



# St. Peter's Church

Franciscans of the Sacred Heart Province

JANUARY 9, 2022

## ***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 BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. - Lk 3:21-22a

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

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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., January 9:** The Baptism of the Lord
- Mon., January 10:** Ordinary Time
- Tues., January 11:** Ordinary Time
- Wed., January 12:** Ordinary Time
- Thurs., January 13:** Ordinary Time
- Fri., January 14:** Day of Prayer to End Racism
- Sat., January 15:** Ordinary Time

## 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:

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### 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>
<b>Dec. 19-23</b>	<b>\$ 4,414</b>
<b>Dec. 24-25</b>	<b>\$ <u>2,855</u></b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 7,269</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>- \$ 4,731</b>



## THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTOR



On this second Sunday of the New Year 2022 we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Today we are reminded of our own baptism and God's call to each of us to live the Gospel. We are asked by the Church to reflect on

how we might live our baptismal call each and every day of our life. Parents, Godparents, indeed all of us who are members of the Church, are reminded that no child grows in faith alone. The familiar saying, "It takes a village to raise a child," is never more clear than when we look at passing on our Catholic faith to children or those new to the faith.

As we all should know, becoming a Catholic, being faithful to Jesus Christ, living the Commandments of loving God and neighbor is not accomplished by the mere pouring of the baptismal water. Baptism only begins a life-long task of growing in faith and love of God and neighbor.

For over 2,000 years babies, young children, teenagers and older men and women, have had the saving waters of Baptism poured upon them in varied places throughout the world. Whether it was in the first wooden frame church, here in our present church or perhaps in an emergency in the hospital; St. Peter's Church has been a place where thousands have received new life in God through Baptism. That passing on of our faith and baptizing new members in the 21<sup>st</sup> century continues throughout the world.

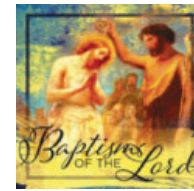
In the Rite of Baptism for Children, the celebrant says, "You have asked to have your children baptized. In doing so you are accepting the responsibility of training them in the practice of the faith. It will be your duty to bring them up to keep God's commandments as Christ taught us by loving God and our neighbor. Do you clearly understand what you are undertaking?"

Parents rightly are the first teachers of their children in the ways of faith. The Rite of Baptism makes that point quite clear. Though the words I have placed below are addressed to parents and godparents, just before the Baptism, they are also directed to each of us who belong to the Church and who welcome new members through Baptism. As a baptized member of the Catholic faith, I invite you to reflect upon these words, taken from the 2020 revised Rite of Baptism, on this feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

*"Through the Sacrament of Baptism the children you have presented are about to receive from the love of God new life by water and the Holy Spirit. For your part, you must strive to bring them up in the faith, so that this divine life may be preserved from the contagion*

*of sin, and may grow in them day by day. If your faith makes you ready to accept this responsibility, then, mindful of your own Baptism, renounce sin and profess faith in Christ Jesus, the faith of the Church, in which children are baptized."* (Rite of Baptism, 2020)

When we present our children or adults to receive Baptism it is the beginning of a life-long journey with God and incorporation into the Christian community.



As we celebrate this feast of the Baptism of the Lord, we also come to the completion of the Christmas season. We return to Ordinary Time tomorrow, Monday, January 10. The next change of seasons in the Church will be the beginning of Lent on March 2, Ash Wednesday.

The past year has altered our "ordinary" way of life. Unlike last year, vaccines and a booster are now widely available to help prevent provide protection from COVID. With the new variant affecting our world the growing number of people here in the USA and throughout the world who have been affected is shocking.

What is even more tragic to me is the number of people who continue to deny the danger of this virus. If we say we respect all of life, I wonder how we can justify not wearing a mask in public? In the face of overwhelming scientific evidence of the danger of COVID and the steps we can take to help prevent the spread of this disease, there are still those who put themselves and countless others at risk because of behaviors that ignore medical advice on how to stay safe.

If you make one New Year's resolution this year, I would urge you to resolve to do your share of helping prevent the spread of COVID. Resolve to wear a mask, wash your hands frequently, avoid large crowds, read responsible articles from trustworthy medical people about what actions you can do in the face of this disease and remember to pray for those afflicted with the virus. Keep in your prayers and do all you can to support our medical people, those who work in essential jobs (grocery workers, delivery people, those who clean and disinfect buildings, first responders, firefighters, police, military personnel, etc) and all caregivers.

On 25 December 2021 after praying the Angelus, Pope Francis offered the traditional **URBI ET ORBI MESSAGE**. Below I share it with you some excerpts for your reflection in the coming week. May you have a safe week.

**Fr. Michael**



*Dear brothers and sisters,  
Happy Christmas!*

*The Word of God, who created the world and who gives meaning to history and to humanity's journey, became flesh and came to dwell among us. He came like a whisper, like the murmur of a gentle breeze, to fill with wonder the heart of every man and woman who is open to this mystery.*

*By the coming of Jesus, the Person of the Word made flesh, into our world, God showed us the way of encounter and dialogue. Indeed, he made that way incarnate in himself, so that we might know it and follow it, in trust and hope.*

*Sisters and brothers, "what would our world be like without the patient dialogue of the many generous persons who keep families and communities together?" (Fratelli Tutti, 198). In this time of pandemic, we have come to realize this more and more. Our capacity for social relationships is sorely tried; there is a growing tendency to withdraw, to do it all by ourselves, to stop making an effort to encounter others and do things together. On the international level too, there is the risk of avoiding dialogue, the risk that this complex crisis will lead to taking shortcuts rather than setting out on the longer paths of dialogue. Yet only those paths can lead to the resolution of conflicts and to lasting benefits for all.*

*Indeed, even as the message of the birth of the Saviour, the source of true peace, resounds in our hearts and in the whole world, we continue to witness a great number of conflicts, crises and disagreements. These never seem to end; by now we hardly even notice them. We have become so used to them that immense tragedies are now being passed over in silence; we risk not hearing the cry of pain and distress of so many of our brothers and sisters. Grant that, through dialogue, mutual respect and recognition of the rights and cultural values of every human being, the values of solidarity, reconciliation and peaceful coexistence may prevail in the hearts of the peoples of the Americas.*

*Dear brothers and sisters, amid all the many problems of our time, hope prevails, "for to us a child is born" (Is 9:6). He is the word of God, who became an infant, capable only of crying, and in need of help for everything. He wished to learn how to speak, like every other child, so that we might learn to listen to God, our Father, to listen to one another and to dialogue as brothers and sisters.*

*O Christ, born for our sake, teach us to walk beside you on the paths of peace.*

*~ Pope Francis*

## ST. PETER'S CHURCH MASS SCHEDULE

**Mondays through Fridays**

**Mass Times:**

**7:30 am, 11:40 am and 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—Room C**

**Across from St. Peter's Book Store**

**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.**







## THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE STUDY

*Isa. 42: 1-4, 6-7*


Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Nobel Peace Prize-winning Anglican cleric, has died at the age of 90. His work for civil and human rights made him a revered leader during the struggle to end apartheid in his native South Africa. South African President Cyril Ramaphosa describes Tutu as “A man of extraordinary intellect, integrity and invincibility against the forces of apartheid...tender and vulnerable in his compassion for those who had suffered oppression, injustice and violence under apartheid, and oppressed and downtrodden people around the world.”

Apartheid, South Africa’s official policy of racial segregation, ended in the early ‘90s. Nelson Mandela became president of the country and Tutu was named chair of South Africa’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission. In 2012 he was recognized for “his lifelong commitment to speaking truth to power.” The following year he received the Templeton Prize for his “work in advancing spiritual principles such as love and forgiveness...”

In today’s readings from the Prophet Isaiah we hear the Lord say, “Here is my servant...he shall bring forth justice to the nations...” And in another place, “Comfort, give comfort to my people...” Certainly Archbishop Desmond Tutu did this. The current archbishop of Cape Town described Tutu’s legacy as moral strength, moral courage and clarity, saying “He cried because he felt the people’s pain. And he cackled with delight when he shared their joy.” The current Archbishop of Canterbury has described Tutu as “a prophet and a priest, a man of words and action...”

The person or group of people addressed in Second Isaiah is often referred to as the Suffering Servant and assumed to be the Messiah. But perhaps there is more to it than that. In 2011 Episcopal Priest Robert V. Taylor wrote, “Desmond Tutu had no reason to act as he did other than his profound sense of our shared humanity in working for a world in which justice and the wellbeing of all is an expression of his ethical leadership of compassion.” Isn’t this what it means to be God’s servant? This is what Archbishop Desmond Tutu dedicated his life to. Are we not called to do the same?

*By Vinal Van Benthem ofs*



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




### Reconciliation at St. Peter’s Church

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

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

**Lower Level—Room C**  
**Directly across from**  
**St. Peter’s Book & Gift Shop.**



**St. Peter’s Church Safety Guidelines**  
**The Archdiocese of Chicago requires**  
**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.**



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

## January 9, 2022

### The Baptism of the Lord

*"We are called to live our baptism every day, as new creatures, clothed in Christ."*

—Pope Francis

What reference point do you use when making decisions? Many times, impulse takes control and decisions are made based solely on emotion and desire. We all know that these types of decisions can often get us into trouble. When a person has a confident sense of who they are and a real understanding of what is important and of value, the likelihood of kneejerk impulsive choices diminishes. Baptism gives us what we need to make well informed and purposeful decisions. By this simple gesture, God claims us as His own and provides us with the identity and purpose we need to properly live life.

It is tremendously reassuring, when we truly embrace this revelation and realize that we no longer have to wonder about the purpose of our lives or struggle to find our way. The answer of who we are in God has been given to us. We no longer have to fumble around, trip over ourselves or walk aimlessly about. Issues surrounding the sacredness of life, the meaning of death, the protection of those most vulnerable, care for the weak and the poor, offering hospitality to those in search of a home, the purpose and proper place of work, how to create a just social order, caring for creation, and understanding our roles as heralds and stewards are just a few of the wonderful gifts baptism brings. When we make decisions based on things such as these core Gospel truths we really act as Christ himself, revealing to others the new creations that we are. This is how we live our baptism.

It is difficult to walk against the tide. Yet, that is precisely what baptism calls us to do. Although we are sinners, in need of mercy and far from perfection we are called to order our life and make decisions based upon the wisdom and guidance of Almighty God. He alone is the one who can claim us as His sons and daughters. Standing up for our principles will not make us popular. But who ever said Christianity is a popularity contest? Baptism calls us to stand up for that which goes against the grain of secularism. Standing in line with other sinners, we have our anchor to steady us in the tempests of life and God is very pleased. Forge ahead. There is nothing to fear. ©LPi



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## 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.



*Please* **DONATE**

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!

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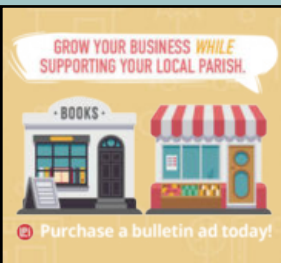
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