



The Parish of St. Peter Quincy, IL

The Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 18, 2011

—Mass Intentions— Dec. 19-25, 2011

- 19. Monday 8 a.m.
Orville Lubbe
- 20. Tuesday 8:30 a.m.
Tom Darnell
- 21. Wednesday 8 a.m.
Frank & Cora
Eickelschulte
- 22. Thursday 8 a.m.
Hayward & Elizabeth
Gibson
- 23. Friday 8 a.m.
Deceased members of
Timpe & Lappe families
- 24. Saturday 4 p.m.
Dennis Gooding
- 24. Saturday 5:30 p.m.
Joseph Wennier family
- 24. Saturday 7 p.m.
James Coates &
Daniel Bohan
- 25. Sunday 12 a.m.
John Stauder
- 25. Sunday 8 a.m.
Arlene Lamphere
- 25. Sunday 10 a.m.
Bill Lierle

— Mass Schedule —
 Monday-Saturday 8 a.m.
 Except Wed. 8:30 a.m.
 Saturday Evening 5 p.m.
 Sunday 8 a.m.
 9:30 a.m. 11 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays:
 7:30-7:50 a.m.
 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Dear Parishioners,

This weekend, we complete our Advent wreath by lighting the fourth and final candle as we celebrate this Fourth Sunday of Advent. As we read Salvation History, one of the things that we can say about our God is that He does the unexpected. In our first reading for our Mass this weekend, we hear a summary of how God took a young shepherd boy named David and made him the king of His people. Not only did God do the unexpected by choosing this young boy, God also promised that “I will raise up your heir after you, sprung from your loins, and I will make His kingdom firm. Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever before me.” As we continue reading from Salvation History, we know that this promise was fulfilled through Jesus Christ. In our gospel today, God also does the unexpected as He calls a young virgin who was betrothed to Joseph, to become the mother of Jesus. Upon her fiat, her willingness to say “yes” to the request made by her God, we hear the angel fulfill the words to David as he says to Mary “behold, you shall conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name Him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give Him the throne of David, his father, and He will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.” Those words delivered to David in the Old Testament are fulfilled in Mary in the New Testament. Yes, our God truly does the unexpected. I hope and pray that each of you will discover the unexpected graces of our God in your lives this Christmas and throughout the new year.

This is the last reminder of our Christmas schedule for 2011. As I have requested, I hope that many of you will change the times of your Masses on Christmas eve because of the overflow of people at the 4:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Masses. We will also be celebrating a Midnight Mass on Christmas eve. This Mass is special for us for we will be observing the 50th anniversary of our first Mass in this Church which was also celebrated at Midnight, 1961. Our Mass schedule is as follows:

**Christmas eve: 4:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.
 7:00 p.m. and Midnight (Chorale)**

Christmas day: 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

N.B. There will be NO 8:00 a.m. Mass on Saturday, December 24th, Christmas eve morning.

The following weekend, December 31st-January 1st, we will celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. Our Mass schedule for this weekend will be the normal weekend schedule, with Mass on Saturday, Dec. 31st. at 5:00 p.m. and Masses on Sunday, January 1st at 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m. We will resume the normal 8:00 a.m. Mass on that Saturday morning.

N.B. Our offices are closed Friday, Dec. 23rd and Monday, December 26th.

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Merry Christmas
 from FOUND!!!



Pack the Pantry
 Tally: 90

Come Join
 Us!

All 7th, 8th, &
 9th graders and
 their friends are
 welcome!

Rest in Peace
 May the souls of
**Raymond Kreinberg &
 John Anderson**
 sing praises with the Angels in Heaven forever.

Diocese of Springfield in Illinois
 Catholic Pastoral Center • 1615 West Washington • P.O. Box 3187 • Springfield, Illinois 62708-3187
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 Office of the Bishop

Dear Friends in Christ, December 1, 2011

The inscription at the entrance of the Catholic Children's Home in Alton reads: "Suffer the little children to come unto me." Since 1879, the Catholic Children's Home has provided care for thousands of children in need in the name of Jesus Christ. These children have been abused, labeled "unmanageable" by their schools or simply have had no place to call home. They are some of the most vulnerable in our society.

The Catholic Children's Home continues the legacy of love and care for God's children begun by the Precious Blood Sisters from Ruma in the 19th century. In the spirit of Christ's special affection for all children, I ask that you support the work of the Catholic Children's Home and contribute generously to the special collection held at Christmas.

May God touch your hearts with his grace and mercy during these Advent and Christmas days.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
 † Thomas John Paprocki

Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki
 Bishop of Springfield in Illinois

End of the Year Contributions

As the year is coming to a close, we remind you to have any donations that you wish to have applied to the 2011 fiscal year into the parish office by December 30, 2011. Your gifts and support are greatly appreciated!

Vigil Candle Prices

Due to the increasing cost to purchase candles, the price for each 6 day vigil candle is now \$3 and each 6 hour vigil candle is now 50 cents.

Christmas Decorations

To make a donation (\$10.00) for Christmas poinsettias & decorations in memory of a loved one, please put money in a plain envelope labeled "Christmas Decorations" or in your mass envelope by Dec. 19. Please include:

A Donation for Christmas Decorations

Given by: _____
 In Memory: _____

Baptism
 Jefferson Thomas Miller, son of Jonathan and Amy (Hendrian) Miller was made a child of God through the reception of the sacrament of Baptism on Sunday, December 11, 2011.

Area Events
Sunday, Dec. 18: Quincy Park Band Christmas Concert free concert at 3pm; Morrison Theater; 14th & Maine.
Monday, Dec. 19: Practice for those involved with the Children's Christmas Mass. 7-8pm; St. Peter Church. For info call Karen Wolf at 222-8722.

Christmas Mass Schedule
Dec. 24: 4pm, 5:30pm (Children's), 7pm, Midnight.
Dec. 25: 8am, 10am

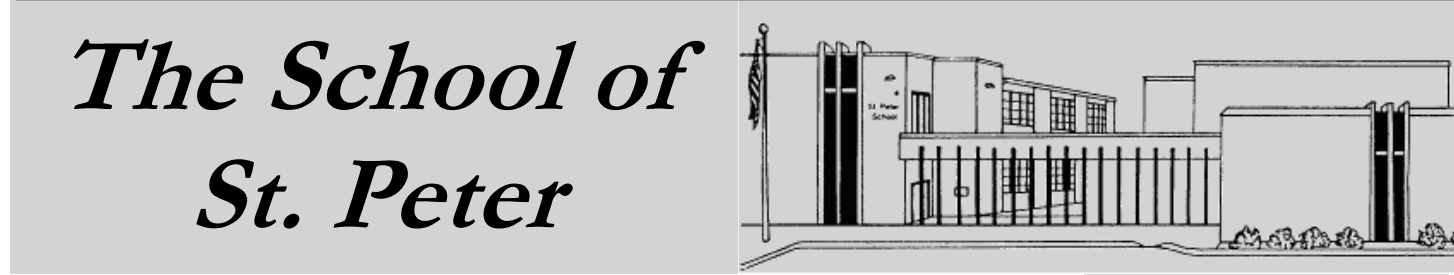
50th Anniversary
 The midnight mass on Saturday, December 24 will be the 50th Anniversary of the opening of the present St. Peter Church building. Please join us to celebrate!

Sunday School Volunteers Needed!
 If you are interested in volunteering to help with Sunday School on Sundays from 9:15-10:45am, please contact Carrie Lavery at clavery@hotmail.com or the parish office at 222-3155. Anyone is welcome to volunteer! Children range from 12 months-5 years.

Thank you from Social Concerns!
 The Social Concerns Committee would like to thank everyone who donated & purchased cookies at the annual cookie sale last weekend. The proceeds are used to help parishioners & people in the community who are in need.

QCES Foundation & Year-End Giving
 As you consider your year-end giving to charitable organizations, the Quincy Catholic Elementary Schools (QCES) Foundation asks that you please consider a charitable gift to the QCES Foundation. The QCES Foundation was established in 2009 as a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit tax-exempt organization. Therefore, all contributions and donations are exempt from federal income taxes to the fullest extent allowable by law. Your gift will help support tuition-assistance programs for Quincy Catholic Elementary Schools' families in need. For more information, please contact Paul R. Rittof, Executive Director of the QCES Foundation, at 779-3157, or p.ritt@cospq.org. Best wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the QCES Foundation Board of Directors.

Pyxes and Burses
 If you have taken a pyx and burse from the sacristy and are no longer using it, please return it to the drawer in the sacristy.



Week of December 18, 2011

A Message from Mrs. Janet Bick

"St. Peter School provides a quality education built on Catholic values and teachings."

CURRICULUM MAPPING PROJECT: The teachers preschool through eighth grade have worked very hard the past few months documenting the operational curriculum in the area of English. Special teachers have mapped music K-1st grade, physical education K-2nd grade, and technology 7th-8th grades. They have all completed maps for August through October. Last week, the teachers participated in individual meetings to edit and discuss their maps.

We look forward to sharing these maps with you in the future. The main parts of the maps are as follows:

- Essential Questions**
 Overarching questions that provide focus for the unit and are aligned to the big ideas, concepts, or themes
 Guide instruction
 Focus on "why is this important"
 Encourage higher level thinking
 Help students make connections beyond content being studied
 Ex: How does an idea get translated into a written format?
- Content**
 Subject matter key concepts, targeted facts, and core content
 Content needed to teach so students can respond to essential question
 Ex: Sentence subject and predicate
- Skills**
 What students need to know or be able to do in order to demonstrate mastery or understanding of the content
 Ex: Write sentences with subjects and predicates

A special thank you to Gina Bergman, Gen Moore, and Brooke Stokes who volunteered their time in the classrooms so that the teachers could meet. Additionally, the SPS teachers would like to thank Mrs. Elizabeth Brown for helping them with their projects. We certainly appreciate her!

MCDONALD'S RECEIPTS-McDonald's Neighborhood Program: Be sure to save McDonald's receipts to help St. Peter School get free educational materials and more. You can help by collecting and saving authorized McDonald's receipts from the participating McDonald's restaurants. Please save your receipts and send them to school. Ask your neighbors, relatives and friends to help.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: St. Peter Parish is having its First Annual Breakfast and Bake Sale on January 29th from 8-11a.m. in the school cafeteria. Please come and join us!



MENU

- Mon:** Broccoli cheese soup, lettuce salad with toppings, fruit, roll, milk.
- Tues:** Hot dog/bun, baked beans, fruit, Christmas cookie, milk.
- Wed:** No school until January 4, 2012, Merry Christmas!

THIS WEEK

- Mon., Dec. 19:** K-3rd grade will enjoy the *Polar Express* in the afternoon.
- Tues., Dec. 20:** Children's Mass at 8:30 a.m. prepared by our 5th grade;. Dismissal at 1:30 p.m. No bus service at dismissal
- Wed., Dec. 21:** Christmas vacation begins, students will return on Wednesday, January 4, 2012.

School of St. Peter
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 Website: www.st.peterschool.com
 Email: j.bick@cospq.org
 Follow us on **FACEBOOK** to keep up with school activities.

Mark Your Calendars!

Mon. Dec 19: Ladies Cursillo 7pm; Cafeteria Rehearsal for Christmas children's mass 7pm; Church
 Tues. Dec. 20: Lect. Bible Study 1pm; Martha Jane R.C.I.A. 7pm; Martha Jane
 Wed. Dec. 21: PSR 6:15pm; School Ladies Cursillo 7pm; Seton Hall
 Thurs. Dec. 22: Cribbage 1pm; Martha Jane Matthew Bible Study 6pm; Martha Jane & Seton Hall
 Fri. Dec. 23: Parish Office closed.
 Sat. Dec. 24: No Morning Mass
 Sat. Dec. 24: Men's Cursillo 8:30am; Martha Jane
 Sat. Dec. 24: Mass at 4pm, 5:30pm, 7pm
 Sun. Dec. 25: Mass at 12am, 8am & 10am

Fr. Leo's column continued...

One of the traditions of this parish family each year, so I am told, is the giving wreath. Last weekend, the parishioners who participated in this annual act of generosity at Christmas, presented the gifts in the sanctuary during our Masses. Needless to say, I was duly impressed. I want to thank each and every one of you who responded with such generous hearts. I am sure that many families who are in need will appreciate the kindness shown and will begin to understand that Christmas is truly about giving. I thank you for responding so well. I also invite you to remember St. Peter parish in your Christmas giving. Your generosity will assist us as we try to make ends meet.

As we make our final preparations for Christmas, I have decided that I will make the Sacrament of Reconciliation available to our parishioners through this next week. A priest will be hearing confessions from Monday through Thursday, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. I ask you to make use of this time in getting your hearts and lives ready for Christ's coming at Christmas. These times will be the last times for this Sacrament before Christmas.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE: In mid-December, a boy in kindergarten at a church school came home and asked his father, "what is buffalo ham?"

The father patiently explained to him the difference between beef and pork. After his explanation, the boy asked, "Why did my religion teacher tell me that is where Jesus was born?"

Magi. Leo J. Eulov

—Mass Servers—

Weekday Masses, December 19–25:

8am: Alexia Cobian, Jackson Connell

—Daily Mass Ministry Schedule—

December 19-25:

Lector: Bob Devries

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist:
 Dick Hopkins, Bob & Mary Jo Devries



Pledges Received Families: 839	Total Cards Returned Families: 1063
Total Amount Pledged	\$ 4,327,274.22
Total Receipts	\$4,372,919.63
Receipts for Dec.	\$125.00

WEEKLY PARISH OFFERING 2011

Week 24	Dec. 11	Total to Date
Loose Collections	\$660.20	\$21,551.77
Weekly Envelopes	\$20,502.00	\$462,043.22
Annual School Fund	\$9,447.03	\$218,066.51
Holy Days	\$2,366.35	\$7,751.35
Christmas	\$105.00	\$156.00
Totals	\$33,080.58	\$709,568.85
Total Budget Goal	\$30,200.00	\$724,800.00
Difference	\$2,880.58	(\$15,231.15)

Thank you for your sacrificial giving to God through our Parish. May God reward your faithful generosity!

—Annual Catholic Services Appeal—

	Amt. Assessed	Amt. Pd.	Bal. Due
2009	\$119,681	\$49,826	\$69,855
2010	\$118,020	\$58,575	\$59,445
2011	\$106,635	\$42,415	\$64,220

The balance due must be paid out of parish operating expenses.
 Totals as of 12/6/11, 274 contributors

Parish in Action

It's beginning to look...
 ... a lot like Christmas!



St. Peter Church will celebrate **Mass of the Innocents** remembering children who have died before or after their birth on Wednesday, Dec. 28, at 7 p.m. To have a child remembered, please provide the following information to the Parish Office:

Name of Child _____

Your Name _____

St. Peter's will Observe the 50th Anniversary of the First Mass in its "New Church" at Christmas Midnight Mass.

Christmas Mass & Music Schedule:
 Christmas Eve
 4 p.m.: Melissa Citro & Ensemble
 5:30 p.m.: Family Mass—Jubilation and Handbell Choir
 7 p.m.: St. Peter Singers
 Christmas:
 Midnight: Chorale
 8 a.m.: Cantor & Organist
 10 a.m.: Cantor & Organist