SAINT PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH DECEMBER 23, 2018



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

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

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 pm Other times by appointment.

Sacrament of Marriage:

Arrangements should be made at the Parish Center at least eight 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.

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:

Ms. Tammy Haus

High School, Jr. High School

Mrs. Madalyn Bauer

Elementary School Mrs. Ashley Rastorfer Montessori

Parish Business Manager:

Mr. Evan Mumea

Director of Development:

Mr. Jason Crundwell

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 24, Vigil of The Nativity of The Lord

4:00 pm William, Dorothy & Jeff Alt (Church)

4:00 pm Gerry Tritschler (in HS)

7:00 pm Alma Hite

Midnight Mass Richard Hite

Tuesday, December 25, The Nativity Of The Lord

9:00 am Frank Russo

Wednesday, December 26, *Saint Stephen, The First Martyr*NO MASS

Thursday, December 27, Saint John, Apostle & Evangelist 7:00 am Jean Smrekar

Friday, December 28, The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

5:00 pm Rosary

5:30 pm Sam Tridico

Saturday, December 29, Vigil of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

5:00 pm Michael Gray

Sunday, December 30, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

7:30 am Parish

9:30 am Elizabeth Lehman

11:30 am Kenneth Day

LECTOR/COMMUNION MINISTER

Monday, December 24

4:00 pm L S Rizzo, C Henrich

(Church) **D** B Schartl, S Rizzo, S Elliott, L Gregory,

M Riggleman, C Campbell, D Campbell,

M Meinzer

4:00 pm L K Cannon

(in HS) **D** A Dillon, S Weitzel, D Wurm

7:00 pm L C Taddeo, M Ambrose

D S Weber, K Wehinger, K Speck, C Merle,

K Wehinger

Midnight Mass L F Leitenberger, H Eighinger

D F Leitenberger, R Sliney, A Seiss, R Stevens, J Stevens, D Forster, J Kastelic,

Deacon John Reef

Tuesday, December 25

9:00 am L M Santoro, B Linkenbach

D F Leitenberger, K Yockey, T Etzwiler, D Dreskler, T Frasz, D Givens, D Yockey

Saturday, December 29

5:00 pm **L** B Rader, J Riedl

D V Zack, C Sgambellone, D Falquette

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It dates me, but I remember an episode of the television series "The Odd Couple" with Tony Randall and Jack Klugman. I think it was Randall's character, Felix Unger, who taught me the old saying, "When you assume, you make an ass out of you and me," playing on the spelling of the word.

The truth of that saying stays with me even now, 40 years after the TV show ended. It's particularly apt at this time of the year, in Advent, when we learn that God seldom comes to us in ways we expect. Our expectations and the ways in which we look for the Lord aren't all that different from those of the Israelites, who looked for a mighty king to rise up, overthrow their oppressors and establish Israel as the Kingdom of God on earth.

They weren't looking for a baby born into poverty and weakness in a cattle stall. They weren't looking for the carpenter who preached a radical departure from the established religious outlook of their time. And they certainly weren't looking for a "King of the Jews," condemned to death as a common criminal, subjected to capital punishment between two other criminals. They allowed their assumptions about the Kingdom of God as they expected it to be to cloud their senses so they couldn't recognize the Kingdom when Jesus told them it was in their midst.

We look back to his birth, sanitized and sweetened by our desire to focus on the newborn baby, the Son of the Virgin surrounded by adoring parents, chubby little angels and antiseptically cleansed sheep and hay. We fail to see the humiliation and unmajestic conditions of Jesus' coming into the world. Like our ancestors in faith, we fail to see the reality unfolding in front of us.

Amid the "Glorias", incense and candles, carol singing, and bell ringing, we tend to forget that Jesus comes to us in what Saint Teresa of Calcutta called, "that distressing disguise." Am I disparaging the beauty and glory of our liturgical celebrations? No. But it is a fact that our liturgy is meant to help us recall the work and presence of God in the world. We are meant to remember and our memory should be an honest one. There was no crown of victory, no glory of resurrection without the humiliation of the cross and the death of Jesus, which he modeled for us in his ministry and in the hours before his execution.

All of this goes to say that our Advent observance should be made with open eyes. We look for the Lord and we should look for him where he will be and not where we expect him to be. Jesus, Son of God, eternal King, doesn't live in a palace. He lives among the poor, the refugees and the foreigners, the neglected and the elderly with no one to care for them; among the downtrodden and the imprisoned. He lives among those who dwell in fear and darkness, among those who wait longingly for light and those who yearn for freedom and peace. He lives in our brothers and sisters – those to whom we give no thought and barely even a glance. He lives in us so that we may share him with all those others!

Do we want Advent and Christmas to have real meaning and joy? If so, we ought to pray for open eyes and open hearts so that we can see and love without expectation of reciprocity or repayment. We must seek, Jesus "...in that distressing disguise." If we are to follow him, we must go where he goes, even to the Cross at the end of the Calvary road with only our faith to reassure us that it isn't really the end, but only the beginning of the life Jesus offers

Bill Johnson

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH



Rose Mary Lang-Martin, Debbie Ashley, Mike Payton, Bill Ruhl, Jeannie Burkhalter, Krista Marshall, Aaron Blank, Don Blank, Theresa Prendergast, Cindy Lassen, Dina Riley, Eliana Nelson, MaKaya Butler, Mildred Corbin, Julie

Krouse, Ken Kayden, John Henney, Theresa Schmidt, Paige Divelbiss, Maria Loschinkohl, Sharon Valdry, Carol Pittenger, Sherry Studer, John Ziegler, Marlene Ziegler, Kim Rucker, Jess Allred, Dorothy Trinter, Ted Selby, Marti Selby, JoAnn Marbaugh, Baby Greyden Jack, Gwen Yockey, Mary Ann Switzer, Louise Stegall, Tammy Dudley, Sydney Foltz, Keith Combs, Mady Ziegler, Sharon Valdry, Elaine Johnson, Maggie Varga, Brenda Davis, Barb Riley, Dorothy Jean Caldwell, Cindy Jasnek Cartier, Joyce Taylor, Barb Simms, Michael Davis, Mary Kay Futty.

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...



Theodore "Ted" Selby

Eternal Rest grant unto them, O Lord.

PLEASE NOTE THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED DECEMBER 24, 25 AND DECEMBER 29 THROUGH JANUARY 1, 2019. OFFICE WILL BE OPEN DECEMBER 26-28, 2018 FROM 11-3 PM.

PRISON MINISTRY CORNER



As noted last week in this Corner, the Parole Authority system may sometimes be difficult to understand. It is often very difficult to determine who gets released, at what point in his/ her sentence, and how does an inmate continue to improve on the "inside" after he/she has met all the requirements and completed all the stipulations set by the Parole Authority at an earlier hearing. Perhaps these words shared by one of our RiCI brothers will give us food for thought as we lift all our incarcerated brothers and sisters and their families in prayer this Christmas season. This morning I was informed that I must serve three more years with no certainty I will be released after those years. I am well and trusting in God's plan for my life. Not my will, but Thy will. Thank you to everyone for their prayers. Please continue to pray for me.

Continued from Page 2

LECTOR/COMMUNION MINISTER Sunday, December 30

7:30 am L H Eighinger, C Eighinger

D M Collet, K Reindl, K Reindl, B Danuloff, L Danuloff, D Givens, K Randall

9:30 am L M Meinzer, D Forster

D F Schuster, M Riggleman, T Etzwiler, C Merle, J Brennan, S Weitzel, R Sliney, T Frasz

11:30 am **L** T Malec, F Leitenberger

D K Yockey, K Schreck, S Rizzo, S Elliott, T Fesler, K Speck, Deacon John Reef

MASS SERVERS

Monday, December 24

4:00 pm K Elliott, E Rizzo, J Rizzo (Church) 4:00 pm K DeLano, D DeLano (in HS)

7:00 pm K Pollock, S Ambrose, J Amrose, G Ambrose

Midnight Mass G Farragher, L Rhodes, D McGinty, J McGinty

Tuesday, December 25

9:00 am B Gabor

Saturday, December 29

5:00 pm Z Daniels, B Gabor, G Farragher

Sunday, December 30

7:30 am S Tridico, A Gasper

9:30 am A Baldasare, M Osborne, N Osborne 11:30 am L Rhodes, D McGinty, J McGinty

THE CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

9:30 am Patti 11:30 am Carla

SUNDAY OFFERING



Year to date through 11/30/2018

Total Sunday Collection To Date: \$338,438 \$357,500 Total Budgeted Sunday Collection To Date: Sunday Collection Surplus/(Deficit) (\$19,062)

School Collection

Total School Collection To Date: \$60,535 Total Budgeted School Collection To Date: \$70,000 School Collection Surplus/(Deficit) (\$9,465)

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FINANCIAL UPDATE



Total Pledged:	\$2,713,894
Amount needed to reach challenge goal:	\$286,105
Payments to Date:	\$2,161,833

As of November 1, 2018



ST. PETER'S SCHOOL



VISIT OUR SCHOOL ANY DAY WITH APPOINTMENT

Parents, if you are considering St. Peter's School for your child's education, you are invited to spend part of a school day here at St. Peter's with your child to experience all the activities and classroom instruction that take place.

Please call the school administrators to arrange a visit that is convenient for you and your child.

- Mrs. Ashley Rastorfer Montessori Director 419.524.2572 ext. 4113
- Mrs. Madalyn Bauer Elementary Principal 419.524.2572 ext. 4101
- Ms. Tammy Haus High School & Junior High Principal 419.524.2572 ext. 3100

St. Peter's School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs and athletic and other school-administered programs.

For Parents considering St. Peter's School for their child, please mark your calendars. More information will be forthcoming as the date approaches.

PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT—JANUARY 17, 2019

Montessori Preschool & Kindergarten—4:30-5:30 pm

Location: Montessori House, for parents only! You have never seen a preschool this unique and wonderful!

Traditional Kindergarten—5:30-6:30 pm

Location: Elementary school, for parents only. A dynamic teacher and students excited about learning!

Also, personal appointments are always welcomed by the school principals. Call the school administrators to arrange a visit that is convenient for you and your child.



OSGAR'S

AUTOBODY 419.524.2084

175TH ANNIVERSARY NOTES

In this column, we continue our look at the pastorate of our seventh Pastor, Monsignor Rupert C. Goebel. In 1941 Monsignor Goebel celebrated the 30th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood with a Mass and reception offered by the various sodalities and fraternal groups in the Parish. In 1942, Monsignor Goebel began planning for the Centennial of the founding of the Parish in 1944. A complete renovation of the interior of the Church was planned.

Beginning in 1944, Monsignor Goebel hired Hungarian-born artist John (Janos) Bernat to design and execute an artistic renovation of the interior of the Church. Bernat had studied extensively in Europe and was the recipient of scholarships to study in Florence and in Rome. The project was expected to take two years to complete. The previous interior scheme of the Church (a combination of salmon and sea-foam green painted surfaces) gave way to a much more colorful and classically articulated décor. Every exposed surface was repainted and covered with murals or stencil work done by hand by the artist or one of several St. Peter's and public school students who assisted him.

Parishioners and students were often asked to stand as models for the biblical characters and scenes he designed. While many of Bernat's smaller works have been lost over time to deterioration, smoke damages or age, a large number of Bernat's works at St. Peter's still endure. Bernat's daughter, Suszanne, presented the Parish with one of her father's oil paintings, *The Sacrifice of Isaac by Abraham*, in 2009. The Stations of the Cross at St. Peter's were designed and carved by Bernat's wife, Toledo-born sculptress, Martha Milligan, who studied at the Cleveland Institute of Art and who met and married Bernat while studying in Budapest.

Although the actual centennial year was 1944, Monsignor Goebel decided that the celebration of the anniversary would only take place when the servicemen and servicewomen fighting in World War II had returned to Mansfield. A four-day gala celebration of the centennial was held from November 1 – 4 in 1946. In addition to the completion of the renovation and the 100th anniversary of the parish's founding, Confirmation and other sacraments were administered by Bishop Alter during that festival.

The highlight of the festivities was a Solemn Pontifical High Mass offered by Bishop Alter and attended by nearly 900 people in the Church. The homilist for the Mass was Bishop Michael J. Ready, an alumnus of St. Peter's School and the fifth Bishop of the Diocese of Columbus, Ohio. In his homily, Bishop Ready exhorted the Catholic faithful of Mansfield to persevere in the Faith while keeping in mind the heroic labors of all those who came before them and whose efforts built such a vibrant and strong community of faith. It was a celebration long remembered and savored by all who attended.

In 1948, Monsignor Goebel was honored for 25 years of service as the Pastor of St. Peter's. His leadership during that quarter of a century was solid and reliable. One of the many resulting advances of the Faith in Mansfield in those days was the founding and establishment of St. Mary of the Snows Parish in 1949 in the northeastern quadrant of Mansfield and Madison Township. It was at this time that St. Peter's, under Monsignor Goebel's leadership, began actively raising money for a new, modern school building to replace the red brick church/school building first erected by Father Magenhann in 1890.

We will continue our look at Monsignor Goebel's pastorate in the next issue of the bulletin.

ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT

When: Thursday evening at 6:30 pm

Where: Assisi Hall, 4th floor Parish Center

What: Our next course is THE BIBLE AND THE SACRAMENTS: Journey through Scripture by St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology, Steubenville; presented by Matthew Leonard. See the bulletin each week for details.

Dates/Topics:

January 10—Introduction to the Mysteries

The Ritual of Family

January 17—The Waters of Salvation

On a Mission for God

January 24—The Sacrifical Offering

Lamb of God

January 31—Reconciled to God

Spiritual Healing

February 7—Brides and Bridegrooms

Ordained to Serve

CHECK OUT THE KIOSK!

Before you finish your Christmas shopping, check out the CDs available in the kiosk in the back of church. There are CDs available on a wide variety of subjects. They are fascinating to listen to and are only about one hour in length. The CD on the "Our Father" is incredible. You will see a new reason why Jesus taught us to pray this prayer. St. Peter's Respect Life Chapter, Mary Rennpage, 419.524.8162.



PARISH AND SCHOOL MINISTRIES

Did you know that there are many ways in which you can become more involved at St. Peter's? We are always looking for volunteers for the various ministries provided by both the parish and school. The complete list can be found on our website at mansfieldstpeters.org or by contacting the Parish Center office at 419.524.2572. Each month we will be featuring a different ministry to become involved in. **This month's ministry is the Cafeteria**.

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR PARISH ...

... in your **estate planning or will.** It is easy to do. Either contact your financial planner or attorney – OR – contact our parish Development Office. We are happy to assist you! Your gift can be either "restricted," meaning to be used for a particular purpose and that purpose only, OR "unrestricted," which means it can be invested and used to support our day to day expenses in the parish. Thank you for your prayerful consideration!

HELP IS NEEDED FOR DECORATING

Help is needed on Sunday December 23 starting at 3:00 pm to decorate the church for Christmas. There are jobs for people of all ages.

Many Hands Make Light Work!

Email dillon.angie@myspartans.org with any further questions or to sign up.

NO ROOM AT THE INN



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 latearriving members until the ushers begin seating people. Thank you in advance for your hospitality.

CHRISTMAS NOTES

- ♦ Church doors will open one hour before each Mass
- ♦ There is plenty of parking around the church, do not park in fire lanes or in the middle of the parking lot.
- ♦ The Children's Choir will perform at the 4:00 pm Mass in the Church
- ♦ The Bell Choir will perform at the 7:00 pm Mass
- ♦ Incense will be used at the 7:00 pm Mass
- ♦ Carols will start at 11:30 pm Christmas Eve



- ♦ Incense will be used at Midnight Mass
- The Brass Ensemble will perform at the 9:00 am Mass on Christmas Day

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FRIDAY DINNERS



5:30-7:30 PM

Please RSVP at 419.529.5532 or sign up at the club for December 28—Subs in the Lounge

RECYCLING—NEXT DATE: JANUARY 11, 2019



10:00 am—11:00 am & 2:00 pm—4:00 pm

(Every 2nd Friday of the month) in the FAC parking lot

BLUE BARRELS: January 12 & 13

Catholic Womens Club: The next luncheon will be Wednesday January 9, 2019. Luncheon will be at Brown Derby in Ontario at 12:00 noon. All residenta of the St. Juan Diego Deanery are invited. If you are new, we encourage you to join us and get to know the Catholic women in the area. Please call Kathy Wukela at 419.522.5321 or Beth Hass at 419.681.1329. Reservations must be made by January 4, 2019 before 12 noon. Looking forward to meeting new members.

St. Peter's will be hosting Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University class beginning Tuesday, January 15, 2019 at 6:00 pm in Assisi Hall, watch next weeks bulletin for more information.

<u>Catholic Charities</u> has funding to assist with PRESCRIPTION and MEDICAL BILLS for individuals living in Richland County. There are no income guidelines to receive this assistance; you just need to be a resident of Richland County. Please phone Laurie Hamrick at 419-524-0733 or email lhamrick@toledodiocese.org to inquire about assistance.

Calendars courtesy of Herlihy-Chambers Funeral Home and Wappner's Funeral Home are available all of the entrances to the church.

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold.

In that hour vouchsafe, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires, through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ, and of His blessed Mother.

Amen. St. Andrew Christmas Novena Prayer

MEMORIES AND DREAMS

Throughout our lives, we retain the language and habits of our native region and family of origin. Should we return to our home after a long absence, we quickly revert to its familiar speech and practices? Our deep memory is reflected in old stories and words and speech patterns. This familiarity runs like an underground river and accompanies us wherever we go.

Not only do we remember, we are incorporated into and made part of a greater memory. In remembering and recollecting, we are in turn gathered up and re-collected.

Today we remember Mary, a small figure travelling the country roads to visit Elizabeth. All the great pronouncements and dreams of the prophets point to this time when the Lord's words to Mary would be gathered and fulfilled. The memories of her people are alive in her, and memories of her nourish our own living faith.

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TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

In ancient pagan Rome, these days in mid-December were a time for general slacking off at work and far too much rejoicing. The period of leisure after the harvest and a whole cluster of pagan festivals were a force for the church to reckon with. The Saturnalia, breaking out on December 17, was a time of high living and loose morals. Christians were advised by their bishops to drop out of the mayhem and do some serious fasting. A famous church council at Saragossa in Spain made a season of fasting mandatory from December 17 to December 23, exactly coinciding with the Saturnalia. The bishops at that time were perhaps less concerned with preparing for Christmas than with resisting the kind of loose living going on.

Modern times have restored a bit of the Saturnalia spirit to our culture, so that a general period of partying with a vague connection to religion is now upon us. How does a Christian keep balance? The practice of charity by remembering the poor in our gift\(\mathbb{Z}\)giving, of hospitality in finding a place at our holiday tables for the poor and lonely, and of daily prayer in the home and at church are great helps. Although Advent is not a penitential season like Lent, it is a time for making room in our lives for what matters most.

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — From Bethlehem-Ephrathah shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel (Micah 5:1-4a).

Psalm — Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved (Psalm 80).

Second Reading — We have been consecrated through the offering of the body of Christ once for all (Hebrews 10:5-10).

Gospel — Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken by the Lord would be fulfilled (Luke 1:39-45).

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

Tuesday: <u>Vigil</u>: ls 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 <u>Dawn</u>: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20 <u>Day</u>: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6;

Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

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

Mt 10:17-22

Thursday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8 Friday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-5 or

Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or 1 Jn 3:1-2,

21-24; Lk 2:41-52

776400 **1500** bulletins please

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

419-524-2572

Attn: Joyce/Kristi