Harry Potter fans are well aware of Harry’s use of the invisibility cloak. Use of this cloak could lead Harry into serious trouble, particularly if he misuses the gift. On the whole, Harry is capable of avoiding the temptations that would assault any person within reach of such a tool. Readers of the Potter series, then, find themselves drawn to a character embodying a modicum of virtue. For virtue would indeed be required if a person were to be in possession of something like an invisibility cloak and yet use it for good purposes rather than evil. If you were to look at yourself truthfully, perhaps you would find that, through your own weaknesses, certain temptations would seep through and goad you to misuse the wonder of invisibility. Stories associated with invisibility, whether involving a cloak or a ring, test our accounts of justice. Why? The reason such stories test our accounts of justice is because they ask us to consider whether we would pursue what is good and true even if we remained unseen.

The primal temptation associated with invisibility is that one can get away with injustices of all kinds—thief, violence, types of conquest—precisely because the unseen remains all too elusive for capture. No longer does the perpetrator have to be clever, even, but only invisible. Cleverness would certainly further aid the process of unleashing the desire to dominate while invisible, and so we can often see the bond between cleverness and injustice.

Plato famously said that we face our judgment naked, that is, without all the finery we use to deceive one another. The true judge of our souls cannot be deceived. Nakedness thus indicates our full exposure to the judge’s discerning eyes. Though we may think we are invisible in our deceitfulness, our sinfulness, and our violence, we are rather always fully revealed before the gaze of our God. And yet, as you may have noticed about our Ash Wednesday readings, we are given the opportunity to repent and ask for divine mercy. Repentance first requires that we recognize ourselves truthfully precisely so that we might be healed of our attachments.

As we enter the Lenten season and prepare to celebrate the glories of the One to whom we attribute all holiness, Jesus the Christ, it is essential that we recognize ourselves truthfully so that our wounds can be healed. Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving—the three marks of Lenten spiritual practice—serve as occasions for letting go of our attachments to time, appetites, and love of money. To practice letting go of our attachments requires that we look truthfully at the ways we are attached, and so perhaps enslaved by our present habits. These practices help us to avoid acting as though we have an invisibility cloak before God. A life performed before God’s eyes rather than the eyes of our peers can help break us out of the cycle of peer pressure, accompanied by mask-wearing, that often marks our interactions.

Accordingly, gazing into the eyes of the Resurrected Christ, Pope Benedict XVI tells us, melts all falsehood away. Let us journey together gazing upon the face of Christ (icons are, of course, excellent for practicing this), so that together we may encourage one another to face courageously our true selves. Perhaps then we can finally see ourselves as the gifts we are and give thanks. At this time of the year thanksgiving is offered in repentance for our waywardness. Truthful recognition of our failure to love well, our waywardness, sets us free to allow the gaze of Christ to heal and cauterize our wounds. Like the Easter mystery, our path to true life lies in our willingness to die to ourselves. Furthermore, we are enjoined to keep our Lenten practices essentially invisible. Together we shall cloak ourselves in the invisibility that enables us to grow in holiness.

Dr. Cyrus Olsen, Theology Department
The Community Outreach Office provides information on Volunteer Opportunities for individuals, groups, clubs, and residence hall floors. Our office is located in The DeNaples Center, Room 205B, and our webpage is www.scranton.edu/volunteers.

We are also on Facebook! Like Us!

Cinderella's Closet - Donate prom dresses, help with fashion show, organizing prom dresses, etc. Scranton Cultural Center, N Washington Ave or Steamtown Mall (easy walk or take the free COLTS college route bus). March 17 12-4pm; March 31 12-7pm; April 5 6-8pm; April 9 & 10 10am–12pm; April 11 8pm–10pm. Contact the Junior League of Scranton at juniorleagueofscranton@gmail.com or call 570-961-8128

Discovery Hill Afterschool Program - Homework Help and Creative Activities for grade school kids. Hill Section location. Mondays and Thursdays beginning March 1st 2:30-3:30 (homework), 3:30-5:30 activities. Contact Melinda at mkrokus@bu.edu

Friends of the Poor - Groups/clubs/departments/residence halls/classes...run a canned food drive, soup collection, cereal drive, food drive between March 1st and April 30th for the Giveaway to Fight Hunger. Contact Sister Ann Walsh, IHM, at friendsofthepoor@frontiernet.net. Clubs should be mindful of the club guidelines on donations found at http://matrix.scranton.edu/studentlife/ministries/community-outreach/clubs.shtml

Hill Neighborhood Association - Volunteers would work 2-6 hours per week during the spring academic semester at the HNA's Hill Section office located at 419 Prescott Ave. (off Mulberry St.). Hours and days are flexible. Ideal start date is Feb. 27 or March 5. The office is open 9 a.m. – 12 noon Monday-Thursday. Volunteers will gain firsthand experience working at the neighborhood, grassroots level and have opportunities to apply marketing, public relations, community development and general word processing/office skills to real community issues. Help create new template for bi-monthly newsletter. Assist with transferring hard-copy membership information to computer records, and other duties as assigned. Contact Julie Cohen at julie.cohen@scranton.edu

Jane Kopas Womens Center - Take Back the Night student volunteers needed from March 19-April 19. Create activities for pre-really, hanging flyers, making flyers and other advertisements, generating interest from the community. Contact Joanne Nashi at joanne.nashi@scranton.edu

Northeast Regional Cancer Institute -
  • Thursday March 1st - according to your schedule. Hang Colon Cancer ribbons in local businesses downtown and artists to paint ribbons in local business windows. Contact Jane at oswaldj2@scranton.edu to sign up
  • Thursday March 22 - at One Point, Moosic St and Pittston Ave, South Scranton, pack t-shirts for Casual Day. Time TBA. Contact Jane Oswald at oswaldj2@scranton.edu

Shalom @ Elm Park Church - help Nepali children (ages 4-11) with understanding our culture while improving their English/Math skills in a formal environment. March 2 to March 30 on Fridays from 3:30-5:30pm. Near campus, Linden & Jefferson. PA child abuse and PA criminal background clearances are required. Contact Dottie Bosley at dotbosley@aol.com or call 570-346-8086/570-885-5870

Special Olympics - help coach a sport (basketball, golf, equestrian, soccer, bowling, etc) or help plan or coordinate an event. Weekdays 5:30-7pm or weekends (times tba). PA criminal background check needed. Transportation provided. Contact Michael Su at mikeysu@gmail.com or call 215-620-8523

St. Joseph's Center Auxiliary - volunteer at annual summer festival, coordinate donations, collect prizes. Contact Lynn Gavin at gavinl3@scranton.edu or call 570-969-5250

University of Scranton Street Sweep - Saturday April 14, Time TBA. Sign up with Student Government (website to be added shortly). For more info, stop by the Student Government Office, DeNaples Student Forum.
## Upscale Wednesday Mass

*This Lent, do something special for yourself... invite the Lord into your busy week.*

**Upscale Wednesday Mass**  
9:45 p.m.  
**Madonna della Strada Chapel**  
**Presider:** Fr. Rick Malloy, S.J  
**All are welcome!**

## The Examen

Are you looking for some quiet time to spend with God?  
Come spend 20 minutes in a reflective form of Ignatian Prayer....

Join us on:  
**Thursday, March 1 at 9:45 PM in Sacred Heart Chapel**

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**TUESDAY**  
**FEB. 28TH**  
**8:00 PM**  
**Pearn Auditorium**  
**Brennan Hall Room 228**
### Weekly Collection

This week’s collection will go towards Children's Advocacy Center - a non profit, charitable organization whose mission is to provide excellence in the assessment and treatment of child abuse and neglect.

Last week’s collection for Homeboy Industries was $313

### Sunday Mass Presiders

**Sunday, February 26**
- 11:00 AM: Fr. McKinney, SJ
- 7:00 PM: Fr. Sweeney, SJ
- 9:30 PM: Fr. Malloy, SJ

**Sunday, March 4**
- 11:00 AM: Fr. Bellafiore, SJ
- 7:00 PM: Fr. McKinney, SJ
- 9:30 PM: Fr. Cadigan, SJ

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**Lookin’ for the Signs**

*A Pilgrimage to the Baseball Hall of Fame*

Cooperstown, NY

**Saturday, March 31st**

8:30 a.m. – 10:30 p.m.

- **All students, faculty, staff (professional, clerical, maintenance, dining) spouses and children (10-17 yrs.)**
- **WELCOME!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adults: $35</th>
<th>University Students: $25</th>
<th>Children: $20</th>
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<td>(includes bus transportation, lunch, admission)</td>
<td>Day ends with mass with Fr. Rick Malloy, S.J.</td>
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Register Today in University Ministries, DeNaples 200

Space is very limited!

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**UNIVERSITY MINISTRIES, DeNaples Student Center 200**

570-941-7419

www.scranton.edu/ministry

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Paulette Burton, Secretary/Receptionist, University Ministries: 941-7419
Joanne Gambacorta, Secretary, Vice President for University Ministries: 941-7419
Ellen Judge, Secretary, Office of Community Outreach: 941-7429; Mollie Vita, G.A. University Ministries; Danielle Frascella, G.A. Community Outreach Office