

DECEMBER 3, 2017

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



SAINT PETER

Catholic Church

620 Blackhawk Blvd. South Beloit, IL 61080
Phone (815) 525-3400 Fax (815) 525-3409
Email: stpeter-sbeloit@rockforddiocese.org

St. Peter Church is a Roman Catholic community, evangelizing by the power of the Holy Spirit, leading others to a joyful encounter with Christ and experiencing Our Father's merciful love.

PASTORAL STAFF

Father Steven M. Sabo, Pastor
In case of emergency, please call (815) 321-9990
Father Robert J. McClellan, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Ignacio Badillo

PARISH STAFF

| | |
|--|--|
| Clara Fragozo, Religious Ed. Coordinator, Bi-lingual Secretary | Steve Hatch, Director of Building and Grounds |
| Cindy Godawski, Bus. Mgr. | Tom Couch, Lawn & Grounds Maintenance |
| Jeanne Pulkrabek, Secretary | Pauline Wergin, Sacristan |

SCHOOL STAFF

St. Peter School (815) 525-3400
Erica Schwartz, Principal
Marie Splan, Secretary
Ignacio Badillo, Custodian

COUNCILS AND MINISTRIES

Parish Council.....Dr. Jim Fogarty
Finance Council.....Cathy Cychosz
Knights of Columbus 8021, Grand Knight.....Steve Tallacksen
Respect Life Coordinator.....Christine Cimino
Music Ministry, Donna Fiduccia (815) 608-0681
or e-mail 344donna@charter.net
Youth Ministry.....Dave & Nicole Cox
Compassionate Ministry, call Parish Office....(815) 525-3400

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday 9 AM to 4 PM, Friday 9 AM to 4 PM

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Written submissions are due Monday at noon.

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

Please check bulletin or website for Mass times.

FIRST SATURDAY MASS

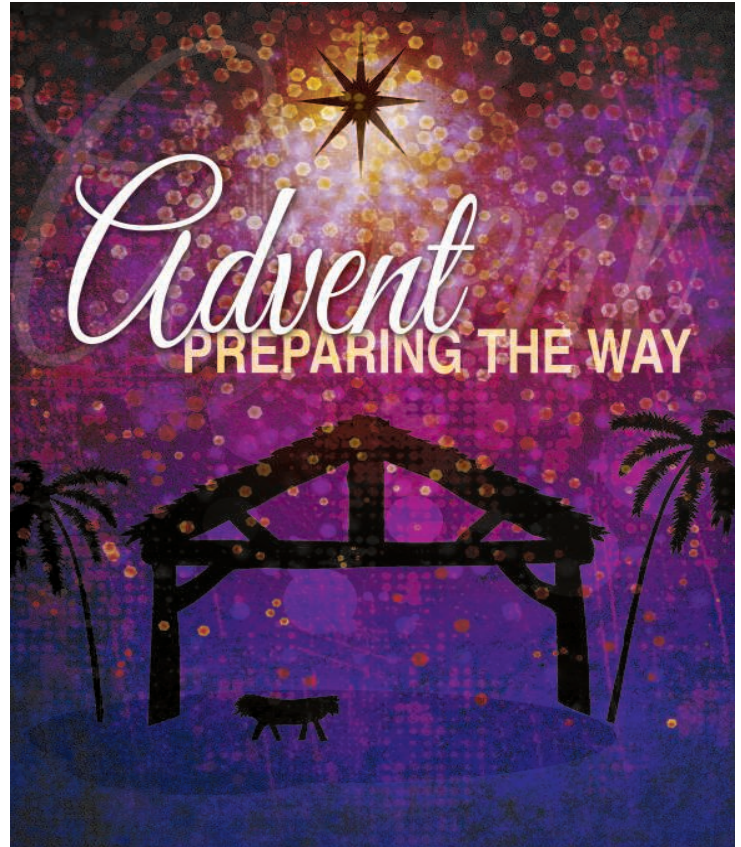
First Saturday Mass is at 8:00 AM. Anointing of the Sick takes place after Mass. Please join us for breakfast and fellowship in the church hall after Mass.

FAMILY ADORATION

English: Tuesdays at 7:00 PM with confessions



Parish website: www.st-peter-church.com



BAPTISMS

English: Baptisms are on Saturday mornings. Please call the office to set a time and date with Fr. Sabo.

Spanish: Kindly request the “Baptismal Orientation Document” from the parish office and follow the written instructions.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Couples must be at least nineteen and meet with the priest six months in advance.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK AND PASTORAL CARE

If you anticipate hospitalization or require sacraments, please call the parish office. The sacrament of the Anointing is on 1st Saturdays after the 8:00 AM Mass. You may also call the parish office.

CONFESSIONS

Mon: after the 7:00 PM Mass, Tues-Fri: after the 7:00 AM Mass
Tuesday: 7:00-8:00 PM during Family Adoration
Sat.: 3:45-4:45 PM & after 6:30 PM Mass (Spanish and English confessions are offered.) Sunday: after the 9:30 AM Mass

NEW PARISHIONERS

Please contact the office to register.

Monday, December 4th
 7:00PM Dan & Teri Lindahl Healing of Family Tree
 †Tim Hickey

Tuesday, December 5th
 7:00AM †Anna Hall
 8:15AM Kathy Smith
 †David Niemann

Wednesday, December 6th
 7:00AM †Larry Justman
 8:15AM †Katrina Joy Berry

Thursday, December 7th
St. Ambrose, Bishop & Dr of the Church
 7:00AM †John Maloney
 8:15AM †Anthony & Karen Hable
 5:00PM †Zina Giannone
 7:00PM †Ervin Rollette

Friday, December 8th
The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Holy Day of Obligation
 7:00AM Pro Populo
 8:15AM †Mary Mills
 5:30PM †Dr. Raymond Doyle

Saturday, December 9th
 8:00AM †Maynard Tipton
 5:00PM Norbert & Judy Schmitt 56th Anniversary
 †Ann Hickey
 6:30PM †Ervin Rollette

Sunday, December 10th
2nd Sunday of Advent
 7:30AM †Lee Heimann
 9:30 AM Pro Populo
 11:00AM †Richard Hackbarth
 12:30PM †Holy Souls in Purgatory

Please note that there is a Vigil Mass on Thursday, Dec. 7 at 5:30PM and additional Masses are scheduled on Friday, Dec. 8 at 5:30PM & 7:00PM (Spanish) on the Holy Day of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin.

In teaching that Mary was conceived immaculate, the Catholic Church teaches that from the very moment of her conception, the Blessed Virgin Mary was free from all stain of original sin. This simply means that from the beginning, she was in a state of grace, sharing in God's own life, and that she was free from the sinful inclinations which have beset human nature after the fall.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK
What I say to you, I say to all: WATCH!!!
 St. Mark 13:37

What would our world be like if every person: young and old focused more on **Jesus Christ** during Advent, rather than: that Jolly Ole Saint Nick? I suspect there would be a greatest hit: *Jesus Christ is coming to town!* Who would be the first to make it a Platinum Hit? Perhaps the Irish Tenors with the Rockford Symphony playing the instrumental backup! What a glorious sound to all sanctified ears. Furthermore, a holy town without any frowns is easily found by those blessed to heed the wisdom from our Lord Jesus Christ in the Gospel this first Sunday of Advent: ***Be Watchful! Be Alert!***

The theme for beginning our preparations for the Savior's birth is the following: ***there is something MORE to ADORE, not available in any store this Advent!*** As one of my staff exclaimed this week: *Hey, we're running out of time!* What this word contains is the guide we need to begin this joyful journey together. (1st) **Modesty**: in your speech—please try to talk less before and after Mass; in your senses—please try to practice moderation in your use of alcohol, caffeine and social activities; in your spirit—please try to pray more, so as to pay less later for that perfect gift! (2nd) **Opportunity**: to meditate on this great mystery, namely: the Word made Flesh. Please try to pray the Joyful Mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary at least one day a week. (3rd) **Responsibility**: to bring the joy of Jesus Christ to others *this most wonderful time of the year!* Next time you are tempted to complain, to criticize or challenge another person, please just stop and say without stuttering: *Praise the Lord!* (4th) **Eternity**: the best gift we can receive at Christmas is **Christ in the Holy Eucharist**, the reason for the Christmas Tree!

This gift from God is meant to last more than a lifetime! Your faith is the deciding factor when it comes to making the most of this sacred season called: **ADVENT!** Thus we pray: *Most High, Glorious God, enlighten the darkness of my heart & give me true faith, certain hope, perfect charity, sense & knowledge, Lord, that I may carry out Your holy & true command. –St. Francis of Assisi. :) }*

PRAY FOR PARISHIONERS' SPECIAL HEALTH NEEDS:
 John Cychosz, Ron Duda, John Dwyer, Cindy Fogarty, Tom Gasiorowski, Theresa Hans, Vicki Howard, Gary Janowski, Courtland Long, Cameron McKee, Anthony Rallo, Charlie Roemer, Jenny S., Patrick Stuber, Diane Varner, Toni Weber, & Peggy Widmar.

PRAY FOR THOSE HOMEBOUND & THOSE IN ASSISTED LIVING OR NURSING HOMES:
 Nancy Aiello, Matilda De Falco, Pat Heiderscheid, Grace Ingoglia, Julie Kulawinski, Virginia Madru, Charles Qualizza, & Meda Qualizza.
For a priest visit or sick call, call the parish office (815) 525-3400. For the prayer chain, please call Ed and Linnea Van Barriger: (815) 629-2405. If you have a loved one who should be added to the sick or homebound list, please call the office.

CHAPEL HOURS NEEDING ADORERS

WEDNESDAY 12AM
THURSDAY 3AM
FRIDAY 2AM,
SATURDAY 3AM, 3PM, 11PM
SUNDAY 1AM, 2AM



Call Junie Pospischil (815) 389-3065 or (815) 494-9237.
Weekend coordinators are needed. Prayerfully consider volunteering as a coordinator.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE PARISH

ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

December 6, 2017 5:30PM
Church Hall
Wisdom: God's Vision for Life

ANGEL TREE

The Angel Tree is in the Narthex. Stables Ornaments are hung on the tree with lists of items needed for our homebound and nursing home parishioners. Please drop off your gifts by the Angel Tree in the church Narthex or at the parish office by Sunday, December 10th.

ALTAR AND ROSARY MEETING

AND

COOKIE CAPER

DECEMBER 14TH MEETING WILL BE AT 10:00AM
DIDIER HALL

BAKE AND DECORATE COOKIES FOR THE CHRISTMAS
BAKE SALE

SCHEDULED PARISH EVENTS

- ◆ ALTAR & ROSARY 2nd Thursdays 6:30pm Parish Center
- ◆ CHOIR Thursdays 6pm to 7pm Choir Loft
- ◆ ESCUELA DE LA CRUZ Sun. 9:30 & 11:30am Church Hall
- ◆ MARIAN PRAYER Monday 5:15pm Church
- ◆ MARY UNDOER OF KNOTS CROCHET & KNITTING 1st & 3rd Thursdays 3pm to 5:30pm Parish Center
Beginners welcome!
- ◆ LITURGY OF THE HOURS Mon. 6:30pm Church
- ◆ SEWING GROUP Tues. 9:00am Church Hall
- ◆ SANCTUM FECIT 20's and 30's Group Meets 1st Sunday of month after 11:00 am Mass in Church Hall

SUNDAY COLLECTION

11-19-2017

Collection \$ 8,359.32 School Envelopes \$139.00
E giving \$ 352.00
 \$ 8,711.32

DIOCESAN STEWARDSHIP 2017

Goal \$70,255.00
Pledges \$64,516.00
Still needed \$ 5,739.00

MEET OUR PARISH FAMILY



ED AND CINDY GODAWSKI

"The LORD is with you, O champion!" This was the greeting of the messenger of God to Gideon. However, Gideon, a brave man, a warrior, and above all very honest man, replies: "Excuse me? What did you say? if the LORD is with me, why has all this happened to us? Where are his wondrous deeds of which our fathers told us when they said, 'Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt?' For now, the LORD has abandoned us and has delivered us into the power of Midian."

This little conversation between Gideon and the messenger of God reflects the feelings of many of us, especially in moments of despair, even sometimes we wish shout to God: "Where are you? Where are you God when a loved one dies? Where are you God when the innocent suffers? Where are you when injustices are committed? Where are you God when we feel lonely, sick or afflicted?" And perhaps like Gideon we have sometimes been tempted to say: "if God were with us we would not be suffering."

Gideon replied, "Forgive me, my Lord, but how can I save Israel? My family is the poorest of the tribe of Manasseh, and I am the smallest of my father's house." The Lord answered him, "I will be with you and you will defeat all the Midianites as if they were one man."

Just like him we always find an excuse to avoid God's call: "But how can I change the world? Let the powerful and the politicians change it, I cannot. I cannot do anything I do not have the means..." and a thousand more excuses. The answer remains the same: God is with us, and we can defeat evil, and transform the world for good, if we hear his voice and let ourselves be transformed by him.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Envelopes to purchase Poinsettias that will be displayed on the altar in memory of a loved one during the Christmas Season are available in the narthex. Envelopes are due by the 21st. Please drop the envelope off in the collection basket or at the Parish Office.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Deb Stone and Geraldine McCarville. May their souls and the souls of the faithful departed thru the mercy of God rest in peace.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 3, 2017

Mon: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11
Tues: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 [cf. 7]/Lk 10:21-24
Wed: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [6cd]/Mt 15:29-37
Thurs Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a [26a]/Mt 7:21, 24-27
Fri: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [1a]/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
Sat: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. Is 30:18d]/Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

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