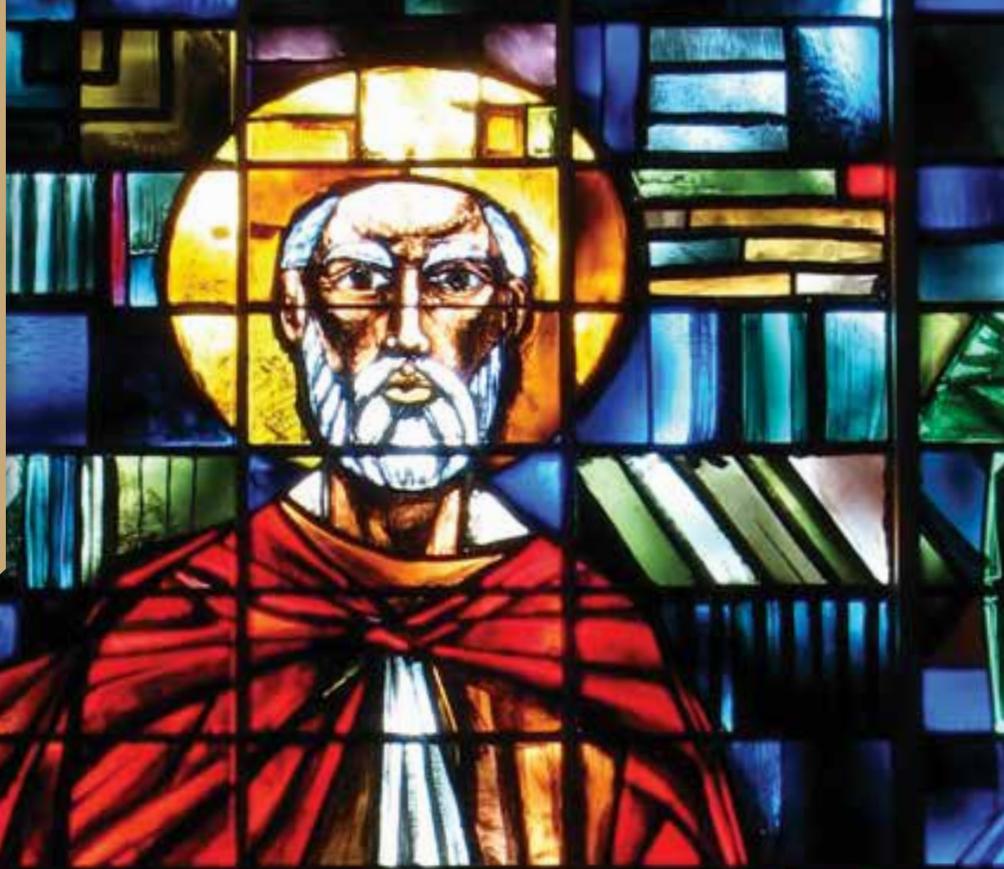


# Church of St. Peter, Quincy III

MONTHLY  
NEWSLETTER



## **PROFILE: DEACON BOB LUNDBERG**

### *A True Calling to a Vocation to the Permanent Diaconate*

Sometimes, the third time really is the charm. At least, that was the case with our very own Deacon Bob Lundberg when it came to his decision to pursue a vocation in the Church!

Deacon Bob had long thought he had a call to be helping people in some way, and eventually he and his wife, Mary Ann, attended an information session on the diaconate. At that time, Bob decided not to pursue the vocation any further. Later, the couple felt called once again to attend an information session. Again, the call was not yet clear.

As Deacon Bob now realizes, God was doing it all on His own time.

“God will always take care of things,” he says. “After the third time we looked into the diaconate program, God said we should go ahead and do it, so we did. Mary Ann was a big part of it all. Really, she was the most important part because deacons need the support.”

Deacon Bob was ordained in the permanent diaconate for the Diocese of Springfield in 2012. Since suffering a major stroke four years ago, he no longer proclaims the Gospel nor preaches. But he

*continued on page 2*



*Deacon Bob Lundberg with his wife, Mary Ann.*

# ST. PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH

## DEACON BOB LUNDBERG *continued from front cover*

has remained all the same a devoted servant of God and His people, setting up for daily Mass each morning, visiting the homebound and the residents of nursing homes, and continuing in his role as chaplain at Blessing Hospital.

Spending time with the ill and elderly has always held great meaning for Deacon Bob.

“I feel called to do it because I see a lot of people who are sick, people that are hurt, people that are dying, and it just makes sense to help them and to pray with them,” he says. “When I prayed with them before my stroke, I would use a lot of books and things, but now I just do it from my heart. And if I meet with someone that has had a stroke, I can tell them I had one, too, and it will be OK.”

Mary Ann accompanies Deacon Bob on his many visits to the sick and infirm, drawing the couple together in their service. Last month, the Lundbergs celebrated their 51<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary. A shared faith and commitment to the Sacrament of Matrimony form the unshakeable foundation of their long marriage.

“I think our marriage has been strengthened by us serving together, and also just hanging in there in the bad times,” Mary Ann says. “It’s about not giving up. I think, as far as marriage goes, your main goal is to get each other to heaven. That’s the purpose — getting each other closer to God.”

Deacon Bob also affirms the essential role the Lundbergs’ faith life has played in their marriage.

“It would be hard without faith,” he says. “If something is wrong, work it out. Don’t get upset and walk away. And definitely keep God in your life together. If you don’t, it doesn’t work. That’s a part of what marriage is — it’s not just us, but God has to be with us, too.”

Growing up Methodist on a Missouri farm, Deacon Bob could have never guessed that God would one day call him to be a deacon in the Diocese of Springfield! And yet, every turn in the path has led him right where he needed to be. While a student at Quincy College, he began exploring the Catholic faith and, convinced by the true presence of Christ in the Eucharist, he joined the Church. Then, with Mary Ann, a devout “cradle Catholic,” he raised four children in the faith.

Though they have been members of many Quincy-area parishes throughout their 51 years of marriage, the Lundbergs have enjoyed establishing roots once again at St. Peter, Mary Ann’s childhood parish. They are thankful for the ongoing support of our warm and welcoming priests, staff and parishioners. And they are grateful that God has always guided their lives so faithfully, even if He sometimes had to ask three times!

“The diaconate is what God wanted me to do,” Deacon Bob says. “It wasn’t something I did for myself, but God just kept saying, ‘Hey, this is your time to do it’ — so I did.”

***“I feel called to do it because I see a lot of people who are sick, people that are hurt, people that are dying, and it just makes sense to help them and to pray with them. When I prayed with them before my stroke, I would use a lot of books and things, but now I just do it from my heart. And if I meet with someone that has had a stroke, I can tell them I had one, too, and it will be OK.” — Deacon Bob Lundberg***

## STRIVING FOR “THE BEST LENT EVER” WILL PREPARE US TO JOYFULLY CELEBRATE EASTER

Dear Parishioners,

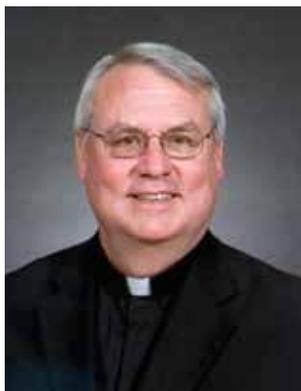
**T**he most important day in February won't come till the very end of the month. Alert parishioners may already have realized I'm referring to Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, which falls on Feb. 26 this year. That means we have most of the month to plan for Lent!

I know what you're thinking right about now: “Father seems particularly happy about getting ready for Lent!” Of course, when we approach Lent in the right way, it will help us get spiritually fit to celebrate Easter. Just as an Olympic athlete goes through a long period of serious training to win a medal, so we prepare during Lent for our great Easter celebration. And “giving up” something during Lent is not supposed to leave a vacuum — we're invited to put something more valuable in its place.

We're all familiar with the three traditional Lenten disciplines of **prayer**, **fasting** and **almsgiving**. These can serve as our framework for how we approach the season of Lent. One might decide, for example, to give up a half hour of television each evening. That doesn't mean you sit and stare at a blank wall for the half hour. Instead, fill it with prayerful reading of the Bible or a devotional book, or praying the Rosary.

Some people decide to forego desserts during Lent (fasting). But just losing weight is not the purpose of Lent! The goal is greater discipline in our spiritual lives. However, a family can put aside the money saved by skipping desserts and contribute it to a Church-related charity (almsgiving), so that our self-denial can benefit others.

These are just possible examples. There are many ways of combining prayer, fasting,



and almsgiving into our daily lives during the Lenten season. The object is to develop a spiritual routine that challenges us but still fits into our lives with our individual responsibilities and schedules.

By the way, most of us will stumble at some point during our Lenten journey. Our first instinct will be to throw up our hands and give up. What we should do is just pick up where we left off and continue to do our best as we proceed on the Lenten journey.

Of course, most of February is Ordinary Time. But that gives us time to figure out what we should do in the areas of prayer, fasting and almsgiving so we can keep our best Lent ever and arrive at Easter spiritually fit.

In Christ,

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

Rev. Msgr. Leo J. Enlow  
Pastor

The word "Lent" is written in a large, bold, black calligraphic font. The letters are thick and have a slight shadow, giving them a three-dimensional appearance. The background is a soft, warm, yellowish glow.

## TEACHER PROFILES: MEET HANN

It takes a special kind of person to choose a career that involves shaping the lives of young people every day. Here at St. Peter School, we like to think we've found some of the best educators to form our students, especially in junior high, as they prepare to leave our community and go out to serve others, both in high school and beyond.

At St. Peter's, our junior high students have the opportunity to learn about their faith and further develop their reading skills in their homeroom classrooms. From there, they will switch classes to learn history, mathematics, science and English from teachers who specialize in those areas.

Meet Miss Hannah Metz. Originally from Peoria, she is in her sixth year teaching at St. Peter, and she currently teaches seventh-grade homeroom, as well as science, to all our junior high students.

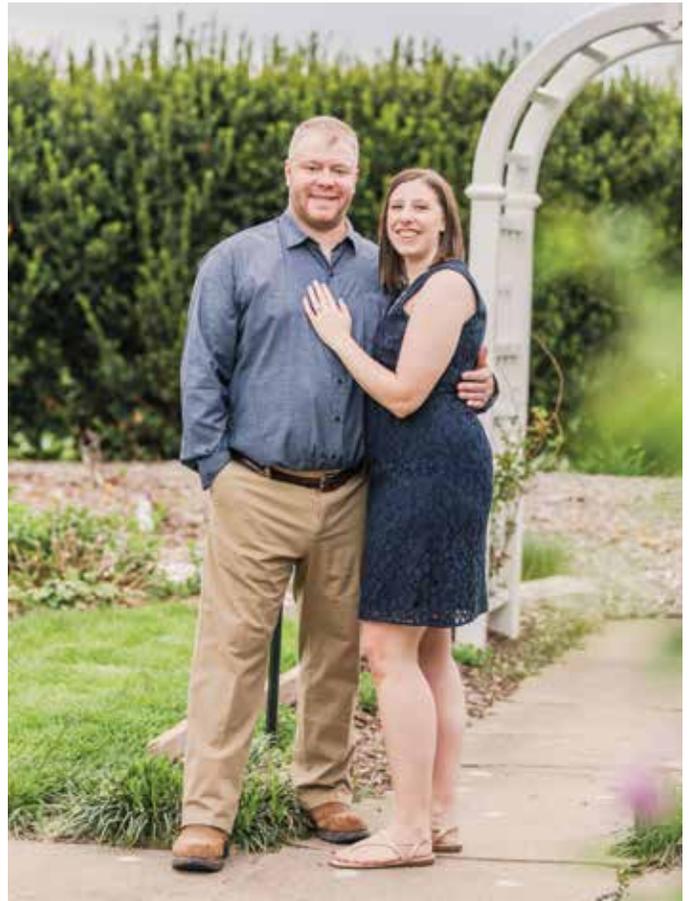
Having benefited from Catholic education in pre-K through high school, Miss Metz is grateful for the opportunity to pass on to her students the gift that she received.

"I love that Catholic education prepares you for the future, for faith, for education, for whatever path you take in life," Miss Metz says.

She particularly enjoys teaching science, as it gives her students a chance to learn in a hands-on way.

"I love that we have a classroom where we're able to do labs and activities — that makes learning fun," Miss Metz says. "I teach life science, and it's amazing because I teach about practical things like genetics and the human body. We're able to have discussions about things related to our faith — evolution, genetic engineering, all kinds of topics — and we talk a lot about 'What does the Catholic Church have to say about this?'"

This year, Miss Metz has changes coming in



*Ms. Hannah Metz and her fiancé, Tyler Allen, enjoy being part of the St. Peter's community.*

her own life, including her upcoming wedding. For her, it's been fun to help her students grow beyond the typical curriculum and learn life skills and lessons — everything from how to organize money in a wallet and walk on the right side of the sidewalk, to taking your time in finding a person with whom to share your life.

"I like being able to share those types of life adventures with them," Miss Metz says. "I really look to help kids learn, not only things in the classroom, but also life lessons and skills. Teaching isn't always just about teaching academics. Life lessons are so important to teach at this age."

# AH METZ AND TOM VANDERBOR



*After a number of years away from St. Peter's — and teaching — Mr. Tom VanderBor is glad to be back at our school.*

Mr. Tom VanderBor is also in his sixth year teaching at St. Peter, although his path looked a bit different. He began his teaching career at Quincy Notre Dame, spent time as the Principal at St. Dominic, and then five years as a teacher at St. Peter in the early 2000s. With school consolidations, his path led to teaching at Blessed Sacrament and, eventually deciding to leave education, working for the City of Quincy for a decade. Last year, he felt drawn back to education,

and when doors opened for him to return to St. Peter, there was no question in his mind.

“When I was here at St. Peter’s the first time, that was my favorite time teaching,” Mr. VanderBor says. “St. Peter’s has always had a family atmosphere. I get to meet so many wonderful people, the parent support is outstanding — [St. Peter’s] was always in my mind as the only school I’d ever go back to.”

Mr. VanderBor currently teaches eighth-grade homeroom, and English to all our seventh and eighth-grade students. He also coaches junior high basketball and baseball.

“[Seventh and eighth grade], they are my favorite grades to teach, by far,” Mr. VanderBor says. “They’re old enough to have conversations and talk maturely about topics, but they don’t think they know everything. There’s still molding you can do, on ideas and beliefs, but you can talk to them like young adults.”

He hopes that students and families will value the gift they’re given in Catholic education, and not take for granted the privilege of being a part of the community at St. Peter School.

“I want everybody to know how fortunate we are to have a school like St. Peter’s — especially for kids who have been here for eight or nine years, they can take it for granted,” Mr. VanderBor says. “I want people to remember that this is something we’re fortunate to have and it’s a privilege to go to this school. Make every minute count because, before you know it, [this time] is gone.”

Thank you to Miss Metz and Mr. VanderBor for their service to our students, families and community. We are grateful for the investment you make in our young people!

*If you would like more information on St. Peter School, please visit our website at [www.stpeterschool.com](http://www.stpeterschool.com) or call 217-223-1120.*

# ST. PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH



## *Stewardship*

### **LIVING LIFE TO THE FULLEST**

**A**s professed disciples of Christ, we are also stewards of our personal and communal vocations. When we declare Christ as our King and Savior, we also promise to exist as His earthly body. The universal Church depends upon its individual earthly members for evangelization and support. As stewards of Catholicism, we must respond to this call with living faith and heartfelt stewardship. We must employ our lives in Christ's service, allowing Him to vocationally use us to our fullest potential. God designed us with specific talents in mind — by closely communicating with Jesus, His Son, we can put our talents to proper use. As stated in John's Gospel, when we give our lives to Christ, He promises to ignite them accordingly: "I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly" (Jn 10:10).

True life demands sacrifices, which are crucial in urging us onward and upward toward Christ. When we embark upon a lifelong path of stewardship, giving our time, talent and treasure in the service of God and His Church, we are effectively allowing Jesus to guide us along life's slippery slopes with the steady hand of a practiced master. Christ explains this concept in the ninth chapter of Luke's Gospel: "If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself and take up

his cross daily and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it" (Lk 9:23-24). Only after completely giving our lives over to Christ, will we experience the true majesty of life — the life each of us is destined to live.

As Catholics, we are urged to outwardly promote all stages of life, and to stand up in its defense. Considering the attention death has garnered within our society — whether we focus upon abortion, embryonic stem cell research, capital punishment or euthanasia — an understanding and respect for life must be reinstated into our culture and lives. But we must first harbor a true, personal love for life within our very souls, and live our own lives to the fullest, through Christ, in the service and promotion of His Church. We must become stewards of faith, in order to truly live as Christ planned. And we must give our time, talents and treasure — all gifts God has given us through life — before we can really claim to be alive.

Let us promote the sanctity of life through personal conversion. Our deaths in Christ destine us to live in His glory, the ultimate expression of life. Let us become the disciples we claim to be, by adopting the essence of stewardship and melding it into our very souls.

# AN INSIDE LOOK AT OUR PAINTING, CARPENTRY, ELECTRIC, PLUMBING AND MORE MINISTRY

*Putting Talents and Trades to a Higher Purpose*

Whether it's taking care of the parish lawns, repairing the tabernacle or changing out light bulbs, St. Peter's Painting, Carpentry, Electric, Plumbing and More Ministry — or PCEPM — is ready and willing for the task. Operated by a group of dedicated volunteers, this ministry of services enables parishioners to use their trades and hobbies for the benefit of our faith community.

“Being an old farm boy myself and a pattern maker by trade, I've learned to do a little bit of everything over the years,” says ministry coordinator Tom Maas. “This ministry allows people like me to put those talents to good use.”

Past projects have included repairing all of the church kneelers, replacing church and school bulbs with energy-efficient lights, and repairing rusted hand railings. Then, of course, there is the ongoing task of lawn care and landscaping performed by the ministry. Each of these jobs

have been performed by generous groups of volunteers, working together to ensure the safety and efficiency of our parish grounds.

“These are all things that need to be done,” Tom says. “If we were to go out and hire professionals, it would end up costing the parish a lot of money. We've got plenty of people here in the parish who are retired and even younger ones who are wanting to be involved in the church. They've got the talents to do these things and are still physically able to do it without complications. I'm sure, too, it brings us all closer to the Lord. You are there on the holy grounds and can't help but be affected by it all.”

Though Tom and his fellow PCEPM members are involved in the ministry mainly out of their desire to serve, an unexpected blessing has been the deep sense of camaraderie that has been formed. Tom says they've become a true brotherhood, sharing in one another's lives and

*continued on back cover*



*Dedicated members of the Painting, Carpentry, Electric, Plumbing and More Ministry — (from left) Gary Zanger, Paul Wilson, Mike Lawrence, Jim McGinn, Jerry Rolves, and Tom Maas. (Not pictured: Rich Lauer, Bill Mays, Bob Klinge, Harold Ellerbrock, Gerald Holcgrafe, John Lieson, Tim Oitker, and Terry Mitten.)*

# 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

## PAINTING, CARPENTRY, ELECTRIC, PLUMBING AND MORE MINISTRY *continued from page 7*

supporting each other during difficult times.

“It’s really about fellowship too,” Tom says. “Over the last years I’ve met so many people and made so many wonderful friends. Our lawn crew comes out and works about an hour and half every Wednesday morning. Then we break at about 9 a.m. and have coffee and donuts. That’s really allowed us to get to know each other.”

Other projects are less regular, popping up sporadically depending on Fr. Leo’s requests and the overall needs of the parish. Yet, whatever the task ends up being, Tom says they’ll continue to be ready and willing, eager to offer their time and talents to the Lord once more through their service.

**“We’ve got plenty of people here in the parish who are retired and even younger ones who are wanting to be involved in the church. They’ve got the talents to do these things and are still physically able to do it without complications. I’m sure, too, it brings us all closer to the Lord. You are there on the holy grounds and can’t help but be affected by it all.” — Tom Maas**

*If you would like more information about the Painting, Carpentry, Electric, Plumbing and More Ministry or to get involved, please contact either the parish office at 217-222-3155 or Tom Maas at 217-885-3301.*