

Saint Peter ^{the} Apostle CATHOLIC CHURCH



551 N. Rush Street | Itasca, Illinois 60143 | 630.773.1272 | www.stpeteritasca.com

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:30 am | 10:00 am | 11:30 am

Monday-Friday: 8:00 am

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays | 4:15 pm - 4:45 pm

Wednesdays | 8:30 am (*following 8:00 am Mass*)

First Saturdays | 8:30 am (*following 8:00 am Mass*)

Fourth Sunday
of
LENT
March 27, 2022



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"I shall get up and go to my father and I shall say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son.' "

Luke 15:18-19

2022



CATHOLIC MINISTRIES ANNUAL APPEAL

From the Pastor

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

For over two years, we have been living in moments of uncertainty. The number one reason for most people was and still is the Coronavirus pandemic and price inflation. These terrible things continue to affect us and everyone throughout the world. Now, we face war between Russia and Ukraine. Our daily life, as we have known it, has been changed. For many, this is a time of darkness and despair.

With Christ at our side this Lent and every day of our lives, let us together do what we can to combat the threats that surround us. Faith in God is key! We need faith in the Lord more than ever! He will help us fight this battle with his amazing grace and power. Seek to be strong in faith.

In this Sunday's second reading from Saint Paul's letter to the Corinthians, Paul says that we are to always be in Christ: *"Whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come. And all this is from God, who have reconciled us to himself through Christ and given us the ministry of reconciliation, namely, God was reconciling the world to Himself in Christ...we implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God."* This is the way to interior, exterior and social peace. With all that is happening, let us go to Christ this Lent, in these last two weeks before Holy Week, and repent, confess our sins, and receive sacramental grace. Let us do our part to bring ourselves and others out of these negative times and seek Christ so that at Easter we may shine with new light, hope and life. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is the way to Easter.

While many still stay away from public Mass, let us pray for them and for all of God's people. Let us pray for their return to communal prayer with us as Christ intends for His Church and all the faithful.

It is my hope that more Catholics will make the right decision to gather in our church for Holy Week Masses and services and for Easter Mass. I am sure you anxiously join me in looking forward to that great day. For now, let us storm heaven with our prayers, and beg the Virgin Mary, the help of Christians and health of the sick, to intercede for us that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

I want to personally thank those who have been so generous and supportive of the parish during this time of crisis and instability. Your prayers, stewardship, thoughtfulness, generosity, and support are greatly appreciated.

If you are not already on the parish email distribution and would like to stay informed about the parish activities, events, and spiritual resources, please email bulletin@stpeteritasca.com to add your email address.

I welcome you to prayer and reconciliation these remaining weeks of Lent, as well as Holy Week, Easter and the fifty days of the Easter Season.

May God bless you and may the Blessed Mother keep you safe! Blessings on our world, to you, and all those you love.

Fr. Noesen



Sunday	March 27 (Fourth Sunday of Lent)
8:30 am	†Harry Aument
10:00 am	†Adeline Magnus
11:30 am	†Deacon Gordon "Jerry" Clark †Michael Laughlin †Michael Mulcahy †Maria Terracciano
Monday	March 28 (Lenten Weekday)
8:00 am	†William Hemmingway
Tuesday	March 29 (Lenten Weekday)
8:00 am	For Souls in Purgatory
Wednesday	March 30 (Lenten Weekday)
8:00 am	†George Kveck
Thursday	March 31 (Lenten Weekday)
8:00 am	For an End to Abortion
Friday	April 1 (Lenten Weekday)
8:00 am	†Jackie Gosanko
Saturday	April 2 (First Saturday; Lenten Weekday; St. Francis of Paola, Hermit)
8:00 am	†Jennifer Ruffing
Saturday	April 2 (Vigil: Fifth Sunday of Lent)
5:00 pm	†Judy Boeckeler †Robert Hoffman Joe and Jude Booth - Special Intention People of the Parish
Sunday	April 3 (Fifth Sunday of Lent)
8:30 am	†Jimmy Hoey
10:00 am	†Mary Varygiannes
11:30 am	†Sandra L. Burzynski †Gloria Colella †Joann Kusinski †Patty Kusinski Smith The People of Ukraine - Special Intention

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday:	Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday:	Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30
Thursday:	Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47
Friday:	Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday:	Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53
Sunday:	Is 43:16-21; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 3:8-14; Jn 8:1-11; <i>Alternate readings (Year A):</i> Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]

FIRST FRIDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION...

will take place at St. Peter's Church
on April 1.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
will begin following 8:00 am Mass
and will conclude at 6:30 pm*.

*Come spend quiet time with Jesus
before this Most Blessed Sacrament of the Altar.*

*This is a wonderful time to offer your
prayers of thanksgiving or prayers of petitions
for yourself or loved ones.*

To ensure that two people are present at all times,
anyone able to commit to a one-hour time slot
is asked to sign up using the link available on
the parish website at stpeteritasca.com

**Adoration will conclude at 6:30pm
and will be followed by Stations of the Cross and Benediction*

Stations of the Cross of Jesus Christ

Fridays during Lent at 6:30 pm

Stations of the Cross are celebrated on Fridays at 6:30 pm. Please see the schedule on the parish website. The Stations of the Cross is a devotional service which traces Jesus' journey from the trial before Pilate to His death on Calvary.

Tradition tells us that the places of visitation, the "stations," were those visited by the Blessed Virgin Mary after the resurrection of Jesus. Through the ages, people would walk from station to station trying to mirror the physical pilgrimage of going from place to place in Jerusalem. The form of the Stations of the Cross has changed over the centuries, but the devotion still carries the same meaning and is a traditional part of Lent.

Consider making this prayerful reflection part of your Lenten Journey.

SAVE THE DATE

St. Peter's Knights of Columbus - Council 10884
hosts its annual



Friday, April 1 | 5:00 - 6:30 pm
Margaret Woods Parish Hall



+ Food + Fellowship +

FUNDRAISER FOR THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE

Saint Peter the Apostle Knights of Columbus Council 10884 will be hosting its annual Fish Fry on Friday, April 1.

Everyone is invited to join fellow parishioners for food and fellowship, while also assisting the people of Ukraine. The free will donations collected will go to the aid of the people of Ukraine.

To date, 2 million people have been displaced, injured or killed in Ukraine. Another 1.7 million people have been forced to flee to Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Belarus, and Russia. Most would rather stay and fight than head to Belarus or Russia.

If you do not like fish, soup, salads and plenty of other dishes will also be available. If you are interested in bringing a soup, a loaf of bread, or salad fixings, please call or text Nancy Magnus at 630-606-5197.

This year a raffle will also take place offering a chance to win one of the many bountiful baskets. **The Basket Raffle begins this weekend (\$1 each / \$10 for 15) in the Narthex.**

Again, this event is a FREE WILL DONATION; however, this year everyone is asked to dig a little deeper to aid those suffering the effects of the war in Ukraine. If you are unable to attend but would like to donate, feel free to contact a Knight directly, or drop off your donation at the Parish Center.

Checks should be made payable to St. Peter the Apostle Knights of Columbus. We look forward to seeing you on April 1.

Stewardship of Treasure

A Way of Life
St. Peter the Apostle

Sunday Collection - Fiscal Week 38 (03/20/2022): \$ 8,541.00

If you have any questions concerning the collection numbers or opportunities for giving, please feel free to contact the Business Office by email at business@stpeteritasca.com or by phone at 630-773-1272 (ext. 204).



Electronic Giving is available using GiveCentral

Please visit the parish website and look for the GiveCentral icon to link to the secure online giving portal.

You can also connect directly by visiting the website directly at givecentral.org/location/1251

Please keep Saint Peter the Apostle Parish in mind when making out your Will and in doing your Estate Planning. Remembering the Church is a beautiful and fitting way to make a lasting memorial statement of faith for future generations.

This Week at St. Peter's...

- Tuesday March 29**
7:15 pm Tuesday Evening Rosary (*Church*)
- Wednesday March 30**
8:30 am Confessions (*Church*)
6:15 pm Adult Hand Bell Choir (*Church/Choir Loft*)
7:00 pm "Chosen" - Watch & Discuss (*MW Parish Hall*)
- Thursday March 31**
9:00 am "Be Formed" Bible Discussion (*MW Parish Hall*)
- Friday April 1**
8:00 am Eucharistic Adoration begins with Mass
5:00 pm Knights of Columbus Fish Fry (*MW Parish Hall*)
6:30 pm Stations of the Cross + Benediction (*Church*)
- Saturday April 2**
4:15 pm Confessions (*Church*)
Bethlehem Arts Sale (after 5pm Masses)
- Sunday April 2**
9:30 am Bethlehem Arts Sale (after all Masses)
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Class (*PC Conference Room*)



Thank you to all who attended, as well as those who helped at last Sunday's **Saint Joseph's Table**. Special thanks to the planning committee, Knights of Columbus, and many parishioners who donated food and sweets, helped organize, set up and clean up, as well as those who offered financial support. Special recognition to the generous businesses that contributed to make this special event successful.

We are also grateful for the monetary gifts, food, flowers, decorations, and services offered by many businesses.

Please show your support and thanks to the following sponsors:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Cucina Casale | Kwik Print |
| Cuoco Babbo - Chef Bob Conidi | McDonald's |
| Di Lucca Design | Montrose Deli |
| Fleetwood Industrial Supply | Perfect Kreations Party Decor |
| Fox & Turtle | Ristorante DeMarco |
| Frank's Fresh Market | Salerno's Rosedale Chaples |
| Italian Bakery | Sam's Club |
| Itasca Bank & Trust | Starbuck's Coffee |
| Itasca Food Pantry | Sweet 'n Brew Cafe |
| Jarosch Bakery | The Oaks Funeral Home |
| Jay's Beef | Tree Guys Pizza |
| Jewel Osco | Your Home Group |
| Kean's Bakery | at Baird & Warner |
| Krystyna's Flowers | 3D Desktop Design by Diane |

Through your almsgiving, we collected **\$4,435 .00** for our Parish Poor Fund. These monies will be used throughout the year to help those who are truly in need of assistance and charity.

Our volunteers are a valuable and integral part of the parish — you are always welcome here. We encourage others to join in and volunteer for future parish events and gatherings!

The celebration was a wonderful way to welcome back parishioners, neighbors, and friends who have been away since the pandemic shutdown. We hope to see all of you at Mass each Sunday as we praise the Lord and seek to grow in holiness and devotedness.



Schedule

Saturday, April 2 | Sunday, April 3

- | <i>Communion Ministers</i> | <i>Lectors</i> |
|---|------------------------|
| 5:00 pm Nancy Ferenzi
Rose Ann Roll | 5:00 pm Patrick Powers |
| 8:30 am Jim Ruffing
Deacon Fred | 8:30 am Jean Grote |
| 10:00 am Mary Booth
Bill Kolf | 10:00 am Nancy Magnus |
| 11:30 am Carmela Graziano
Michael Graziano | 11:30 am Mary McNamara |



This weekend and next, our parish will take up the annual collection to support Catholic Relief Services. This year, Bishop Hicks has asked us to be especially generous with our gifts. With the invasion of Ukraine by Russia, many civilians have been targeted and are suffering greatly from the war. You can help! This collection for Catholic Relief Services will provide relief to those suffering in Ukraine. If unprepared this weekend, please consider a donation next weekend or use GiveCentral to donate electronically. Another way to support the people of Ukraine is by donating at the Knights of Columbus Parish Fish Fry on Friday, April 1.

By making donations through the Catholic Church, here in the U.S., we can be sure that money collected will go where it is most needed. Please be generous in your gifts to support the people of Ukraine as they struggle to maintain their nation.

You are cordially invited to
“Sing with the Angels”
 Theme: The Lord’s Passion

date: Palm Sunday, April 10, 2022

time: 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

place: St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church
 551 N. Rush Street, Itasca

Don’t forget to bring your rosary.

RSVP: Maria Greico at 630-373-4710

Please arrive on time.

The program will begin promptly at 6:00 pm.

The prayers, sacred music and movie clips used in this program were selected to help you meditate on the Lord’s passion, death, and resurrection. You will be moved in a profound way when you experience the perfect example of His sacrificial love.

ARE YOU A ROMAN CATHOLIC? 7 hours of CONFESSION!



When was the last time you received
Reconciliation?

Was it recently? In the past year? Past 20 years?

The priests of Eastern DuPage County will be available to celebrate the Sacrament of Forgiveness of Sin!

SATURDAY, APRIL 2

8:00 am - 3:00 pm

THERE WILL BE SELECT TIMES WHEN
 THE SACRAMENT WILL BE OFFERED
 IN POLISH AND SPANISH

ALL ARE INVITED TO RECEIVE GOD’S GRACE

Immaculate Conception Church
 132 Arthur St. | Elmhurst, IL
 630-530-8515

BETHLEHEM ARTS

NEXT WEEKEND - April 2-3



Representatives of the Catholic Christian Community from Jerusalem and Bethlehem in the Holy Land will be at St. Peter’s **NEXT WEEKEND** selling handcrafted olive wood religious figurines and articles. Due to the political conflict and covid19 results in the reduction of tourism, the Catholic Community has come to depend more on these sales abroad to survive. The woodcarvings are beautiful and reflect faith and love for the Lord.

Please consider purchasing a gift that will be remembered and cherished for yourself or someone dear to you. The handcrafted olive wood religious figurines and articles will be available for purchase **after all Masses next weekend.**



Bishop Hicks' Column

March 2022

Lenten Madness



In 1908, the Illinois High School Association sponsored a small invitational basketball tournament that quickly grew to a statewide event due to its popularity. As years went on, this tournament consistently sold out the University of Illinois gymnasium in Urbana-Champaign and was commonly referred to as "March Madness." This term of endearment is also used to promote the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) basketball tournament.

The word "madness" has many connotations and definitions. In this case, "madness" refers to the fervor, passion and enthusiasm that accompanies the tournament. Using that definition, let's imagine what it would be like if we were to approach the 40 days before Easter as "Lenten Madness." Just think of a fervent, passionate and enthusiastic Lent.

We have become accustomed during "March Madness" to see and read feature stories about Sister Jean, BVM. She is the legendary chaplain of the Loyola Ramblers men's basketball team. Even though she loves the sport of basketball and supporting her team, never doubt her true passion. Anyone who knows her, knows that her deepest love is being a servant of God and devoting her life to helping others.

On February 24, our Holy Father released a beautiful message for Lent 2022. I invite you to read and reflect on the pope's powerful words as a way of preparing for this holy season:

www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/lent/documents/20211111-messaggio-quaresima2022.html

In his Lenten message, Pope Francis reflects on St. Paul's exhortation to the Galatians: "Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up. So then, while we have the opportunity, let us do good to all."

(Gal: 6:9-10) You can almost hear St. Paul delivering those words of encouragement to the Galatians, like a basketball coach animating his or her team during halftime. Basically, St. Paul is inspiring those followers of Christ to not lose heart, to not grow weary or apathetic. Instead, they should be on fire for all the ways they can do good in the name of the Lord. Go out there and give it your all!

The messages of St. Paul and the Holy Father on perseverance and persistence are so relevant to keeping the flame of faith and salvation alive in the minds, hearts and souls of Christ's followers. In this time of extended pandemic and constant bad-news cycles, we are in need of God's burning love, mercy, compassion, healing, hope, joy and peace more than ever. We are encouraged not only to personally embrace this relationship with the Lord, but also to share it with others with our words, attitudes and actions.

The pope also reminds us that if we do not give up, if we stay in the game, then victory is ours. That victory certainly looks different from winning the NCAA tournament. As missionary disciples, our victory is sharing in the life and salvation that was won through Christ's suffering, death and resurrection. The Holy Father reminds us to never take our eyes off the prize. "If we do not give up, we shall reap our harvest in due time and that, with the gift of perseverance, we shall obtain what was promised, for our salvation and the salvation of others.

By cultivating fraternal love towards everyone, we are united to Christ, who gave his life for our sake, and we are granted a foretaste of the joy of the kingdom of heaven, when God will be 'all in all.'" (Pope Francis, *Lenten Message 2022, Section 3*)

Lent is a time that we are invited to grow closer to the Lord with our acts of penance, prayer and almsgiving. It is all too easy to approach this sacred time with a status quo mentality or lackluster energy. We might say, "I will give up this" or "I will do that." But then we may neglect to back it up with the needed fervor, passion and enthusiasm. This year, however, I invite you, within the life of the Church, to get off the bench and back into the game. Let's strive to make this a time of renewal and conversion that leads us deeper into our love of God and neighbor. In other words, let's make this blessed season a time of "Lenten Madness."



Fourth Sunday of Lent

*Jesus teaches about forgiveness
in the parable of the Prodigal Son*

Luke 15:1-3,11-32

The parable Jesus tells in today's Gospel is unique to the Gospel of Luke. Jesus has been teaching the crowds as he journeys to Jerusalem. As he teaches, the Pharisees and scribes complain and challenge Jesus because he is welcoming sinners at his table. Today we hear the third of three parables that Jesus tells in response to his critics. These three familiar parables—the lost sheep, the lost coin, and today's parable of the prodigal son—invite us to consider the depth of God's mercy and love.

The Pharisees taught a scrupulous observance of Jewish Law. In their interpretation and practice, observant Jews who shared table fellowship with sinners would be made unclean. Like Jesus, the Pharisees hoped to lead sinners back to God. The Pharisees, however, required that sinners first become ritually clean—observant of the Pharisees' interpretation of Jewish Law—before sharing table fellowship. This appears to be one of the major differences between the Pharisees and Jesus. Jesus reaches out to sinners while they are still sinners, inviting them to conversion through fellowship with him. Jesus is God acting among us; by befriending us, he is inviting us to return to friendship with God. Through friendship with Jesus, our sins are forgiven and we, in turn, bear fruit for God. Recall last Sunday's Gospel and the barren fig tree.

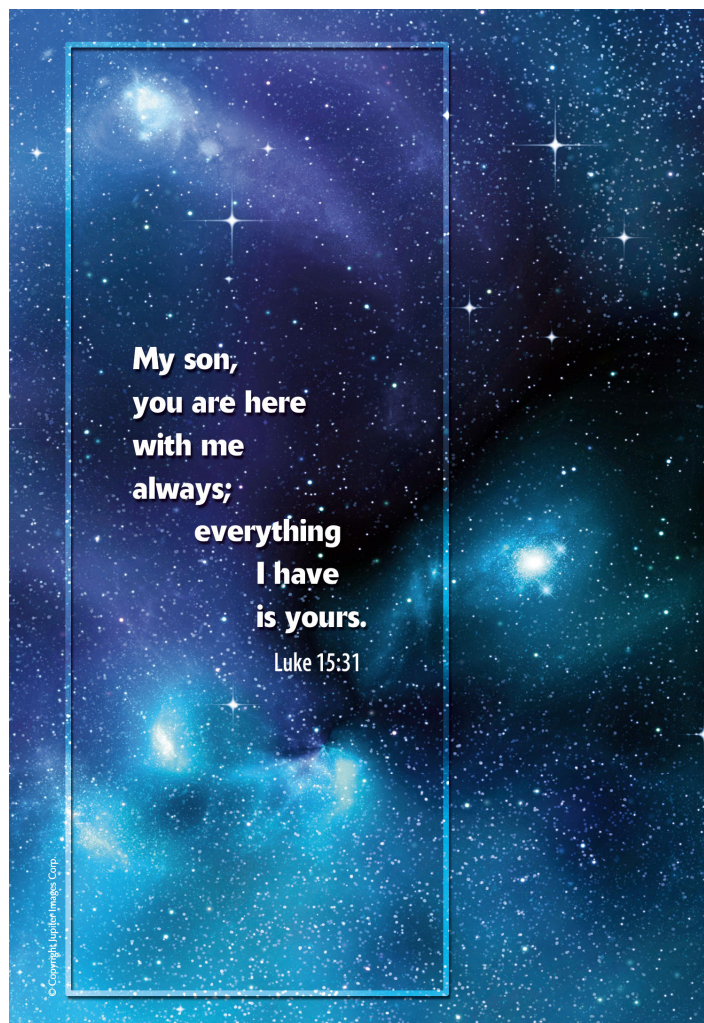
Our familiarity with today's parable risks dulling us to its tremendously powerful message. We call this the parable of the lost son or the prodigal son. Any focus on the younger son, however, must also be balanced by an examination of the unusual behavior of the father.

First we must imagine our first response to the audacity of a son who asks for his inheritance before his father has died. Indignation would certainly be a justifiable response to such a request. Yet the father in this parable agrees to honor the son's request and divides his property among his two sons. How might we describe such a father? Foolish comes to mind, but so does trusting. Without property of his own, the father must rely upon his sons to provide for his well-being.

The younger son takes his inheritance and leaves home. The older son remains, continuing to provide for the father and the household. Having been disgraced by the younger son, the father spends some time watching the road for the return of the lost son. When he eventually sees his wayward son returning, the father not only welcomes him but also runs out to greet him and then honors him with a party. We say that this father is loving and forgiving. Yet these adjectives only begin to describe the depth of love and mercy that characterize the father.

We find no surprise in the anger of the older son. Yet the father appears sad and even confused by the older son's indignation. He says in reply that they should celebrate because the lost son had returned. The father is filled with gratitude and love for the older son's faithfulness. This love is in no way diminished by the father's rejoicing at the return of the younger son. Yet the older son's jealousy reveals his limited understanding of the depth of his father's love.

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is traditionally called Laetare Sunday. Laetare is a Latin word that means "rejoice." Today's Gospel describes the reason for our joy: God's great love for us has been revealed in Jesus. Through his Passion, Death, and Resurrection, Christ has reconciled us with God and one another.





WHY CONFESS TO A PRIEST?

catholicsstrivingforholiness.org

Why confess to a priest if one can talk directly to God?

We Catholics confess our sins to a priest and receive God's forgiveness and absolution because God wanted it this way. *God willed that His pardon and mercy pass through His Son, Jesus Christ, who acts in the priest, and hence, instituted the Sacrament of Confession upon giving His Apostles the power and authority to forgive sins or retain them.*

Where can you find God's desire to forgive through his chosen ministers in the Bible and the institution of the Sacrament of Confession?

Jn 20:21-23: "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the holy spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

God's salvific ministry carried out in His Son Jesus Christ wanted to show and perpetrate His loving mercy and reconciliation throughout time through the Apostles and their successors (Bishops, and their collaborators, the priests (cf. 2 Cor 5:18-20; Jas 5:14-15).

This power to "forgive and retain" sins in the name of Jesus is described in other scriptural passages as the authority to "bind and loose" (cf. Mt 16:19; 18:18).

But isn't it that only God can forgive sins?

Yes! Only God can and it is He who forgives sins in the sacrament of Confession and not the priest. When the priest gives the absolution or forgives sin in Confession, **he lends his voice to Christ: He acts in the person of Christ. It is Christ himself who says: "I absolve you from your sins..."**

This fact is in **consonance with Jesus' act of imparting his power to forgive sins to His apostles and his authority to reconcile sinners with His Church.** The practice of confessing one's sins to another has been present since the times when the Apostles were still alive.

James" 5: 14 *Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the Church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; 15 and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. 16 Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man has great power in its effects."*

The command in v. 16, "confess your sins to one another" has to be interpreted within the previous context of the anointing rite, where the elders (i.e., presbyter = Greek πρεσβύτερος: priest, the senior, leader of the Christian congregation) presumably hear the confession of the sick person before his sins are remitted through the sacrament (5:14-15). It must be reminded that such confession has its roots in the liturgical practice of Israel (Lev 5:5-6; Num 5:5-10) and is contained in the teaching of Jesus (Jn 20:23).

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, **had God willed for us to confess directly to Him, Jesus wouldn't have given His power and authority to forgive sins to His Apostles and nor had instituted the Sacrament of Confession.**

Besides, one **advantage** of obeying God's will to confess our sins to His instruments is **the absolute assurance of having been forgiven upon receiving the sacramental absolution**, a fact which we cannot be absolutely sure if we are to confess our sins directly to God.

By confessing our sins to God's instruments, who are also sinners for all we are, **He also wants us to practice and grow in humility and faith**, necessary virtues in order to receive God's loving mercy.

Let us thank God for giving us the Sacrament of Confession out of His bountiful love and mercy for us. **He knows that we are sinners and weak: and since He loves us and longs for us, He gave us this remedy so as to begin again after having fallen.**



Presentation of Offertory Gifts

Thank you to the following First Holy Communion candidates and their families for presenting gifts at this weekend's masses:

11:30 am Quinn Laughlin

A WORK OF MERCY
Sponsored by St. Michael Catholic Church

CHAIN-FOR-LIFE
ecumenical + prayerful + silent

SATURDAY, APRIL 9
10:15-11:30AM

520 E. Roosevelt Rd., Wheaton
(Compass Church Parking Lot)

Registration options:
Scan this QR code with your phone:

Or Register Here
by March 31

<https://sites.google.com/view/chain-for-life-wheaton/home>

Questions?
Contact Vince Heaton
vheaton2@gmail.com



LAETARE SUNDAY



The Fourth Sunday of Lent is called Laetare Sunday, from the first words of the Introit at Mass, "Laetare Jerusalem" ('Rejoice, O Jerusalem').

Like Gaudete Sunday midway through Advent, Laetare reminds us of the event we look forward to at the end of the penitential season and the joy in anticipation of the Resurrection. The vestments for this day will be rose, as they are on Gaudete Sunday in Advent.

 facebook.com/catholicsknowtheanswerofficialpage

NOTE: The sick list has been reviewed and long-standing names removed if renewal was not recently received. If prayers are still needed, please call to renew. Thank you.

Please Pray for the Sick of our Parish Family

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <i>Sue Bobka</i> | <i>Gene Mikulecky</i> | <i>Harriett Pinkowski</i> |
| <i>Ken Buffo</i> | <i>Christopher Mizera</i> | <i>Bonnie Pollock</i> |
| <i>Regina Conti</i> | <i>Richard Mrugacz</i> | <i>Wayne Slowiak</i> |
| <i>Mary Cummins</i> | <i>Loretta Nicolini</i> | <i>Marlene Torii</i> |
| <i>Paul Cummins</i> | <i>John North</i> | <i>Fr. Miroslaw Stepien</i> |
| <i>Virginia Halac</i> | <i>Don Olenek</i> | <i>Randy Szweda, USMC</i> |
| <i>Martha Hayes</i> | <i>Rich Olenek</i> | <i>Linda Wuerffel</i> |
| <i>Ken Hemstreet</i> | <i>Janina Piotrowski</i> | <i>Carol Zell</i> |
| <i>Rickie Kruzal</i> | | |

Published prayer requests require permission from the named individual or their family. Names will be listed for six weeks, after which time you may call the Parish Center to renew your request.



Join our Holy Father, Pope Francis, in his March prayers for the Church and for the world:

A Christian Response to Bioethical Challenges
 We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.



Deliver hope to *Ukraine*



Whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come.
 — 2 Corinthians 5:17

Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen

- PFC Ryan Caspary, US Army 101st Airborne**
- LCpl James J. Cullotta, US Marines**
- SGT Michael D'Andrea, US Army**
- Maj Joseph DeHaven, US Army**
- PFC Collin Ensing, US Marines**
- CW3 Gordon Goodwin, Army National Guard**
- CPT Steven Gregor, US Army**
- SGT Michael Helle, US Army**
- Cpl Brandon Helm, US Marines**
- PVT Aleksandra Juzwiak, Army National Guard**
- SA Chris Kaszubowski, US Navy**
- CMC Mike Kaszubowski, US Navy**
- SGT Jacob Los, US Army**
- Major Ryan L. Morrissey, US Army**
- 1stLt John Kenneth Murphy, US Marines**
- Kevin Noesen, US Coastguard**
- SGT Marcin Platek, US Marines**
- 2LT Megan Putze, Army National Guard**
- SGT Michael Schatzman, US Army**
- LTJG Albert J. Schrautemyer III, US Navy Pilot (Persian Gulf)**
- SGT Jeremy Schumacher, US Marines**
- Robert P. Woods Lt. JG. US Navy**
- Thomas Zablocki, US Marines**
- PO2 Benjamin Zubak, US Navy**

RECTORY/PARISH CENTER

mailing address: 551 N. Rush Street, Itasca, Illinois 60143

phone: 630-773-1272 **Web site:** stpeteritasca.com

Pastor **Reverend Robert Noesen**
phone ext. 208

Assisting Priest **Reverend Larry Brunette**

Deacon **Deacon William Bevan**

Deacon **Deacon Robert Ziomek**
e-mail: deacon@stpeteritasca.com

Director of Liturgy **Deacon Frederick Maier**
e-mail: liturgy@stpeteritasca.com phone ext. 201

Deacon Candidate **Mr. Anthony George**

Parish Secretary **Patti Zubak**
e-mail: office@stpeteritasca.com phone ext. 200

Bulletin/Communications Coordinator **Diane Blackburn**
e-mail: bulletin@stpeteritasca.com phone ext. 200

Parish Accountant **Missy Rubino**
e-mail: business@stpeteritasca.com phone ext. 204

Director of Religious Education **Toni Pietrowski**
e-mail: religioues@stpeteritasca.com phone ext. 216

DRE Assistant **Kathy Frank**
e-mail: religioues@stpeteritasca.com phone ext. 215

Assisting Musicians **Steven Basaillon, Larry Lalonde,
Joanne Nagle, Michelle Nagle, Geoff Pautsch**

St. Peter's Pro-life Ministry Coordinator **Nancy Magnus**
phone: 630-606-5197

Knights of Columbuse-mail: knights@stpeteritasca.com

Italian Catholic Federation (Branch 418)
Nick Tenerelli, Pres. phone: 847-224-9324

PARISH CENTER BUSINESS HOURS

Monday - Thursday: 8:30 am - 2:00 pm
Friday-Sunday: CLOSED (or by appointment)



TRAVELING?

Call 410-676-6000 or log onto www.masstimes.org for the location and schedule of Masses throughout the U.S.

PULPIT ANNOUNCEMENT AND BULLETIN DEADLINES

NOTE: Parish staff reserves the right to accept and/or decline, as well as edit, both pulpit announcements and bulletin submissions.

Pulpit announcement requests are to be submitted to the Parish Center no later than the **Tuesday preceding** the weekend during which the announcement is to be made. Announcements may be submitted by phone at 630-773-1272 (ext. 200) or by e-mail to **office@stpeteritasca.com**.

Bulletin submissions are to be submitted **no later than 8 days preceding** requested publication date. Notices and full page flyers will run for a maximum of two weeks, and priority will be given to items that are date sensitive. If possible, all items should be typed for legibility and accuracy and dropped off at the Parish Center or sent via e-mail to **bulletin@stpeteritasca.com**.

CONFESSIONS

Weekly on Wednesday at 8:30 am (*following Mass*)

Weekly on Saturday - 4:15-4:45 pm

First Saturdays at 8:30 am (*following Mass*)

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Adults interested in becoming Catholic or learning about the Catholic faith should contact the Parish Center for information.

BAPTISMS

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated either during a weekend Mass or on the third Sunday of the month at 12:30 pm (immediately following 11:30 am Mass). Parents must attend a Baptism Preparation class prior to the Baptism. Classes are held in the Parish Center at 7:00 pm on the first Thursday of each month. Please call the Parish Center for more information.

Required paperwork **MUST** be submitted to the parish office **no later than ten (10) business days prior to the baptismal date or your date will be rescheduled.** This includes all necessary information regarding family records and godparents. Please read the **baptism planning information** provided before selecting a godparent. A sponsor certificate must be provided **by each godparent.** The proper **sponsor certificate** for St. Peter the Apostle is included with the baptism packet. Christian witnesses are most welcome to celebrate with the family and community, but please note they are not recorded as sponsors on the Baptismal Certificate or in the Baptismal Register.

WEDDINGS

According to diocesan policy, the parish must be contacted six months prior to the intended wedding date. Please call the Parish Center (ext. 201) for information.

HOSPITALIZATION NOTIFICATIONS AND SICK/HOMEBOUND ARRANGEMENTS

Due to hospital admitting policies, it is necessary to inform the Parish Center when hospitalized parishioners would like a visit from Fr. Noesen or a deacon. Likewise, please call if you would like a visit while convalescing at home or at a facility.

Additionally, before being admitted to a hospital for surgery, it is advisable to call Fr. Noesen to arrange to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

Please contact the Parish Center at 630-773-1272 (ext. 200) to arrange for communion visits to the homebound.

FUNERALS

It is the responsibility of the parish to bury their dead. The funeral director will contact the Parish Center regarding arrangements. Funerals are ordinarily celebrated at 10:00 am. For more information, please read guidelines for Funeral Planning on the parish website.



If it is too difficult for you to walk to the front of the church to receive Communion, please know that at each Mass an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion comes to the back of the church to distribute Communion. If you would like to have the Extraordinary Minister give you communion in the back of church, please let an usher know before Mass begins. At Communion time, when you see the Extraordinary Minister come to the back, please raise your hand so that they can see you and give you Holy Communion.



MAKE SAINT PETER THE APOSTLE PARISH YOUR SPIRITUAL HOME!

Welcome, New Parishioners — Register Today

Week after week, many people worship with us on a regular basis, and, in fact, regard Saint Peter the Apostle Parish as their “spiritual home.” Part of the Catholic life and our Catholic identity is that we as Catholic people identify ourselves not only with the Universal Church - with over one billion other members, but we are also part of a “local Church.”

If you attend Saint Peter the Apostle Church on a regular basis, and regard this parish as your “spiritual home,” we encourage you to register as a parishioner. You are most welcome as part of our Parish Family.

Please fill out the form below and someone from the Parish Office will contact you to complete your registration. Return this form either through the mail or drop it in the Sunday collection. You can also register by calling the parish office or by visiting the parish website.

Welcome to Saint Peter the Apostle Parish!

ARE YOU CONNECTED???

Do you receive St. Peter's electronic newsletters??

This is a great way to stay informed and receive reminders about events that you may have forgotten about or overlooked in the bulletin.



If you have access to e-mail, but do not receive the parish's electronic newsletters, then please visit the parish website at stpeteritasca.com to sign up; you may also send your e-mail information to bulletin@stpeteritasca.com. Please be sure to provide your name together with your e-mail address.

And don't forget to connect with the parish on Facebook:



facebook.com/SaintPeterApostle.Itasca

Remember to invite your friends!!!

Invitation to Register!

We're so glad you are here and invite you to walk the path to faith with us. The community of St. Peter the Apostle strives to grow closer to Christ in all that we do. We care for one another and together with Christ, we make a difference. If you would like to become a registered parishioner, please fill out the information below and drop it into the collection basket at any mass or call the Parish Center at 630-773-1272 (ext. 200).

Family Name _____

Family Member Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____

E-mail Address: _____

Reporting Incidents of Sexual Abuse

Sexual abuse is a sin and a crime. Victims of sexual abuse, in addition to contacting civil authorities, are asked to come forward in order to receive pastoral assistance. The Church has a responsibility to help victims of sexual abuse and to ensure that offenders are brought to justice.

Reports may be made to any pastor or to the Victims Assistance Coordinator at 815/263-6467. Contact DCFS at 1-800-25-ABUSE.

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