

Welcome to the Catholic Community of

# ST. PETER PARISH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2020

Petersburg, IL



**4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY  
OF ADVENT**

And the angel said to her in reply, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God." - Lk 1:35

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

**PASTOR**

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**DEACON**

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**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 26th & 27th**

**Sat. 4:00pm † Carlean Rebbe Hughes**

**Sun. 8:00am Intentions of Parishioners**

### MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

**December 21th— December 25th**

**Mon. NO MASS**

**Tues. 8:00AM Catherine Canfield**

**Wed. 8:00AM William Sullivan**

**Thu. 5:00PM Lois Glynn**

**7:00PM Rev. Msgr. Tom Holinga**

**Fri. 8:00AM Alexis Pillsbury**

***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](mailto:stpeter234@sbcglobal.net).

### 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT/DECEMBER 20TH

**First Reading:** "When your times comes and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your heir after you, sprung from your loins, and I will establish his kingdom firm."  
(2 Sm 12)

**Psalm:** For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord. (Ps 89)

**Second Reading:** According to the revelation of the mystery kept secret for long ages but now manifested through the prophetic writings and, according to the command of the eternal God. (Rom 16:25b-26a)

**Gospel:** "Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High." (Lk 1:31-32a)

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### OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 20TH

**Sunday:** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

**Monday:** St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

**Wednesday:** St. John of Kanty, Priest

**Thursday:** Christmas Eve

**Friday:** The Nativity of the Lord

**Saturday:** St. Stephen, the First Martyr

**Next Sunday:** The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

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## MESSAGE FROM FR. DAREN

Dear brothers and sisters,

With the celebration of Christmas now just a few days away, I am very grateful and edified to see how many of you have signed up to join us for Mass at Christmas. We do not have any more room at the 5:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m. Masses on Christmas Eve, but we do still have room at the 8:00 a.m. Mass on Christmas Day. If you wish to reserve a spot, please contact Lisa at [stpeter234@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stpeter234@sbcglobal.net) or (217) 632-7118.

I regret that I will not be with you for the Masses on Christmas Eve, though I will be with you for Mass on Christmas Day. In order to conserve some strength and not to exhaust myself because of the additional Masses needed to be said both at St. Peter's and at St. Augustine's, I have asked one of the priests from the Cathedral, Father Dominic Rankin, to offer the Masses here at St. Peter's on Christmas Eve. His gracious assistance will allow you to celebrate the Lord's Birth at those two Masses with a priest who isn't worn out and will also allow me to have sufficient strength for the Masses the weekend just after Christmas.

Although our celebrations for Christmas – both within the church and in the domestic church in our homes – will be smaller and simpler than what we would like them to be, it does not mean that we cannot experience the authentic joy that Christmas can give. The joy of Christmas is not found so much in the presents beneath our trees or in the company of family and friends or in the feasting on rich foods. Rather, the true joy of Christmas is found in the hearts of those who recognize the great and wondrous gift the Child of Bethlehem has given to us not only in his Birth, but especially and above all in his Passion, Death, and Resurrection from the dead. The recognition and the acceptance of his merciful love, displayed so unmistakably for us on the Cross, is what gives rise to the true joy of Christmas. Let us not forget that the Christ Child took on our humanity in order to save us from sin and death. This is very point of Christmas.

Please be assured that you and those you love will be remembered in my prayers as I ask the Lord to give each of us the grace to open our hearts to the unfathomable gift of the love given to us in Christ Jesus.

Merry Christmas!

Fr. Daren



**NEW'S EVE MASS  
NATIVITY OF THE LORD  
SOLEMNITY OF MARY,  
MOTHER OF GOD  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31ST, 6:00PM**

## CONFESSION THIS SUNDAY

In order to help you prepare for Christmas Fr. Daren will hear confessions in the sacristy from 5pm-7pm on Sunday, December 20th.

## CHRISTMAS GIFTS AND FOOD BASKETS FOR FAMILIES

Thank you to our parish families for making the Jesse Tree a success once again. The community greatly appreciates our parishioners support.

## DECORATING THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22ND, 9:00AM

Volunteers are needed to decorate the church for Christmas. Please wear a mask and practice social distancing guidelines.

## HEY, FATHER!

The Diocesan communications team has produced several videos from priests across the diocese answering questions about our Catholic Faith. These videos, called "Hey Father!," are intended to educate the faithful, those who have fallen away, and those who are seeking to become Catholic. Videos at ([www.dio.org/videos/hey-father.html](http://www.dio.org/videos/hey-father.html).)

## DIVE DEEP

**The 11 things Catholics need to stop doing.**

No, this isn't a list to condemn you, but a friendly reminder to stop doing these 11 things and do the opposite because we want you to grow in your relationship with Christ!

Go to [dio.org/podcast](http://dio.org/podcast) to listen. Make sure to subscribe to the podcast so you never miss an episode!

## CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S HOME COLLECTION

Dear Friends in Christ,

The Catholic Children's Home has served as a 'beacon of hope' for thousands of children for the past 141 years. Since 1879, through the Spanish Flu in 1918 to the Coronavirus in 2020, the Catholic Children's Home has been there to give the love and compassion these children desperately need.

Today, the Catholic Children's Home continues this mission by meeting the emotional, social, academic and basic needs of all the children sent for residential care or special education services, including our newest program designed to serve the needs of children faced with the tremendous challenges of Autism.

The children of Catholic Children's Home have been chronically abused, designated "unmanageable" by their schools, or simply have had no place to call home. They are some of the most vulnerable in our society. The holidays are a particularly difficult time of year for these youth.

In the spirit of Christ's special affection for all children, I ask that you continue to support the work of the Catholic Children's Home and generously contribute to the special collection held at Christmas.

May God touch your hearts with his grace and mercy during these Advent and Christmas days.

Psalm 127:3 "Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from him."

With every best wish and gratitude, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend 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>\$ 3179.36</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 (30) & Loose Cash	\$2489.00	\$2802.00
Building Fund	20.00	
Votive Candles	8.00	
Catholic Children's Home	25.00	
Christmas Flowers	395.00	
Project Thanksgiving	100.00	
Micro Food Pantry	100.00	
Jim Lutchka Memorial	25.00	
Immaculate Conception	10.00	
Retired Religious	65.00	
Jesse Tree	60.00	
Justice & Hope	20.00	

**"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](mailto:twobells32@hotmail.com)) to make a prayer request.

**MICRO FOOD PANTRY** Food and monetary donations can be placed in the food pantry baskets in the south entrances of St. Peter Church or the parish office. Write checks to St. Peter Church with memo Micro Food Pantry.



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