



August 22, 2021 | 21st 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 10:00AM 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**

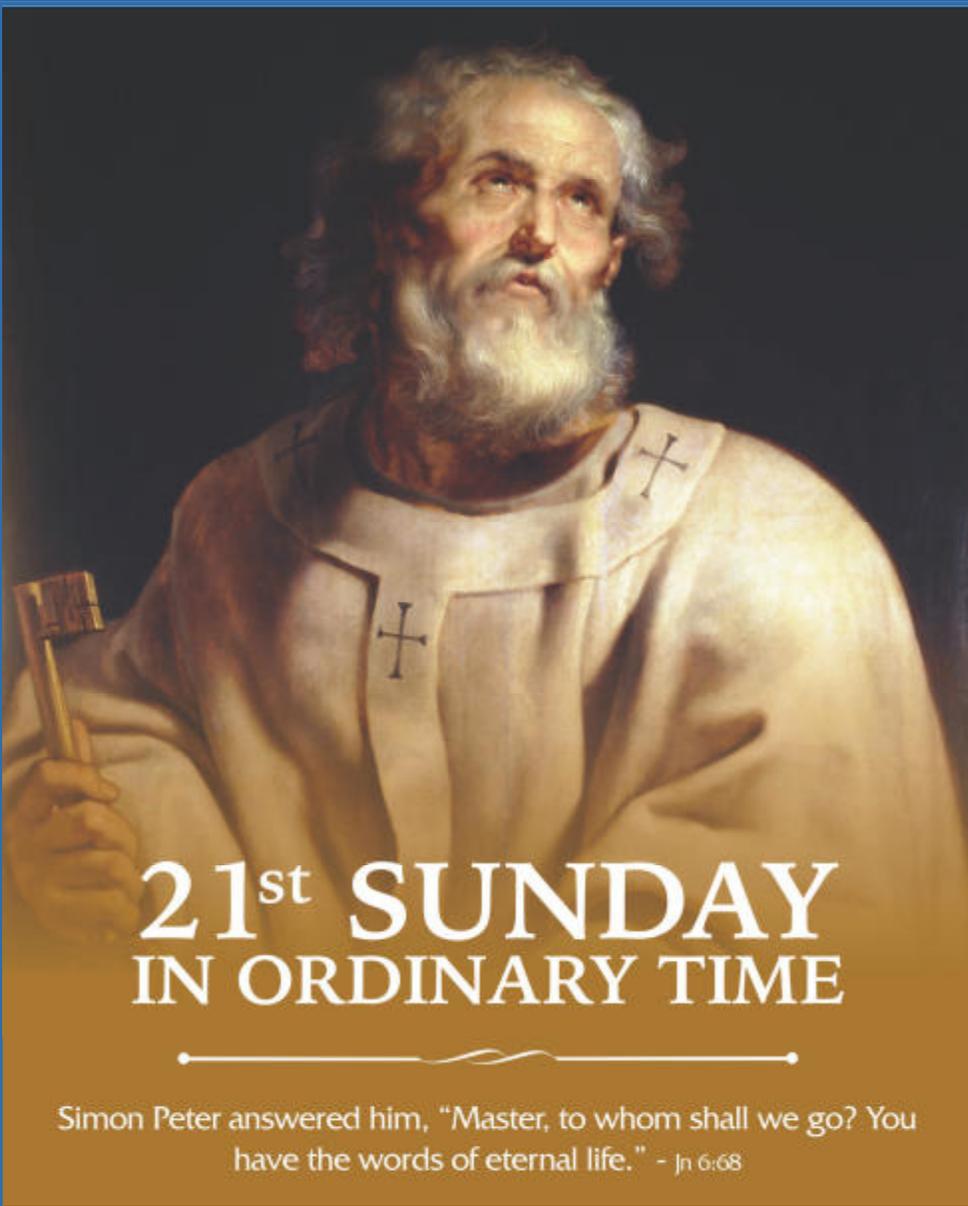
Parish Office  
570-457-3412

#### **Committee Contacts**

Parish Hall Manager  
Paul Franceschelli - 570-430-9015

Social Concerns/Respect Life Ministry  
Ann Jake - 570-457-3521

Women's Guild  
Jane Maxwell 570-457-1107  
New Members are always Welcome!



## 21<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Simon Peter answered him, "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life." - Jn 6:68

#### **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,

Sometimes after making a promise, subsequent events lead you to change your mind. Joshua gave the twelve tribes of Israel an opportunity to do so, then he immediately renewed his commitment to the Lord. The others recommit as well. Centuries later, Jesus' disciples faced the same decision. Jesus had just asked that they eat his flesh and drink his blood. Perhaps these words are the saddest words in the Gospels outside of the Passion: "As a result of this many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him." Mind you these are not Pharisees or scribes; these are his own disciples, the very people who chose to follow him always. And now they've left. So Jesus turns to the Twelve and asks them if they are going to leave, too. Simon Peter speaks on their behalf: "We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God". Without Peter, there may have been no disciples to continue Christ's mission. Peter's commitment in the face of Jesus' shocking words inspire us to affirm our own commitment to Jesus. We might ask how we commit ourselves to being a faithful witness.

Pope Francis once said, "Weep not for what you have lost. Fight for what you have. Weep not for what is dead. Fight for what was born in you. Weep not for the one who abandoned you. Fight for who is with you. Weep not for those who hate you. Fight for those who want you. Weep not for your past. Fight for your present struggle. Weep not for your suffering. Fight for your happiness.

Thank you to all who helped to make Bishop Bamberas's visit to QAP so welcoming this past weekend. I would like to thank my secretary, Kathleen Franceschelli and her husband Paul Franceschelli for organizing the Church and Hall. Also, thank you to the sacristans, Bob Janik, Dave Czar, Ruth Lee, Kermit Loch and GK Bob Ryzner, and the Knights of Columbus who attended. Thank you for your presence and participation. Altar Servers and Cantors, thank you. Thank you to all who set up and baked for the Hall reception. Finally, thank you to all of you who attended this special day. It was a joy to see everyone together after lockdown. Let us pray that our new freedoms after COVID remain.

**September 12** will be the Annual Queen of the Apostles Family Fun Day Picnic at the **Mercatili Segilia Park, Moosic**. It will be a time of family prayer beginning with an outdoor Mass @ **12 Noon**. It will be a time for families to eat together with other parish members at a **Covered Dish** following the Mass. It will be a time of games and fun for all the family that day. It will be the Kick-off for the Youth Alpha program as well.

About ten people from our parish will attend the two day Stewardship Conference at Elizabethtown, PA September 14/15. Msgr. Esseff and Sr. Cor Immaculatum, IHM will be two speakers for this event. There will be eight keynote speakers along with eight Workshop presenters. Bishop Ron Gainer, Harrisburg will be celebrating the liturgies. These will be a dynamic two days.

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:** Today's readings emphasize the need to make a commitment. The tribes of Israel are asked to commit themselves to the god that they choose to serve. Paul speaks about spouses' commitments to their partners as a parallel to the relationship between Christ and the church. Jesus asks the Twelve if they will commit to continue to follow him. As we listen to God's word, let us consider how we would answer each challenge and pray that our commitment to our faith be strengthened.



## Eucharistic Adoration



Adoration hours are Tuesdays, 9:30 am to 8:00 pm. Rosary and benediction begins at 7:30 pm. If you have any questions or would like to verify your hour, please contact Ann Jake @ 570-457-3521. If you would also like to be a Eucharistic Adorer for any hour on Tuesdays or would like to consider being a backup adorer when we are in need, please contact Ann or the Parish Office at #570-457-3412. The Knights of Columbus will pray the Rosary for Life every second Tuesday of the month from 7:00-8:00 pm. Please pray for all prayer intentions for this day.

## Reflections

### Question:

**We live in a country that upholds the separation of Church and state. What is the role of Catholics in society?**

### Answer:

The role of the Church in the world has taken different forms over time, but the theme is the same. Be disciples in it! As the lay faithful — that is, not vowed priest or religious — we are called to live and love in the circumstances of our daily lives. St. John Paul II wrote a document about the laity. In it he wrote, "In their situation in the world God manifests His plan and communicates to them their particular vocation of seeking the Kingdom of God by engaging in temporal affairs and by ordering them according to the plan of God" (On the Lay Members of Christ's Faithful, 15).

God wants us in the hospitals, the board rooms, the law offices, the food pantries, and the little league games! We are to engage in the affairs of the world. But when we're there, we should live the plan of God. We need to respect those around us, engage in just business and legal practices, and love our children. We should care for the earth, use our money wisely, and get to know our neighbors. We must advocate for social policies that respect human dignity and human freedom. No matter our state in life, we are invited to build the kingdom of God!

### Welcome Back



### Knights of Columbus



The "Coats for Kids" Drive continues and boxes are available at each of the doors of the Church and canisters are available for Monetary Donations. We are accepting gently worn and new coats that we can pass on to those in need.

Installation of officers will be held Saturday, August 28, 1:00 pm. at St. Joseph Marelo Church, Pittston. **Suit and tie required.** Families are urged to attend. The Knights Family Clambake will be held 3:00 pm. on the same day on Pittston Township Park on Bryden St. located across from the Pittston Twp. Firehouse. Covered Dish. Call Bob Ryzner at 570-885-2096 with reservations.

A representative from **The Pittston Chapter of the Knights of Columbus Columbettes** will speak briefly before all of the masses this weekend. This is the women's auxiliary for the Knights of Columbus out of St. Joseph Marelo, Pittston.

**Regular Monthly Meeting** will be **Monday, August 23rd at 6:30PM in the Parish Hall.** All men 18 or older who are participating Catholics are invited to join.

#### Our Holy Father's Prayer Intention for Aug, 2021

**The Church:** Let us pray for the Church, that she may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.

### Stewardship



08/15/21 Sunday Collection: \$3,515.00

Thank you for your generosity!



### Life, Family & Culture



"God's love—individual, real, unchanging—is the true source of our worth, identity, and dignity. It really is not a question of who we are, but rather whose we are. Because his love will never change, nothing can reduce our God-given dignity, and nothing can diminish the immeasurable worth of our lives." ~ USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "How to Build a Culture of Life"



The Social Concerns/Respect Life Ministry will be conducting a "Craft Fair and Soup & More Sale" on **October 16, 2021.** Please contact Jane Maxwell at #570-335-8678 if you'd like to participate as a crafter or know of someone who would be interested. Information concerning the Soup & More Sale will be in an upcoming bulletin and online as we get closer to the date.

**Harvest Tea: The Women's Guild, along with the Pastoral Council, will again sponsor the Harvest Tea this year.** The Tea will be held on **Sunday, November 21st at 2:00 PM in the Parish Hall.** We need hostesses to sponsor each table. This includes selecting a theme for your table and providing food and refreshments that support the theme. Coffee and tea will be provided. The Tea is open to everyone, cost to attend is \$10.00 per person. Proceeds from the Tea will go to the Marian Award, which gives scholarships to graduating high-school seniors from our parish who are furthering their education. If you are interested in reserving a table, or if you would like to attend, please contact Jane Maxwell at (570) 335-8678, Chrissy Wastradowski at (570) 466-3676, or the parish office at (570) 457-3412.



Food Pantry Items for August  
Tuna Fish/Canned Meat



**Community Events**



**AVOCA SESQUICENTENNIAL NEWS**

The Avoca Borough 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sesquicentennial Committee is actively seeking basket raffle donations for the Sesquicentennial Celebration weekend! If you or your family would like to donate a basket or raffle item, please contact Kelly at 570-499-7013. All raffle baskets & items are due by September 1<sup>st</sup>.

We are also actively inviting businesses and organizations to join our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary parade! Parade will be held the afternoon of Sunday, September 5<sup>th</sup> and there will be more details to follow for parade participants. If your business or organization would like to celebrate with us by being part of our parade, please contact Holly at 570-237-7190.

**Celebration Events:**

**Friday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>: Battle of the Tracks 2**

**Where: West Avoca Little League Field beginning at 6pm**

A friendly, one night kick ball tournament between Avoca and West Avoca to decide which side of the tracks is best to be from! We are looking for kick ball players to form 4 Avoca Teams and 4 West Avoca Teams. \$10 per player and those interested please reach out to Holly 570-237-7190, Kelly 570-499-7013 or Colleen 570-466-0492 to register.

Not interested in playing? Come root for your side! Music, raffles, fireworks, food & fun!

**Saturday, September 4<sup>th</sup>: Avoca's "Small Business Saturday"**

Support our local businesses, bars and restaurants and see what our small town atmosphere is all about! Some establishments will be offering specials – more details TBA

**Sunday, September 5<sup>th</sup>: Parade & Community Social**

A parade in honor of Avoca's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary will begin at 1pm (exact parade route TBA) with a community gathering immediately following the parade on the grounds of Queen of the Apostle's Parish Hall located at 742 Spring Street featuring raffles, food and live music! Come out and catch up with old friends, new friends and neighbors as we celebrate this special moment in our Borough's history!

Please follow the "Avoca Borough's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration" Facebook page for the most up to date information & details!

**Avoca A.O.H. Neil McLaughlin Division**

**Thomas P. Durkin Memorial Avoca Open**

**The Avoca Open will be held Saturday, Sept. 4th at Pine Hills Golf Course in Taylor, Pa.**



All proceeds benefit the Avoca A.O.H. Scholarship Fund which awards scholarships to local senior high school students based on merit and academic accomplishments. Cost is \$90.00 per golfer and Captain & Crew format. Shotgun start at 8:00AM. Money can be dropped off at the West Side Club every Thursday from 7:00-9:00PM. Contact Gene Philbin at 570-313-3079 or Jim Doran at 570-457-2302 for more information.

**Parish Meetings: August, 2021**

K of C Monthly Meeting	MON	08/23/21	6:30 PM	PARISH HALL
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**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:**

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

**Community Events**



**Saint John the Evangelist Parish in Pittston** will be holding a Take-Out Chicken Parmesan Dinner on **Wednesday, August 25**. Dinners are \$15 each and include chicken parmesan, pasta in tomato sauce, salad with dressing, and Italian bread. Pickup time is on Wednesday, August 25 between 1:00-3:00 p.m. in the Msgr. Bendik Pastoral Center (former Seton Catholic Auditorium).

Entrance is on Church Street in Pittston. Please call Jane Roche at 570-905-0325 no later than Sunday, August 22 to place your order. We are only accepting advance payment. Thank you!



**Avoca Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8335**

Annual Chicken Barbeque Dinner will be held on **August 28, 2021** at the post home, 915 Main St., Avoca. Tickets: \$12 each can be obtained by calling the post home at #570-457-7673 or from any member of the post or Auxiliary. Eat In or Take Out. **Time:** 12-5 pm or until Sold Out.

**Menu:** Chicken, Baked Potato, Corn, Cranberry Sauce & Dessert.

**SELL YOUR STUFF:** Shop for bargains, **St. Mary's Polish National Catholic Church** will be holding a Yard Sale on **SATURDAY, AUGUST 28th 9AM to 2PM**. At 200 Stephenson St. Duryea. For **\$10.00** you can rent an 8 foot by 2 foot table space (**You must bring your own table**) to sell your un-wanted treasures. The yard sale is open to anyone who would like to sell their stuff. We will have food and beverage all day, as well as a bake sale. **PLEASE NOTE: VENDERS & CRAFTERS WELCOME.** To reserve a table space phone 570-457-2291.

**St. Lucy's Church** will be having a "Take Out Penne Pasta Dinner" on **Thursday, September 16, 2021 in the Church Parking Lot (rear of church), 949 Scranton Street, Scranton.** Take-outs dinners are from **3:00-6:00 PM pm (containers provided)**. Cost: \$11.00 per dinner. Dinners include: Penne pasta with meatballs, salad, dinner roll, and biscotti. Tickets available at the door, or call the church rectory (570-347-9421) or Joe (570) 955-7469.

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.

**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

## August 22, 2021† 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time

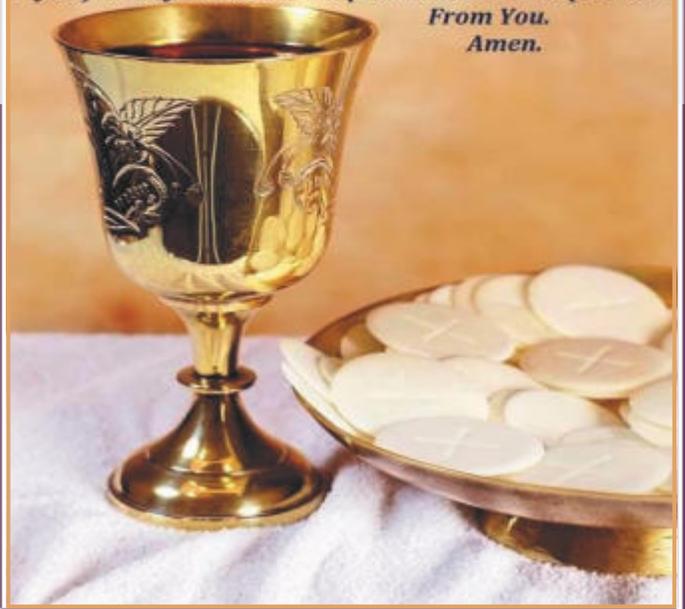
- Monday** August 23 ~ St. Rose of Lima  
8:00 AM **Lillian Bonczek**  
By Ann Marie Callahan & Son, Patrick
- Tuesday** August 24 ~ St. Bartholomew, Apostle  
8:00 AM **Joan Krasnahill**  
By Mary Ann Keating
- Wednesday** August 25 ~ St. Louis & St. Joseph Calasanz  
7:00 PM **Philomena Errico**  
By Ellen Saporito & Bob Houston
- Thursday** August 26  
8:00 AM **Bob Burton**  
By Joan Burton
- Friday** August 27 ~ St. Monica  
8:00 AM **Sister Gertrude Grimes**  
By Rev. Phillip Sladicka
- Saturday** August 28 ~ St. Augustine  
4:00 PM **Harry Schoonover**  
By The Burns Family
- Sunday** August 29 ~ 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
8:00 AM **Parishioners Intentions**
- 10:00 AM **Leo & Helen Babiarz**  
By Paul & Susan Chromey

# 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 **Deborah Radle**. The parish community of Queen of the Apostles offers sympathy to her family and friends.*



**Sacramental Bread & Wine**  
throughout August in loving memory of  
**Deceased members of the Bartush Family**  
by Mike & Ann Jake

\*\*\*\*\*

**Sanctuary Candle**  
in loving memory of  
**Alfred, Angeline & Adeline Romeo**  
by Bob & Donna Charmack

\*\*\*\*\*

**Sacred Heart Shrine**  
in loving memory of  
**Mary Ann Kelly**  
by Mary Janet Gilroy

\*\*\*\*\*

**Sanctity of Life Memorial**  
in loving memory of  
**Tom McLaughlin**  
by Ann Hopkins

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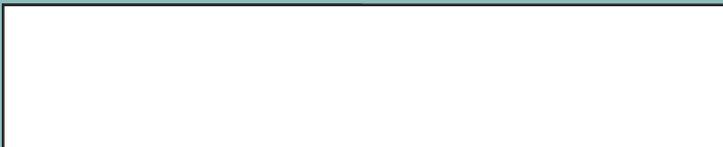
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Welcome Back to Mass

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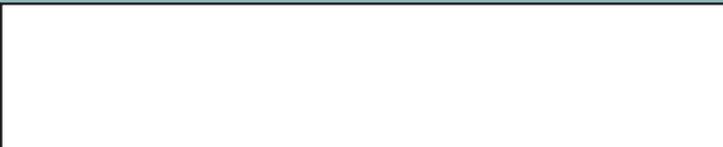
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