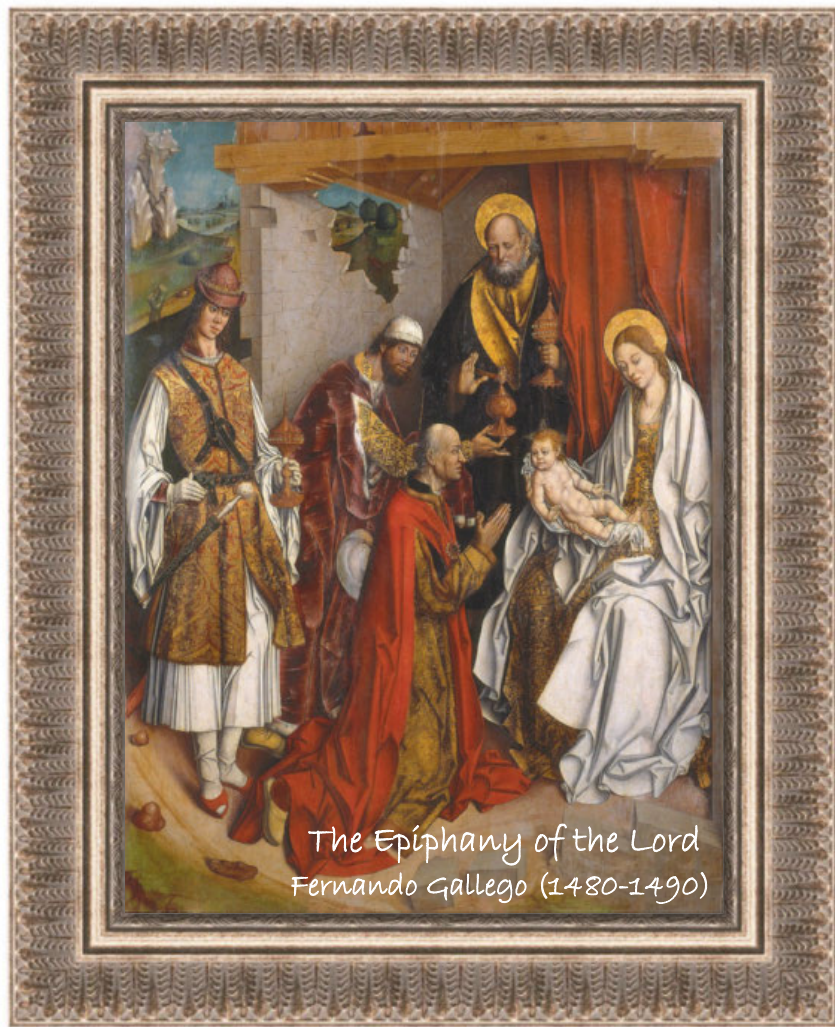




St. Peter's Church

OF SPRING GROVE, IL



The Epiphany of the Lord
Fernando Gallego (1480-1490)

Sunday, January 5, 2025 The Epiphany of the Lord

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.



Missing a key fob?
Call the parish office
to see if its' yours.



The Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

The Epiphany marks the arrival of visitors, identified in Scripture as the magi, to the place where Jesus was born. Although we know virtually nothing about them, we do know they brought three gifts:

Gold – a symbol of wealth and power, identifies the recipient as a king.

Frankincense – the crystalized resinous sap of a tree used as incense and as an offering, is symbolic of prayer.

Myrrh – another resinous tree sap, was used in healing liniments and as an embalming ointment. Myrrh is an odd gift for a child – so, even at the beginning of Jesus' life on earth, this gift foreshadows His death.

Reflection:

For much of the secular world, the holiday season has died down. Reflect on the joys of the holiday season and what you have left to celebrate when the decorations are put away.

Pray:

Pray the Blessing (*on the following page*) on your home on the Epiphany.

Act:

Wish someone a Merry Christmas today! An easy way to evangelize is to wish someone a Merry Christmas during the Christmas season after December 25th and explain why. The liturgical season of Christmas begins with the vigil Masses on Christmas Eve and concludes on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.



Knights of Columbus Breakfast Sunday, January 12th



After the 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. Masses!

Let's gather with our parish family and friends for a wonderful breakfast cooked by your Knights.

(As always a free-will donation is always appreciated!)



As a prologue to the Christmas Eve Mass celebrated in St. Peter's Basilica on December 24, 2024, Pope Francis performed the rite of opening the Holy Door. In doing so, he officially opened the Jubilee Year, 2025 which will run until January 6, 2026. The symbolic meaning of knocking on the door; *"Christ presents Himself as the gate to heaven... He is the only Savior of the world, and to go through that [holy] door is to enter into this mystery of Christ [the gate of heaven], Who brings us eternal salvation."* The holy door has been closed since November 20, 2015, at the end of the Jubilee Year of Mercy.

Pope Francis wishing for the 2025 Jubilee to be a source of "hope," for those in hardship.

"For everyone, may this Jubilee be a moment of genuine, personal encounter with the Lord Jesus, the 'door' of our salvation, whom the Church is charged to proclaim always, everywhere and to all as 'our hope.'"

Pope Francis said we are to evangelize, explaining that being "pilgrims of hope" is a timely message, because "people today need hope," an essential element of evangelization.

Mark your Calendars for the Annual Parish Spaghetti Dinner Saturday, February 1st

Watch your mail for information and return your reservations as soon as you can.

Seating is limited and if you reply too late you may miss your chance to join in on a wonderful time!

If you are interested in helping out, email Stan Tinsley at stantqt4567@gmail.com or Nettie Toms at tomsfamily@aol.com.





The traditional date of the Epiphany is January 6 but in the United States it is celebrated on the Sunday between January 2 and January 8.

It is a long-held Catholic tradition to bless one's home on (or near) the celebration of the Epiphany by using chalk to write a special inscription above the home's entrance. This weekend, we are blessing chalk at Mass for you to take home and participate in this tradition.

The inscription written over the door changes every year.

For this year, you should write: "20 + C + M + B + 25"

The letters C, M, and B have two meanings. They are the initials of the traditional names of the three magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. They are also the first letters of the Latin words *Christus mansionem benedicat*, "*May Christ bless the house.*" The + sign represents the cross, and 2025 is the year.

We have included a very family-friendly Epiphany home blessing.

Instructions For Blessing The Home

Using the blessed chalk, mark the lintel of your front door (or front porch step, or a wall within your home) as follows: 20 + C + M + B + 25

Saying:

The three Wise Men, Casper, Melchior, and Balthazar followed the star of God's Son who became human two thousand and twenty-five years ago. May Christ bless our home and remain with us throughout the new year. Amen.

Conclude by saying the following prayer:

Visit, O blessed Lord, this home with the gladness of your presence. Bless all who live or visit here with the gift of your love; and grant that we may manifest your love to each other and to all whose lives we touch. May we grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of you; guide, comfort, and strengthen us in peace, O Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.

(Practicing) Catholic The Answer

Summary: The journey of the magi would have been treacherous and uncomfortable. Imagine the peace in their hearts as they approached the young Messiah and fell to their knees. The new, vibrant awareness of what their own purpose was. It was an epiphany for them. It can be the same for us.

The Answer

Have you ever had an epiphany?

I'll confess that I've never spent much time reflecting on the term "epiphany." In my head, there has always been a strict separation of church and state when it comes to this word. I think of the religious feast of the Epiphany, when we celebrate the magi's encounter with the Christ Child, as totally distinct from our modern understanding of the ancient Greek word *epipháneia*, which means "manifestation" or "appearance."

"I've had an epiphany," I have said many times before, and what I mean is that I have come to a long-awaited realization. I have received the answer to a question which has perplexed me, perhaps troubled me. I now know what course of action I must take.

"Today is the Epiphany," I say to my children when we make a king cake and bring the little magi figures to our Nativity beneath the Christmas tree (which will, after today, be put back into storage, for the Christmas season has come to its fulfillment).

And I've always thought I meant I was saying two very different things.

But today, I ponder the journey of the magi, one that must have often been treacherous and uncomfortable. I think about their meeting with Herod, a situation that certainly was fraught with tension and fear. And I imagine the feeling in their hearts as they approached the young Messiah and fell to their knees. I think of the peace they must have felt. The new, vibrant awareness of what their own purpose was.

It was an epiphany for them — a discovery of truth. An answer.

It should be the same for us.

~ Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

The Mass		For	
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD			
CONFESSIONS OFFERED ON SATURDAY'S, 3:00 - 3:45 P.M. ROSARY PRAYED AT 3:30 P.M.			
Sat	4 pm	†	Jack Schmitt
Sun	8 am	†	Peter May
	10 am	†	Joseph Vavrina
Tues	8 am	†	William G. Etten
Wed	8 am		Special Intentions of Dean Taylor & Annette Crane
Thur	8 am	†	Ginette Peuckert
Fri	8 am	†	Marion Finkler
THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD			
CONFESSIONS OFFERED ON SATURDAY'S, 3:00 - 3:45 P.M. ROSARY PRAYED AT 3:30 P.M.			
Sat	4 pm	†	Marie Polycarpe
Sun	8 am	†	Patricia Altmann
	10 am	†	Geri Stack

Christmas Symbols



Candy Cane: Represents the shepherd's crook. Christ is called the Good Shepherd.



Gifts: Symbolizes gold and frankincense.



Evergreen Tree: A symbol of eternal life. points to heaven and reminds us that God is eternal.



The Wreath: is a circle reminding us that God's love for us never ends.



The Candle: shines brightly, showing us that Jesus is the light of the world.

	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers	Ushers
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD			
Saturday 1/4 4:00 pm	Tom Straley	Susan Straley	Gary Miller Deb Christian
Sunday 1/5 8:00 am	Jeff Kelley	Dennis Wehrheim	Dennis Wehrheim Vince Desecki
10:00 am	Sandi Wesinger	Deacon Mark <i>Marge Ladner</i> (Choir)	Mike Gordon Rich Yager
THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD			
Saturday 1/11 4:00 pm	Cyndee Wehrheim	Deacon Mark	Chad Franckowiak Denise Wahls
Sunday 1/12 8:00 am	Eleanor Murphy	Nancy Piggot	Sean Gosselin Jeff Miller
10:00 am	Darien Martinez	Carol Magnine <i>Mike Gullifor</i> (Choir)	Mike Wyatt

Homebound Ministers

January 5th - The Epiphany of the Lord

Maria Sullivan, Peggy Neuman, Georgene Keim & Eddie Wells

January 12th - The Baptism of the Lord

Deacon Mark, Lisa Bilik, Kathleen Van Ella & Steve Besetzny

Have you ever wondered why the magi had gold, frankincense, and myrrh?

Matthew's Gospel tells us. "Then they opened their treasures and offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh" (Matt. 2:11). Why are these things their "treasures?" One possible answer is they were magicians and astrologers, and these three items were the tools of their questionable trade. In offering them to Christ, they demonstrate that they will cease using such items to predict or control life. They place this baby-king, the God of Israel, at the center of their lives, and not their own devices of control, manipulation and prediction.

Isn't that what we need to do, too? Consider, for example, the magical power of money, symbolized by the magi's gold. Seemingly whatever we ask of money, it does. It wields a god-like power over the world. It can predict the future by guaranteeing better outcomes for us – which is why it is such a tempting alternative to trusting in God. The problem is such absolute trust in money enslaves us to the economic forces that make money so powerful. In paying homage to Jesus with "gold" (i.e., tithing), we participate in His authority over (and therefore freedom from) the magical sway of money.

What things in your life do you use to predict or control your future? What in your life seems to give you power over the world? Those are your treasures. Are you tired of feeling enslaved to them? Find a way to open them and give them to Christ, and you will be freer.



Our Sanctuary Lamp burns from December 29th through January 11th for

† Geri Stack

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
Nancy Klein
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.

Live the Liturgy

Inspiration of the Week

The news of the Messiah unsettled Herod. We see his anxiety clearly in today's Gospel. This is what Christ has come to do, after all. He has come to shake things up. **Are we ready to be unsettled?**



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

Bulletin Editors

Steve & DeAnne Besetzny

Bulletin_Editor_StPeter@aol.com

Ministries

Altar Servers

Tony Rygiel 815-482-6618

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.svdv@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, January 5th - The Epiphany of the Lord

- **Benediction & Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament - 7:45 am**
- **Faith Formation Classes - Grades 5/6 & 7/8 - 5:30 pm**

Monday, January 6th - Parish Office Closed

Tuesday, January 7th

- **K of C - Business Meeting - Parish Hall - 7:00 pm**

Wednesday, January 8th

- **Spiritual Warfare Rosary - 6:00 pm**

Thursday, January 9th

- **Grief Support Group - 3:30 pm - Parish Office Conference Room**
- **Choir Rehearsal - 6:00 pm**

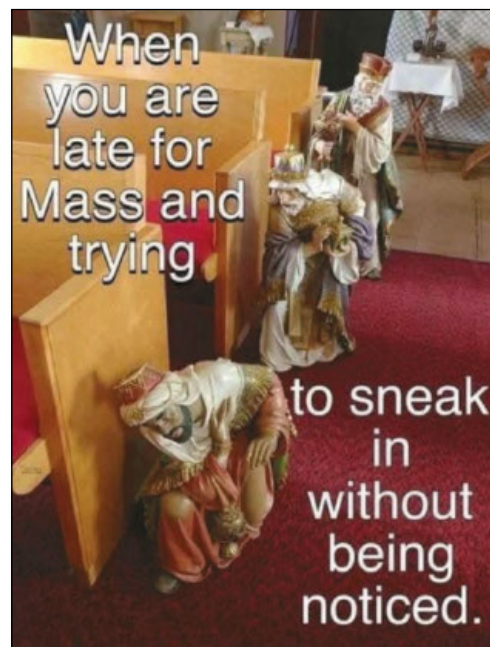
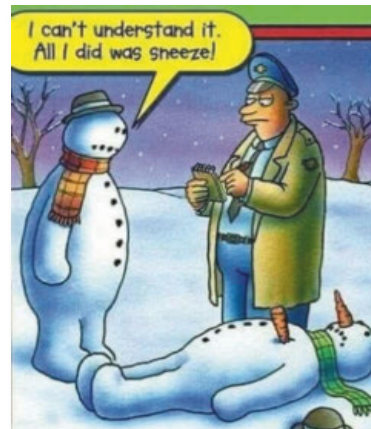
Friday, January 10th - Parish Office Closed

Saturday, January 11th

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

Sunday, January 12th - The Baptism of the Lord

- **Benediction & Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament - 7:45 am**
- **K of C Pancake Breakfast after 8:00 & 10:00 am Masses**
- **Faith Formation Classes - Grades 1/2 & 3/4 - 5:30 pm**





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

WE ARE ALL CALLED TO SERVE

Knights of Columbus

Business Meeting - Tuesday, January 14th

Parish Hall - 7:00 pm

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