



## **Saint Ignatius Loyola Church Weekly Update September 5, 2021**

### **LITURGY SCHEDULE**

Weekday Masses will continue the week of September 6, 2021

Tuesday thru Friday – 7:30 a.m. and 12:10 p.m.

### **WEEKEND MASSES**

**Please note weekend Mass schedule:**

Saturday Vigil Masses 4:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m.

Sunday Masses 7:00 a.m. 8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m.

Live Streaming of Sunday Mass will continue at 8:30 a.m.

**All Masses will be celebrated at St. Ignatius Church.**

The church is now open for private prayer Monday-Friday from 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

### **CONFESSIONS**

**Confessions are held Saturdays from 12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

### **HOSPITALS, LONG TERM FACILITIES, AND HOME VISITATION**

All visitations to homes and hospitals remain limited based upon restrictions of individual health care facilities' protocols. CDC guidelines must be followed.



## **St. Ignatius Pastoral Staff**

*Monsignor David L. Tressler*  
*Reverend Shawn M. Simchock*  
*Deacon Gerard P. Pernot*  
*Ms. Deirdre Drinkall*  
*Mrs. Carmella Faust*

*Ms. Shannon Kowalski*

*Pastor*  
*Assistant Pastor*  
*Deacon*  
*Notre Dame Intern/Pastoral Associate*  
*Director of Liturgical Music*  
*Director of Religious Education*  
*Youth Minister and Live Stream Coordinator*

## **Main Office Staff**

*Ms. Mary Lewis*  
*Mrs. Jennifer Carey*

*Office Manager*  
*Receptionist*

## **Maintenance**

*Sacristan*

*Visiting Clergy*

*Mr. William Gross*

*Mr. Matt Fiske*

*Reverend James Alco*  
*Reverend Daniel Issing, CSC*  
*Reverend Robert Sickler*  
*Reverend Andrew Sinnott*

## **Mission Statement**

We, the blended Catholic community of St. Ignatius, draw strength from Word and Sacrament, especially in the celebration of the Eucharist. Modeling Christ's work, we embrace our commitment to God's call. We remain faithful to the shared acts of prayer, study, and service. Together we extend Christ's hospitality to others and light the path of peace for generations to come.

## CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

Throughout the past several weeks, there has been ongoing discussions regarding whether or not there is any scientific evidence that face masks work. We should continue to dialogue how we may best assist in combating the Coronavirus. Therefore, I researched multiple – in fact more than 40-scientific studies which characterize face masks as providing a strong value against the spread of the coronavirus.

- Do face masks kill the virus? NO
- Are face masks 100% effective in preventing infection? NO
- Do some face masks provide greater protection? YES

All of the studies, depending on their purpose, do recognize a continuum of efficiency in protecting against infection on a scale of 30% to 95%. All of these more than 40 scientific studies say masks help to prevent the spread of infection to a greater or lesser extent. Should we have some protection rather than none? There are those who will say yes, but there are some professionals who will continue to say no.

All of this evidence informs the CDC and its recommendations, which continue to be monitored as the virus mutates, to provide us with the best approach to slow the spread of COVID-19 along with the variants. This information/evidence informs the Bishop and his strong recommendation to us. Please review Bishop Bambera's latest update for our worshipping together:

**MASKS:** It is strongly recommended that you consider choosing to wear a face mask to aid in a greater mutual protection for one another. Face masks are not mandated for church attendance. We are grateful to the number of parishioners who are masking, which clearly is a sign of our respect and care for one another.

**DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION:** All Priests, Deacons, and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are to wear a face mask while distributing communion. If direct contact is made with a person's tongue during distribution, the minister must stop and sanitize his/her hands before continuing.

**HAND HYGIENE:** Hand washing and sanitizing is an essential help in preventing the spread of the virus. It is essential especially for ministers. It is highly recommended that everyone take advantage of the sanitizers located at the entrances of the church.

**LIVE STREAMING MASS:** We will continue to livestream the 8:30 a.m. Mass for those who must stay at home. The 8:30 a.m. Mass is open for in-person attendance as well.

Please remember that all of our efforts throughout the past seventeen months were executed with the health and safety of everyone as our priority. The decisions are based on the most up to date public health information. We must continue to make every effort to remain vigilant in our efforts to control this pandemic so we can move forward. Thank you for your continued support, patience, and cooperation. God Bless!

## LABOR DAY – MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6<sup>th</sup>

Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, September 6<sup>th</sup>. **Please note, there will be no 7:30 a.m. or 12:10 p.m. Mass. The office will be closed.**

## BIBLE STUDIES WILL BEGIN WITH ZOOM

Due to the increase in COVID cases, our 2021 Bible Studies Program will begin on Zoom rather than in-person. We will start on Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 P.M. and continue each week at the same time until November 10<sup>th</sup>. This study, “*Women of the Old Testament*,” will use materials prepared by Little Rock; each study set costs \$16 and will be available for you to purchase. Details for picking up your study sets will be emailed to you. Please contact Pat Cole at 570-287-3402 to register for the study and order materials or for more information.



## ST.IGNATIUS YOUTH GROUP

Students Grades 7-12

We're looking forward to kicking off another year, but we need your input! Students and parents, please consider taking our survey to help us plan what you would like to see happen!



Simply scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to complete the survey electronically.

## **FAITH SHARING**

Faith Sharing Groups will resume in-person monthly meetings beginning September 10<sup>th</sup>. We hope parishioners and friends will feel welcome to join us in Conlan Hall on the second Friday of each month from 6 to 8 p.m. At this present time, all participants must wear masks or a face covering. The focus is on Sunday Scriptures as we share about them within small groups. The atmosphere is casual and there's always time for some friendly socialization. There are no dues or obligations, so please come and give us a try. For questions, please call 570-690-7732

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS**

**Late registration:** Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> : 6 – 7:30 p.m.

Please note! Those students who are registering for the first time, and who were not baptized at St. Ignatius, will need a copy of their baptismal certificate.

Registration Fee: \$25. 00 per child or \$55.00/ 3 or more children

Classes will begin on Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. Class information will be sent to the families.



## **SPONSOR A STUDENT – THANK YOU!**

A very grateful “thank you” to all our parish family members who contributed to the Religious Education “Sponsor a Student” drive. Your generosity is greatly appreciated by all our religious education families. May God bless you and your families for your kindness.

## SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS

Sympathy and prayers are extended to the following family members of recently deceased parishioners of St. Ignatius Loyola Parish:

Diana Lupinski  
Violet Loyack

May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.



## YEAR OF THE FAMILY OBSERVANCE

### Family Fun Day at Knoebel's

As part of our Year of the Family observance, the Office for Parish Life is sponsoring a Family Fun Day at Knoebel's Amusement Resort on Saturday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. Groups or individuals are welcome to enjoy all that Knoebel's has to offer from 12pm to 8pm and take advantage of our discounted ticket offer! You can choose from a **Lunch and Ride package** (\$25 per person includes a bagged lunch and \$20 worth of ride tickets) or a **Discounted Tickets Only** option (\$20 worth of ride tickets for \$17). Regardless of the package you choose, you are welcome to take advantage of our reserved pavilion for lunch or to simply gather with your family and friends.

To purchase tickets by credit card, visit [www.dioceseofscranton.org](http://www.dioceseofscranton.org). To order and pay by check, call (570) 207-2213 ext. 1155. All orders must be paid in advance. The deadline to place orders is September 16.

## Mass Intentions Week of September 6<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>

<b>Monday</b>
<b>9:00 AM – Thomas Lahart</b> <i>Diane &amp; Jim Nardone</i>
<b>Please note: There will be no 7:30 AM or 12:10 PM Mass today.</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>
<b>7:30 AM – Joanie Scruitsky</b> <i>Family</i>
<b>12:10 PM – Jean Soroka</b> <i>Nardell Family</i>
<b>Wednesday</b>
<b>7:30 AM – Madalyn Brennan</b> <i>Mary Seremet</i>
<b>12:10 PM – Peter Hoegen</b> <i>Goryeb Family</i>
<b>Thursday</b>
<b>7:30 AM – Patrisha Chesna</b> <i>Therese Harrison</i>
<b>12:10 PM – Constance Cavanaugh</b> <i>Carol Medvec</i>
<b>Friday</b>
<b>7:30 AM – Ceil Kasmark</b> <i>Patton Family</i>
<b>12:10 PM – Kay Gebhardt</b> <i>Peggy Rukstalis</i>
<b>Saturday</b>
<b>4:00 PM – Catherine McCue</b> <i>McEvoy Family</i>
<b>5:30 PM – Mass for 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 9/11 – Knights of Columbus</b>
<b>Sunday</b>
<b>7:00 AM – Rose Loyd</b> <i>Kathy &amp; Dave</i>
<b>8:30 AM – For the People of the Parish</b>
<b>10:30 AM – Lucy Gioia</b> <i>Tom &amp; Mark McDonnell</i>
<b>12:00 PM – Antoinette Francioso</b> <i>Peggy Cuscella</i>

### Church Candle for the Week of September 6<sup>th</sup>

In Memory of Billy Blaum – Requested by Gail & Dick Blaum

### Bread & Wine for the Week of September 6<sup>th</sup>

In Memory of Anthony Maloney – Requested by Family

**FINANCIAL UPDATE FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 29, 2021**

Sunday Tithe  
**\$9,782.75**

E-Offerings  
**\$1,761.00**

Total  
**\$11,543.75**

**Amount Needed  
Each Week to  
Meet Expenses  
to be determined for  
New Fiscal Year**

Father Simchock, Deacon Pernot, and I continue to be most grateful for your generosity and support during these challenging days. Envelopes can be mailed in or dropped in mailbox on rectory front porch.

May God Bless you abundantly for your continued support. Be assured of our prayers for health and safety for all.







**Diocese of Scranton**  
**Guidelines for Public Masses**  
**During the COVID-19 Pandemic**  
**REVISED AUGUST 6, 2021**

*We, the Parish of St. Ignatius Loyola, join with all the parishes of the Diocese of Scranton to joyfully welcome the faithful of the Diocese to return to our parish. Despite the challenges of the last year, we invite those who have not yet returned to Mass to rejoin us in-person to celebrate the Holy Eucharist, the source and summit of the Christian life.*

**MASK GUIDANCE FOR MASSES**

- The Pennsylvania Department of Health ended its mask mandate as of Monday, June 28, 2021
- This means that in the parishes and institutions of the Diocese of Scranton, there is no requirement for face coverings or masks.
- **However, Bishop Bambera, issued new guidelines on Friday August 6, 2021, which strongly encourage vaccinated and non-vaccinated individuals to return to wearing masks inside for Mass and other indoor gatherings in order to protect the safety and health of all parishioners.**
- There will be no request by the parish regarding information about vaccination status to be admitted to the church.

## **OTHER IMPORTANT PROTOCOLS & SAFETY PRECAUTIONS**

- We remind the faithful to continue to maximize the use of space as much as possible.
- Hand sanitizer will continue to be available in the church.
- The Sign of Peace will be celebrated without physical contact.
- The distribution of the Precious Blood remains suspended at this time.
- Confessions are celebrated Saturdays from 12:00 noon until 12:30 p.m. **Please note: masks are required for the Celebration of Reconciliation.**
- The Diocesan guidelines allow decisions to be made at the discretion of the individual parish regarding the following:
  - Altar servers may assist at Mass once again. Servers under the age of 18 will need parental permission.
  - Liturgical singing will be allowed – specifics to be determined.
  - Holy Water fonts will be refilled and utilized.

We will be implementing the return of these items in the coming weeks as the Pastoral Staff cautiously determine a timeline.

**While ongoing progress is being made to address the spread of COVID-19 with vaccinations, the obligation to attend Sunday Mass and Masses on Holy Days was reinstated on August 15<sup>th</sup>. St. Ignatius Loyola Parish is excited to welcome everyone to join us in-person for the celebration of Mass. We will proceed with caution to ensure our faithful will return with full confidence in their health and safety while at church.**

**Monsignor Tressler, Father Simchock, and Deacon Pernot are excited to be welcoming our parishioners and friends back when you feel comfortable!**

