FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 30, 2025

ST. LEO THE GREAT PARISH

A COMMUNITY OF FAITH FORMED BY THE UNION OF HOLY FAMILY, HOLY ROSARY & ST. LEO PARISHES

33 Manhattan Street
Ashley, PA 18706
Phone: (570) 825-6669

ST. ANDREW PARISH

316 Parrish Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702
Phone: (570) 823-1948

Observing the Season of Advent

Beginning the Church's liturgical year, Advent, meaning "to come to" is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas.

The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth on Christmas. Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.

Advent devotions including the Advent wreath, remind us of the meaning of the season. An Advent calendar (like the one offered on the US Bishops website: usccb.org) can help you fully enter into the season with daily activities and prayers to prepare you spiritually for the birth of Jesus Christ.

ST. LEO THE GREAT & ST. ANDREW MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKEND	**Saturday 4:00 p.m. (St. Leo), 5:30 p.m. (St. Andrew)**
	Sunday 8:30 a.m. (St. Leo), 11:00 a.m. (St. Andrew)
WEEKDAYS	**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday 8:00 a.m. (St. Leo)**
HOLY DAYS	**(Vigil) 5:15 p.m. (St. Leo), (Day) 8:00 a.m. (St. Leo), 5:15 p.m. (St. Andrew)**

CONFESSION

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 7:45 a.m. (St. Leo)
Saturday 3:30 p.m. (St. Leo), 5:00 p.m. (St. Andrew)

BAPTISM & WEDDINGS

Call the Rectory

NEW PARISHIONERS: We, the parishes of St. Leo the Great & St. Andrew, welcome new parishioners to register with our parish by calling the Rectory at (570) 825-6669 or (570) 823-1948 or stop by during office hours. We are handicap accessible. We also invite you to visit our web pages.

PASTOR: REVEREND VINCENT H. DANG

Administrative Asst:	Marina Kachinko Mary Anne Malone
Director of Music:	Robert Passetti
Director of Religious Ed:	Michele Casey
Web Site:	www.stleos-holyrosary.org
E-Mail:	saintlhrc@gmail.com
Office Hours:	Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Administrative Asst:	Helene Skopek-Krygier
Director of Music:	Jeff Papciak
Director of Religious Ed:	Kristi Gibson
Web Site:	standrewwilkesbarre.org
E-Mail:	rectory@standrewwilkesbarre.org
Office Hours:	Mon, Tue, Thurs & Fri 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Readings for Sunday, December 7, 2025

First Reading: The spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him: a spirit of wisdom and of understanding, a spirit of counsel and of strength, a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the LORD. (Isa 11:2)
Psalm: Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever. (Ps 72)
Second Reading: Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God. (Rom 15:7)
Gospel: "I am baptizing you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I." (Mt 3:11)

CCD CLASSES CANCELLED AT BOTH CHURCHES: Sunday, Nov. 30 due to Thanksgiving Holiday.
NO DAILY MASSES: Tuesday Dec. 2; Wednesday Dec. 3 and Thursday Dec. 4. Thank you.
ST. LEO LOTTERY TICKETS: Looking for small Christmas gifts or stocking stuffers? Love playing the odds? Then, take a chance! The St. Vincent DePaul Society is running a phone sale of their annual lottery tickets from November 29 through January 31. Tickets cost $5, contain two numbers and cover the 7:00 p.m. drawings for the month of February 2026. Daily winners receive $25; weekend winners $50; Valentine's Day winner $100. If the same number is pulled on Valentine's Day and 2/28/2006, that ticket holder wins $5000. Proceeds from the lottery sale will allow the Society to continue its support of our Food Pantry, parish projects and local charities. FOR FURTHER DETAILS OR TO ORDER TICKETS: Please call Christine Casey at (570) 262-5008.
OPLATKI WAFERS: Sponsored by the Altar & Rosary/St. Ann's Society are available before and after each weekend Mass in the vestibule from Saturday, Nov. 29 until Sunday, Dec. 21 or call the Rectory (570) 825-6669. Available in packs of 5. Donations are appreciated. Thank you.
HOLY NAME SOCIETY PIEROGIE SALE: Pierogies from Polish Connection. Potato-cheese or Cabbage are being sold and are each $10.00/frozen dozen. Sales will take place in St. Leo Church vestibule the weekends of Nov. 29/30 and Dec. 6/7. Payment due at time of ordering. **All Pick ups: Sat./Sun. Dec. 20 & 21 after Masses in St. Leo Church Hall.** Thank you.
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: Will pray the Rosary, Sunday, November 30 after the 8:30 Mass in the Church Hall. All are invited to participate.
CLEANING ST. LEO CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS: Tuesday, Dec. 9 after the 8:00 a.m. Mass. Please join us if you are able to help. Thank you.
DECORATING ST. LEO CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS: Saturday, Dec. 13 at 9:00 a.m. Please come if you are able to help. Thank you.
CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: We encourage Parishioners to use your Christmas Flower Envelope. It helps defray the cost of decorating our Churches. The envelopes will be placed on the altar to remember and honor our loved ones. Thank you and May God Bless You.
THANK YOU: To Steve and Mary Yenchak for donating the advent wreath at St. Andrew in memory of Edward & Irene Polchin, Stephen J. Yenchak and the deceased members of the Wizda, Yenchak, Matsko & Machonis families. Please remember them in your prayers.
FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION: We celebrate the patronal day of the United States, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We believe that she herself was free from the stain of sin from the moment of her conception. Mary is the perfect Advent model for us. As we imitate her faithfulness, we say "yes" to God's invitation to bring Christ to the world. Mass is Monday, December 8 at 8:00 a.m. at St. Leo the Great Church and at 5:15 p.m. at St. Andrew. Please come to honor our Blessed Virgin Mary.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION INFORMATION

Our CCD Motto is "MASS AND CLASS or CLASS AND MASS"

ST. LEO

Classes are held from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on Sundays in the Education Center
Mrs. Michele Casey, DRE (570) 760-9793

SAFETY OF OUR CHILDREN: Please look out for the safety of our children especially as they are arriving for class at 9:30 a.m. Thank you.

SAVE IMPORTANT 2026 DATES:

FIRST PENANCE: Saturday, Jan. 24 at 11 a.m.
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & MAY CROWNING: Saturday, May 2 at 11:00 a.m.
CONFIRMATION: Sunday, May 24 at 8:30 a.m.
WEATHER CONDITIONS: Your children's safety is always the primary concern of ours. Please use your discretion if you choose to send your children to CCD in inclement weather. Thank you.

ST. ANDREW

Classes are held from 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. on Sundays at the Rectory and Church Hall.
Ms. Kristi Gibson, DRE (570) 417-2505

SAFETY OF OUR CHILDREN: Please look out for the safety of our children especially as they are being dismissed from class at 10:45 a.m. Thank you.

SAVE IMPORTANT 2026 DATES:

FIRST PENANCE: Sat., Feb. 7 at 10:00 a.m.
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & MAY CROWNING: Sunday, May 3 at 11:00 a.m.
CONFIRMATION: Sun., May 17 at 11:00 a.m.
WEATHER CONDITIONS: Your children's safety is always the primary concern of ours. Please use your discretion if you choose to send your children to CCD in inclement weather. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE: Christmas Eve, Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 4:00 p.m. at St. Leo & 5:30 p.m. at St. Andrew. Christmas Day, Thursday, Dec. 25 at 8:30 a.m. at St. Leo and 11:00 a.m. at St. Andrew.

ST. LEO CHRISTMAS CONCERT: Will be held on Sunday, December 14 at 2:00 p.m. In St. Leo Church. St. Leo Adult Choir will be joined by youth of the parish to present "A Christmas Carol in Bethlehem," a twist on the Charles Dickens' classic that places Scrooge in Bethlehem at the birth of Christ. Please join us in this celebration of the Christmas season. All are welcome!

ST. LEO GIVING TREE: Is in the Sanctuary until Sun., 12/14. Your generosity allows us to provide gifts for infants - 17 years old whose parents/guardians are clients of the Ashley Area Food Pantry and who have pre-registered them for the gift distribution. Please take an ornament from the tree, tape the ornament on your UNWRAPPED gift and place it under the tree by the end of the 8:30 a.m. Mass on Dec. 14. Gifts will be distributed later that afternoon according to a pre-determined schedule. Any leftover/uncollected items will be delivered to the "Toys for Tots". Additional ornaments will suggest items such as men's/women's undergarments, socks, sweats & sweaters to help those in need. These UNWRAPPED items should also be placed under the tree and will be delivered to the appropriate social-service agencies. Thank you for your kindness.

ST. ANDREW WREATH PICK-UP: Wreath orders from LPSCU Branch 213 may be picked up Sunday, November 30 in the church basement from 10:30 - 11:00 a.m. Wreaths can also be picked up Monday, Dec. 1 at the LPSCU office at 71 S. Washington St., Wilkes-Barre from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

ST. ANDREW CHRISTMAS CARDS: Several CCD classes are making Christmas cards to send to parishioners who cannot join us during the holiday season. We are starting with those who receive the bulletin by mail. If you have someone to add to our list, please drop a note in the collection basket or contact the rectory office at 570-823-1948. Names must be received by Saturday, Nov 29.

REMEMBERING ST. LEO HOMEBOUND: The Altar & Rosary/St. Ann Society & the Holy Name Society will offer a candle for each homebound parishioner at Christmas. If you know a parishioner who no longer comes to Mass because of age or ill health, call the Rectory by Mon., Dec. 15. Thank you.

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS: The deadline for bulletin submission has been accelerated. Between now and January 4, any candle requests or bulletin submissions will be due two weeks before the bulletin's publication date. Please order your candles for Christmas by Dec. 10. Thank you for your patience.

SAFETY REMINDER: Please remember to lock your car when you come for Mass.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK AT ST. LEO & ST. ANDREW				
Monday	12/01	8:00 a.m. (St. Leo)	Dr. & Mrs. Henry F. Smith	Their Children
Tuesday	12/02	No Mass		
Wednesday	12/03	No Mass		
Thursday	12/04	No Mass		
Friday	12/05	8:00 a.m. (St. Leo)	Frank Aukstakalnis	Marianne & Lance Baseski
Saturday	12/06	4:00 p.m. (St. Leo)	Mary Halter	Husband, Bob & Family
		5:30 p.m. (St. Andrew)	Mary Ann Payne	Husband, Bob & Daughter
Sunday	12/07	8:30 a.m. (St. Leo)	James & Adeline Yourren	Family
		11:00a.m. (St. Andrew)	Frances Kubbishun	Family

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE WILL BURN THIS WEEK (ST. LEO): For Deceased Members of the Holy Name Society by The Society; In Memory of Patrick Connelly by The Rusak Family; In Loving Memory of John Kuklewicz Jr. by Wife, Marie; In Loving Memory of Rosemarie Deno by Her Children, Grandchildren & Great-Grandchildren.
THE SANCTUARY CANDLE WILL BURN THIS WEEK (ST. ANDREW): In Memory of John Soboleski by Family.
A BLESSED MOTHER CANDLE WILL BURN THIS WEEK (ST. LEO): In Memory of Zach Kollar by his Grandparents, Dorothy & Dominick Ferro; In Loving Memory of Rosemarie Deno by Her Children, Grandchildren & Great-Grandchildren; In Memory of Nancy Koprowski by Mary Anne.
A BLESSED MOTHER CANDLE WILL BURN THIS WEEK (ST. ANDREW): In Memory of Stephen J. Yenchak, Wizda, Yenchak, Matsko & Machonis Families and Edward & Irene Polchin by Steve & Mary Yenchak; For Health & Healing for John Ostrum; In Memory of Michael Krygier by Wife, Helene.
A SACRED HEART CANDLE WILL BURN THIS WEEK (ST. LEO): In Loving Memory of Jim Londergan by His Wife, Francie.
A SAINT JOSEPH CANDLE WILL BURN THIS WEEK (ST. ANDREW): For Health & Healing of John Ostrum.

If you would like to dedicate a candle for someone, please call the Rectory (570) 825-6669 (St. Leo) or (570) 823-1948 (St. Andrew). Offering is $10.

FATHER JOSEPH LONG, C.S.C. ADDRESS: For those wanting to reach out to Father Long, his address is St. Joseph's Center, 495 Maple Lane, Valatie, NY 12184.
ST. ANDREW PARISH OCIA: Preparation for joining the Catholic Church takes place on Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in St. Andrew Rectory.
ST. ANDREW - HOLIDAY PROJECTS FOR ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: We are collecting new and gently used coats. Help us decorate our Giving Tree with new warm winter accessories such as hats, scarves, gloves & socks. Donations accepted now through Dec. 7. Thank you.
ST. ANDREW - CALLING ALL SANTA'S HELPERS: We are collecting toys for Toys for Tots, now through Dec. 7. You can place a new, unwrapped toy at the altar to help make Christmas brighter for a child. Thank you for your support with this project.
ST. ANDREW OUTSIDE FOOD PANTRY: With cuts in the federal and state budgets, people need food more than ever. Please help by filling our outside food pantry on the parking lot side of the church. If the box is full, food can be left at the back door of the rectory. You can make a difference. Thank you.
CONGRATULATIONS: To Eric Davis & Kathryn Gavlick who will be married on Friday, December 5 at 1:00 p.m. at St. Leo the Great Church. May God bless this couple always.
THANK YOU: A sincere thank you to Rev. Joseph R. Kakareka for leading us in the Fall Bible Study of Luke's Gospel. After a break, we will resume on Monday, January 19 with a study of the Acts of the Apostles. More details to come.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Susie Ambrose, William Andahazy, Eugene Antos, Bonnie Balakier, Bailey Barnds, Alice Battista, Terri Belanchik, Ed Beleski, Marlene Beleski, Jared & Debbie Bellas, Msgr. Jack Bendik, Stella Bobrowski, Robert Bozek, Louise Brant, Valerie Brody, Chloe Brown, David Bukoski, Jr., Vivian Grace Busardo, Pat C., Judy Cannon, Thomas & Louise Cavanaugh, Jackson Chapasko, John Chernesky, Bob Ciritella, Michael Corcoran, Dylan Culp, John Devaney, Janice Divers, Tom Drozda, Hunter Durland, Maureen Ehret, Jonathan Elick, David Evanko, Fadden & Alfano Families, Molly Eyers, Ron Fedorczyk, Christopher Fee, Marion Ferguson, David Fisher, Jean Flanley, Regina Fillman, Catherine Gallagher, Pam Gibson, Mary Ann Gildea, Roslyn Glynn, Thomas Gorman, Quinn Gorman, Raymond Griffin, Karen Grula, Nicole Halversen, Karen Hannis, Ann Marie Harley, Jo Hart, Mary Himmel, Mary Hoffman, Ruth Kackauskas, Brian Kelly, Pat Kelly, Frank Kempf, Thomas Mark Kinney, Abigail Klass, Chris Klau, Jerry Korey, Charles Koulik Jr., Marie Koulik, Teresa Kucharski, Joseph Kulbaski, Nikki La Benda; Dee Lallier, Maryann Lavan, Cathy Linker, Cinde Linker, Rachel Lohman, Ed & Janet Lopez, Janice Lord, Robert Lusk, Loren Mankey, Jodie Martin, Ray Maykovitz, Lauren McDonald, Jillian Meehan, Debbie Mellas, Jesse Mendoza, Mary Ann Mihneski, Paul Milford, Christopher Mortensen, Terry Murphy, Margaret Nealon, Lois O'Hara, Lenny Okuniewski, Betty Oldfield, John Ostrum, Infant William Owen, Christine Owens, John Pac, Maria Parra, Janet Peake, Eileen Phillips, Laurie Phillips, Brian Pollick, Margaret Prestas, David Pudlosky, Dan R., Benjamin Rae, Ray Raykovitz, Michael Ralston, Tom Ralston, Bobby Ramage, Donna Ransom, Marie Lu Reinninger, The Reynolds Family, Bob Roddy, Cleo Rosemond, Libby Rush, Florence Ryder, Marie Saltz, Nick Santana, Josh Schlegel, Joyce Seiger, Helen Semanski, Cynthia Sickler, Kevin Sinnott, Margaret Sipple, Ed Sivelly, Tom Smith, Neil Smith, Frank Sorokach, Michael Sedon, Theresa Shrader, Jeff Statkiewicz, Nico Stavish, Tony Straka, Charlotte Thomas, Jim Thomas, Justin Thompson, Bonnie Usmail, Albert Vrabel, Rose Wallace, George Warman, Elaine Warman, Barbara Wasilewski, Bob Weidow, Jean Wiernusz, Cameron Wilson, Mary Wisniewski, Maria Wujik, Joseph Yedlock, Mary Ann Yedloski, Patty Zukoski and the faithful departed. If you know someone who is ill or needs our prayers, call the Rectory of St. Leo or St. Andrew.

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL: In this *Jubilee Year of Hope* please consider making a gift that provides essential funding for 5 ministries serving every Catholic parish, school and family and many community individuals and families in our diocese. Goal for St. Leo - $42,544. We have raised $14,267 to date. Goal for St. Andrew - $19,248 and to date we have raised $4,900. Thank you for your support!

ST. ANDREW 2026 CHURCH CALENDARS: Courtesy of Lehman Family Funeral Service are at all entrances. Thank you to the Lehman family for providing our church calendars. May God Bless them for their generosity to our parish.

ST. LEO 2026 CHURCH CALENDARS: Courtesy of Lehman Family Funeral Service and George A. Strish Funeral Home are at all entrances. Thank you to the Lehman and Strish families for providing our church calendars. May God Bless them for their generosity to our parish.

ST. ANDREW MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Saturday, Nov. 29, 5:30 p.m.: Lector: Kim Stepanski; Extraordinary Minister: Mesa Ashton; Altar Server: Mia Ashton.
Sunday, Nov. 30, 11:00 a.m.: Lector: Ken Yanora; Extraordinary Minister: Colleen Yanora; Altar Server: Amelia Good, Abrielle Good, Helen Skopek-Krygier.
Saturday, Dec. 6, 5:30 p.m.: Lector: Steve Yenchak; Extraordinary Minister: Mesa Ashton; Altar Server: Patti Martin, Helene Skopek-Krygier.
Sunday, Dec. 7, 11:00 a.m.: Lector: CCD Students; Extraordinary Minister: Colleen Yanora; Altar Server: Gianna Altavilla, Anna Altavilla.
Monday, Dec. 8, 5:15 p.m.: Lector: Kathy Smith; Extraordinary Minister: TBA; Altar Server: Helene Skopek-Krygier.

ASHLEY FOOD PANTRY

For clients residing in the 18706 zip code

Open: Thursday, December 11
10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. & 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Items in special need for November
Turkey Stuffing / Gravy

Thank you to all who have donated! May God Bless you for your kindness and generosity!

COMMITMENT OF TREASURE

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart,
not reluctantly or under compulsion,
for God loves a cheerful giver.
(2 Corinthians 9:7)

Weekly Collection
11/16/2025

St. Leo: $8,643.00 St. Andrew: $2,418.00
CCHD: $579.00 2nd Collection: $447.00