



# St. Peter's Church

Franciscans of the Sacred Heart Province

DECEMBER 26, 2021

## ***SCHEDULE UPDATE***

### **WEEKEND MASSES**

Saturdays

5:00 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday

Sundays

9:00 am and 11:00 am

Weekday Masses

Mondays through Fridays

**NEW—7:30 am, 11:40 am and 1:15 pm**

### **CONFESSIONS**

***Lower Level of the Church  
Across from Book & Gift Shop***

Mondays through Fridays

10:30 am until 3:00 pm

Saturdays

12 noon until 4:30 pm

No Confessions on Sunday

### **DEVOTIONS**

St. Anthony Devotions on Tuesdays

After the **7:30 am, 11:40 am and**

**1:15 pm Masses.**

### **OFFICE HOURS**

Mondays through Fridays

9:00 am until 4:30 pm

Saturdays

12 noon until 4:30 pm

Sundays

Office Closed

### **CHURCH BUILDING OPEN**

Mondays through Fridays

**NEW—7:00 am until 4:30 pm**

Saturdays

12 noon until 6:00 pm

Sundays

8:30 am until 12:30 pm



## **THE HOLY FAMILY**

He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. - Lk 2:51-52

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

©LPI

110 West Madison Street • Chicago, Illinois 60602-4196  
312.372.5111 • [www.stpetersloop.org](http://www.stpetersloop.org)





**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 26:** The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
- Mon., December 27:** St. John
- Tues., December 28:** Holy Innocents
- Wed., December 29:** Fifth Day in the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
- Thurs., December 30:** Sixth Day in the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
- Fri., December 31:** Seventh Day in the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
- Sat., January 1:** Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

**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

**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.
- 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 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.

<u>Weekly Goal</u>	<u>\$12,000</u>
Dec. 5-11	\$4,163
Holyday Dec. 8:	<u>\$3,915</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,078</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>-\$3,922</b>

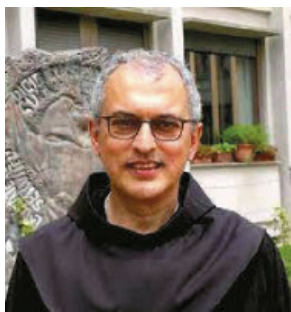
## THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTOR



As we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family this weekend, I encourage you to pray for all families. The families of our world and Church today are composed of a variety of people and circumstances. No matter what our definition of family, God calls each of us to love and reverence one another and all of life. As we pray in today's opening prayer at Mass, "*O God....grant that we may imitate the Holy Family...in the bonds of charity...*" As members of the Church we are called to create an environment where all people feel welcome to approach God. That is one of the blessings we can share here at St. Peter's Church...our openness and atmosphere of welcome to all people. For over 175 years St. Peter's Church has provided a place for a diversity of families to worship God. May we continue that legacy now and into the future.

Today I offer you a few words to reflect upon as we come to the end of 2021 and prepare to welcome the New Year 2022. A couple of weeks ago, Fr. Massimo Fusarelli, OFM, the Minister General (head) of the Franciscan Order was here at St. Peter's. Fr. Massimo and a couple of other friars from our headquarters in Rome spent time visiting us here in Chicago and a couple of other Franciscan friaries in the USA.

In his Christmas Letter to Franciscans and all people, Fr. Massimo invites us to reflect upon two words, *Seeing* and *Believing*. I share with you below excerpts from his 2021 Christmas Letter.



**Dear Brothers and Sisters,  
May the Lord give you peace!**

**I would like to journey with you into St Francis' feelings when on that Christmas day in 1223, he indulged his restless impulse to go into the rocks and woods around the village of Greccio. Not alone but**

**accompanied by his brothers and by an unassuming and poor humanity, made up of simple folk and humble people.**

**What drove Friar Francis to experience that Christmas was the irresistible desire to see the poverty in which the Lord Jesus wanted to be born with his own eyes. And this to believe that He - crucified and risen - is present, alive and glorified in the Holy Spirit, hidden under the tiny appearance of bread until the day of His return. *Seeing* and *believing* are two verbs, as we well know, central to St Francis.**

***Seeing* reminds us of the physicality of Francis' faith: it is not enough for him to think, but he wants to see with his eyes, touch with his hands, smell with his nostrils, hear with his ears, taste with his tongue. In short, his whole person, his senses, are set in motion by desire, by what moves him most deeply. So, faith is simply life for him.**

**I wonder if I still have a fervent desire to see and touch the Lord. Perhaps something else moves me. Then like Francis, I need to get out of my comfort zone and set out towards a different and possibly hostile place, to which the wood and the rocks of Greccio allude. It is here that I can listen again to that desire within me, in the very groaning of creation, our common home: to *see* the Lord Jesus in the mystery of his poverty and weakness, to open myself and ourselves again to a renewed encounter with him in the Spirit.**

**Francis experienced this encounter in a "physical" way: he touched the body of the Lord in the Gospel, read and listened to every day; he *saw* him in the leper, in his brothers, in the poor priests, in sinners; he *saw* the poverty of Jesus in the paradox of the human condition, magnificent and at the same time destined for death. He looked into the eyes of this fragility, finally freed from bitterness and fear.**

**From the encounter with Jesus, the joy of faith blossoms for him, the fresh look of the risen man who sees the presence of God in all creatures and, for this reason, praises him and returns all good to him.**

***Believing*: faith is kindled by that encounter that touched me and left its mark in the flesh of my life. Our individual belief is born and safeguarded by the great "yes" of the faith of the Church. This is the act that accomplishes that *seeing*, that touching and letting oneself be reached. Let us look for the echo of this "yes" in the mysterious journey that, in countless ways, so many people make towards the Mystery.**

***Seeing without believing* could leave my faith at the mercy of the emotion of the moment. *Believing without seeing* could reduce faith to an idea that simply no longer has anything to do with my life and falls away, even when I continue to perform religious acts outwardly. Joy is the sign that our faith is still alive; sadness and lament are like an anesthetic of faith, which slowly becomes stupefied, loses contact with the "physicality" of our flesh, of life, and becomes merely intellectual or moralistic. Or it disappears.**





Let us be vigilant, blessed brothers and sisters because this can also happen to us. Unfortunately, it does happen when: I take faith for granted and do not creatively cultivate a life of prayer in silence and contemplation, I lose contact with the word of God, I allow the Eucharist to become a routine, I do not joyfully avail of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, I separate faith from life, I do not forgive and do not spend my life for others, I distance myself from the poor and adapt to a comfortable and guaranteed life.

My wish for this 2021 Christmas is that we may open our eyes in the Holy Spirit and believe in the mystery of the poverty of Jesus and his Blessed Mother. And from these "spiritual eyes", let the flame of faith be rekindled. Ignited by the fire of the Holy Spirit, we will become more and more inflamed against all icy inertia of the heart. In this way, in the various parts of the world in which we live, we will be that prophetic sign we are called to be by vocation, the presence of Christ crucified and risen for every brother and sister whom the Lord enables us to meet.

This is the prophetic sign that Francis and Clare were in the warmth of their faith. It was a humble search - and not its possession - for the Presence of the Living One in all creatures. Here is the sign that we can be whenever we are not afraid to see and believe again. Happy Christmas, brothers and sisters, and let us remember each other to the Lord who is coming.

Br. Massimo Fusarelli, OFM  
Minister General



On Saturday, January 1st we join the entire Church in celebrating Mary as the Holy Mother of God. We will celebrate a Vigil Mass on Friday, December 31 at 5:00 pm and Saturday, January 1 at 10:00 am for this Solemnity. (It is not a holyday of obligation this year.)

In the midst of the busyness of our Christmas celebrations and activities, this Solemnity of the Church calls us to follow Mary's example. In the light of the visit of the Shepherds and the fulfillment of so many prophecies regarding Jesus' birth, "...Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart." (Luke 2:19) In our very noisy world of I-pods, TV programs, computer games, radios blaring and loud shouting, perhaps we might make Mary's action of "reflection" a part of our daily life, especially in the midst of the pandemic affecting all of us. As we begin this New Year of 2022 why not resolve to spend some quiet time with the Lord each day? May you have a Blessed New Year!

Fr. Michael

### CHRISTMAS WEEK SCHEDULE

**Monday, Dec. 27 - Thursday, Dec. 30**

Masses - 7:30 am, 11:40 am & 1:15 pm

Confessions - 10:30 am - 3:00 pm

Church is open 7:00 am - 4:30 pm

**Friday, Dec. 31**

Masses - 7:30 am, 11:40 am & 1:15 pm

Confessions - 10:30am - 3:00pm

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31**

Mary Mother of God/New Year's Day

Vigil Mass at 5:00 pm

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 2022**

Mary Mother of God/New Year's Day

Mass at 10:00 am

*(The is No Sunday Vigil Mass this evening. Church closes after Mass)*

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, 2022**

Epiphany of the Lord

Masses at 9:00 am and 11:00 am

### 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;

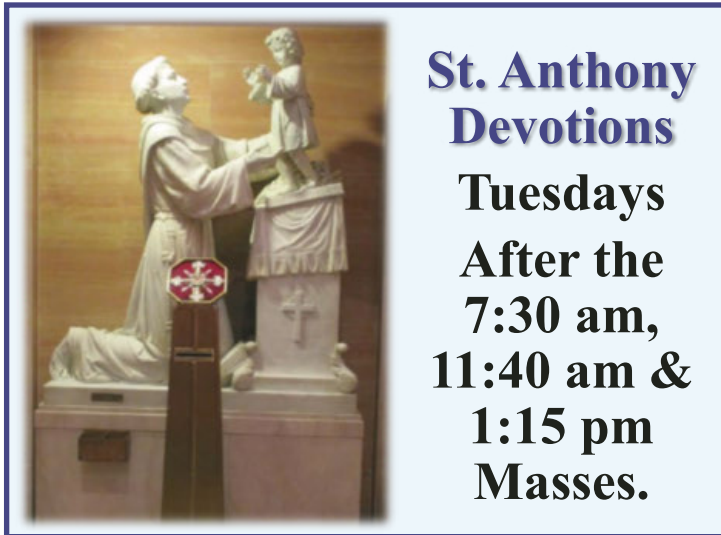
To be loved as to love;

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. Anthony  
Devotions**  
**Tuesdays**  
**After the**  
**7:30 am,**  
**11:40 am &**  
**1:15 pm**  
**Masses.**

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

**Mondays through Fridays**

**Mass Times:**

**7:30 am 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.****

## **THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE STUDY**

*Luke 2: 1-14*

Our Christmas reading from Luke's Gospel starts with a government order to "the whole world". But, we might ask, if the



decree was sent out to "the whole world" why don't we hear about anyone other than Mary and Joseph (and a rather belligerent innkeeper) being present? Well, actually, we do. Luke tells us there were shepherds nearby. But shepherds were considered to be the lowest of the low, with what Pope Francis might call "the smell of the sheep" on them. Shepherds "keeping the night watch over their flock," that's who the angel of the Lord appeared to, shepherds "living in the fields" – not to the priests in the Temple and certainly not to any government officials – but to simple people doing simple work. In a couple of weeks, on the Feast of the Epiphany, Matthew will add his story about the magi. But, interestingly enough, while the magi represented an entirely different class of people, well educated and probably wealthy, they, too, received the message while they were working.

Perhaps both Luke and Matthew had a similar reason for writing the story as they did. Perhaps they wanted the communities for whom they wrote (and that also includes us) to understand that the coming of Jesus into the world wasn't limited to people in palaces or cathedrals; that this Child, this holy Presence of God Incarnate, came into the world out of love for each and every child who would ever be born, regardless of economic status, nationality or creed. And, so, each and every one of us can say ...

*Mahalo for Christmas!*

*By Vinal Van Benthem ofs*





Next Session Begins January 21, 2022

REGISTER NOW!

Program will take place via ZOOM on Fridays.



### THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

Jesus' call to profound discipleship in the Sermon on the Mount is too often dismissed as special instructions for only the holiest and most exceptional Christians. In *The Sermon on the Mount*, Clifford Yearly challenges us to hear the sermon once again as Christ intended it, as our call to follow him whose life illustrated its every ideal. Yearly helps us to hear the Sermon on the Mount as a message for each of us, a challenge that is our constant call to renewal. 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.

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

#### Meeting Time and Dates:

#### ZOOM Sessions

Fridays, 12:00 pm-1:00 pm—Jan. 21, 28; Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25; March 4

\$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).

### St. Peter's Church Presents

#### Author



Victoria Olivett

### Presentation and Book Discussion

Wednesday, January 12, 2022

12:15 to 1:00 pm

Lower Level—Room A

### *The Adventures of Francie Fitzgerald*

The book is about an Irish, Catholic immigrant family living in Newark, New Jersey in the 1880's. Francie, the fourteen year old, comes across a dead fox exhibiting symptoms of rabies. Francie and her friend Sean discover that a local youth also died of hydrophobia. She is afraid for her siblings since there are so many wild dogs roaming the neighborhood. What she dreads most occurs. Her brother and his friends are attacked by a rabid dog. Their journey leads them to Paris and Dr. Louis Pasteur and his life saving serum which correlates with today's Delta Variant and vaccinations. The novel shows great love, faith, and perseverance.



All invited to attend. Free will offering.



St. Peter's Church-110 W. Madison St. Chgo., IL 60602-312-372-5111-stpetersloop.org



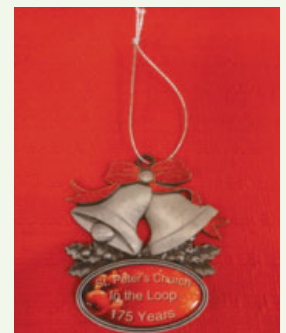
**Spiritual Direction** is a way of listening for God's wisdom and understanding in our daily life by talking about our relationship with God and others.

**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)

### Available Now!



### Commemorative Items

#### Celebrating

### St. Peter's Church 175th Anniversary

### Make Great Gifts!

Items available for purchase at St. Peter's Book and Gift Store located on the Lower Level of the church. Please call **312-853-2341** for information.

*Supply is limited.*

# ST. PETER'S BOOK & GIFT SHOP

Located on the Lower Level • 312-853-2341



**Now Available!**  
Commemorative  
175th  
Anniversary  
Items  
Make Great Gifts!  
Supply is limited.

**HOURS**  
Mondays through Fridays  
8:00 am until 3:30 pm  
Saturdays  
12 noon until 5:00 pm  
Sundays  
8:30 am until 12:15 pm

Shop for  
Advent &  
Christmas  
Items!



Advent Wreaths, Christmas  
Cards, Nativity Sets, Oplatki  
Gifts for all ages!

Over 1,500 Book Titles, Rosaries, Bibles, Cards,  
DVD's, CD's, Baptism Gifts, Gold & Sterling Silver Medals,  
Religious Art, Figurines, Prayer Cards

## 2022 Pilgrimages with Fr. Mario DiCicco O.F.M.

Columbia, Ecuador and  
Galapagos Island  
January 14-20, 2022



Holy Land  
A Lenten Journey  
March 19-30, 2022



Shrines of Mary  
France, Spain & Portugal  
April 19-May 7, 2022



Sardinia, Sicily,  
Southern Italy  
May 20-June 5, 2022



Holy Land and Jordan  
September 2-19, 2022



Turkey Part Two and Dubai  
October 7-23, 2022



For information contact Fr. Mario 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 **Online Giving** link. Thank you for your generosity!

## Subscribe to the Bulletin Online!

If you would like to receive St. Peter's Church Bulletin electronically, please go to [www.stpetersloop.org](http://www.stpetersloop.org). Go to the Bulletin section on the home page and click on the link "Subscribe to our Publications". You can sign up to have the bulletins emailed to you. If attending Mass or going to Confession, bulletins are available in the Lobby.





35 Years of Family Values and Family Business Offering a Full Range of Investment Services & Advice

Timothy A. Sinal & Theodore A. Sinal, First Vice Presidents/Investments

Three First National Plaza, Suite 2400 • Chicago, Illinois 60602

(312) 269-0393 sinalta@stifel.com

Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated | Member SIPC and NYSE

STIFEL  
NICOLAUS

## Michalik Funeral Home

- Burial & Cremation Services
- Pre-Planning Available
- Delphine Michalik, Owner & Funeral Director

Family Owned and Operated  
Since 1929

1056 West Chicago Avenue  
(312) 421-0936

www.michalikfuneralhome.com

## Italian VILLAGE

### RESTAURANTS

VIVERE  
CANTINA ENOTECA  
THE VILLAGE

71 West Monroe,  
Chicago

Ph: 312-332-7005

Open 7 days Lunch and Dinner

www.italianvillage-chicago.com

### ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide

1-855-225-4251



## NEVER MISS A BULLETIN !

Sign up to have our weekly parish bulletin  
emailed to you at [www.parishesonline.com](http://www.parishesonline.com)



## STAND OUT

with a PREMIUM DIGITAL AD  
on [PARISHESONLINE.COM](http://PARISHESONLINE.COM)



CONTACT US AT 800-950-9952

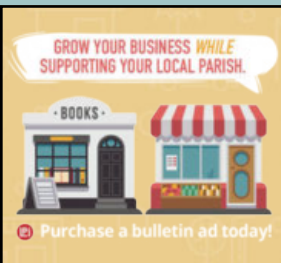
## WE'RE HIRING

AD SALES EXECUTIVES

BE YOURSELF. BRING YOUR PASSION. WORK WITH PURPOSE.

- Work-Life Balance
- Paid Training
- Full-Time with Benefits
- Some Travel
- Serve Your Community

Contact us at [careers@4lpi.com](mailto:careers@4lpi.com)  
[www.4lpi.com/careers](http://www.4lpi.com/careers)



Delivery & Pick-Up  
Catering Available

252 W 26th St. Chicago

(312) 225-5555 RicobenesPizza.com

**FREE  
AD DESIGN  
WITH PURCHASE  
OF THIS SPACE**

CALL 800.950.9952

**MARY ELIZABETH KOPKO**  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

MCBREEN & KOPKO, LLP

Social Security Disability  
(no fee unless successful)

1525 East 53rd Street, Suite 709

Chicago, Illinois 60615

(773) 752-2526

(773) 752-2636

Fax: (773) 752-4287

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME!

ADVERTISE HERE NOW!

Contact **Kelly O'Brien-Carnevale** to place  
an ad today! [kcarnevale@4LPi.com](mailto:kcarnevale@4LPi.com)  
or (800) 477-4574 x6333

# SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

Jane Addams  
High School

ENROLL NOW



#1 Rated School in Chicago  
18 CREDITS to GRADUATE  
Supportive Teachers & Staff

1814 S. Union Ave  
Chicago

[www.jahs.org](http://www.jahs.org)

(312) 563-1746 ext. 3

ED THE PLUMBER  
ED THE CARPENTER

Best Work • Best Rate

Satisfaction Guaranteed As

We Do All Our Own Work

\$\$\$ Parishioner Discount \$\$\$

(773) 471-1444

## Apple Home Healthcare

- Skilled Nursing
- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech Therapy
- Medical Social Worker
- Home Health Aide

"Stay Home With Apple"

773-871-8700

Serving Chicago and Suburbs

[www.applehomehealthcare.com](http://www.applehomehealthcare.com)

We've Missed You!  
Welcome Back to Mass



Stay connected to our faith community no matter where you are  
by signing up to get our bulletin delivered straight to your email!

[www.ParishesOnline.com](http://www.ParishesOnline.com)



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • [www.4lpi.com](http://www.4lpi.com)

St. Peter's Church, Chicago, IL

A 4C 01-1355