

SAINT ROBERT BELLARMINI PARISH + EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS PARISH

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

St. Robert Bellarmine Parish

*Celebrating Liturgy at
St. Aloysius Church*



Saint Robert Bellarmine Parish
143 W. Division Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18706

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 2:00pm

Address: 143 West Division Street,
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18706

Phone: 570-823-3791

Fax: 570-826-0233

E-mail: stalschurch@stalloysiuswb.com

Web: www.stalschurchwb.com

Mission Statement

We the Catholic Community of St. Robert Bellarmine Parish continue our tradition to bring together all generations, to welcome new growth in the Sacramental Life of our Parish through Word, Worship, Community and Service. We walk humbly with our God.

October 12, 2025

A Welcoming Community

Pastor

Reverend Richard J. Cirba, V.F.

Senior Priest

Reverend Andrew Amankwaa

Mass Schedule

Saint Robert Bellarmine Parish
*Celebrating Liturgy
at St. Aloysius Church*

Weekday -----See bulletin

Saturday -----4:00 pm

Sunday -----7:00, & 11:00 am

Confession

Saturday -----3:00 pm

Exaltation of the Holy Cross Parish

Weekday -----See bulletin

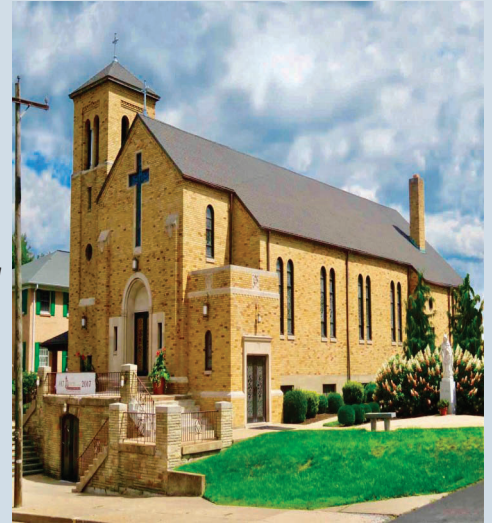
Saturday -----5:30 pm

Sunday -----9:30 am

Confession

Saturday -----5:00 pm

Exaltation of the Holy Cross Parish



**Exaltation of the
Holy Cross Parish**
420 Main Road
Hanover Twp, PA 18706

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday 8:00am - 12:00pm

Address: 420 Main Road
Hanover Twp., PA 18706

Phone: 570-823-6242

Fax: 570-829-4732

E-mail: exhc@aol.com

Web: www.exhc.org

Mission Statement

We, the parish family of Exaltation of the Holy Cross, as missionary disciples strive to be a haven for spiritual growth, a symbol of faith-based hospitality, a foundation for outreach in the community and a focus for meeting the liturgical and sacramental needs of our parish, all with the help of God.



Parish Information

Joining the Parish

New Parishioners are always welcome. Call your Parish Office for a Census Form.

Planning a Baptism

The birth of a child brings joy to the family. Through Baptism, that child is joined to the family enrolled in the Church.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Confirmation is administered yearly to all 8th Grade students in our Religious Education Program and students attending Catholic Schools. Students wishing to receive Confirmation must be enrolled for at least two years before they are eligible to receive Confirmation.

Scheduling Weddings

Couples contemplating marriage are asked to contact the Parish Office and schedule the date before making any other plans. An appointment with the Pastor should be made at least 6 months prior to the Wedding Date. Couples must be registered parishioners and active practicing Catholics.

Anointing of the Sick

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick may take place at any time, especially if one is seriously ill. Please contact the office to schedule a time for a priest to visit.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

(RCIA) is the process the Catholic Church uses to welcome adult members into the faith. Anyone interested in becoming a part of this process or in obtaining more information about it, please call the Parish Office to speak with a priest.

Funeral Preparations

The loss of a loved one is a particularly difficult time for those who are bereaved. Our parish community collaborates with local funeral directors in assisting families during their time of grief.

Bequests to the Parish

Please remember your Parish with Memorial gifts at the time of death or with a bequest in your will. Make a return to the Lord for all the good He has given you.


SPONSOR OF THE WEEK:

We would like to thank all who Sponsor an ad in our bulletin. We greatly appreciate your support of the weekly bulletin.



Welcome to St. Robert Bellarmine and Exaltation of the Holy Cross Parishes.

If you are new to our church or just visiting, please stop and introduce yourself. We are pleased to have you share in this celebration of the Eucharist. If you do not have a church home, or your church is not home to you, we invite you to become a part of our parish family. Both churches are open to anyone looking for a spiritual home. You may register at the Parish Office or call us and we'll send you a form. We are glad that you are here and hope that you will come back again for Mass or become a parishioner.



DIRECT YOUR STATE TAX DOLLARS TO PAVE TRANSFORMATIVE PATHS!

THROUGH THE EITC PROGRAM, YOU CAN MAKE A CRITICAL DIFFERENCE RIGHT HERE IN OUR PARISH!

Pennsylvania's Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program allows an individual or business to turn the taxes they already pay into Diocese of Scranton Catholic school scholarships for students right here in our area!

YOU'LL GET A 90% STATE TAX CREDIT FOR YOUR DONATION and can deduct the other 10% as a charitable contribution for federal tax purposes. BUT THAT'S NOT ALL!

Each time our parishioners or friends of our parish - businesses OR individuals - make an EITC pledge, THEY CAN DIRECT THE DIOCESE OF SCRANTON TO CREDIT OUR PARISH. When you make good on your pledge, we receive a reduction in our parish school assessment equivalent to 40 percent of your individual donation!


The EITC Program is overseen by the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development.

WHY PARTICIPATE?


- Increase access to Catholic education.
- Free up parish funds for priority projects right here where you worship!

AM I ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE? YES, IF:

- You have a state tax liability.
- Your annual income is at least \$35,000 and you can give at least \$1,000 before receiving 90% back as a tax credit.



SCAN HERE FOR MORE INFO!



TELL ME MORE! I WANT TO HELP!

Contact SANDRA SNYDER,
director of development & Alumni Relations
for the Diocese of Scranton
Catholic School System,
at 570-591-5004 or
ssnyder@dioceseofscranton.org.

The ROYAL family is opening its doors!

Visit OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, November 2, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Discover an enriching, supportive, faith-filled environment where academic excellence and servant leadership are pursued daily. Talk to students, faculty, and coaches to learn why you belong in the Holy Redeemer family.

HOLY REDEEMER HIGH SCHOOL
159 South Pennsylvania Blvd., Wilkes-Barre
570-829-2424



Exaltation of the Holy Cross and St. Robert Bellarmine Parish Offices will be closed

Monday, October 13th in
Observance of Columbus Day.



Diaper Drive at St. Robert Bellarmine & Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Our Parishes Diaper Drive has begun in both churches. At EXHC you can drop off at the exits. At St. Robert the crib will be by the cross in the vestibule of the Church. Cash donations are also appreciated. Place cash/check in envelope marked "Diaper Drive" in collection.

We welcome disposable diapers of any size, but especially for toddlers.



St. Casimir Cemetery

The groundskeeper has started and will be at the cemetery through the fall. There is a cost of \$950/month to maintain the Cemetery.

If you would like to make a donation to St. Casimir Cemetery you can do so with a check made payable to the cemetery.

Put it in an envelope marked with the cemetery's name on the envelope and drop it in the collection basket. Remember these donations are tax deductible!

PARISH MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Phone No. _____

Please check one:

☐ I am new in the parish & wish to register

☐ Change of Address

☐ Moving out of Parish

Please drop Membership Form into the Offertory Basket or mail to the Parish Office.

St. Robert Bellarmine Parish

www.stalschurchwbb.com

like us on facebook



Phone Number: (570)823-3791

email address: stalschurchwbb.com

Weekend & Daily Masses in: St. Aloysius Church

October 13-19, 2025

Mon.	8:00am	No Mass	
Tues.	8:00am	Noreen Harron	Beth Mangan
Wed.	8:00am	Barbara Pisarcik	Karen Baloga & Matthew Mamola
Thurs.	8:00am	No Mass	
Fri.	8:00am	No Mass	
Sat.	4:00pm	Jeff Watkins	Family
Sun.	7:00am	Stephen Andrejko	Ronald & Lawrence Jacobs
Sun.	11:00am	Murphy Family	Family



*Thank You and
God bless you for
your
Contributions!*

October 5, 2025

Sunday (online incl)	\$ 6,181.50
Loose	\$ 369.04
Dues (online incl)	\$ 1,147.00
Charity	\$ 10.00
Maintenance/Utilities	\$ 28.00
Donation	\$ 250.00
Candles	\$ 57.00
Total	\$ 8,042.54

**Care and Education for Priests
\$439.59**



Both Tabernacle Candles
this week are in loving memory of
Dorothy Ciavarella
requested by Ciavarella Family.



Blessed Mother Candle
This week is in loving memory of
Corinne & Kevin Scanlon
requested by Jane & Richard Thomas.



Eucharistic Bread & Wine
blessed at all our weekend masses
are in loving memory of
Edith, Joseph, Elizabeth & Walter Moore
requested by Jane & Richard Thomas.

2025 Annual Appeal!



Our parish goal: \$34,181.00
Total Raised: \$10,680.00
Amount over/under goal: **-\$23,501.00**

Thank you for your support!!



Diaper Drive

Once again this year during **Respect Life Month** we are having our **Diaper Drive**. There is a crib by the cross in the vestibule of the Church.

All our donations will go to the **Pro-Life Center** to be used for children in need of diapers. Many toddlers who are still in diapers don't have their diaper changed as much as they should be which can cause diaper rash or worse, this is why we ask for larger size diapers..

If you want to make a Cash donations we will go and pick up diapers with the donation. Place cash/check in envelope marked "Diaper Drive" in collection.

We welcome disposable diapers of any size, but especially for toddlers.



During the month of November,
St. Robert Bellarmine Parish
will be honoring the members of our
parish and/or families who have nobly
served in the military of the United States.

For a **\$10.00 donation** you can purchase a flag bearing the hero's name and military information. Flags will be on display around the parish property for Veteran's Day weekend. If you wish to participate in this project, please fill out the following form and return it to the parish office by **Monday, November 2nd**. Submissions can be placed in the collection basket, mailed to the parish office or dropped off in person.

Father Cirba will be honoring our Veteran's at the 11:00 clock Mass on Sunday, November 9th. Monies raised from this project will be donated to the **Tunnels to Towers Foundation.**

Sponsor's Name _____

Contact Phone # _____

Service Members Name and Rank _____

Branch of Service/Years of Service _____



Sunday, Oct. 26th Halloween Mass and Party

For all children and grandchildren up to the age of 12. Come in costume to the 11am mass and stay for the Halloween Party in the Church Hall after mass. Please RSVP no later than Oct. 20th to Mrs. Jessica Eick, Director of Religious Ed at 570-574-4484.

Thank You to all who have bought/sold Raffle Tickets.

Our final winners for the month of September are:

Date	#	Amt	Name
9/29	997	\$50.00	Janet Cirko
9/30	001	\$2500.00	Frank Eick

Exaltation of the Holy Cross Parish

Website: www.exhc.org

e-mail: exhc@aol.com www.facebook.com/holycross420

Phone Number: (570) 823-6242

October 13, 2025 - October 19, 2025

Mon.	8:00AM	Joe Halaburda	Bob & Arlene Osborne
Tues.		No Mass	
Wed.		No Mass	
Thurs.		No Adoration	
Fri.	8:00AM	Barbara Pencak	Walt
Sat.	1:00PM	Wedding of Stephen Dule & Ashley Becker	
Sat.	5:30PM	Eugene & Eleanor Breznay	Breznay family
Sun.	9:30AM	70th Wedding Anniversary in Heaven George & Theresa Tomko by Family	



*October 5th
Thank You and
God bless you
for your
Contributions!*

Sunday (inc. Online)	\$ 3,219.40
Dues (inc. Online)	\$ 835.75
Loose	\$ 142.00
Children	\$ 49.00
Candles	\$ 100.00
Parish Feast Day	\$ 11.00
Total	\$ 4,357.15
St. Vincent dePaul Social Con.	\$ 5.00

Diocesan: (inc. Online):
Care & Education Priests: \$721.00.



Bread & Wine
for this weekend are offered:
Health & Blessings for our Police, Fire & all First
Responders as we celebrate this Blue Mass.

Candles are lit for 1 week beginning October 12th:

Sanctuary Candle: In Memory of Dr. Michael Stretanski by Ann Niezgoda.

Blessed Mother Candle: In Memory of Brenda Tippins by Jerry.

Infant of Prague Candle 1: In Memory of Eugene & Eleanor Breznay by Family.

Infant of Prague Candle 2: Wedding Blessings for Stephen & Ashley by Joanie & Ann.



2025 Annual Appeal!

Our parish goal: \$26,405.00

Total Raised: 6,530.00

Amount over/under goal: **-\$19,875.00**

Thank you for your support!!

Annual Trunk or Treat

Sunday, October 26 6:00-7:15PM

Vehicles are needed to decorate their trunks & pass out candy/treats.

For more information or to register your vehicle,
contact Stephanie Zadzura at (570) 814-7794.

Prizes will be given out for the best displays!

Vehicles can start decorating at 4:30PM!



3rd Annual Cancer Walk/Run - 1 & 2 Mile

Sunday, October 19. Registration at 1:00PM. Walk at 2:00PM.

Cost per person \$10.00 (T-shirt will be extra).

Proceeds will go to local Cancer Charities.

There will be food, drinks, beads, baskets, etc.

Anyone can participate. There will be a short walk for anyone who cannot walk/run the 1-2 mile.

Come support this event (even if you do not want to walk).

Can't walk? Sign-up to volunteer. Contact Joan at 570-814-6444.

Cannot attend? You can donate.

The Lavender Ribbon is in support of ALL cancers. Sponsored by Service Committee.



Food Collection for Ashley Food Pantry at St. Leo's

October food collection: Cranberry Sauce/Canned Yams.

Thank you for your generosity!



Pierogi Sale Order form

	How many?
Potato/Cheese (10.00dz)	
Cheese (Farmers) (12.00dz)	

The Ladies of Mary Society are having a Pierogi Sale in November. Orders are now being taken. Pickup will be November 9 (you will be called.)

A limited number will be made.

Deadline to Order: 10/18 (No Exceptions).

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Payment must be included with order. Write check to "EXHC".

Questions? Call Joan at 570-814-6444.

Men's Club Raffle Winners

Kay Gaughan	\$10,000.
Kinsley, Bodhi, Eric	\$5,000.
Bill Kane	\$5,000.
Kristen Roppeit	\$1,000.
Rose Pivarnik	\$1,000.
Cletta Salavanis	\$1,000.
Joseph's Angels	\$1,000.
Ed Koons	\$500.
Bob Majikes	\$500.

Success!

Is what we say about
our Potato Pancake
Fundraiser!

Thank you to all who
helped in any way.

Congratulations to all

**the winners of the
Men's Club
raffle and thank you
to all who purchased
or sold tickets!**

Upcoming Events

10/14 - Ladies of Mary Society Meeting at 7:00PM.
10/19 - 3rd Annual Cancer Walk.
10/25 - Food Distribution at Noon-1:00PM.
10/26 - Youth Family Mass at 9:30AM.
10/26 - Trunk-n-Treat at 6:00-7:15PM.
10/27 - Prayer Shawl Gathering at 5:30PM.
10/29 - Men's Club Meeting at 7:30PM.
11/2 - Mass of Remembrance at 9:30AM.





TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ✕ OCTOBER 12, 2025



A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS, HIS WORD TODAY

by Rev. William J. Reilly, Most Holy Name Catholic Church, Garfield, NJ

"Jesus, Master, Have pity on us!"...Jesus said in reply, 'ten were cleansed, were they not? Where are the other nine? Has none but this foreigner returned to give thanks to God?' Then he said to him, 'Stand up and go, your faith has saved you.'... "But the word of God is not chained."

As familiar as we are of the meeting of Jesus with the ten lepers, the word of God asks us to look at its meaning for us today. So often we fill the role of the ungrateful nine, but treat the healed leper as the 'other.' We can substitute the lepers with countless other people suffering today from addiction, loneliness, hate and discrimination. We need to put a face on the 'leper' from which I suffer, and find others, seeking compassion and assistance and not judgement. May we be supported in our faith and understand more clearly what the Lord is calling us to do.

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: 2 Kings 5:14-17

Elisha cures Naaman of leprosy, which convinces Naaman that there is only one God. Naaman then asks to take some loads of soil from Israel, so that he can worship and make sacrifices to one true God on his own land.

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-13

Paul reminds Timothy that Christ rose from the dead so that many people could be saved. Paul was being treated as a criminal and kept in chains but says, "There is no chaining the word of God!" Paul also says, "if we die in Christ, we will live in him. But if we deny him, he will deny us."

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19


Jesus cures ten lepers, but only one returns to express gratitude for being healed. Jesus is disappointed that only one gave thanks to God, but tells that one, "Your faith has been your salvation."

©2000 Bon Venture Services, Inc.

Every October, the Church in the U.S. Celebrates **RESPECT LIFE MONTH.**

"An Old Irish Proverb says, 'It is in the shelter of each other that the people live.' Indeed, we are created to depend upon one another and walk together in suffering. But when family members or friends approach life's end, we may not know how best to 'shelter' them. Here are some concrete ways we can compassionately care for them: uscbb.org/end-of-life-care."

USCCB Secreatriat of Pro-Life Activities Care for Loved Ones at Life's End



Gospel Today

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time / Luke 17:11-19

Jesus healed ten lepers, people with a skin disease, but only one came back to say thank you.

Ten lepers called out "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!" — Luke 17:14

They all had **faith**, they all were **healed**, they all were **happy** to be able to return home. But only one went back to say "**Thank you**." Jesus asked the man, "Ten were cleansed, were they not? Where are the other nine?" — Luke 17:17

Jesus was pleased with the Samaritan and said, "Stand up and go, your faith has saved you." — Luke 17:19

THANK YOU!

Dear Jesus,
Thank you for...

God gives us everything, but sometimes we get so happy and excited we forget to say thank you to God for His goodness.
Color and fill in the space above with words or a picture of what you want to thank God for. Hang it in a visible place.

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 hotline (ChildLine) at 1-800-932-0313 or electronically at www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis. To 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. As such, 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.

Kniffen O'Malley Leffler

FUNERAL AND CREMATION SERVICES, INC.

Dignified reasonable Catholic
Funeral Packages Available

Dedicated to the Care of Those We Serve

www.kniffenfuneralhome.com

William Brennan,
Supervisor

465 South Main Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701

(570) 823-7157

Frank Grontkowski MONUMENT INC

All Types of Monuments
and Mausoleums

Barre Gray & Imported Colored Granite
Cemetery Lettering • Power Cleaning

"One of the Largest Displays in the Area"

570-822-5574

78 West End Road • Wilkes-Barre, PA

LEHMAN FAMILY FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

689 Hazle Avenue, Wilkes-Barre

570-822-4634

www.lehmanfuneralhome.com



PATRICK M.
LEHMAN
PRESIDENT
JAMES CASEY
SUPERVISOR

ST. MARY'S MONUMENT CO. LLC

975 S. MAIN STREET
HANOVER TWP

NEXT TO SOLOMON'S CREEK

(570) 829-8138

STMARY975@AOL.COM
MONUMENTS • MARKERS • LETTERING
stmarysmonumentcompany.com



O no! Type O donors

needed now!



You sure I'm in the
right car seat?

NHTSA.gov/TheRightSeat



HUNGER

We can end hunger one helping at a time.

feedingamerica.org



Help your community,
the environment,
& yourself



Patronize your
local businesses

HOME • CAR BUSINESS • LIFE



DAN BABETSKI

570-762-3553

dan@pirulliagency.com



Erie
Insurance®

PLEASE
SUPPORT OUR
ADVERTISERS
THEY SUPPORT
OUR PARISH



ASPCA

ASPCA.ORG

WE ARE THEIR VOICE.®

www.aspca.org

DANIEL J. HUGHES FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICE

570.826.0600

617 Carey Ave • Wilkes-Barre

www.danieljhughesfh.com

READY.GOV

Don't be afraid...Be Ready



NAT • GAWLAS • JORDAN

F U N E R A L H O M E

Celebrations of Life • Cremations • On-Site Monument Sales

West

717 Main Street, Edwardsville, PA 18704

Jared J. Jordan, Supervisor

570-825-3138

www.ngjfuneral.com

East

89 Park Avenue, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

Stephen J. Gawlas, Supervisor