

## Our Lady Queen of Peace Years of Growth

**1954** – Our Lady Queen of Peace Church in Brodheadsville, Pa opened its doors to Parishioners. It was the first Roman Catholic Church to be erected in the West End of Monroe County, the sixth church in the Pocono Catholic Missions of which the Rt. Reverend C.A. McHugh, V.F., was Pastor. Two priests were assigned to assist at the Church, Rev. E. Robert Galligan and Reverend Vincent Harrity. The first Mass was celebrated on Sunday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 1954. Thirty-seven families registered as parishioners. It was dedicated formally on **July 18<sup>th</sup>, 1954** by the Most Reverend Henry Klonowski, D.D., Administrator Bishop of Scranton Diocese. Fifteen people received First Holy Communion. One Mass was held at 9:00am on Sunday and Holy Days.

**1967** – A tent was set up in Jonas and one Mass was held there in the summer months. It became known as the Holy Family.

**1968** – Our Lady Queen of Peace and Holy Family became a Parish, Reverend Daniel Brown became our first Pastor.

**1970** – Reverend Hugh McGroarty became our second Pastor. Confirmation was held for the first time with 60 children being confirmed by Bishop Henry Klonowski, D.D. Confirmation was held every 3 years. Dedication of the Holy Family Church at Jonas was celebrated by Most Reverend J. Carroll McCormick, D.D.

**1973** – Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish was named one of the three supporting Parishes of St. Matthew's Elementary and Notre Dame High School.

**1974** – Reverend Robert J. Gibson became our third Pastor.

**1978** – Four Ministers of Communion were appointed by the Bishop, to serve in our Parish.

**1979** – 82 students were confirmed by the Bishop of Scranton, James C. Timlin, D.D.

Registration of children from our Parish in both Parochial and Public Schools number approximately 325. Baptisms average about 35 a year. Ministers of Communion were commissioned to carry the Eucharist to the sick and shut-ins.

**1982** – Reverend William J. McCawley became our fourth Pastor.

**1994** – A new Church was built to accommodate the ever growing Parish of Our Lady Queen of Peace. The church is located in Gilbert, Pa., and was dedicated by Most Reverend James C. Timlin, D.D. on February 14, 1994. Holy Family Church in Jonas and Our Lady Queen of Peace in Brodheadsville was sold to reduce building debt.

**2000** - (New Millennium) – 70 members were Baptized into the Faith. 153 students received Jesus for the first time at First Holy Communion. 151 students received Confirmation by the Most Reverend James C. Timlin, D.D. 11 couples were bound together in the Sacrament of Matrimony. 35 parishioners entered into Eternal Rest. 1036 students were registered for Religious Education Classes.

**2004** – Our Lady Queen of Peace celebrated 50 years in the West End. Robert O'Connor, Jr. became our first Permanent Deacon on November 27, 2004 and was assigned to our parish.

**2009** - Reverend Michael Quinnan became our fifth pastor with Assistant Pastor Reverend Sean Carpenter.

**2012** - 69 received the cleansing waters of the Sacrament of Baptism, 108 received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion, 122 were Confirmed, 17 received the loving bonds of the Sacrament of Matrimony, and 74 souls entered into eternal rest with our Lord. There are 3,033 families with 9,785 members registered at Our Lady Queen of Peace.

**2013** – Deacon Ralph Weichand was assigned to our church in June.

**2014** – Reverend Sean Carpenter was re-assigned from Assistant Pastor at Our Lady Queen of Peace to Pastor of St. Maximilian Kolbe in Pocono Pines.

**2015** – Reverend Seth Wasnock was assigned as Assistant Pastor.

**2016** – Reverend Seth Wasnock was re-assigned to Our Lady of Snows in Clarks Summit. Deacon Joe Rodgers was transferred to our Parish in October 2016.

**2018** – Our Lady Queen of Peace celebrates 50 years as a Parish. Currently there are 2,381 Families registered totaling 7,590 members. There are 500 students in the Religious Education Program. Parishioner's young and old alike have the opportunity to learn, serve, and develop friendships with our Catholic Community.

**2019** – Rev. Rawel Toppo from India was assigned as Asst. Pastor.

**2020** – Our parish faced challenges with the Covid-19 Pandemic, and many virtual programs were offered as well as Livestreaming Masses for the first time.

**2021** – In August Rev. Michael Quinnan transferred to church of St. Luke's in Stroudsburg. Rev. Robert Simon became our 6<sup>th</sup> and current Pastor of Our Lady Queen of Peace Church.

**2022** – Rev. Rawel Toppo transferred to St. Elizabeth in Bear Creek.

**2023** – Rev. Edison Gregorio Arreaga Arce was assigned as Asst. Pastor in March.

**2024** – Rev. Edison Gregorio Arreaga Arce returned back to Ecuador.

*The doors of Our Lady Queen of Peace Church are open to all those who see Christ.  
Come, celebrate with us!!*