sponsoring the following programs. All are welcome.

**Women's Cursillo #73  
October, 2021**

**School of Leaders: Saturday, April 17, 2021, 9:30am,** Queen of the Apostles Parish, Avoca.

**Saturday, May 15, 2021, 9:30am,** Queen of the Apostles Parish Hall, Avoca, Pa

For further information, please visit the Cursillo website:  
[www.scrantoncursillo.homestead.com](http://www.scrantoncursillo.homestead.com)

**Diocesan Anniversary Mass for Couples**

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 25<sup>th</sup> or 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in 2021 to a diocesan **Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, June 6** at the Cathedral of St. Peter. The Mass will begin at 2:30, and attendance will require advance reservation.

To register for the celebration follow this link: <https://www.dioceseofscranton.org/parish-life/community/marriage/enrichment/wedding-anniversary-mass-june-6-2021/>

For questions or concerns, or if there are issues registering online, please reach out to Jen Housel, Director for Community and Family Development. ([jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org), 570-207-2213 x 1104).

**A Giant Indoor Flea Market will be held at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, 215 Lackawanna Ave, Dupont, on Saturday, April 24, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday, April 25, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the church hall. Lunch items and baked goods will be available for purchase on Saturday. Sunday will be \$3 bag day! Bags will be provided.**

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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

April 18, 2021 3rd Sunday of Easter

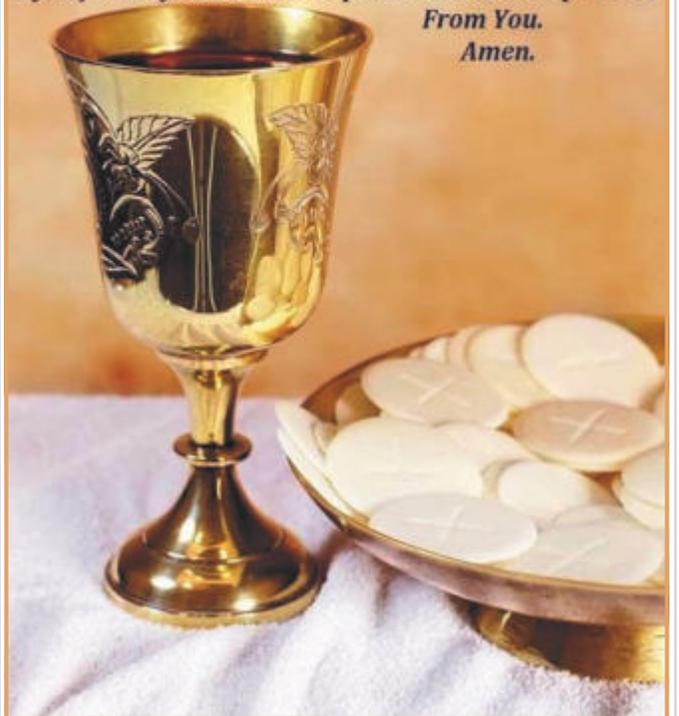
- Monday April 19 8:00 AM David, Jr., Jason & Gil Shearer By Marita Shearer & Family
Tuesday April 20 8:00 AM Bob Adomiak By Trzcinski & Santos Families
Wednesday April 21 ~ St. Anselm, Bishop & Doctor of the Church 7:00 PM Jerry Allardyce By Joan McAndrew
Thursday April 22 8:00 AM M/M David Berlew & Sons By Ned & Mary Kay Jones
Friday April 23 ~ St. George, Martyr & St. Adalbert, Bishop & Martyr 8:00 AM Michael Finnan By Mary & the Boys
Saturday April 24 ~ St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen 4:00 PM Jo Jo Trzcinski, Susan, Joseph & Paul Trzcinski By Trzcinski and Santos Families
Sunday April 25 ~ 4th Sunday of Easter 8:00 AM Parishioners Intentions 10:00 AM John & Nellie Serafin & Daughters By Gronski Family

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.



MEMORIAL OFFERINGS

Masses for the 2021 Calendar Year limited. 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



Beginning Friday, April 16, we would like to begin to reopen our parish hall for small gatherings. We want to start out with events such as Baby and Bridal Showers, Funeral Luncheons, Christenings and First Holy Communion Parties with a maximum capacity of 50-75 people. We still must abide by the CDC guidelines which include wearing masks and social distancing and catering is required. If you have any questions, please call Paul at #570-430-9015 or the Parish Office at #570-457-3412.

Sacramental Bread & Wine throughout April in loving memory of Deceased Members of the Paddock & Wojtkowicz Families by Family

\*\*\*\*\*

Sanctuary Candle in loving memory John & Nellie Serafin & Daughters by Jeanette Gronski

\*\*\*\*\*

Sacred Heart Shrine in loving memory of Allyse Fonzo by Lorraine Bartush

\*\*\*\*\*

Sanctity of Life Memorial in loving memory of Mary Hadley by QAP Women's Guild

# 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**

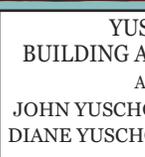


**GREGORY A. TIMONTE PROPRIETOR**  
You make the memories of a lifetime  
We make them last forever  
DUPONT MONUMENT SHOP INC.  
273 Main, Dupont, PA 18641  
PH-570-654-0561 FAX-570-883-0380  
email: dupontmonument@aol.com  
www.Dupontmonumentshop.com

**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



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

**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**

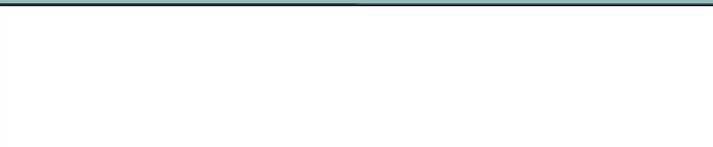
**SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL PARISH.**  
Buy a bulletin ad space today!

**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

**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

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!

**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

