

DECEMBER 5, 2021

John went throughout the whole region of the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

Luke 3:3



**SECOND**  
Sunday  
OF *Advent*

SAINT PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH  
104 WEST FIRST STREET • MANSFIELD, OHIO 44902  
419.524.2572 • MANSFIELDSTPETERS.ORG



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**Mass Schedule:**

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.  
Monday & Friday 5:30 p.m.  
Tuesday & Thursday 7:00 a.m.  
Wednesday (School Year) 8:25 a.m. & 9:35 a.m.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

Saturday: 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. &  
30 minutes before every Mass

**Sacrament of Baptism:**

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

**Sacrament of Marriage:**

Arrangements should always be made at the **Parish Center office at least eight months** in advance of the ceremony.

**Parish Office Hours:**

Monday, Thursday, Friday: 9 a.m. — 3 p.m.  
Tuesday & Wednesday: 9 a.m.— 6 p.m.  
Saturday & Sunday: Closed

**Bulletin Deadline:**

Friday at 12 p.m., one week prior to publication date. All submissions must be in writing to [bulletin@myspartans.org](mailto:bulletin@myspartans.org).

**Parish Priests:**

Fr. John Miller  
*Pastor*  
[miller.john@myspartans.org](mailto:miller.john@myspartans.org)/419.217.0228  
Fr. Kevin Moebius  
*Parochial Vicar*  
[moebius.kevin@myspartans.org](mailto:moebius.kevin@myspartans.org)

**Deacon:**

Mr. John Reef  
*Shut-ins/Homebound*  
[reef.john@myspartans.org](mailto:reef.john@myspartans.org)/419.529.3694

**Pastoral Staff:**

Ms. Angie Dillon  
*Liturgy Assistant*  
[dillon.angie@myspartans.org](mailto:dillon.angie@myspartans.org)/Ext 3108  
*Hospital & Follow-up / Nursing Homes/Assisted Living*

Mr. Bill Johnson  
*Director of Music & Liturgy*  
[johnson.bill@myspartans.org](mailto:johnson.bill@myspartans.org)/Ext. 2113

Ms. Lynne Lukach  
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[lukach.lynne@myspartans.org](mailto:lukach.lynne@myspartans.org)/Ext. 2109

Mrs. Elizabeth Wurm  
*Director of Religious Ed. & Youth Minister*  
[wurm.elizabeth@myspartans.org](mailto:wurm.elizabeth@myspartans.org)/Ext. 2114

**St. Peter's School:**

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*Head of School*  
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Mrs. Ashley Rastorfer  
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Ms. Kristi Reindl  
*Parish Administrative Assistant*  
[reindl.kristi@myspartans.org](mailto:reindl.kristi@myspartans.org)/Ext. 2122  
*Prayer Pipeline*

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

**MASS INTENTIONS****Monday, December 6***St. Nicholas, Bishop*

5:00 pm Rosary

5:30 pm † Dorothy Mary Studer

**Tuesday, December 7***Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**Bl. Miguel Agustin Pro, Priest & Martyr*

7:00 am † Dorothy Mary Studer

**Wednesday, December 8*****The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary,****National Feast Day of the United States of America.**(Holy Day of Obligation)*

8:25 am † Mike Krebs Family

9:30 am † Huschka Family

6:00 pm † Bishop James Odongo

**Thursday, December 9***Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin*

7:00 am † Mary Schwartzner

**Friday, December 10***Our Lady of Loreto*

5:00 pm Rosary

5:30 pm † Russell Moebius

**Saturday, December 11***Vigil of the Third Sunday of Advent*

5:00 pm † Marilyn Mertler

**Sunday, December 12***Third Sunday of Advent*

7:30 am For Parishioners

9:30 am † Martha &amp; Ted Selby

11:30 am † Michael Payton

**IN GOD'S ARMS**Carol Myers  
David Graham

Jeffrey Roberts

***ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM O LORD.*****PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH**

Names will only be listed for four (4) weeks. If you wish to have additional time, contact the Parish Center at (419) 524-2572.



Bill Ruhl	Jeannine Klotz	Rose Mary Martin
Jeannie Burkhalter	Marilyn B. Williamson	Josephine Contra
Krista Marshall	Tom Powell	Marianne Cappadonna
Aaron Blank	CMSgt. Joseph Basting	Ray Galuzny
Dina Riley	Peggy Basting Taylor	Richard Steele
Eilana Nelson	Kathy Carcione	Michael Krempel
MaKaya Butler	Carol Pittenger	John Stewart Ziegler
Sharon Valdry	Alan Gallaway	Josephine German
Maria Loschinkohl	Amy Malaska	Zayne Lee
John Ziegler	David Donley	JoAnn and Jack Zink
Marlene Ziegler	Jordan Hiser	Bill, Linda and Cindy
Dorothy Trinter	William Scales	Thompson
JoAnn Marbaugh	Kathy Deckard	Brian Brown
Gwen Yockey	John & Cindy Lloyd	Lois Barnes
Louise Steggall	Ben Hahn	
Keith Combs	Bill Joyce	
Mady Ziegler	Ezra Becker	

**From the Pastor:**

In my conversation with a parishioner this past week, she spoke of her surprise at seeing several inches of snow on the ground early Tuesday morning. I too was slightly surprised with the snow even though I know it is winter. However, my surprise quickly gave way to joy as I pondered the wonder of God's creation and the thought that Christmas is near. Be sure to plan the remaining three weeks before Christmas so you are spiritually ready to enter into the joy of Christ's birth. The alternative is to be "surprised" and unprepared for the Christmas celebration. The following parish events are meant to help you and your children prepare.

This coming Saturday (Dec. 11), an Advent Youth Retreat is being offered here at the parish for children ages 3-10. They will take a journey with the Holy Family to experience the events of Jesus's birth. They will experience what it was like to journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem as Mary and Joseph did for the census that year. They will meet the "real life" personalities of Mary, Joseph, the Magi and Shepherds. As all this activity and excitement stirs their hunger pains, they will experience an authentic meal that the Holy Family would have eaten so long ago. After a few other activities, including crafts, they will attend the Saturday evening Mass. The cost is \$10 per child, begins at 11am, and will be in the high school.

In two weeks from this Sunday, our parish music ministry members will combine the songs of Christmas with the inspiring words of Sacred Scripture for what is known as "Lessons and Carols". This will occur in the church and is sure to bring our minds and hearts into the mystery, joy, and wonder of Christmas. I hope you will plan to attend and consider inviting family members and friends to attend also. Christmas is a celebration for everyone because Jesus came for every human person. Mark your calendars for 3pm, Sunday, Dec. 19 in the church.

While you are marking your calendar, also note Dec. 22 & 23 as "days of grace" here at St. Peter. The sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered at 12 noon, 3 pm, and 6 pm. At each of these times, Fr. Kevin and I will be in the church until the last person's confession is heard. Even though we offer this sacrament before every Mass, we provide these extra opportunities for your convenience and your spiritual benefit. In the gospel this Sunday, we hear John the Baptist preparing the way of the Lord by vigorously calling the people to repent and seek forgiveness of their sins. We are truly blest to have this wonderful sacrament of healing.

Lastly for this week, Wednesday is solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. The bulletin lists three Mass times for this holy day of obligation. I hope you will join us when we celebrate God's grace bringing forth the new Eve. Like Eve, Mary came into the world without sin. However, unlike Eve, she never used her freedom for anything sinful. Mary, pray for us!

In HIS love,  
Fr. Miller

**RCIA—RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS**

Our RCIA class continues to grow! We meet on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. (except the last Wednesday of the month), rotating our location monthly from Resurrection to St. Mary's to St. Peter's.

With our increase in prospective candidates, we are in need of several more women to consider serving as sponsors. Please contact the St. Peter's Parish Center office at (419) 524-2572 to learn more or to commit to attending at least one class to see what this rewarding ministry is all about.

**DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

Happy Birthday to the following parishioners 85+ who are celebrating a birthday during the month of December!

- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Marlene Anton     | Anton Kleinguetl   |
| Mary Bartley      | Eileen Nelson      |
| Thomas Castrataro | Jacquelyn Reindl   |
| Marian Eilenfeld  | Betty Smollen      |
| Raymond Jasinski  | Richard Studer     |
| Michael Krebs     | Marilyn Williamson |



**PRISON MINISTRY CORNER**

November has been a rewarding month at Richland Correctional. On Nov. 5 we had a Memorial Prayer Service commemorating the lives of our loved ones lost from March 2020 until now, followed by an hour of Adoration.



We have devoted much time to preparing for our upcoming Catholic Choir Christmas Concert, scheduled for Dec. 16. As always, we are grateful to our priests for coming in weekly to celebrate Mass and to hear Confessions when time permits before Mass. We also have had our usual schedule of Rosary prayer three times a week and RCIA/Catechism class weekly with the emphasis this month on the Augustine Institute video series on Morality and the Dismas prison ministry series on the Ten Commandments.

Thank you to all our parishioners who continue to donate plastic bags and yarn. Please continue to do so! Items may be brought to the Parish Center office during business hours. For questions about Richland Correctional (RiCI) contact Lynne and for questions about Mansfield Correctional (ManCI) contact Fr. Kevin, both at the Parish Center 419-524-2572.

**ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS**

The St. Peter's Music Series will offer a Service of Advent Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 19, at 3:00 p.m. in the Church.

Featuring the St. Peter's Traditional Choir, Hand Bell Choir and Chamber Orchestra, our celebration of Lessons and Carols provide us with a wonderful and prayerful way to prepare for the coming of our Lord in the mystery of the Incarnation at Christmas. Please join us in this beautiful celebration of the hymns, carols and scriptures of the Advent season.

You will have the opportunity to take part in singing carols, and enjoying the beauty of the music and the church, and taking a rest from all the 'busyness' of the season. Please join us! Call 419-524-2572, ext. 2113 for more information.

**FEED THE NEEDY**

This Sunday's meal will be served from 3-5 p.m. The meal will include Marzetti, sides, salad and desserts.

All are welcome. Drive up or walk up.

**Feed the Needy meal for Dec. 19 is cancelled** as it is at the same time as Advent Lessons and Carols. Our next meal distribution will begin again in January. God bless.

**DIOCESAN CHOIR TOUR OF SPAIN**

You are invited to join the Toledo Diocesan Choir on a marvelous Tour of Spain from June 14-23, 2022. The tour will include the celebration of Mass at the Toledo Cathedral on the Feast of Corpus Christi followed by the Eucharistic procession through the city. Madrid, Avila, the Abbey of Monsterrat and Barcelona are also on the itinerary. You are welcome to join with the Diocesan Choir as a singer or accompany the choir as a non-singing pilgrim.

For more information, please contact Paul Monachino—[pmonachino@toledodiocese.org](mailto:pmonachino@toledodiocese.org) or 419-244-5182.

**WEDDING BANNERS**

II—Reagon Roley & Tyler Schreck

<b>SUNDAY OFFERING</b>		<i>As of October 2021</i>
		<i>Sunday Collection</i>
<b>Sunday and Holy Day Collections</b>		
Sunday Collection & Holy Day Collection:		\$271,341
Total Budgeted Sunday Collection To Date:		\$285,000
<b>Sunday Collection Surplus/(Deficit)</b>		<b>(\$13,659)</b>
<b>School Collection</b>		
Total School Collection To Date:		\$41,964
Total Budgeted School Collection To Date:		\$40,000
<b>School Collection Surplus/(Deficit)</b>		<b>\$1,964</b>

### CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE CHANGES

#### Christmas Eve

4 p.m. | 6 p.m. | 8 p.m. | Midnight

#### Christmas Day

8 a.m. | 10 a.m.

#### Holy Family (Sunday Dec. 26)

8 a.m. | 10 a.m. | 6 p.m.

**All Masses will be in the church.**

### THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is Wednesday, December 8 and is a **holy day of obligation**.

All are encouraged to attend one of the Masses for this feast day.



8:25 a.m. (Elementary—Masks Required)

9:35 a.m. (High School—Masks Required)

6:30 p.m.

### YOUTH ADVENT RETREAT

During those days before Christmas, every parent needs those extra minutes and hours of "alone time" to get things prepared, so let us help you!

We hope that your child can Walk to Bethlehem with us! This is a great opportunity for those who are preschool to grade six to experience a fun and interactive Advent Retreat as we prepare ourselves for Christ's Coming! It will take place on Saturday, December 11 from 11 a.m.– 6 p.m.

Crafts, games, snack and dinner will be provided and we will be ending the evening together by attending Mass. The cost to attend is a \$10 suggested donation to help cover costs. If you are interested in having your child participate, please contact Elizabeth Wurm at [wurm.elizabeth@myspartans.org](mailto:wurm.elizabeth@myspartans.org) by December 5. Sponsored by St. Peter's Youth Leadership Team.

### WANTED: MARKETING INTERN

St. Peter's School is seeking a highly motivated undergraduate student for a winter internship in the marketing department. This opportunity will provide the student with mentorship from staff in marketing, communications, social media and event planning.

Full description and how to apply can be found on our website at [mansfieldstpeters.org/employment-opportunities](http://mansfieldstpeters.org/employment-opportunities).

### ST. PETER'S PARISH GIVING TREE - COLLECTION DATES TODAY AND DEC. 11/12

Although we will not have our traditional "Giving Tree" filled with gift requests to help our families in our Parish and community, we will collect gift cards to give to our families in need. Our Parish has generously supported families throughout the years, showing our love, care and support. The groups included for the giving tree will be:

- Salvation Army
- St. Peter's parishioners and St. Peter school students
- St. Vincent de Paul clients
- Catholic Charities – Serving Angel Tree (children of prisoners) and Project Bethlehem clients

The ways to participate in the giving tree this year:

- Purchase a gift card. The gift cards will be distributed to recipients from the giving tree. Gift cards can be:
- Placed in one of two large wrapped boxes that will be located at the front of the Church.
- Mailed to or dropped off at the parish center, with a note that it is for the Giving Tree.

\*\*\*Please Note: Gift Cards are the preferable option\*\*\*

- Give a monetary gift. The total received will be used to purchase gift cards for the remaining Giving Tree recipients. A monetary gift can be provided by:
- Placing cash or check in an envelope marked "Giving Tree" in the Wrapped boxes at the front of the church. Make the check payable to the **Society of St. Vincent de Paul** - in memo write "Giving Tree".
- Mailing a check to (or dropping off at) the parish center, with a note that it is for the Giving Tree.

#### Gift card guidelines:

- Any amount is fine. We will combine gift cards as needed to make gifts as even as possible.
- Please write the dollar amount on either the gift card or envelope, and do not use a Gift box/bag or wrapping paper.
- Gift cards can be for any store, but some suggestions are: Walmart, Target, Meijer. Grocery stores, thrift stores, fast-food, or restaurants.

Please assure donations are made on or before the Dec. 12 deadline as they will be distributed the next day! Thank you for your continued support to brighten Christmas for families in our community!

### CELEBRATING ADVENT

Students in the high school spiritual life class have turned the columns in the cafeteria into advent candles. Each candle has a theme: hope, faith, joy, and peace.

In elementary, students in the third and fourth grade lit the first candle in their advent wreath while the rest of the school watched the broadcast from their classrooms.



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### ST. PETER'S SCHOOL STUDENTS MEET WITH GLOBE SCIENTISTS.



Recently, students in Mrs. Janene Smith's science classes met with scientists from the GLOBE Mission Earth program to talk about their ongoing research project into the Urban Heat Island Effect.

Students at St. Peter's are actively collecting data on surface temperature, air temperature, and cloud data at school. The team of scientists is using that data as part of their research project. The meeting was featured on the GLOBE Programs website.

The GLOBE Program is a worldwide science and education program funded by NASA, NOAA, US Department of State, and the National Science Foundation to give students a hands-on approach to the scientific method.

### RICHLAND GIVES—THANK YOU!

**THANK YOU!**

**\$23,445**  
 149 Donors

+ \$6,250 in Bonus Grants through #RichlandGives

Thank you to everyone who donated this past week to St. Peter's School through #RichlandGives. Thanks to your generosity we raised nearly \$30,000 in donations and bonus grants from the Richland County Foundation.

Every dollar will go to support the Annual Fund.

On behalf of our students who will directly benefit — we say thanks for your faith and generosity in supporting Catholic education!

If you missed Giving Tuesday, you can still make a donation through our website: [mansfieldstpeters.org/annualfund](http://mansfieldstpeters.org/annualfund)

### TRANSFER TO ST. PETER'S SCHOOL

If your child currently does not feel comfortable or safe in their school environment — a mid-year transfer to St. Peter's is always an option.

St. Peter's provides an educational environment rooted in the Catholic faith and values with high academic standards.

We would love to have your child join us for the rest of the 2021-22 school year and beyond.

If you would like to know more about St. Peter's School, please contact Jason Crundwell, (419) 989-1771 or visit our website to setup a tour and meet with our principals.

Also, watch this space for more information about our 2021-22 enrollment events! Open House is Sunday, January 30!



### END OF THE YEAR CHARITABLE GIVING

The end of the year is fast approaching, and it is time to think about those last-minute charitable deductions and reduce your 2021 tax burden. Here are a few ways that may work for you.

#### IRA Charitable Rollovers

If you are 70 1/2 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 annual stewardship gifts for the year.

#### Transfer of Appreciated Stocks

The President's Build Back Better Act includes tax increases on capital gains taxes for certain individuals. If you donate appreciated stock, you make a charitable gift and avoid paying the capital gains taxes. These transfers can be done electronically, so contact the Development Office for more information. Stock transfers should be initiated by December 22 to guarantee they will be completed before the end of the year.

#### Elimination of the 60% Charitable Limit

Under the CARES Act, Congress temporarily modified the contribution limits for individuals and allows individuals who itemize to deduct qualified charitable contributions up to 100% of their adjusted gross income. The excess contributions will be carried forward for the next five years. These changes only apply to cash contributions made to a 50% charity, excluding supporting organizations and donor-advised funds. Stock donations and gifts to private foundations are still subject to the 30% of AGI rule.

Eliminating the contribution limit creates a huge opportunity for donors who want to make a significant impact to charities this year. Under these rules, a donor could take a significant distribution from their IRA, rather than the annual \$100,000 limit, donate it to charity, and take a deduction for the full amount. If you're considering leaving a large portion of your IRA to charity in your estate, this may be a year to consider a large gift, especially if you are expecting to have a taxable estate. You could benefit from tax savings and also see the benefits your charitable donation produces during your lifetime.

Gifts can be made to St. Peter's School and the Msgr. Dunn Foundation are tax-deductible. If you have any general questions on you can call the Development Office for more information. For specific questions related to your personal situation, please contact your tax professional or an investment advisor for more information.



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Integrity and Compassion ... Through Four Generations

“The uncontaminated beauty of our Mother is incomparable, but at the same time it attracts us. Let us entrust ourselves to her and say “no” to sin and “yes” to Grace once and for all.”

—Pope Francis,  
December 8, 2020



Getty Images

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday:** Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 5:17-26
- Tuesday:** Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14
- Wednesday:** Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
- Thursday:** Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15
- Friday:** Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19

## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — Stand on the heights, Jerusalem; see your children rejoicing that they are remembered by God. A merciful and just God leads Israel in joy (Baruch 5:1-9).

**Psalms** — The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy (Psalm 126).

**Second Reading** — May your love increase in knowledge to discern what is valuable that you may be blameless for the day of Christ (Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11).

# 776400 **800** bulletins please

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