

The Linked Parishes of Corpus Christi and St. Barbara



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

April 14, 2024
Third Sunday of Easter

Immaculate Conception Church

Holy Redeemer Church
St. Anthony Church

Msgr. John J. Sempa, Pastor
Rev. Michael Drevitch,
Assistant Pastor
Corpus Christi &

St. Barbara Parishes
605 Luzerne Avenue
West Pittston, PA 18643
Phone (570) 654-2753
Phone (570) 654-2103
Fax (570) 654-9244

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday

4:00PM St. Anthony

5:30PM Immaculate Conception

Sunday

7:30AM St. Anthony

9:00AM Holy Redeemer

10:30AM Immaculate Conception

Confession

Saturday

3:00PM to 3:30PM

St. Anthony Church

Daily Mass Schedule

Mon 7:30AM Immaculate Conception

8:30AM Holy Redeemer

12:10PM St. Anthony

Tues 7:30AM Immaculate Conception

8:30AM Holy Redeemer

Wed 7:30AM Immaculate Conception

8:30AM Holy Redeemer

12:10PM St. Anthony

Thurs 7:30AM Immaculate Conception

8:30AM Holy Redeemer

Fri 7:30AM Immaculate Conception

8:30AM Holy Redeemer

12:10PM St. Anthony

Watch Sunday & Daily Mass on

Corpus Christi Facebook

www.facebook.com/corpuschristiparishpa

Weekly Collection

April 7, 2024

St. Barbara

Weekly.....\$4,662.23

E-Giving.....\$250.00

Easter.....\$1,690.00

Total \$6,602.23

Corpus Christi

Weekly.....\$10,046.90

E-Giving.....\$2,435.43

Easter.....\$1,564.00

Total \$14,046.33

Missionary Appeal This Weekend

This weekend at all Masses, please welcome Father François X. Eale from the Democratic Republic of Congo, who will speak on behalf of the Diocese of Bokungu-Ikela in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

A second collection will be taken at all Masses to support their missionary work. Thank you for your generous response to this appeal for the church's mission in Congo!

Corpus Christi Parish Holy Name Society Family Brunch

Please note the date for this brunch has changed. The new date is Sunday, June 9, 2024 at 11:15AM in Immaculate Conception Church Hall. If you bought tickets and cannot make the new date, please call the rectory for a refund. Our guest speaker is Dennis Bonvie, former AHL/NHL player and current scouting coach for the Boston Bruins. Tickets are available at the rectory and after Masses.

Adults over 16 years.... \$12.00, Children 6 to 16 years.... \$6.00, Children 5 years and under..... Free

Low Gluten Hosts at Mass

Low gluten hosts are available at all Masses at the following locations:

- ▶ Holy Redeemer Church-side aisle on Tabernacle side
- ▶ Immaculate Conception Church-side aisle on Tabernacle side
- ▶ St. Anthony Church-center aisle on right side facing altar (choir side)

Daily Mass at St. Anthony Church

Just a reminder that daily Mass is celebrated at St. Anthony Church on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 12:10PM. Mass will permanently be located in the chapel in the rear of the church, including First Fridays.

St. Barbara Parish Census

To help us keep our parish census current, we recently mailed a census form to all active parishioners of St. Barbara Parish. If you did not receive a new census, please contact the parish office at 570 654 2753 and one will be mailed to you. **Please return your completed census to: St. Barbara Parish, 605 Luzerne Avenue, West Pittston, Pa 18643 or drop it in the weekend collection.** Thank you!

Corpus Christi Parish 13th Annual Car Show Sunday, May 5, 2024



(Rain Date: Sunday, May 12, 2024)

11:00AM-4:00PM

Holy Redeemer Church Grounds

Antiques, Classics, Customs, Street Rods, Low Riders, Motorcycles.....Car registration begins 11:00AM..... Food trucks.....Give-A-Ways....Music All Day...Car Registration \$15.00. The next Car Show meeting will take place on **Monday, April 22 at 6:00PM in Immaculate Conception Rectory.** All are welcome!

**First Eucharist Retreat
Saturday, April 20, 2024
9:00AM to 12 Noon**

Immaculate Conception Hall

All boys and girls preparing to receive the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist are asked to attend this retreat. Lunch will be served. Parent help is most welcome. If you can help, please contact Patti at 570 428 3381 or pattiw1018@gmail.com. A meeting for the volunteers will be held on Thursday, April 18 at 6:00PM in Immaculate Conception Rectory.

Social Concerns Soup Ministry

Once again this week our Social Concerns "soup ministers" will be making a delicious soup which will be delivered to our 80 plus homebound parishioners from Corpus Christi & St. Barbara Parishes. Volunteers who can help with the soup are asked to meet in Immaculate Conception kitchen on Wednesday and Thursday, April 17 & 18 at 9:00AM. Volunteers who deliver to our homebound, please contact Joyce at 5706542753 or icecco-ni50@gmail.com to make arrangements for deliveries.



"That Foam Party Guy" & "Ice Creamers" Ice Cream Truck

Join us for some good clean fun for toddlers to adults! Foam never disappoints, neither does ice cream!! You may want to bring a towel!! In case of inclement weather, ice cream will be served in the church hall.



**Mass Honoring Our Class of 2024 High School Graduates
Sunday, June 2, 2024
10:30AM Mass
Immaculate Conception Church**

All 2024 high school graduates from Corpus Christi and St. Barbara Parishes are invited to this Mass. We invite the graduates to take part in the liturgy as lectors, ushers, gift bearers. Following the Mass all graduates and their guests are invited to join us in the church hall for brunch. To help us prepare for the brunch, we are asking you to please RSVP to Joyce at 570 654 2753 or iceconiu50@gmail.com by May 15th with the number of people who will be attending. Thank you.

Youth Choir Practice

Youth Choir practice Sunday, April 14 at 5:30PM in Immaculate Conception Church.

Knights of Columbus Council 18246

Will meet Monday, April 15 at 7:00PM in the rectory!

Liturgy Intentions For The Week



April 15 thru 21, 2024

Mon 7:30AM (ICC)	Joseph Kulesza By Mary Carol & Jerry
8:30AM (HRC)	Anthony Bonomo By Georgia Young
12:10PM(SAC)	Eleanor Foderaro By Book Club Friends
Tues 7:30AM (ICC)	Elizabeth Hughes By Jill Szura
8:30AM (HRC)	Daniel Smitka By Family
Wed 7:30AM (ICC)	Frank & Josephine Mirabelle By Children
8:30AM (HRC)	Gloria Vullo By Lamoreaux Family
12:10PM (SAC)	Judith Barone By Jim & Cathy Serino
Thurs 7:30AM (ICC)	George Mason By Romaine Panek
8:30AM (HRC)	Jimmy Gardner By Friends
Fri 7:30AM (ICC)	Louis & Elvera Cella By Family
8:30AM (HRC)	Dave Dembowski By Friends
12:10PM (SAC)	Joseph & Adella Zavada By Marion & Joseph Rubino & Family
Sat 4:00PM (SAC)	Stacie Ann Powers By Anne Powers & Family
5:30PM (ICC)	John & Helen Yakobitis By Lenny & Cindy Bialy
Sun 7:30AM (SAC)	Loretta M. Malsky By Bob & Celeste Calpin
9:00AM (HRC)	Ulderico & Giovanna Conte, Peter Nunziata & Maria Sarno By Nardell Family
10:30AM (ICC)	Beth Szeghy By Bob & Celeste Calpin

Candles

The following candles will burn in loving memory of:

Altar Candles at ICC
Helene Manganiello.....By Family

Holy Family Candle at ICC
Clem Parulis.....By Wife, Diane

Sanctuary Candle at ICC
Luke & Gloria Duignam.....By Ed & Tish

Sanctuary Candle at SA
Robert Crosbie.....By Tina & Melissa



A \$50.00 donation for flowers has been made to St. Barbara Parish by the Berti Family in loving memory of Cassandra Bellas.



VISION 2030

*Creating Parish Communities
Rooted in the Life of Jesus Christ*



DIOCESE OF
SCRANTON

Dear Parishioners,

As we continue to celebrate the joy of Easter, the Lord's light lives in each one of us. We are all called to reveal the living Christ to the world in the way we serve one another, especially those in need.



Immaculate Conception Church



Saint Anthony of Padua Church

While writing a letter like this is not my "style" - I am doing it because we have a great story to tell. Since Corpus Christi and Saint Barbara Parishes first became linked in May 2022, our parishes have come together beautifully.

From the very first day, we recognized that we are all neighbors sharing the same faith. Under the leadership of our staff, Parish Pastoral Councils and Finance Councils, as well as our many other ministries, we made each other feel welcomed and comfortable - no matter which church building you attended. We quickly realized all we had in common, especially our faith and desire to serve those most in need. I am so grateful to be your pastor.



Church of the Holy Redeemer

Over the last 24 months, we have grown together, with so many of our ministries combining and experiencing success. You need look no further than the tremendous energy our parishes have experienced in just the last few weeks - from overflowing our shelves with donations from the reverse Lent calendar, to the Living Stations of the Cross presented by the youth of our parishes, to the beautiful liturgical celebrations experienced during Holy Week.

With this in mind, and after considerable consultation with our Joint Pastoral Council and Finance Councils of both parishes - we believe now is the most appropriate time to take the "next step" in our faith journey. Together, we want to continue the tremendous momentum we have been experiencing. That is why we think it is the appropriate time to bring our two parishes together in a consolidation **beginning July 1, 2024**.

I know that any time change is proposed, a sense of uneasiness follows. In reality, however, we have already done many of the things associated with being a "consolidated parish." A consolidation means that two independent parishes come together to form one new parish - and that all ministries, committees, finances, assets and liabilities come together. In reality, the consolidation of Corpus Christi and Saint Barbara Parishes would help to simplify administrative challenges and enable further support of our various activities and ministries.

I think it is critically important to emphasize that none of our buildings would immediately close on the date of consolidation. For the sake of transparency, however, and utilizing the Diocese of Scranton's *Vision 2030 Process*, we will need to rely on data and will need to be realistic and strategic about how much property we can maintain in the future.

In the coming weeks, we will be providing you with more information on our parishes, what a possible consolidation would look like, and some of the challenges we still face. I encourage you to read each bulletin insert because we all have a role to play as our new parish community is formed.

Be on the lookout for the following topics:

April 20 & 21: Confronting Fewer Priests & Parishioners May 4 & 5: Maintenance & Upkeep of Parish Properties
April 27 & 28: Financial Review of Our Parishes May 11 & 12: Our Future is 'Stronger Together'

In order to answer any questions that you have, we will also have two Parish-wide Information Sessions. They will take place on the following dates:

DATE 1 – May 13, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Anthony's Church

DATE 2 – May 20, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church

We don't want anyone to get caught up in "rumors" or "speculation" as this process unfolds. Since the beginning of our linkage, we have pledged to be open and transparent - and that will not change.

In conjunction with our Joint Pastoral Council and the Finance Councils of both parishes, I have no doubt our parish consolidation efforts will be successful. We must always keep our minds set on what is really important - bringing people to Christ and serving our brothers and sisters who are most in need.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Monsignor John Sempa