



# St. Peter's Church

*Franciscans of the Sacred Heart Province*

AUGUST 15, 2021

## WEEKEND MASSES

Saturdays

5:00 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday

Sundays

9:00 am and 11:00 am

Weekday Masses

Mondays through Fridays

11:40 am and 1:15 pm

## CONFESSIONS

*Lower Level of the Church*

Mondays through Fridays

10:30 am until 3:00 pm

Saturdays

12 noon until 4:30 pm

## DEVOTIONS

St. Anthony Devotions on Tuesdays

After the 11:40 am and

1:15 pm Masses.

## OFFICE HOURS

Mondays through Fridays

9:00 am until 6:00 pm

Saturdays

10:30 am until 4:30 pm

## CHURCH BUILDING OPEN

Mondays through Fridays

10:30 am until 3:00 pm

Saturdays

12 noon until 6:00 pm

Sundays

8:30 am until 12:30 pm



## THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



"From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his Name. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly."

- Lk 1:48b-49, 52

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

OLFI

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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., August 15:** The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Mon., August 16:** Ordinary Time
- Tues., August 17:** St. Beatrice of Silva
- Wed., August 18:** Ordinary Time
- Thurs., August 19:** Ordinary Time
- Fri., August 20:** St. Bernard
- Sat., August 21:** St. Pius X

**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**

Mychael Ramos 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. 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. Bill Rooney O.F.M.
- Fr. Carlos Ruiz 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.

**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.
- Fr. Gilbert Ostdiek O.F.M.
- Br. Bill Schulte 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>August 1-7</b>	<b>Total</b> .....\$ 5,498
	<b>Difference</b> .....\$ - 6,502

## THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTOR



### ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

This weekend, August 14-15 we celebrate the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. On November 1, 1950 Pope Pius XII defined the Assumption of Mary to be a dogma

of our faith. In his declaration he said, *"We pronounce, declare and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma that the immaculate Mother of God, the ever-Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul to heavenly glory."* The Church has held belief in the Assumption as far back as the fifth century. In the midst of our summer activities and vacation we pause this weekend to recall the important role Mary has played in salvation history. Pope emeritus Benedict XVI reflected a few years ago that, *"...precisely because Mary is with God and in God, she is very close to each one of us. While she lived on this earth she could only be close to a few people. Being in God, who is actually 'within' all of us, Mary shares in this closeness to God."*

### MEETINGS



This week we will be having a meeting of our 175th Anniversary Committee. On Sunday, August 1, 2021 we began our year-long celebration with a festive Mass at 11:00 am. Fr. Thomas Nairn, OFM, the Provincial of the Franciscan Province of the Sacred Heart presided and preached at this Mass. Throughout the coming year we

plan to have a number of special events to commemorate our 175 years here in the Loop. As we honor our history we also will explore ways in how we can best ministry to folks in the Loop in light of the impact of the COVID pandemic of the past two years. The anniversary committee will be scheduling various events throughout the coming year at our meeting this week. Continue to check our weekend bulletins, Facebook, posters in church and on the kiosk in front of the church and our web site for these special events and services. We will conclude our year-long celebration with a festive Mass next August 2022.

St. Peter's Church was established in 1846 to minister to the increasing German immigrant population in Chicago. The site chosen to build the first church was on the south side of Washington Street between Wells and Franklin Streets. The church building was completed that summer and dedicated on August 2,

1846. It was a frame building, forty feet wide and sixty feet long, with a seating capacity of 700. A Catholic school was located behind the church and the rectory was west of the church building. A diocesan priest, Fr. John Jung was the first appointed pastor. We will be sharing more information about our history in the coming year.

Sometime this month on Madison Street in front of the church you will see a couple of banners on the light poles announcing our 175th anniversary. The banners show an image of Old St. Peter's and our present church. A big Thank You to the generosity of some members of St. Peter's congregation that enabled us to install these banners,

A second meeting that will take place this week is our Gala Committee. Due to an increase in the possibility of further restrictions of increasing COVID dangers this year's Gala will be "virtual" as we did last year. The 7th Annual St. Peter's Church Gala will be held on Saturday, October 2, 2021. The *live stream* is from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm. You can register at: [stpeters7thgala.givesmart.com](http://stpeters7thgala.givesmart.com). Online auction bidding begins on September 27, 2021 at 10:00 am. More information is available on our web site or you may call Mrs. Jo Ann Bednar (Communications & Events Director) at 312-853-2376.

The funds raised through our annual Gala are crucial to supporting our ministry here at St. Peter's Church. Since my arrival last year, I have been impressed and inspired by the generosity of so many of you who participated and contributed to last year's Gala. Your donations enabled us to continue keeping the church open and providing ministry to so many people who come to our doors. Fr. Mario DiCicco, OFM is again this year guiding the Gala Committee and providing us with insightful leadership. We hope that with your generosity again this year for the Gala we will continue to provide quality ministry to everyone who comes to St. Peter's Church.

### END VIOLENCE



As I write these words it is Sunday, August 8 and Masses are completed for this weekend. Unfortunately, this morning began with the news announcing the shooting death of a Chicago police officer and another officer shot and seriously injured during a traffic stop. The news also reported the shooting of over 45 people (4 fatally) since



Saturday. I am at a loss to express how senseless this on-going violence is to our lives.

Last month Cardinal Archbishop Blase Cupich wrote a letter addressing the painful violence affecting our City and country. A copy was placed in our July 25, 2021 church bulletin. I hope you had a chance to read the Archbishop's reflections. In light of the continuing plague of violence touching all areas of Chicago, I urge you to read and reflect upon the Cardinal's thoughts. I have placed below some excerpts from his letter. I'll share more in next weekend's bulletin.

Dear Sisters and Brothers,



*In Chicago, in the metro area, and even more widely across our nation, we face a profoundly painful moment in our life together. So many families are grieving the loss of loved ones to violence, and those loved ones include babies and small children. The grief is compounded by the senselessness of the loss. Fear accompanies many of us as we go about our daily lives. We are afraid of becoming a victim of gun*

*violence, or a carjacking, or an assault. And we are afraid not only for ourselves but also for the people we care for.*

*As we recover from the pandemic and embrace a more familiar way of life, the comfort of normalcy we had hoped for is being spoiled by a menacing violence that threatens all of us. Understandably, we want this horrifying situation resolved without delay. Government leaders and community activists have offered many ideas, for example: more effective policing, reforming the criminal justice system, stemming the flood of illegal guns, dismantling gangs, investment in historically disadvantaged neighborhoods, strengthening education and shoring up family life. I cannot claim special expertise in all these matters. But as a pastor, I can point to the underlying spiritual crisis that this violent and unstable situation has provoked.*

*When violence prompts grief, fear, and a loss of hope, as it always does, people feel alienated from one another. On one level, the fractures appear to be along the lines of race, ethnicity, economic class, and political affiliation. But it runs much deeper than that. We seem unable or unwilling to comprehend that we are inextricably connected with each other. Yet we truly are fratelli tutti, as Pope Francis put it — all brothers and sisters to each other. If we lose that sense of interconnectedness, we also lose our sense of compassion, empathy and responsibility for each other. And that counts as an incalculable spiritual loss, with profound consequences for how we live together as neighbors, as members of the same human family. In this light, I recall the prophetic words of Dr. Martin Luther King in 1964: "We must learn to live together as brothers [and sisters] or perish together as fools." (St. Louis, March 22, 1964)*

*If we, the people of God, are to remain faithful to our identity and our calling, we must respond to the challenge to human solidarity that violence has provoked. At the same time, we can legitimately ask ourselves: What can we do? What difference can we make? How can we bridge the divides that separate us? Faith does not give us ready-made solutions to complex problems. Faith does give us hope that with God's help we can move forward, and that we ought to move forward as best as we can.*

May you have safe and prayer-filled week.

Fr. Michael

**ST. PETER'S CHURCH  
MASS SCHEDULE**

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

**Saturdays**  
**Mass Time: 5:00 pm**  
**Vigil Mass for Sunday**

**Sundays**  
**Mass Times: 9 :00 am and 11:00 am**

**CONFESSION**

**Mondays through Fridays**  
**10:30 am until 3 pm**

**Saturdays**  
**12 noon until 4:30 pm**

**Lower Level Auditorium**

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

**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;**

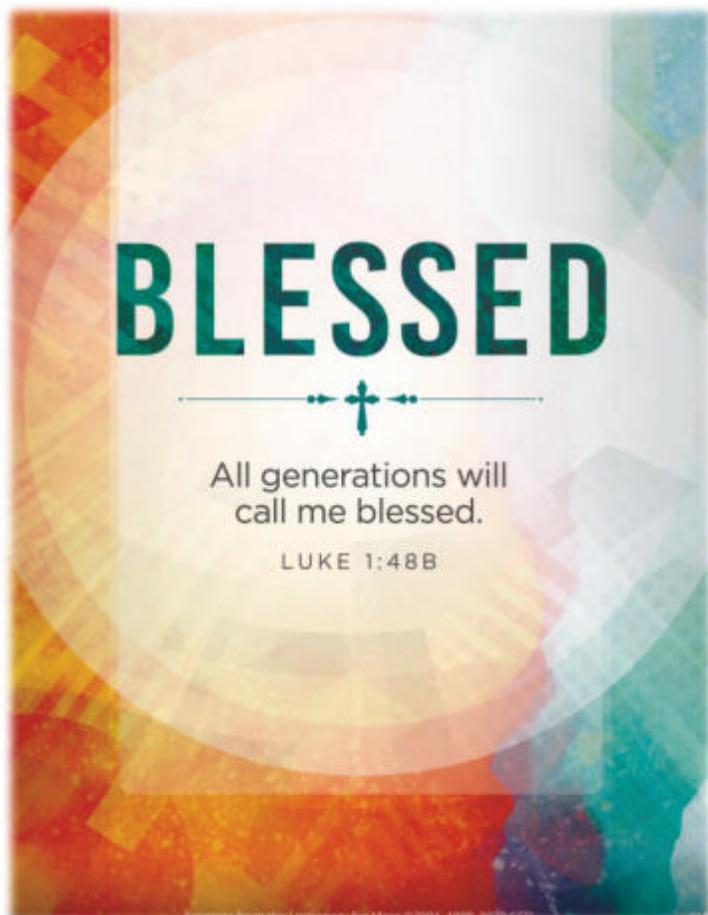
**For it is in giving that we receive;**

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

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

 **St. Peter's Church Safety Guidelines**  
 The Archdiocese of Chicago is highly recommending wearing a face mask or face covering when inside St. Peter's Church. Visitors should sanitize their hands upon entering the building. Please maintain social distancing. Thank you.

 **Reconciliation at St. Peter's Church**  
**Mondays through Fridays**  
**10:30 am until 3 pm**  
**Saturdays**  
**12 noon until 4:30 pm**  
**Lower Level**  
*Please note...*  
**Confessions have moved to the "C" Room directly across from St. Peter's Gift & Book Shop.**



## THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE STUDY

*Lk. 1:39-56*

They tell me that there are countries in South and Central America where praying the words of Mary's Magnificat (the words Mary speaks to Elizabeth in



today's Gospel) is prohibited by law. When I first heard this I was surprised. Who would make such a law, especially in a "Christian" country? The answer, it seems, is anyone who would be threatened by words like "He...has scattered the proud in their conceit... cast down the mighty from their thrones..." and "... lifted up the lowly...filled the hungry...and the rich he has sent away empty." Good news for the poor but not so good if you happen to be rich.

Suppose someone came into your office or shop and said that those who were being paid the lowest salaries would be receiving a bonus so large that they would be able to buy steaks for dinner and new winter coats for everyone in their family? And then, what if they said that those who were making the highest salaries would suddenly find that their money was no good? If you happened to be among the poor living in a third world country this would probably come as pretty good news. But what if you were among the rich?

Bring it closer to home. What if you were a day laborer hired to pick cucumbers or wash dishes in a fancy restaurant and someone told you that from now on you would be paid enough money to not only support your family but even send your children to college? What if you were the president of the company that processed the vegetables? Or the owner of the fancy restaurant?

Mary was an unmarried, pregnant teenager. Later she would know what it meant to leave her homeland, afraid for her life and that of her child. She would see her Son convicted of crimes He did not commit and unjustly sentenced to death. Mary was not unlike many people living today in third world countries – or even in our own. What would happen if the Magnificat was proclaimed on the Evening News? How would we react to Mary's words?

*By Vinal Van Benthem ofs*

**Register Now for the 2021 Virtual Gala!**

You must register to participate in the silent and live auctions. Bidding on auction items begins Sept. 27!

*Please note...*

If you are having any issues registering on the Gala site, please contact GiveSmart at 1-855-322-4483, choose Option 1, ID# 84479. Thank you!



**PLEASE JOIN US!**

**ST. PETER'S CHURCH**

**7th ANNUAL GALA**

**OCTOBER 2, 2021**

**IT'S VIRTUAL AGAIN!**

**LIVE STREAM**

**6:30-8:00 PM**

**REGISTER & DONATE NOW!**

**GO TO**

**[stpeters7thgala.givesmart.com](http://stpeters7thgala.givesmart.com)**

**BID ON SILENT & LIVE AUCTION ITEMS!**

**Online Auction Bidding Begins**

**September 27th, 10 am**

**St. Peter's 7th Annual Gala**

**Sponsors & Auction Items Needed!**

To help make this evening a success, we are seeking sponsorships and auction items including: vacation getaways, unique experiences, dinner and theater packages, tickets to athletic events, gift cards, jewelry, sports memorabilia, and golf packages. All donations are greatly appreciated and tax deductible.

Please contact Fr. Mario DiCicco at: **312-372-5111** if you would like to become a sponsor and/or donate an auction item.



*Next Session Begins September 3*

*Register Now!*

*Program will take place in person on Thursdays  
and via ZOOM on Fridays.*

**EUCHARIST IN SCRIPTURE**

*The Eucharist in Scripture* explores the biblical theme of meals shared in faithful fellowship and in covenant relationship with God. Old Testament meals and promises provide a foundation for gospel meals with Jesus, culminating in the Last Supper as it is understood throughout the New Testament. Jesus' bread of life discourse and the early church's practice of "breaking bread" are also explored. Commentary, study and reflection questions, prayer, and access to online lectures are included.

Fr. Derran Combs, O.F.M., Ph.D. will facilitate the ZOOM sessions and some of the in person sessions.

Registered participants are asked to prepare by reading the assigned lessons in advance from the textbook.

**Meeting Time and Dates:**

*In Person Lower Level of Church*

Thursdays, 12:15-1 pm—Sept. 9, 16, 23, 30; Oct. 14

**ZOOM Session**

Fridays, 12:00 pm-1:00 pm—Sept. 3, 10, 24; Oct. 1, 15

**\$15 Program Fee** payable by cash or check includes book.

To register, call 312-853-2376 or email [joannstpeters@gmail.com](mailto:joannstpeters@gmail.com).



**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)



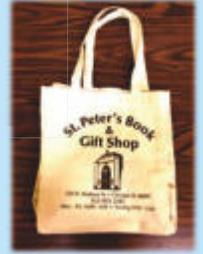
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### 2021 Pilgrimages with Fr. Mario DiCicco O.F.M.

**Holy Land Pilgrimage  
September 10-21, 2021**



**Turkey & Greece  
Following in the  
Footsteps of St. Paul  
October 8-23, 2021**



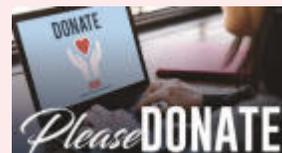
Please contact Fr. Mario for brochures  
at 312-888-1331 or email at [mmdicicco@gmail.com](mailto:mmdicicco@gmail.com).

### Memorial Votive Candles



St. Peter's is currently  
accepting reservations for the  
memorial votive candles within  
the Church. Once lit, the candles burn 24  
hours a day for one year. A plaque in front  
of your candle notes who it is lit in honor  
of. Applications are available at the front  
office of St. Peter's. The cost is \$150.

Please call 312-372-5111 for further  
information.



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  
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