



St. Peter's Church

OF SPRING GROVE, IL

Third Sunday of Advent

Gaudete Sunday

Rejoice!

Rejoice in the
Lord always.

I shall say it
again: rejoice!

Phil 4:4



Sunday, December 15, 2024
Third Sunday of Advent

ST. PETER'S MISSION STATEMENT
As parishioners of St. Peter's
Catholic Church, we strive to imitate
Jesus' example of prayer, fellowship,
love and service.

Mass Schedule

Tuesday - Friday: 8:00 a.m.

Saturday: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.
(10:00 a.m. Mass livestreamed)

Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:00 - 3:45 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday: 5:00 p.m. - Sunday 7:45 a.m.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

TUESDAY, DEC. 24TH AT 4:00 PM & 10:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 25TH AT 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM

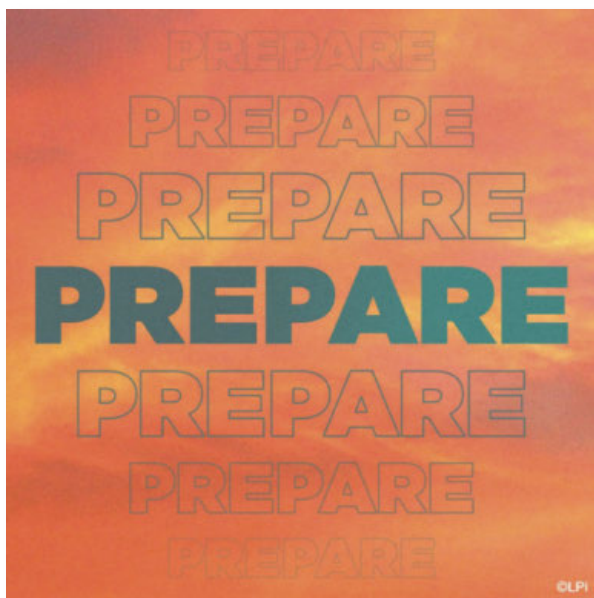


NEW YEAR'S EVE & DAY

SOLEMNITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31ST - 4:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1ST - 9:00 AM



Ask the Padre...

Question: "I attend the 4 o'clock Mass. Will you please tell people to stop talking once the Blessed Sacrament is exposed for Adoration? Some of us are trying to pray."



Answer: Our church is a house of prayer, and whether the Eucharist is exposed in the monstrance for Adoration or kept secure inside the Tabernacle, we should always maintain a prayerful silence in God's House so as not to interrupt anyone who is conversing with Him. Apparently, my own attempts haven't been successful. So, I suggest that next time someone's loud conversation distract you while you're trying to pray, kindly approach them and remind them where they are. You might even consider inviting them to pray with you! If that doesn't work, go back to your pew, kneel down again and ask God to shut them up!

Christmas Oplatki



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The Best Gifts Come on Christmas

Christmas brings joy that goes beyond presents – it’s a season rich with the gifts God offers: love, hope, family, and the promise of Heaven. These gifts touch every heart, young and old, and hold profound meaning.



The Gift of Love: God chose to come into the world as a baby, sharing in our human experience. His love surpasses anything we could possibly imagine. He invites us to embrace His love and let it transform us.

The Gift of Hope: Although we have moments of sin and can turn from God, the child born on that first Christmas offers freedom from sin and the hope of a brighter future. This hope renews us and promises a better path forward.

The Gift of Family: Family provides strength, comfort, and support. Baptism welcomes us into Christ’s divine family, where we are bound by an unbreakable connection. *“See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God” (1 John 3:1).*

The Gift of Heaven: The most awesome gift is Heaven itself. Without Jesus’ miraculous birth, Heaven would be out of reach. He bridged the gap between Heaven and Earth, offering the promise of eternal joy. This Christmas, we can cherish the enduring gifts of love, hope, family, and Heaven that make the season truly meaningful.



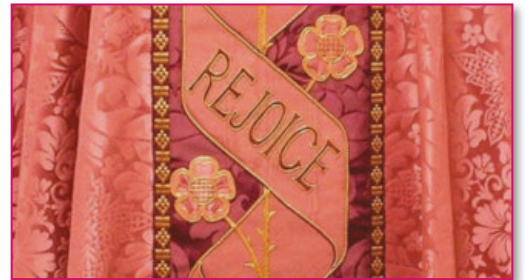
What does Gaudete mean?

Gaudete means “rejoice” in Latin.

During the season of Advent, we await the celebration of Christ’s birth and His coming again at the end of time. Over four weeks, we prepare our hearts for Christmas in penitential reflection. But in the middle of the season, Gaudete Sunday calls us to rejoice in hope!

Why do we light a pink candle on Gaudete Sunday?

The Catholic Church uses the color rose to indicate a joyful feast day or holiday.



Gaudete Sunday’s counterpart in Lent is Laetare Sunday, another break in penance to rejoice in hope as we approach Easter. During both days, a priest will usually wear rose vestments.

Live the Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Give. Love. Act with Justice. This, says John, is how to live out your repentance. As Christmas approaches, be “baptized” by these words of God’s greatest prophet. Let them fill you with new life as you await the coming of Christ.

In Christian charity, kindly pray for the eternal rest of

Marian Streb

who died on
Friday, December 6th.



May God receive her soul into paradise and console the loved one’s she leaves behind.

Eternal rest grant unto **Marian**, O Lord, and let your perpetual light shine upon her. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. *Amen.*

(Practicing) Catholic Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

Asking the Question

I have found in my life that if I am certain of the answer to a big and complicated question—right away, no doubts or hesitations—there is a high likelihood that the answer is actually the wrong one.

Because most of the time the truth is buried beneath a thicket of pride, prejudice, and ignorance. To find our answers, we have to be ready to put the gardening gloves on and pick through the thorns. We have to pray. We have to reflect. We have to question ourselves and others. We have to examine our feelings. And then we have to pray some more.

See, I would be willing to bet that the tax collectors and soldiers knew. Deep in their hearts, they knew.

They knew when they approached John the Baptist and asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” that his reply was *not* going to be: “Keep doing exactly what you’re doing.”

They had heard this guy preach. They knew what he was about: repentance. They might not have known exactly what John the Baptist was going to tell them to do, but they knew whatever it was, it was going to be a challenge. It was going to turn their lives upside down.

I give them credit for asking the question. That’s a hard thing to do, and I don’t do it enough. Too often, I’m afraid to ask the question.

How do I love this person? How do I live out my baptismal call in this particular situation? How do I draw water from the fountain of salvation—and how do I do it with joy, as we are commanded by the Psalms?

Christmas is ten days away. Are we asking the question?

~ Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman ~

After he retires, Father Joe is thinking about opening a gym where the instructors would go from door to door and tell people about the benefits of joining it. He plans on calling it Jehovah’s Fitness.



The Mass			For
3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (GAUDETE SUNDAY)			
CONFESSIONS OFFERED ON SATURDAY’S, 3:00 - 3:45 P.M. ROSARY PRAYED AT 3:30 P.M.			
Sat	4 pm	†	John & Christine Wiedemann
Sun	8 am (1)	†	Joe Carey
	(2)	†	Maggie Arseneau
	10 am	†	Fred Phillips
4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT			
CONFESSIONS OFFERED ON SATURDAY’S, 3:00 - 3:45 P.M. ROSARY PRAYED AT 3:30 P.M.			
Sat	4 pm	†	Mark Mucek
Sun	8 am	†	John & Betty Rygiel
	10 am	†	Mary Bednarz



	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers	Ushers
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT			
Saturday 12/14 4:00 pm	Nettie Toms	Kathie Toms	Chad Franckowiak Phil Webb
Sunday 12/15 8:00 am	Jeff Kelley	Eddie Wells	Larry Hauser Paul Leali
10:00 am	Sandi Wesinger	Deacon Mark <i>Sharon Ellicson</i> (Choir)	Mike Wyatt Dave & Kathlene Harms
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT			
Saturday 12/21 4:00 pm	Jacqui Wold	Deacon Mark	Rich Wirch Deb Christian
Sunday 12/22 8:00 am	Bill Ledger	DeAnne Besetzny	Dennis Wehrheim Vince Desecki
10:00 am	Darien Martinez	Carol Rygiel <i>Mike Rygiel</i> (Choir)	Mike Gordon Ron Hlavin

Homebound Ministers

December 15th - Third Sunday of Advent

Nancy Piggot, Don Piggot, Bev Schmitt & Thomas Gough

December 22nd - Fourth Sunday of Advent

Georgene Keim, Peggy Neuman, Bev Schmitt & Steve Besetzny

ADVENT

May we be in this world a ray of that light which shone forth from Bethlehem, bringing joy and peace to the hearts of all men and women."
~ Pope Francis ~



Third Sunday of Advent

The third candle of Advent symbolizes Joy. As we continue to approach Christmas Day, our joy grows more and more. It takes us back to the joyful anticipation of the shepherds who journeyed to see Jesus in Bethlehem, even before the wise men. On this third Sunday of Advent, which the Church calls "Gaudete Sunday," meaning rejoice or praise, we light the third candle and rejoice like the shepherds. For this reason, it is called the "Shepherd's Candle," and its color is pink, the liturgical color for joy.

Question:

What is the most effective way to quit being a vegan?

(Answer on page 6)



Our Sanctuary Lamp burns from December 15th through December 28th for

† Scholle & Sompel Family

May this light which reminds us of Jesus' True Presence in the Sanctuary Welcome him into eternal peace.



Prayer REQUESTS

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, we place into your hands, all fellow parishioners we know and love, who are ill or injured and in need of Your healing touch. Jesus, be with them all, especially:

Marguerite Baranov
Debra Cooke
Phyllis Ehlers
Deacon Eugene Damian
Sandy Devine
Robert Fenrich
Carol Flatley
Gail Gagnon
Glenn Geske
Anthony Hodnik
Patricia Hodnik
Edward Johnson
Diana Kattner
Joseph Keim
Ronald Klein
Lawrence Lord
Caroline Madson
Deborah Maliszewski
Maria Maziarz
Denise Meyers

Larry Meyers
Barbara Miller
Don Miller
Norma Moretti
John Mueller
Kevin Murray
Carole Nowicki
Jim Nowicki
John Paleka
Rachel Quinn
Debbie Schaff
Jacob Shapiro
Dorothy Scichowski
Nash Scichowski
Ray Starzec
Gloria Strzelczyk
David Thomas
Mark Vallango
Fred Zahn

If you know someone who is sick and asking for prayer, but they are not registered members of our parish family, please allow us to solicit support for them by adding their names to our Prayer Chain Ministry. Just visit StPeterCatholicChurch.org and after clicking where it reads CONTACT US, simply follow the directions under PRAYER REQUEST.

TURN IN YOUR ARTICLES EARLY!
RE M I N D E R :

HOLIDAY BULLETIN SUBMISSION
All Articles Need to be Submitted by Noon!

Bulletin For Sunday, December 29th
ARTICLES DUE: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20TH

Bulletin For Sunday, January 5th
ARTICLES DUE: MONDAY, DECEMBER 23RD



PARISH CALENDAR

Website: StPeterCatholicChurch.org

Email: SaintPetersChurch@gmail.com

Office Hours: Tue. - Thu. 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.,
1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Confessions: Sat. 3:00 - 3:45 p.m. (or by appointment)

Pastor: Rev. Msgr. Joseph Jarmoluk

Deacon: Mr. Mark Raz

PARISH STAFF

Parish Office 815-675-2288

Office Administration

Mary K. Yager x205

Laura Hamill x203

Music Director

Brian Wrightson 630-440-7261

music.stpeter@gmail.com

Property Maintenance

Mark Krakowski

Marka.stpeter@gmail.com

Parish Hall 815-675-6208

Preschool 815-342-6318

Aimee Thomas

Religious Education 815-342-6318

Aimee Thomas

FaithFormationStPeters@gmail.com

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Bulletin_Editor_StPeter@aol.com

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Eucharistic Ministers & Liturgical Scheduler

Sharon Ellicson 815-258-5033

Lectors

Peggy Mack 815-403-2225

Women's Ministry

Nettie Toms/Laura Hamill StPetersWM@gmail.com

Communion Ministers to the Homebound

Steve Besetzny steve.besetzny@gmail.com

Ushers

Chad Franckowiak chadfranko@gmail.com

Knights of Columbus, Grand Knight

Shaun Gosselin 315-591-7299

Shaun.Gosselin@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul

Ardie Arnold StPeters.svdP@gmail.com

Prayer Chain

Mark Vallango & Carol Flatley

StPetersPrayerChain@hotmail.com

Adoration & Our Visiting Madonna

Carrie Shannon 815-687-6734

Bereavement & Grief Counseling

Marie Arnold (Call the Parish Office)



Sunday, December 15th - 3rd Sunday of Advent

- **Benediction & Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament - 7:45 am**
- **K of C - Breakfast w/Santa - After 8:00 & 10:00 am Masses**
- **SVdP Meeting - Parish Office Conference Room - 12:00 pm**
- **Faith Formation Classes - Grades 1/2 & 3/4 - 5:30 pm**

Monday, December 16th

Tuesday, December 17th

- **Morning Bible Study - Parish Hall - 9:00 am**

Wednesday, December 18th

- **Evening Bible Study - Parish Hall - 6:30 pm**
- **Spiritual Warfare Rosary - Church - 6:00 pm**

Thursday, December 19th

- **Choir Rehearsal - 6:00 pm**

Friday, December 20th - Parish Officed Closed

Saturday, December 21st

- **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament all night until 7:45 am**

Sunday, December 22nd - 4th Sunday of Advent

- **Benediction & Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament - 7:45 am**
- **No Faith Formation Classes**

Some Examples of Secular Christmas Songs That Are Actually About Advent:

All I want for Christmas is You

"All I want for Christmas is you, You baby, Oh, I won't ask for much this Christmas, I won't even wish for snow, And I'm just gonna keep on waiting, Underneath the mistletoe."

This love song is really about waiting. It is about waiting for the one the singer loves. We too are waiting for the One that we love to come on Christmas and at the end of time.

Silver Bells

"Silver bells silver bells, It's Christmas time in the city, Hear the bells go ring-a-ling, soon it will be Christmas Day."

This song is not appropriate for after Christmas because the line about Christmas coming soon would no longer work. Again, we hear of people shopping and preparing for Christmas. They are waiting and preparing.

(To Be Continued in Next Bulletin)

Answer:

Cold Turkey!





PARISH INFORMATION

BAPTISMS - Msgr. Jarmoluk is eager and happy to baptize children whose parent(s) are practicing the Catholic faith and registered members of St. Peter's Parish. Please call the Parish Office for additional requirements and information.

MARRIAGES - Please contact Father before you set a date, at least six months in advance.

HOLY COMMUNION - Parishioners confined to their homes, for an indefinite length of time due to illness or advanced age, may call the Office and request that the Holy Eucharist be brought to them on Sunday mornings.

REGISTRATION - New members should register by either calling the Parish Office or visiting us online at StPeterCatholicChurch.org

HOSPITAL VISITS - If you wish Father to visit during your stay in the hospital, please call him at the Parish Office and he will be happy to do so. Likewise, if you wish to be added to our Prayer Chain, let us know by calling 815-675-2288

FUNERALS ARRANGEMENTS - are to be made in consultation with Father.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK - If you or someone you know is sick, injured or being admitted to a hospital and would like to receive the Anointing of the Sick, call the Parish Office without delay.

Should there be an emergency after normal business hours, please call 815-675-2339

KNIGHTS' CORNER

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