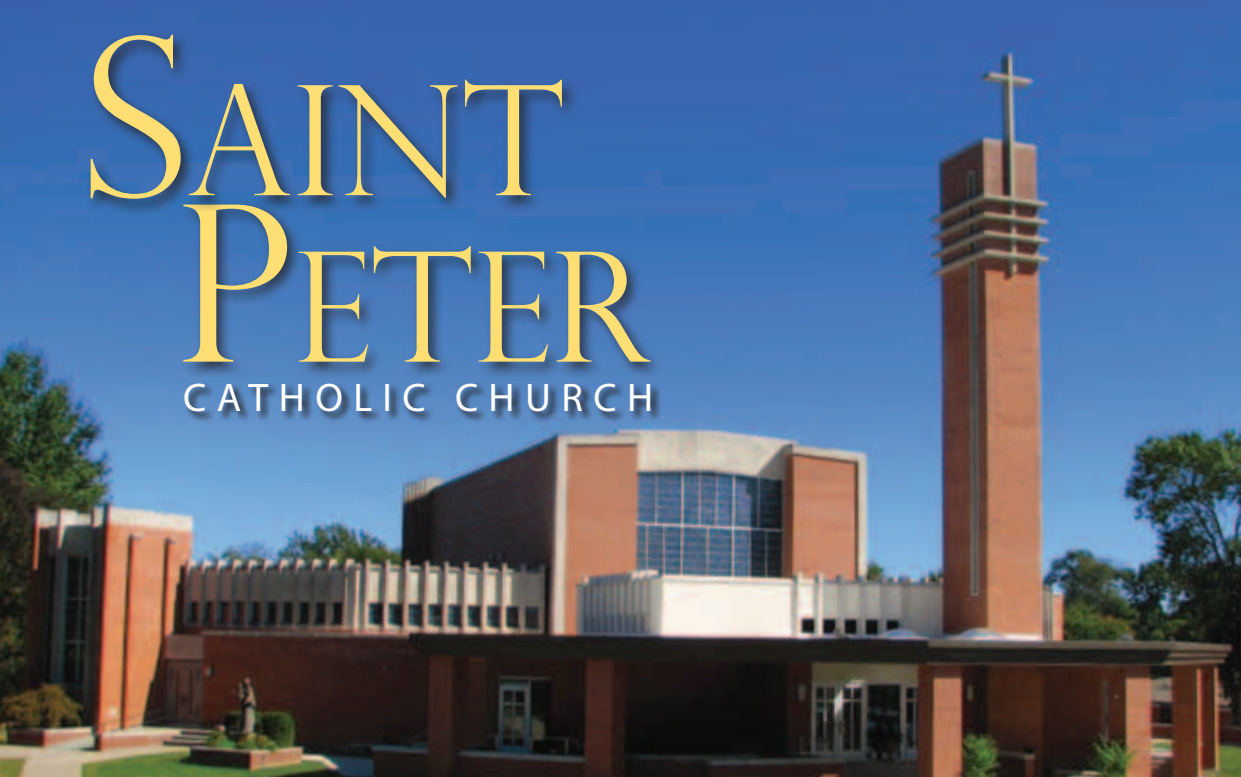


# SAINT PETER

## CATHOLIC CHURCH



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September/October 2011

*Conversation with Our Pastor:*

## Putting God First

**A**s Msgr. Leo J. Enlow looks to his first Stewardship Commitment Sunday as pastor of St. Peter Parish, he shares a story that sounds like a modern-day parable:

*A young couple met, fell in love, and was married. Within a short time, they were blessed with five children.*

*But then the unthinkable happened: the husband/father died. He was only 36.*

*His widow had a choice to make. She could turn bitter and embrace the despair that smothers all hope, or she could rely on God.*

*Choosing the latter, she decided to trust God, to continue to tithe, and to put God first in her life and the lives of her children.*

“She is my aunt,” Fr. Leo says, “and God never let her down.”

He contrasts his aunt’s story to its opposite, the parable of the rich fool:

*There was a man who was blessed with a great harvest. The harvest was so large that his barn was too small to store it all.*



*While he might have used his abundance to honor God by sharing with others, he made a different decision.*

*He tore down the barn that was too small and built a bigger barn.*

*The night the bigger barn was completed, the rich fool died.*

Like the aunt and the rich fool, each St. Peter Parish Family has

a decision to make as we approach Stewardship Commitment Sunday the weekend of Nov. 19 and 20. As we consider how we will use our time, our talent, and our treasure this coming year, we can opt to put God first or to build a bigger barn.

### **The First Step to Faith**

The concept of stewardship goes back to ancient times. A steward was employed by a wealthy estate-owner to manage all that the master had. Although the steward didn’t own the gifts of the master, he nevertheless was responsible for using them to their best advantage and was rewarded accordingly.

“I would think that stewardship is fundamental to faith – our first step,” Fr. Leo says. “Its

*continued on page 4*

### *Town Hall Meeting*

Fr. Leo will host a Town Hall meeting on Sunday, Nov. 13 at 12:15 p.m. in St. Peter Church. Please join us for State-of-the-Parish information.



## Embracing Change



With the beginning of the new Church year at Sunday Masses on Nov. 26 and 27, U.S. Catholic churches will implement wording changes to many of the prayers in the Mass. These changes are the result of a more accurate and theologically-correct translation of the Roman Missal, from Latin to English. The Roman Missal includes prayers spoken by the priest and the people during Mass.

St. Peter Church will sponsor two sessions of a one-hour workshop, “A New Translation: A New Look,” about the changes. The first session will take place on Sunday, Nov. 6, at 2 p.m. in the church. The workshop will be repeated on Monday, Nov. 14, at 7 p.m. in church. Presenters will be Beth Young, who studied the new Roman Missal at a week-long conference at the Chicago Theological Union this past summer, and Scott Fitzgerald, who, as director of music for St. Peter’s, is preparing our musicians.

Each session will delve into the history of the Roman Missal, specific changes, and how they will better reflect the theology of the Mass. Music breaks also will be included. Additionally, workshop participants will receive literature for further study.

“The workshops will equip us to embrace the changes rather than merely to react to them,” Scott Fitzgerald says. Quoting Thomas Keating, he adds, “Change – when it’s only change – is reactionary; change – when it’s transformational – is conversional.”

All parishioners are welcome, but those who serve in any liturgical capacity – especially as Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, and Musicians – are especially encouraged to attend.

Following are excerpts from questions and answers prepared by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops:

### Why does the Church change its Liturgy?

In its Liturgy, the Church always attempts to follow the “norm of the holy Fathers.” This effort “requires not only the preservation of what our immediate forebearers have handed on to use, but also an understanding and a more profound pondering of the Church’s entire past. ...this broader view allows us to see how the Holy Spirit endowed the People of God with a marvelous fidelity in preserving the unalterable deposit of faith, even though there is a very great variety of prayers and rites” (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, no. 9).

The Liturgy must, therefore, always celebrate and make present the Paschal Sacrifice of Christ – his saving Passion, death, Resurrection and Ascension. However, over time, it may become necessary to make certain changes, such as adding prayers for recently canonized saints and adding texts that reflect the needs that the People of God wish to bring to God in prayer. The third (new) edition of the Roman Missal makes such additions and provides a fresh translation of the Latin texts of the existing content of the *Missal*.

# Change in the Liturgy

## Who decides that the Liturgy should change?

Pope John Paul II approved the promulgation of the third edition of the *Missale Romanum*, the Latin text, on April 20, 2000. The final Latin edition of the revised text was published in March 2002. The Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments was responsible for preparing the text. The Congregation is the Vatican office that the pope has charged with overseeing all matters related to the Liturgy and the sacraments. Any changes in the words in the celebration of each of the sacraments (either in Latin or in vernacular translations) – must be approved by the Holy Father personally. In addition, Church law also gives to conferences of bishops (such as the USCCB) as well as individual bishops certain responsibilities with regard to the Liturgy.

## What exactly is changing?

Translation of the prayer texts will change to more closely reflect the original Latin texts. In some cases, new options for prayers may be available, and some old options may no longer be present.

## Will the changes be noticeable?

Yes. In the third edition of the *Roman Missal*, almost every prayer in the Mass – those spoken by the priest and those spoken by the people – have been retranslated from the Latin to English. Some prayers now recited by memory will need to be relearned, and the familiar language of many prayers recited by the priest will change.

(Cards with the new translation will be in all pews at St. Peter Church.)

In preparing the new translation, the translators were asked to make the English texts conform more closely to the Latin originals and to retain traditional theological vocabulary that communicates important concepts of the faith. The language you will hear and pray is more formal and somewhat more complex than the language of ordinary conversation. It conveys rich theological concepts and retains biblical language and images.

## How can I prepare for the change?

- Make a conscious effort to participate more fully in the Mass each Sunday and Holy Day.
- Attend the special workshop St. Peter Parish will offer.
- Visit the Roman Missal Web site ([www.usccb.org/romanmissal](http://www.usccb.org/romanmissal)) to study the new texts and to learn more about the changes.
- Read the new texts of the people's parts at Mass. Begin to study them so that you will be able to pray them well with the new Roman Missal is implemented.
- Pray for a renewal of love for the Liturgy in our Parish and Church.

Beth Young and Scott Fitzgerald will present two one-hour workshops, "A New Translation: A New Change," at St. Peter Church.

The first will take place on Sunday, Nov. 6, at 2 p.m. The workshop will be repeated at 7 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 14.

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## Putting God First *continued from cover*

Number One Principle is that we are not the owners of our time or any of our gifts. It starts with recognition of who has given us all that we have and all that we are.”

This truth should be a given in our lives, but too frequently it is not.

“So often we never acknowledge that all of our gifts are from God,” Fr. Leo says. “Instead, American society tends to hold up the ‘self-made person’ as the idea.”

Yet, recognition of our giftedness from God changes everything. It casts the right light on how we are called to live now and how we will be judged for eternity.

### **Appreciating Time**

Stewardship requires a correct understanding that time is a gift, not something to which we are entitled.

“So often, people have problems with faith when a loved one dies, especially if that person is very young,” Fr. Leo says. “The length of time doesn’t really matter, because to God, length of time is irrelevant.

“What matters is to appreciate the time we have and people in our lives, whether we have them for two years or 90,” Fr. Leo says.

### **Too Busy for God?**

Stressing that the whole purpose of time is to give honor and glory to God, Fr. Leo asks, “If we recognize that life is a gift, then what do we do with it?”

For too many people, the answer does not include God.

“Too often I meet Catholics who don’t have time for God,” Fr. Leo says. “I think this is common in a culture that is too comfortable in this earthly tent. We enjoy this tent so much and make it so comfortable that we lose sight of what’s really important.”

He cites parents who go out of their way to do everything for their children and give them everything – an effort that results in excessive busy-ness. “There’s often a reluctance to use our talents to serve God because we think we don’t have time,” he says.

Yet Fr. Leo knows that special blessings come from making time to respond to others.

“I can’t tell you how many times I’ve gotten a call when I’m working on a sermon that’s not quite straight,” Fr. Leo says. “When I take the time to respond, God provides the insights I need for the sermon. I’ve seen this happen again and again.”



Noting that people who are the busiest seem to share their talents the most, he says, “Stewardship challenges us to look at our talents and to ask how we can make the most of them.”

### **The Challenge of Treasure**

If sharing time and talent is difficult, sharing treasure is an even greater challenge for many people.

“Treasure is the gift we hoard the most because we think we’ve made it happen on our own,” Fr. Leo says. Not only do we take credit for what we’ve been able to amass because of God-given abilities, but we also fail to trust that God will provide in the future.

Fr. Leo challenges this thinking.

“Sometimes I’ve been played by transients,” Fr. Leo says, “but a blessing has always come back.”

Beyond regularly giving to God from the first fruits rather than the leftovers, stewardship embraces an attitude of gratitude and thanksgiving.

“I recall a parishioner in Effingham who donated an extra \$20,000 to the church after a good year,” Fr. Leo says, “and my brother recently donated gold bowls (which hold the hosts during Communion) to our parish as part of his stewardship commitment.

“It’s a way of giving back to God,” he says.

### **A Steward’s Vision**

As he looks toward the future of St. Peter Parish, Fr. Leo believes stewardship will give us an essential step on the path to God. It’s a gradual process of transformation – a process of taking a first leap of faith and then doing a little more each year to put God first in our lives.

“The vision of a steward is different than anyone else’s,” Fr. Leo says. “It’s a vision that no matter what, we cannot out-give God.”

# Stepping Out in Faith

## Judy Nelson

Parishioners George and Judy Nelson have been members of St. Peter Church since they moved to Quincy in 1964. George taught history and physical education at Quincy High School for more than 35 years, and Judy stayed at home with their five children while they were young.

Over the years, the Nelson family remained extremely active in parish life at St. Peter. George contributed his musical talents to the St. Peter Chorale, and he served as the first cantor upon that ministry's inception. He was also one of the first Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at the parish. Both George and Judy also took leadership roles in the spiritual and social development of their children, all of whom attended St. Peter School. George was a coach, scout leader, and playground volunteer, and Judy volunteered her time with many parent and school organizations through their children's respective academic careers.

But despite their selfless service and generosity in giving of their time and talent, Judy admits that giving money to the parish was never really high on their list of priorities.

"During those years, money was tight and we pretty much lived paycheck to paycheck," Judy says. "We did these things because we wanted to be an integral part of the parish, and we hoped they would help make up for the lack of monetary support. We put our envelopes in the collection, but it consisted of what we could afford after everything else was paid. We sort of gave back to God from our 'leftovers.'"

About 10 years ago, George began to show symptoms of a form of dementia that significantly changed their lives. Judy was fortunate to be able to care for him at home with the help of their family and some community-based programs that allowed payment based on income from their pension. George and Judy had a small amount of savings, which they primarily used for a couple of trips while George still was able to travel and toward making their home more handicap-accessible. Judy says that, during this time, despite the physical, mental, and emotional challenges they were facing, they had a comfortable life and were able to pay their bills.

"George loved singing in the St. Peter Chorale, and even after he wasn't able to be a part of the group, he could sing many of the hymns, even though he was no longer able to speak," she recalls. "Going to Mass was one of the few things we could

still do together. I also realized that more of our income could be going to the church, and that someone had paid the extra when our children were attending our Catholic school. Since all of our grandchildren now attended Catholic schools, I realized how expensive tuition and other costs were. When Father asked everyone to move a little to the right and increase contributions, I tried to do so."

In the early part of 2010, George's dementia took a turn for the worst, and he needed additional care that Judy was no longer able to provide. George entered a nursing facility, and their income was now cut in half.

"As I thought of things I could cut – like cable TV, the newspaper, Y memberships – I thought about putting my contribution to the church 'on hold' for a time," Judy says. "After all, I was giving of my time and talent. But after attending our parish retreats and listening to what real stewardship can mean to a church community, as well as its individual members, I decided that was not an option. Stewardship is about me and my God. It is not about what others give or don't give."

This realization, along with a desire to give back in thanksgiving for the blessings she and George have received throughout the course of his illness, led Judy to strive to do what she could to put God first in her life in every way possible. One simple way that she did this was by putting her financial pledge to the church in the collection during the first part of the month, as soon as their pension check was in the bank. Another small step led Judy to an automatic draft from her checking account, so that she wouldn't have to worry about checks, envelopes, or not paying if she is out of town. Over time, Judy found that, through putting God first, she was not only able to meet all of her financial obligations, but she also reaped numerous spiritual rewards in return.

"Since that time, with some careful spending, I am able to meet my obligations, and I haven't had to give up some of the things that I really enjoy – like watching the Cardinals on cable or swimming at the Y," she says. "I also contribute to other charities that I care about as much as possible, and I know I can continue to increase my giving."

"I firmly believe that everything we have comes from God, and that 'one can never outdo the generosity of the Lord.' I would urge everyone to put God first by paying God first."





## A Way of Life

### Deb Druffel

Looking back, many of us can point to a certain decision or a particular moment at which we began striving to live the stewardship way of life.

Deb Druffel, a longtime parishioner at St. Peter, points to her involvement in the 2007 Capital Campaign.

“As my kids grew up in the school, I was very involved there, but it wasn’t until recently that I got really involved at the parish,” Deb says. “In 2006, we started preparing for a capital campaign for an addition to the narthex, to the school and for some long-overdue upgrades. At that time I had just finished with my MBA and I wanted to be part of putting that project together from the ground up. So I did, and after that, I have stayed involved in the parish with various different projects.”

It was around that time that the parish began focusing on stewardship.

“I had read about stewardship on my own and found it very intriguing that it’s called a way of life,” Deb recalls. “When we started the Stewardship Committee I was picked off of another committee by someone that thought I could be of benefit to the Committee, so I joined.”

As Deb learned more and more about stewardship and becoming a closer disciple of Christ through giving back her time, talent and treasure, she came to an ever richer understanding of why stewardship is in fact ‘a way of life’.

“I am so blessed beyond anything I could have ever imagined and, when you realize that, you just have to give back, give back of your time, talent and treasure,” Deb says. “It has come to be a way of life for me. The more I gave back, obviously the more of my time it took up. I



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had to rearrange some things to make it work like it does.”

These days, Deb gives of her time and talent through active roles on the Pastoral Council and the Stewardship Committee. She also continues to share her vocal talents with the parish through singing with the Chorale.

In committing to regularly giving back her treasure, Deb has found a great help in relatively new technologies.

“I like to use the electronic tithing because it commits me: you can sign up to have the treasure part of your stewardship taken directly out of an account twice a month,” Deb says. “Every two weeks it goes right to the church and it’s all done. Plus, it’s one less thing that I have to do since it’s automatically taken care of!”

Coming to live the stewardship way of life is not without its challenges. As a means to achieving a richer discipleship with Christ, it often entails the same sorts of growing pains that the disciples themselves experienced. But, despite the pains, it is a sure way to grow in faith, and that is what Deb finds so rewarding.

“It’s a commitment; if you’re going to be part of what’s going on in the parish you have to commit and make sure you’re there,” Deb says. “It’s no different from committing your treasure. There have been times when a meeting came up and I had to reschedule other commitments and that can be tough. But committing to give of your time, talent and treasure is a stepping out in faith. And when you give it, you don’t worry about it. You step out in faith and trust that God is going to provide — and He always does.”

## Bracelets of Love

### *Allison Hutson*



Allison Hutson (fourth from left) with friends

When the seventh grade class at St. Peter School decided to sponsor a Spirit Day to raise money for Breast Cancer Awareness in October, Allison Hutson decided she wanted to do more than to simply donate 25 cents as payment for being out of uniform for the day.

As she considered what she might do, Allison had an idea.

"I'd seen people wearing bracelets to support a cure for breast cancer," she says, "but some of them had inappropriate sayings on them."

Allison decided she could do better.

She designed a bracelet out of pink and white yarn, each with a bead sporting the pink-ribbon breast cancer symbol, made a couple of samples, and took them to a FOUND meeting. She also contacted Mrs. Janet Bick, school principal, and got permission to sell the bracelets at school for a minimum donation of 25-cents.

The response was outstanding.

Within a few days of market introduction, Allison had sold more than 50 bracelets to St. Peter School eighth grad-

ers, nearly 40 to her own seventh-grade classmates, and was receiving many orders from younger students. She's even received phone orders from parents of her classmates!

"It was overwhelming how many people wanted them," she says, gratefully acknowledging her family (including her brother, David, a fourth grader) and her friends for their support.

At the time of this interview, Allison had raised more than \$100 – all of which she donated to the Blessing Breast Center.

Using her gifts to serve God is nothing new for Allison. A talented singer who studies voice, she's been involved in Jubilation, the St. Peter Church Children's Choir, for four years; has cantored at school Masses, and is active in the Quincy Community Theatre.

When asked what has motivated her to use her gifts for God, Allison responds, "I feel really blessed with everything and am overwhelmed with feeling that I'm making a difference. I feel like I'm following what God expects of me."

*"I feel really blessed with everything and am overwhelmed with feeling that I'm making a difference. I feel like I'm following what God expects of me." - Allison Hutson, 7th grader*



# St. Peter Catholic Church

2600 Maine Street  
Quincy, Illinois 62301

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## Mass & Reconciliation Schedule

### **Sunday Masses**

Saturday: 5 p.m.,

Sunday: 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

### **Weekday Masses**

Mon-Sat: 8:00 a.m., except for

Wednesdays during the school year:

8:30 a.m.

### **Reconciliation**

Saturday: 7:30-7:50 a.m.,

3:30-4:30 p.m. or by appointment

## For Your Calendar



**Holy Day - All Saints Day, Nov. 1:**

**Vigil, Oct. 31:** 6 p.m.

**Nov. 1:** 8:30 a.m., 12:10 p.m., 6 p.m.

**All Souls Day, Nov. 2:**

Masses at 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. (Mass of Remembrance)

**"A New Translation; A New Change,"**

**Sunday, Nov. 6, 2 p.m. or Monday, Nov. 14, 7 p.m.**

One-hour Workshop on the Third Roman Missal in St. Peter Church

**Town Hall Meeting, Sunday, Nov. 13, 12:15 p.m.**

State-of-the Parish Update in St. Peter Church

**Stewardship Commitment Sunday, Nov. 19 & 20**

**Thanksgiving Mass, Thursday, Nov. 25, 9 a.m.**

**Holy Day - Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Dec. 8:**

**Vigil Mass, Dec. 7:** 6:30 p.m.

**Dec. 8:** 8:30 a.m., 12:10 p.m., 6 p.m.

**Christmas Masses**

**Christmas Eve:** 4 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 7 p.m. and Midnight

**Christmas Day:** 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.