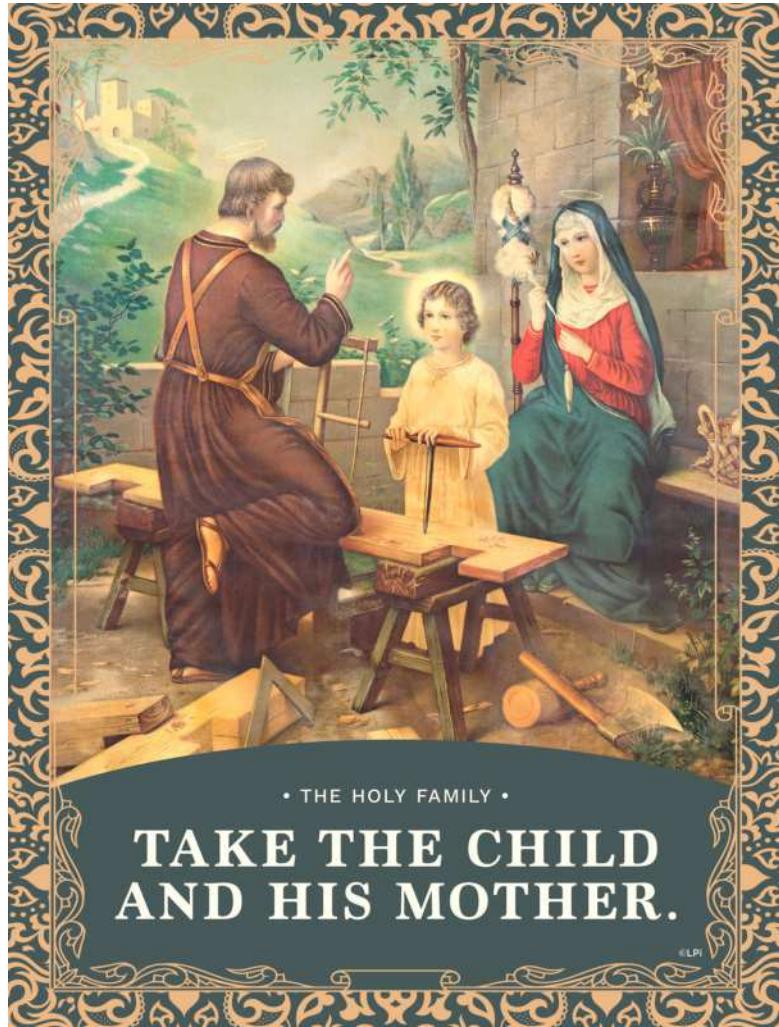


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St. Peter's Church

OF SPRING GROVE, IL



Sunday, December 28, 2025
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

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.

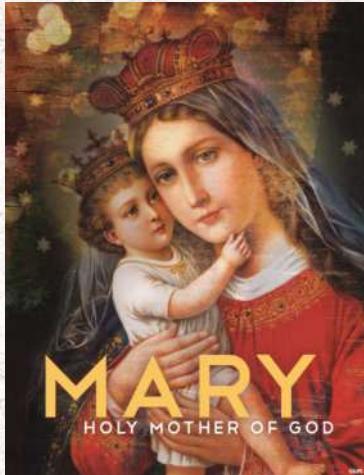
(10:00 a.m. Mass livestreamed)

Reconciliation

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

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

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



NEW YEAR'S EVE & DAY MASSES

MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31ST - 4:00 PM

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1ST - 9:00 AM

(HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION)

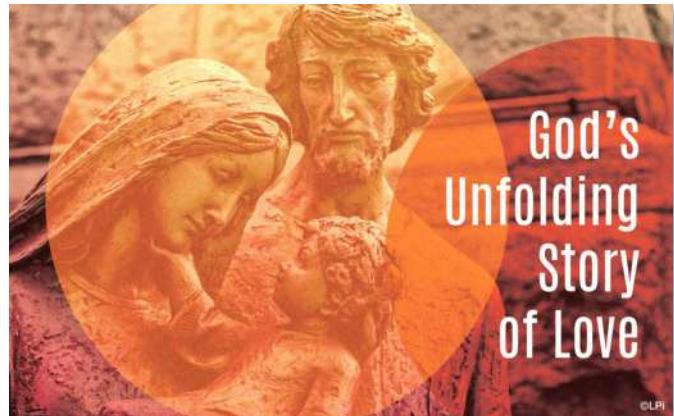
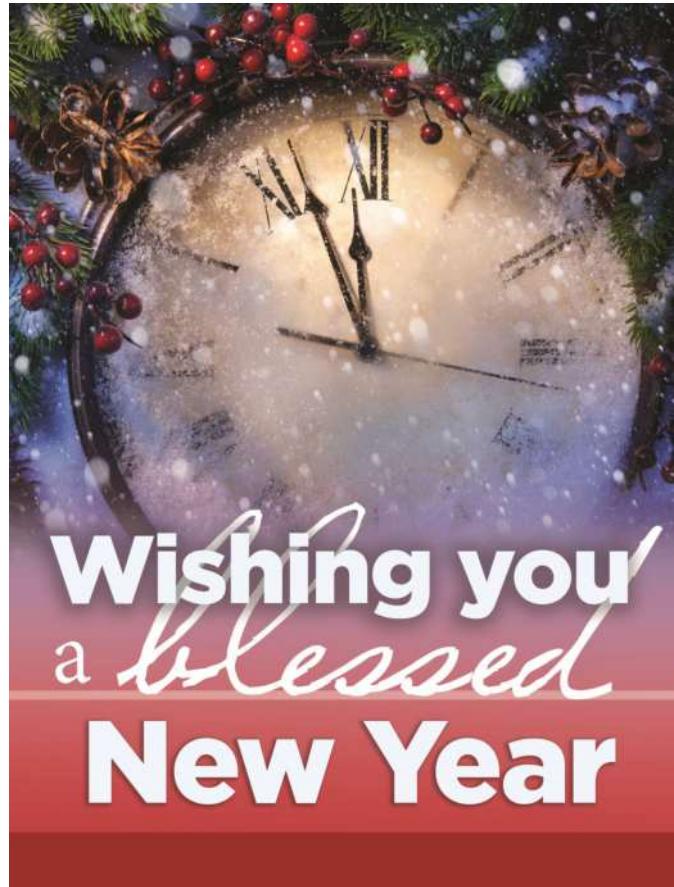
Obedience Is Trust In Action

By the time Mary gave birth to Jesus, Saint Joseph had already formed a habit of steady obedience to God. So when the angel spoke to him in a dream and instructed him to flee to Egypt, Joseph acted without delay. He trusted that God would care for him and for the family entrusted to him.

This trust is even more striking when we consider the circumstances of Jesus' birth. Mary and Joseph had traveled from Nazareth to Bethlehem during the final stages of her pregnancy. Whether by foot or by donkey, the trip would have been long, uncomfortable, and exhausting. When they finally arrived, they found no suitable place to stay and settled among animals. Soon after, they faced the threat against Jesus' life and fled to Egypt, living for years in a foreign land without the support of relatives or friends. Through every hardship, Joseph relied on God to protect his family.

The Holy Family was perfect in love, yet not spared from difficulty. Mary and Joseph met each challenge with faith and allowed God's Word to guide them.

O' Holy Family, Pray for us!





RESOLUTIONS

Lots of people begin the New Year with fresh resolutions for self-improvement. Working on self-improvement is a sign of gratitude and respect for the gift of life God gives each of us. Sometimes we even make resolutions dealing with our spiritual life, such as committing to a daily Rosary or a set amount of time for mental (*interior*) prayer. Sometimes we fail to live up to our resolutions, or we get distracted. But when this happens, God doesn't want us to be hard on ourselves but instead wants to draw our focus back to Him where it belongs. As Lamentations 3:22-23 remind us, "*The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.*"

THE ROSARY, WEAPON FOR OUR TIMES

Join us in praying all four mysteries, every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. in the church.



Go EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

It's easy to glamorize the life of Joseph, Mary, and Jesus, but in reality, the cross was with them long before the crucifixion. From the moment of the Annunciation, there would be trials, temptations, and sufferings. But each time, they respond with immediate obedience and deep trust. In doing so, they give us all a perfect example of what the Christian life should look like: a life motivated by love and always listening for the voice of God, ready to respond in an instant. As we accompany others on this journey of faith, we also must listen deeply to them in order to help them in discerning the Spirit's movement in their lives. As we hone the spiritual muscle of attentive listening, we grow in our ability to respond to God and to God's action in our lives, and to help others do the same.



REFLECT

Most of us will never hear from an angel in the middle of the night telling us to walk hundreds of miles with our baby in tow. But every single one of us will be—has been—called.

Let us pray to the Holy Family for an increase in the virtues of obedience and trust, so that we can respond to God's call in our lives.

Live the Liturgy

Inspiration of the Week

God created the Holy Family with a great sense of purpose, because He knew that Jesus would be defined by the woman and man who raised Him. Who is our "Holy Family" – the people who will define us? Who has God placed within our lives for a specific purpose?

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC OTHER PLANS

Mini-reflection: If any four-word sentence encapsulates what we can expect from the Christian life, it is this: God had other plans.

I don't know exactly what kind of life Mary and Joseph envisioned when they were first betrothed—back in those simple times when they were just like any other couple who had hopes, dreams and no angels telling them what to do.

Whatever their plans were, I think it's safe to say that the future God had in store for Mary and Joseph was not one either of them expected. I would imagine they both anticipated something a little quieter. A little more stable (no pun intended). A little less tumultuous.

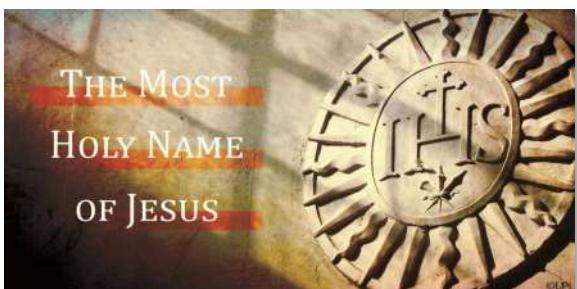
It exhausts me simply to read through the chaos of their movements in today's Gospel. Flee to Egypt, return to Israel (but not Judea! Herod's son is there! Divert to Galilee! Divert!). Settle in Nazareth (let me remind you, this is all happening with a baby in tow, and without the aid of a minivan). Take a deep breath, but don't get too comfortable—now it's almost time to lose your kid in Jerusalem. Then you'll have about 20 years off before he starts raising people from the dead, and that's when things start to get *really* crazy.

The story of the Holy Family is the ultimate example of the phrase "God had other plans." If any four-word sentence encapsulates what we can expect from the Christian life, it is this.

I thought I was meant for that job, but God had other plans. I thought I would live in this place, but God had other plans. I thought I was supposed to become this person, but God had other plans.

We can do all the right things. We can make all the right choices. We can say, over and over again until our voice wears out, "Thy will be done." But all we can know for sure is that God has other plans.

~ Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman



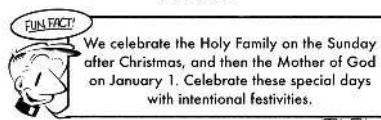
WEEKENDS
12/27/2025 - 1/4/2026

The Mass		For
CONFESIONS OFFERED ON SATURDAY'S, 3:00 - 3:45 P.M. ROSARY PRAYED AT 3:30 P.M.		
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH		
Sat	4 pm	Paul & Anna Rygiel
Sun	8 am	Don Wehrheim
	10 am	The parishioners of St. Peter's Church
Tues	8 am	Joanne Drinka
Wed	8 am	Rita Chinni
		Michael Frer
NEW YEAR'S EVE		
	4 pm	Don Miller
NEW YEAR'S DAY		
	9 am	Monsignor Joseph Jarmoluk
Fri	8 am	Deceased Members of the Rygiel & Kula Families
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD		
Sat	4 pm	Kristin Popelka
Sun	8 am	Jack Schmitt
	10 am	Diana Kula
		The parishioners of St. Peter's Church

"What did the Holy Family eat on New Year's Day?"



"Toast!"



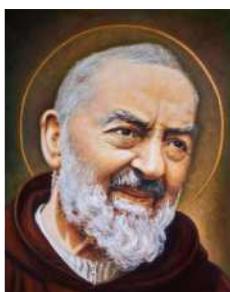
	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers	Ushers
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH			
Saturday 12/27 4:00 pm	Carol Magnine	Deacon Mark	Chad Franckowiak Phil Webb
Sunday 12/28 8:00 am	Ardie Arnold	Heather Justen	Tom Fanella Larry Hauser
10:00 am	Tom Straley	Jean Hlavin <i>Susan Straley</i> (Choir)	Rich Yager Mike Gordon
NEW YEAR'S EVE			
Wednesday 12/31 4:00 pm	Peggy Mack	Chris Chinni <i>Cyndee Wehrheim</i> (Choir)	Chad Franckowiak Maureen Terry
SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD			
Thursday 1/1 9:00 am	Steve Besetzny	Deacon Mark <i>DeAnne Besetzny</i> (Choir)	Chad Franckowiak Mike Gordon
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD			
Saturday 1/3 4:00 pm	Jerry Bodden	Deacon Mark	Denise Wahls Deb Christian
Sunday 1/4 8:00 am	Eleanor Murphy	Mary Seil	Paul Leali Vince Desecki
10:00 am	Tom Straley	Susan Straley <i>Darien Martinez</i> (Choir)	Dave Harms Kathleen Harms

Homebound Ministers

December 28th: No Homebound

January 4th: The Epiphany of the Lord

Deacon Mark, Maria Sullivan, Eddie Wells, Stan Tinsley & Paul Serio



“Pray, hope, and don’t worry.
Worry is useless.
God is merciful and will hear
your prayer.”

Saint Padre Pio

with God,
ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE

Our Sanctuary Lamp burns from
December 28th – January 10th for

† John & Kristin Popelka

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	Martha Koukol
Christel Beyerlein	Mark & Kim Krakowski
Joan Boettjer	Larry & LeeAnn Lord
Patty Brown	Caroline Madson
Deb Christian	Denise Meyers
Deb Cooke	Larry Meyers
Deacon Eugene Damian	Barbara Miller
Phyllis Ehlers	Norma Moretti
Robert Fenrich	John Mueller
Carol Flatley	Carole Nowicki
Glenn Geske	Jim Nowicki
Lynn Geske	John & Sandra Paleka
Gina Gugala	Debbie Schaff
Anthony Hodnik	Dorothy Scichowski
Patricia Hodnik	David Thomas
Christopher Hautala	Valerie Thompson
Joseph Keim	Robert Tolomeo
Nancy Klein	Grace Wesinger
Ronald Klein	Fred Zahn

**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

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Steve & DeAnne Besetzny

Bulletin_Editor_StPeter@aol.com

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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.svdp@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 28th - The Holy Family

Monday, December 29th - Parish Office Closed

Tuesday, December 30th

NEW YEAR'S EVE - MASS

No Spiritual Rosary

Wednesday, December 31st - Parish Office Closed

- 4:00 pm

NEW YEAR'S DAY - MASS

MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Thursday, January 1st - Parish Office Closed

- 9:00 am

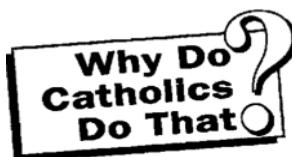
Friday, January 2nd - Parish Office Closed

Saturday, January 3rd

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

Sunday, January 4th - The Epiphany of the Lord

- **Benediction & Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament - 7:45 am**
- **OCIA - Parish Office Upstairs Class Room - 9:00 am**
- **Faith Formation Classes - 3rd, 4th & 5th - 5:30 pm**



Question:

If I go to the Sacrament of Penance and end up repeating the same sins, does that mean I do not have a strong enough intention to amend my life?

Answer:

There is a popular expression that says, "Be patient. God isn't finished with me yet!" Growing in faith and holiness is an ongoing, life-long project, and our struggle with sin is at the heart of it. As St. Paul says, the good he intends to do, he does not do. The evil he does not intend, he does! It is not always a lack of intention, but more often the allure of evil that makes it difficult to change.

When we confess our sins, we are to come with a fully contrite heart. You need to reflect on your true feelings toward your actions before approaching the Sacrament. After Confession, there are strategies you can make to avoid falling into the same traps of sin. First, pray for and seek out strength and perseverance through multiple Sacraments, charitable work, and personal sacrifice. Second, avoid occasions of sin when you might fail or be sorely tempted. In doing these things, remind yourself daily that it is a spiritual war we wage, and with God's grace, we will succeed.



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

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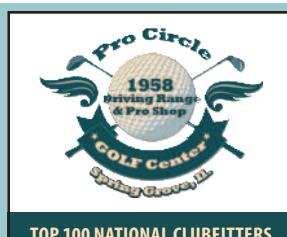

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