



# FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ✕ FEBRUARY 9, 2025



- Sat. Feb. 8 **VIGIL-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
4:00pm Frederick Knowles by Mary Knowles
- Sun. Feb. 9 **FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
9:00am Frances Clark by Veronica and Ed Yanulavich  
10:30am Mark Cianfichi by St Catherine Staff
- Tues. Feb. 11 **OUR LADY OF LOURDES**  
9:00am James Wilde by Pete, Velma, and Amy Carlson
- Thru. Feb. 13 **FIFTH WEEK I IN ORDINARY TIME**  
9:00am Genevieve Scatena by Zero Family
- Sat. Feb. 15 **VIGIL-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
4:00pm Ann Marie White by Arthur and Charlene Fick
- Sun. Feb. 16 **SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
9:00am Col. Stephen A. Winsor by Kathy and Glenn Simpson  
10:30am Frank Gubbiotti by Parents Frank and Linda Gubbiotti



Parishioners who are sick and in need of prayers can be added to our prayer list by calling the parish office at 570-842-4995. Please pray for: Margaret Adamiac, Camille Albert, Josephine Amato, Joanne Arredondo, Chelsey Bartro, Michael Bota, Rose Bremer, Reilly Canas, P.J. Cappola, Jane Colwell, Dennis Corbisiero, Marilyn Croak, Jim Dantis, William Delahanty, Scott Demarest, Barbara Derrenbacher, Carole Dougherty, Linda & Bob Earthy, Dan Edwards, Mary Ann Flaherty, Kyle Gemberling, Tyler Hanson, Pat Henes, Marge Imperatrice, James Imtanos, Mary Knowles, Sue Krayeski, Betsy Kressler, Susie LaFave, Tim Lenihan, Viviana Lewis, Donna Jean Marabella, Michael Martino, Stephanie Martino, Tammie Martino, Alice McAfee, Ellie McCauley, Tim McGovern, Carol McKnight, Donald Migliorato, Judy Morris, Paul Natoli, Tom Natoli, Marc Negri, Gioia Palmerio, Victor Panzella, Reed Phillips, James Piloni, Ruth Piloni, Edward Pizzo, Frank Quattrock, James Quinn, Jennifer Quinn, Pam Quinn, Steve Rish, Anthony Romaro, Joanne S., Mark Sallust, Lisa Sarnicola, Michael Sawko, Beth Schuil, Ellen Soloman, Duane Sprovach, Millie Stoia, Luke Stricker, Jason Scott Taylor, Dana Thorne, Skyler Thorne, Jack Tizio, Thomas Tizio, Gregory Tobin, Linda Wahlers, Helen Zerbe, and all the sick of the Parish.

**Please call the Parish Office if someone should be taken off the list.**



### Statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary

If she has not yet visited your home and you would like Information or to sign up to have the Statue visit your home, please call Pat Manago at 570-848-2284. This is where the statue will be traveling in the weeks to come:  
**2/9-Giordano Family                    2/16-OPEN**



### FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#### First Reading: Isaiah 6:1-2a, 3-8

Isaiah recounts the awe he felt the first time he saw the Lord, who was surrounded by angels. He began to feel despair because he was a man of unclean lips, until an angel touched an ember to his lips and pronounced them clean. The Lord asked who he should send forth, to which Isaiah replied, "Here I am, send me!"

#### Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Paul reminds the Corinthians that Christ died for us to free us from our sins. He encourages them to remember the importance of Jesus' death and resurrection. He admits that he initially failed to believe, and therefore was very grateful to be called an apostle and preach in the name of Christ.

#### Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

Luke tells of Jesus preaching to a crowd, then joining Peter who was about to end a fruitless day of fishing. He told Peter to lower his net back in, and a great number of fish were caught. Upon seeing this, Peter and his companions, James and John, immediately abandoned their nets to follow Jesus.

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#### Sunday

Is 6:1-2a, 3-8; 1 Cor 15:1-11 or 15:3-8, 11;  
Lk 5:1-11

#### Monday

Gn 1:1-19; Mk 6:53-56

#### Tuesday

Gn 1:20—2:4a; Mk 7:1-13

#### Wednesday

Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17; Mk 7:14-23

#### Thursday

Gn 2:18-25; Mk 7:24-30

#### Friday

Gn 3:1-8; Mk 7:31-37

#### Saturday

Gn 3:9-24; Mk 8:1-10



***Sacrificial Giving***

**WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH**

**God's Plan for Giving 02/02/2025.**

Sunday Offering:	\$1605.00
Loose:	\$ 223.00
Fuel	\$ 118.00
Insurance	\$ 50.00
Utilities	\$ 3.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1999.00</b>

**(Includes Online)**

**Diocesan:**

Priests Care & Ed	\$ 44.00
CA Wild Fires	\$ 364.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2407.00</b>

**Mass Attendance**

4:00pm	21
9.00am	31
10:30am	34

**Beautiful New Song Book Covers**  
We would like to thank Daria Killian for her generous donation of the new Song Book Covers.



*Please pray for the repose of the soul of  
Mary Pat Topar who has died.  
Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord  
and let the Perpetual Light shine upon her.  
And may the souls of all the faithful departed,  
through the mercy of God, rest in Peace. Amen*



**If you like to sing , we would love to have you join our Choir!  
Simply go up to the Choir loft and see Fred !**



**Father Rawel's Corner**  
**TRANSFORMATIVE CALL FOR DISCIPLESHIP**

All three readings today revolve around a common theme: the call to discipleship. The first reading describes Isaiah's call. Though he feels unworthy due to his sinfulness, God shows him mercy, and Isaiah responds, " Here am I. Send me!" In the second reading, Paul shares his testimony with the Corinthians. Despite his unworthiness as a former persecutor of the Church, God's grace transformed him, making him an apostle and a powerful witness to the risen Christ.

The Gospel recounts the call of Peter and his fellow fishermen. Each passage reveals a miraculous and transformative call. These readings teach us several key lessons: First: Obedience to Christ's call, even though we don't fully understand, it leads to abundant blessings.

Second: Jesus calls ordinary people, even those who feel unworthy, to follow him.

Third: responding to this call transforms us. When we accept Jesus' invitation, our lives are redirected towards a mission for greater than ourselves.

Today we are called to trust, surrender, and allow God works through us. We are invited to cast our nets deeper into the world, bringing HOPE and LOVE to those around us.

Dear Lord, may we come before you with open hearts, ready to follow wherever you lead. As we hear your call to discipleship, grant us the courage to step forward in faith, the wisdom to walk in your truth, and strength to serve with love. May we always seek to honor you in all that we do.

**HAVE A BLESSED WEEKEND!**

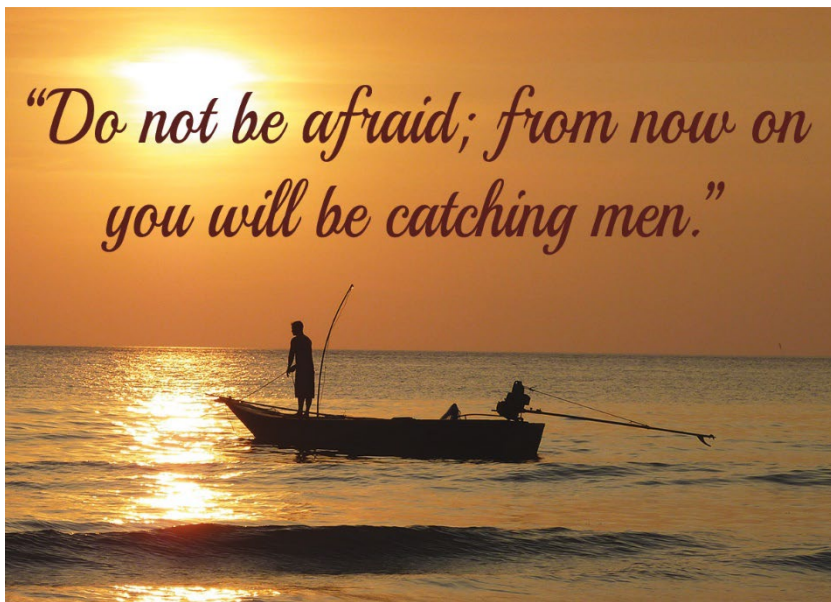
*Remembering your Church in your Will*

**The Estate of Patricia Nappi has listed Saint Rita as a beneficiary. We have received a total of \$108,236.51.**

**We are so thankful that this parishioner has remembered us in her will. Please pray for her and her family.**

**You are the salt of the earth**





*“Do not be afraid; from now on  
you will be catching men.”*

***Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time,  
Cycle C***

***Sunday, February 9, 2025***

***First Reading***

***Isaiah 6:1-2a,3-8***

***Isaiah describes his vision and call from  
the Lord.***

***Responsorial Psalm***

***Psalm 138:1-5,7-8***

***A song of thanks to God who saves us***

***Second Reading***

***1 Corinthians 15:1-11 (shorter form, 1  
Corinthians 15:3-8,11)***

***Paul reminds the Corinthians of the gospel  
that he announced to them.***

***Gospel Reading***

***Luke 5:1-11***

***The fishermen (Simon, James, and John) leave their fishing boats and follow Jesus.***

***Background on the Gospel Reading***

Last Sunday, we heard how Jesus was rejected in his hometown of Nazareth. In the verses that follow, Jesus travels to the town of Capernaum and begins his ministry of teaching and healing. While in Capernaum, Jesus cures a man possessed with a demon and heals Simon's mother-in-law. After spending some time there, Jesus prepares to preach in other places. The fact that Jesus had previously been in Simon's home and healed his mother-in-law suggests that this encounter is not the first between Jesus and Simon Peter. We can read today's Gospel, therefore, as a description of the developing relationship between Jesus and Simon Peter.

In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches from Simon's boat. Jesus turns to Simon and instructs him about where to lower the fishing nets. Simon and others have been fishing throughout the night and have not caught anything. Simon protests, claiming that such an effort would be futile. Simon ultimately obeys Jesus and lowers his nets into the deeper water as directed. Notice here that Peter calls Jesus by the title “master.” He already recognizes Jesus as a person of authority. They catch so many fish that the nets begin to tear; Jesus' presence has created abundance out of scarcity, just as it did at the wedding feast at Cana, which we heard at Mass just a few weeks ago.

Simon Peter becomes a follower of Jesus immediately. He calls Jesus “Lord”—the title given to Jesus after his Resurrection—and protests his worthiness to be in Jesus' presence. Today's Gospel, therefore, marks a turning point in the relationship between Jesus and Peter.

Two of Simon's partners are also named as witnesses to the event described in today's Gospel: Zebedee's sons, James and John. Yet Jesus' words are addressed only to Simon. Jesus gives Simon a new job, telling him that he will become a different kind of fisherman. No longer will he catch fish; instead he will catch people. In these words, we hear the beginning of the leadership role that Peter will have within the community of disciples. Peter was chosen for this role. His task will be to bring others to Jesus. Already he is doing so; the Gospel tells us that all the fishermen with Peter also left their nets and followed Jesus.

We continue to speak of Peter's leadership and influence in the Church today when we call the pope the “successor of Peter.” We participate in the mission of the Church when we bring people to Christ through the example and positive influence of our lives.    Courtesy of Loyola Press



## Saint Rita Parish

Administrator:  
Rev. Rawel Toppo

### Wilkes-Barre Deanery

- Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Hanover Township
- Our Lady, Help of Christians, Dorrance
- Our Lady of Hope, Wilkes-Barre
- Saint Andrew, Wilkes-Barre
- Saint Elizabeth, Bear Creek
- Saint Jude, Mountain Top
- Saint Leo the Great, Ashley
- Saint Nicholas-Saint Mary, Wilkes-Barre
- Saint Rita, Gouldsboro**
- Saint Robert Bellarmine, Wilkes-Barre
- Saints Peter and Paul, Plains

### PARISH DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Number of Households	217	299	293	367	228
Number of Parishioners	547	526	545	730	555
Total Number of Weekend Masses	3	3	3	3	3
Total Average Weekend Mass Attendance	128	112	103	98	39

### SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Baptisms	6	4	2	4	0
First Holy Communions	2	0	0	2	0
Confirmations	2	0	0	7	4
RCIA/Baptism	0	0	0	2	0
RCIA/Full Communion	0	0	0	0	0
Marriages	0	1	1	1	0
Funerals	3	5	8	6	5

### FAITH FORMATION PARTICIPATION

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Religious Education K-8	4	7	0	0	16
Religious Education 9-12	0	0	0	0	0
Catholic School Students	0	1	1	-	-
Adult Faith Formation	0	0	0	2	0

\*All data in this report has been supplied to the Diocese by your Parish. 2024 data is from July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024.



**VISION 2030**

Creating Parish Communities  
Rooted in the Life of Jesus Christ



**DIOCESE OF  
SCRANTON**

## **LENTEN INFORMATION**

**CONFESSIONS DURING LENT**  
Every Saturday from 3:30-3:45 PM

### **ASH WEDNESDAY**

**March 5**

**Masses with Ashes 9:00AM & 6:00PM**

### **DAILY MASSES**

**Tuesdays & Thursdays 9:00AM**

### **THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD**

**March 25**

**Mass at 9:00 AM**

## **HOLY WEEK**

### **PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF OUR LORD – APRIL 13**

This is the beginning of Holy Week which culminates in the celebration of the Triduum and ends with evening prayer on Easter Sunday. Plan to be part of these liturgies and immerse yourself in the most important celebrations of the liturgical year.

**Vigil Liturgy- Saturday 4:00 PM.**

**Liturgy-Sunday 9:00AM and 10:30AM**

### **HOLY THURSDAY**

#### **LITURGY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**APRIL 17 7PM**

### **GOOD FRIDAY**

#### **THE LITURGY OF THE LORD'S PASSION**

**APRIL 18-1:00 PM**

### **HOLY SATURDAY**

#### **VIGIL OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD**

**APRIL 19 7:00PM.**

### **EASTER SUNDAY**

#### **THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD**

**APRIL 20**

**9:00AM & 10:30AM**

## FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**“When he had finished speaking he said to Simon, ‘Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch.’ Simon answered, ‘Master, we have been hard at it all night long and have caught nothing, but if you say so I will lower the nets’. Upon doing this they caught such a great number of fish, that their nets were at the breaking point... At the sight of this, Simon Peter fell at the feet of Jesus saying ‘Leave me Lord, I am a sinful man.’”**

Remember when Jesus met the brothers, they were fishermen, destined to be fishers of men. The scene can be easily reproduced – the sea, boats, lapping water, the aroma of fish, but that is not the point. I too, am part of the picture. I’m in the boat, and now?

May we see the boat as our church. May we respond as Simon did and ‘lower the net,’ reach out to someone who is around us, but not yet responding to our invitation. Drop the net again telling them of what Jesus, the church, the sacraments mean for them. Come on board, Peter the fisherman responded and then began a new mission. We are Simon Peter for others today.

### HIS WORD TODAY

BY REV. WILLIAM J. REILLY

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON  
THE SUNDAY READINGS

