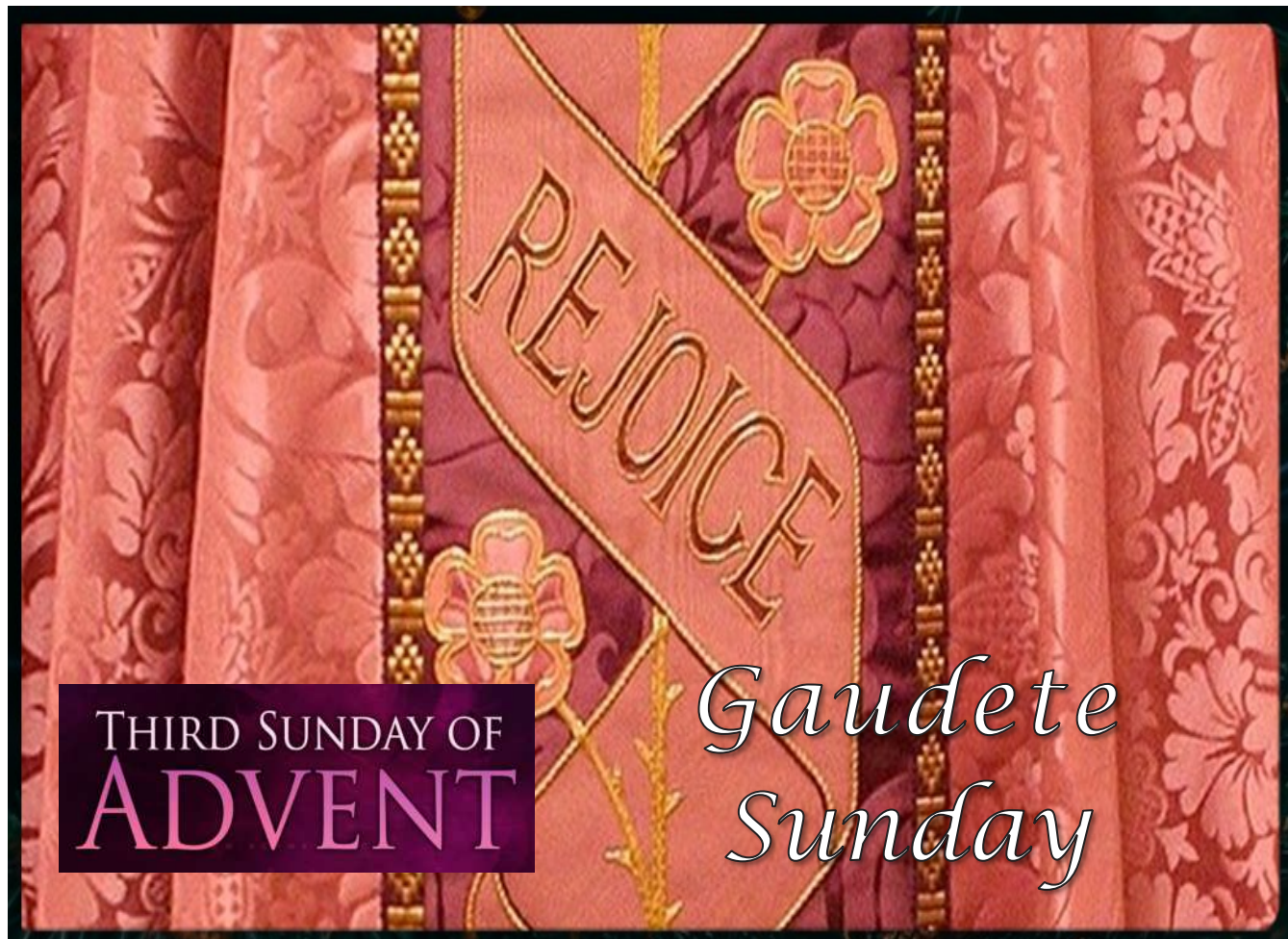


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St. Peter's Church

OF SPRING GROVE, IL



Sunday, December 14, 2025
Third Sunday of Advent

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.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 24TH AT 4:00 PM & 10:00 PM

THURSDAY, DEC. 25TH AT 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM

NEW YEAR'S EVE & DAY
SOLEMNITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31ST - 4:00 PM
THURSDAY, JANUARY 1ST - 9:00 AM

An amazing group of teenagers were Confirmed on Wednesday, December 3rd!

We are excited to see the amazing ways these teens move forward sharing their faith and serving others!

Father Burt shared words of wisdom with the students before Confirmation.

He said, "at the time of Baptism you wore a white bib and were served and cared for by others... After Confirmation imagine that bib now becomes an apron and through the strength of the Holy Spirit, you begin to serve others!"



Congratulations to: Layne Blahnik, Ben Czarnik, Peyton Lindsey, Khloe Lundy, Alexandra Neumann, James Neumann, Jack Rodewald, Rocco Signa, Leah Strzalka & Nora Strzalka

WEEK 3 Advent

GO EVANGELIZE

Prayer, Invitation, Witness, Accompaniment

As we saw in our psalm today, God is the one who takes initiative, who provides for our salvation. In our work to share the faith with others, sometimes our task is simply to help others become aware of the ways God is providing for them by pointing out the signs of his action in their lives. When the disciples of John came to Jesus asking if he was “the one who is to come” or whether they should “look for another,” Jesus reminds them of the evidence all around them: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, and the dead are raised. As we help others to see God’s work in their lives, we are also leading them to greater faith and trust in him.

REST

We are more able to see the signs of God’s providence in our lives when we take time to reflect. Make time to rest in God’s presence this week. This could mean stepping into a chapel for a couple minutes of quiet prayer, reflecting on Scripture using *Lectio Divina*, or reading the story of Christ’s nativity in the Gospel. These simple practices will prepare our hearts to recognize Christ’s presence and goodness at each moment of our lives.



Kids Choir

Attention all singers!

The Kids Choir would LOVE to have your child participate in the Christmas Eve Mass!

Next Practice and Choir Mass:

Practice:

Thursday, December 18th at 6:00 p.m.

Choir Mass:

- Sunday, December 21st at 10:00 a.m. Mass
- Wednesday, December 24th at 4:00 p.m. Mass (Christmas Eve)

Contact Person:

Brian Wrightson 630-440-7261 or
music.stpeter@gmail.com



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Now AVAILABLE
in the Sacristy for only \$3

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YOURS TODAY!



We are so thankful to Debbie Thompson of Thompson Spring Grove Funeral Home for generously donating our 2026 Catholic Art Calendars.
Be sure to thank Debbie when you see her.



TURN IN YOUR ARTICLES EARLY!

RE M I N D E R :

HOLIDAY BULLETIN SUBMISSION

All Articles Need to be Submitted by Noon!

Bulletin For Sunday, December 28th
ARTICLES DUE: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19TH

Bulletin For Sunday, January 4th
ARTICLES DUE: MONDAY, DECEMBER 22ND

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

What We See in the Desert

Mini reflection: We go to Mass. We go to Confession. We pray. We read Scripture. In doing all these things, again and again, we go out to the desert. Why? What are we expecting to see?

I've always wanted to see a real desert.

I know all about frigid, snowy winters and warm, wet summers. I grew up on rich soil that yields lush vegetation and bountiful harvests. But I've never experienced a desert, not in my own country or abroad, and I'm curious.

I know there must be something magical about the desert for it to feature so heavily in Scripture, for it to provide a backdrop to so many crucial moments of salvation history. The Israelites following the cloud, the temptation of Christ, the voice crying out: "Prepare the way for the Lord."

Why do these moments have to happen in a desert? Why do they make so much less sense in a tropical rainforest or a verdant forest?

I think it's because the desert doesn't have anything to offer us, at first glance. No one longs for the physical sensation of a dry heat and a beating sun. But the vast emptiness and the almost mystical harshness—even if we don't desire and delight in it, this is a setting that we understand, somehow, intrinsically. We know it deep within our soul. God is there.

We go to Mass. We go to Confession. We pray. We read Scripture. In doing all these things, again and again, we go out to the desert.

Why? What are we expecting to see?

If we expect to be entertained, we will be disappointed. If we expect reassurance, we will be disappointed. If we expect to feel pleasant and safe and sheltered, we will be disappointed.

The desert is there to challenge us. The desert is there to show us who we are, and who we can be. So go.

~ Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Rejoice in the Lord Always!
(Gaudete)
3rd Sunday of Advent



WEEKENDS
12/13/- 12/21/2025

The Mass			For
CONFESSIONS OFFERED ON SATURDAY'S, 3:00 - 3:45 P.M. ROSARY PRAYED AT 3:30 P.M.			
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT			
Sat	4 pm	†	Walter & Katherine Kula
Sun	8 am	†	Kathy Wehrheim
			The parishioners of St. Peter's Church
	10 am	†	Thomas Koncan
Tuesday - Friday, Rosary Prayed at 7:30 a.m.			
Tues	8 am	†	Maggie Arseneau
Wed	8 am	†	Tina Fosnacht
Thur	8 am	†	John & Betty Rygiel
Fri	8 am	†	John & Honor Green
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT			
Sat	4 pm	†	Kristin & John Popelka
Sun	8 am	†	Mark Mucek
			John & Christine Wiedemann
	10 am	†	The parishioners of St. Peter's Church

The Most Meaningful Gifts of Christmas Aren't Wrapped

We know that the most valuable gifts are often the ones we cannot wrap. Alongside whatever you give your loved ones this year, do not let Christmas pass without offering these gifts as well:

Your time: Being present with the people we love is one of the simplest and strongest ways to show care. A short visit, an unhurried coffee, or an evening without phones can mean more than any item we put under a tree. When we give someone our attention, we affirm their worth.

Your Forgiveness: Forgiveness does not excuse the hurt. It frees you from the weight of anger and resentment. It also gives the other person room to grow and seek healing. Letting go is often the first step toward real peace. In many ways, forgiveness is a gift you give yourself. (continues on following page)

	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers	Ushers
3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT			
Saturday 12/13 4:00 pm	Jerry Bodden	Heather Justen <i>Katie Toms</i> (Choir)	Deb Christian Maureen Terry
Sunday 12/14 8:00 am	Eleanor Murphy	Mary Seil	Paul Leali Vince Desecki
10:00 am	Joanne Prato	Deacon Mark <i>Darien Martinez</i> (Choir)	Dave Harms Kathleen Harms
4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT			
Saturday 12/20 4:00 pm	Peggy Mack	Deacon Mark <i>Joanne Prato</i> (Choir)	Denise Wahls Rich Wirsch
Sunday 12/21 8:00 am	Cyndee Wehrheim	Dennis Wehrheim	Sean Gosselin Dennis Wehrheim
10:00 am	Susan Straley	Nancy Piggot <i>Chris Chinni</i> (Choir)	Stan Tinsley John Ellicson
Homebound Ministers December 14th: Third Sunday of Advent Deacon Mark, Mary Seil, Thomas Gough, Steve Besetzny & Bev Schmitt December 21st: Fourth Sunday of Advent Deanna Grandt, Nancy Piggot Theresa Frer, Kathleen Van Ella & Don Piggot			

Your Gratitude: Giving thanks to God at Christmas is more than a warm sentiment. It is a heartfelt response to the depth of His love.

Look at the Crucifix, the Nativity, or the Eucharist and consider the humility behind such a gift. Our gratitude matters to God (*see Luke 17: 17-18*). So after attending Mass on Christmas Day, take a moment to say, **"Thank you."** It is a small act that carries real meaning.



Our Sanctuary Lamp burns from December 14th – December 27th for

† **John & Christine Wiedemann**

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



We would love to Pray for you!

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
Christel Beyerlein
Joan Boettjer
Patty Brown
Deb Christian
Deb Cooke
Deacon Eugene Damian
Phyllis Ehlers
Robert Fenrich
Carol Flatley
Glenn Geske
Lynn Geske
Gina Gugala
Anthony Hodnik
Patricia Hodnik
Christopher Hautala
Joseph Keim

Nancy Klein
Ronald Klein
Martha Koukol
Larry & LeeAnn Lord
Caroline Madson
Denise Meyers
Larry Meyers
Barbara Miller
Norma Moretti
John Mueller
Carole Nowicki
Jim Nowicki
John & Sandra Paleka
Debbie Schaff
Dorothy Scichowski
David Thomas
Valerie Thompson
Robert Tolomeo
Grace Wesinger

The individuals who are on our prayers list will continue to be on our prayer list for six months.

If you or a loved one wish to continue to be on the prayer list, please contact the Parish Office during regular business hours.
815-675-2288

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**.

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
IS OFFERED Every Saturday
from 3:00 until 3:45 p.m.
Or call the Parish Office
to schedule an appointment.



Website: StPeterCatholicChurch.org

Email: SaintPetersChurch@gmail.com

Office Hours: Tue. - Thu. 8:30 a.m. - noon,
1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

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

Pastor: Rev. Burt H. Absalon

Deacon: Mr. Mark Raz

PARISH STAFF

Parish Office 815-675-2288

Office Administration

Mary K. Yager x205

Laura Hamill x203

Music Director

Brian Wrightson 630-440-7261

music.stpeter@gmail.com

Property Maintenance

Mark Krakowski

Marka.stpeter@gmail.com



Parish Hall 815-675-6208

Preschool 815-342-6318

Aimee Thomas

Religious Education 815-342-6318

Aimee Thomas

FaithFormationStPeters@gmail.com

Bulletin Editors

Steve & DeAnne Besetzny

Bulletin_Editor_StPeter@aol.com

Ministries

Altar Servers

Tony Rygiel 815-482-6618

Eucharistic Ministers & Liturgical Scheduler

Sharon Ellicson 815-258-5033

Lectors

Peggy Mack 815-403-2225

Women's Ministry

Crystal Pace StPetersWM@gmail.com

Communion Ministers to the Homebound

Steve Besetzny steve.besetzny@gmail.com

Ushers

Chad Franckowiak chadfranko@gmail.com

Knights of Columbus, Grand Knight

Stan Logan Tinsley 847-507-2096

superstinsley92@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

Grief Support Group

Marie Arnold (Call the Parish Office)

Prayers & Squares

Connie Otsuka 224-392-1940



PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday, December 14th - Third Sunday of Advent

- **Benediction & Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament - 7:45 am**
- **K of C Breakfast with St. Nicholas - After All Masses**
- **OCIA - Parish Office Upstairs Class Room - 9:00 am**
- **Faith Formation Classes - 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th - 5:30 pm**

Monday, December 15th - Parish Office Closed

- **Faith Formation Classes - 1st, 2nd, 7th & 8th - 5:30 pm**

Tuesday, December 16th

Wednesday, December 17th

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

Thursday, December 18th

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

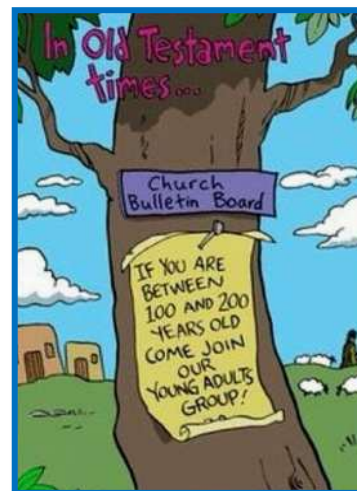
Friday, December 19th - Parish Office Closed

Saturday, December 20th

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

Sunday, December 21st - Fourth Sunday of Advent

- **Benediction & Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament - 7:45 am**
- **SVdP Meeting - Parish Hall - 9:00 am**
- **No Faith Formation Classes**



"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12

Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD)

(SAD) (taken from NIH) is a type of depression characterized by a recurrent seasonal pattern, with symptoms lasting about 4-5 months out of the year.

LIGHT your way!

- L- Limit social media
- I- Instill boundaries
- G- Gather with loved ones
- H- Healthy meals, hydrate, exercise
- T- Time in nature (soak up sunshine)

Need HELP now call or text: 988 (SAMHSA)

Brought to you by Catholic Charities Mental Health Ministry



PARISH INFORMATION

BAPTISMS - Fr. Burt 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 Fr. Burt 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 Fr. Burt 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 Fr. Burt.

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 - December 23rd
Parish Hall - 7:00 pm

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