

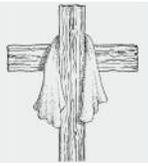
Welcome to the Catholic Communities of

St. Ann, St. John Neumann & St. Vincent de Paul

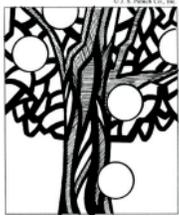
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

22 FEBRUARY 2026

Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



Ashes and gardens, failings and faithfulness, death and life. As we enter into Lent, we are invited to turn our thoughts, hearts, and lives toward God and God's ways, to turn away

from the death of sin, which separates us from God, and to embrace the gift of life offered in Christ, now and into eternity. Eve and Adam listened to the serpent rather than God who had given them a garden filled with beauty and abundance. On the contrary, Jesus stood firm in the face of temptation. This Lent, we ponder the choices we make in our daily lives, trust in God's mercy as we repent from sinfulness, and strengthen our commitment to discipleship, following Jesus' model of faithfulness.

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Reverend Edward J. Casey
PASTOR

Reverend Binesh Joseph Kanjirakattu
SENIOR PRIEST



LENT IS OUR RETURN TO THE GARDEN THROUGH REPENTANCE AND GRACE

The Temptation of Adam and Eve

REPENTANCE

OF ALL HUMAN ACTS, REPENTANCE IS THE MOST DIVINE. THE GREATEST OF ALL FAULTS IS TO BE CONSCIOUS OF NONE.

~THOMAS CARLYLE



GOOD TIMING

THE BEST TIME TO DO SOMETHING WORTHWHILE IS BETWEEN YESTERDAY AND TOMORROW.

~ANONYMOUS

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

In a few weeks' time, at the Chrism Mass of the diocese, fresh sacramental oils will be blessed and chrism consecrated for use in every parish. Olive oil is the main ingredient of chrism, but olive oil with some exotic additives that change its character and purpose. Rich balsam and perfumes separate chrism from the pantry. Food no longer, neither is this oil for grooming or toning muscles. It has a breathtaking aroma that is both alluring and enduring.

The prayer of consecration is a good meditation for the coming Lenten season since it focuses us on the goal of our journey, linking it with the olive-bearing dove at the end of Noah's stormy voyage of forty days. The dove signaled the birth of a new world, a society reborn from the wreckage of the old, drowned world of sin. At the end of our Lenten journey, the oil of chrism will be poured down in abundance on the brows of catechumens and infants, as well as on those to be confirmed or ordained. Lent puts us in touch with the hard edges of life in need of salvation, and the chrism of Easter joy redeems and restores.

~James Field

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7

The man and the woman ate the fruit of the one tree that God had told them to avoid, and their shame overtook them.

Psalm — 51

Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Second Reading — Romans 5:12-19 [12, 17-19]

Death reigned from Adam to Moses, but now grace and life abound in Christ Jesus.

Gospel — Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit and there he fasted for forty days and forty nights.



R	MONDAY Lev 19:1-2, 11-18 Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 Mt 25:31-46
E	TUESDAY Is 55:10-11 Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19 Mt 6:7-15
A	WEDNESDAY Jonah 3:1-10 Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 Lk 11:29-32
D	THURSDAY Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25 Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 Mt 7:7-12
I	FRIDAY Ez 18:21-28 Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8 Mt 5:20-26
N	SATURDAY Dt 26:16-19 Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 Mt 5:43-48
G	
S	



ST. JOHN NEUMANN'S PARISH

705 Route 739
 Lords Valley, PA 18428
 570-775-6791 Fax: 570-775-1527
 Good Shepherd Church, Blooming Grove

Office Hours: Thursday & Friday
 9:30am to 2:00pm

Email: sjnfin@ptd.net
www.sjneumannchurch.com

Joan Dingee
 Administrative and Bookkeeping Specialist

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday (February 23)

Saint Polycarp, bishop and martyr

9:30 a.m. (S)

† Lily Wong

Tuesday (February 24)

Tuesday of the First Week of Lent

9:30 a.m. (S)

† Paul Roth

Wednesday (February 25)

Wednesday of the First Week in Lent

9:30 a.m. (S)

No Mass

Thursday (February 26)

Thursday of the First Week in Lent

9:30 a.m. (S) *in celebration of the birthday of*

♥ Angelo Papa

Friday (February 27)

*Saint Gregory of Narek
 Abbot and Doctor of the Church*

ABSTINENCE

9:30 a.m. (S)

† Donna LaRocca

Saturday (February 28)

Saturday of the First Week of Lent

Vigil: Second Sunday of Lent

3:15-3:45p.m. Confessions (S)

4:00 p.m. (S)

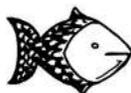
† Vincent Caputo, Jr.

Sunday (March 1)

Second Sunday of Lent

11:30 a.m. (S)

† Charlie Kirk



(SJ) - St. John's (GS) - Good Shepherd

Offertory and Mass Attendance

Offertory includes money from weekly envelopes and loose checks from registered parishioners.

February 1st	4:00pm	83	213
\$3,552	11:30am	130	

Offertory to Date \$103,639

Weekly Average \$3,345

AUTOMATED TITHING

Choose the convenience of online giving more information can be found at www.sjneumannchurch.com.

Thank you for your generosity!



FOODS OF THE MONTH

BLOOMING GROVE FOOD PANTRY

Please consider including these items with your food donations. Thank you for your continued support and generosity to this worthwhile cause.

Bottled Juice, Cereal & Tuna

We have several clients who are also in need of pet food- for both cats & dogs. Please consider including these items with your food donations. Thank you for your continued support and generosity to this worthwhile cause.

Every conquered temptation represents a new fund of moral energy. Every trial endured and weathered in the right spirit makes a soul nobler and stronger than it was before.

William Butler Yeats



The Sanctuary Votive Candle will burn the week of February 22nd at St. John Neumann Church in Celebration of the Birthday of

Nancy Muniz



SAINT ANN'S PARISH

121 Richardson Avenue
Shohola, PA 18458
570-832-4275

St. Mary's Church, Lackawaxen

Office: 125 Richardson Avenue
Tuesday - Thursday 8:00am to 2:00pm
Email: stann@ptd.net
www.stannshohola.org
Carol Laput, Administrative Manager

Offertory and Mass Attendance

Offertory includes money from weekly envelopes and loose checks from registered parishioners.

February 1st	5:30pm	44
\$6,747	8:30am	45 156
	10:15am	67

Offertory to Date \$102,855
Weekly Average \$3,317

AUTOMATED TITHING

Choose the convenience of online giving more information can be found at www.stannshohola.org

Thank you for your generosity!

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CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL REPORT

Goal	\$22,038
Committed	\$20,261
Raised	\$15,574
Goal Reached	91%
Number of Donors	63

WALKER LAKE WOMEN'S CLUB

A group of ladies with a common interest ... quilting!

If you're interested in participating in future charitable projects, please feel free to reach out to Chris Cancemi.

570-296-7216 (home)
570-228-8442 (cell)
or sewchris@ptd.net

ST. ANN'S FOOD PANTRY

*Peanut Butter, Jelly, Cereal
Canned Fruit*

Seeking volunteers to help unload trucks and stock pantry. Contact Laura at 845-239-3605 if you are interested.

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY (FEBRUARY 23)

Saint Polycarp, bishop and martyr

8:30 a.m. (SA)

† Michelle Storms

TUESDAY (FEBRUARY 24)

Tuesday of the First Week of Lent

8:30 a.m. (SA)

† Rev. Connell McHugh

WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 25)

Wednesday of the First Week in Lent

No Mass

THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 26)

Thursday of the First Week in Lent

8:30 a.m. (SA)

† Jesse Haley

FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 27)

*Saint Gregory of Narek
Abbot and Doctor of the Church*

ABSTINENCE

8:30 a.m. (SA)

† Mary Joseph Kanjirakattu

SATURDAY (FEBRUARY 28)

Saturday of the First Week of Lent

Vigil: Second Sunday of Lent

5:30 p.m. (SA)

♥ For the People

SUNDAY (MARCH 1)

Second Sunday of Lent

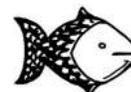
8:30 a.m. (SA)

† Robert Grenier

9:30-10:00a.m. Confessions (SA)

10:15 a.m. (SA)

† Mary Joseph Kanjirakattu



(SA) - St. Ann's (SE) - St. Eligius Room (SM) - St. Mary's

Pastor Al!



"Relax! I was just kidding! I'm not actually giving up short homilies for Lent this year."

*The Sanctuary Votive Candle
will burn the week of February 22nd
at St. Ann's Church
in Loving Memory of
Margaret Watters*



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL PARISH

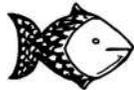
Pastores Emeriti: Rev. Paul M. Mullen & Rev. John B. Boyle

570-686-4545 Fax: 800-565-1762

Office Hours: Tuesday - Thursday 9:00am to 1:00pm

stvoff@ptd.net www.stvdepaulchurch.org

Lorraine Schmidt, Administrative Assistant
Jo-Ann Fay, Financial Secretary

<p>MASS INTENTIONS</p> <p>MONDAY (FEBRUARY 23) <i>Saint Polycarp, bishop and martyr</i></p>
<p>No Mass</p>
<p>TUESDAY (FEBRUARY 24) <i>Tuesday of the First Week of Lent</i></p>
<p>8:45 a.m. (C) † Jack Pallatta</p>
<p>WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 25) <i>Wednesday of the First Week in Lent</i></p>
<p>8:45 a.m. (C) † Ed Pick 9:30 -10:30a.m. Confessions</p>
<p>THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 26) <i>Thursday of the First Week in Lent</i></p>
<p>8:45 a.m. (C) † Stephen Delgado</p>
<p>FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 27) <i>Saint Gregory of Narek Abbot and Doctor of the Church</i></p>
<p>8:45 a.m. (C) † Edward and Frank Maierle</p>
<p>SATURDAY (FEBRUARY 28) <i>Saturday of the First Week of Lent</i></p>
<p>Vigil: First Sunday of Lent 3:15-3:45p.m. Confessions (SV) 4:00 p.m. (SV) . † Raymond Szczesny</p>
<p>SUNDAY (MARCH 1) <i>Second Sunday of Lent</i></p>
<p>8:30 a.m. (SV) † Mary Nolan 11:15 a.m. (SV) <i>Special Intentions of</i> ♥ Jan Botttcher</p>

<p>(SV) - St. Vincent de Paul (C) - Chapel</p>

The Lifestyle of Generous Hearts
Offertory and Mass Attendance
Offertory includes money from weekly envelopes and loose checks from registered parishioners.

February 1st

Envelopes	\$2,841	4:00pm	70
We Share	\$1,243	8:30am	82 238
		11:15am	86

Offertory to Date \$150,789
Weekly Average \$4,864

Online Giving

Choose the convenience of online giving more information can be found at stvdepaulchurch.org
Thank you for your generosity!

Wednesdays
at St. Vincent de Paul Church

Adoration
9:30am

Benediction
10:30am

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL REPORT

Goal	\$35,583
Committed	\$22,280
Raised	\$21,072
Goal Reached	63%
Number of Donors	70

SPEND A HALF HOUR WITH YOUR MOTHER

St. Vincent de Paul Church Come Pray the Rosary 1st Saturday of the month 10am in the Chapel. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus #9832 Lady of the Mountain. Rosaries provided if needed.

COFFEE HOUR

After 8:30am Mass Reconnect with other parish members with coffee, tea, baked goods and fellowship. Held in the parish hall each Sunday.



The Sanctuary Votive Candle will burn the week of February 22nd at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Loving Memory of Larry and Rose Covar

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL LOAVES AND FISHES GIFT CARDS

Support our parish! Buy gift cards in the narthex before and after weekend Masses. Order or view available cards by scanning the QR code or call 570-686-4545.



OUR PARISH COMMUNITIES



MINISTRY TRAINING SCHEDULE

All training and meetings begin at 6:30pm

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

New Minister Training

Thursday, February 26th at St. Ann's

Meeting & Reflection (all ministers, new and experienced)

Thursday, March 5th at St. Ann's

Register for classes on line or by calling your Parish Office registering online by scanning code or visit www.stannshohola.org



FRIDAY NIGHTS DURING LENT

LENT CALLS FOR Soup!

SOUP MAKERS NEEDED!

sign-up at stannshohola.org

FRIDAYS
February 20th to March 27th



Name: _____ Parish _____

Phone: _____ email: _____

Name of soup: _____

Friday(s) you are available to make soup: _____

drop in collection basket

Lenten Reminders

Lent is a time for sacrifice and for spiritual renewal as we reflect upon our Baptism and the call given to each of us to walk as disciples of the Lord.

The following fast and abstinence regulations are observed:

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence.

Fridays during Lent are days of abstinence.

All Catholics who have reached their 14th birthday are to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and on all Fridays during Lent.

All Catholics over 18 years of age to the beginning of their 60th year are bound to the obligation of fasting. Those bound by this rule may take only one full meal and two smaller meals unless dispensed or excused.

We are provided with three personal challenges associated with our individual observance of Lent:

Almsgiving – generously giving to those in need

Fasting – practicing self-discipline and self-denial

Prayer – reading, hearing and reflecting on the Word of God

Lent is also a penitential season. It is a time to seek forgiveness, to look inward and to admit our shortcomings and failures. It is a time to regroup and to prepare. How can you spend your time during Lent?

By “giving up” things you hunger after, such as sweets or alcohol; or activities you desire, such as vacations, concerts or movies.

By “doing” things to help others, such as offering an extra donation to the poor or helping those in need by providing food or clothing.

By “adding” to our normal routine, such as going to daily Mass, praying the Stations of the Cross and going to Confession.

OUR PARISH COMMUNITIES

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL

Cor Ad Cor Loquitur

SATURDAYS DURING LENT

The Knights of Columbus Council Our Lady of the Mountain No. 9832 is sponsoring an Lenten Cor Program, a formation and fraternal opportunity for all men of the parishes to help prepare you for the Resurrection of Christ at Easter. Cor aims to strengthen Catholic men in faith and virtue through prayer, formation, and fraternity. The event will be held starting on

Saturday February 21st through **March 28th** at 8:00am in St. Vincent de Paul Hall and/or resource center, where attendees can enjoy coffee and donuts, prayer, and fraternity. Come for one week or all 6 weeks.

For more information, contact Peter Briody at PDB144@gmail.com



“And your Father who sees what is hidden will repay you.”

THE LITTLE BLACK BOOK

Reflections on Christ's life based on the Passion narrative in the Gospel of Mark.

Lent, the journey to Jerusalem will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 18th. As we approach this Holy Season and to help us prepare our hearts and minds for the journey, our Parish is inviting you to spend some quiet time with the Lord by picking up a copy of “The Little Black Book” for Lent.

These Reflections on Christ's life based on the Passion narrative in the Gospel of Mark will guide you on your Lenten Journey.

Books are FREE and located at the entrance of the church.



We are encouraged to make confession a regular part of our spiritual life, especially during the holy season of Lent, as we reflect on our baptism and repentance.

Monday Schedule (6:30pm - 8:00pm)

February 23, March 9, & March 23 at St. John Neumann
March 2, 16 & 30 at St. Ann's

Tuesdays (6:30pm - 8:00pm) at St. Vincent's

RITE OF ELECTION

Please pray for the members of our OCIA program who will be attending the Rite of Election on Sunday, February 22nd at the Diocese of Scranton.



Adult Catechumens: Aaron Denney, Kimberly Tsu Kiltie and Samuel Bryan Reiser

Youth Catechumen: Noah Gottlieb Knight

Candidates: Emma Elizabeth Bisland, Charlene Joan Boland and Sarah Rose Kuhn

As they continue their journey toward full initiation into the Church, may the Lord strengthen them in faith and fill them with His grace. Please keep them in your prayers during this important step.

ST. ANN'S & ST. JOHN NEUMANN

Summer Raffle

- Each raffle ticket includes up to three entries.
- You may purchase as many entries as you like.
- Any unused entry stubs will be mailed back to you along with your ticket. Unused entries may be purchased any time before the first drawing.

\$40 per entry

Drawings: July, August & September

First Prize \$500
Second Prize \$200
Third Prize \$100

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

drop in collection basket with payment made out to St. Ann's Church

St. Ann and St. John Neumann
125 Richardson Avenue, Shohola, Pennsylvania 18458

SUMMER RAFFLE

First Prize \$500	DONATION \$40/ONE ENTRY
Second Prize \$200	\$60/TWO ENTRIES
Third Prize \$100	\$120/THREE ENTRIES

Drawings are the First Sunday in July, August & September
Winning tickets go back in the pot for another chance to win!
www.stannshohola.org or www.stjohnneumannshohola.org

\$40.00 THIRD ENTRY #0001

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

ST. ANN AND ST. JOHN NEUMANN SUMMER RAFFLE

\$40.00 SECOND ENTRY #0001

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

ST. ANN AND ST. JOHN NEUMANN SUMMER RAFFLE

\$40.00 FIRST ENTRY #0001

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

ST. ANN AND ST. JOHN NEUMANN SUMMER RAFFLE

SAINT JOHN NEUMANN



Stations of the Cross

11:30am followed by a Soup Lunch in the Parish Hall

Sign up sheets are posted in the kitchen for anyone who would like to volunteer to make soup or salad for Friday mornings. If anyone is interested in volunteering to read the Stations with us, post a note there as well and we will contact you.

**You shall not put the Lord,
your God, to the test**

Matthew 4:7



A Day of Reflection for Women
Saturday, March 14, 2026



WORD OF God speaks ...
*"Come to me,
all you who are weary
and I will give you rest."*



St John Neumann Parish Hall
Rt. 739 Lords Valley, PA
Saturday, March 14, 2026 8:30-3:30
Continental Breakfast and Lunch \$45.00
Contact: Lisa Flora (914) 204-7228
1742 Hemlock Farms, Lords Valley 18428
Make checks payable to Columbiettes 12571

NAME _____ TEL. _____
Email _____
LUNCH CHOICE:
Tuna Salad _____ Chef Salad _____ Turkey Wrap _____

KNIGHTS CORNER

BECOME A KNIGHT
ASK A KNIGHT AT YOUR PARISH HOW

- ☆ Lead with Faith
- ☆ Protect your family with insurance
- ☆ Serve others
- ☆ Defend your Catholic Values

Rich Flora *Grand Knight Council 12571*
raf_619@yahoo.com

Knights of Columbus

Friday Night Fish Dinner

As we begin a time of Lenten reflection and look towards renewal, consider joining us at SJN for fellowship, community and yes, delicious fish!

Dinner will be served at 5:30pm in the Parish Hall followed by Stations of the Cross at 7:00pm.

COST \$15/PP, CHILDREN UNDER 12 FREE

FOOD FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS



1:00pm ~ 2:30pm

March 1st at St. John Neumann
Shepherd's Pie

March 8th at St. Ann's
Bangers & Mash

SA Parish Office 570-832-4275
SJN Parish Office 570-775-6791

text or call 347-446-9631 or 201-575-6100
Orders due by the Wednesday prior to the dinner.

SUNDAY READINGS DISCUSSION

Tuesdays at 3:00pm
Saint John's Hall

The meetings usually last about 90 minutes. All are welcome to come and participate. Call Peter at 570-775-1647 for more information.

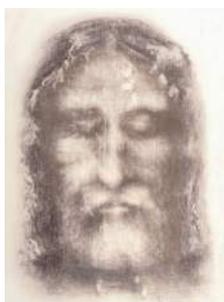
SAINT ANN'S



STATIONS OF THE CROSS
FRIDAYS DURING LENT
6:00PM | ST. ANN'S CHURCH

MASSES AVAILABLE!

We currently have openings for Mass intentions. If you would like to have a Mass offered for a loved one, living or deceased, please visit our website stannshohola.org or contact Carol at the Parish Office 570-832-4275.



LENTEN SCRIPTURE STUDY
The Witness of the Cloths

This Lent, our Friday evening Scripture study will examine The Shroud of Turin and the Sudarium of Oviedo (Spain); ancient burial cloths long venerated for their connection to the Passion of Christ. Through careful reflection on Sacred Scripture, historical testimony, and theological insight, we will consider how these silent witnesses illuminate the Gospel accounts of Christ's suffering, death, and burial, and invite deeper meditation on the mystery of the Incarnation and Redemption.

FRIDAYS DURING LENT
6:30PM | MULLIGAN HALL

ST. ANN'S EMAIL
PRAYERLINE

If you would like to join our email prayerline please email Mary Agnes at: prayerlinemary@gmail.com

The Mercy Chalice



The Chalice is a symbol of the Sacrifice of the Mass which makes it possible for us to be present as Jesus' Sacrifice at the Cross.

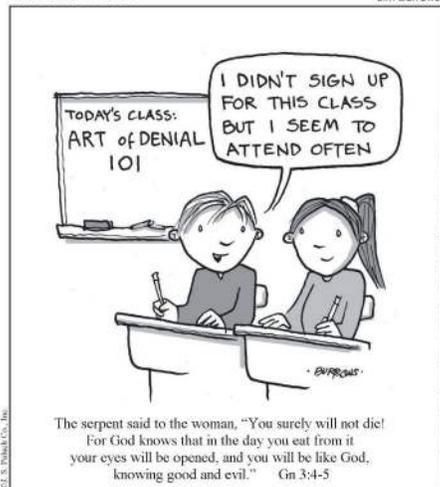
You are invited to place in the Chalice written declarations of sacrifices you will make during Lent. We also encourage you to put prayer requests into this symbol of God's infinite love and mercy.

ADORATION
& Benediction
St. Ann's - Mondays
Adoration begins at 9:00am
Benediction at 11:45pm
St. John Neumann - Fridays
Adoration begins at 9:30am
Benediction at 11:45pm

IMPORTANT ADORATION INFORMATION

If either the Delaware Valley or Wallenpaupack School District has a delay or cancellation, Adoration will **not** be held. Mass will still take place as scheduled.

The Little Ones Jim Burrows



SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL



Cursillo Small Grouping

All Cursillistas are invited to gather for small grouping at St. Vincent de Paul’s Chapel on the first Tuesday of each month, following the 8:45am Mass.

We begin by praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet, followed by grouping.

Grow+Go

Grow+Go helps us reflect on the Sunday Scriptures and live as evangelizing disciples of Christ. Each week’s message offers simple, concrete ways to GROW in faith and GO share it with others, following Christ’s call in Matthew 28:19. Find Grow+Go on our parish website, Facebook, and in St. Vincent’s Updates weekly email.



FAITH FORMATION PRESCHOOL

Children ages 3–5 are invited to join us in the parish hall during Sunday Faith Formation time (9:45–11am) for Bible stories, crafts, and lessons about Jesus in a joyful, caring setting. Parents are asked to remain in the hall.

SHARING THE SUNDAY READINGS

Tuesdays 6:30pm via Zoom

Relax at home and join us online - PJs welcome! Each week, we reflect on the Sunday scriptures, exploring their meaning and how they guide our lives. No commitment—share your thoughts or simply listen. For details, call the Parish Office at 570-686-4545.

ST JOHN NEUMANN AND ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



Donations are welcome but not necessary.

Prayer Shawl Ministry meets every Tuesday at St. Vincent de Paul’s Church 11:00am- 1:00pm



LITE FARE AND STATIONS

Gather with us in the Parish Hall *Fridays* during Lent for a light supper at 5:30pm followed by Stations of the Cross at 7:00pm.

STELLAR SAINTS

Second Thursday of the Month

Learn some interesting tidbits about some of the lesser-known saints.

The sessions will be available through Zoom. The Parish Office 570-686-4545 to register and receive the connection information.

Letters from Heaven

Start with the letter in the shaded square. Draw a path from letter to letter to complete the Biblical statement. Move one square at a time, up, down, right, left and diagonally until all letters are used once. Ignore any black squares.

Jesus gave this response to one of Satan’s temptings: “The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone ...

	R	H	S
V	A	E	S
L	E	Y	U
	L	O	

S _____.”

Answer: shall you serve

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St. Vincent de Paul

Our Lady of the Mountain Council #9832

KNIGHTS BREAKFAST

Breakfast sponsored by the Knights of Columbus **second Sunday** of each month from 9:00am to 11:00am. Join fellow parishioners for a full hot breakfast.

Cost \$5/person maximum \$20/family

KID'S CORNER

God told Adam and Eve they should not eat the fruit from a certain tree. But they disobeyed and ate from it anyway. How many apples can you count in the tree? Write the number on the tree trunk.

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No part of the New American Bible may be reproduced in any form without permission in writing from the copyright owner.

First Sunday of Lent

While Jesus was in the desert the devil came and tempted him to do different things. Cross out all the rocks that have the letters G, K, X, and Z on them.

The remaining letters will spell out what the devil wanted Jesus to command the stones to become. You can read the story in your Bible at Matthew 4:1-11.

X L G O K A V
Z K Z E X S X
O G F B R Z G
K E X G A K D



Lenten Sacrifices

During the season of Lent we try to better ourselves in some way that would be pleasing to God.

For example:

We do not eat meat on Fridays as a sacrifice to God.

Many people try to do something, like go to church more often, pray the rosary, volunteer to help, read the bible, or do something nice for someone each day of Lent.

And some people try to give up something that may not be good for them, like their favorite food, watching TV, talking bad about a classmate, or fighting with a sibling.

Depending on your age, you may not be required to do any of these things.

However, it would be nice if you could think of something you would be willing to do for Lent and try to stick to it from now until Easter.

Try it!

GOD'S WORD FOR CHILDREN!

First Sunday of Lent Year A

After 40 days and 40 nights of fasting, the devil tempted Jesus to make some stones into bread.

Jesus said, "One does not live by bread alone."

Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7
Rom 5:12-19

Ps 51:3-6, 12-13, 17
Mt 4:1-11

Directions: Jesus refuses to use His power for His own benefit, but accepts whatever God wills to happen. Write about a situation where you accepted something, even though you wanted to change it.



**NOTICE REGARDING REPORTING
SEXUAL ABUSE OF A MINOR**

It is the policy of the Diocese of Scranton to report any allegation of sexual abuse of a minor to law enforcement. If you are a victim of sexual abuse committed by a priest, deacon, religious or lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton, you are encouraged to immediately report the matter to law enforcement. If any priest, deacon, religious, lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton has cause or reason to suspect that a minor has been subjected to any form of abuse, including child sexual abuse, the matter will be reported to law enforcement.

It is also the policy of the Diocese to adhere to all civil and state regulations. In accordance with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Child Protective Services Laws, reports of suspected child abuse should also be made immediately by phone to the 24-Hour Child Abuse hot-line (ChildLine) at 1-800-932-0313 or electronically at www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis. This end, the Diocese is equally committed to adhering to the norms of the Code of Canon Law and to upholding the tenets of the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, which includes supporting victims of sexual abuse in their pursuit of emotional and spiritual well-being.

Information regarding an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor should also be reported to the Victim Assistance Coordinator Mary Beth Pacuska at 570-862-7551.

The icon on the cover...

A contemporary icon by an unknown iconographer portrays Adam and Eve at the moment of temptation in the Garden of Eden, recalling the origin of humanity's fall and the loss of communion with God. The tree and serpent stand at the center as symbols of human freedom misused, while the luminous beauty of the garden reflects the harmony God intended from the beginning. On the First Sunday of Lent, the Church invites us to see temptation not as a distant story, but as a present reality in our own lives. Lent begins with honesty about sin and weakness, yet it is also a season of hope: where the first Adam faltered, Christ, the new Adam, remains faithful.

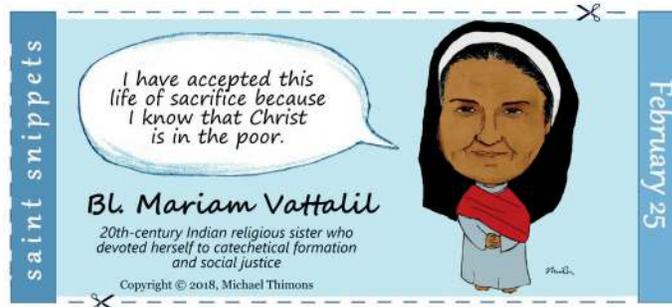
Living Stewardship Now

A prayer for Lent

O Lord, who has mercy upon all, take away from me my sins, and mercifully kindle in me the fire of thy Holy Spirit. Take away from me the heart of stone, and give me a heart of flesh, a heart to love and adore Thee, a heart to delight in Thee, to follow and enjoy Thee, for Christ's sake. Amen. ~Saint Ambrose of Milan (339-397)



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Confessions on Sunday 9:30am-10:00am

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday - 8:30am

No Mass Wednesday

Saturday Vigil - 5:30pm - St. Ann's Church

Sunday: 8:30am & 10:15am - St. Ann's Church

St. Mary's Church - Closed for Season

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ST. VINCENT DE PAUL PARISH

101 Saint Vincent Drive

Milford, PA 18337

570-686-4545 Fax: 800-565-1762

Confessions on Saturday 3:00pm-3:45pm

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Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday - 8:45am

No Mass Monday

Saturday Vigil - 4:00pm Sunday: 8:30am & 11:15am

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LILLIAN GROMPONE

MUSIC COORDINATOR

TIM SOHN

ST. JOHN NEUMANN PARISH

705 Route 739

Lords Valley, PA 18428

570-775-6791 Fax: 570-775-1527

Adoration on Friday 10:00am

Confessions on Saturday 3:15pm-3:45pm

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9:30am

No Mass Wednesday

Saturday Vigil 4:00pm - St. John Neumann Church

Good Shepherd Church - Memorial Weekend, July Fourth

Weekend and Labor Day Weekend at 5:30pm on Saturday

Sunday 11:30am - St. John Neumann Church

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This Sunday's Bulletin

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