

NOVEMBER 28, 2021

There will be signs in the sun,
the moon, and the stars.
When these signs
begin to happen,
stand erect and
raise your heads
because your
redemption is at hand.

Luke 21:25, 28

FIRST Sunday OF Advent

SAINT PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
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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.

Parish Priests:

Fr. John Miller
Pastor
miller.john@myspartans.org/419.217.0228
Fr. Kevin Moebius
Parochial Vicar
moebius.kevin@myspartans.org

Deacon:

Mr. John Reef
Shut-ins/Homebound
reef.john@myspartans.org/419.529.3694

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dillon.angie@myspartans.org/Ext 3108
*Hospital & Follow-up / Nursing Homes/Assisted
Living*

Mr. Bill Johnson
Director of Music & Liturgy
johnson.bill@myspartans.org/Ext. 2113

Ms. Lynne Lukach
Pastoral Associate
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Mrs. Elizabeth Wurm
Director of Religious Ed. & Youth Minister
wurm.elizabeth@myspartans.org/Ext. 2114

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Parish Administrative Assistant
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Prayer Pipeline

Mass Intentions

Monday, November 29

Advent Weekday

5:00 pm Rosary

5:30 pm † Dorothy Mary Studer

Tuesday, November 30

St. Andrew, Apostle

7:00 am † Dorothy Mary Studer

Wednesday, December 1

Advent Weekday

8:25 am † Dorothy Mary Studer

9:30 am † Huschka Family

Thursday, December 2

Advent Weekday

9:00 am † Dorothy Mary Studer

Friday, December 3

St. Francis Xavier, Priest

5:00 pm Rosary

5:30 pm † Dorothy Mary Studer

Saturday, December 4

Vigil of the Second Sunday of Advent

5:00 pm † Theresa Schroeder

Sunday, December 5

Second Sunday of Advent

7:30 am † Fr. Thomas J. Leyland

9:30 am † Dean Robertson

11:30 am For Parishioners

In God's arms

Please pray for our beloved dead.

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

From the Pastor:

I hope the last few days were a blessing to you and your family. I pray you were able to set aside the business and concerns of the world and be with your family and friends. I have always enjoyed these special days, not just because of pumpkin pie and homemade stuffing, both of which I like very much, but because of the opportunity to be with those who are most important to me. I also enjoy the rest and relaxation that comes with the holidays. They are good for the body and good for the soul.

This Sunday marks the beginning of Advent, the time each year when we focus on the coming of Jesus: both His first coming (past) and His second coming (future). It is important that we think about both of these 'advents' as one single transcendent and ongoing event. History is only important in its ability to affect today and tomorrow. We are not meant to live in the past, but rather in the present while we anticipate and prepare for the future. Christians celebrate Christ's first coming, but they also look forward joyfully to His Second Coming.

The mature Christian yearns to enter into the presence of God, and knows that doing so requires holiness. As a result, the mature Christian looks to God first before deciding what to think, say, and do. Such a person truly seeks to love God more than anything, and also to love their neighbors as they would love themselves. Advent calls us back to this. At Mass this weekend, notice how the second scripture reading makes this point. We are reminded to "...conduct yourselves to please God." God calls us to "...increase in love..." and to be "...blameless in holiness." God will "...strengthen your heart," if you ask for that in your prayers.

You will soon be receiving in the mail, if you haven't already, a Christmas card from Fr. Kevin and me. We are happy to be here at St. Peter Parish as your priests. It is the greatest joy of our lives, and we are blest to live our vocation among you. The card is a small token of our love and appreciation for each of you. We will be praying with special intensity this holy season of Advent for all of you. We hope you and your family will join us in one of the most special prayers, the Christmas Mass. We will be offering six different Mass times here at from Christmas Eve through Christmas morning.

Please be aware that Christmas this year is on Saturday, which will affect the weekend Mass schedule. You will also notice that all the Masses will be in the church and none will be celebrated in the school auditorium. This was done in the past to accommodate large crowds of people for the early vigil Mass. However, attendance at the auditorium Mass has decreased over the years as has the availability of priests. We do have two priests at this parish, but that leaves no margin for error if one of us is sick or needs to respond to an emergency. Parishes have had to cancel Masses because a priest was sick. Thankfully, we won't have to do that here.

Sincerely,
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.

Feed the Needy

Did you know that since the inception of Feed the Needy we've served over 250,000 meals! WOW! Many thanks to Dick Renie and his team members for their years of service preparing most of those meals. What an accomplishment!

In December, there will be two meals served on Dec. 7 & Dec. 21. Alongside the meals, we will be distributing the wonderful blankets & coats that so many of you donated. We can still use some scarves, gloves, hats, and hand warmers. If you like to bake, consider making a few extra sweets and bringing them to the church. Any amount is welcome. Bring them to the basement kitchen of the church around 1:30 - 2:30 on the Sundays we serve.

We are always in need of coffee, foil, napkins, sandwich baggies, disposable cups, and paper towels. We can also use a toaster that takes the wider slices if you have one to donate.

Many thanks to all who have given of time and supplies. Many thanks to Panera for their continued donations of bread and sweets. We invite you to join us when you can.

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.

Night of Healing

Join the Ministry to Catholic Charismatic Renewal for our **NIGHTS OF HEALING.**

WORSHIP | WITNESS | WORD | HEALING.

Jesus heals! Come unite with us in prayer! Listen to the Holy Spirit, who does He want you to invite?

The next night of healing will be held at St. Joseph, Marblehead on Tuesday, December 14. See Father Kevin for additional information.

Catholic Women's Club

The next luncheon and meeting will be Wednesday, December 8, at the Roadhouse Brown Derby Event Center on Park Ave. West in Ontario. The lunch will start at noon, and the meeting and program will follow. We encourage all Catholic women in the Saint Juan Diego Deanery to join us and get to know the Catholic women in the area.

Please contact Debbie Cochran, December Chairperson, at (419) 566-7551 or Anita Holloway, President, at (419)-524-2219 to make a reservation. Reservations must be made by noon on December 3. We are looking forward to seeing current members and meeting new members!

WEDDING BANNERS

I—Reagon Roley & Tyler Schreck

SUNDAY OFFERING



As of October 2021

Sunday Collection

Sunday and Holy Day Collections

Sunday Collection & Holy Day Collection:	\$271,341
Total Budgeted Sunday Collection To Date:	\$285,000

Sunday Collection Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$13,659)
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School Collection

Total School Collection To Date:	\$41,964
Total Budgeted School Collection To Date:	\$40,000

School Collection Surplus/(Deficit)	\$1,964
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Christmas Mass Schedule Changes

Christmas Eve

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

Christmas Day

8 a.m. | 10 a.m.

All Masses will be in the church only.

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 11th 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 by December 5th. 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.

FORMED®

PICK OF THE WEEK

November 28, 2021



**THE STORY OF THE NATIVITY:
THE TRUTH OF CHRISTMAS**
Enjoy this fast-paced,
thought-provoking look at the true
story of the Nativity as we enter into
the joyful season of Advent.

WATCH

LEARN
ADVENT
This Advent prepare your heart
through this exploration of the
mystery of the Incarnation, the Virgin
Birth, and the events surrounding the
arrival of Jesus Christ.



St. Peter's Parish Giving Tree - Collection dates Dec. 4/5th and Dec. 11/12th

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 2 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!

RECYCLING — FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10

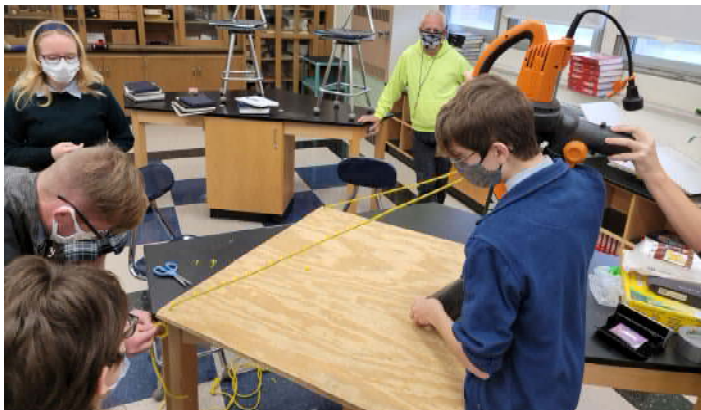
FOOD COLLECTION: DECEMBER 11 & 12

Christmas Cards for Troops



Recently, elementary and high school students were paired up to decorate and write Christmas messages to our troops overseas. Thank you to Mr. Bradner for coordinating this annual service project.

Physics Class—Hovercraft Project



Students in Mr. Wynn's physics class had the opportunity to learn hands on about aerodynamics and hydrodynamics while building their hovercraft.

Students built the hovercraft in the classroom and were able to hover around the Sister Bernard Marie Campbell Science Wing hallway once completed.



SPARTAN SPIRIT

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Calling all bakers, candy makers and anyone else looking to get into the holiday spirit. We have many available spots, during the week and weekend, to create delicious, tasty treats for the Christmas Classic. The Christmas Classic is the largest fundraising event for SFA, which uses the funds to enrich the academic experience of St. Peter's students. Sign up today at the link below!

<https://bit.ly/3cur06E>

Transfer to St. Peter's School

If your child currently does not feel comfortable 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 want to know more about St. Peter's School, please contact Jason Crundwell, (419) 989-1771 or visit our website to set up 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!

THE THREE COMINGS OF ADVENT

There are three distinct comings of the Lord of which I know,
His coming to humankind, His coming into humankind, and
His coming against humankind.

—St. Bernard: Third Sermon for Advent

Prayer of the Week

First Sunday of Advent

Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God,
the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ
with righteous deeds at his coming,
so that, gathered at his right hand,
they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Reflection question:

What righteous deeds would I be able to bring with me if
Christ returned this week?

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Watchful Confidence

We the Church enter into Advent and the new liturgical year with a call for a watchful confidence. Our readings were originally addressed to communities undergoing great loss and confusion. Jeremiah speaks confidently of God fulfilling the ancient promises to Israel, even during a time of foreign invasion. Paul speaks of God leading the Church into holiness, while the community longs for the coming of Jesus. In the Gospel passage from Luke, Jesus speaks of powerful signs and of great confusion to come, but emphasizes that we may look forward knowing that God brings not cause for despair, but hope. We celebrate Advent to remind each other of God's faithfulness. We are to be watchful, to see how God is stirring up our world. God disturbs both our pride and our complacency, and brings us healing and justice. We prepare ourselves to welcome Jesus, confident that God indeed fulfills all these divine promises.

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Advent Begins

November 28 – December 24

Beginning the Church's liturgical year, Advent (from, "ad-venire" in Latin or "to come to") is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas.

The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth on Christmas. From the earliest days of the Church, people have been fascinated by Jesus' promise to come back. But the scripture readings during Advent tell us not to waste our time with predictions. Advent is not about speculation. Our Advent readings call us to be alert and ready, not weighted down and distracted by the cares of this world (Lk 21:34-36). Like Lent, the liturgical color for Advent is purple since both are seasons that prepare us for great feast days. Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.

As we prepare for Christmas, the General Instruction of the Roman Missal notes some differences to the Mass that should be observed during the season. For instance, the priest will wear violet or purple during Advent, except for the Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) when rose is worn (GIRM, no. 316). Aside from what the priest wears, other aesthetic changes in the Church can include a more modestly decorated altar.

The final days of Advent, from December 17 to December 24, we focus on our preparation for the celebrations of the Nativity of our Lord at Christmas. In particular, the "O" Antiphons are sung during this period and have been by the Church since at least the eighth century. They are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming of Christ as the fulfillment not only of Old Testament hopes, but of present ones as well.

Advent devotions including the Advent wreath, remind us of the meaning of the season. Our Advent calendar above can help you fully enter into the season with daily activity and prayer suggestions to prepare you spiritually for the birth of Jesus Christ.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday:** Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11
- Tuesday:** Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 4:18-22
- Wednesday:** Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37
- Thursday:** Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
- Friday:** Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31
- Saturday:** Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1, 5a, 6-8
- Sunday:** Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The days are coming when the LORD will fulfill the promise made to Israel and Judah (Jeremiah 33:14-16).

Psalm — To you, O Lord, I lift my soul (Psalm 25).

Second Reading — May the Lord make you increase and abound in love that you may be blameless in holiness; conduct yourselves so as to please God. (1 Thessalonians 3:12 — 4:2).

Gospel — There will be signs and you will see the Son of Man coming with power and great glory. Be vigilant (Luke 21:25-28, 34-36).

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776400 **800** bulletins please

St. Peter Church

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Attn: Jason