

"Hail full of grace! The Lord is with you." The angel Gabriel announces this in the Gospel today, and it is a phrase with which we are all familiar thanks to our recitation of the Hail Mary prayer. Although some may be comforted by such a message and its angelic messenger, it is troubling to Mary because the angel goes on to tell her she will conceive and bear the Son of God. Thinking practically, Mary is being told the impossible will happen – who wouldn't be troubled? And yet Mary offers herself: "I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Despite her fear and trepidation, Mary went on to answer God's call and do His will. Our Blessed Mother became a great example of fortitude at that moment, as she exemplified what it means to step outside of our own uncertainty and trust God completely. Although doing God's will can be difficult at times, St. Paul reminds us in his Letter to the Romans that we can ask God for the strength to say "yes" in spite of our fears.

Request your 2024 Mass Intentions Now!

A Mass Intention is the offering of a Mass in honor of, or in memory of, someone special to you. While most Mass Intentions are said for the repose of the soul of someone who has died, they can also be said for the intention of a person's birthday, anniversary, or time of illness. We recommend that you put in your requests early, especially if you are looking to have a Mass on a special day.

To request a Mass Intention contact the Parish Office at 815-675-2288 or saintpeterschurch@gmail.com.





Our beloved sister in Christ **Betty Rygiel**,

was welcomed into paradise on December 10th the Second Sunday of Advent.

Kindly pray that our Blessed Mother will console Betty's family and everyone who loves her.

Eternal rest grant unto **Betty**, O Lord, and let your perpetual light shine upon her. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. *Amen*

LIVE THE LITURGY

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

God's plans are not always what we imagined. Sometimes they make us hesitate. Be like Mary. Say "Yes, Lord" – and God

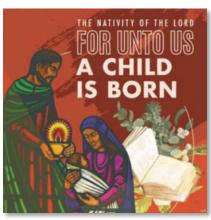
Be like Mary. Say "Yes, Lord" – and God will show you that His imagination is better than yours.

"And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon Him." (Luke 2:40)



our whole lives. Let us inspire this world, that can seem so lost in darkness, with the light of Christ in the light of our joy. Let us welcome family, friends and neighbors. Let us welcome strangers

and travelers in our midst who join with us to celebrate the Eucharist. Invite them and greet them with a welcoming smile and gracious hospitality those like Mary and Joseph, who are seeking room in the inn. Let us not send



them away to be born in a manger like the baby Jesus.

If you are returning to Church today from a long absence, or even a short one, let the joy of this celebration fill you. Let the light of Christ into your lives and into your hearts that your hearts may grow "three sizes" this day and return to the joy of celebrating the Eucharist today and every week of the year.

"Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the City of David a Savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: You will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

(Lk2:10-14)

Merry Christmas!

HOW CAN I MAKE CHRISTMAS JOY LAST?

The Church's real Christmas season starts on Christmas Day and lasts until the Baptism of Our Lord. By celebrating the whole season, you can make your Christmas joy last long after you've taken down the tree. *Here are some highlights of the season:*

Feast of the Holy Family, December 31st.

Gather for a meal with loved ones, or contact out-of-town friends or family.



Solemnity of Mary, Mother

of God, January 1st. Dedicate a Rosary to the Blessed Mother, asking her to help you grow in love and trust.

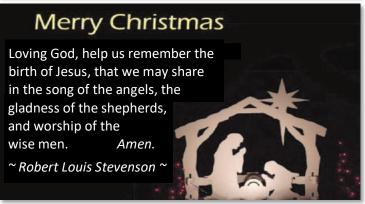
Epiphany, January 7th.

The example of the Magi honoring Jesus has become a symbol of sharing Him with the world. This is our chance to think about the way we live so that we can better reveal Christ to our world.

The Baptism of Our Lord, January 8th.

Baptism is our entry into the Kingdom. Take time this day to renew your Baptismal vows and decide what you can change in your life to help you live as Christ did.





Gospel Meditation

Life is troubling. Who among us has not struggled with anxiety and difficulties, sometimes massive ones? I certainly have, as have many of my loved ones. If we do, does this mean that we don't trust the Lord or just need to toughen up?

I don't think so. How encouraging for us anxious and troubled souls to hear Luke describe the Blessed Mother Mary in these words, "But she was greatly troubled at what was said." An archangel has visited her. An inconceivable promise has been made to her. Her life has become wildly unpredictable, perhaps more so than any person before or since. The first point for us: the Lord is with her precisely when she is troubled. Her anxiousness and God's presence are not mutually exclusive. Christianity is not about a trance-like robotic indifference. It's about the presence of divine love. Even in — especially in — troubled circumstances.

Our troubled soul can become our greatest treasure. What seems so troubling at first to Mary becomes the best possible thing, Jesus, the Savior and Lord, is now her son. All the difficulties and troubles remain, and yet her movement into the fullness of God is accelerated. What is troubling you right now? This scripture invites us now, this week, to hear the Lord's messenger says to us what he said to Mary, "Do not be afraid! You have found favor with God."

~ Father John Muir ~

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FOR THE WEEKENDS 12/24/2023 - 1/1/2024

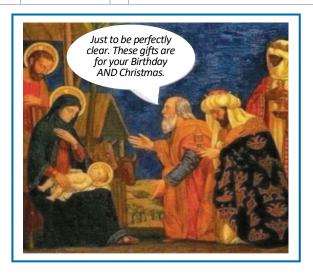
7	The Mass			For	
CHRISTMAS EVE - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD					
Sun	4 pm	(1)	†	Anthony & Phyllis Magnine	
		(2)	†	Katie & Joe Klemak	
	10 pm †		†	Vallango Family	
CHRISTMAS DAY - MONDAY, DECEMBER 25TH THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD					
Mon	9 am		†	Henrietta Jarmoluk	
	11 am		†	Stanley & Genevieve Stack	
Tues	8 am		†	Ann DeSantis - Kattner	
Wed	8 am		†	Alec Naffziger	
Thur	8 am		†	Jeff Rietschel	
Fri	8 am		†	Ann DeSantis - Kattner	
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH					

CONFESSIONS OFFERED ON SATURDAY'S, 3:00 - 3:45 P.M.
ROSARY PRAYED AT 3:30 P.M.

Sat	4 pm	†	Dan & Theresa Miller
Sun	7 am	†	Bob & Marianne McDermid
	9 am	†	Deceased Members of the Knights of Columbus
	11 am	†	Henry Kukol

New Year's Day - Monday, January 1st THE OCTAVE DAY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD, MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Mon 9 am † Blessed Fr. Michael J. McGivney (Founder of the Knights of Columbus)



	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers	Ushers	
CHRISTMAS EVE - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH VIGIL OF NATIVITY OF THE LORD				
Sunday 12/24 4:00 pm	Nettie Toms	Kathie Toms	Chad Franckowiak Gary Miller Deb Christian Ron Hlavin	
10:00 pm	Stan Tinsley	Deacon Mark	Rich Yager Denise Wahls	

CHRISTMAS DAY - MONDAY, DECEMBER 25TH THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Monday 12/25 9:00 am	Joanne Prato	Deacon Mark	Paul Leali George Gemberling Tom Fanella Larry Hauser
11:00 am	Jacqui Wold	Mike Gullifor	Chad Franckowiak Tom Staley

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Saturday 12/30 4:00 pm	Chad Franckowiak	Nettie Toms	Deb Christian Phil Webb
Sunday 12/31 7:00 am	Bill Ledger	Eddie Wells	Dennis Wehrheim David Smid
9:00 am	Mary Yager	Nancy Piggot	Rich Yager Paul Leali
11:00 am	Aimee Thomas	Deacon Mark	Zach Rygiel Mike Gordon

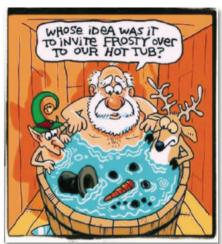
NEW YEAR'S DAY - MONDAY, JANUARY 1ST

Monday 1/1 A 9:00 am	rdie Arnold	Deacon Mark	Paul Leali Chad Franckowiak
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Extraordinary Ministers for the Homebound

December 24th - Christmas Eve - No Homebound Ministry!

December 31st - New Year's Eve - No Homebound Ministry!







Our Sanctuary Lamp burns from December 17th through December 30th for † Scholle - Sompel Family

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

Prayer REQUESTS

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 Marguerite Baranov Anna Boettjer Debra Cooke Jim Crane Phyllis Ehlers Deacon Eugene Damian Sandy Devine Laura Falk Robert Fenrich Carol Flatley Glenn Geske Lynn Geske Ryan Gough Anthony Hodnik Patricia Hodnik Patti Jindra Edward Johnson Lee Jones, Sr. Diana Kattner Joseph Keim Ronald Klein

Ron Lindemann Caroline Madson Deborah Maliszewski Maria Maziarz Barbara Miller Earl Miller Sonia Miller Sara Mohrbacher Norma Moretti Denise Meyers Larry Meyers Kevin Murray Carol Nellessen Carole Nowicki Jim Nowicki John Paleka Debbie Schaff Dorothy Scichowski Jacob Shapiro **David Thomas** Fred Zahn 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.



Why should you never throw your false teeth at your vehicle?

(Answer on page 6)



Website: StPeterCatholicChurch.org Email: SaintPetersChurch@gmail.com

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

1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

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

Pastor: Rev. Msgr. Joseph Jarmoluk

Deacon: Mr. Mark Raz

PARISH STAFF

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Mark Krakowski

Marka.stpeter@gmail.com

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Aimee Thomas

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St. Vincent de Paul

Gina Zinck StPeters.svdp@gmail.com

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Mark Vallango & Carol Flatley

StPetersPrayerChain@hotmail.com

Adoration & Our Visiting Madonna

Carrie Shannon 815-687-6734

Bereavement & Grief Counseling

Marie Arnold 815-307-8142



PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday, December 24th - 4th Sunday of Advent

• Mass - 9:00 am only

VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD **CHRISTMAS EVE—Mass Schedule**

Sunday, December 24th

- 4:00 pm
- 10:00 pm

NATIVITY OF THE LORD CHRISTMAS DAY—MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, December 25th

- 9:00 am
- 11:00 am

Tuesday, December 26th - Parish Office Closed

• K of C Planning Meeting - Parish Hall - 7:00 pm Wednesday, December 27th

• Spiritual Warfare Rosary - Church - 6:00 pm

Thursday, December 28th Friday, December 29th

Saturday, December 30th

• Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament all Night until 6:45 am Sunday, December 31st

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

• Benediction & Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament - 6:45 am

NEW YEAR'S DAY - MONDAY, JANUARY 1ST THE OCTAVE DAY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD, MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

MASS SCHEDULE

• 9:00 am



ANSWERS: YOU'LL DENTURE CAR.



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 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 26th - Parish Hall - 7 pm

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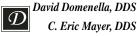
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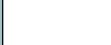
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