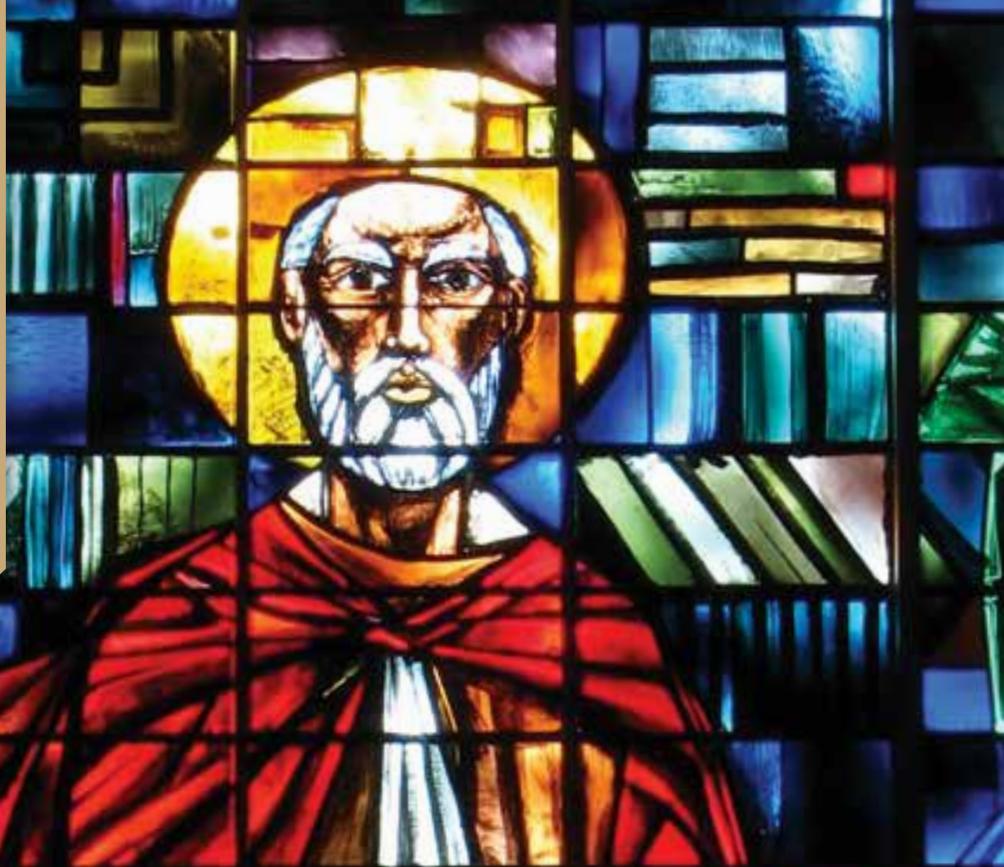


Church of St. Peter, Quincy III

MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER



LAWN CARE MINISTRY

ENSURES OUR PARISH GROUNDS ARE IN ORDER

The grounds of St. Peter Church are lovely to see and enjoy, thanks to more than a dozen members of the Lawn Care Ministry who faithfully turn out each week to mow, weed, trim and clean the property around the church and school.

Paul Wilson is the coordinator for the ministry. He fields the emails and calls from those wanting to help. The ministry has been in existence for more than 10 years. Paul has chaired it for the past two years and is in his fourth year as a member. He is grateful for the members who volunteer their time and talent, especially Bob Klingele, who has been part of the Lawn Care Ministry for over 10 years, and Harold Ellerbrock, who takes care of the rose bushes and other bushes around the parish office.

“We usually meet at 7:30 a.m. each Wednesday morning and clean up around the church, the parking lot, remove any debris on the stairs, and cut the grass,” Paul says. “One individual takes care of the roses, and that’s his only job. He doesn’t work with us, but works when he can come in the afternoon.”

The task takes the group about two and one-half hours to take care of the yard, the ball field, the back lot, the parking areas and the playground that is



part of the school. They clean debris off the church steps in time for the 8:30 a.m. Wednesday school Mass.

“We also have two large John Deere tractors that we use, three walk-behind mowers, two weedwhackers, two leaf blowers and shovels and other tools,” Paul says. “The tractors are all serviced and taken care of by Deacon Bob Lundberg.”

When the leaves begin falling in autumn, the ministry members clean those up. Tom Maas brings his truck to the church to help haul away broken limbs and cart away the leaves.

continued on back cover

ST. PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH

ST. PETER'S PARISH PICNIC:

Celebrating What It Means to Be a Parish Family

So, what's on your calendar on Saturday, Aug. 24? If it isn't our annual Parish Picnic, you may want to get out your pen and make a note to save the date!

"This is the ninth year we have held the Parish Picnic," says St. Peter Parish Picnic Committee Co-Chair Sarah Stegeman. "It has grown into a real community-building fellowship event that people really look forward to attending every year."

The picnic, which will take place from 5 p.m. until midnight, will feature 18 different games for kids, teens and adults. There will also be a silent auction, a basket raffle and a main raffle offering \$4,500 in cash prizes. In addition, there will be plenty of delicious food, including Fr. Leo's own brat recipe, pork tenderloin, pulled pork, hamburgers, hot dogs, onion rings, nachos, funnel cake, fries, shaved ice, walking tacos, popcorn, and cotton candy. There will also be live entertainment offered by Lick Creek, a nationally recognized country band out of Springfield that was a finalist in the Nash Next 2017 Competition.

All of the proceeds from the picnic go toward various parish operating expenses and general parish needs. Amazingly, this major fundraiser has raised an average of \$45,000 each year!

"The event is not only a true reflection of Fr. Leo's plan for our parish to be a stewardship parish, but also of what it means to work together as a parish family," Sarah says. "It gives us all a wonderful opportunity to give back to our community, and get to know one another better. It allows us to meet other parishioners that we may not meet otherwise."

The picnic is made possible only through the generosity of numerous faithful volunteers. In addition to Sarah, the following people serve as Co-Chairs — Jeremy Stegeman (Sarah's husband), Randy and Amanda Martin, and James and Kari Weisenberger. Furthermore, there are various volunteers that chair different aspects of the event, and help out in many different ways.

Year after year, Sarah enjoys giving her time and talent to the picnic alongside Jeremy and their two children. As a family, it is an ideal way for them to embrace the stewardship vision.

"It gives our children an opportunity to volunteer their time and sets an example for them of what it means to contribute to our parish community," she says.

SAVE THE DATE	
	St. Peter Parish Picnic 2600 Maine Street—Quincy, IL Behind the Church
Beer and Wine served	SATURDAY, AUGUST 24 5:00 PM—MIDNIGHT AFTER 4:00 PM MASS
Food Selections include: Pork Tenderloin, Pulled Pork, Hamburgers, Brats, Hot Dogs, Onion Rings, Nachos, Funnel Cake Fries, Shaved Ice, Walking Tacos, Popcorn, Cotton candy etc.	MAIN RAFFLE \$4,500 IN CASH PRIZES 50/50, SILENT AUCTION, & BASKET RAFFLE
Games for all ages!	
Live Entertainment 8:00-midnight	
	Lick Creek NASH NEXT 2017 Finalist



Volunteers are always needed, and parishioners (eighth grade through adult) are welcome to contact any member of the committee to help with setup, which begins the Wednesday before the picnic. For more information about volunteering, please contact Randy and Amanda Martin at 217-653-3538 or randymartin1213@gmail.com. All are warmly invited to attend this beautiful annual event, and celebrate what it means to be a parish family, united in Christ's love.

REMEMBERING AMERICA IS A *Gift from God*

Dear Parishioners,

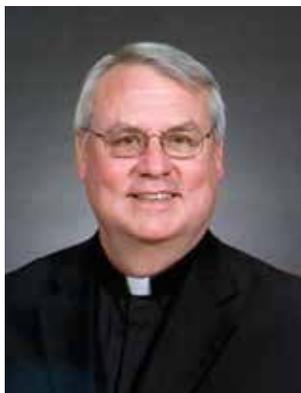
We're all familiar with the song "America the Beautiful." Many of us share the feelings that inspired Katharine Lee Bates when she composed it as a poem.

*O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.*

Katharine Bates drew her inspiration from her experiences during the summer of 1893. An English professor at Wellesley College in Massachusetts, she went to teach summer school at Colorado College, necessitating a journey across the country. The trip's highlight came when she reached the pinnacle of Pikes Peak and could gaze upon range after range of the Rocky Mountains on one side and the expanse of the Great Plains on the other.

Moved by the vistas around her and the varied features of America she had seen, an idea for a poem and some of its words formed in her mind atop the mountain. That night, back in her hotel room, she completed the poem.

I think the reason for the popularity of "America the Beautiful" is that it combines several themes into one coherent whole. The beauty and immensity of America's natural creation,



the rich abundance of our harvests, and the recognition of God's generosity are woven together. The final product forms a hymn of thanksgiving for our land that goes beyond national pride to prayer, for God is the spiritual source for all the goodness we have.

I think it's a suitable theme for July, the month we celebrate Independence Day, our national holiday. Thankfulness, after all, is the basis of stewardship, the recognition that we've been given all we have. We're then responsible to the Giver for the use we make of His gifts.

The gifts we celebrate are manifold. Some are of a spiritual nature — our salvation by Christ and the sacraments, for example. Others are in the natural order, such as the beauties of creation and abundant harvests. Still others relate to social relationships, like families, friends and national life. Whatever the class of these gifts, God is their ultimate source, and they are blessings.

Let us then receive these gifts — the time, talent, and treasure entrusted to us — with thanksgiving. Let us offer praise to the Father of mercies for them, and let us use them in His service.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev. Msgr. Leo J. Enlow". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Rev. Msgr. Leo J. Enlow
Pastor

BUILDING A FOUNDATION

Marriage Preparation

Just last summer, Melaina Becker and her husband, Anthony, were married at St. Peter's. As the couple — who met in college — recently celebrated their first wedding anniversary, Melaina recalls how she always envisioned her wedding day.

“When I was a little girl, I always dreamed of having that traditional Catholic wedding, in front of all our friends and our family, in the presence of God, in church, which is so powerful and meaningful to me,” she says. “That was always very important to me and something I wanted.”

David and Kelsey Hayes, who were also married last year, shared similar dreams.

“For me, getting married in the Catholic church was important because I've always been there — I can't imagine getting married anywhere else,” Kelsey says. “Having God in the middle of our marriage was really important to me and David, starting off on the right foot, putting Him right in the middle of our marriage and our lives.”

“I wanted to have that sacrament to bring God into our marriage, helping us really have a strong marriage from the start,” David adds.

Our Marriage Preparation program at St. Peter's is designed to help couples prepare to receive the Sacrament, welcome God into their relationship, and live out their vows for the rest of their lives.

In most cases, meeting with Fr. Leo is the first step that a couple will take, as part of the preparation process.

“Fr. Leo gave us some really good advice,” Kelsey says. “He had some great things to say and great points to bring up.”

“It was cool to get to know him on a personal



Kelsey and David Hayes were married at St. Peter's last year.

level and have him be our marriage mentor and bring up hard-hitting topics that neither of us had really thought about before,” David adds. “It was a cool experience to get to know him and talk to him.”

In addition to meeting with Fr. Leo, engaged couples also have the opportunity to learn from the experience of other married couples, whether in a group setting at a Pre-Cana retreat, or one-on-one with a “Pre-Cana couple.”

“We got to hear some good stories from other people and it was really good,” Kelsey says. “We both really enjoyed the retreat.”

“These people have been married for years and years, and they were such good role mod-

ATION FOR FOREVER:

ration at St. Peter

els,” she adds. “They said so many great things about marriage, and it’s encouraging to hear people talk like that.”

“I thought it was really cool to hear the married couples’ stories and then go off on our own and reflect by ourselves, and talk about what we heard and how it relates to us,” David says.

“I really enjoyed the one-on-one aspect [of meeting with our Pre-Cana couple] because we were able to really open up with our couple; we created a great relationship with them,” says Anthony Becker, who, along with Melaina, met several times with a married couple. “They allowed us to open up and discuss topics that we probably wouldn’t have discussed by ourselves.”

“It was really great to talk to somebody outside of family and friends,” Melaina adds. “We got really lucky that our couple was so honest with us and they really made it a point to make sure we were really being honest with ourselves, as well.”

Both couples were grateful for the opportunity to discuss challenging topics with Fr. Leo and other couples, as well as each other.

“Planning a wedding and life in general gets so busy,” Melaina says. “It was great that we had a devoted night where we would just sit and talk about these things and it forced us to talk about tough questions.”

“The conversations didn’t end at their house,” Anthony adds. “We were constantly working on the topics.”

The Beckers and Hayes encourage other engaged couples to invest in the Marriage

“For me, getting married in the Catholic church was important because I’ve always been there — I can’t imagine getting married anywhere else. Having God in the middle of our marriage was really important to me and David, starting off on the right foot, putting Him right in the middle of our marriage and our lives.” — Kelsey Hayes

Preparation process, as a benefit to their relationship and future together.

“You’re going to get out what you put into it, so the more you put into it, the more beneficial it is for you as a couple,” Anthony says.

“We felt so much more comfortable going into marriage knowing where each other stood on those tough conversations,” Melaina says. “Not to say we won’t have more tough conversations, but I think it’s a great foundation for us.”

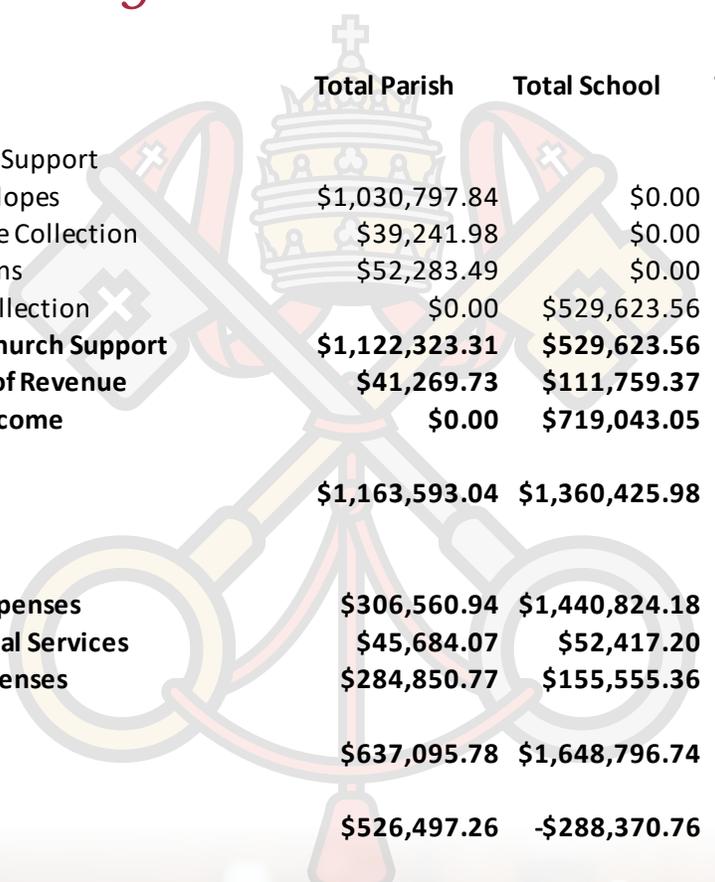
“It is truly an investment in your marriage — you gain so much,” Kelsey says. “It’s beneficial all the way around.”

“It’s definitely an investment,” David says. “And it’s only going to make your relationship stronger.”

If you are engaged and planning to get married at St. Peter’s, please contact the parish office at 217-222-3155.

ST. PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH

FINANCIAL REPORT *July 2018 - March 2019*



	Total Parish	Total School	Total
Income			
Regular Church Support			
Offertory - Envelopes	\$1,030,797.84	\$0.00	\$1,030,797.84
Offertory - Loose Collection	\$39,241.98	\$0.00	\$39,241.98
Other Collections	\$52,283.49	\$0.00	\$52,283.49
School Fund Collection	\$0.00	\$529,623.56	\$529,623.56
Total Regular Church Support	\$1,122,323.31	\$529,623.56	\$1,651,946.87
Other Sources of Revenue	\$41,269.73	\$111,759.37	\$153,029.10
Total Tuition Income	\$0.00	\$719,043.05	\$719,043.05
Total Income	\$1,163,593.04	\$1,360,425.98	\$2,524,019.02
Expense			
Total Payroll Expenses	\$306,560.94	\$1,440,824.18	\$1,747,385.12
Total Contractual Services	\$45,684.07	\$52,417.20	\$98,101.27
Total Other Expenses	\$284,850.77	\$155,555.36	\$440,406.13
Total Expense	\$637,095.78	\$1,648,796.74	\$2,285,892.52
Net Income	\$526,497.26	-\$288,370.76	\$238,126.50



YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

A Chance for Young Catholics to BE the Church

One of the great gifts of Christianity is that we don't have to go it alone. As members of the Body of Christ, we are each mystically united, sharing in one another's joys and sorrows (1 Corinthians 12:26). And though this is true of all of us to some degree, this rich sense of community is most fully felt when we have the opportunity to gather, share and grow with people experiencing similar experiences and stages of life.

"We've found that many young adults in our parish are seeking ways to get involved with others their age and people that are in the same stages of life as they are," says St. Peter Young Adult coordinator Elise Sutter. "Our group's ages range from 18 to around 40, and we are a mixture of those who are single, married, in college, or have young kids. The diversity of the group allows us to learn from one another in new ways. Many families in our group with young children also find that this is a great opportunity to connect with those they will be getting to know later as their children head into school."

The Young Adult Ministry, then, serves as a kind of bridge, connecting young adult parishioners with a peer community



Young adults get to know one another and our priests through a Meet and Greet hosted by the Young Adult Ministry.

within the parish and, through that, helping them more fully participate in activities that strengthen our faith formation and stewardship within the Church and our community as a whole. This is accomplished through monthly gatherings, varying from social adult and family events, to faith formation opportunities and participation in parish and community events.

"As more opportunities arise, we would like to participate in more service and faith-based activities together," Elise says. "We also meet once a month to plan out events for the future months, and these meetings always take place at St. Peter."

This allows parish young adults to form faith-centered friendships and creates what Elise describes as a "safe haven" where people can have open conversations about the big issues of life.

"Our hope is to continue deepening our faith relationships with Christ while also building upon the strengths of



An evening of fun and fellowship at the bowling alley.

our group," Elise says. "We also hope to help one another learn more about the Catholic faith as a whole."

For Elise personally, it's been a great way to connect with her fellow parishioners and to more fully embrace a life of stewardship. Through the Young Adult Ministry, she's come to see our Church as a "plethora of opportunities" only awaiting the willingness to seek them out and cultivate them.

"Our young adults are always brainstorming ways to give back to our Church and community — ways to reach out to people in our parish, and ways to be stewards with our time, talents, and treasures," Elise says. "Through this ministry, we get a chance to BE the Church. Whether it is walking into Mass and saying 'hi' to someone new or taking on a new volunteer project with the group, we get the opportunity to be the hands and feet of Christ and grow in our faith together. Doing life together with those you cherish is truly a blessing."

The Young Adult Ministry is eager to embrace these opportunities, working to become a greater part and service to the parish community. To get involved or learn more about this growing ministry, please email stpeteryoungadultgroup@gmail.com and one of the group's team members will assist you.

ST. PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH

2600 Maine Street
Quincy, Illinois 62301



Return Service Requested

MASS & RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE

Sunday Masses

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.,

Sunday: 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Weekday Masses

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

Wednesdays: 8:30 a.m.

Reconciliation

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

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

LAWN CARE MINISTRY *continued from front cover*

Paul joined the ministry when he saw an opportunity to help with the beautification of the church.

"I discussed it with my wife, and I decided I'd help the group out," he says. "It is something I can do for the church, and there is a lot of appreciation from the people. It makes my part of being a member of the church very, very nice."

Paul, along with other members of the ministry, take personal responsibility for making the church grounds beautiful.

"I feel much better and thankful I can do it for the parish," Paul says. "I feel closer to Christ doing the work, as all the other volunteers do."

Our church grounds benefit from their work, and the ministry members also benefit from the fellowship they enjoy. When they are working, they adjourn to the church break room at about 9 a.m. for a half-hour rest.

"We discuss the world news and what we can do to beautify the church," he says. "The church provides the coffee and drinks and each individual will volunteer to bring donuts that day."



Although the Lawn Care Ministry is well-staffed, anyone with questions may contact Paul Wilson at 217-653-0303.