

SAINT PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

DECEMBER 22, 2019



104 WEST FIRST STREET • MANSFIELD, OHIO 44902
419.524.2572 | MANSFIELDSTPETERS.ORG

Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 5:00 P.M.
Sunday: 7:30 A.M., 9:30 A.M., 11:30 A.M.
Monday & Friday 5:30 P.M.
Tuesday - Thursday 7:00 A.M.

Spanish Mass:

Resurrection Parish, Lexington

Sunday: 5:00 P.M.

Parish Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 7:30 A.M. - 7:30 P.M.
Friday: 7:30 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.
Saturday: 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.
Sunday 8:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

Pastoral Care Contacts:

Ms. Kristi Reindl 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 P.M.
Other times by appointment.

Sacrament of Marriage:

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

Bulletin Deadline:

Friday, 12:00 noon. All requests must be submitted in writing or email and must receive prior approval.

Parish Administrative Assistant:

Ms. Kristi Reindl 419.524.2572 ext.2122

Pastoral Staff:

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

Deacon:

Mr. John Reef

St. Peter's School:

Mr. Jonathan Cuttitta
High School, Jr. High School
Mrs. Ashley Rastorfer
Elementary School and Montessori

Parish Business Manager:

Mr. Evan Mumea

Director of Development:

Mr. Jason Crundwell

A PARISH OF THE SAINT JUAN DIEGO DEANERY, DIOCESE OF TOLEDO

MASS INTENTIONSMonday, December 23, *Late Advent Weekday*

5:00 pm Rosary

5:30 pm Isabel Stuht

Tuesday, December 24, *Late Advent Weekday*

4:00 pm William, Jeff and Dorothy Alt (HS)

4:00 pm Gerry Tritschler (CH)

7:00 pm Frank Russo

12:00 am Parish (Midnight Mass)

Wednesday, December 25, *The Nativity of The Lord (Christmas)*

9:00 am Elizabeth Lehman

Thursday, December 26, *Saint Stephen, The First Martyr*

NO MASS

Friday, December 27, *St. John, Apostle and Evangelist*

5:00 pm Rosary

5:30 pm Leoma M. Gordon

Saturday, December 28, *Vigil of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and**Joseph*

5:00 pm Jean Smrekar

Sunday, December 29, *The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*

7:30 am Parish

9:30 am Sam Tridico

11:30 am Kenneth Day

LECTOR/COMMUNION MINISTER

Tuesday, December 24

4:00 pm **L** D Randall, K Cannon (CH)**D** K Randall, S Elliott, M Joyce, M Riggelman,
Deacon John Reef4:00 pm **L** B Schartl, L Gregory, H Gregory (HS)**D** A Dillon, B Schartl, L Gregory7:00 pm **L** C Mears, M Meinzer**D** M Collet, C Berger, D Hipp, T Hipp, C Mears,
K Schreck, S Weber, K Wehinger

Wednesday, December 25

12:00 am **L** D Bessemer, D Forster**D** F Leitenberger, J Kastelic, R Sliney, Deacon John
Reef9:00 am **L** M Santoro, F Leitenberger**D** D Dreskler, C Campbell, D Campbell, T Etwiler,
T Frasz, D Givens, P Taylor, Deacon John Reef

Saturday, December 28

5:00 pm **L** K Cannon, B Rader**D** B Linkenbach, M Joyce, D Hipp, T Hipp,
B Nihei, K Randall, D Falquette**Sunday, December 29**7:30 am **L** M Santoro, D Bessemer**D** M Collet, P Taylor, A Holloway, B Danuloff,
D Givens, L Danuloff, K Reindl9:30 am **L** M Meinzer, F Schuster**D** D Dreskler, S Weber, K Wehinger, T Frasz,
T Etwiler, S Weitzel, M Riggelman, D Forster11:30 am **L** J Riedl, S Andrews**D** F Leitenberger, T Fesler, K Schreck, S Elliott**CONTINUES PAGE 3****BOTH / AND**

I recall a discussion of the concept of "both / and" as an essential key to understanding theology. One classmate insisted, "How can something be both/and...Everything has to be either/or...." Upon further study and much reflection over time, this person realized the wisdom of "both / and" and shared this insight: "I had to take myself out of the equation and simply accept."

Opposite poles may seem far apart and difficult to hold together. It may seem difficult to understand and balance both sides of a complex issue. But rather than overemphasizing one side and neglecting the other, our challenge to grow in our faith is to hold the two poles together, to maintain a proper balance. Let's look at this shortened list of some theological issues presented by Fr. Felix Just and see that the best answer is "both / and" or, to put it another way, "not only..., but also...."

God is both Transcendent and Immanent.

Jesus is both Fully Human and Fully Divine.

Mary is both Virgin and Mother.

The Bible is both Word of God and Authored by Humans.

The Bible should be both Meditated Prayerfully and Studied Academically.

The Church is both One Universal "Body of Christ" and Many Particular Local Communities.

The Church is both Holy (God's Spirit with us) and Imperfect (in need of ongoing reform).

The Mass includes both Liturgy of the Word and Liturgy of the Eucharist.

Human nature is both Good (created in God's image) and Sinful (in need of forgiveness).

The Greatest Commandment is both to Love God and to Love All (neighbors, enemies, self).

To be saved we must both Believe (have faith) and Put Faith into Practice (do good works)

Our salvation is a result of both God's Grace (a free gift) and Our Cooperation (accepting the gift).

Faith is both Trusting Relationship with God and Obedient Assent to Doctrinal Truths.

Prayer includes both Speaking to God and Listening to God.

Physical death is both the End of Mortal Life and a transition to New/Immortal life.

The End of the World may both Come Soon and Be Far Off.

On Judgment Day God will be both Merciful and Just.

Wishing everyone BOTH a holy Christmas season AND many blessings in the New Year!

Your sister in Christ,

Lynne Lukach

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH



Bill Ruhl, Jeannie Burkhalter, Krista Marshall, Aaron Blank, Cindy Lassen, Dina Riley, Eliana Nelson, MaKaya Butler, Sharon Valdry, John Henney, Paige Divelbiss, Maria Loschinkohl, Sherry Studer, John Ziegler, Marlene Ziegler, Kim Rucker, Dorothy Trinter, Marti Selby, JoAnn Marbaugh, Baby Greyden Jack, Gwen Yockey, Mary Ann and Mel Switzer, Louise Steggall, Tammy Dudley, Keith Combs, Mady Ziegler, Elaine Johnson, Cindy Jasnek Cartier, Jeannine Klotz, Marilyn B. Williamson, Paul Schopp, Tom Powell, Chief Master Sergeant Joseph Basting, Sarah Basting, Peggy Basting Taylor, Kathy Carcione, Carol Pittenger, Francis Paul Nestor, Charlie Henrich, Danny Rhea, Barb Jefferies, Amelia Moser, Ben Walker, Susan Lynn Shire, Cynthia Kalinoff Watson, Beverly Strauser.

Names will only be listed for 4 weeks. If you wish to have additional time, contact the Parish Center at 419.524.2572.

IN GOD'S ARMS...

Marjorie Robb Don DeCenso



ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM, O LORD.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL BE NO MASSES OFFERED ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26.

BEREAVEMENT CANDLES AND CROSSES

The Bereavement candles and crosses may be picked up in the parish office until December 31, 2019.

PLEASE WELCOME OUR GUESTS



Mary and Joseph brought their child into the world in a stable because there was no one to show them hospitality. We are going to have a great many visitors for our Christmas Masses. Let us be sure to show them warm and welcoming hospitality by making room for all who come to worship with us. On a related note, as in past years, there is no reserved seating and seats may only be held for late-arriving members until the ushers begin seating people. Thank you in advance for your hospitality.

PRISON MINISTRY CORNER



Dear Parishioners of Saint Peter's Catholic Church,

Richland Correctional Institution Religious Service Department would like to thank the volunteers from Saint Peter's Catholic Church for their ministerial support, musical proficiency, program initiatives and countless hours of service. Also, we are honored and grateful for the many acts of kindness and charity demonstrated daily, weekly, monthly and yearly by the committed volunteers that come in to Richland Correctional Institution. The volunteers are professional and wonderful men and women of Christ. They have richly impacted the inmates and staff here. Be blessed and know it.

With gratitude,

Chaplains Scott Logan/Audrey McClain, Religious Services Department

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

MASS SERVERS

Tuesday, December 24

- 4:00 pm D Stanford, A Baldasare, K Elliott (CH)
- 4:00 pm K DeLano-Goodwin, D Delano-Goodwin
- 7:00 pm

Wednesday, December 25

- 12:00 am G Farragher, A Farragher
- 9:00 am G Farragher, A Farragher

Saturday, December 28

- 5:00 pm E Holzmilller, G Holzmilller, K DeLano-Goodwin

Sunday, December 29

- 7:30 am
- 9:30 am G Farragher, A Farragher, D Crundwell
- 11:30 am E Fesler, C Fesler, C Schenkelberg

THE CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

December 29 NO CLASS

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

The church will open one hour before each Mass!

Christmas Eve—Tuesday, December 24, 2019

- 4:00 P.M. (in Church)
- 4:00 P.M. (in High School Auditorium)
- 7:00 P.M. (in Church)—*Incense will be used*
- 12:00 Midnight—Church (Music begins at 11:30 P.M.)




Incense will be used

Christmas Day—Wednesday, December 25, 2019

- 9:00 A.M. (in Church)

NOTE ON SUNDAY COLLECTION NUMBERS

Beginning this month, we will begin reporting Sunday collection results on a monthly basis which will align our bulletin reporting with the broader monthly budget totals that are used for all of our other reporting. Please contact me with any questions at mumea.evan@myspartans.org – Evan Mumea, Business Manager.

SUNDAY OFFERING	<i>Year to Date</i>
	<i>November 30, 2019</i>
Sunday and Holy Day Collections	
Sunday Collection & Holy Day Collection:	\$343,456
Total Budgeted Sunday Collection To Date:	\$360,200
Sunday Collection Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$16,744)
School Collection	
Total School Collection To Date:	\$57,820
Total Budgeted School Collection To Date:	\$60,000
School Collection Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$2,180)

END OF YEAR CHARITABLE GIFTS

The end of the year is fast approaching, and it is time to think about those last minute charitable deductions to reduce your overall tax burden. Here are a few ways that may work for you:

- 1) IRA Charitable Rollover – If you are 70 ½ or older, you can elect to make a qualified charitable distribution from your IRA. This distribution will lower your overall taxable income for the year. More seniors are taking advantage of this option and are making a one-time distribution to cover all their Sunday giving for the year.
- 2) Transfer of Appreciated Stocks – If you hold stock that has appreciated significantly you can avoid capital gains taxes and take a charitable deduction by donating it to St. Peter's. These transfers can be done electronically, so contact the Development Office for more information. Stock transfers should be initiated by December 22, 2018 to guarantee they will be completed by the end of 2019.
- 3) Doubling/Bunching your Gift – Trying to reach that itemized deduction level? One strategy to combat the new tax laws is to consider doubling or bunching your charitable gifts to every other year. Doubling may allow you to itemize your deductions in giving years instead of taking the standard deduction.

Be sure to consult your tax advisor about any questions how the new tax laws affect your personal situation.

NORTHWEST OHIO SCHOLARSHIP FUND



Apply today for a scholarship for the 2020-21 school year! Scholarships are available for your children to attend a private school or for homeschool expenses for grades K-8.

Your child may qualify for a scholarship worth up to \$1,500 at the private school of your choice or for \$500 for homeschool expenses based on your family's annual household income.

- * Families who meet the eligibility requirement and reside in one of the participating counties* can apply.
- * Scholarships payments are made directly to the school.
- * Residing Counties: Allen, Crawford, Defiance, Erie, Fulton, Hancock, Henry, Huron, Lucas, Ottawa, Paulding, Putnam, Richland, Sandusky, Seneca, Van Wert, Williams Wood and Wyandot.

Online application deadline for 2020-21 is Friday, April 24, 2020. <https://tinyurl.com/NOSF2021AP>

For questions, contact Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund at 419.720.7048 or visit www.nosf.org.

ADVERTISER
of the week

© E. J. Pinski Co., Inc.

**Ashland/Mansfield Foot and Ankle
Specialists**
419.756.1961

PARKING LOT AND SAFETY EMERGENCY

Please remember to lock car doors and keep valuables out of sight when you come for weekend Mass. Also, please do not park in emergency lanes, behind the priests' garage doors or the center aisle lane, it makes it impossible for emergency vehicles to help us.

THANK YOU FROM CATHOLIC CHARITIES H.O.P.E. FOOD PANTRY

Catholic Charities would like to thank all of those who so generously donated this Christmas Season and participated in the monthly collection drives for food and personal care items for H.O.P.E. Food Pantry. Thank you also to all that bring donations directly to our pantry. Your support helps to provide groceries to over 1,800 people each month. You make it possible for us to provide Christ-centered and life transformational services to those who come to us. God bless you!

STATE OF OHIO SCHOOL CHOICE SCHOLARSHIPS—IMPORTANT CHANGES

Across Ohio, thousands of parents use state-funded scholarships to send their children to the school they choose. St. Peter's Catholic School is a registered "provider school" with this State of Ohio School Choice Scholarship Program.

THERE ARE SOME IMPORTANT CHANGES AND UPDATES WITH TWO OF THE STATE FUNDED SCHOLARSHIPS

Educational Choice Scholarship (EdChoice)

EdChoice provides scholarships to students who attend the state's underperforming public schools. For the 2020-2021 school year, numerous schools have been newly added to the ODE designated list of underperforming schools so students assigned to those schools are eligible for the scholarship. **Prospect, Sherman, Woodland, Madison South and Mifflin elementary schools, Mansfield Middle School, and Mansfield Senior High are some of the area public schools on the ODE designated list.**

Ed Choice Expansion

This scholarship is based only on family income. For the 2020-2021 school year, **students in ALL grades K through 12** whose family's income is at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines are eligible to apply. For example, last year a family of four earning \$51,500 or less was eligible to apply for the scholarship. *Families currently enrolled at St. Peter's who meet these requirements are eligible to apply.*

IMPORTANT: The application period for EdChoice and EdChoice Expansion scholarships is February 1 through April. Once the admission process is complete to attend St. Peter's School for the 2020-2021 school year, application for state scholarships can begin. The sooner that process begins, the better.

Have questions? Curious if your child is eligible? Attend an information meeting on either Tuesday January 7 at 6:00 P.M. or Tuesday, January 21 at 6:00 P.M. in the high school building, Robert Frye Gymnasium or call 419.524.2572.

ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT

Thank you to ALL who participated in Adult Faith opportunities this past year! A special thanks to Ron and JoEllen Stevens for facilitating the Thursday evening sessions and to Kelly Wurm and Dianne Randall for initiating the Monday evening women's group. We look forward to offering a variety of topics in the new year. Please watch this bulletin space for further information.

ST. PETER'S HANDBELL CHOIR

St. Peter's Handbell Choir are selling raffle tickets to earn money to purchase additional chimes for the bell choir. The prizes are a handmade quilt (blue and white Ohio Star pattern) and two handmade afghans. The drawing will be held today Sunday, December 22nd.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES WILL BE CLOSING AT 1:00 P.M. ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20 AND WILL REOPEN AT 8:00 A.M. ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26.

THANK YOU SO MUCH!

I would like to thank all of our faithful volunteers who have worked – and will spend time – preparing for our Christmas festivities in the parish!

First, a huge thanks to all who volunteered many hours to the Christmas Classic: to Ann Brown, Molly Orsini, and every parishioner who offered their time and tasty talents to make this year's Classic such a wonderful time!

I also thank our Liturgy Committee for their help in decorations at this time of year, as well as for any and all volunteers who help to keep our church clean and hospitable to parishioners and guests.

Finally, for all who have responded to our outreach to the needy in our community for your gifts from the Angel Tree, to Angie Dillon who organized the coats and clothing for our Feed the Needy, to our school (Elementary and JR/HS) for their outreach through the "Wall of Love" and "Socks for Seniors." May God bless each and every person who has considered the needs of others during this season of grace!

Merry Christmas!

Father Gregory Hite, Pastor

PLEASE NOTE THAT INCENSE WILL BE USED AT THE CHRISTMAS EVE 7:00 PM AND MIDNIGHT MASS



WE STILL SELL GARBAGE BAGS FROM THE YELLOW BAG PEOPLE IN THE PARISH CENTER.



RECYCLING—NEXT DATE: JANUARY 10, 2020

BLUE BARRELS: January 11 & 12

PARISH CENTER HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

12/23— 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

12/24— 2:15 P.M. to 4:15 P.M.

12/25— CLOSED

12/26— 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

12/27— 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

12/28 and 12/29—CLOSED

12/30— 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

12/31— 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

1/1— CLOSED

Regular parish center office hours will resume on 1/2/2020.

GIVING TREE BLESSINGS



Thank you for all of the love, joy and kindness given the families and individuals supported by our Parish Giving Tree. Your thoughtfulness and generosity has truly given those sponsored Christmas joy, eased their burdens and shown them love from their fellow neighbor. Please say a special prayer for the families served, that they will additionally know the love of our Lord and know the presence in their lives! May the Lord bless you all for your kindness to our neighbors in need. Have a wonderful and Blessed Christmas!

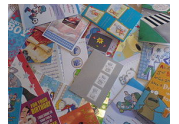
HELP IS NEEDED FOR DECORATING



The church needs decorated for Christmas. Will you please help? We are decorating on Sunday, December 22 beginning at 3:00 P.M.

Hope to see you there!

LET'S SHOWER THE SISTERS WITH CARDS FOR THE HOLIDAYS



Sister Bernard Marie and Sister Paula are always communicating with us to say they are well and that they keep us in their thoughts and prayers. During this time of Thanksgiving and Christmas, perhaps you would have time to send them each a card—with a special message so they know THEY are in the thoughts and prayers of so many of us here. Here's their address if you would like to take part in this "card shower" for them.

Sister Bernard Marie Campbell, Sister Paula Bingert (same address for both) Our Lady of Angels, 1201 Wyoming, Joliet IL 60435.

St. Peter's Elementary is looking for an elementary crossing guard Monday—Friday 7:15—8:00 A.M. A stipend is available. If interested, please email Ashley Rastorfer at rastorfer.ashley@myspartans.org.

PSR Teacher Needed to fill the role of a catechist for our PSR Program. The program meets on Wednesday evenings from 6:00-7:30 P.M. and the opening needs to be filled quickly. It is for an elementary grade. If you love little ones and love your faith and sharing it (or know someone who does) please contact Elizabeth Wurm at wurm.elizabeth@myspartans.org as soon as possible.

Open Teaching Positions St. Peter's School is looking for qualified substitute teachers for all grade levels. Substitute teachers require a Substitute Teaching License from the Ohio Department of Education. This requires a minimum of a Bachelor's degree as well as BCI and FBI background checks and completion of the Diocese of Toledo VIRTUS program. Interested candidates should contact the appropriate building principal: Jon Cutitta, Acting HS/JH Principal, at cuttitta.jon@myspartans.org or Ashley Rastorfer, Acting Elementary Principal at rastorfer.ashley@myspartans.org.



Calendars courtesy of Herlihy-Chambers Funeral Home and Wappner's Funeral Home are available at all of the entrances to the church. Please help yourself to as many as you may need.

“Doing little things with a strong desire to please God makes them really great.”
Saint Francis de Sales

TRUST IN GOD

On this final Sunday of Advent our scriptures focus on the historical birth of Jesus, who is son of David and Son of God, child and king, Jesus and Emmanuel.

Isaiah the prophet begs Ahaz to ask for a sign, to allow God to offer him reassurance of the survival of the Davidic dynasty. The king hypocritically refuses to “tempt the LORD” in that way (Isaiah 7:12), but the prophet foretells the birth of a son, an heir to the throne, who will prove the Lord’s enduring protection of God’s chosen lineage on the throne of David. The child will be called Emmanuel.

Matthew’s reference to this history in his description of the birth of Jesus highlights the contrast between the faithless refusal of trust shown by Ahaz, and the complete trust in God shown by Mary and Joseph in bringing about the birth of Jesus Christ.

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

CHRISTMAS

A young mother, her eyes shining with fatigue, who is arranging her hair; a father who finds himself alone with his pretty wife and baby, straightening the stable to make himself useful in some way; shepherds who bring cheese and perhaps also some curdled milk; sheep who look at their shepherds while bleating; a donkey who is eyeing his manger changed into a cradle; an adorable swaddled baby whom one calls Savior, Christ and Lord: This is the manifestation of the goodness and the tenderness of God. This is the most fantastic birth in the history of humanity, the one which changed the face of the world! This is how far God humbled and compromised himself with us! This is Emmanuel!

—From God’s Word Is Our Joy, Vol. 1 by Lucien Deiss, CSSp, copyright © 1998, World Library Publications. p. 73



TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — You will be given this sign: The virgin shall conceive and bear a son (Isaiah 7:10-14).

Psalm — Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory (Psalm 24).

Second Reading — God has called us to belong to Jesus Christ (Romans 1:1-7).

Gospel — The son born of Mary shall be called Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins (Matthew 1:18-24).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66

Tuesday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79

Wednesday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]

Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15

Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

Thursday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17;

Mt 10:17-22

Friday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Saturday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128:1-5; Col 3:12-21 [12-17]; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

776400 **1600** bulletins
please

St. Peter Church
104 W First Street
Mansfield, OH 44902-2199

419-524-2572

Attn: Joyce/Kristi