

Saint Peter Apostle

CATHOLIC CHURCH

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



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We, the people of St. Peter the Apostle, a Roman Catholic Parish in the Diocese of Joliet, a faith-filled people, united in the Holy Spirit and nourished by the Eucharist, strive to be the Body of Christ. We manifest our unity through the celebration of the Sacraments. We pledge to use our gifts and resources to live the Faith, preach the Word, and Service others as we welcome all into our faith community.

January 7, 2024

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm

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

Monday-Friday: 8:00 am

CONFESIONS

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*)

PARISH CENTER BUSINESS HOURS

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

Friday-Sunday: CLOSED (or by appointment)

NEW PARISHIONERS

Please stop by or call the Parish Center (ext. 200) to register or visit the parish website.

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, FUNERALS

For details regarding planning a baptism, wedding, or funeral, please call the Parish Center (ext. 200) or visit the parish website.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are available at each Mass to distribute Communion to those who have difficulty walking to the front. If you would like to have the Communion brought to you, 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 to identify yourself to be given Holy Communion.

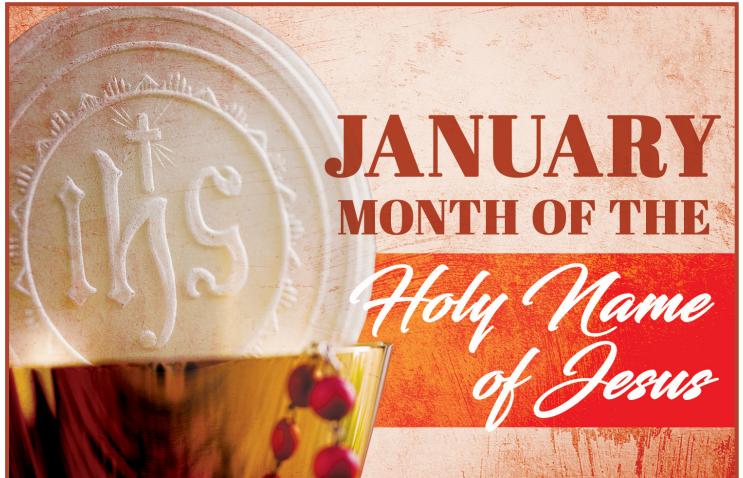
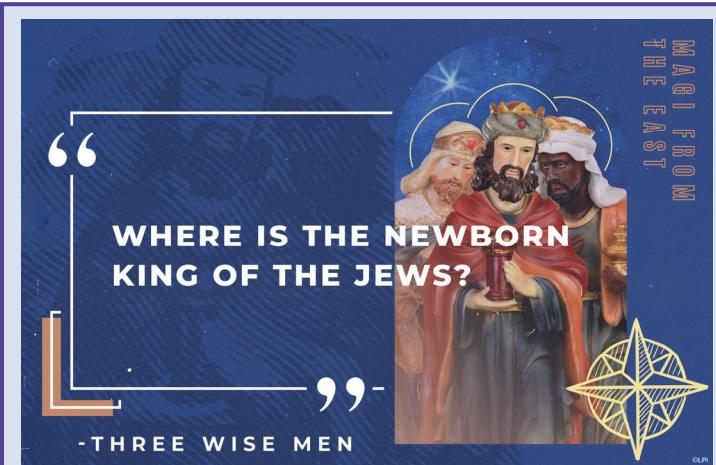


When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." - Mt 2:1-2



NATIONAL
Eucharistic
Revival
2022-
2025





RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Wise Men See God in the Simple Things

If you're on social media, you have probably seen a meme going around that features this quote: "God has a plan for your life. The enemy has a plan for your life. Be ready for both. Just be wise enough to know which one to battle and which one to embrace."

There were certainly two competing plans for the Magi: God's and Herod's. And, wise as they supposedly were, it wasn't entirely easy for the Magi to discern which was which.

After all, Herod posed as a friend. He offered the Magi hospitality and kindness. Though the Gospel doesn't say so, he probably flattered them and appealed to every moral weakness he could observe in them. In his palace, they must have felt great physical comfort — rest and tables of plenty on what was an otherwise long and treacherous journey.

But if the Magi were honest with themselves, I'll bet they would have admitted that, regardless of Herod's charm, they felt a gnawing sense of doubt while in his presence. When they looked upon the Christ Child, born in a stable without any of the comforts of the world or protections of wealth, they probably felt the opposite. They probably felt safe.

The Magi were lucky enough to have the right plan spelled out for them in a dream, but for the rest of us, it's enough to remember this: God's plan is often the one that leads us to places of great simplicity, great humility and great love. Let's have the wisdom to view power with suspicion, and innocence with admiration.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



Epiphany and Giving...

The Epiphany celebrates the coming of the Magi, who were non-Jews, to worship the child Jesus. It is thus a missionary feast because Jesus is not only the Jewish Messiah but also the Savior of the whole human race.

The Epiphany is a stewardship celebration, as well, for the Magi did not come empty-handed. They brought gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh to offer him. Gold represents the Treasure that we present to our spiritual King for the spread of the Kingdom of God. Frankincense symbolizes our Time that we devote to prayer and the worship of God. And myrrh conveys our willingness to offer our Talent to serve others.

The Epiphany challenges us to be good Christian stewards and to bring our time, talent, and treasure to worship Jesus, just as the Magi did, and to invite others to join us in worship.

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

©LPI

January 9



All are welcome to stop by the Margaret Wood's Parish Hall weekly following all Sunday morning masses. Grab a doughnut or bagel, a beverage and some fellowship!

Tuesday Rosary Ministry

The Tuesday Rosary Ministry meets weekly at 7:15pm.

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

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



FATHER JOHN PROJECT

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

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



NEXT WEEKEND—
Sunday, Jan. 14
9:30 am

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.

Please meet in Margaret Woods Hall for refreshments before heading to the **Parish Center Conference Room**.

For more information, please contact Deacon Fred at 630-773-1272 (ext. 201)



New Life for Old Bags Crochet for a Cause!

A MINISTRY OF FELLOWSHIP
DEDICATED TO MAKING MATS FOR THE HOMELESS

Tuesday, January 16 | 10:00 am
(Margaret Woods Hall)

**NOTE: Inventory of plastic bags is currently well-stocked.
Please DO NOT drop off bags at the Parish Center until further notice. Thank you!**



SAVE THE DATE

Make Plans to Attend

Cupid's Ball

Knights of Columbus Council 10884
invites you to an evening of
dinner, dancing, raffles and more!!!

Saturday, February 10, 2024

Belvedere Events and Banquets • Elk Grove Village, Illinois

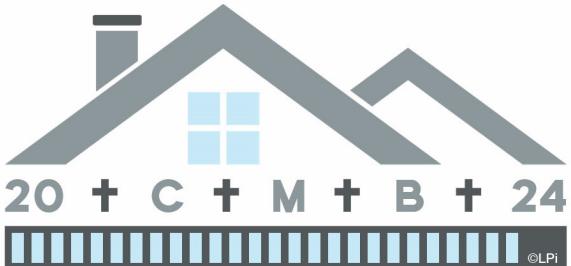
CASH RAFFLE GRAND PRIZE

1st Prize.....	\$ 1,500.00
2nd Prize	\$ 500.00
5 Prizes	\$ 100.00 each

Please contact Chairperson, Nick Alfano (630-595-9318), or Tom Kyger (630-773-9392) with any questions.
You can also send an e-mail to [knights@stpeteritasca.com](mailto:knight@stpeteritasca.com) or visit us on Facebook at "St Peter the Apostle Knights of Columbus - Itasca"

Scan the QR Code for reservation, donation and advertising information





HOME BLESSING ON EPIPHANY

It has been a tradition in the Catholic Church to hand out blessed chalk at the Masses for Epiphany, and then use the blessed chalk as part of blessing one's home in the New Year.

Use the blessed chalk to write

"20+C+M+B+24"
above the doorways

C, M, B for the 3 Magi – Casper, Melchior, and Balthasar – and for *Christus Mansionem Benedicat* – (Latin for "May Christ Bless this House")

+

2024 for the year

As you are writing, pray the following prayer:

God of Light, bless our home.

Make it a haven of rest for all in need of your warmth and care.

When we leave from this place,

may we never lose sight of Christ's light.

We mark our door with the symbol of blessing.

May all who enter find love and light,

for Christ dwells in this home and in our hearts.

Amen.

Pray the Our Father.



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

Valentina Joanna
child of Vincent Crocilla and Joanna Probola

Charlotte Marie
child of Michael and Katlyn (McGinnis) Lukaszczky

Parker Jean
child of Cory and Nicole (Gange) Grathwol

who was baptized during the month of December 2023

Vianney Visit



FOR YOUNG MEN
AGES 16-22

FEBRUARY 15-17, 2024
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA



**Spend a winter weekend
developing your prayer life and
trust in God's plan for you**

WHY VISIT THE SEMINARY?

- Meet current seminarians
- Learn more about the life of a seminarian
- Time for prayer and discernment
- Attend classes and hear inspiring talks
- Discern God's will for you
- Meet other young men from Joliet discerning God's will in their lives

WHAT SHOULD I BRING?

- Sleeping bag and pillow
- Personal toiletries
- Dress clothes for Mass
- Gym clothes for open gym
- Bible, rosary, spiritual reading
- Personal spending money

SEMINARY VISIT SCHEDULE

Thursday, February 15

- 8:15 a.m. Pick up at Chesterton Academy in Lisle (5205 Kingston Avenue)
- 4 p.m. Arrive at SJV Seminary
- Welcome, Mass, Introductory Talks

Friday, February 16

- Holy Hour and Mass
- University Tour
- Talks/Meals/Time With Seminarians
- Attend Classes

Saturday, February 17

- 9 a.m. Leave SJV for Joliet
- 4 p.m. Arrive at Chesterton Academy in Lisle

Questions?

Debbie Camp
(815) 221-6171
vocations@dioceseofjoliet.org

DIOCESE OF JOLET
Office of Vocations





*Commemorating
75 Years of
Catechesis,
Evangelization
and Service*



DIOCESE OF JOLIET
diojoliet.org/75th

75th Anniversary Prayer

All-knowing and loving God,
we give you thanks for your blessings upon
the Diocese of Joliet.

For 75 years, we have been
founded in faith,
called to witness, and
sent forth to serve.

In thanksgiving
for your abiding presence among us,
and with gratitude for the life and service
of those who have gone before us,
we recommit ourselves
to carrying out this mission entrusted
to them, to us, and to future generations.

Relying on the intercession of our patron,
St. Francis Xavier,
may our diocese continue to be a source of hope
for the Church and all peoples,
now and in the years to come.

We pray this in the name
of Jesus, your Son
by the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen

REFLECTION - GOSPEL READING

Matthew 2:1-12

The Magi seek out Jesus and do him homage.

Background on the Gospel Reading

The visit of the Magi occurs directly before the story of the Holy Family's flight into Egypt. Matthew's Gospel tells a version of Jesus' birth that is different than the one in Luke. Of the actual birth of Jesus, Matthew tells us little more than, "When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod . . ." The story of the census is found only in Luke's Gospel, but we hear about the visit of the Magi only in Matthew's Gospel.

We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts. The Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel, they represent the Gentiles' search for a savior. Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus.

We have come to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation. We believe the meaning of the gifts to be Christological. Gold is presented as representative of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus' death.

The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana.

Loyola Press





GIVE SERVE LIVE

Stewardship of Treasure

St. Peter the Apostle

Weekly Goal \$ 10,971.00 **Annual Goal** \$ 570,500.00

Fiscal Week 27 - 12/31/2023:

Sunday Collection	\$ 9,886.46	Year to Date	\$ 253,877.15
E-basket	\$ 2,385.00	Year to Date	\$ 25,520.00
GiveCentral	\$ 1,300.56	Year to Date	\$ 13,999.31
Christmas	\$ 1,355.00	Year to Date	\$ 27,684.00
Debt Reduction	\$ 651.00		
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 1,795.00		

Fiscal Week 26 - 12/24/2023:

Sunday Collection	\$ 11,922.00	Year to Date	\$ 265,799.15
E-basket	\$ 590.00	Year to Date	\$ 26,110.00
GiveCentral	\$ 1,262.39	Year to Date	\$ 15,261.70
Christmas	\$ 25,729.00		

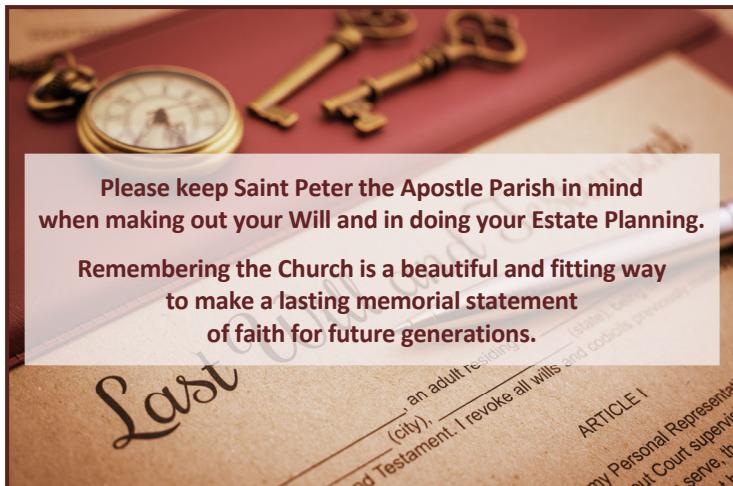
If you have any questions concerning the collection numbers, please feel free to contact the Business Office by email at business@stpeteritasca.com or by phone at 630-773-1272 (ext. 204).

DONATE NOW
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 using the QR code provided or visiting the website directly at givecentral.org/location/1251

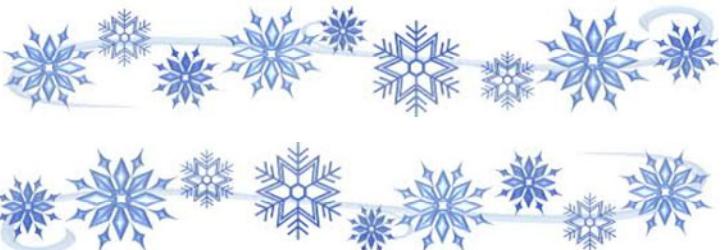


Please keep Saint Peter the Apostle Parish in mind when making out your Will and in doing your Estate Planning.

Remembering the Church is a beautiful and fitting way to make a lasting memorial statement of faith for future generations.

This Week at St. Peter's...

Sunday	January 7
After Masses	Faith & Fellowship (<i>after masses</i>) (MW Parish Hall)
Monday	January 8
7:00 pm	Knights of Columbus Officer's Meeting (MW Parish Hall)
Tuesday	January 9
7:00 pm	OCIA Class (PC Conference Room)
7:15 pm	Tuesday Evening Rosary (Church)
Wednesday	January 10
8:30 am	Confessions (Church)
5:00 pm	Religious Education Classes (School/Church)
6:15 pm	Adult Hand Bell Choir (Church/Choir Loft)
7:15 pm	Adult Choir Practice (Church/Choir Loft)
Thursday	January 11
8:30 am	Father John Project (Church)
7:00 pm	Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration (AFCM Center)
Saturday	January 13
5:00 pm	Religious Education Classes (School/Church)
4:15 pm	Confessions (Church)
Sunday	January 14
After Masses	Faith & Fellowship (<i>after masses</i>) (MW Parish Hall)
9:30 am	Grief Support Group (PC Conference Room)



SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 13 | Sunday, January 14

Celebrants

5:00 pm Fr. Larry Brunette

8:30 am Fr. Larry Brunette

10:00 am Fr. David Mowry

11:30 am Fr. Larry Brunette

Lectors

5:00 pm John Los

8:30 am Chris Aument

10:00 am Kathy Laken

11:30 am Paul Gennuso

Communion Ministers

5:00 pm Beth McKenna

Kay North

Rose Ann Roll

8:30 am Phyllis Cimaglia

Greg Papuga

Deacon Fred

10:00 am Mary Booth

Allyson Fricano

Deacon Anthony

11:30 am Edgar Garcia

Mary McNamara

Deacon Fred

Mass Intentions For The Week


Sunday January 7 (The Epiphany of the Lord)

8:30 am †Maria Arboleda
10:00 am †Patricia DeBella
11:30 am †Deceased Members of the Cali Family
†Giuseppina Fricano
†Chuck Fuscone

Monday January 8 (The Baptism of the Lord)

8:00 am †Edward Filipek

Tuesday January 9 (Weekday - First Week in Ordinary Time begins)

8:00 am Special intentions of the Franz Family

Wednesday January 10 (Weekday)

8:00 am Communion Service

Thursday January 11 (Weekday)

8:00 am Special Intentions of Tabeetha George on her Birthday

Friday January 12 (Weekday)

8:00 am †Michael Pensa

Saturday January 14 (Vigil: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time)

5:00 pm †Linda Bilton
†Thomas Gnadt
†Donna Grimaldi

Sunday January 7 (Second Sunday in Ordinary Time)

8:30 am People of the Parish
10:00 am †Jeanie Grieco
11:30 am †Maria Rocco



Readings for the Week

- Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
- Monday: Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 (3)/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11
- Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28
- Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/
Mk 1:29-39
- Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45
- Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12
- Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/
Mk 2:13-17
- Next Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4 7-8, 8-9, 10 (8a, 9a)/
1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42

Please Pray for the Sick of our Parish Family

Anthony Arboleda	Mel Gerard	John North
Sue Bobka	Gary Grote	John O'Dea
Rosaleen Bradley	Joe Halac	Abraham Ortega
Ken Buffo	Martha Hayes	June Pautsch
Ginger Busato	Cambria Helle	Cliff Peters
Joe Busato	Ken Hemstreet	Brendan Reidy
Rocco Busato	Michael Jasiak	Cindy Serrano
Elio Campanella	Mary Kelly	Wayne Slowiak
Bill Carpenter	Sylvia Kleinedler	Belinda Sobucki
Danny Clements	Rickie Kruzel	Dan Sobucki
Regina Conti	Judah Kuhlman	Randy Szweda, USMC
Mary Cummins	Brianna Nehf Lund	Dennis Torii
Mike Cummins	Sue McNamara	Marlene Torii
Paul Cummins	Maria Mizera	Fr. Miroslaw Stepien
Charlie DeFranco	Richard Mrugacz	Holly Vana
Beth Dobose	James Nehf	Carol Zell
Geri Gerard	Loretta Nicolini	

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 January prayers for the Church
and for the world:**


For The Gift Of Diversity In The Church.

Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

**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

Cpl James J. Cullotta, US Marines

SGT Michael D'Andrea, US Army

MAJ Joseph DeHaven, US Army

PFC Collin Ensing, US Marines

SGT Michael Helle, US Army

Cpl Brandon Helm, US Marines

PVT Aleksandra Juzwiak, Army National Guard

CMC Mike Kaszubowski, US Navy

ENS Sean Kaszubowski, US Navy

SGT Jacob Los, US Army

MAJ Ryan L. Morrissey, US Army

1stLt John Kenneth Murphy, US Marines

Kevin Noesen, US Coastguard

MAJ Gary Owen, Army National Guard

GySgt Marcin Platek, US Marines

2LT Megan Putze, Army National Guard

SGT MacLean Read, Army National Guard

SGT Michael Schatzman, US Army

LTJG Albert J. Schrautemyer III, US Navy Pilot (Persian Gulf)

SSGT Jeremy Schumacher, US Marines

LT Robert P. Woods, US Navy

Thomas Zablocki, US Marines

CONTACT INFORMATION

630-773-1272

stpeteritasca.com

Pastor	Reverend Tuan Nguyen	Parish Secretary	Patti Zubak
e-mail: pastor@stpeteritasca.com	phone ext. 208	e-mail: office@stpeteritasca.com	phone ext. 200
Deacon/Director of Liturgy	Deacon Frederick Maier	Bulletin/Communications Coordinator	Diane Blackburn
e-mail: deaconfredd@stpeteritasca.com	phone ext. 201	e-mail: bulletin@stpeteritasca.com	phone ext. 200
Assisting Priest	Reverend Larry Brunette	Director of Religious Education (DRE)	Toni Pietrowski
Deacon	Deacon Anthony George	e-mail: religioused@stpeteritasca.com	phone ext. 216
e-mail: deaconanthony@stpeteritasca.com		DRE Assistant	Kathy Frank
Deacon	Deacon Robert Ziomek	e-mail: religioused@stpeteritasca.com	phone ext. 215
e-mail: deaconbob@stpeteritasca.com		Director of Music Ministry	Roberta Moroz
Business Manager	Missy Rubino	e-mail: music@stpeteritasca.com	
e-mail: business@stpeteritasca.com	phone ext. 204		

Bulletin submissions should be e-mailed to bulletin@stpeteritasca.com, and are due **no later than 8 days preceding** requested publication date. Run time is at the discretion of the bulletin editor; priority will be given to items that are date sensitive.

Pulpit announcement requests should be submitted 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 bulletin@stpeteritasca.com.

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

<p>When it comes to serving YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS... YOU are our top priority!</p>  <p>Your Home Group at Baird & Warner For more real estate information contact: Sabrina Conti Erzegay Phone: 630-946-9329 e-mail: sabrina@yourhomegroupchi.com Anthony Erzegay Phone: 309-369-1616 e-mail: anthony@yourhomegroupchi.com Diane Mizerza-Blackburn Phone: 630-638-1999 e-mail: diane@yourhomegroupchi.com</p> <p>Buying? Selling? Renting? Investing? Relocating? OUR TEAM CAN HELP! Family Parishioners – 25+ Years Itasca Residents Serving YOUR real estate needs from city to suburbs!</p>	<p>HELEN'S DELI Polish & European fresh meat deli • pierogi • breads • grocery • liquor Open 7 Days 272 W. Irving Park Road Wood Dale, Illinois 630-766-2211</p>	<p>Di Venere Law LLC Estate Planning (wills, trusts, powers of attorney) Trust Administration Probate Real Estate 105 E. Irving Park Road Itasca, Illinois 60143 630-634-2450 delia@divenerelaw.com</p>	
 <p>KOLLIAS EXTRA VIRGIN OLIVE OIL Filiatra, Messinias, Greece</p>  <p>kolliasoliveoil.com</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > From the Kollias family farm in Filiatra, Greece. > Made from early-harvest green olives for full flavor. > Harvested and cold pressed same day for maximum freshness. > 100% pure single source extra virgin olive oil. 	<p>BENTLEY'S Pancake House & Restaurant 477 Georgetown Square Wood Dale, Illinois 630-595-5556</p>	<p>Join us on  facebook.com/SaintPeterApostle.Itasca</p>
 <p>Knights of Columbus Council 10884 - Itasca</p>  <p>www.stpeteritasca.com/knights-of-columbus</p>	<p>Regular Meetings are held at 7:00 pm on the first and third Monday of the month in Margaret Woods Hall. For more information, contact Grand Knight Nick Alfano at knights@stpeteritasca.com</p>	<p>Dina Florina Real Estate Broker Lifelong Parishioner 630.280.9183 dina@dealwithdina.com dealwithdina.com StarckRE.com A member of the franchise system of BHHS Affiliates, LLC</p> <p>Contact me for your Professional Equity Assessment Report today.</p>	 <p>Use the QR code to subscribe to the St. Peter the Apostle Parish email list to receive emails with weekly bulletins, updates and reminders.</p>
 <p>THE OAKS FUNERAL HOME 1201 Irving Park Road Itasca, Illinois 60143 630-250-8588 www.oaksfh.com</p>	 <p>Northwest Speech and Hearing Center Ltd. “We make you feel heard” www.nwhearing.com</p>	<p>Dr. Marie & Martin Tolson Doctor of Audiology, Owners, and Parishioners Parishoner Discount Available!</p> <p>880 W Central Rd., Ste 4300 Arlington Heights, IL 60005</p>	<p>847-392-2250 info@nwhearing.com</p>
<p><i>Family owned and operated for over 35 years</i> Colleen Gibbons, Owner - Parishioner</p>			