



**Mission Statement**

We as members of the Body of Christ, through our thoughts, words and deeds, celebrate the presence of God in all people. As a community of believers, we answer Christ's call to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless and love one another.

**August 11, 2019**

**Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Immaculate Conception Church**

**Holy Redeemer Church**

**Parish Office**

**605 Luzerne Avenue  
West Pittston, PA 18643  
Phone (570) 654-2753  
Fax (570) 654-9244**

**Msgr. John J. Sempa**, Pastor

**Mr. James Meizanis**, Deacon

**Mrs. Joyce Cecconi**,

Pastoral Associate

**WEEKEND CELEBRATION  
OF THE EUCHARIST**

Sat 4:00PM Immaculate Conception  
Sat 5:30PM Holy Redeemer  
Sun 7:30AM Immaculate Conception  
Sun 9:00AM Holy Redeemer  
Sun 10:30AM Immaculate Conception

**WEEKDAY CELEBRATION  
OF THE EUCHARIST**

7:30AM Immaculate Conception  
8:30AM Holy Redeemer

**CONFESSION**

Saturday 3:00PM - 3:30PM  
Mondays 5:45-6:45PM (during Lent)  
Immaculate Conception

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

Wednesdays 9:00AM - 10:00AM  
Holy Redeemer

**Gluten Intolerant?**

If you cannot tolerate gluten, please receive communion on the tabernacle side of the church and let the person distributing communion know you need gluten free.

**August 11, 2019**

Readings/Responsorial #1148

Gathering: #884 For All the Saints

Offertory: #641 Love Devine, All Loves  
Excelling

Communion: #691 On Eagle's Wings

Recessional: #677 A Living Faith

**Weekly Collection**

**August 4, 2019**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>\$ 8,960.41</b>
<b>E Giving</b>	<b>1,080.81</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$10,041.22</b>

**Welcome Home, Father Tracy**

Did you see a strange priest? No, not Msgr Sempa, rather Father Jim Tracy, who recently retired and is living in Exeter. Fr Tracy will be available to help many parishes. He is a native son of our parish, having been raised in West Pittston! When Fr Tracy isn't helping other parishes, he will be celebrating mass in our parish!

**Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Thursday, August 15th is the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary which is a Holy Day of Obligation. Our Mass schedule is as follows: Vigil Mass, Wednesday, August 14th at 6:00PM at Holy Redeemer. Masses on Thursday, August 15th: 7:30AM Mass @ Immaculate Conception, 8:30AM Mass at Holy Redeemer and 6:00PM Mass at Immaculate Conception.

**500 Club Lottery**

Next weekend, August 17 & 18, our 500 Club lottery tickets will be available for sale before and after all Masses. Donation is \$30.00 and the ticket is good for the month of September. Each ticket has two sets of numbers which will double your chances of winning. Just match the evening drawing of the Pa Lottery Daily for a chance to win \$50.00 daily, Monday thru Saturday or \$150.00 on Sundays. Please note if you are dropping your lottery request form and check in the collection or mailing it to the rectory, you will receive your lottery tickets near the end of August.

**Adult Choir**

Our adult choir will begin rehearsing on Monday, August 19th. The choir meets every Monday at 6:30PM in Immaculate Conception Church. Adults and teens, if you like to sing, you are welcome to join our adult choir.

**St Clare Sewing Ministry Meeting**

Members of this ministry are asked to attend a planning meeting on Tuesday, August 13th at 6:00PM in the rectory. This will be a planning meeting to come up with some fall/winter projects. If you enjoy crafting, sewing, knitting or if you would like to learn, you are welcome to join us.

**Bazaar Wrap-Up Meeting**

A bazaar wrap-up meeting is schedule for Wednesday, August 21st at 6:00PM in the rectory. All are welcome to attend.

**Liturgical Ministries Picnic**

Save the date!! Sunday, September 15, 2019 @ 1:00PM will be the date for our annual Liturgical Ministries Picnic. Details to follow.

**E-Giving Program**

For information on participation in our E-giving Program, call Lori at the rectory office 570-654-2753. This service allows you to give any amount, at any time, from home or on the road, with your computer or mobile device.

## **Admittance to Hospitals/Nursing Homes/ Homebound**

If you or a family member are admitted to a hospital, please remember to tell the admissions office you belong to Corpus Christi Parish. The hospitals will not release names of parishioners to us without this release and we will not know that you are in the hospital. Also please let us know if your loved ones are in a nursing home or if they are homebound.

## **Religious Ed/Confirmation Prep Classes**

Classes for the 2019-2020 school year will begin in our parish on Sunday, September 8, 2019. Classes for boys and girls K thru Grade 7 will be held on Sunday mornings. Confirmation prep classes for students in grade 8 will be held twice a month on Sunday evenings. A letter and registration forms for the 2019-2020 year will be mailed to the families of children who attended classes here last year.

## **Sacraments**

Boys and girls in 2nd grade will receive the Sacrament of First Reconciliation on February 8, 2020 and the Sacrament of First Eucharist on May 2, 2020. Students in 8th grade will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on May 31, 2020. All Sacraments will be held at Immaculate Conception Church.

## **Social Concerns News**

### **■Backpacks/Supplies**

Donations of backpacks (elementary thru high school), pens, #2 pencils, markers, notebooks/paper (wide & college ruled), folders, calculators, rulers, stapler/staples, flash drive, binders (3-ring), pencil pouches/pencil boxes, hand sanitizer and tissues are all very welcome. Please know any donations will be greatly appreciated.

### **■Food Drive Donations**

While donations of any non-perishable foods are always appreciated, this week we are asking for treats for children including individually wrapped packages of crackers, cookies, jello, puddings or any fun size snacks all children love. Kindly leave donations in the vestibules of the churches.

### **■Personal Hygiene Donations**

Establishing proper hygiene is key to a sense of self and better health. If you can help, we are asking for donations of personal hygiene products for children/teens. Some suggested items could include: toothpaste, toothbrushes, mouthwash, shampoo, body wash, deodorant, soap, etc.

### **■Back-to-School Distribution & Pick-up**

Volunteers will be needed on Sunday, August 18th at 5:00PM in Immaculate Conception Church hall to pack and prepare for distribution, the back-to-school supplies, personal hygiene products and food.

## **Altar Candles at ICC**

Which will burn this week in loving memory of **Barbara Cawley** are donated by Mary Curley & Family.

## **Holy Family Candle at ICC**

Which will burn this week in loving memory of **Clem Parulis** is donated by his wife, Diane.

## **Sanctuary Candle at ICC**

Which will burn this week in loving memory of the **Deceased Members of Bishop, Brown, Serafin, & Pasternak Families** is donated by John & Maryellen Serafin.

## **Courtesy News**

### **Light of Day in the Middle of the Night**

Our Mayor, Tom Blaskiewicz has made the following request: In our community, with love and respect to honor the victims in El Paso and Dayton, this Saturday evening, August 10, we ask you to put on your outdoor lights or side lights. Let the light show the love and respect we have for each other, show honor to our first responders and our police and everyone in this great country of ours. If you are just hearing about the mayors request, and you would like to participate, but missed the Saturday night opportunity, please do it Sunday night!

## **Mass Intentions**

### **August 12 thru August 18, 2019**

Mon	7:30AM	<b>John, Elijah &amp; Andrew Washo</b> By Parents, Amy & Jason
	8:30AM	<b>Ray Cronauer</b> By Matt Engel
Tues	7:30AM	<b>Michael Pisony</b> By Ron Salvatore
	8:30AM	<b>Grace Alco</b> By Son, James
Wed	7:30AM	<b>Glen Switzer</b> By Caol & Chuck Dente
	8:30AM	<b>Christopher Ryan Bone</b> By Ann Marie Smutko
	6:00PM	<b>Joan Sokach</b> By Stephen & Mary Beth
Thurs	7:30AM	<b>Harry O'Dell</b> By Wife, Marianne, Children & Grandchildren
	8:30AM	<b>Leopold J Ianuzzi</b> By Zaloga Family
	6:00PM	<b>Paul Anzalone</b> By Lisa Anzalone
Fri	7:30AM	<b>Deceased Members of Ann J Bell &amp; Family</b> By Mary Margaret & Bill
	8:30AM	<b>Jeroma Foy</b> By Daughter, Mary & Family
Sat	4:00PM	<b>Rose &amp; John Dente, Frank Braccini &amp; Rita, Ross, Sr &amp; Anna Maria DeNisco</b> By Ross & Rosemary
	5:30PM	<b>Ed Bomba</b> By Judy Hine
Sun	7:30AM	<b>Florence &amp; William Ulichney</b> By John & Denise Ulichney
	9:00AM	<b>Liv &amp; Dec'd Membs of the Dziak &amp; Franko Families</b> By Mike Dziak, Jr.
	10:30AM	<b>Cheryl Devers</b> By Rosella Fedor



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON  
300 WYOMING AVENUE  
SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA 18503-1279

August, 2019

Dear Friends,

This month marks one year since the Pennsylvania Grand Jury report was released, exposing inappropriate past actions of Church leaders here in the Diocese of Scranton and beyond. I understand that many of you are still shocked, angered and disappointed over the uncomfortable and unsettling issues that were raised. My heart continues to break for those who have suffered abuse and I once again apologize for the sorrow and pain that they and their families have suffered. I apologize as well to all of you for the breach of trust that you have had to endure as a result of the actions and cover up by some members of the clergy in our Church. There is simply no place in a civilized society for the abuse of children - and certainly not within our Church.

Words, however, are never enough. Since August 2018, the Diocese of Scranton has continued to build upon past efforts and taken new steps to keep our children safe and restore your trust in the Church. From publicly releasing a list of credibly accused individuals, to holding listening sessions in many of our parishes, establishing the Independent Survivors Compensation Fund and continuing to mandate background checks and training programs for all clergy, employees and volunteers, we are doing everything in our power to prevent future cases of abuse and provide support for survivors. While you can find additional steps we've taken to keep children safe on our Diocesan website ([www.dioceseofscranton.org](http://www.dioceseofscranton.org)), that doesn't change the heartbreaking events of the past.

Since I became Bishop in 2010, I have made it a priority to improve how we handle allegations of abuse. The safety and security of children is our primary concern. If allegations of abuse arise, I have acted swiftly, transparently and appropriately.

Yet, we must all work together to help our Church heal and to move forward in a positive way. The mission of bringing the life and love of Jesus into the lives of God's people is a task entrusted to each one of us. The work of healing our Church is no different. As a Church, we must recognize the burden of what has happened and continue to encourage anyone who may be a survivor of abuse to come forward.

Last month, as I gathered with members of our young Church at the annual *Light the Fire Youth Rally*, I shared with them a message I saw on social media which asked young Catholics why they stay in the Church given these troubling times. The question received more than one thousand replies - and not surprisingly -- a majority of the answers were the same. As we continue to confront the difficult realities of the past, so many of you have stayed in our Church because of what we find - good people of faith, whose hearts are filled with the Spirit - the living Word of God - and the sacramental life that culminates in the Eucharist, the very presence of Jesus given to us for our life, salvation and peace. May Jesus' presence in our midst continue to guide our efforts as we move forward.

Thank you and God bless.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L.  
Bishop of Scranton