

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*)



*Jesus cured many who were sick with various diseases,
and he drove out many demons. ~Mark 1:34*

February 7, 2021
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

From the Pastor



Dear Parish Family:

Today's Gospel is a continuation of the account of Jesus' first day in Capernaum. These are the first days of Jesus' public ministry. He is summoned to go and cure Peter's mother-in-law from a terrible fever. Later in the day, many others who were sick as well as others possessed by evil demons came for healing. Jesus cured them all! He expelled all afflictions of mind and body and all were restored to full health and were enabled to resume their former duties.

Today's reading from the Old Testament is about a holy and righteous man named Job. Job was a very rich, blessed and virtuous man with a large family. He was kind. He exhibited a devotion to God. As the story goes, he never seemed to have any problems; that was until Satan appeared on the scene. The story goes on to say that God said to Satan: 'Have you noticed my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth. He listens to me and does what is right.' Satan replied, 'Of course Job obeys you. You protect him and bless him. You give him land and animals.

Take it all away, and he will stop worshipping you.' God said: 'You may test Job, but you are not allowed to kill him.' Why did God let Satan test Job? He was confident that Job would not fail. Satan began to test Job with a number of disasters. Job lost his cattle and sheep, he lost his children in death, and other terrible things came upon him. Job, as we learn from today's passage, was heartbroken after months of misery. He, at first, does not see an end in sight, only more unhappiness. Yet, if we read beyond today's reading, Job does not lose faith. He continues even to worship God.



Yet, even more suffering came. Satan was ruthless! He caused sores to break out all over Job's body causing terrible physical pain. Like all of us, Job cried out for he did not know why all these terrible things were happening to him. His friends even turned on him. They ridiculed Job saying that God must be punishing him for his past sins. Yet Job remained righteous and firm in worship of God and this pleased God. Job survived an undeserved and catastrophic destruction. Satan eventually gave up on Job. Satan did not achieve what he wanted. After Satan left, God rewards Job with a new family and an estate twice as large as the one taken from him.

Job offers us a model of endurance in faith in order to overcome the terrors of undeserved suffering—

When these things come, what is our reaction?

Do you show the patience of Job?

Do we remain calm in times of trouble?

How have we reacted to this pandemic?

Have we chosen despair over hope? ...darkness over light? ...doubt over faith? ...fear over proper worship?

Suffering and illness have always been among the greatest of problems that trouble the human spirit. Thank goodness for our faith in these times. For faith helps us to grasp more deeply the mystery of suffering and to bear pain with great courage. Let us pray for the strength to remain faithful to God in times of suffering. And let us fight strenuously against all sickness, weakness and despair...seeking God's grace so that we may be restored and thus resume our former duties to serve and worship God.

Blessings in the Lord of all good,

Fr. Noesen

**Sunday February 7 (Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time)**

8:30 am †Richard Grabher
 10:00 am For an End to Abortion
 11:30 am †Susan Dial
 †John Elia
 †Giuseppe Fricano
 †Jean Matthies
 People of the Parish

Monday February 8 (Weekday)

8:00 am †Joseph Mandel

Tuesday February 9 (Weekday)

8:00 am †Leonard Streich

Wednesday February 10 (St. Scholastica, Virgin)

8:00 am †Don Derma

Thursday February 11 (Our Lady of Lourdes)

8:00 am †James W. Willems

Friday February 12 (Weekday)

8:00 am †Maryann Koback

Saturday February 13 (Vigil: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time)

5:00 pm †Michael Fuschetto
 †Elizabeth Lisak
 †Sophie Mandel
 †Andrzej Szymikowski
 †Tommy Trejo
 For an End to Abortion

Sunday February 14 (Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time)

8:30 am †Edward Krygger
 10:00 am †John Elia
 11:30 am †Tim Daly
 †Maria Fricano
 †Dan Nicolini
 †Mark Nicolini
 †Karoline Seitz
 †Candance Wierbowski
 Souls in Purgatory

Readings for the Week

Monday: Gn 1:1-19; Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10, 12, 24,35c; Mk 6:53-56
 Tuesday: Gn 1:20 — 2:4a; Ps 8:4-9; Mk 7:1-13
 Wednesday: Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17; Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30; Mk 7:14-23
 Thursday: Gn 2:18-25; Ps 128:1-5; Mk 7:24-30
 Friday: Gn 3:1-8; Ps 32:1-2, 5-7; Mk 7:31-37
 Saturday: Gn 3:9-24; Ps 90:2-6, 12-13; Mk 8:1-10
 Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46; Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11; 1 Cor 10:31 — 11:1; Mk 1:40-45

Tuesday Rosary Ministry

The Tuesday Rosary Ministry has resumed meeting **IN CHURCH** to pray the Rosary beginning at 7:15pm.

Attendees are welcome to lead one of the decades if comfortable and called to do so.

Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend. Bring your Rosary, your personal intentions and your voice.

Invite friends and be a part of this beautiful and powerful gift of prayer.

Please visit the parish website to review guidelines to be observed. Assistance with cleaning will be needed once concluded.

GRIEF MINISTRY

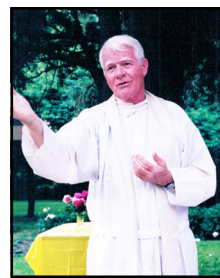
If you have lost a loved one and would like to meet with people who face similar struggles, please consider joining the Grief Ministry group.

Masks and hand sanitizer will be required. A circle of chairs will be set up at a safe distancing of 6' apart.

For more information, please contact:

Sharon Laughlin (630-212-0304) or Fred Maier (630-773-4412)

THIS WEEKEND—SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14 | 9:30 am

**FATHER JOHN PROJECT**

The "Father John Project" will take place Thursday, February 11, at **8:30 am** (following morning mass).

The prayer service, will include the Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet. The focus of the "Father John Project" is to take action through prayer for conversion.

Father John's desire was to welcome new and returning Catholics to their home in the Church.

All parishioners are welcome and encouraged to attend, as well as to reach out to invite anyone who may be struggling to find their way "HOME."

Masks and hand sanitizer are required.

Advance registration is requested, but not required. (visit the parish website for a link to register).

Stewardship of Treasure

A Way of Life
St. Peter the Apostle

	Sunday Collection	Year to Date
Fiscal Week 31: 01/31/2021	\$ 13,855.00	\$ 279,249.78

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).



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 at givecentral.org/location/1251

This Week at St. Peter's...

Tuesday	February 9
7:15 pm	Tuesday Evening Rosary (Church)
Wednesday	February 10
8:30 am	Confessions (Church)
5:00 pm	Religious Education Classes
Thursday	February 11
8:30 am	Father John Project (Church)
Saturday	February 13
9:00 am	Religious Education Classes
4:15 pm	Confessions (Church)
Sunday	February 14
9:30 am	Grief Support Group (MW Parish Hall)



Schedule

Saturday, February 13 | Sunday, February 14

Communion Ministers	Lectors
5:00 pm John North Kay North	5:00 pm John Los
8:30 am Bill Kolf Deacon Fred	8:30 am Nancy Magnus
10:00 am Anthony George Frank Vale	10:00 am Kathy Laken
11:30 am Chris Nagle Mary McNamara	11:30 am Diane Blackburn



Roman Catholic
Diocese of Joliet



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

There is no denying the importance of light to humanity. It brings comfort, warmth and growth. It leads us from darkness. It guides our journey.

Of course, as Christian stewards, we recognize that Christ is the true "light of the world" (Jn 8:12), and equally important to those corporal, tangible benefits are the countless spiritual ones His special light provides. Each and every day, I am grateful to Him for lighting my path, especially as I begin my ministry here in the Diocese of Joliet.

But what becomes of Christ's light?

Do we keep it for ourselves?

One cannot help but consider the servant in the Parable of the Talents, who buried his master's bag of gold instead of increasing its yield and was subsequently thrown out into the darkness. Christ's disciples are called to magnify His light, which is why we chose Shining the Light of Christ as the theme for the 2021 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA).

Our annual appeal supports 30 ministries that shine Christ's light throughout the diocese, especially on those most in need. In this opening report, you can read how your gifts to the CMAA help the poor and vulnerable, form our future shepherds, and spread the faith through our Catholic schools, faith formation programs in parishes and programs for young adults.

I also invite you to visit jolietdioceseappeal.org and learn more about how our annual appeal allows us, together, to do our part in building God's kingdom here on earth.

Please prayerfully consider joining me in supporting the 2021 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal and shining Christ's light brightly in our diocese.

Peace,

Most Reverend Ronald A. Hicks,
Bishop of Joliet



Your gift to the CMAA makes a difference

In an abundance of caution, the opening report for the 2021 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA) is being delivered directly to your inbox and is also available online at jolietdioceseappeal.org. Please take a moment to read how the 30 ministries supported through our annual appeal truly illustrate this year's theme, ***Shining the Light of Christ***, serve our most vulnerable brothers and sisters, and assist parishes, including ours.

Our parish's goal for the 2021 CMAA is **\$52,400**, with 70 percent of any amount we raise over this goal returned to us for our use. The Diocese of Joliet mailed a packet about the CMAA, including a pledge card, to all registered parishioners in January, and our pastor is sending additional information this month. Please prayerfully reflect on your gift to this year's CMAA and return your pledge card or envelope, make a gift online at jolietdioceseappeal.org or text DONATE to 815-205-1949.

Thank you for considering a pledge to this year's annual appeal.

What the Book of Job Teaches Us about Suffering

by Lindsey Kettner

THE LIFE OF JOB

In the beginning, Job had it made. God blessed him with wealth, ten children, health, and many possessions. Job loved God and was a righteous man, but Satan told God that Job surely wouldn't fear God had he not been so blessed. The Lord allowed Satan to tempt Job, and that's when things turn ugly.

First Job's cattle are taken—sheep, oxen, donkey, camels. Next, all ten of Job's children are killed when a house collapses upon them. Then Satan afflicted Job with horrible sores all over his body. After this, Job cries out to God and speaks of his anguish.

The Book of Job is hard to read; watching as a righteous man endures such loss and suffering. But in the end, the Lord restores all that had been taken away. Surely we can learn from the suffering of Job and bring those lessons into our own trials.

Life's not fair.

Job cries out to the Lord that life isn't fair. "He said this, 'Why do the wicked survive, grow old, become mighty in power?' It's a good question, right? But the thing is, life isn't fair. Life on this earth isn't fair; all we need to do is look at the crucifix and we'll see an example of that. But this life on earth is not the end of the story, and that's the catch. And I think that accepting the fact that yes, sometimes I get what I don't deserve, but accepting that is comfort in and of itself," says Gary Zimak.

In that acceptance, Zimak finds comfort in uniting himself to Jesus' suffering. "Rather than complain and look at other people and say, 'Why does everything go in their favor; why can't I ever get a break?' It's good to look inside and unite myself with the Lord and say, 'Alright Lord, nothing went right for you. You were persecuted; you were abused throughout your life. Now let me unite closer to you.' And that makes me feel better!"

Cry out to God.

"When I cry out to the Lord—and I've done this, I've gotten in my car and I've yelled at him—and I've grown closer to him that way. I don't think anyone should be afraid to express their opinion to the Lord. That's a good thing; that's what Job did. And interestingly enough, in the Book of Job for the first 37 chapters, Job was pouring out his heart to God. He ended up crying out, where are you? Why can't you help me! God did not say one word to Job. It wasn't until chapter 38 that he finally spoke. So, what I would say to anybody who is crying out to the Lord—who is speaking, who is asking for relief, who is praying and not getting an answer—to be patient; the Lord will speak when it's time. Just because he's silent doesn't mean he's not there and that he's not listening. He's there and he *is* listening," explains Zimak.

Patience isn't easy, especially when the suffering is great. But maybe if we take a page from the Book of Job, maybe we'll realize we aren't alone. We can understand that the suffering of this life isn't the end of the story, and God will never abandon us.

Lindsey Kettner serves as a Digital Media Producer at Relevant Radio®. She is a wife, mother, and graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, where she studied journalism and advertising. She writes daily at relevantradio.com and on the free Relevant Radio mobile app.

Redemptive suffering

Anonymous Author, Diocese of Fort Wayne, Indiana

It is not easy to block out the multiple cries of pain and suffering that permeate the world. It is almost deafening. All one has to do is turn on the radio, read the newspaper, watch television or go online. We are bombarded with news of pain and suffering, almost to the saturation point. I think of the people in Libya, Haiti, Japan and others affected by war and natural disasters. It gives me an overwhelming feeling.

A couple of years ago I attended several lectures on the martyrs of El Salvador who were killed during a civil war that took place there in the 1970s and 1980s. Archbishop Oscar Romero, four women missionaries and several Jesuits — only to name a few of hundreds of people — were brutally murdered because they spoke out against the intense suffering of the Salvadoran people and a system of government that perpetuated it.

The poor still suffer there and around the world, including in our own country. However, suffering is not limited to the poor. Who of us cannot look around and find suffering in our own life or in the lives of those who touch ours? No one is spared.

Everyday we hear of people diagnosed with fatal illnesses that change their lives or people who are out of work for a long time and become desperate to support their families. We know of families broken by divorce and those who experience the sudden death of loved ones. So many are bearing difficult crosses.

In the light of all this pain the question is often asked that if God really loves us, why does He allow all these good people to suffer? It reminds me of the book I read several years ago. It is called "When Bad Things Happen to Good People" and was written by a Jewish rabbi. At first I wondered why he didn't call his book "Why bad things happen to good people." I have since come to the conclusion it is because we don't know the reason why. All we know is that God allows suffering to exist in the world. He permits it but He doesn't make it happen. And He doesn't use it to punish us.

Suffering is a deep mystery of life. Although we may not feel it at the time, what our faith tells us about suffering is that God never abandons us in it. With all suffering, there eventually comes a resurrection. That is the Paschal Mystery. It is a central doctrine of our faith. Jesus suffered, died and rose. We, too, live that mystery in our own lives in big and in small ways. To suffer is part of being a Christian. It is not easy, but God is with us just as He was with Jesus during His life on this earth.

As Catholics we believe that suffering is redemptive. We are called to unite our suffering with that of Christ's. Suffering can embitter us or it can transform us. There are people who have suffered greatly who are very holy, caring, compassionate people and then there are others whose suffering has turned them into bitter, resentful people.

We have little power over most suffering, our own and others, but we do have control over how we let it affect our lives. Experiencing a hurt or loss can enable us to be more compassionate and loving to others in similar circumstances.

And there is some suffering we can control. That is the suffering we inflict upon other people. It might become a good habit to reflect upon each day to see if we have caused anyone to suffer or, if we have suffered, to unite our suffering with Christ's and ask Him to help us to allow our pain to make us more sensitive and loving persons.

As Jesus lived the Paschal Mystery, we, His followers, are called to do the same.



It's Not Too Early to Start Thinking about Lent

LENT BEGINS FEBRUARY 17TH...

Who looks forward to Lent? Maybe the saints among us do, but I feel pretty comfortable in saying that most of us don't look forward to Lent. Fasting and penance are usually reluctant undertakings for me. As I've gotten older, I've noticed I appreciate Lent more. I've started to see it as an opportunity for spiritual growth. And, the seasons where I grow the most, I have a good plan in place before Lent starts. Don't wait until the day before Ash Wednesday (FEB. 17TH) to think about what spiritual practices to undertake for Lent. In general, we should consider adding something to our spiritual lives, adding fasting of some sort, and reading scripture. I'm by no means proficient in Lent-ing, but I do have some tips that would hopefully help.

KEEP THE END GOAL IN MIND

What does it mean to have a successful Lent? It's not a question that we always start with, yet it's a question for which we always have an implicit answer. Is the goal to simply give up something, and make sure to go to Ash Wednesday Mass? We have to remember that Lent and Easter are two sides of the same coin. The Church gives us Lent because Easter is so important on the macro and micro levels. The resurrection of Jesus changed the course of the entire world! Included in that is the opening up of salvation to every single person. Jesus didn't suffer, die, and rise from the dead for a vague collection of people; He did that for you and me—for everyone. So, the goal of any Lenten exercise should be preparing to celebrate that monumental event. If we lack that perspective—and the penances or spiritual practices turn into ends unto themselves—we make ourselves more susceptible to looking at Lent as forty days of drudgery.

Besides having an end goal in mind, another key principle is to set manageable expectations. This has tripped up many Lenten seasons for me. I had a picture in my head of how holy I should be, and I often measured myself against that perfect, imaginary person. Year after year, I failed to measure up to Perfect Me. Perfect Me fasted like a desert hermit and was happy and joyful throughout; on some days, Real Me couldn't muster the strength to stay away from sweets for more than a couple hours. Perfect Me balanced family, worked full time, all the while having the prayer life of a contemplative. Real Me missed out on prayer completely on some days, and on other days was only good at getting distracted. I frequently felt like a disappointment that I could never become Perfect Me.

This year, don't fall into the 'perfect me' trap. We should have goals and ideals, and Lent is a time to challenge ourselves. Yet do not compare yourself to a false image of yourself who has no flaws, no weaknesses, does not live in a fallen world, and maintains a perfectly ordered life. Rather, focus on Jesus; focus on the goal of becoming a holier person; focus on the type of person you'd like to be. It may feel like only a subtle shift, but it's an important one.

MAKE A PLAN

With those starting principles in mind, it's not too early to plan out what to do for Lent. I recommend that your Lent includes all of the following elements: adding to your prayer life, fasting from something, reading a spiritual book, and increasing your reading of Sacred Scripture. Take some time in prayer to ask the Holy Spirit for advice on these things. Is there a particular vice or weakness to target, or an aspect of the faith that needs development? Also seek the input of someone close to you that takes their faith seriously. For the past two years, I've asked my wife to recommend a book for me to read for Lent. Each time, it's been one that I wouldn't have picked otherwise; each time, it was just what I needed.

Adding to Prayer Life

There are so many devotional practices in the Catholic treasury and any one of them would be a good addition. The Chaplet of Divine Mercy, the rosary, and novenas are good starting points. And these are worth continuing past Lent! Things particular to Lent can also be added: praying with the stations of the cross or the seven sorrows of Mary.

Spending more time with our Eucharistic Lord is another thought. Try getting to daily Mass once or more a week. Or, find a local parish that has an adoration chapel and start a weekly holy hour. These two things have often felt unattainable to me. However, once I tried committing to a weekly holy hour, I found I looked forward to it. It was the same with going to Mass a day or two during the week; it never felt convenient, and sometimes felt like an interruption to my work day. Yet every time, my day was always better because of it.

Fasting From More Than Just Chocolate

The token fast for Lent is to give up chocolate. Thinking of appetites in terms of food is most common, but there are many other things we have an appetite for: attention, watching TV, buying non-essentials, spending time on social media, and so on. The goal of fasting is to tune out the world and make more room for God. It may sound like a silly question, but can't God and our appetites for the world coexist in us without competition?

In short, no. For centuries, the saints have told us that true happiness and fulfillment are found in God, both in this life and the next. And, the world should be seen for what it is: temporary, fickle, and not ultimately fulfilling. It took me years to be convinced of this. I could always agree on a conceptual level, but if you looked at my life, my actions didn't correspond. After a hard day, I'd turn to watching TV and eating; easily burning 2-3 hours on a show/movie. When it came time to pray or read the Scriptures, I'd struggle to devote even ten minutes to Our Lord.

Jesus promised rest to all those that walk with Him (Matt 11:28), urged us to trust in God for the large and the small things (Matt 6:25-34). It's a fair question to ask: what do you turn to when you have a hard day? Food? Social media? A good TV series? If we turn to anything other than God, then fasting is the antidote.

Here are some ideas for all types of fasting:

- Refrain from watching secular TV; that is, watch religious programming or nothing
- Listen to only Christian music/Catholic radio/Catholic podcasts
- One or two days a week, skip breakfast, lunch, and then eat a full dinner
- Don't eat after 7:00 p.m.
- Take a break from social media
- Limit time spent on a tablet/smart phone, or give up a particular game/app

All fasting should point toward God. I'd recommend anything that helps disconnect from the secular culture: watching only religious programming, tuning out all secular music, giving up social media, and limiting screen time. My wife and I watched only religious programming one year, and it was one of the best things we did. I thought I'd die of boredom, but the programming I thought I'd miss I soon forgot. Plus, we gained more time to talk, pray, and read.

When considering fasting from food in whatever way, please make sure that it fits with your health situation. Diabetics, pregnant/nursing mothers, and anyone with a health condition should pick some other way to fast than from essential nourishment.

Reading a book

The goal with reading a book for Lent is to grow intellectually and grow in the faith. I wouldn't necessarily recommend picking up a Lenten-themed book; I think it's more helpful to read a book to supplement your life of faith. To grow in one virtue or another, find a saint who exemplified that virtue and read their biography. There are tons of good books on the person of Jesus, if your relationship with Our Lord needs to reach a more personal level. Other subjects could be the Blessed Virgin Mary, learning more about the Mass, or books on the spiritual life in general.

Read more Scripture

To make any progress in the spiritual life, one of the key components is daily reading of the Scriptures. In years past, the thought of this really intimidated me. I felt like there was so much to know about the Bible, that I didn't know where to start. Didn't I have to memorize every apologetic issue? Be able to cite a multitude of verses? And have a favorite verse? A favorite gospel? I fell into that Perfect Me vs. Real Me trap again, and for many years it kept me from making a real effort to read the Scriptures.

If you're in a similar situation, I recommend starting with the Gospel of Matthew. It can help to have a good commentary nearby (the Ignatius Study Bible is a great one), but be sure to read the scriptures first and the commentary second. Or, if you're more familiar with the gospels, try moving on to one of the epistles of the New Testament. Using Formed and orthodox Catholic talks on YouTube—there are tons of them—as additional learning tools really helps it stick.

This year, think of Lent as the spring training for Easter. Take advantage of this holy season!

About the author

John Kubasak holds an undergraduate degree in history from Sacramento State and a masters in theology from Mt. Angel Seminary. He enjoys playing with his kids, sports, reading, and writing. He lives in the beautiful Willamette Valley in Oregon with his wife and children.



St. Scholastica

Feast Day - February 10

St. Scholastica, sister of St. Benedict, consecrated her life to God from her earliest youth. After her brother went to Monte Cassino, where he established his famous monastery, she took up her abode in the neighborhood at Plombariola, where she founded and governed a monastery of nuns, about five miles from that of St. Benedict, who, it appears, also directed his sister and her nuns. She visited her brother once a year, and as she was not allowed to enter his monastery, he went in company with some of his brethren to meet her at a house some distance away. These visits were spent in conferring together on spiritual matters. On one occasion they had passed the time as usual in prayer and pious conversation and in the evening they sat down to take their reflection. St. Scholastica begged her brother to remain until the next day. St. Benedict refused to spend the night outside his monastery. She had recourse to prayer and a furious thunderstorm burst so that neither St. Benedict nor any of his companions could return home. They spent the night in spiritual conferences. The next morning they parted to meet no more on earth. Three days later St. Scholastica died, and her holy brother beheld her soul in a vision as it ascended into heaven. He sent his brethren to bring her body to his monastery and laid it in the tomb he had prepared for himself. She died about the year 543, and St. Benedict followed her soon after.



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.

A Prayer in Time of Calamity

Mercy of God, encompass us, and deliver us from every plague.

Glory Be To The Father...

Eternal Father, sign us with the Blood of the Immaculate Lamb, as Thou didst sign the dwellings of Thy people.

Glory Be To The Father...

Most precious Blood of Jesus, our love, cry for mercy for us from Thy Divine Father, and deliver us.

Glory Be To The Father...

Wounds of my Jesus, mouths of love and mercy, speak for us in pity to the Eternal Father; hide us within yourselves, and deliver us.

Glory Be To The Father...

Eternal Father, Jesus is ours; ours His Blood, ours His infinite merits; to Thee we offer ourselves wholly; then, if Thou lovest Him, and holdest precious this gift we make Thee, Thou surely wilt deliver us; and for this we hope with fullest confidence.

Glory Be To The Father...

Eternal Father, Thou desirest not the death of a sinner, but rather that he should be converted and live; in Thy mercy grant that we may live before Thee, and be forever Thine.

Glory Be To The Father...

Save us, Christ our Saviour, by the virtue of Thy holy Cross:

Thou Who didst save Peter in the sea, have mercy upon us.

Mary, Mother of mercy, pray for us, and we shall be delivered; Mary, our advocate, speak for us, and we shall be saved.

The Lord justly scourgeth us for our sins; but do thou, Mary, plead for us, for thou art our most tender Mother.

Mary, in Thy Jesus and in thee have we put our hope: Oh! let us never be confounded. Amen.



We joyfully welcome into our St. Peter's family ~

Theodore James

child of Kyle and Stephanie (Asta) Steiger

Arya Isabella

child of James Johnson and Natalia Rebala

who were baptized during the month of January 2021

The official prayer of the Year of St. Joseph—To you, O blessed Joseph (Ad te, beate Ioseph)—was composed by Pope Leo XIII in his 1889 encyclical, Quamquam Pluries. The Holy Father asked that it be added to the end of the Rosary especially during October, the month of the Holy Rosary. This prayer is enriched with a partial indulgence (Source: USCCB).

THE YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH PRAYER

To you, O blessed Joseph

To you, O blessed Joseph, do we come in our afflictions, and having implored the help of your most holy Spouse, we confidently invoke your patronage also.

Through that charity which bound you to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God and through the paternal love with which you embraced the Child Jesus, we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance which Jesus Christ has purchased by his Blood, and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities.

O most watchful guardian of the Holy Family, defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ; O most loving father, ward off from us every contagion of error and corrupting influence; O our most mighty protector, be kind to us and from heaven assist us in our struggle with the power of darkness.

As once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril, so now protect God's Holy Church from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity; shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection, so that, supported by your example and your aid, we may be able to live piously, to die in holiness, and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven. Amen.

"I do not remember even now that I have ever asked anything of [St. Joseph] which he has failed to grant. . . . To other saints the Lord seems to have given grace to succour us in some of our necessities, but of this glorious saint my experience is that he succours us in them all. . . ."

(Autobiography of St. Teresa of Avila)

*[The LORD] tells the number of the stars
and calls them by name.*

— Psalm 147:4

Please Pray for the Sick of our Parish Family

Brian Beers	JoLynn Lash
Sue Bobka	Lilly Lima
Mike Carey	Gene Mikulecky
Eunice Cleveland	Christopher Mizera
Robert Cleveland	Harriett Pinkowski
Regina Conti	Bonnie Pollock
Colin Cummins	Margaret Dell Preto
Mary Cummins	Nikki Recchia
Michael Cummins	Brendan Reidy
Paul Cummins	Jerry Riordan
Scott Erickson	Ann Marie Rossi
Mel Gerard	John Rossi
Mike Graziano	Angela Scanlon
Gary Grote	Wayne Slowiak
Ken Hemstreet	Maria Terracciano
Mary Hosters	Linda Wuerffel
Rickie Kruzel	Deacon Bob Ziomek

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.



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

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

***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
 Kevin Noesen, US Coastguard
 SGT Marcin Platek, US Marines
 2LT Megan Putze, Army National Guard
 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

mailing address: 551 N. Rush Street, Itasca, Illinois 60143

phone: 630/773-1272

Web site: stpeteritasca.com

Reverend Robert Noesen, Pastor
phone ext. 208

Diane Blackburn & Patti Zubak, Parish Secretaries
phone ext. 200 e-mail: office@stpeteritasca.com

Rev. Deacon Ron Searls, Operations Manager
phone ext. 204 e-mail: business@stpeteritasca.com

Rev. Deacon Robert Ziomek, Deacon
phone ext. 202 e-mail: deacon@stpeteritasca.com

Rev. Deacon Frederick Maier, Director of Liturgy
phone ext. 201 e-mail: liturgy@stpeteritasca.com

Toni Pietrowski, Director of Religious Education
phone ext. 216 e-mail: religioused@stpeteritasca.com

Kathy Frank, DRE Assistant
phone ext. 215 e-mail: religioused@stpeteritasca.com

Knights of Columbus
phone ext. 205 e-mail: knights@stpeteritasca.com

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)

**NEW PARISHIONERS**

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

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.

CONFESSIONS

Weekly on Wednesday at 8:30 am (*following Mass*)

Weekly on Saturday - 4:15-4:45 pm

First Saturdays at 8:30 am (*following Mass*)

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.

HOSPITALIZATION NOTIFICATIONS AND SICK/HOMEBOUND ARRANGEMENTS

Due to hospital admitting policies, it is necessary to inform the Parish Center when hospitalized parishioners would like a visit from Fr. Noesen or a deacon. Likewise, please call if you would like a visit while convalescing at home or at a facility.

Additionally, before being admitted to a hospital for surgery, it is advisable to call Fr. Noesen to arrange to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

Please contact the Parish Center at 630-773-1272 (ext. 200) to arrange for communion visits to the homebound.

FUNERALS

It is the responsibility of the parish to bury their dead.

The funeral director will contact the Parish Center regarding arrangements. Funerals are ordinarily celebrated at 10:00 am.

For more information, please read guidelines for Funeral Planning on the parish website.



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
- toilet tissue
- 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:



Join us 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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