

Welcome to the Catholic Community of

# ST. PETER PARISH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2020

Petersburg, IL



**3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

## BELIEVE

A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light. - Jn 1:6-8

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1996, 1970 CCD.

### PASTOR

Rev. Daren Zehnle  
217-321-1109  
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### DEACON

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### OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Director of Office, Finance & Ministries

Lisa Reeves  
stpeter234@sbcglobal.net

### LITURGICAL MUSIC COORDINATOR

ann.bova@sikich.com

### “GIFT” PROGRAM DIRECTOR

moniquesullivan3@gmail.com

### PARISH OFFICE

#### HOURS

Monday—Friday 8:00am-4:00pm

Telephone: 217-632-7118

Website: spp.dio.org

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/st.peter.menard.county](http://www.facebook.com/st.peter.menard.county)

Email: [stpeter234@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stpeter234@sbcglobal.net)

### MASS SCHEDULE

#### St. Peter Church

Saturday .....4:00pm      Tuesday.....8:00am  
Sunday.....8:00am      Wednesday.... 8:00am

### RECONCILIATION

Saturday.....3:00-3:45pm



## MASS INTENTIONS

December 19th & 20th

Sat. 4:00pm † John Standish

Sun. 8:00am Intentions of Parishioners

### MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

December 14th— December 18th

Mon. NO MASS

Tues. 8:00AM Lynn Serena

Wed. 8:00AM James Lutchka

Thu. NO MASS

Fri. NO MASS

***Attendance at Mass will be on a first come, first seated basis. If you arrive for Mass after we have already reached our seating limit of 58 people, you will not be able to enter for that Mass. We hope you understand and have patience with the changes.***

### CHRISTMAS LITURGIES

5:00PM - Christmas Eve (Full no seating available)

7:00PM - Christmas Eve (Full no seating available)

8:00AM - Christmas Day

Attendance at Mass will be limited to 58 people per mass. Reservations must be made and will be reserved according to the order in which they are received. Call the office: (632-7118) or Email:stpeter234@sbcglobal.net.

## 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT/DECEMBER 13TH

### First Reading:

I rejoice heartily in the LORD,  
in my God is the joy of my soul. (Is 61:10a)

### Psalm:

My soul rejoices in my God. (Is 61:10b)

### Second Reading:

May the God of peace make you perfectly holy and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Thes 5:23)

### Gospel:

"I am the voice of one crying out in the desert,  
'Make straight the way of the Lord.'" (Jn 1:23)

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The English translation of Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass*  
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## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 13TH

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent

Monday: St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor  
of the Church

Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Advent

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## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT GOSPEL MEDITATION

Did you ever stop and realize that there is no earthly gain that can ever really satisfy us? Think of winning the Lotto. On this side of the winning ticket, it's all about the money, the new car, house, vacations, bank accounts, and infinite pleasures. The possibility of acquiring all of these earthly securities brings us back again and again to the purchase of a ticket. Then, one day we win! Our dreams are fulfilled, and happiness is on the horizon. Then one day, we wake up and realize that nothing has really changed, and I am not as satisfied as I thought I was or would be. I find myself living in my incompleteness and with my profound sorrow and grief. I did not find joy.

Glimpses of joy are possible but not by material means. They are brought to us through incredible experiences of connection that bring us face to face with real and authentic faith, hope, and love. And, they are glimpses and do not last. The moment we find ourselves looking back at them, they are gone, and we find ourselves remembering the moment in memory. To carry joy within us is to realize that it is not something I create, manufacture or even acquire. It is not able to be purchased. It is a gift. My need for joy mirrors my need for eternity, for a Creator who has a claim on the very essence of who I am and desires a home within me. As C. S. Lewis discovered, joy is a surprise that speaks to my very soul and is given as gift by the God who loves me.

The beauty of Advent is found in discovering the beauty of the gift of joy. God has visited his people for no other reason than to show them where and how to find joy! All of our human and earthly joy experiences are always only glimpses. They never satisfy us, sustain us or fulfill us. It is only God who is the joy of my soul. Real, Divine experiences of joy catch us off guard, make us stop and become aware, bring a feeling of awe and rightness and have an eternal Otherness about them. Nothing created by humans can ever come close to this. We probably will not fully realize the truth of all of this until we actually meet God face to face in heaven one day. Then, in that sacred moment when our hearts leap for joy we will understand what we have been tirelessly searching for all along. Intense gratitude will most surely follow. ©LPi

## ROOTED IN FAITH-GROUNDED IN LOVE- ALIVE WITH THE SPIRIT

In gratitude we give thanks to all those who share their gifts and talents: To those who reorganize the parish offices and meeting rooms by removing old furniture and building new cabinets. To the Knights of Columbus for taking care of the yard work and other parish needs. To those who clean the church and serve at each liturgy. To office volunteers. To all those who have given so generously to help those in need and to the financial obligations of the parish.

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

### Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest—5 to 14 years old

Get forms from the Parish Center or contact Darrell at darrell.roll@sbcglobal.net or call 217-632-0198. Posters must be done by December 20 include a theme on the picture, name on back, and returned with the registration Form.

## CHRISTMAS GIFTS AND FOOD BASKETS FOR FAMILIES

Jesse Tree ornaments that may be available are due soon. Ornaments on this year's tree will help local children, provide food for families and gifts for Sunny Acres residents. **Gifts and food baskets should be returned no later than December 14<sup>th</sup>.** We ask that you take this opportunity to help the poor, lonely and needy in our parish and surrounding community. Please use the sign-out sheet located near the Jesse Tree to list your contact information and the ornament taken. If you have any questions, please contact Meggann Bell @ 971-0535.

**\*DUE TO COVID, WE ASK THAT YOU DO NOT CONGREGATE AT THE TREE WHEN PICKING AN ORNAMENT. PLEASE PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING. THE CHURCH IS OPEN THROUGHOUT THE WEEK AND ORNAMENTS MAY BE PICKED UP AND GIFTS LEFT OUTSIDE OF MASS TIMES.**

**BE NOT AFRAID TO PRAY BIG!** We currently have 16 Seminarians, which is great! But wouldn't 40 be better?? YES!!! We invite you to pray a Hail Mary EVERY DAY at 4:40 for our diocese to have 40 seminarians. 4:40 for 40 Seminarians!

## PEACE IN THE WOMB

### SPRINGFIELD RIGHT TO LIFE OFFICE

### 519 BRUNS LANE, SPRINGFIELD

### CHRISTMAS CAROLING, DECEMBER 19TH, AT NOON

After caroling, there will be an open house to feature the changes we have made to our office on the outside as well as on the inside with our new sonogram room.

## RETIRED FUND FOR RELIGIOUS COLLECTION

As you may know, senior religious were instrumental in establishing Catholic schools, hospitals, and charitable agencies. Often this progress came at great sacrifice, and many older sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little to no pay.

Today, hundreds of religious communities do not have enough retirement savings and struggle to provide for a growing number of elder members. Covid-19 has only increased the challenge to provide adequate care.

Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious provides vital funding for medications, nursing care, and more.

In these difficult days, you may feel as though your generosity has been exhausted. I ask just two things. First, please join me in praying for God's protection for all our elderly religious. Second, please support the Retirement Fund for Religious collection as you are able -and know that women and men religious across the country hold you and your loved ones in grateful prayer.

Most Rev. Thomas John Paprocki

## BUILDING ON THE PAST..... INTO THE FUTURE NEW ADDITION UPDATE

Total Construction Cost	\$ 655,928
Amount received to date	\$ 643,022
<b>Diocesan Loan Balance</b>	<b>\$ 6179.36</b>

Thank you to all who support this campaign. If you would like more information contact the parish office at 632-7118.

## SACRIFICIAL GIVING SUMMARY OF CONTRIBUTIONS

December 6, 2020	ACTUAL	NEEDED
Envelopes (26) & Loose Cash	\$3968.00	\$2802.00
Building Fund	15.00	
Capital Campaign	393.00	
Votive Candles	2.25	
Catholic Children's Home	50.00	
Christmas Offering	150.00	
Christmas Flowers	110.00	
Micro Food Pantry	100.00	
Jim Lutchka Memorial	315.00	
Immaculate Conception	50.00	
Retired Priest	40.00	
Solemnity of Mary	30.00	

**"GIFT" FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM K-7th GRADE IN PERSON CLASSES CANCELLED UNTIL 2021 DUE TO COVID.** Call Monique, (971-1704) with any questions.

### New Parishioners

We welcome you to St. Peter Church and invite you to call the Parish Office to register.

### Baptism

Anyone interested in having their infant baptized is asked to attend a pre-baptismal class. Call the Parish office to register.

### Matrimony

Couples planning to marry are to contact the Pastor at least six months prior to the marriage date.

### Anointing of the Sick

Notify the parish office when a parishioner is hospitalized or homebound. Communion is available.

### "GIFT" (Growing in Faith Together) Faith Formation

Contact Monique Sullivan (217-971-1704) to register.

### RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Anyone wanting to learn more about the Catholic Faith or to join the Catholic Church call the Parish Office.

### Prayer Requests

St. Peter Prayer Chain is composed of members of the parish. Contact Meggann Bell by E-mail at (twobells32@hotmail.com) to make a prayer request.



Phone: 217-632-3007  
 Fax: 217-632-3123

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