



The Parish of St. Peter Quincy, IL

Thirty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, December 4, 2011

—Mass Intentions— Dec. 5—11, 2011

- 5. Monday 8:00 a.m.
Maxine McLaughlin
- 6. Tuesday 8:00 a.m.
Helen Gerding
- 7. Wed. 8:00 a.m.
Lucy Drake
- 7. Wed. 6:30 p.m.
Special Intentions
- 8. Thursday 8:30 a.m.
William Thien Family
- 8. Thursday 12:10 p.m.
Jim Coates
- 8. Thursday 6:00 p.m.
Jenelle & Amy Stocker
- 9. Friday 8:00 a.m.
Richard Waterkotte
- 10. Saturday 8:00 a.m.
Lucy Drake
- 10. Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Our Parish Family
- 11. Sunday 8:00 a.m.
Tom Darnell
- 11. Sunday 9:30 a.m.
Wayne Bergman &
Helen Henry
- 11. Sunday 11:00 a.m.
Mark Goehl & Daniel
Bohan

— Mass Schedule —
 Mon.-Sat. 8:00 a. m.
 Except Wed. 8:30 a.m.
 Sat. Evening 5:00 p.m.
 Sunday 8:00 a.m.
 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.

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

Dear Parishioners,

“Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.’” These are the words of the prophet Isaiah that begin the gospel of St. Mark on this Second Sunday of Advent introducing John the Baptist to us. Mark tells us definitely that John was not the Messiah when he quotes John the Baptist as saying, “one mightier than I is coming after me.” Then Mark pictures John the Baptist as the figure of Elijah the prophet, who, according to Jewish tradition, was to return before the coming of the Messiah. The way that John is dressed, the food that he eats, all seem to portray this prophet Elijah and thus fulfill the Jewish expectation. And the mission of John was that “he appeared in the desert, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins,” truly being the messenger preparing the way of the Lord. The scene is now set and the expectation of the coming of the Messiah is fulfilled in this gospel as we wait for this Messiah to come into the world. In this one short gospel, Mark sets the theme for Advent and challenges each of us to prepare our lives for the coming of Christ.

This past Thanksgiving Day, I want you to know that I thanked God for this parish of St. Peter. Last weekend, I challenged this parish to celebrate the greatest thanksgiving that we have, namely the Eucharist, on this special holiday. And so many of you accepted the challenge and were present for this celebration. I was so impressed as we almost had a full church. I thank you for taking time to celebrate with me. Your presence showed me how viable we are as a parish family for a “thankful people” is a “blessed people.” I was also so happy to introduce my family to you, and you to them. Thanks for being there.

Next Thursday, December 8th, is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and is a Holyday of Obligation for all Catholics. Since we have switched the children’s Mass from Wednesday of next week to Thursday because of the Holyday, the Mass on Wednesday, Dec. 7th, will be at 8:00 a.m. and not 8:30 a.m. The Mass schedule for the Holyday will be as follows:

December 7th: 6:30 p.m. (PSR classes will be present)
 December 8th: 8:30 a.m. (St. Peter school will be present)
 12:10 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Even though we are three weeks before Christmas, we need to do some planning as we prepare for this Solemnity. From what I have gathered, we had a 4:00 p.m. Mass celebrated in the Church on Christmas eve and then a 4:15 p.m. Mass celebrated in St. Peter’s gym. I understand the rationale behind these two celebrations because not everyone could fit in the Church. But I am not sure that celebrating a Mass in the gym on Christmas eve reflects who we are as a people of faith. And so this year, I have decided to eliminate the Mass in the gym. We will have 4 Masses on Christmas eve: 4:00, 5:30, 7:00 p.m. and Midnight. Yes, Mid-

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Christmas Caroling!

December 11th



Meet in the Martha Jane
 Room at 6-8:00 p.m.
 We will be walking in the
 neighborhood.

Pack the Pantry
Tally: 90

**Come Join
Us!**

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

Rest in Peace
May the soul of
Charles A. Scholz
sing praises with the Angels in Heaven forever.

 **Diocese of Springfield in Illinois**
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Office of the Bishop
Dear Friends in Christ, December 2011

In 2010, while visiting a senior-care facility, our Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI noted, "Indeed, the provision of care for the elderly should be considered not so much an act of generosity as the repayment of a debt of gratitude." Soon, our parishes will be taking up the annual collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious, an opportunity to honor and thank thousands of senior Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests for their faithful service.

Whether or not we realize it, we are all beneficiaries of the tremendous contributions these women and men have made to the Church in the United States. Through hard work, prayer, and sacrifice, they built Catholic schools and hospitals, initiated programs to promote social justice and ministered to the neediest among us. As I reflect on the dedication of elder religious, I remain grateful for the ways they have shaped my own faith and for the tremendous service they have offered here in the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois. I hope you, too, recall a sister or brother who made a positive difference in your life.

Today, many religious communities struggle to care for their elderly members. Sky-rocketing health-care costs and decreased income make it increasingly difficult to provide necessary medications, nursing care and basic services. Aging convents and other facilities pose additional challenges in terms of safety and handicap accessibility.

I recognize this is but one of numerous worthy causes in need of support and that many in our own community face financial difficulties. I ask you simply to give what you can. In thanksgiving for all that senior religious have done, please join me in supporting the Retirement Fund for Religious and in praying for God's continued blessing on our nation's elderly sisters, brothers and religious order priests.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
† Thomas John Paprocki

Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki
Bishop of Springfield in Illinois


Christmas Decorations

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

A Donation for Christmas Decorations

Given by: _____

In Memory of: _____

 **CD of the Week:** "Glory to the Newborn King" by Lindsey Todd. Beautiful Christmas melodies presented by Mrs. Todd, and amazing singer...enjoy!

Welcome!
Please welcome to our parish family: **Dave & Donna Lukens.**

Baptism
Jacob Thomas Reeder, son of Bryan and Sara (Timpe) Reeder was made a child of God through the reception of the sacrament of Baptism on Saturday, November 26, 2011.

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!

Christmas/Advent Fair Trade Sale
Double gift by purchasing gifts for friends, teachers, and family and give to families in third world countries!

An Evening of Repentance and Prayer for those Harmed in the Church will be held on Monday, December 12 at 7pm at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Springfield. Simultaneously a similar service will be held at one church in each of the other 6 deaneries of the diocese to accommodate those from outlying areas. Bishop Thomas John Paprocki will preside at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception and his homily will also be read at each of the 6 deanery churches so that all will hear the Bishop's message to those harmed in the Church. The Evening of Repentance and Prayer is an effort to reach out in a special and individual way to anyone abused by a cleric within the Springfield diocese and also to anyone who may have been hurt in other ways by someone in the church. All members of the faith community are welcome to join in this, An Evening of Repentance and Prayer for those Harmed in the Church. The 6 other deanery churches designated to hold An Evening of Repentance and Prayer for those Harmed in the Church are: Alton Deanery, St Boniface Church Edwardsville; Decatur Deanery, Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Church Mount Zion; Effingham Deanery, St. Francis of Assisi Teutopolis; Jacksonville Deanery, Our Savior Church Jacksonville; Litchfield Deanery, St. Agnes Church Hillsboro; Quincy Deanery, Blessed Sacrament Church Quincy.

Area Events

Sunday Dec. 4: St. Peter Blood drive 8:30am-12pm. Blood pressure 8:45-11am in the cafeteria. Walk-ins welcome!

Friday Dec. 9: St. Thomas Youth Group Fish Fry 4-7:30pm; Camp Point. Adult \$7.50, 12/under \$3.50, senior \$6.50 4-5pm.

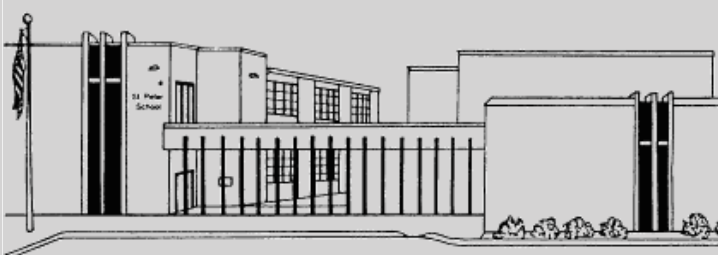
Saturday Dec. 10: St. Francis Christmas Bazaar; 9am-2pm. 1720 College; free. Many booths & lunch available!

Sunday Dec. 11: St. Anthony Pancake & Sausage Breakfast; 7:30am-12:30pm. Adults \$6, children \$3, under 5 free. Advance meat orders available, please call 224-0874 or 257-2108.

Monday Dec. 12: QND Choirs presents a tapestry of Advent & Christmas selections;. 7pm; St. Peter Church, free.

Sunday, Dec. 18: Quincy Park Band Christmas Concert free concert at 3pm; Morrison Theater; 14th & Maine.

The School of St. Peter



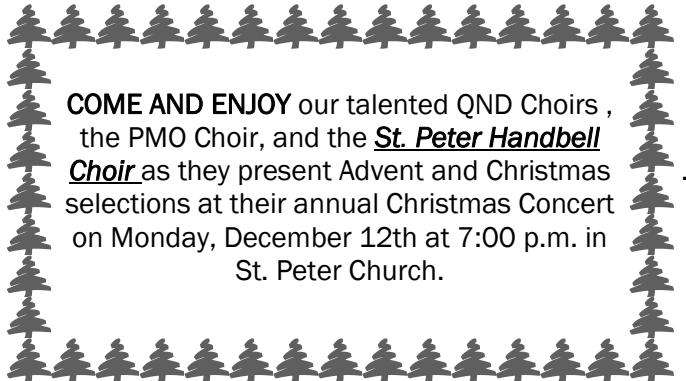
Week of December 4, 2011

A Message from Mrs. Janet Bick

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



THANK YOU to everyone who brought in food items at Thanksgiving. They were donated to Catholic Charities and Ladies of Charity.


COME AND ENJOY our talented QND Choirs, the PMO Choir, and the St. Peter Handbell Choir as they present Advent and Christmas selections at their annual Christmas Concert on Monday, December 12th at 7:00 p.m. in St. Peter Church.



St. Peter Handbell Choir playing at our Advent Service

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.

BOOK BLITZ: Sixth grader Kristin Martin is hosting a book blitz to benefit Cheerful Home. She is accepting new or gently used books ranging from infant to 12 years of age. Donated books can be dropped off at St. Peter School from November 28th - December 9th. Kristin will also be collecting books after all of the Masses on December 4th in the cafeteria. Thank you in advance for supporting the Book Blitz.

NEEDED: Mrs. Weimer is looking for a Little Tykes portable basketball goal to use in P.E. with the primary grades. If you have one that needs a new home we will be glad to adopt it and take good care of it. If you have any questions please give us a call in the school office 223-1120.

"7Habits" LESSON THIS MONTH: The sixth grade presented proper church etiquette to the students. Please ask your child to share with you what they have learned.

MENU

Mon: Chicken alfredo in noodles, breadstick, salad, fruit, milk.
Tues: Chicken nuggets, peas, mandarin oranges, chips, chocolate pudding, milk.
Wed: Loaded baked potato soup, fruit, carrots/dip, dessert, milk.
Thurs: Beefy cheesy nachos, corn, fruit, milk.
Fri: Pancake/Sausage sticks, fruit yogurt parfait, granola bar, milk.

THIS WEEK

Mon., Dec. 5: Wine and Cheese Open House for new families of our school this year 5:00-6:00 p.m. in the Martha Jane room

Tues., Dec. 6: Happy St. Nicholas Day!

Wed., Dec. 7: No School Mass today; Technology Meeting 4:00 p.m.; Marketing Meeting 5:30 p.m.

Thurs., Dec. 1: Feast of the Immaculate Conception: School Mass at 8:30 a.m. prepared by our 7th grade

School of St. Peter
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Phone: 217-223-1120
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 5: Ladies Cursillo 7pm; Cafeteria
Tues. Dec. 6: Exodus Bible Study 9am; Martha Jane
 Lectionary Bible Study 2pm; Martha Jane
 R.C.I.A. 7pm; Martha Jane
Wed. Dec. 7: PSR 6:15pm; School
 Ladies Cursillo 7pm; Seton Hall
Thurs. Dec. 8: St. Veronica's Guild 8:30am M. Jane
 Cribbage 1pm; Martha Jane
 Matthew Bible Study 6pm; Martha Jane & Seton Hall
Sat. Dec. 10: Men's Cursillo 8:30am; Martha Jane
Sun. Dec. 11: Childcare 9:30am Mass & Children's
 Liturgy of the Word

-Mass Servers-
Weekday Masses, December 5-9:
 8:00 a.m. Lizzie Weimer, Blaine Wilson
Saturday Mass, December 10:
 5:00 p.m. Nolan Hruska, Riley Hummert,
 Clayton Kennedy
Sunday Masses, December 11:
 8:00 a.m. Kayla Mast, Dylan Muldoon, Ben Nord
 9:30 a.m. Jack Brown, Shelby & Jackson Connell
 11:00 a.m. Grace Frese, Michelle Gough,
 Alex Kinsel
Daily Mass Ministry Schedule
December 5-9:
Lector: Jim Steinkamp
Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist:
 Bob Lundberg, John Ley, Jeanine Marlin

Fr. Leo's column continued....

night is midnight (12:00 a.m.) I have always celebrated a Midnight Mass and there is nothing more beautiful on Christmas eve than this Mass. In fact, the chorale will be singing and I am hoping that more people will be attending. Then we will have two Masses on Christmas day, 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. Rather than having an additional Mass in the gym, I would much rather ask our parish family to find a different time for Mass other than 4:00 p.m. The children's Mass will be at 5:30 p.m. and will also be crowded. But the 7:00 p.m. and the Midnight will have room for many. So please check your schedules and see if you can accommodate a different Mass for yourself. In the meantime, we will be planning on setting up chairs in the narthex and around the Church to accommodate so many we hope will be present and will continue even after Christmas.

I want to remind you that Tuesday, Dec. 6th is the traditional feast of St. Nicholas, a bishop of our Church of the 4th century. As a child, I remember setting our stockings out the night of the 5th, and then being surprised to find that St. Nick never forgot us. What memories we have of our childhood that are never forgotten. Such memories keep family life alive in all of us.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE: Little Johnny's mother was having difficulty gulping down the birthday cake he had made for her as a surprise. When she was finished, Little Johnny happily exclaimed: "I'm so glad you like it, Mommy. There should have been 32 candles on the cake, but they were all gone when I took it out of the oven."

Magi. Leo J. Eulow



Pledges Received Families: 839	Total Cards Returned Families: 1063
Total Amount Pledged	\$ 4,327,274.22
Total Receipts	\$4,372,894.63
Receipts for Nov.	\$2,165.00

WEEKLY PARISH OFFERING 2011		
Week 22	Nov. 27	Total to Date
Loose Collections	\$878.55	\$20,059.06
Weekly Envelopes	\$15,665.08	\$420,225.64
Annual School Fund	\$5,308.50	\$189,742.48
Holy Days	\$4.00	\$5,277.00
Totals	\$21,856.13	\$635,304.18
Total Budget Goal	\$30,200.00	\$664,400.00
Difference	(\$8,343.87)	(\$29,095.82)

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	\$22,250	\$84,385

The balance due must be paid out of parish operating expenses. Totals as of 11/9/11, 188 contributors

Parish in Action

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception is this week: Mass Schedule for this Holy Day of Obligation:

Wednesday, 12-7:
6:30 p.m.
Thursday, 12-8:
8:30 a.m.* 12:10 p.m.,
7 p.m.



* The St. Peter School Mass will be on Thursday instead of Wednesday. To accommodate the school's schedule, Wednesday Mass will begin at 8 a.m., and Thursday Mass at 8:30 a.m.

St. Peter Church will celebrate a **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 _____
 Day-time Phone _____
 Will you be at the Mass? _____

Like to bake cookies? Want to make a difference this Christmas Season? Why not bake a batch of your favorite Christmas cookies for the Social Concerns Committee's Annual Cookie Sale after next weekend's Sunday Masses in the Cafeteria? To donate cookies, bring them to the Cafeteria at or after 3 p.m. next Saturday afternoon or before 9 a.m. on Sunday. Proceeds from the Cookie Sale support the committee's outreach programs.



Looking for unique gifts & stocking stuffers that can help change the lives of the people who make them?



Check out the sale of FAIR TRADE items during Coffee & Donuts today in the Cafeteria.



Baptism Class is this Wednesday, Dec. 7, at 5 p.m. After completing the class, parents may schedule their infant's Baptism. Please phone 222-3155 to sign up or if you have questions.