

SAINT PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

JANUARY 1, 2016

Happy New Year

From your St. Peter's Parish Family



104 WEST FIRST STREET • MANSFIELD, OHIO 44902
419-524-2572 | MANSFIELDSTPETERS.ORG



ARE YOU MORE LIKE THE MAGI OR MORE LIKE THE SHEPHERDS THIS CHRISTMAS?

The Christmas story presents us with an interesting contrast between the magi and the shepherds. When they receive word of the infant king, the shepherds are said to be in the fields *"nearby."*



The wise men, on the other hand, are said to travel from a far-off place to see the special newborn. The shepherds and the magi both reach their destination, but they take different paths to get there.

Whether we have been "nearby" Jesus this past year, or whether we have wandered in a "far-off" land, the Lord calls us to a deeper relationship with Him.

Come Let Us Adore Him!

WANT TO GET MORE ENGAGED IN YOUR FAITH THIS COMING YEAR?

Growing in Faith...

- Bible Study - Join us for ***Psalms: The School of Prayer*** beginning January 12, 2017, and continuing every Thursday for eleven weeks until March 23, 2017. We meet in Assisi Hall from 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm. For more information and to register for the workbook, call Kelly Cropp at 419-884-8151.
- Adult Faith Study on ***The Spiritual Meaning of the Liturgy***, a book by Fr. Goffredo Boselli. It will be offered on Tuesday afternoons and again on Tuesday evenings in January and early February. If you are interested in registering for this course please call Bill Johnson, Parish Director of Liturgy, at 419-524-2572 ext. 2113 for details.
- More things to come in March during the Lenten season. **Stay tuned...**

Living & Sharing the Faith...

- Volunteers for ministry to hospitals, nursing homes, and the homebound - please contact Vickie Palmer at 419-524-2572, ext. 2122 for details.
- Volunteers for prison ministry, both inside and outside the prison - please contact Lynne Lukach at 419-524-2572, ext. 2109.
- Volunteers for RCIA sponsors, Baptismal sewing team, and many other ministries are needed - please contact Vickie Palmer at 419-524-2572, ext. 2122 for details.

What's Coming Next Year at St. Peter's...

- Saturday, January 28, at 6 p.m. — Spartan Boosters Present **"A Night at the Races"** in the High School Cafeteria. Tickets are just \$25 and support Spartan Athletics
- Sunday, January 29, at 2 p.m. — **Catholic Schools Week Concert** in the High School Auditorium
- Sunday, March 5 — **St. Peter's School Open House** — Franciscan Activity Center
- Sunday, February 26, at 3 p.m. — **St. Peter's Annual Choir Program** will feature the choir and musicians of St. Peter's in a performance of ***Deutsches Requiem (The German Requiem)*** by **Johannes Brahms**.
- March 31, April 1 & 2 and April 7-9, 2016 – St. Peter's Department of Theater and Performing Arts and the St. Peter's Music Series present ***Seussical, The Musical***.
- Saturday, May 13, 2017, at 8 p.m. — ***Messiah*** by **George Friedrich Handel** will be presented by the Choir of St. Peter's in collaboration with other area musical groups and soloists.
- Sunday, September 17, at 2 p.m. — **Celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the Consecration of St. Peter's Church**
- Saturday, October 21, at 6 p.m. — **2017 Fall Gala Live & Silent Auction**
- Sunday, October 22, at 11:30 a.m. — **Rev. Richard Kennedy, MSC, 50th Anniversary of Ordination**

A CONVERT SHARES HER LOVE FOR THE CATHOLIC FAITH

Karla Mitchell, St. Peter's parishioner

It has been a year and a half since my spiritual world was flipped on its head and I became Catholic.

I've had a strong relationship with God my entire life. I have journeyed through many Christian denominations over the years, most recently as an active member of a Presbyterian church. So, when I received the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion last Easter, I wouldn't say that I was re-saved; rather, I would say that



the relationship I already had with Christ was deepened.

In the past, going to church on Sunday morning was just a routine event, an obligatory act that felt like something I was supposed to do. Now I crave it, and I can't wait for it, and that's mainly because of one thing - *the Eucharist*. I realized at my Confirmation that that's what had been missing from my spiritual life!

As we begin the Liturgy of the Eucharist each Mass, it becomes for me such an honor to kneel as we humble ourselves before the Lord. There are no words to adequately describe what the Eucharist means for me. Having spent all my life as a Protestant, I can honestly tell you that treating communion as a symbol is definitely not the same as the real presence of Christ in the



Eucharist.

I had no idea previously of the beauty and richness of the Church. Since becoming Catholic, I look at things differently. I see people differently. I see nature differently. And I most definitely see "church" differently. I struggle with trying to explain the peace that comes with being a part of the Catholic Church. I know why people who convert to Catholicism use that cliché "coming home." It's because it fits so well. I know that sounds all mushy, fluffy and canned, but that's exactly what it feels like. *It's an enrichment of the soul, a fulfillment of a search, the completion of a journey.*

There was always some missing piece in every church my husband and I attended. There was something that just didn't feel quite right and created doubt somewhere inside that we could not shake off. I've found doubt can be a great friend. It pushes you to search and find truth. And after all this time I've not had a single doubt that I made the right choice. All the pieces are now there, fitting together perfectly. And that last piece was the beauty and fullness of the Catholic Faith and most of all – the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist. I now understand fully why Jesus used the words He did when He instituted the Last Supper. You know He's there. You can feel Him. And you don't forget it.

RCIA & CONDENSED RCIA AT ST. PETER'S

The normal process for becoming Catholic is through the RCIA process, which stands for the *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*.

This process begins in the fall at St. Peter's. However, we do offer a condensed RCIA for those who are baptized and who have had significant exposure to the Catholic faith.

These sessions will meet on:

- Feb. 11
- Feb. 18
- Mar. 4
- Mar. 11
- Mar. 25
- Apr. 1.



Please call or email Fr. Jeremy or Lynne Lukach at the Parish Center to discuss if this may be your year to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church.

JOIN THE ST. PETER'S PARISH FAMILY

St. Peter's Parish consists of over 1,700 registered households from many diverse backgrounds.

If you regularly attend Mass at St. Peter's, we invite you to register as a parishioner so that we can welcome you properly, learn about any special needs and interests, and keep you informed about opportunities and activities.

To register as a parishioner, stop in at the Parish Center office, register online: mansfieldstpeters.org/registration or contact Vickie Palmer, Parish Secretary at 419-524-2572 x2122.

POPE FRANCIS' NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

1. *"Take care of your spiritual life, your relationship with God, because this is the backbone of everything we do and everything we are."*
2. *"Take care of your family life, giving your children and loved ones not just money, but most of all your time, attention and love."*
3. *"Take care of your relationships with others, transforming your faith into life and your words into good works, especially on behalf of the needy."*
4. *"Be careful how you speak, purify your tongue of offensive words, vulgarity and worldly decadence."*
5. *"Heal wounds of the heart with the oil of forgiveness, forgiving those who have hurt us and medicating the wounds we have caused others."*
6. *"Look after your work, doing it with enthusiasm, humility, competence, passion and with a spirit that knows how to thank the Lord."*
7. *"Be careful of envy, lust, hatred and negative feelings that devour our interior peace and transform us into destroyed and destructive people."*
8. *"Watch out for anger that can lead to vengeance; for laziness that leads to existential euthanasia; for pointing the finger at others, which leads to pride; and for complaining continually, which leads to desperation."*
9. *"Take care of brothers and sisters who are weaker ... the elderly, the sick, the hungry, the homeless and strangers, because we will be judged on this."*
10. *"Making sure your Christmas is about Jesus and not about shopping."*



2017
HAPPY NEW YEAR

PRESERVING OUR PAST, SECURING OUR FUTURE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN



These are the new hot water boilers which now provide heat inside the church.

Thanks to the generosity of our parishioners, the *Preserving our Past, Securing Our Future* Capital Campaign has moved us closer to the target.

As of December 1, 2016, the campaign has generated 2,508,965 in pledges, which is only \$491,035 from our overall \$3,000,000 goal. We have received \$1,119,839 in campaign payments, which has allowed us to move forward on several projects.

Three of the projects in our plan have moved forward.

Church Boiler Project — This project included the installation of a new hot-water boiler system for the church. This new dedicated system will provide better control and system efficiency that could result in cost savings to the parish of as much as \$7,000 annually in heating costs. This project is under budget in part of a \$62,500 energy efficiency grant from Columbia Gas.

As part of this project, the church basement is getting a facelift. The basement was "cleaned out" — a couple dumpsters full of items that had not been used in years or decades. The brick walls have been painted a new brighter color, new ceiling tiles have been installed, and the entire basement and kitchen has been commercially cleaned.

Money raised during the Fall Gala are funding a new commercial freezer, tables and chairs.

Sound System Improvements — The parish hired a consultant to complete a sound study of the Sanctuary, and look for ways that the parish could incorporate video recording and displays. This study has been completed and is currently in the bid process. It is our hope to have the new sound system installed by Easter 2017. Estimated costs for this project are \$150,000.

Security System Improvements — The parish has completed the addition of a significant upgrade to our security system on campus, including new fencing at Montessori House, several new security cameras, new door

locks and key fob entry systems. All of these projects are completed at a budgeted figure of \$68,500.

These initial projects were directed to some our more immediate needs, and we are pleased so far with progress on this work. Attention now turns to the planning the work inside the church. This includes three major areas:

- **Sanctuary**—Repairs and painting of the walls and ceiling, replacement of the original wood floor and refurbishment of the pews.
Estimated Cost: \$925,000
- **Organ Restoration**—includes a full refurbishing of the organ console and a full cleaning of the pipes along with any necessary repairs.
Estimated Cost \$250,000
- **Stained Glass Windows**—A full evaluation of all the stained glass windows and restoration of windows already identified as structurally deficient.
Estimated Cost: \$200,000

As you might expect these three projects will need to be planned together as there may be efficiencies in combining some of this work. We will also need to plan for continuation of the use of the sanctuary or possible relocation to another location during this major part of the project.

After work is completed in the church, our attention will turn to the High School auditorium and Bob Frye Gymnasium. Estimates for this project are currently around \$900,000 and we will need to meet our challenge goal of \$3 million, with cash in hand, for this project to move forward.

For more information or take make a donation contact Jason Crundwell — Crundwell.Jason@myspartans.org or (419) 524-2572 x2125.





ST. PETER'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Graduating students who practice Christian spirituality, achieve academic excellence and are prepared to be of service to the world.



TRENDING UP

- Student enrollment increases last two years
- 95% of our students go to college
- 56% of students receive some form of financial assistance

LIVING THE FAITH

- Weekly Mass & Daily Prayer
- Community Service Programs
- Virtues in Practice Program
- Class retreats

KEYS TO OUR SUCCESS

- iPads for every student K-12
- Athletic programs starting in Kindergarten
- Dozens of extracurricular programs available

Psalm 119:162 I rejoice in your word like one who discovers a great treasure.

Discover the treasures of St. Peter's Catholic School

2017 OPEN HOUSE — SUNDAY MARCH 5 — FRANCISCAN ACTIVITY CENTER INFORMATIVE and LOADS OF FUN!

Begins promptly at 1 p.m. — Be there on time for info, games and prizes!

Open to prospective and current St. Peter's School families.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, January 2

+ Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church
5:00 pm Rosary
5:30 pm Helen Schodorf

Tuesday, January 3

Christmas Weekday
7:00 am Mary Ann Kreinbihl

Wednesday, January 4

+ Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
7:00 am Thomas Schnug

Thursday, January 5

+ John Neumann, Bishop
7:00 am James Clemente
9:15 am Joe & Virginia Boyd

Friday, January 6 Christmas Weekday

5:00 pm Rosary
5:30 pm Paul Ludwig

Saturday, January 7

Vigil of The Epiphany of the Lord
5:00 pm Gerry Tritschler

Sunday, January 8

The Epiphany of the Lord
7:30 am Parish
9:30 am Charolette Rissover
11:30 am Holy Souls in Purgatory

WAYS TO SUPPORT ST. PETER'S

There are many ways you can support St. Peter's Parish & School. Gifts of time, talent, treasure and prayer are always needed and appreciated.

Gifts of Time & Talent: You can use your talents to take care of our families, help our friends and neighbors, contribute to society through our work and civic activities, assist at our school, participate in parish life and ministries, and do community service.

Gifts of Treasure: Your weekly or monthly offering at Mass is essential for the parish and school to continue to operate and grow the faith. Special funds include:

Preserving Our Past, Securing Our Future Capital Campaign — Gifts made to this campaign will help cover the restoration and renewal of the church and high school auditorium.

Annual Fund — This fund provides tuition assistance and supports other needs of our school.

Msgr. Dunn Foundation — The mission of the Dunn Foundation provides for the long-term stability of the school.

A planned gift can provide a lasting legacy for St. Peter's. Please consider the parish, school or the Msgr. Dunn Foundation in our estate planning.

Finally, your continued prayers for our priests, parish family, and our students are always very appreciated.

Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:30 am, 11:30 am
Monday & Friday 5:30 pm
Tuesday - Thursday 7:00 am

Spanish Mass:

Resurrection Parish, Lexington
Sunday: 6:00 pm

Parish Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 7:30 am - 8:30 pm
Friday: 7:30 am - 7:30 pm
Saturday: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Sunday: 8:30 am - 12:30 pm

Pastoral Care Contacts:

Mrs. Vickie Palmer 419-524-2572
*Hospital & Follow-up
Nursing Homes/Assisted Living &
Prayer Pipeline*
Deacon John Reef 419-529-3694
Shut-ins/Homebound

Sacrament of Baptism:

Please contact the Parish Center to begin plans for the baptism of your baby or child.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday: 3:00 - 4:30 pm
Other times by appointment.

Sacrament of Marriage:

Arrangements should be made at the Parish Center at least six months in advance of the ceremony. A wedding date is confirmed after the initial meeting with a priest.

Sunday Nursery:

Sunday Nursery is temporarily unavailable until further notice. Please call the Parish Center for more information.

Bulletin Deadline:

Monday, 12:00 noon. All requests must be submitted in writing or email.

Pastoral Staff:

Fr. Gregory R. Hite, *Pastor*
Fr. Jeremy Miller, *Parochial Vicar*
Mr. Bill Johnson,
Director of Music & Liturgy
Ms. Lynne Lukach, *Pastoral Associate*
Mrs. Elizabeth Wurm, *Director of Religious Ed. & Youth Minister*

Deacons:

Mr. John Reef
Mr. Dennis Striker

St. Peter's School:

Mr. Michael Wasiniak
High School, Jr. High School
Mrs. Madalyn Bauer
Elementary School
Mrs. Ashley Rastorfer
Montessori

Parish Business Manager:

Mr. Jon Blazak

Director of Development:

Jason Crundwell

776400 **1200** bulletins please

The PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED THIS WEEK, PLEASE
SEND BULLETIN TO:::

Jason Crundwell
485 Forest Hill Road
Mansfield, Ohio 44907

419-989-1771

Attn: Jason