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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 ~ Website: www.vbvm.org



*1st Sunday
of Advent*

*And they will
see the Son of
Man coming
in a cloud with
power and
great glory...*

Luke 21: 27

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

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.,
Sunday: 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Weekdays: 7:30 a.m.
Holy Days: (Vigil 4:00 p.m.), 7:30 a.m.,
& 5:30 p.m.
(Please check inside bulletin to confirm Mass times)

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Grade K to 8th Grade
Sundays 9:00 to 10:15 a.m.

SACRAMENTS

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

Baptism: Sunday's 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.

First Sunday of Advent**Weekly Mass Schedule**

Monday 7:30 AM	November 29 Mary Michalczyk offered by Monica
Tuesday 7:30 AM	November 30 Deceased members of the Priests Purgatorial Society
Wednesday 7:30 AM	December 1 Ann Marie Daskiewicz offered by Dayle & Jerry Dobroski
Thursday 7:30 AM	December 2 All Souls Intentions
Friday 7:30 AM	December 3 All Souls Intentions
Saturday 4:00 PM	December 4 Marianne Kulas offered by Joseph Brewinski
Sunday 8:00 AM	December 5 Living and deceased members of our Parish
10:30 AM	Peter & Pearl Srebro offered by Family

IN MEMORIAM**Sanctuary Candle**

Mary & Michael Michalczyk
offered by Monica

Bread & Wine

Joan Roche
offered by husband John and children
Janice, John, James & Judith

Steeple Lights

Lillian & Joseph Kozlowski
Offered by Mudryk, Kozlowski
& Adams Families

CHRISTMAS CASH 50-50 DRAWING

This year's
Christmas Cash 50-50 Drawing
will take place on
Tuesday, December 21st.



The drawing will be posted on our Facebook page immediately following. Four prizes will be given out based on the number of tickets sold. Tickets are \$5.00 each and have been mailed to all registered families. Tickets can be purchased by calling the rectory at 570-489-2091 and are also available in the church vestibule.



Once again this year, instead of setting up a Christmas tree, we will have a list of gift requests on a Google Form that can be accessed through the parish web-site. If you are unable to do this maybe a family member or friend can assist you or call the number below.

TO ACCESS THE FORM: Go to www.vbvm.org and click on the Giving Tree form

These gift requests are for Local Children and Families in our Community that are in need this Christmas.

Please visit the parish web-site for the link to the list of gift requests. Instructions for how to take a child from the list will be included in the Google Form.

All gifts will be due the weekend of December 11th and 12th. We ask that you bring the unwrapped gifts to the church and include with it the number that corresponds to the child or family. Please leave all gifts with corresponding numbers in the side pews.

If you have any questions, please contact Brenda Kovalski at 570-351-1572. Again thank you in advance for your generosity!

Choir Practice For Christmas

will take place at 6:00 PM on:
Wednesday, December 1st
 and
Wednesday, December 15th

OPLATKI Christmas Wafers
 Available in the back of the church

2022 PARISH CALENDARS THANK YOU!




We offer our heartfelt thanks to the Frank T. Mazur Funeral Home and the Mazur Family for sponsoring our Parish calendars.

Thank you for your continued generosity to our parish and on behalf of all our parishioners and friends may God bless you and all those you hold dear this Advent and Christmas Season and throughout the New Year!

MINISTRY MASS SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER 4 & 5

	4:00 PM	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	Debbie Smith	Carol Jaskulski	Bill Michlowski
LECTORS	Robert Hegedus	Robert Filipski	Zachary Kovaleski

2021 Diocese of Scranton
DIOCESAN
 ANNUAL APPEAL 

OUR PARISH GOAL IS: \$55,000.00

PLEDGES TO DATE: \$44,461.00

WE ARE \$10,539.00 AWAY FROM OUR GOAL

Bishop Joseph C. Bambera extends his sincere gratitude to everyone who has already made a pledge to the 2020 Diocesan Annual Appeal. Every gift truly matters. If you have made a pledge and your name does not appear below, please allow up to 4 weeks for your pledge to be processed by the Diocesan Development Office.

(Note: the parish office does not process pledges or payments. Please send your pledge directly to the Diocese of Scranton, 300 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, PA 18503.)

We thank the following families whose pledges we received this week:

Mr. & Mrs. Eddie Angeloni	Ms. Roberta Butkiewicz	Mrs. Geri Evans
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Antos	Mr. Richard Byron	Mrs. Linda Fawzon
Mrs. Nancy Bachurek	Ms. Karin Callis	Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Felter
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Barthold	Mrs. Dorothy Canevari	Mr. & Mrs. Edward Filipski
Mr. Vincent Bartkovsky	Mr. & Mrs. Scott Capman	Mr. Robert Filipski
Mr. Donald Bednarczyk	Mrs. Sally Coveleskie	Mr. & Mrs. James Flannery
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Bednarczyk	Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Dando	Mrs. Mary Therese Franklin
Mrs. Theresa Bernatowicz	Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Decker	Ms. Marie Froncek
Mrs. Ann Marie Bitsko	Mr. Nicholas DeRoma	Ms. Theresa Froncek
Ms. Mary Bocklett	Mr. & Mrs. William DeSavino	Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Fueshko
Mr. & Mrs. Dominick Bonacci Jr.	Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Dobroski	Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Gavronsky Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Borosky	Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Donski	Mrs. Jeanette Goyne
Mr. Peter Boyko	Mr. & Mrs. James Doyle	Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Guzzi
Mr. Joseph Brewinski	Mrs. Carol Dzwieleski	Ms. Christine Hall
Ms. Barbara Brown	Mr. & Mrs. John Echan	Ms. Mary Ann Hart
Ms. Audrey Butkiewicz	Mrs. Joan Ernst	<i>Continued on next page...</i>

2021 DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

We thank the following families whose pledges we received this week:

Mrs. Dorothy Hauser
Mrs. Marion Hill
Mr. & Mrs. Robert C. Hine
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Holeva Sr.
Mrs. Joan Holzman
John & Christine Hopkins
Mr. John Horvath
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Jaskulski
Mr. & Mrs. Maldwyn Jones
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Joseph
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Jurkiewicz
Mrs. Elaine Kaminski
Mr. & Mrs. James Kanton Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Kapinus
Mr. & Mrs. Conrad Kelechowa
Mr. & Mrs. Howard King
Mr. & Mrs. James Kisel
Mr. Craig & Mrs. Lisa Kita Myers
Mr. Frank Klassner Jr.
Mrs. Lorraine Klassner
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Kobierecki
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Kobierecki
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Kobierecki
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Kobierecki
Mrs. Elaine Koslowski
Mr. Joseph Kotowski
Mr. & Mrs. John Kowalski
Ms. Delores Kownaski
Mr & Mrs. Walter Krucar
Ms. Lynn Krushinski
Mr. Clarence Krzan
Ms. Helen Krzyna
Mrs. Elaine Lach
Mrs. Leona Lebida
Mr. & Mrs. David Lewis
Miss Eleanor Lilik
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Lilik
Ms. Theresa Lisowski
Mr. & Mrs. John Ludwig
Mr. Ronald Mancia
Miss Andrea Marcinkevicz
Miss Geraldine Marcinkevicz
Mr. Jason Matuszewski
Mr. & Mrs. Michael May
Mrs. Donna McHugh
Mrs. Irma Meoni
Mr. Michael Michlowski Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Victor Milani
Mr. Dennis Mishko
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Mishura
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Mol

Mr. Daniel Mol Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. James Moore
Mrs. Eleanor Moreiko
Mrs. Arleen Mudryk
Mrs. Marie Myskowski
Mrs. Carol Ann Nelson
Mr. Joseph Niemotka
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Nieratko
Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Ockerman
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Oleski
Mrs. Sophie Padula
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Parchinski
Ms. Carole Paswinski
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Paulus
Mrs. Antoinette Perko
Mr. & Mrs. John Petroski
Ms. Joyce Pezanowski
Mr. & Mrs. Alexander Piela
Atty. John E.V. Pieski
Ms. Dolores Pisarski
Mrs. Dorothy Plevyak
Mr. Edward Polkowski
Mr. John Pollock
Mr. John Popeck Jr.
Mrs. Mary Anne Popick
Mr. Michael Popick
Mr. Anthony Poplawsky
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Porosky
Monsignor Patrick J. Pratico
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Prushinski
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Prushinski
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Pruzinsky
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Repecki
Mr. Ronald Retchko
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Rojek Jr.
Mrs. Nancy Roman
Mr. & Mrs. David Romanczyk
Mr. & Mrs. Leon Rudzinski
Miss Carol Rutkowski
Mrs. Cecelia Ryczak
Miss Joanne Ryczak
Mrs. Ann Marie Salva
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Scinicariello
Ms. Sharon Secora & Helen Kolenda
Mr. & Mrs. David Selvenis
Miss Mariella Selvenis
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Senkow
Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Shalkowski
Mrs. Leocadia Shelesky
Mrs. Ann Sheruda
Mr. & Mrs. William Shigo

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Shotto
Mr. & Mrs. John Shygelski
Mrs. Ruth Snell
Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Sowinski
Mrs. Mary Sowinski
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Sparrow
Ms. Stacey Sparrow
Mr. & Mrs. William Spegar
Ms. Sandra Spinello
Ms. Felicita Srebro
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Srebro
Mrs. Tozia Stachacz
Ms. Lorraine Stempniak
Mr. Brandon Straub
Mrs. Annette Strubeck
Mrs. Judith Swartz
Mrs. Barbara Szweczyk
Mr. & Mrs. William Tarby
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Tomassetti
Mr. Theodore Tomko
Mrs. Michele Torre
Mr. John Tracewski
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Tratthen
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Valonis
Ms. Mari Valonis
Mrs. Mary Vanston
Mrs. Adrienne Vavrlick
Mr. Stephen Vavrlick Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Vitiello
Mr. William Washo
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Wiktor
Ms. Mary Ann Wnuk
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Wnuk
Mrs. Maryanne Woodyatt
Ms. Lucille Wyszynski
Ms. Rosemary Yankovich
Mr. John Zielinski
Mrs. Mary Ann Ziomek
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Zuczek

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS



PREPARING THE MANGER

Where do you fall in the “Christmas-songs-in-November” debate — do you like them, tolerate them, or outright hate them? There’s no theological problem with Christmas songs in November outside of worship, even if it’s not everyone’s cup of tea. But there is a problem with getting so caught up in the baggage of the season — the trimmings, the gifts, the celebrations, all of which are marvelous in their own way — that you forget to prepare the manger.

Every good Catholic knows that Lent is a penitential season. It’s hard to miss that point — Lent doesn’t even have any fun songs you can groove to on the radio. We are pretty good at recognizing that Lent calls us to examine ourselves. To deny ourselves. To give of ourselves. And most of all, Lent calls us to prepare, as a good steward does, for the return of our master.

It’s harder for us to remember that with Advent, but Advent is just as much of an opportunity for penance, preparation, and reconciliation to God — and just as much reason, too. The very name of the season — “advent” — encourages us to focus on what is coming, not what is already here. Be on guard, the readings tell us today, “so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and (the coming of the Lord) catch you unexpectedly, like a trap.”

So let us not forget — our master’s advent is upon us. And let us ask ourselves: how can we prepare the manger?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

A promotional graphic for the #iGiveCatholic 2021 challenge. The background is a snowy mountain landscape. On the left, there is a logo with a cross and a banner, the hashtag #iGIVECATHOLIC, and a Blackstone griddle with food cooking on it. In the center, large text reads "RISE to the Challenge!" followed by "#iGiveCatholic 2021!" and "NOVEMBER 15-30 ONLY!". Below this is the URL "https://scranton.igivecatholic.org/". A QR code is shown with an arrow pointing to it and a "SCAN ME" button below. On the right, there are images of prizes: a red Yeti cooler, a blue Hydro Flask water bottle, a purple Hydro Flask water bottle, a mug, and a compass. At the bottom, text reads: "Make a Diocesan Annual Appeal gift of at least \$20 on our parish's page and get a chance to win an array of outdoorsy prizes celebrating God's creation! Help our parish climb national leaderboards while supporting our ministries. Your support also can help our parish win \$1,000 cash prizes. Already given? An additional \$20 gift doubles your chances to win! Questions? E-mail Sandra-Snyder@dioceseofscranton.org or call 570-591-5004. HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/IGIVECATHOLICDIOCESEOFSCRANTON Like/Follow this page to participate in two weeks' worth of pop-up challenges with more prizes!"

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORING PARISHES

CHRIST THE KING PARISH

429 Church Street
Archbald, PA 18403

HOLIDAY RAFFLE

1st Prize: \$10,000.00

2nd Prize: \$5,000.00

3rd Thru 7th: \$1,000.00

DONATION IS \$100.00



Drawing will be live-streamed on
Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at 6:30 PM
Parish Office 570-876-1701



Dickson City Civic Center Winter Craft and Vendor Fair

Saturday, December 4, 2021

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Admission is free

Support local businesspeople
and the DCCC!

Now seeking vendors and crafters.

Call 570-383-1813 for more information.

Catholic Parishes from Lackawanna and Luzerne Counties Present *Light and Life to All He Brings,* an Advent Service of Word and Song

Three Roman Catholic parishes in northeastern Pennsylvania are continuing an annual tradition of collaborating to present two special services during the upcoming Advent season. *Light and Life to All He Brings*, an Advent service of word and song, will be presented in locations in Lackawanna and Luzerne Counties on Thursday, December 9 and Sunday, December 12. *Both services are free and open to the public.*

The first service will be held at 7 PM on Thursday, December 9 at Holy Family Parish Church, 574 Bennett Street, Luzerne.

The second is set for Sunday, December 12 at St. Anthony of Padua Church, 208 Smith Street, Dunmore, beginning at 6 PM.

This year marks the twelfth year of this remarkable collaboration among three parishes in two counties. The music for the service features the combined choir of voices from Holy Family Parish, Luzerne (Rev. Jarrod Waugh, CSC, administrator); Saints Anthony and Rocco Parish, Dunmore (Rev. David P. Cappelloni, Pastor); and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Dunmore (Rev. John Doris, Pastor), as well as several soloists and an instrumental ensemble.

Light and Life to All He Brings, offers those who participate an opportunity to embrace the season of Advent and its spirit of preparation for Christmas through Scripture readings and musical selections.

St. Lucy's Church,
949 Scranton St. , Scranton
will be holding

SAINT LUCY'S FEAST DAY CELEBRATION PATRONESS OF EYES

on Saturday, Dec. 11, 2021
at 4:00 PM Mass

As part of our celebration, Fr. Sam Ferretti will be blessing our congregation with our 1st class relic of Saint Lucy. Parishioners are encouraged to invite friends and family whom are suffering from any eye ailments to have an individual blessing with the relic.

At the conclusion of Mass, we invite everyone to join us for a coffee and cake social in Cabrini Hall located in the basement of the church.



Monday Night Bingo!

Doors open at 5:00 pm

Early Bird begins at 6:30 pm

Regular Games immediately following

Have fun with us on Monday Nights by joining a
great group of volunteers at our parish Bingo!

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