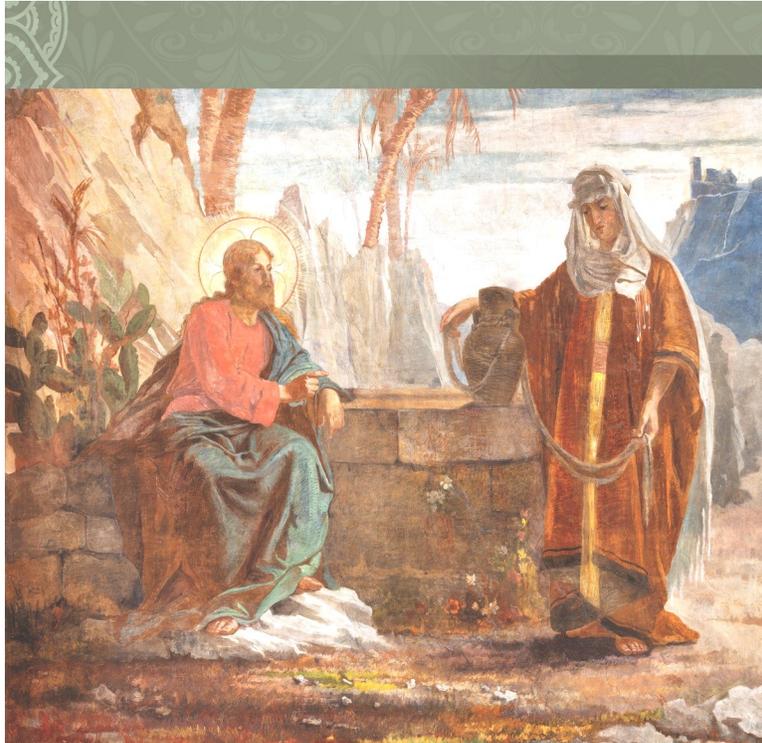




St. Peter's Church

OF SPRING GROVE, IL



3rd Sunday

O F L E N T

"A woman of Samaria came to draw water.
Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.'
Jn 4:7-8

Sunday, March 8, 2026

3rd Sunday of Lent

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.

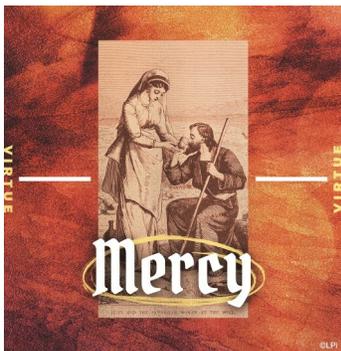
VIRTUES, EXPLAINED: MERCY

Mercy, Explained!

“And what does the Lord require of you? Only this: to do what is right, to show mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.” (Micah 6:8)

But what does it mean to show true mercy?

God’s mercy to us knows no bounds, but that mercy does not compel Him to grant us everything our appetitive passions desire. God’s perfect mercy could never allow for something that would harm His children.



His perfect mercy is directed toward supplying our needs. A father whose child has a toothache cannot, out of mercy, give the child the candy he wants, no matter how the tears of the child grieve the father’s heart. **The father can, and should, surround the child with love and sympathy, and help him to remedy the problem that lies at the heart of his grief.** This is true virtuous mercy—a choice governed by reason, not merely an emotion.

Question: How do you compassionately tell someone of their stupidity?

Answer: “Wisdom has been chasing you, but you’ve always been faster.”

Be Reconciled

Come to confession March 25

Wednesday

St. Peter’s



9:00 am - 11:00 am
12:00 - 2:00 pm
3:00 - 5:00 pm
6:00 - 8:00 pm

Via Dolorosa, or The Stations of the Cross Every Friday During Lent!



Unite your own suffering with Christ’s and feel the depths of His mercy and love

Encounter each agonizing step that Jesus walks towards Calvary as we unite our hearts and pray the Stations of the Cross beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Church.



THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
WILL BE OFFERED ON FRIDAYS DURING
LENT FROM 6:30 PM TO 7:30 P.M. OR
Every Saturday all year
from 3:00 until 3:45 p.m.
*Or call the Parish Office
to schedule an appointment.*

**TURN IN
YOUR ARTICLES
EARLY!**

RE M I N D E R :

**EASTER HOLIDAY
BULLETIN SUBMISSION**

**ALL ARTICLES NEED TO BE SUBMITTED BY NOON
BULLETIN FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 29TH
(PALM SUNDAY)**

ARTICLES DUE: FRIDAY, MARCH 20TH

**BULLETIN FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 5TH
(EASTER SUNDAY)**

ARTICLES DUE: THURSDAY, MARCH 26TH

Support Our
DIAPER DRIVE

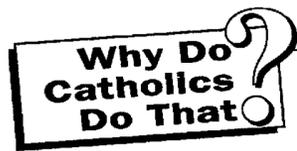
**St. Peter's Women's Ministry
Keeping Families Covered**

**Senior Diaper Drive the weekends
of March 7-8 and March 14-15**

Please consider purchasing and donating
a package of senior diapers.

There will be collection bins inside the front and side
entrances of the church for your donation.

*Thank you in advance for your generosity,
and in caring for our seniors.*



**What is the
Christian attitude
toward violent
conflicts?**

Answer:

In the Beatitudes, Jesus teaches us *"Blessed are the peacemakers"* and to *"love your enemies."* All human beings are made in God's image and likeness. We are one human family—brothers and sisters despite what divides us. Christians have the obligation to prioritize peaceful means to resolve conflicts. War wreaks a toll on a nation. Civilians bear a disproportionate burden of this cost during the war itself and as the nation rebuilds. However, those in authority have the obligation to protect the innocent.

During the gradual fall of the Roman Empire, theologians began to theorize that war could be just if it was a defensive measure of last resort. The "Just War Theory" was later expanded by St. Thomas Aquinas, who also included moral obligations during the war itself, including the protection of civilians. Those in public authority have the obligation to carefully examine their motives, agendas, and rationale for violent force. Should a cause be just, those who fight and defend under such circumstances must be valued and honored. They deserve our support both during and after the war.



**IF TODAY YOU HEAR HIS VOICE,
HARDEN NOT YOUR HEARTS.**

Psalm 95:8

Parish Album Scheduling

- ◆ Go online to www.ucdir.com
- ◆ Click on red box that says "Photography Session Sign Up"
- ◆ Type in Church Code **IL461**
- ◆ Type in Password **photos1**
- ◆ Click on **View Timeslots** for the day of your choice
- ◆ Scroll down to the time you'd like and click **Reserve Time**
- ◆ Type in all applicable info
- ◆ Scroll down and click on **Reserve Appointment**

You will get a confirmation of your date and time. Please allow 45 minutes for your session. If you have 6 or more in your group, please schedule 2 slots and allow 60 minutes.



Soup and Salad Fridays

A "no cook" Friday dinner for moms and dads.

Cost: Free

Who's Invited: All Parishioners and Families

Time: 6:00 – 6:45 p.m.

Then, we'll journey together in the footsteps of Jesus' Passion, Death and Resurrection

Mark Your Calendars Knights of Columbus Breakfast Sunday, March 15th



After the 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. Masses!

Gather your family, friends, neighbors for a wonderful breakfast cooked by your Knights.

(As always a free-will donation is always appreciated!)

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

WHEN GOD ASKS FOR WATER

Mini reflection: Before the Incarnation, God looked down from Heaven and said, *"You are thirsty. Here is something to drink."* After the Incarnation, God sits down beside us and says, *"I'm thirsty. Give me something to drink."*

One of my earliest memories is of my mother weeping.

The last few months of her pregnancy with my little brother were tremendously painful for her, and more than once the pain brought her to tears. I have a hazy image of her in my mind, belly swollen with a 12-pound baby lying transverse in the womb, sitting on the edge of her bed, dabbing at her face with toilet paper.

I had brought her the toilet paper. I would do that when I saw her crying, to wipe away her tears. I have a hazy memory of that, too—of the way my heart was wrenched by the sight of her suffering, of my desperation to do something to help, and of my immense satisfaction when she would take the toilet paper, smile and say, *"Oh, thank you, sweetheart!"* as if I had just airlifted her out of a war zone.

What a powerful gift to give to a child still learning the meaning of compassion and selflessness—the gift of being able to feel that she has, even in some small way, *"rescued"* a person she worships. Her smile of gratitude lives, immortal, in my mind, along with the swell of satisfaction it produced in the deepest corner of my heart. This was when I learned that it feels good to help people, and this memory is a perpetually replenished well of living water for me. I draw from it daily, three decades later.

This is a gift that Christ gives, over and over again, in the Gospels. He allows us to encounter him tired, afraid, sad and hungry. Omnipotent power subjected to the utter vulnerability of human form. Before the Incarnation, God looked down from Heaven and said, *"You are thirsty. Here is something to drink."*

After the Incarnation, God sits down beside us and says, *"I'm thirsty. Give me something to drink."*

~ Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman



WEEKENDS
3/7/ - 3/15/2026

The Mass		For	
CONFESSIONS OFFERED ON SATURDAY'S, 3:00 - 3:45 P.M. ROSARY PRAYED AT 3:30 P.M.			
3RD SUNDAY OF LENT			
Sat	4 pm	†	John Popelka
Sun	8 am	†	Deceased Members of the Green & Walsh Families
	10 am		The parishioners of St. Peter's Church
Tuesday - Friday, Rosary Prayed at 7:30 a.m.			
Tues	8 am	†	Danny Michelotti
Wed	8 am	†	Robert & Bernadine Boyke
Thur	8 am	†	Eugene & Marilyn Kramer
Fri	8 am	†	Deceased Members of the Rygiel & Kula Families
4TH SUNDAY OF LENT - "LAETARE" (REJOICE)			
Sat	4 pm	†	Clarence & Mildred Shastal
Sun	8 am		The parishioners of St. Peter's Church
	10 am	†	John & Elizabeth Rygiel



PLAY BALL!!!

Attention St. Peter's Athletes

We are starting softball again in April and are looking for players who would like to come out and have some fun with fellow parishioners and share fellowship with neighboring churches.

Games are played Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m. or 8:30 p.m. at the township (behind the Moose Lodge) or other nearby parks.

Anyone who is interested can contact Tom Boettjer at 773-875-3976

	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers	Ushers
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT			
Saturday 3/7 4:00 pm	Peggy Mack	Deacon Mark <i>Nettie Toms</i> (Choir)	Deb Christian Rich Wirch
Sunday 3/8 8:00 am	Carol Magnine	Eddie Wells <i>DeAnne Besetzny</i> (Choir)	Tom Fanella Chad Franckowiak
10:00 am	Jacqui Wold	Jean Hlavin <i>Sharon Ellicson</i> (Choir)	Dave Harms Kathleen Harms

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT			
Saturday 3/14 4:00 pm	Susan Straley	Chris Chinni <i>Joanne Prato</i> (Choir)	Sean Gosselin Gary Miller
Sunday 3/15 8:00 am	Kathy Rietschel	Deacon Mark <i>Nancy Piggot</i> (Choir)	Dennis Wehrheim Larry Hauser
10:00 am	Aimee Thomas	Carol Rygiel <i>Mike Rygiel</i> (Choir)	Mike Gordon

Homebound Ministers

March 8th: 3rd Sunday of Lent

Theresa Frer, Maria Sullivan, Julia Francis, Eddie Wells & Steve Besetzny

March 15th: 4th Sunday of Lent

Nancy Piggot, Deanna Grandt, Peggy Neuman, Don Piggot & Stan Tinsley

*Our Sanctuary Lamp burns from
March 8th – March 21st for
† Danny Michelotti*

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

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

Prayer & Squares

We meet on the second Thursday of each month. Our next meeting is March 12th at 1:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall



The members of Prayers & Squares use their God given talents to serve one another through their ministry. They knit and crochet shawls and blankets that are for individuals that are in need of a warm reminder of God's love. We invite you to be part of this wonderful ministry of giving. Beginners are warmly welcomed, and all the materials and instructions are provided to create these beautiful blankets and shawls.

Prayerfully consider joining us at our next meeting on March 12th at 1:30 pm and see if God is calling you to this ministry.

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**.

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

Property Maintenance

Mark Krakowski

Marka.stpeter@gmail.com

Dave Hiller

Cemetery Sexton

Kevin Murray x216

Preschool 815-342-6318

Aimee Thomas

Religious Education 815-342-6318

Aimee Thomas

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.svd@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, March 8th - 3rd Sunday of Lent

- **Benediction & Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament - 7:45 am**
- SPWM - Diaper Drive Collection
- Faith Formation Classes - 1st, 2nd, 7th & 8th - 5:30 pm

Monday, March 9th - Parish Office Closed

Tuesday, March 10th

- K of C Business Meeting - Parish Hall - 6:00 pm
- 33 Days Eucharistic Glory, Study Group - Parish Hall - 8:00 pm

Wednesday, March 11th

- **Spiritual Warfare Rosary - 6:00 pm**
- 33 Days Eucharistic Glory, Study Group - Parish Hall - 7:30 pm

Thursday, March 12th

- 33 Days Eucharistic Glory, Study Group - Parish Hall - 10:00 am
- Prayers & Squares - Parish Hall - 1:30 pm
- Choir Rehearsal - 6:00 pm

Friday, March 13th - Parish Office Closed

- Soup/Salad Supper - Parish Hall - 6:00 pm
- Stations of the Cross - Church - 7:00 pm
- Confessions - Church - 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Saturday, March 14th

- 33 Days Eucharistic Glory, Study Group - Parish Office - 9:30 am
- **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament all night until 7:45 am**
- SPWM - Diaper Drive Collection

Sunday, March 15th - 4th Sunday of Lent

- **Benediction & Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament - 7:45 am**
- K of C - Breakfast - Parish Hall - After All Masses
- SPWM - Diaper Drive Collection
- OCIA Class - Parish Office Upstairs Classroom - 9:00 am
- SVdP Meeting - Parish Hall - 11:00 am
- Faith Formation Classes - 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th - 5:30 pm

Marian Central Catholic High School Theatre Presents

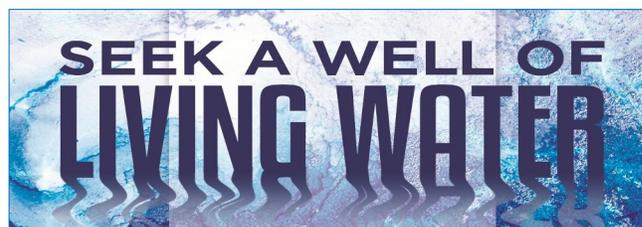
The Addams Family

SCHOOL EDITION

March 13, 14, 15



SCAN THE QR CODE
TO BUY YOUR TICKETS IN ADVANCE





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

**Business Meeting - Tuesday, March 10th
Parish Hall - 7:00 pm**

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