



# St. Peter's Church

*Franciscans of the Sacred Heart Province*

DECEMBER 13, 2020

**PLEASE SEE PAGE 5  
FOR CURRENT SCHEDULE**

## WEEKEND MASSES

**Saturday:** 12:00 noon

**Saturday evening:** 5:00 p.m.

(Sunday obligation satisfied)

**Sundays:** 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.,  
12:30 p.m., and 6:00 p.m.

## WEEKDAY MASSES

6:15 a.m., 7:15 a.m., 8:15 a.m., 11:40 a.m.,  
12:15 p.m., 1:15 p.m., 5:00 p.m.

Consult bulletin for special Holy Day and  
Holiday Schedules.

## CONFESSIONS

**Weekdays:** 7:30 a.m.—6:00 p.m.

**Saturdays:** 12:00 p.m.—4:30 p.m.

Consult bulletin for special Holy Day Schedule.

## DEVOTIONS/PRAYER

**Mondays & Wednesdays:**

Evening Prayer after 5:00 p.m. Mass

**Tuesdays:** St. Anthony devotions after  
every Mass

**Friday:** Marian devotions after 1:15 p.m. Mass

**Eucharistic Adoration:**

Monday - Friday 1:45—4:45 p.m.

**Benediction:** Monday - Friday , 4:45 p.m.

## OFFICE HOURS

**Weekdays:** 9:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m.

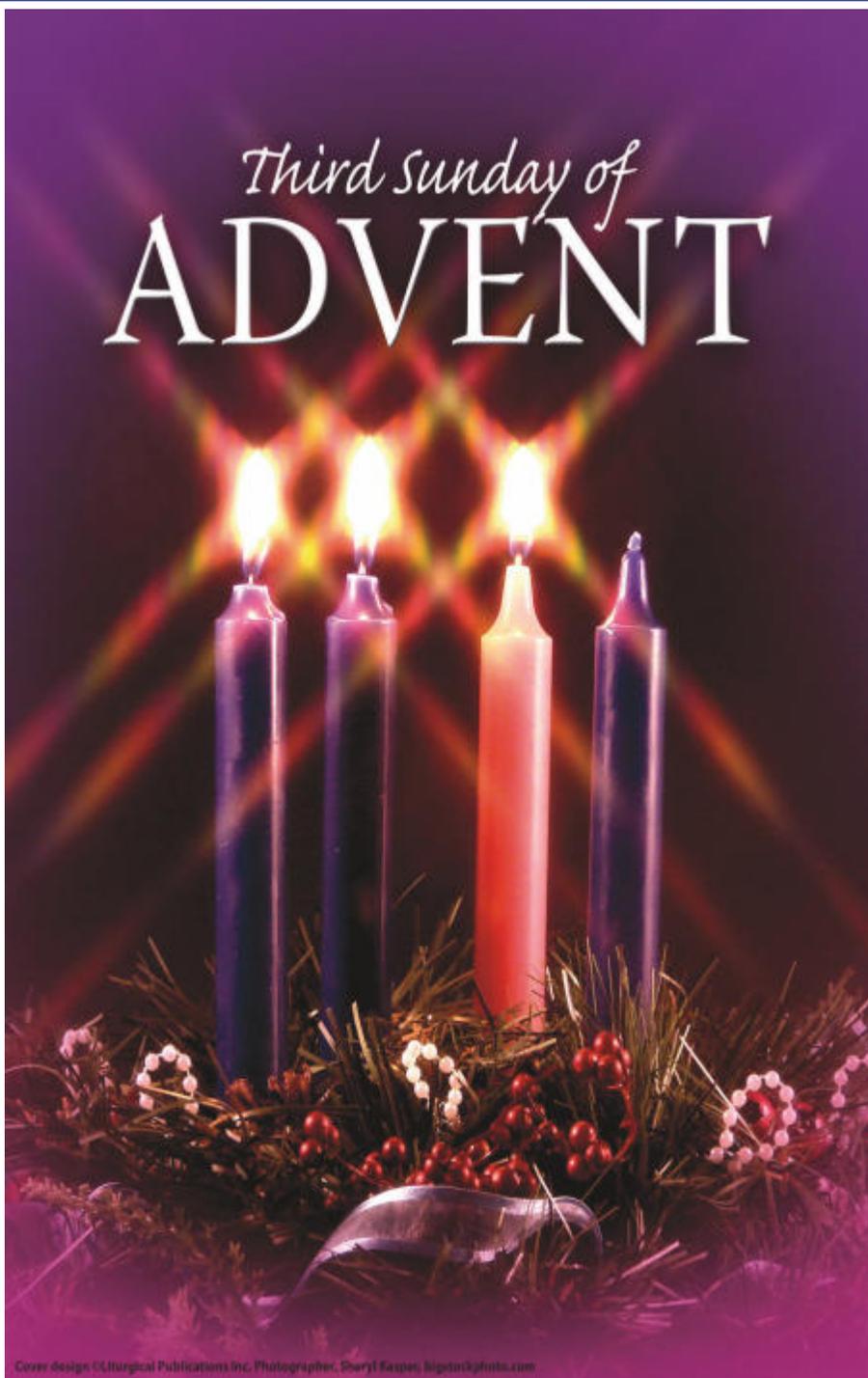
**Saturdays:** 12 noon - 6:00 p.m.

## CHURCH HOURS

**Weekdays:** 5:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

**Saturdays:** 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

**Sundays:** 8:30 a.m.- 7:00 p.m.



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**Catholic Resources**

Please view the following websites for daily Mass, prayers and spiritual support:

- [www.archchicago.org](http://www.archchicago.org)
- [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va)
- [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)
- [www.catholicstv.org](http://www.catholicstv.org)
- [www.ewtn.com](http://www.ewtn.com)
- [www.relevantradio.com](http://www.relevantradio.com)

**Saints' Days and Observances**

- Sun., December 13:** 3rd Sunday of Advent
- Mon., December 14:** St. John of the Cross
- Tues., December 15:** Advent Weekday
- Wed., December 16:** Advent Weekday
- Thurs., December 17:** Advent Weekday
- Fri., December 18:** Advent Weekday
- Sat., December 19:** Advent Weekday

**ST. PETER'S STAFF**

***Pastor***

Fr. Michael J. Fowler O.F.M. 312-372-5111

***Business Manager***

Br. Clarence Klingert O.F.M. 312-372-5111

***Programs Director***

Fr. Derran Combs O.F.M. 312-372-5111

***Director of Public Safety***

Gilbert Mathews 312-853-2334

***Communications & Events Director***

Jo Ann Bednar 312-853-2376

***Young Adult Ministry***

Fr. Ed Shea O.F.M. 773-892-4134

***Director of Liturgy and Music***

Gregory Ceurvorst 312-853-2412

***Associate Director of Liturgy and Music***

***Coordinator of Liturgical Ministers***

James Kapellas 312-853-2418

***Director of Environment and Sacristan***

Phil Bujnowski 312-628-1254

**FRANCISCAN FRIAR STAFF**

**Friar Confessors & Staff:**

- Fr. Michael Fowler O.F.M., Pastor
- Fr. Don Blaeser O.F.M.
- Fr. Johnpaul Cafiero O.F.M.
- Fr. Wenceslaus Church O.F.M.
- Fr. Derran Combs O.F.M.
- Fr. Mario DiCicco O.F.M.
- Fr. Tom Ess O.F.M.
- Br. Leo Geurts O.F.M.
- Fr. Kurt Hartrich O.F.M.
- Br. Clarence Klingert O.F.M.
- Br. Thomas Krull O.F.M.
- Br. William Lanning O.F.M.
- Fr. Ed McKenzie O.F.M.
- Br. Guillermo Morales O.F.M.
- Fr. George Musial O.F.M.
- Fr. Bill Rooney O.F.M.
- Fr. Carlos Ruiz O.F.M.
- Fr. Elric Sampson O.F.M.
- Fr. Ed Shea O.F.M.
- Fr. Ed Tverdek O.F.M.

**Part-time Friar Staff:**

- Fr. Arthur Anderson O.F.M.
- Fr. Abraham Joseph O.F.M.

**In Residence:**

- Br. Erlison Campos O.F.M.
- Br. Vagner Ferreira O.F.M.
- Fr. Robert Hutmacher O.F.M.
- Fr. Robert Karris O.F.M.
- Br. Bill Schulte O.F.M.
- Br. Marc Sheckells O.F.M.
- Br. Raymond Shuhert O.F.M.
- Fr. Paul Tuan O.F.M.



**FRANCISCAN PROVINCE  
OF THE SACRED HEART**

**ORDER OF FRIARS MINOR**

**WEEKLY COLLECTIONS**

Many thanks to those of you who have contributed to St. Peter's collection this past week. Your gifts are essential to our ministry, and we are grateful.

<b>Weekly Goal</b> .....	\$ 12,000
<b>November 22-28 Total</b> .....	\$ 1,005
<b>Difference</b> .....	\$ -10,995

## THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTOR



This Third Sunday of Advent has traditionally been called “*Gaudete*” Sunday. “*Gaudete*” is Latin for “*rejoice*”. The rose colored vestments and rose candle on our Advent wreath reminds us that we are halfway through the

Advent season. As we light the third candle on our Advent wreath, we are reminded that the Christmas season draws closer each day. For many of us this Advent of 2020 we might not feel like rejoicing. While the approval of a vaccine against the COVID-19 virus seems imminent, we are also daily faced with the reality that thousands of people here in the USA and throughout the world have been infected. And the sad reality is far too many have died.



I continue to find it hard to believe that so many of our fellow citizens and others throughout the world continue to deny the reality and danger of this disease. Medical science has given us some ways we might slow down or prevent this disease.

Through wearing masks, staying away from large crowds, washing our hands frequently and keeping appropriate distance from others have been proven to help slow the spread of disease. But too many people have ended up politicalizing these simple but effective solutions so that we have again seen in the past few weeks a sharp increase in the disease.

As a Catholic and one who believes in Jesus, I am reminded of the Lord's words to all of us of his call to follow him by living the Gospel. For does Jesus not call us to not only love God but our neighbor also? How many times throughout the Gospels Jesus reaches out to those who are sick or hurting with his healing touch? In the whole history of the Church from the time of Jesus down to our present day we see the Church in the forefront of healing, of establishing hospitals or ministry to the sick and hurting.

So what do we have to rejoice in in this time of the world-wide pandemic? I believe in the midst of this time of fear and uncertainty we are called to reflect more deeply upon the Christmas event. For while Christmas trees, shining lights, presents, cookies, Santa and many other things are a part of Christmas, we too often forget what Christmas is really all about. God become flesh like us. God comes down as a defenseless infant to teach us how to live. Born in the most humble of circumstances in Bethlehem over 2,000 years ago

Jesus grew in wisdom and grace through the guidance of Mary and Joseph.



As this Advent 2020 quickly moves along, I encourage you to be sure and take some time for quiet in your life

to reflect upon the great mysteries we celebrate at this time of the year. Because we humans have been celebrating Christmas for these many years, I fear we have fallen into the trap of not really stopping to reflect upon the great gift God has given to us....that of eternal salvation. That Good News was announced to the shepherds and their flocks on a hillside in Bethlehem years ago. That Good news led the Wise Men to follow the star to the infant who would teach all humans how to live, if they but follow him.

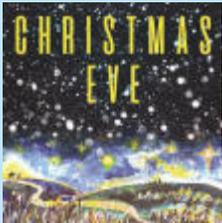
Perhaps the “*rejoicing*” we need to do this Advent is in the midst of uncertainties and fear, in the face of financial concerns and a troubled world, of not knowing exactly how we should celebrate Christmas this year, we might rejoice in what Christmas promises us..... God has become one like us..... God comes in innocence and as a child to remind us that he is among us. This Advent season and Christmas listen again with open ears, an open mind and a loving heart to the words of the angel to the Shepherds so long ago. Listen to those words that are not just pious platitudes meant for another time but are meant also for us who live here on planet Earth in 2020.

*"Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were struck with great fear. The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David as savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord" (Lk 2:8-11)*

That is why we rejoice on this “*Gaudete*” Sunday. That is why we celebrate. That is why each one of us who say we are Christian are called to follow Jesus..... even in the midst of a pandemic. For as surely as the angel told the shepherd over 2,000 years ago....that same message is given to us today.... “*Do not be afraid!*”

I remind you that because of City and Archdiocesan virus and health safety restrictions we will NOT be able to offer Penance Services during Advent as we have in previous years. Beginning tomorrow, Monday, December 14 we will have two reconciliation rooms and

two priests available for confessions. Please note these special opportunities for Confessions. Confessions are scheduled Monday-Saturday from 10:30am until 3:00pm the week of December 14-19 and from 10:30am until 3:00pm from December 21-23. Please note there are no confessions scheduled for December 24. If you plan to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Peter's during Advent be sure to mark these days and times in your calendar.



On December 24 the church is closed for cleaning and decorating for Christmas. Christmas Masses are on December 24 at 4:00 pm and 7:00 pm. On December 25 Masses are at 9:00 am and 11:00 am. For the safety of everyone at all Masses in church at this time, we are restricted on the number of people who may attend. To reserve a place at one of the Christmas Masses please call the church offices.

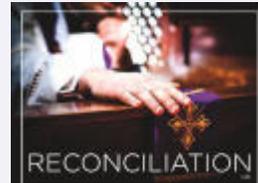


If you are placing a nativity scene in your home I have enclosed below a Blessing Prayer (from the US Bishops' Conference) that might be said with your family members gathered around your Nativity Scene.

*God of every nation and people,  
from the very beginning of creation  
you have made manifest your love:  
when our need for a Savior was great  
you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary,  
To our lives he brings joy and peace,  
justice, mercy, and love.  
Lord, bless all who look upon this manger;  
may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus,  
and raise up our thoughts to him,  
who is God-with-us and Savior of all,  
who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen*  
© USCCB, 1989

May you have a blessed Advent week and let us continue to pray for those suffering because of the COVID virus. Keep in your prayers all First Responders, essential workers and all care givers who are doing so much for those in need.

Fr. Michael

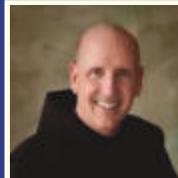


### Reconciliation at St. Peter's Church

**Beginning Monday, December 14  
through December 19 and  
December 21 through December 23**

**Two Confession Rooms will be available  
Monday through Saturday  
10:30 am until 3 pm**

*No Confessions on December 24.*



### ZOOM Mass Schedule Sundays at 5 pm

As we continue to face the coronavirus pandemic, we will also continue to celebrate a weekly Mass on ZOOM here at St. Peter's. **Fr. Ed Shea OFM** will celebrate the Mass every Sunday at 5:00 pm until further notice. **To access the ZOOM Mass, use the following Code and Password:**

<https://zoom.us/j/7738924134>

**Password: EdSheaOFM**

### A Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

Where there is injury, pardon;

Where there is doubt, faith;

Where there is despair, hope;

Where there is darkness, light;

And where there is sadness, joy.

**O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled, as to console;**

**To be understood, as to understand;**

**To be loved as to love;**

**For it is in giving that we receive;**

**It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;**

**And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.**





### St. Peter's Church Mass Schedule

**Mondays through Fridays**  
**Mass Times:**  
**11:40 am & 1:15 pm**

#### Sundays

**Mass Times: 9 am and 11 am**

**Church Open for Mass 8:30 am until 12:30 pm**

**A reservation is required to attend Mass.**

**Please call the Church Office at **312-372-5111****

**Monday-Friday between 9:00 am and 6:00 pm**

**or on Saturday between 10:30 am and 4:30 pm.**

#### Confession

**Mondays through Saturdays**

**10:30 am until 3 pm**

**Room B in the Lower Level Auditorium**

**For further information please view the website [stpetersloop.org](http://stpetersloop.org) or call **312-372-5111**.**

***Everyone entering the building must wear a face mask at all times and practice social distancing.***



**Spiritual Direction** is a way of listening for God's wisdom and understanding in our daily life by talking about our relationship with God and others.

**Sr. Fran Sulzer FSPA, D. Min. and Br. Guillermo Morales OFM** will work with persons who contact them for an appointment. Sr. Fran is also a counselor for people who choose or need a more clinical approach. Appointments can be made for times between **10:30 am and 3 pm**.

**To contact Sr. Fran email:**

**[fmsulzer@gmail.com](mailto:fmsulzer@gmail.com)**

**To contact Br. Guillermo email:**

**[gamorales05@gmail.com](mailto:gamorales05@gmail.com)**



## THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE STUDY

***Isa. 61:1-2a; John 1:6-8, 19-28***

Marvin was a tailor, as had been his father and his grandfather before him.

When the building in which his family's tailor shop was located was torn down Marvin took a job

working for a men's clothing store on the other side of town. But Marvin was a good tailor and his customers went with him. In fact, as his reputation spread, people came to him in even greater numbers than before.



When someone came in to purchase a new suit they would ask for Marvin. They knew they could trust him to help them to pick out exactly the right fabric in just the right color. The store manager would call Marvin from his tiny office in the back of the store. Marvin would rush in wearing a suit that was shiny and worn and a shirt tucked half in and half out and, chalk and pincushion in hand and oblivious to his own appearance, begin his work. He worked silently, but it was a comfortable silence, the kind of silence that seemed to invite people to talk. Marvin was a good listener. Marvin listened to the customers' stories and in the listening it was as though he was clothing not only their bodies but their souls as well. In Marvin's hands an overcoat became more than just a garment to be put on and taken off again. Instead, it was as if the wearer was being warmed on the inside and would never be cold in quite the same way again.

John the Baptist was sent from God "...to testify to the light...". Where someone else saw only a man crying out in the wilderness God saw a prophet. Where someone else saw only a customer Marvin saw an opportunity to help another human being to become more of what they were called by God to be. Where someone else saw only a tailor God saw a man who "...brought glad tidings to the poor..." and "heal[ed] the brokenhearted...". What do people see when they look at me? What does God see?

***By Vinal Van Benthem ofs***



**St. Peter's Church**

**Virtual Advent Lecture Series**

*View on St. Peter's YouTube Channel!*

**Advent Before Christmas:**

**Celebrating the Incarnation in Word and Song-**

**December 1**

Fr. Robert Hutmacher, O.F.M.

**Mary in Advent Through Scripture and Art**

**December 8**

Fr. Johnpaul Cafiero, O.F.M.

**The Real Christmas Story:**

**Unveiling the Truths within the Infancy Narratives**

**December 15**

Fr. Ed Shea, O.F.M.

**Where Are You? What Are You Looking For?:**

**Biblical Reflections on the Mystery of Advent**

**December 22**

Fr. Derran Combs, O.F.M.

**From Virus to Virtue:**

**Finding Hope and Joy at Christmastime**

**Volunteers Needed—Can You Help?**

An important part of insuring the safety of everyone who comes to St. Peter's are our dedicated volunteers who help our security team with welcoming folks to the church, taking touchless temperatures and making sure everyone who comes has a mask. Our greeters for the Masses help direct people to our pews, guide them for receiving communion and welcome all who come to Mass in church.

As the restrictive guidelines continue we have become aware that we need a few more volunteers to help with welcoming people to the church, help with directing people who have come for confession to their place and volunteers to help as ushers for the Masses. **If you are able and willing to help as a volunteer please contact James Kapellas at 312-853-2418.** Your assistance will help us to continue to offer people an opportunity for confession and an opportunity to come to Mass on weekdays and weekends.

**Fr. Michael**



**Introduction to Mark's Gospel:  
Sunday Readings Cycle B**

Presented by

Fr. Robert Karris, O.F.M., Th.D.

*View on St. Peter's YouTube Channel!*

**SESSION ONE**

General Introduction Lectionary, Pericope-itis, Reading Mark's Gospel in One Seating

**SESSION TWO**

Fundamentals Outline, Time and Genre

**SESSION THREE**

Food and the Pox (sic) Romana, The Tale of Two Banquets

**SESSION FOUR**

The Twelve, Disciples, and the Fallible Followers

Join Fr. Robert Karris as he presents us with a solid introduction to Mark's Gospel. As the liturgical year that features Mark's Gospel moves along, people can return to his presentations for guidance and refreshment. Fr. Robert will challenge his viewers to read Mark's Gospel, to bring their bibles to each session, and to be proactive and not passive recipients.



**Mass Schedule**

**Christmas Eve**

**Thursday, December 24**

**4 pm & 7 pm—Church Opens at 3 pm  
4 pm Mass Live Streamed on YouTube**

**Christmas Day**

**Friday, December 25**

**9 am & 11 am**

**The church will be closed after  
the 11 am Mass for the day.**

**New Year's Eve Mass**

**Thursday, December 31**

**5 pm**

**New Year's Day Mass**

**Friday, January 1, 2021**

**10 am**

**Reservations are required to attend all Masses.  
Call 312-372-5111 to reserve a space at Mass.**



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**Psychology At Lunch**

***FREE on Mondays***

**12:15-12:45 pm CT**

**Presented on ZOOM**  
**To participate,**

**Email: [repairmyhouse110@gmail.com](mailto:repairmyhouse110@gmail.com)**

**December 14 Relationships in the Time of Covid**



Psychologist Dr. Jerry Hiller and Marilyn Rochon MA, LCPC guide participants in the pursuit of stress relief, self-acceptance, self-efficacy, and developing a sense of purpose. Participants learn to increase self-confidence,

navigate through loss and depression, and improve relationships with themselves, others and God. The sessions combine practical psychology with the life-giving ways of St. Francis of Assisi.



Please wear a mask or face covering when entering St. Peter's Church. All visitors must have their temperature taken and hands sanitized prior to entering the church. Thank you.



**If you would like to contribute to St. Peter's Church in this time of need, please go to the website [stpetersloop.org](http://stpetersloop.org) and click on the **Online Giving** link.**



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