

Liturgy Office

St. Peter the Apostle

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January 2011

ST. PETER THE APOSTLE CHURCH

January 2011—Liturgy Newsletter

Standing at the Gates of the New Year



Sacred Mystery,
Waiting on the threshold
Of this new year,
You open the gates
And beckon to me:

“Come! Come!
Be not wary of what awaits you
As you enter the unknown terrain,
Be not doubtful of your ability
To grow from its joys and sorrows.

For I am with you.
I will be your Guide.
I will be your Protector.
You will never be alone.”

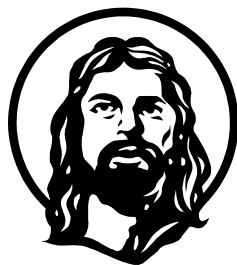
Guardian of this new year,
I set aside my fears, worries, concerns,
I open my life to mystery to beauty,
To hospitality, to questions,
To the endless opportunity
Of discovering you in my relationships,
And to all the silent wisps of wonder
That will draw me to your heart.

I welcome your unfailing Presence
And walk with hope into the new year.

—Joyce Rupp

My prayer is that you and your
family have a Blessed New Year
filled with love. May God
continue to bless you and
keep you safe always.

Schubie



A New Year's Meditation

As you look back on the year
just completed:

1. What name would you give to your journey of the past year? How would you describe it to one of your friends? What image or metaphor would you use to talk about it?
2. What were some of your “epiphanies” of the past year (your discoveries of the Holy One in your midst)? How did you grow because of them?
3. Who were your wise persons? What did they reveal to you? How did this influence your life?
4. Did any of your hopes and dreams become a reality?
5. What was most satisfying about the year? What was the least satisfying?
6. How did your experience of the past year affect the world in which you live?

As you look to the year before you:

1. What name would you like your new year's journey to have? What gifts do you bring with you into the year before you?
2. Do you find any resistance within you? Of what are you most afraid as you enter a new year?
3. What is your greatest need for the coming year?
4. Who do you bring with you for your support and strength as you begin to journey through the year?
5. How is your relationship with the Holy One as you pause at the threshold of the new year's vast landscape? What is at the heart of your new year's prayer?
6. What do you hope to contribute to society in this coming year?

Source: Out of the Ordinary by Joyce Rupp

Dates to Remember

Thursday, January 20th at 7PM

Evening of Reflection for all Ministers

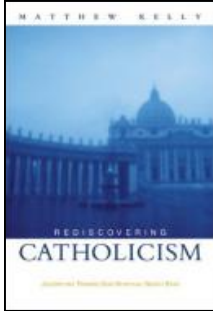
Sunday, February 6th

All Availability form due to Liturgy Office

Thursday, February 10th at 7PM

Ushers Meeting in Parish Office

Rediscovering Catholicism by Matthew Kelly



I highly recommend that if you have some free time during the cold winter days, pick up this book. There are some available in the back of church for a small donation of \$3. Below are some points about this book from the website below.

Source:
www.DynamicCatholic.com

At a time when many Catholics are disillusioned, questioning their faith, and filled with doubts about the relevance of Catholicism in the modern world, the voice of one young man cries out with a clarity and inspiration to the world's largest faith community.

Beginning with our common yearning for happiness, *Rediscovering Catholicism*, takes us on an adventure of life-changing proportions by addressing some of the most important questions we face today both as individuals and as a Church.

In each generation a leader comes forth who is able to bring Christianity to life in a way that revitalizes individuals, communities, and the universal Church. One you experience his bold, brilliant, practical, and inspiring style, you will soon understand why so many people consider Matthew Kelly to be one of the great spiritual voices of our times.

Over the past ten years, Matthew Kelly has seen more of the world than most presidents and more of the Church than most bishops. Now, in this unique and timely book, he proposes that Catholicism is not a lifeless set of rules and regulations, but a way of life designed by God to help each person reach his or her full potential. With remarkable insight, Kelly dispels dozens of the myths that surround the practice and rejection of Catholicism today and provides a profound and practical vision of what will lead the Catholic Church to thrive again in the future.

"Holiness is to become the-best-version-of-yourself. Francis of Assisi spent his whole life trying to become the best-version-of-himself. Mother Teresa spent her whole life trying to become the-best-version-of-herself. God calls us all to holiness, because God wants each of us to be all we can be." "The goal of the Christian life is holiness," Kelly explains, "but somewhere along the way this term disappeared from most Catholic's vocabulary. Either because we thought it was an unattainable ideal or because we felt it lacked relevance in the modern context. Maybe we thought the idea of holiness made people feel guilty."

Perhaps we just wanted to make it easier for people. Whatever the reason, the disappearance of this goal hasn't made it easier for modern Catholics; it's made it harder for them."

Have you ever tried to find your way to a place you have never been before with no directions, no map, and no clear description of the destination? "The great confusion that is torturing the Church and weakening our faith surrounds one question. What is holiness? The falling attendance at church, the marginalization of the Church by our secular culture, and our failure to reach the youth are all caused by our inability to communicate clearly the answer to this question. What is holiness?"

"Modern men and women have simply become disoriented. We have lost our way. By putting aside the goal of the Christian life - this call to holiness - we have lost sight of the great Spiritual North Star. The North Star is the only star in the sky that never moves; it remains constant, unwavering, and therefore is truly a guide. If we are to find our way, we must rediscover the great Spiritual North Star."

There is another book that I highly recommend. It is [The Next Level, a Parable of Finding Your Place in Life](#) by David Gregory. It is a short story that you will identify with and will discover profound insights into understanding your God-given purpose in life.

REMINDERS!!!

Lectors: When reading the Intercessions, please remember to add the name of the person the Mass is being offered for. There have been a few instances when these names have been left out. This is very important to the families who attend these Masses for their loved ones.

Eucharistic Ministers: The Precious Blood needs to be consumed after Mass. Please leave everything on the credence (side) table. Fr. Slawek, Deacon Bob or myself will finish purifying the vessels and set up for the next Mass.

If you are unable to serve at a Mass that you are assigned to, please remember to find a replacement. Your presence, ministry and leadership is important to this faith community.

******New Year Reflection******

With the beginning of a new year, we all have hopes and dreams for the upcoming year and possibly some regrets from the year past.

I hope that everyone who has a role in Liturgy (Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Music Ministers, Children's Liturgy, Altar Servers/Parents, Art & Environment, etc.) will be able to attend an Evening of Reflection on **Thursday, January 20th at 7PM** in the Church.

The theme will be "A New Beginning". Before the year starts slipping away, let us take time to consider new beginnings.

Scriptures for Everyone

"Living with Christ" Scripture Study twice a month on a Wednesday morning at 9AM with Schubie or on Thursday evening at 7PM with Deacon Bob. If you are interested, please call Schubie on ext 201 to register...

Liturgical Minister Schedules

(Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers and Ushers)

New Availability forms are available in the sacristy. It will also be in the bulletin after the New Year. This schedule will run from March 6, 2011 thru Monday, July 4, 2011. Please specify your Mass preference and circle the dates you are available. Note the Easter and holiday schedules and indicate when you are available to serve.

Thank you for your continued commitment as leaders in this faith community. I understand that this time of the year schedules are crazy and your timely response in completing and returning this form to the Liturgy Office by **Sunday, February 6th** is gratefully appreciated.