



The Parish of St. Peter Quincy, IL

~Mass Intentions~

December 18-24 2023

18. Monday 8:00 a.m.
Don Sturhahn & Julie Barry
19. Tuesday 8:00 a.m.
Orville Lubbe
20. Wednesday 8:30 a.m.
Loren Tournear
21. Thursday 8:00 a.m.
Steve Sinnock
22. Friday 8:00 a.m.
Charles & Mildred Veihl
23. Saturday 8:00 a.m.
Doug Frese
23. Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Don Adolfs
24. Sunday 8:00 a.m.
Rita Terford
24. Sunday 9:30 a.m.
Our Parish Family
24. Sunday 11:00 a.m.
Dale Tangy
24. Sunday 4:00 p.m.
Dan Barry
24. Sunday 6:00 p.m.
Brian D. Reis
24. Sunday 8:00 p.m.
Fr. Roy Bauer

— Mass Schedule —

Monday-Saturday
8:00 a.m.
Wednesday 8:30 a.m.
Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:00 a.m.,
9:30 a.m., & 11:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

Third Sunday of Advent, December 17, 2023

Dear Parishioners,

This weekend, the Church celebrates the 3rd Sunday in our season of Advent. The Third Sunday is traditionally called “*Gaudete Sunday*.” The reason for this particular designation is found in our Introit, or Entrance Antiphon, which proclaims “*Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say rejoice. For indeed the Lord is near.*” This proclamation sets the tone of joyful expectation for the Lord’s birth and Second coming. To help us enter into this joyful expectation, the Church invites us to wear rose-colored vestments (not pink, but rose).

There are many differing symbols that we use at Christmas that often either go unnoticed or are not very apparent to us as we use them. So often we see Christmas trees with candy canes hanging on branches or we buy these same candy canes to fill stockings or given as gifts. The candy cane has an interesting significance. It is shaped like a shepherd’s crook, representing the Nativity’s first witnesses to the Bethlehem scene along with symbolic of Christ the Good Shepherd being born. It’s alternating white and red stripes represent the Lord’s purity. It’s lively peppermint flavor stands for the royal gift of spice. Finally, like the Body of Christ itself, the candy cane is given to be broken and shared. As I read these fun-filled facts of the candy cane, I never realized the full significance of this piece of candy in Christian symbolism.

In our gospel for this Third Sunday of Advent, we hear a little more about John the Baptist. When he was confronted by Jewish leadership concerning what he was doing and why he was doing it, John acknowledged that He was not the Christ, the long expected Messiah. Then when asked if he were Elijah, he denied that reality. In answer to the question, then who are you, John would respond by quoting the prophet Isaiah, “*I am a voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord.*” Thus John sets the stage as one who is preparing the way for someone far greater than he, “*someone whose sandal strap he is not worthy to untie.*” This is our Christ, this is our long awaited Savior who would save us from ourselves and the sinful condition in which we find ourselves. May each of us make room in our lives this Christmas for the long-awaited Savior, Jesus the Christ.

To help us make room in our lives, we all need to acknowledge our sins, and open our hearts to our Lord. To help us in this endeavor, we will be having a city wide penance service this Sunday, December 17th, at 2:00 p.m. at St. Francis Church. There will be a number of priests in the area who will be present to provide individual Confession for those in attendance. Please make use of this sacrament as we prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus.

One of the things for which I am so proud of this parish family is the giving wreath event held each year to help various community organizations help their clientele to have a nice Christmas. Our parishioners take various tags, buy the gifts, wrap the gifts and then return them. It is so amazing to see all these gifts in the narthex, reflecting the spirit of Christmas and our generosity toward our brothers and sisters. To each of you who will bring smiles on faces, I thank you for being the stewards of God’s graces that you are. I am most proud of you!

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Next Meeting

Dodgeball

January 7th

6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Drop Off & Pick Up - Martha Jane Room

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



Saints Alive!

January 21st

6:00-7:30 p.m. in the Gym

A youth group for 4th, 5th, & 6th grade Parishioners and guests! Have fun with your friends while you learn more about the Saints and your Catholic Faith. Come enjoy these fun evenings in the St. Peter Gym 6:00-7:30 p.m. Wear your Saints Alive Shirt! Please check Facebook for updates.

Mark Your Calendar

Mon. Dec. 18:

Tues. Dec. 19:

Wed. Dec. 20: Ladies Cursillo 1:30 p.m., Fr. Bauer Prayer Room

Thurs. Dec. 21:

Fri. Dec. 22: Parish Office Closed

Sat. Dec. 23:

Sun. Dec. 24:
Christmas Eve Masses: 4:00, 6:00, 8:00 p.m.

Mon. Dec. 25: Masses at 8:00 & 10:00 a.m.

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With Christmas falling on Monday, there will be a great amount of confusion concerning Masses and which Mass will fulfill the differing obligations. So again here is the schedule:

Saturday, December 23rd: 5:00 p.m. Mass.
Sunday, December 24th: 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Masses.

Monday, December 25th: Christmas Masses will be at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.

P.S. Save yourself of phone call and cut these schedules out and post them in a very visible area.

Funny Quotes:

1. Instead of cleaning my house, I just watch an episode of "Hoarders" and think, "wow, my house looks great."
2. So my neighbor knocked on my front door at 3 am. Luckily I was already up playing the bagpipes.
3. Never trust an electrician with no eyebrows.
4. A guy walks into a lumberyard and asks for 2 X 4's. The clerk asks, "how long do you need them?" The guy answers, "A long time. We're gonna build a house."
5. It only takes one slow-walking person in the grocery store to destroy the illusion that I'm a nice person.

Help for women and men to heal from the pain of abortion. For assistance call 1-877-RACHEL-5.

To report allegations of sexual abuse of a minor by clergy or other church personnel – even if it is in the past – individuals are encouraged to call the Diocese's Child Abuse Reporting and Investigation number at (217) 321-1155. Individuals may also contact Illinois Department of Children and Family Services Child Abuse Hotline at 1.800.25.ABUSE.



	<u>December 10</u>	<u>Total to Date</u>
Loose Collections	\$1,179.25	\$25,489.95
Regular Collections	\$35,138.40	\$653,061.13
Annual School Fund	\$4,901.00	\$181,068.00
Holy Days	\$4,436.76	\$12,464.76
Totals	\$45,655.41	\$872,083.84
Total Budget Goal	\$32,000.00	\$768,000.00
Difference	\$13,655.41	\$104,083.84

Quincy Catholic Cemeteries: \$75.00
Justice & Hope: \$10.00
Home Mission: \$100.00 Retired Religious: \$1,358.00

Collected \$1,610.00

December, 2023

The mission of the Catholic Children's Home (CCH) is to be a beacon of hope for thousands of children in need of safe harbor and a place to call home. For the past 144 years, the (CCH) has continued this mission by meeting the emotional, social, academic and basic material needs of all the children sent for residential care or special education services. This includes an innovative program designed to serve the needs of children with severe autistic challenges.

The children served by CCH have been chronically abused, designated “unmanageable” by their schools or simply have no place to call home. They are some of the most vulnerable in our society. In the words of Pope Francis, “We need to see each child as a gift to be welcomed, cherished and protected.”

The holiday season is a particularly difficult time for these youths as many of them are without a family. Those who have a family often lack the special care they need. Please keep these children in your prayers throughout this holy season of Advent and Christmas. With your help, the Catholic Children's Home can continue to serve the special needs of these children in the name of Jesus Christ, as it has since 1879.

In the spirit of Christ's incredible love for all children, I ask that you continue to support the work of the Catholic Children's Home and generously contribute to the special Christmas collection. *"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."* (Romans 15:13) May God fill your hearts with love, grace and a spirit of giving during these blessed days of Advent and Christmas.

With every best wish and gratitude, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ.

Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki
Bishop of Springfield in Illinois

As we continue to prepare to launch the *Upon this Rock, the Campaign to Build in Faith at St. Peter* Capital Campaign, we wanted to provide a calendar outline for the campaign.

- Campaign Kick-off —————> January, 2024
- Active Fundraising —————> January to March
- Follow up and celebration —————> April

If you are looking to support the campaign with a year-end gift for tax purposes, the campaign and the parish would be grateful for your support. Please note that to maximize the success of the campaign, we use the following strategies:

- Everyone will be asked to support the campaign.
- It's our intention to have personal, face-to-face visits with as many of our parishioners as possible.
- We will ask for specific gifts to the campaign.
- Our goal is to challenge everyone to consider a significant, proportional gift.



The campaign will be sending *Upon this Rock, the Campaign to Build in Faith at St. Peter* information and educational communications, and an appeal letter, to each household in January, 2024.

UPON *this* ROCK

*The Campaign
to Build in Faith
at St. Peter*

THOU ART PETER, AND UPON THIS ROCK, I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH

Questions about the campaign? Please call the Parish Office at 217/222-3155 and ask for the campaign office.