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St. Peter's Church

OF SPRING GROVE, IL



~ Alvaro Pirez ~ 1405-15 ~ The Presentation in the Temple ~

Sunday, February 2, 2025 The Presentation of the Lord

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.

Mass Schedule

Tuesday - Friday: 8:00 a.m.

Saturday: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.
(10:00 a.m. Mass livestreamed)

Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:00 - 3:45 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday: 5:00 p.m. - Sunday 7:45 a.m.

Why Do We Do That?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

Luke's Gospel is the only one to mention the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple. What is Luke trying to communicate here and what connection does it have with Mary?

Answer:

February 2nd is exactly forty days after December 25th, the Nativity of Jesus. Jewish law (*Ex 13:2, 12*) dictated that Jesus, as the firstborn, be consecrated to God. This was done by the parents as they presented their Son in the Temple.

Jewish law further specified (*Lv 12:2-8*) that a mother was ritually impure after giving birth, and that she had to wait a set period of time (forty days for a boy) before she was to offer a sacrifice to the Lord for purification.

The convergence of these two Jewish regulations occasion Luke's account of both the Presentation of the Lord and the Purification of Mary. These days the liturgical emphasis is more on the Presentation of Jesus. Luke highlights the role of Simeon and Anna, two righteous Jews who recognized Jesus as the long-awaited Messiah and praised God for being able to see and experience such a marvel in their lifetimes.

Simeon's prayer concerning the special role of Jesus states that Jesus is "*a light for revelation to the Gentiles*." This phrase eventually originated the custom of blessing candles on this day which were to be used in the ceremonies, rituals and processions throughout the church year. Thus February 2nd is also known as Candlemas Day. This day is indeed a rich feast to be savored.

St. Peter's Women's Ministry

Tuesday, February 4th

Parish Hall

Rosary - 6:45 pm

Business Meeting - 7:15 pm

Please join us on Tuesday, February 4th for our next SPWM meeting. We are honored to have Ken Brown coming to speak after our business meeting. Ken will be teaching us how he makes his delicious homemade bread.

All are welcome!



Devotions, Explained!

Examination of Conscience, Explained

In Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, the apostle writes that it is imperative for a Christian to reflect on his conscience before he partakes of the Holy Eucharist: "Let a man examine himself, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup" (1Corinthians 11:28). The practice of examining one's conscience before seeking the Sacrament of Reconciliation thus dates to the very beginning of the Christian faith and was encouraged as a regular practice by many saints and founders of religious orders as a means of growing in virtue.

An examination of conscience, when it relates to the sacrament, simply means reflecting on one's actions (and particularly the intentions behind those actions) since the penitent's last absolution, making note of lapses in judgment that should be confessed. A good basis for this reflection can be the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes and the seven deadly sins.

The daily examination of conscience is a form of prayer that can help us be more aware of God's presence each day. Examination of conscience is an ancient form of prayer first adapted by St. Ignatius of Loyola in his book, *Spiritual Exercises*. St. Ignatius is the founder of the Jesuits, an order of priests. The Jesuits still practice this form of prayer twice a day, at noon and at night and many lay people have adopted this form of prayer as it's a great way to see God in ordinary everyday life.

The Daily Examen Prayer

1 Become aware of God's presence

Look back on the day and note the times you felt God was with you, assisting. Feel God with you now and ask to become more conscious of God's presence. It may be helpful to repeat a phrase like, "Be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46v10, or any other prayer that connects you to God).

2 Look back with gratitude

Review the past 24 hours and notice what you're thankful for. What happened to make you feel blessed? Take a moment to give thanks to God for providing you with these blessings.

3 Take an honest look at your day

Note everything that happened over the course of the past 24 hours, your interactions with others, and your emotions. We often rush through each day, not pausing to reflect. Doing a deep, honest reflection of the past day causes us to learn more about ourselves and improve our future actions.

4 Choose one part of the day, and pray about it

From doing your review, you might find something God is directing you to work on an emotion, a relationship that needs mending, an unpleasant situation. Pray for it, ask God's guidance to resolve it.

5 Pray for tomorrow

Ask God to guide you tomorrow, leading you to your highest purpose. Send love and light to tomorrow, praying for wisdom and strength. Feel deep gratitude, knowing God has already answered your prayer and tomorrow is already blessed. Take some deep breaths, and know that all is well.



The Power of Bowing Your Head at the Holy Name of Jesus

There is a special practice that can help increase your devotion to the Holy name of Jesus.

Upon saying or hearing the name of Jesus, gently bow your head. This is not limited to the context of the Holy Mass. It can be part of our daily lives, too. Whether it is in the middle of a normal conversation, during prayer time, or even upon overhearing someone mention Jesus, you can honor His Holy name by bowing your head as an act of reverence.

The custom of bowing your head at the name of Jesus is largely inspired by the letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians: *"Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."* (Phil 2:9-11)

Tradition says this gesture makes amends for the blasphemous use of the name of Jesus, especially if someone uses the Lord's name in vain in front of you.

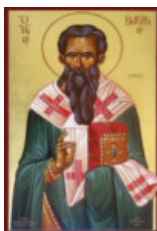
"Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh His name in vain." (Exodus 20:7)

Making this reverent gesture also honors the fact that the name of Jesus is incredibly powerful.

Anyone is welcome to make this pious gesture as a small exterior act to remind us internally of God's presence in our lives and the power of His name.

"Because we did not fast, we were chased out of Paradise; let us fast now, so that someday we return there."

~ St. Basil the Great ~



Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

What is the secret to sharing in God's power to overcome our difficulties? Mary teaches us this in the prophecy of her pierced heart. This Sunday, the old man Simeon prophesies that when her son faces opposition, Mary's soul will be pierced by a sword. The seemingly pointless agony of a mother helplessly watching her son be mocked, tortured, killed and then cruelly desecrated in death by a spear—somehow this piercing of her heart releases a power by which **"the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed"** (Luke 2:35). What to make of this?

Whatever problems we currently face, the deepest threat is finally that evil thoughts are hidden in the human heart: hatred, envy, pride, lust, greed and so on. Behind every tyrant's injustice, for example, is a heart unpierced by love. Evil hides in our hearts. Mary's pierced heart, and its suffering love for her son, reveals and scatters these evil thoughts, and replaces them with love, forgiveness, generosity and peace.

This week, I invite us to ponder Mary's pierced heart. Her heart is quietly at work for us in the Church and world, exposing our evil thoughts and making a path for her son's divine love. This is how she gently cooperates in our salvation. Closed hearts are our biggest problem; love-pierced hearts are the ultimate power to overcome every difficulty.

— Father John Muir



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(Practicing) Catholic

The Thoughts of Many Hearts

Mini Reflection: The oldest trick of the devil is to distract us from thinking about our hearts. It's not hard for him to do—there are so many other things we could be doing. So, do we have the courage to look to our own hearts, to come face to face with our own choices, our own true selves?

The Thoughts of Many Hearts

When Simeon cradles the infant Messiah in his arms, he speaks of salvation and glory and revelation. He speaks of his own death. He speaks of the fulfillment of God's promise to all people.

But most memorable, in my opinion, are his words about the hearts of men. This Child, he says, will be the way "the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."

Perhaps you're like me. Perhaps you don't enjoy scrutinizing yourself, your actions, your intentions. You don't like reflecting on why you feel or react the way you do, and you really don't enjoy measuring those feelings and reactions against what you know they could be.

It's exhausting to sit with God, your heart in your hands, both of us looking at it, talking about it. So far too often, I opt out.

The oldest trick of the devil, you see, is to distract us from thinking about our hearts. It's not hard for him to do. There are so many other things I could be doing, after all. Answering emails. Catching up on laundry. Scrolling Facebook. Worrying about inflation and the election. Stressing about my kid's dance recital and next week's busy schedule.

But where is God truly at work? Where is the place God will point to, when my life on Earth has come to its close?

It is the very depths of my heart. The place where I am my most authentic self, for better or worse. The place where all my pretensions crumble away, and I am alone with the truth of who I am and what I choose to do.

Am I brave enough to look into the depths of my own heart?

~ Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman ~

The Mass		For
THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD		
CONFESSIONS OFFERED ON SATURDAY'S, 3:00 - 3:45 P.M. ROSARY PRAYED AT 3:30 P.M.		
Sat	4 pm	† Eugene Jakubowski
Sun	8 am	† Mark Mucek
	10 am	† Lottie Carter
Tues	8 am	† Frances S. Freund
Wed	8 am	† Mary Bednarz
Thur	8 am	† Helen Igielski
Fri	8 am	Scholle-Sompel Family
FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME		
CONFESSIONS OFFERED ON SATURDAY'S, 3:00 - 3:45 P.M. ROSARY PRAYED AT 3:30 P.M.		
Sat	4 pm	† Gerald Baumann
Sun	8 am	† Mark Boettjer
	10 am	† James Urbaszewski

Saint John Bosco: Mission to Love

Beautifully filmed in Italy, this epic movie dramatizes the many challenges that Don Bosco had to overcome from his childhood all the way to founding his religious order, the Salesians, for helping educate boys. Growing up without a father gave him compassion for the many orphans that he cared for, while he faced persecution from both secular society and the Church as he fought to build a place to house and educate the homeless, outcast youth of Turin. His deep faith, creative imagination, and profound charity shine in this wonderful film.



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	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers	Ushers
THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD			
Saturday 2/1 4:00 pm	Kathy Rietschel	Deacon Mark	Chad Franckowiak Maureen Terry
Sunday 2/2 8:00 am	Aimee Thomas	Paul Leali	Sean Gosselin Larry Hauser
10:00 am	Karyn Leali	Marge Ladner <i>Sharon Ellicson</i> (Choir)	Tom Straley Mike Wyatt

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, WORLD MARRIAGE DAY

Saturday 2/8 4:00 pm	Cyndee Wehrheim	Dennis Wehrheim	Chad Franckowiak Phil Webb
Sunday 2/9 8:00 am	Bill Ledger	Deacon Mark	Dennis Wehrheim Vince Desecki
10:00 am	Carol Magnine	Mike Rygiel <i>Carol Rygiel</i> (Choir)	Mike Gordon Rich Yager

Homebound Ministers

February 2nd - The Presentation of the Lord

Kathleen Van Ella, Maria Sullivan, Paul Serio & Steve Besetzny

February 9th - 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Deacon Mark, Peggy Neuman, Georgene Keim & Mary Seil



Keys For Love Dinner

Friday, February 14th

Where: St. John's Parish Hall/School Gym

Time: 6:00 - 11:00 pm

What: Dueling Pianos Fundraiser

Cost: \$55 per person or \$100 Two People

Includes: Entertainment (Pianos)

Food (Heavy Appetizers)

Cash Bar



Golden Ticket Raffle

\$100 Per Ticket

What: Raffle with Golden Ticket

\$2,000 Cash Prize to Winner

(2) \$500 and (4) \$250 Cash Prizes Also!

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Register: STJOHNSCHOOL.com/VALENTINE



Our Sanctuary Lamp burns from
January 26th through February 8th
for

† **Scholle - Sompel Families**

May this light which reminds us of
Jesus' True Presence in the Sanctuary
Welcome him 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:*

Marguerite Baranov
Debra Cooke
Phyllis Ehlers
Deacon Eugene Damian
Sandy Devine
Robert Fenrich
Carol Flatley
Gail Gagnon
Glenn Geske
Anthony Hodnik
Patricia Hodnik
Edward Johnson
Diana Kattner
Joseph Keim
Nancy Klein
Ronald Klein
Lawrence Lord
Caroline Madson
Deborah Maliszewski
Maria Maziarz
Denise Meyers

Larry Meyers
Barbara Miller
Don Miller
Betty Modra
Norma Moretti
John Mueller
Kevin Murray
Carole Nowicki
Connie Nowicki
Jim Nowicki
John Paleka
Rachel Quinn
Debbie Schaff
Jacob Shapiro
Dorothy Scichowski
Nash Scichowski
Ray Starzec
Gloria Strzelczyk
Peter Tarnaris
David Thomas
Mark Vallango
Fred Zahn

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**.

Live the Liturgy

Inspiration of the Week

Anna and Simeon saw greatness and glory in the face of a tiny babe. Jesus was insignificant in the eyes of others who looked for the Messiah in the gilded halls of kings. But Anna and Simeon recognized God when they saw Him. Do we?

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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Laura Hamill x203

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music.stpeter@gmail.com

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Mark Krakowski

Marka.stpeter@gmail.com



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Aimee Thomas

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FaithFormationStPeters@gmail.com

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Knights of Columbus, Grand Knight

Shaun Gosselin 315-591-7299

Shaun.Gosselin@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul

Ardie Arnold StPeters.svdv@gmail.com

Prayer Chain

Mark Vallango & Carol Flatley

StPetersPrayerChain@hotmail.com

Adoration & Our Visiting Madonna

Carrie Shannon 815-687-6734

Bereavement & Grief Counseling

Marie Arnold (Call the Parish Office)

Prayers & Squares

Connie Otsuka 815-675-2463



PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday, February 2nd - The Presentation of the Lord

- **Benediction & Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament - 7:45 am**
- **Sausage Making Class - Parish Hall - 12:00 pm**
- **Faith Formation Classes: Grades 1/2 & 3/4 - 5:30 pm**

Monday, February 3rd - Parish Office Closed

- **SVdP Meeting - 1st Floor Office Conference Room - 7:00 pm**

Tuesday, February 4th

- **SPWM Meeting - Parish Hall - 6:45 pm**

Wednesday, February 5th

- **Spiritual Warfare Rosary - 6:00 pm**

Thursday, February 6th

- **Choir Rehearsal - 6:00 pm**

Friday, February 7th - Parish Office Closed

Saturday, February 8th

- **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament all night until 7:45 am**

Sunday, February 9th - 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- **Benediction & Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament - 7:45 am**
- **Faith Formation Classes: Grades 5/6 & 7/8 - 5:30 pm**

I saw a new heaven and a new earth...



March 5, 2025

Day of Reflection for Men & Women

Easter is about the renewal/transformation of all things, including ourselves. Lent can be an invitation to think about the kind of "new creation" we desire to become and to take steps to work toward that. On this day of reflection, we will learn how to deepen our relationship with God through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.



Retreat Leader: Fr. Mark Scalese, SJ

Religious superior of young Jesuits in the First Studies Program at Loyola University Chicago; previously tenured professor in film, television and media arts.

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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.

ANOIDTING 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

Business Meeting - Tuesday, February 11th
Parish Hall - 7:00 pm

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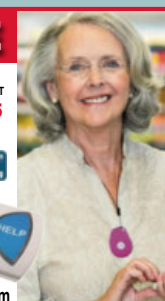
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