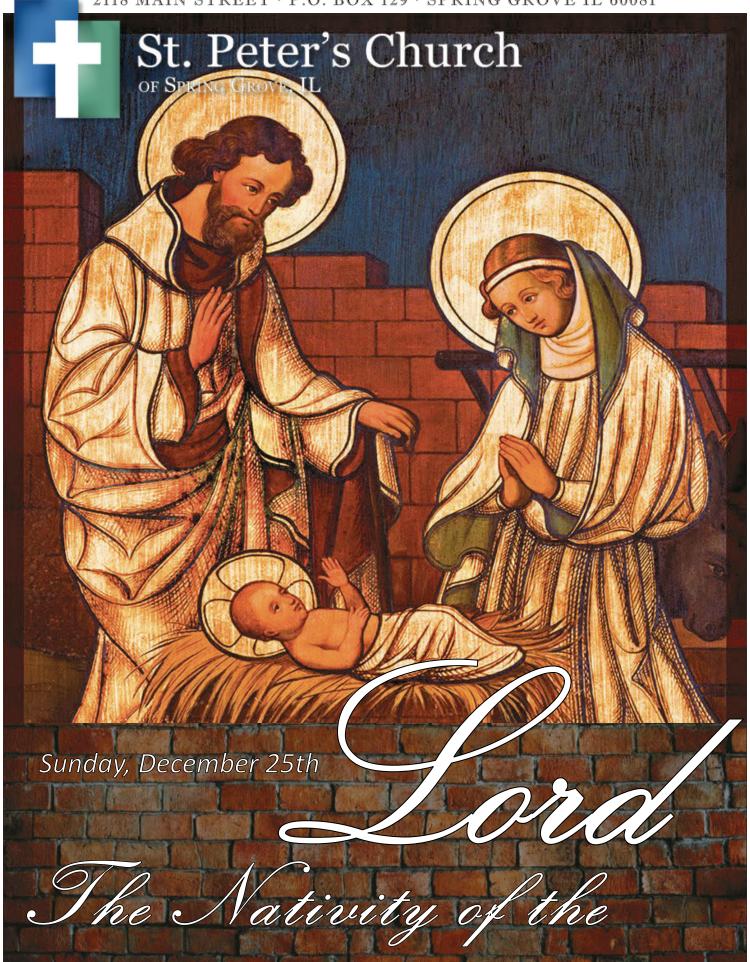
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SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD NEW YEAR'S EVE SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31ST AT 4:00 PM

NEW YEAR'S DAY
SUNDAY, JANUARY 1ST
7:00 AM, 9:00 AM AND 11:00 AM
(9:00 AM MASS LIVE - STREAMED)

Origin of 'The Twelve Days of Christmas'

"The Twelve Days of Christmas" I think. To most it's a delightful nonsense rhyme set to music. But it had a quite serious purpose when it was written. It is a good deal more than just a repetitious melody with pretty phrases and a list of strange gifts.

Catholics in England during the period 1558 to 1829, when Parliament finally emancipated Catholics in England,

were prohibited from any practice of their faith by law—private OR public. It was a crime to BE a CATHOLIC.
The songs gifts are hidden meanings to the teachings of the

faith. The "true love" mentioned in the song doesn't refer to an earthly suitor, it refers to God Himself. The "me" who receives the presents refers to every baptized person.

Partridge in a pear tree—Jesus Christ, the Son of God. In the song, Christ symbolically presented as a mother partridge which feigns injury to decoy predators from her helpless nestlings, much in memory of the expression of Christ's sadness over the fate of Jerusalem.

- 2 Turtle Doves = The Old and New Testaments.
- 3 French Hens = Faith, Hope and Charity, the Theological Virtues.
- 4 Calling Birds = the Four Gospels and/or the Four Evangelists.
- 5 Golden Rings = The first five Books of the Old Testament, the "Pentateuch," which gives the history of man's fall from grace.
- 6 Geese A- laying = the six days of creation.
- 7 Swans A-swimming = the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, the seven sacraments.
- 8 Maids A-milking = the eight beatitudes.
- 9 Ladies Dancing = the nine Fruits of the Holy Spirit.
- 10 Lords A-leaping = the Ten Commandments.
- 11 Pipers Piping = the eleven faithful Apostles.
- 12 Drummers Drumming = the twelve points of doctrine in the Apostles Creed.

Our St. Peter's Women's Ministry is so grateful to everyone who supported this year's 50/50 Raffle!

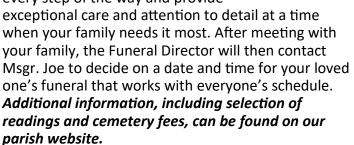
We would like to congratulate the WINNERS!

1st Prize \$2,417.50 Jordan Blanton 2nd Prize \$1,450.50 Elaine Lecinski 3rd Prize \$967.00 Maria Sullivan

From all of us at SPWM—May you and your family have a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Blessed New Year!

indly remember that when making funeral arrangements, the first step is calling either Debbie Thompson, from Thompson Spring Grove Funeral Home, or another local director.

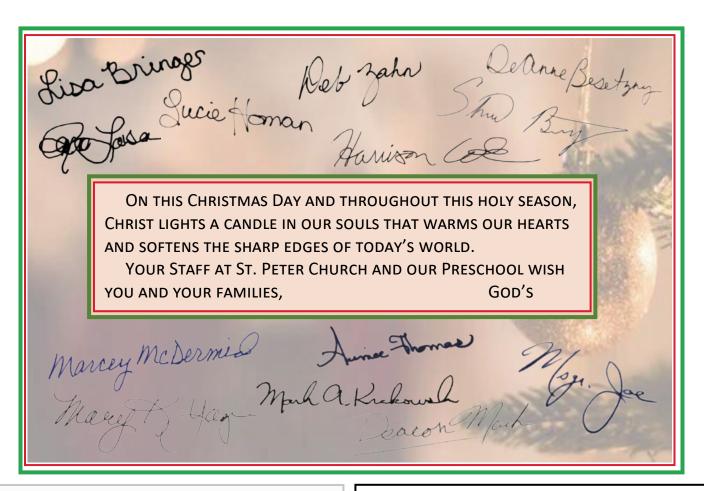
They are trained and experienced professionals who will guide you every step of the way and provide



The Next Knights of Columbus Breakfast is scheduled for Sunday, January 8th after the 7 a.m. and 9 a.m. Masses.

Membership Information to Join the Knights of Columbus in the next bulletin.





LIVE THE LITURGY INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

The true meaning of Christmas is not found in the twinkling lights, the beautifully adorned trees, or the exchanged gifts. It is revealed when we find God along the way of our lives, especially when we feel displaced, desperate, and alone. Fleeing from their home, Joseph and Mary cautiously made their way through the uncertain, complex, and dark paths to a longed-for place of safety and welcome. Not sure where to lay their heads, they created makeshift preparations for the birth of their child, the Son of God. God, who always was, is, and will be, without beginning or end is the one constant in life who sees us through difficult and scary times.

Jesus is the light, which enlightens everyone, and comes into the world to show us the truth. It is joyful good news that calms our fears and allows us to go forth into the nighttime of our lives, courageously. This is the meaning of Christmas. We are never lost or alone. God is with us, loving us and leading us where we need to be.



Start Your New Year's Resolution Early by saying Yes to God!

Every Saturday after the 4:00 Mass, the Blessed Sacrament is placed upon the altar for exposition in a sacred vessel to be adored by all until the following

morning just before the 7:00 a.m. Mass is celebrated. Throughout the night someone must always be present keeping Jesus company.



Our Adoration Team has an open hour that must be filled for this wonderful ministry to continue.

We need someone to keep Jesus company during the 3:00 a.m. hour every Sunday morning.

If you're available or wish to share that hour with another individual, please call Carrie Shannon at 815-687-6734 or Fr. Joe at the Parish Office.

Adoration

Attention Adorers!

There will be <u>No</u>
All-Night Adoration, next weekend,

on the eve of The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.

The normal schedule will resume on

January 7th - 8th, 2023.



Our Sanctuary Lamp burns from December 18th through December 31st for † Scholle & Sompel Families

May this light which reminds us of Jesus' True Presence in the Sanctuary Welcome them into eternal peace.



Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, we place into your hands, all fellow parishioners we know and love, who are ill or injured and in need of Your healing touch.
Jesus, be with them all, especially:

Deanna Adducci Gina Adducci Anna Boettier Debra Cooke Deacon Eugene Damian Sandy Devine Carol Flatley Julia Francis Donald Gagnon Gail Gagnon Glenn Geske Lynn Geske Anthony Hodnik Patricia Hodnik **Brian Hoskins** Patti Jindra Edward Johnson Ann Kattner Diana Kattner

Ronald Klein Loman Kubista Rich Lecropane Caroline Madson Deb & Bob Maliszewski Theresa Miller Walter Miller Fr. Thomas Moran Norma Moretti Carol Nellessen Kelan James Nicholson John Paleka Donna Polanek Betty Rygiel Debbie Schaff Jacob Shapiro Nicole Spatz **David Thomas** Richard Yager Jodi Zaremba

If you know someone who is sick and asking for prayer, but they are not registered members of our parish family, please allow us to solicit support for them by adding their names to our Prayer Chain Ministry. Just visit StPeterCatholicChurch.org and after clicking where it reads CONTACT US, simply follow the directions under PRAYER REQUEST.





FOR THE WEEKENDS OF 12/24 - 1/1/2023

The Mass			For		
VIGIL OF NATIVITY OF THE LORD - CHRISTMAS EVE					
Sat	4 pm	†	Lenard Geraci		
	10 pm		Piotrak Family		
THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD - CHRISTMAS DAY					
Sun	9 am	†	Henrietta Jarmoluk		
	11 am	†	Stanley & Genevieve Stack		
Tuesday - Friday, Rosary Prayed at 7:30 a.m.					
Tues	8 am (1)	†	Don Wehrheim, Sr.		
	8 am (2)	†	Manuel Dominquez		
Wed	8 am	†	Rita Chinni		
Thur	8 am	†	Richard Maziarz, Sr.		
Fri	8 am (1)	†	Walter & Lorraine Jahnke		
	8 am (2)	†	Anthony & Marion Vallango		
(New Year's Eve)					
Sat	4 pm	†	Joseph Carey		
SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD (NEW YEAR'S DAY)					
Sun	7 am	†	Mike Frer		
	9 am	†	Ann Kretchmer		
	11 am	†	Bill & Joyce Keith		

HOW CAN I FEEL WELCOMED IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AGAIN AFTER EXPERIENCING HURT AT THE HANDS OF PEOPLE IN THE CHURCH?

It can be difficult when we feel like our fellow Christians aren't acting very Christian toward us or toward others. The Church is indeed made up of sinful, imperfect people, who often disappoint. But rather than distancing yourself from the Holy Eucharist and the Catholic Church that Christ founded, consider clinging to Jesus all the more, since He never disappoints. It is helpful, in times of trial and hurt, to remember why you are Catholic—not because all Catholics always represent the mercy and love of Jesus perfectly well, but because the Catholic Church was founded by Jesus, administers the sacraments, and contains the fullness of truth, helping all of us to draw closer to God and grow in holiness. Do not allow the actions of some to cause you to lose faith in the Church as a whole. Discuss your frustrations with a priest or deacon at your local parish, and start your journey back to a welcoming home. Above all, do not lose heart. People may disappoint, but God never leaves us, and He is always present in the Catholic Church he founded.

	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers	Ushers			
VIGIL OF NATIVITY OF THE LORD - CHRISTMAS EVE						
Saturday 12/24 4:00 pm	Steve Besetzny	Deacon Mark	Chad Franckowiak Scott Hastings			
10:00 pm	Nettie Toms	Kathie Toms				
NATIVITY OF THE LORD - CHRISTMAS DAY						
Sunday 12/25 9:00 am	Karyn Leali	Paul Leali	Paul Leali Larry Hauser			
11:00 am	Peggy Mack	Mike Gullifor	Mike Gordon Mike Rygiel			
NEW YEAR'S EVE						
Saturday 12/31 4:00 pm	Elaine Brandstetter	Barbara Galloway	Chad Franckowiak Paul Leali			
SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD						
Sunday 1/1 7:00 am	Cyndee Wehrheim	Deacon Mark				
9:00 am	Ardie Arnold	Lori Olmstead	Larry Hauser Jeff Miller			
11:00 am	Aimee Thomas	Marge Ladner	Mike Gordon Mike Rygiel			

Extraordinary Ministers for the Homebound

December 25th - Christmas Day - <u>No</u> Homebound!

January 1st - New Year's Day

Maria Sullivan, Peggy Neuman, Bev Schmitt & George Keim

Why Do We Give Gifts At Christmas?

Great events in and of themselves are not tangible. They occur in life but leave no mark behind, nothing that someone could come across and know that something significant occurred. So we mark the event with monuments, holidays, gold watches or plaques, making a meaningful event tangible and memorable.

Gifts at Christmas do the same thing. They mark the occasion of the birth of Jesus, communicating a bit of the joy of the day by allowing us to be both giver and receiver. Gift-giving sets aside the day as special and different. The special foods, customs, decorations, and gifts all help focus our attention on the importance and meaning of the day and at the same time allow us to share personally in its joy and happiness.

In giving gifts, though, we can share in the meaning of Christmas in a significant way. We imitate God in sharing with others. We give a bit of ourselves to others in the gifts we give, just as God gives us the gift of His Son. No wonder we often say that the best gifts are those that some from the heart. Given in lo

those that come from the heart. Given in love, these presents are wrapped in the best covering of all.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

DECEMBER 25TH

Sunday: <u>The Nativity of the Lord</u>

<u>Vigil</u>: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 (2a); Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or

1:18-25

Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13;

Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

<u>Dawn</u>: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12;

Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20

<u>Day</u>: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3];

Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Monday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6

and 8ab, 16bc and 17; Mt 10:17-22

Tuesday: 1Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12;

Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Wednesday: 1Jn 1:5-2:2; Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8;

Mt 2:13-18

Thursday: 1Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6;

Lk 2:22-35

Friday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Col 3:12-21 or

3:12-17; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5;

Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

Vigil Of Mary, the Mother of God

Saturday: 1Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13;

Jn 1:1-18

Next Sunday: Mary, the Mother of God

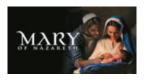
Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (2a);

Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

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Office Hours: Tue. - Thu. 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.,

1:00 - 5:00 pm

Confessions: Sat. 3:00-3:45pm (or by appointment)

Pastor: Rev. Msgr. Joseph Jarmoluk

Deacon: Mr. Mark Raz

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Marcey McDermid x203

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HarrisonColeStPeters@gmail.com

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Gina Zinck StPeters.svdp@gmail.com

Prayer Chain

Mark Vallango & Carol Flatley StPetersPrayerChain@hotmail.com

Adoration & Our Visiting Madonna

Carrie Shannon 815-687-6734

ST. PETER'S MISSION STATEMENT

As parishioners of St. Peter's Catholic Church, we strive to imitate Jesus' example of prayer, fellowship, love and service.



PARISH CALENDAR

Saturday, December 24th

VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD - CHRISTMAS EVE Mass Schedule

- 4:00 pm
- 10:00 pm

Sunday, December 25th

NATIVITY OF THE LORD - CHRISTMAS DAY
MASS SCHEDULE

- 9:00 am
- 11:00 am

Monday, December 26th Tuesday, December 27th

• K of C Planning Meeting - 7:00 pm - Parish Hall

Wednesday, December 28th

- Spiritual Warfare Rosary 6:00 pm
- Thursday, December 29th
- Choir Practice 7:00 pm

Friday, December 30th

Saturday, December 31st

NEW YEAR'S EVE - Mass Schedule

• 4:00 pm

Sunday, January 1st

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

- 7:00 am
- 9:00 am
- 11:00 am

A boy took the family Bible from a bookcase and laid it on a table. He turned each page with care until he spotted a leaf pressed between the pages. He took it to show his mother who then asked, "What is it dear?" The boy replied, "I think it's Adam's underwear."

86 year old Morris went for his annual physical. All of his tests came back with great results. Dr. Cohen said, "Morris, everything looks great physically. How are you doing mentally, emotionally and are you at peace with yourself, and have a good relationship with God?"

Morris replied, "God and me are tight. We are so close that when I get up in the middle of the night, *poof*... the light goes on when I go to the bathroom and then *poof* the light goes off!"

"Wow," commented Dr. Cohen, "That's incredible!"

A little later in the day Dr. Cohen called Morris's wife. "Becky," he said, "Morris is just fine. Physically he's great. But I had to call because I'm in awe of his relationship with God. Is it true that he gets up during the night and *poof* the light goes on in the bathroom and then *poof* the light goes off?"

Becky replied, "The darn fool!... He's mistaking the fridge for the bathroom again!"



PARISH INFORMATION

BAPTISMS - Msgr. Jarmoluk is eager and happy to baptize children whose parent(s) are practicing the Catholic faith and registered members of St. Peter's Parish. Please call the Parish Office for additional requirements and information.

MARRIAGES - Please contact Father before you set a date, at least six months in advance.

HOLY COMMUNION - Parishioners confined to their homes, for an indefinite length of time due to illness or advanced age, may call the Office and request that the Holy Eucharist be brought to them on Sunday mornings.

REGISTRATION - New members should register by either calling the Parish Office or visiting us online at StPeterCatholicChurch.org

HOSPITAL VISITS - If you wish Father to visit during your stay in the hospital, please call him at the Parish Office and he will be happy to do so. Likewise, if you wish to be added to our Prayer Chain, let us know by calling (815) 675-2288

FUNERALS ARRANGEMENTS - are to be made in consultation with Father.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK - If you or someone you know is sick, injured or being admitted to a hospital and would like to receive the Anointing of the Sick, call the Parish Office without delay.

Should there be an emergency after normal business hours, please call (815) 675-2339

Knights' Corner

WE ARE ALL CALLED TO SERVE

Knights of Columbus Planning Meeting Tuesday, December 27th Parish Hall - 7:00 pm

Because of our advertisers' generosity, we are able to provide this bulletin free of charge to our members each week. Please support them and mention you saw

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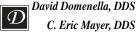


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