

Saint Peter ^{the} Apostle

CATHOLIC CHURCH



551 N. Rush Street | Itasca, Illinois 60143 | 630.773.1272 | www.stpeteritasca.com

Restore • Renew • Rejoice

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:30 am | 10:00 am | 11:30 am

Monday-Friday: 8:00 am

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays | 4:15 pm - 4:45 pm

Wednesdays | 8:30 am (*following 8:00 am Mass*)

First Saturdays | 8:30 am (*following 8:00 am Mass*)



THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

*Simeon said,
“Now, Master, you may
let your servant go in peace,
according to your word,
for my eyes have
seen your salvation.”*

Luke 2:29-30

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December 27, 2020

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

From the Pastor



Dear Parish Family:

In the midst of New Year's Eve and Day activities and celebrations, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God—a great feast day on the Octave Day of Christmas. Mary as the mother of God is a Church dogma, an official teaching that is without error; a dogma, a great mystery that sheds as much light on the nature of Christ as it does on the nature of His mother. The Church has defined four dogmas pertaining to the Blessed Mother. They include Mary, the mother of God, her Perpetual Virginity, Immaculate Conception, and her Assumption into heaven. It is because of the first Marian dogma that she has been privileged with the other three.

The Church teaching of Mary as the Mother of God finds its roots in the New Testament when the Archangel Gabriel says to Mary, *"The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore, the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God"* (Luke chapter 1 verse 35). The Gospel of Matthew also affirms this great teaching in Chapter 1 verse 23, *"Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel (which means, God with us)"*.

In the context of today's Solemnity, this reading (Luke 2:16-21) also helps us focus on Mary as the Mother of God. The Gospel tells us at least three things about Mary as a mother. First, Mary is described as a reflective person, keeping the reports of the shepherds in her heart. Second, we are reminded of how obedient Mary was to God when she named the baby *Jesus* as the angel Gabriel had directed. Third, this Gospel shows Mary and Joseph faithfully observing their Jewish tradition by having Jesus circumcised. Mary's faithfulness to God is evident in all three of these things. Her reflection upon the events in her life indicates that she was a person of prayer. This prayer made possible her obedience to God and God's will, even if the outcome was not clear. Finally, her faithfulness to a community of faith grounded her relationship with God and enabled her to participate in God's plan of salvation. Because of Mary's faithfulness to God, she was able to receive the gift of God's Son and accept her role in God's plan for salvation. By doing so, she models for us the path of discipleship and is also called Mother of the Church.

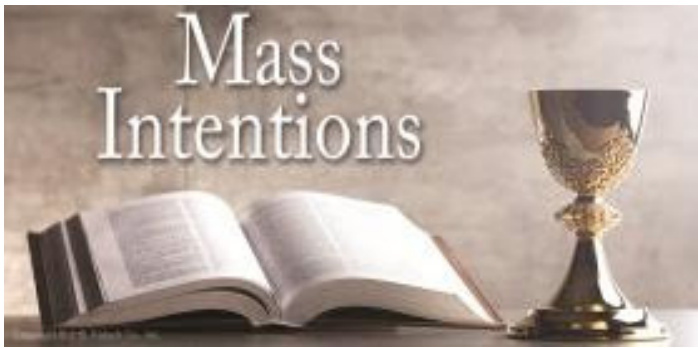
Our call to discipleship also includes these three aspects. First, discipleship means prayer and reflection on the events of our lives that we might see God's presence and work in our lives. Second, discipleship means obedience to God and God's will. Third, discipleship includes fidelity to His Church and all its teachings. It was not the Church that initiated the honor given to the Blessed Mother; it was Jesus who bestowed great honor on his mother, Mary. In this new year of 2021 may we too increase in our faith and obedience to God and to His Church. May we honor the Blessed Mother, Jesus' mother and our mother as well, with great respect and love.

Join us for Mass on this Solemnity. Masses will be celebrated on Thursday, December 31, at 3:00 pm and 5:00 pm, and on Friday, January 1, at 8:30 am and 11:00 am.

Happy and holy New Year in the Lord,

Fr. Noesen





Sunday	December 27 (<i>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph</i>)
8:30 am	†Remo and Frances Rosy
10:00 am	†Josephine Sweeney
11:30 am	†Benedykt Bak
	†Marie Cifaldi
	†John Elia
	†Anton and Elise Harteker
	†Anton and Emma Striegel
Monday	December 28 (<i>The Holy Innocents</i>)
8:00 am	†Illuminada Tiongson
Tuesday	December 29 (<i>Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord</i>)
8:00 am	†Edward Filipek
Wednesday	December 30 (<i>Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord</i>)
8:00 am	†Maryann Koback
Thursday	December 31 (<i>Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord</i>)
8:00 am	†Biagio Gariti and the Intentions of the Gariti Family
Thursday	December 31 (<i>Vigil: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God; New Year's Eve</i>)
3:00 pm	†Emilio Saldana Caro
5:00 pm	†Martin and Barbara Schatzman
Friday	January 1 (<i>The Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God</i>)
8:30 am	†Maryann Koback
11:00 am	†Elizabeth Lisak
	Special Intentions of the Leitner Family
Saturday	January 2 (<i>Ss. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church</i>)
8:00 am	†Andrew Williams (<i>Special Intention</i>)
Saturday	January 2 (<i>Vigil: Epiphany of the Lord</i>)
5:00 pm	†Louise Picardi (<i>Special Intention on her birthday</i>)
	†Andrzej Szymikowski
	For an End to Abortion
	People of the Parish
Sunday	January 3 (<i>Epiphany of the Lord</i>)
8:30 am	†Maryann Koback
10:00 am	†John Elia
11:30 am	†Ann Barry
	†Stefan Hehn
	†Patricia Vitale



Please remember to sign-up in advance for masses. Visit the parish website at stpeteritasca.com for links to the sign-up pages

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Thursday, December 31, 2020 (*Vigil Masses*)

3:00 pm | 5:00 pm

Friday, January 1, 2021

8:30 am | 11:00 am

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Saturday, January 2, 2021

Vigil Mass: 5:00 pm

Sunday, January 3, 2021

Masses: 8:30 am | 10:00 am | 11:30 am

PLEASE NOTE:

The Parish Center is closed through January 3, 2021, for the Christmas holiday. Regular hours will resume January 4, 2021.

Tuesday Rosary Ministry

Until further notice, Tuesday Rosary will take place virtually via Zoom.

Please visit the parish website to sign up or email bulletin@stpeteritasca.com to request a link to join.

Readings for the Week

Monday:	1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt:13-18
Tuesday:	1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35
Wednesday:	1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40
Thursday:	1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18
Friday:	Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
Saturday:	1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28
Sunday:	Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

Stewardship of Treasure

A Way of Life
St. Peter the Apostle

Sunday Collection Year to Date

Fiscal Week 24: 12/13/2020 \$ 7,122.00 \$202,066.11

Financial figures reflect the parish fiscal year of July 1st through June 30th.

If you have any questions concerning the collection numbers, please feel free to contact the Business Office at 630-773-1272 (ext. 204).

DONATE NOW
with  **INTRODUCING...**
Electronic Giving with GiveCentral.

Please visit the parish website and look for the GiveCentral icon to link to the secure online giving portal.
You can also connect directly by visiting the website directly

This Week at St. Peter's...

Tuesday December 29
8:30 am Tuesday Evening Rosary (*Virtual - Zoom*)

Saturday January 2
4:15 pm Confessions (*Church*)



Schedule

Saturday, January 2 | Sunday, January 3

Communion Ministers

5:00 pm Pat Barbee
Debbie Thude

8:30 am Maryann Kvech
Jim Ruffing

10:00 am Nancy Ferenzi
Deacon Fred

11:30 am Carmela Graziano
Michael Graziano

Lectors

5:00 pm Barb Schumacher

8:30 am Nancy Magnus

10:00 am Kathy Laken

11:30 am Paul Gennuso




Christmas and End of the Year Giving to St. Peter the Apostle Parish

Please keep your parish in mind when making your Will and in doing your Estate Planning. Remembering the Church is a beautiful and fitting way to make a lasting memorial statement of faith for future generations. It is a statement of gratitude to Christ and His Church for the gift of Faith and for the nurturing of that Faith you have received in this life, which hopefully sustained you and helped you along to eternal life.

The Christmas Collection is an important part of our operating budget. Please consider a generous contribution to the parish for Christmas if you have not done so. Don't forget, with the New Year upon us, year-end giving is also a wonderful way to make a response of faith, help your parish in its mission to make the Lord Jesus known.

Call the parish office if you need assistance.

Thank you for your consideration and stewardship...
Living the Gospel of Jesus the Christ!



Don't let 2020 slip away without taking full advantage of your charitable giving!

When "checking your list" for tax-deductible donation options, please consider making a gift to St. Peter the Apostle Parish for your year-end giving.

Your support of St. Peter the Apostle Parish provides the opportunity to ensure the stability and growth of a Catholic "home" for current and future generations.

If giving by check or cash, please submit no later than **December 27, 2020** in order to receive credit for the current year. Envelopes can be dropped off at the Parish Center or in the collection basket.

Online donations using [GiveCentral](#) can be made through December 31, 2020.

Donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law • Non-profit 501(c)3 Federal Tax ID # 36-2345185

ST. PETER THE APOSTLE
551 N. Rush Street | Itasca, Illinois 60143
630-773-1272
office@stpeteritasca.com





Resolutions

New Year's Resolutions to consider...

1. Attend Mass every week (or everyday, if possible)
2. Know someone who's been away from the Church or who is interested in joining? Reach out, invite them to Mass with you, and encourage them to find their way on a journey of faith.
3. Make Tuesday Evening Rosary and Father John Project recurring events on your calendar.
4. Sign up for an hour of Adoration on First Fridays
5. Share your "Time and Talent" through a Parish ministry—there's something for everyone.
6. Visit a nursing home or volunteer at a hospital.

Vocation

Wisdom of the Saints

2021

Catholic Family Appointment Calendar



2021 Parish Calendars...

2021 Catholic Calendars will be provided again this year. However, due to publishing delays, calendars are late in delivery this year.

Thank you for your patience!



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU, JOE TALAGA!!!

The Joliet Chapter of the Knights of Columbus recently honored St. Peter's Council 10884 member and St. Peter's parishioner, **Joe Talaga**, with its highest recognition — **The Victor Cardosi Award**. Joe has been a dedicated and active member of the Knights of Columbus council, and has likewise served our parish and the Itasca community in many ways, for many years.

Joe and Ornella Talaga are exemplary of the Holy Family we celebrate on this Sunday. May God bless them and their children and grandchildren.

Please join in congratulating and thanking Joe for his service.



DIOCESE OF JOLIET CHAPTER
TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL
VICTOR CARDOSI AWARD
2020



Pope Francis proclaims “Year of St Joseph”

With the Apostolic Letter “Patris corde” (“With a Father’s Heart”), Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a “Year of Saint Joseph” from today, 8 December 2020, to 8 December 2021.

By Vatican News



In a new Apostolic Letter entitled *Patris corde* (“With a Father’s Heart”), Pope Francis describes Saint Joseph as a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father; a father who is creatively courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows.

The Letter marks the 150th anniversary of Blessed Pope Pius IX’s declaration of St Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To celebrate the anniversary, Pope Francis has proclaimed a special “Year of St Joseph,” beginning on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception 2020 and extending to the same feast in 2021.

Church grants plenary indulgence for year of St. Joseph

The Holy Father wrote *Patris corde* against the backdrop of the Covid-19 pandemic, which, he says, has helped us see more clearly the importance of “ordinary” people who, though far from the limelight, exercise patience and offer hope every day. In this, they resemble Saint Joseph, “the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence,” who nonetheless played “an incomparable role in the history of salvation.”

A beloved, tender, obedient father

Saint Joseph, in fact, “concretely expressed his fatherhood” by making an offering of himself in love “a love placed at the service of the Messiah who was growing to maturity in his home,” writes Pope Francis, quoting his predecessor St Paul VI. And because of his role at “the crossroads between the Old and New Testament,” St Joseph “has always been venerated as a father by the Christian people” (PC, 1). In him, “Jesus saw the tender love of God,” the one that helps us accept our weakness, because “it is through” and despite “our fears, our frailties, and our weakness” that most divine designs are realized. “Only tender love will save us from the snares of the accuser,” emphasizes the Pontiff, and it is by encountering God’s mercy especially in the Sacrament of Reconciliation that we “experience His truth and tenderness,” – because “we know that God’s truth does not condemn us, but instead welcomes, embraces, sustains and forgives us” (2).

Joseph is also a father in obedience to God: with his ‘fiat’ he protects Mary and Jesus and teaches his Son to “do the will of the Father.” Called by God to serve the mission of Jesus, he “cooperated... in the great mystery of Redemption,” as St John Paul II said, “and is truly a minister of salvation” (3).

Welcoming the will of God

At the same time, Joseph is “an accepting Father,” because he “accepted Mary unconditionally” — an important gesture even today, says Pope Francis, “in our world where psychological, verbal and physical violence towards women is so evident.” But the Bridegroom of Mary is also the one who, trusting in the Lord, accepts in his life even the events that he does not understand, “setting aside his own ideas” and reconciling himself with his own history.

Joseph’s spiritual path “is not one that explains, but accepts” — which does not mean that he is “resigned.” Instead, he is “courageously and firmly proactive,” because with “Holy Spirit’s gift of fortitude,” and full of hope, he is able “to accept life as it is, with all its contradictions, frustrations and disappointments.” In practice, through St. Joseph, it is as if God were to repeat to us: “Do not be afraid!” because “faith gives meaning to every event, however happy or sad,” and makes us aware that “God can make flowers spring up from stony ground.” Joseph “did not look for shortcuts but confronted reality with open eyes and accepted personal responsibility for it.” For this reason, “he encourages us to accept and welcome others as they are, without exception, and to show special concern for the weak” (4).

A creatively courageous father, example of love

Patris corde highlights “the creative courage” of St. Joseph, which “emerges especially in the way we deal with difficulties.” “The carpenter of Nazareth,” explains the Pope, was able to turn a problem into a possibility by trusting in divine providence.” He had to deal with “the concrete problems” his Family faced, problems faced by other families in the world, and especially those of migrants. In this sense, St. Joseph is “the special patron

of all those forced to leave their native lands because of war, hatred, persecution and poverty.” As the guardian of Jesus and Mary, Joseph cannot “be other than the guardian of the Church,” of her motherhood, and of the Body of Christ. “Consequently, every poor, needy, suffering or dying person, every stranger, every prisoner, every infirm person is ‘the child’ whom Joseph continues to protect.” From St Joseph, writes Pope Francis, “we must learn... to love the Church and the poor” (5).

A father who teaches the value, dignity and joy of work

“A carpenter who earned an honest living to provide for his family,” St Joseph also teaches us “the value, the dignity and the joy of what it means to eat bread that is the fruit of one’s own labour.” This aspect of Joseph’s character provides Pope Francis the opportunity to launch an appeal in favour of work, which has become “a burning social issue” even in countries with a certain level of well-being. “there is a renewed need to appreciate the importance of dignified work, of which Saint Joseph is an exemplary patron,” the Pope writes.

Work, he says, “is a means of participating in the work of salvation, an opportunity to hasten the coming of the Kingdom, to develop our talents and abilities, and to put them at the service of society and fraternal communion.” Those who work, he explains, “are cooperating with God himself, and in some way become creators of the world around us.” Pope Francis encourages everyone “to rediscover the value, the importance and the necessity of work for bringing about a new ‘normal’ from which no one is excluded.” Especially in light of rising unemployment due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Pope calls everyone to “review our priorities” and to express our firm conviction that no young person, no person at all, no family should be without work!” (6).

A father “in the shadows,” centered on Mary and Jesus

Taking a cue from *The Shadow of the Father* — a book by Polish writer Jan Dobraczyński — Pope Francis describes Joseph’s fatherhood of Jesus as “the earthly shadow of the heavenly Father.”

“Fathers are not born, but made,” says Pope Francis. “A man does not become a father simply by bringing a child into the world, but by taking up the responsibility to care for that child.” Unfortunately, in today’s society, children “often seem orphans, lacking fathers” who are able to introduce them “to life and reality.” Children, the Pope says, need fathers who will not try to dominate them, but instead raise them to be “capable of deciding for themselves, enjoying freedom and exploring new possibilities.”

This is the sense in which St Joseph is described as a “most chaste” father, which is the opposite of domineering possessiveness. Joseph, says Pope Francis, “knew how to love with extraordinary freedom. He never made himself the center of things. He did not think of himself, but focused instead on the lives of Mary and Jesus.”

Happiness for Joseph involved a true gift of self: “In him, we never see frustration, but only trust,” writes Pope Francis. “His patient silence was the prelude to concrete expressions of trust.” Joseph stands out, therefore, as an exemplary figure for our time, in a world that “needs fathers,” and not “tyrants;” a society that “rejects those who confuse authority with authoritarianism, service with servility, discussion with oppression, charity with a welfare mentality, power with destruction.”

True fathers, instead, “refuse to live the lives of their children for them,” and instead respect their freedom. In this sense, says Pope Francis, a father realizes that “he is most a father and an educator at the point when he becomes ‘useless,’ when he sees that his child has become independent and can walk the paths of life unaccompanied.” Being a father, the Pope emphasizes, “has nothing to do with possession, but is rather a ‘sign’ pointing to a greater fatherhood”: that of the “heavenly Father” (7).

A daily prayer to St Joseph... and a challenge

In his letter, Pope Francis notes how, “Every day, for over forty years, following Lauds [Morning Prayer]” he has “recited a prayer to Saint Joseph taken from a nineteenth-century French prayer book of the Congregation of the Sisters of Jesus and Mary.” This prayer, he says, expresses devotion and trust, and even poses a certain challenge to Saint Joseph,” on account of its closing words: “My beloved father, all my trust is in you. Let it not be said that I invoked you in vain, and since you can do everything with Jesus and Mary, show me that your goodness is as great as your power.”

At the conclusion of his Letter, he adds another prayer to St Joseph, which he encourages all of us to pray together:

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.*

*Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,
and defend us from every evil.*

Amen.

Feast of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs

Monday, December 28th

Fourth Day of the Octave of Christmas

When Herod realized that he had been deceived by the magi, he became furious. He ordered the massacre of all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had ascertained from the magi. Matthew 2:16

Today on the fourth day of the Octave of Christmas, we are given a similar witness to the one we received on December 26, the Feast of the Martyrdom of St. Stephen. But today's feast presents the same evil in a different and even more tragic light. Here, out of envy and hatred, Herod had countless innocent children killed in an attempt to eliminate Jesus, the newborn King. We can only imagine the grief that would have filled the town of Bethlehem and its vicinity as the soldiers went through killing those innocent children as their parents watched helplessly. On one hand, it's shocking to know that God permitted this. On the other hand, on a level of deep faith, we must strive to understand the witness that these innocent children gave.

Though this was an unspeakable crime and evil, from the perspective of eternity, it will be sorted out by God. In Heaven and forevermore, these innocent victims will wear the martyr's crown and will be honored by the angels and saints as the first witnesses to the newborn King. Though this may not have eased the pain at the time, it will certainly transform the pain those families felt as they enter into the justice of Heaven. Their witness reveals to us much about our own lives. It reveals that there are many times in life when things are simply not fair and not just. The massacre of these innocent children is a powerful reminder of this fact. But one thing we must hold on to is that God will right every wrong in the end. Today, we celebrate a solemn feast in the honor of these children as a way of saying that God has transformed this tragedy into something glorious.



The same is true with each one of us. Whatever your "tragedy" may be, know that the Son of God entered our world, taking on our fallen human nature, so that He could make all things right.

Reflect, today, upon that which is most painful for you this Christmas season. Whatever it may be, you are invited to unite your hurt and pain today with the sorrow of the families who lost these little ones. Let God do for you what He ultimately did for all of them. Let His Incarnation, death and Resurrection transform your hurt into a crown of martyrdom. In the end, the Lord will be victorious in your life if you let Him.

*Lord, I surrender all hurt, pain and confusion to You.
I unite myself, this day, with the sorrow of those who lost these little children and I trust that their lives, as they reign now in Heaven with You, are a sign for me of things to come.
Your birth into our world was the greatest sign that You are our Savior and that You can turn all things into good.
Jesus, I entrust my life to You and know that You will right every wrong. Jesus, I trust in You.*



*World Day
of Prayer
for Peace*



If you would like information on Pro-life ministry opportunities or you or someone you know needs assistants, please visit the parish website for information and resources. You may also contact Nancy Magnus, St. Peter's Pro-life Coordinator, at 630-606-5197.

Thank God for your Parents!

Pope Francis I

Remember that God is our Father. He created us, bestowed our talents on each of us, and guides us along the path of life.

He is with us in spite of our weaknesses, our sins, and our omissions...

He is the model of all parenthood, even earthly paternity. Don't forget to thank God for your parents... even if your relationship might not be so good.

Parenthood is a gift from God and it is a great responsibility to give new life, which is an unrepeatable image of God.

Don't be afraid to be parents....

Also, be open to being spiritual mothers and fathers.

NOTE: In the coming weeks, the sick list will be reviewed and long-standing names will be removed if not recently renewed.

Please Pray for the Sick of our Parish Family

Published prayer requests require permission from the named individual or their family. Names will be listed for six weeks, after which time you may call the Parish Center to renew your request.

- | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Brian Beers | Jack Hayes | Bonnie Pollock |
| Sue Bobka | Ken Hemstreet | Megan Putzke |
| John Booth | Mary Hosters | Nikki Recchia |
| Janet Both | Shirley Janik | Brendan Reidy |
| Ken Buffo | Brian Josephus | Jerry Riordan |
| Theodora Calip | Anne Keeton | Ann Marie Rossi |
| Mike Carey | Debra Kelly | John Rossi |
| Jacqueline Castellano | Joe Kryger | Savannah Rose Russo |
| Eunice Cleveland | Ruth Kryger | Roxanne Ruiz |
| Robert Cleveland | Tom Kryger | Alana Ruiz |
| Regina Conti | Rickie Kruzel | Janina Sabat |
| Joseph Crocilla | Celeste Kucharczyk | Angela Scanlon |
| Collin Cummins | JoLynn Lash | Mark Sgarbossa |
| Mary Cummins | Sharon Laughlin | Shauna Sheffer |
| Michael Cummins | Pasquale Lopardo | Marilyn Sieradzki |
| Paul Cummins | Eileen Marino | Wayne Slowiak |
| Margaret Del Preto | Patricia McMahon | Dan Sobucki |
| Angeline DiFranco | Ann McNally | Belinda Sobucki |
| Charles DiFranco Jr. | Jack McNally | Sharon Sowers |
| Teresa Dunhac | Gene Mikulecky | Karen Stewart |
| Scott Erickson | Christopher Mizera | Linda Szweda |
| Tracy Fink | Rich Mrugacz | Pat Tardi |
| Stephanie Fortino | Robert Neumann | James Thompson |
| Sally Franz | Barbara Neumann | Jennifer Weil |
| Dan Galuszek | Jean Nowobielski | Helen Wilczko |
| Joe Galuszek | Don Olenek | Agnieszka Wisniewska |
| Geri Gerard | Vince Oraziotti | Grzegorz Wisniewski |
| Mel Gerard | Fred Oslager | Ray Young |
| Mike Graziano | Anne Marie Pagni | Carol Zell |
| Gary Grote | Harriett Pinkowski | Deacon Bob Ziomek |
| Joseph Halec | | |



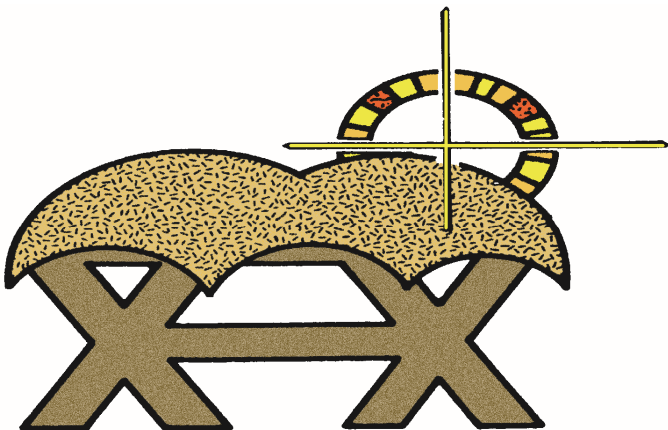
Join our Holy Father, Pope Francis, in his December prayers for the Church and for the world:

For a Life of Prayer.

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

*My eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the sight of all the peoples.*

— Luke 2:30-31



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**Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands.
Protect them as they protect us. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen**

- PFC Ryan Caspary, US Army 101st Airborne
- LCpl James J. Cullotta, US Marines
- SGT Michael D'Andrea, US Army
- Maj Joseph DeHaven, US Army
- CPT Steven Gregor, US Army
- PFC Michael Helle, US Army
- Cpl Brandon Helm, US Marines
- PVT Aleksandra Juzwiak, Army National Guard
- SGT Jacob Los, US Army
- Major Ryan L. Morrissey, US Army
- 1stLt John Kenneth Murphy, US Marines
- SGT Marcin Platek, US Marines
- 2LT Megan Putze, Army National Guard
- Cpl MacLane Read, US Army
- SGT Michael Schatzman, US Army
- LTJG Albert J. Schrautemyer III, US Navy Pilot (Persian Gulf)
- SGT Jeremy Schumacher, US Marines
- Robert P. Woods Lt. JG. US Navy
- Thomas Zablocki, US Marines
- PO2 Benjamin Zubak, US Navy

RECTORY/PARISH CENTER

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Web site: stpeteritasca.com

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Italian Catholic Federation (Branch 418) (Nick Tenerelli, Pres.)
phone: 847-224-9324

PARISH CENTER BUSINESS HOURS

Monday - Thursday: 8:30 am - 2:00 pm

Friday-Sunday: CLOSED (or by appointment)

**TRAVELING?**

Call 410-676-6000 or log onto www.masstimes.org for the location and schedule of Masses throughout the U.S.

PULPIT ANNOUNCEMENT AND BULLETIN DEADLINES

NOTE: Parish staff reserves the right to accept and/or decline, as well as edit, both pulpit announcements and bulletin submissions.

Pulpit announcement requests are to be submitted to the Parish Center no later than the **Tuesday preceding** the weekend during which the announcement is to be made. Announcements may be submitted by phone at 630-773-1272 (ext. 200) or by e-mail to office@stpeteritasca.com.

Bulletin submissions are to be submitted **no later than 8 days preceding** requested publication date. Notices and full page flyers will run for a maximum of two weeks, and priority will be given to items that are date sensitive. If possible, all items should be typed for legibility and accuracy and dropped off at the Parish Center or sent via e-mail to bulletin@stpeteritasca.com.

NEW PARISHIONERS

Please visit or call the Parish Center (ext. 200) to register.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Adults interested in becoming Catholic or learning about the Catholic faith should contact the Parish Center for information.

BAPTISMS

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated either during a weekend Mass or on the third Sunday of the month at 12:45 pm (immediately following 11:30 am Mass). Parents must attend a Baptism Preparation class prior to the Baptism. Classes are held in the Parish Center at 7:00 pm on the first Thursday of each month. Please call the Parish Center for more information.

Required paperwork **MUST** be submitted to the parish office **no later than ten (10) business days prior to the baptismal date or your date will be rescheduled.** This includes all necessary information regarding family records and godparents. Please read the **baptism planning information** provided before selecting a godparent. A sponsor certificate must be provided **by each godparent.** The proper **sponsor certificate** for St. Peter the Apostle is included with the baptism packet. Christian witnesses are most welcome to celebrate with the family and community, but please note they are not recorded as sponsors on the Baptismal Certificate or in the Baptismal Register.

WEDDINGS

According to diocesan policy, the parish must be contacted six months prior to the intended wedding date. Please call the Parish Center (ext. 201) for information.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

If you or someone you know is in need of this Sacrament, please contact the Parish Center at any time. Upon admission to the hospital, please make it known you are a member of St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church

IF YOU ARE HOSPITALIZED...

If you or a family member are admitted to the hospital, please contact the Parish Center to let us know. Due to federal regulations, most hospitals will not contact parishes unless you specifically request it. We want to visit parishioners in the hospital, but are often unaware of their hospitalization.

FRIDAY COMMUNION CALLS

Communion calls are made every Friday for those unable to attend Sunday mass due to health issues.

Please call the Parish Center at 630-773-1272 (ext. 200) to make arrangements.



If it is too difficult for you to walk to the front of the church to receive Communion, please know that at each Mass an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion comes to the back of the church to distribute Communion. If you would like to have the Extraordinary Minister give you communion in the back of church, please let an usher know before Mass begins. At Communion time, when you see the Extraordinary Minister come to the back, please raise your hand so that they can see you and give you Holy Communion.

Welcome Guests and Visitors!

We're so glad you are here and invite you to walk the path to faith with us. The community of St. Peter the Apostle strives to grow closer to Christ in all that we do. We care for one another and together with Christ, we make a difference.

If you would like to become a registered parishioner, please fill out the information below and drop it into the collection basket at any mass or call the Parish Center at 630-773-1272 (ext. 200).

Family Name _____

Family Member Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____

E-mail Address: _____

Food Pantry Needs Restocking

On your next trip to the grocery store, please consider adding a few non-perishable food items to your shopping cart to contribute to the **Itasca Food Pantry**.



- coffee
- paper towels
- toothpaste
- cereal
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- laundry detergent

If you would like more information about the food pantry, please call Pat Tardi at 630-773-4703.

ARE YOU CONNECTED???

Do you receive St. Peter's electronic newsletters??

This is a great way to stay informed and receive reminders about events that you may have forgotten about or overlooked in the bulletin.

If you have access to e-mail, but do not receive the parish's electronic newsletters, then please visit the parish website at stpeteritasca.com to sign up; you may also send your e-mail information to bulletin@stpeteritasca.com.

Please be sure to provide your name together with your e-mail address.



And don't forget to connect with the parish on Facebook:



facebook.com/SaintPeterApostle.Itasca

Remember to invite your friends!!!

Do You Need Help with Food?

Catholic Charities has resources available to help those who are in need of food. Even if you may not have qualified for assistance in the past, Catholic Charities can help.

Please call our DuPage County office located in Lombard at 630-495-8008. To learn more about Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Joliet, visit our Web site at www.cc-doj.org

Reporting Incidents of Sexual Abuse

Sexual abuse is a sin and a crime. Victims of sexual abuse, in addition to contacting civil authorities, are asked to come forward in order to receive pastoral assistance. The Church has a responsibility to help victims of sexual abuse and to ensure that offenders are brought to justice.

Reports may be made to any pastor or to the Victims Assistance Coordinator at 815/263-6467. Contact DCFS at 1-800-25-ABUSE.

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