



St. Peter Catholic Church

Physical Address:

60 S. Mulberry St.
Mansfield OH 44902-2199

Mailing Address:

104 W. 1st. St.,
Mansfield OH 44902-2199

Website: mansfieldstpeters.org/parish

Parish Office (419)524-2572 x2101

Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday:
8:30 am – 5:00 pm
Wednesday:
8:30 am – 6:30 pm
Saturday & Sunday: Closed

New Parishioners

Welcome to St. Peter Parish! We encourage you to register as a parish family as soon as possible. You can call the parish office or register on our website.

Sacrament of Baptism

Please contact the parish office to begin plans for the baptism of your child.

Sacrament of Marriage

Arrangements should always be made at the parish office at least twelve months in advance of the ceremony.

Bulletin Deadline

Monday at Noon, one week prior to publication date.
Send to: bulletin@myspartans.org. If you have any questions, please

St. Peter Parish

Mansfield, OH

December 17, 2023

Parish Staff



Fr. John Miller, Pastor
miller.john@myspartans.org
(419) 217-0228



Fr. Kevin Moebius, Parochial Vicar
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Fr. Kishore Kottana, Parochial Vicar
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Mr. John Reef, Deacon
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Mrs. Melissa Heichel
Office Manager
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Mrs. Kayla Truax
Director of Catechesis & Evangelization
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Mrs. Paula Nestor
Parish Finance Manager
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Mr. Dave Scheurer
Tri-Parish Properties and Facilities Manager
scheurer.dave@myspartans.org (419) 524-2572 x2106



Mr. Bill Johnson
Director of Music & Liturgy
johnson.bill@myspartans.org (419) 524-2572 x2113



Mrs. Jenny Ewing
Co-Director of Religious Education
ewingstmary@gmail.com (419) 589-2114 x508



Mrs. Mary Mancha
Co-Director of Religious Education
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A Parish of
the Saint
Juan
Diego
Deanery



Diocese
of Toledo

Monday, December 18

Monday of The Third Week of Advent

8:00 am R †Fr. Raymond E. Ensman
 8:30 am R Exposition Ends at 11:00 AM
 5:30 pm P † Lucy Hauck

Tuesday, December 19

Tuesday of the Third Week of Advent

7:00 am P † Angelo Oriol
 12:00 pm M Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
 5:30 pm M † Elwood Hess

Wednesday, December 20

Wednesday of the Third Week of Advent

7:00 am P † Deceased Members of the Wiegman Family
 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
 5:30 pm P Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday, December 21

Thursday of the Third Week of Advent

7:00 am P † Carl Leesberg
 5:30 pm R † Mary Miller

Friday, December 22

Friday of the Third Week of Advent

8:00 am M † Clara Montsilos
 5:30 am P † Paul Alton

Saturday, December 23

Vigil of The Fourth Sunday of Advent

4:00 pm M † Milton Montsilos
 5:00 pm P † Isabel Stuht
 6:00 pm R Conversion of Sinners

Sunday, December 24

Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 am P Parishioners of Our Tri- Parish Community
 9:00 am R † Bob & Bobbie Sutter
 10:00 am P † Marilyn Kurtzman
 11:00 am M † Diana Harter

Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord

4:00 pm M † Linus Bishop
 4:00 pm R Vocations to the Priesthood
 5:00 pm P † Bernice Smith
 7:00 pm P † Marty Moritz
 10:00 pm P † Jim & Karen Sertell

M—St. Mary • P—St. Peter • R—Resurrection



Dear Parishioners,

Christmas is just a week away. Hopefully, in the busyness of the season, you are making room in your schedule for quiet prayer and reflection. Even if it is only fifteen minutes, you will find it is one of the best times of your day. For many, this is best done very early in the morning or

late at night, since this is the time of fewest distractions. Set aside your worries and concerns for this short time and ask the Holy Spirit for guidance and inspiration. As you focus on the Christmas story, you will discover, little by little, Godly peace and joy.

To help with your preparation and celebration of this holy season, please consider attending *this Sunday afternoon* a tri-parish performance of Advent Lessons and Carols. Musicians and singers from our three parishes, and beyond, will combine the beautiful music of Christmas with the inspiring words of Sacred Scripture. The 1 hour performance will begin in St. Peter church at 4pm and conclude in the church basement with a lite reception. I hope to see you there for this pre-Christmas celebration of mystery, joy, and wonder.

Please look closely at the Mass schedule for the entire 3-day Christmas weekend. The Mass times for Sunday morning will be slightly different from the normal Sunday Mass times. As I mentioned a few weeks ago, we have the opportunity (and obligation) to attend Mass twice during these three days: once for the 4th Sunday of Advent and once for Christmas. You are encouraged to arrive early for any of the Masses so that you can enjoy the beauty of sacred music before the manger scene. Make yourself available to be with Him and He will be with you.

One of those truths that we need to hear is the necessity of receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It's not the most popular sacrament, but it's one of the most important. Padre Pio said the sacrament had the power to change the course of a soul from hell to heaven. Pope Francis said the same in recalling how frequent reception of it has heavily influenced who he is today. The Blessed Virgin Mary said we should go to Confession at least every month.

We would do very well to follow the simple spiritual instructions of the Saints, who give us the most direct path to heaven. As a result, we priests make it very convenient for you to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This last week of Advent, we will be offering even more opportunities for you to go to Confession beyond our regular times. Each of us priests will be present at 12 noon and 6pm according to the following schedule:

- Dec. 18 Monday – St. Peter
- Dec. 19 Tuesday – St. Mary
- Dec. 20 Wednesday – St. Peter
- Dec. 21 Thursday – Resurrection
- Dec. 22 Friday – St. Peter

Again, three priests will be present each of these days at both 12 noon and then again at 6pm. We will be in the church for at least one hour, or until all confessions are heard. God's blessings to you this last week of Advent!

Sincerely,
 Fr. Miller

Sacrament of Reconciliation

During the week before Christmas, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at each parish at 12noon and 6pm. Each day 3 priests will be present until all confessions are heard, but at least for 1 hour, as follows: Mon (P), Tue (M), Wed (P), Thu (R), Fri (P).

Sunday Collections YTD FY 2023/2024

Sunday Collection: 57000 Parish		YTD Nov 2023
Sunday Collection & Holy Day Collection To Date:		\$348,082
Total Budgeted Sunday Collection To date:		\$376,078
Sunday Collection Surplus/(Deficit)		\$(27,996)
School Collection: 55200.4 School Total		
Total School Collection:		\$53,017
Total Budgeted School Collection:		\$43,750
School Collection Surplus/(Deficit)		\$9,267



**SAINT PETER
MUSIC SERIES**

PRESENTS
**A FESTIVAL IN LESSONS
&
CAROLS FOR ADVENT**

Sunday, December 17 at 4:00 PM
At St Peter Catholic Church

*A light reception to follow in the church basement with cookies, soups and other treats.
The Rectory will be open during the reception for people to visit.*

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at Resurrection

**Monday,
December
18**
Eucharistic
Adoration
will end at
11:00 am
instead of
Noon



**NO
Eucharistic
Adoration:
Monday,
December
25
Monday,
January 1**

Is Christmas Day a Holy Day of Obligation

Holy Days of Obligation are days Catholics should attend Mass. All Sundays and other important feast days, like Christmas, are Holy Days of Obligation. To fulfill this requirement Catholics can attend a vigil the evening before or the day of Mass.

Christmas falls on a Monday in 2023. This means that a vigil Mass on Saturday, December 23 or a morning Mass on Sunday, December 24 fulfills the Fourth Sunday of Advent obligation. A vigil Mass on Sunday, December 24 or Mass on Christmas Day fulfills the Holy Day obligation. The Mass is essential to Catholic spirituality. Holy Days of Obligation, provide chances to deepen our faith and grow in our relationship with God through worship and reflection.

Fourth Sunday of Advent Mass Times
December 23 & 24th

Saturday Dec. 23
4 pm @ St. Mary
5 pm @ St. Peter
6 pm @ Resurrection
Sunday Dec. 24
8 am @ St. Peter
9 am @ Resurrection
10 am @ St. Peter
11 am @ St. Mary

Christmas
MASS TIMES

Sunday, December 24th	Monday, December 25th
4 pm @ St. Mary	8 am @ St. Peter
4 pm @ Resurrection	9 am @ St. Mary
5 pm @ St. Peter	9 am @ Resurrection
7 pm @ St. Peter	10 am @ St. Peter
10 pm @ St. Peter	

School Administration



Mrs. Laurie McKeon
Head of School
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(419) 524-2572 x2135



Dr. Cassandra Parente
Director of Strategic Initiatives
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Mrs. Jennifer Jones
Director of Admissions & Enrollment
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Mr. Jon Cuttitta
High School/Junior High Principal
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Dr. Ashley Rastorfer
Elementary Principal/Montessori Director
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From the Head of School

On December 8th, our school community celebrated the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Gathered together on this Holy Day of Obligation, our students heard the powerful Annunciation Gospel message of Mary being called to be the Mother of our Savior, Jesus Christ. This Gospel reading, Luke 1:26-38, reflects so many of the hopes and prayers we have for our students and our school.

“Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.” Every day at St. Peter’s School, our students are encouraged to challenge themselves, to not be afraid, and to seek the favor of God. From our Montessori pre-schoolers to our high school seniors, St. Peter’s students are encouraged to be independent, self-directed learners, expanding their horizons, even when mastering new skills may seem a bit scary. Whether it’s our advanced math class for a group of third graders or the philosophy class in our high school, St. Peter’s is committed to building strong thinkers and leaders who meet new obstacles with courage, fortitude, and grace. In addition, through our structured, formative education, we hope to inspire our students to understand the importance of living lives of virtue and purpose, lives that are pleasing to God.

“For nothing will be impossible for God.” The Gospel also underscores the power of God in our lives and in our school community. While many of our students are not Catholic, teaching them to recognize the power of God in their lives and in our world is foundational to our school. In this Gospel, once Mary realized that the angel was a messenger from God, she assented to His will. At St. Peter’s School, our holistic education prepares our students to recognize and be attuned to the voice of God, hearing His messages, rather than the chatter of a secular and often confusing world. Moreover, as our students become more comfortable with God’s call to them, they will begin to realize that, indeed, nothing is impossible for God, and with God they can do great and wondrous things.

“May it be done to me according to your word.” As our students continue to hear, study, learn, and internalize the messages of God, their relationship with Him grows. As it grows, they begin to trust in the Lord and the plans that He has for each and every one of them. Our faculty and staff are committed to helping our students discern, understand, and fulfill God’s specific plan for them, nurturing them to use their unique gifts and skills in ways that serve God and others. Here at St. Peter’s, we strive to build servants of God, who, like Mary, are willing to answer God’s call, even when it is scary or difficult.

As the Advent season continues, I hope and pray that we all find solace, wonder, and power in the Annunciation Gospel message, willingly accepting all that God calls each of us to do in our own lives. For when we hear and embrace the word of God, nothing is impossible.

Laurie McKeon
Head of School





walking with purpose

Join us on Wednesday, Jan. 3rd for a video discussion, "Your Heart-You Are Captivating" No registration necessary. 9:30-11am or 6-7:30pm at Resurrection Parish. All women are welcome.

Reception for Kate Cropp

Come and celebrate Kate Cropp's recent consecration to the Sister of the Apostles of the Interior Life after 11:30 am Mass

All are invited

Sunday December 17

12:30 PM

Franciscan Activity Center



Parish Office Holiday Hours

The Parish office will be closed Monday Dec. 25th and Tuesday Dec. 26th in observance of Christmas. The Parish office will be closed Monday January 1st and Tuesday January 2nd in observance of New Year's Day. Have a wonderful and joy filled Christmas and New Year. God Bless.

Tri-Parish Youth Choir to Sing Christmas Eve

The Tri-Parish Youth Choir, directed by Shannon Ball, will sing this year at the Christmas Eve Mass at 4:00 pm at Resurrection Parish in Lexington.

The Sacrament of RECONCILLATION

Dec. 18 through Dec. 22 12 noon & 6pm

Each day 3 priests will be present for at least 1 hour or until all confessions are heard



St. Peter—Monday, Wednesday & Friday St. Mary—Tuesday Resurrection—Thursday

Examination of Conscience—Based on the Ten Commandments

- Checklist of 10 questions for the examination of conscience based on the Ten Commandments.

Volunteers Needed

The **Collection Counting** Team is in need of additional volunteers. Counting takes place Monday mornings from 9:30-11:00. You will only be counting one Monday a month. Any questions or to volunteer please call Michelle Spain in the Finance Department. 419-524-2572 ext 2110. Thank you.

Christmas Oplatki Wafers Now Available

Are you familiar with the Polish Christmas tradition of the Oplatki (Christmas wafer)? This is a great tradition to begin with your family and friends. The Christmas wafer comes from Eastern Europe. The name means "Angel Bread" and is made of only flour and water. The wafers are stamped with a Christmas image such as the Star of Bethlehem or the Nativity. Oplatkis are for sale in each of the parish offices. They are \$1.00 each and include the wafer along with a copy of the history, tradition and devotion.

Oplatki: A Polish Christmas Tradition



Volunteers Needed

Help is needed on Friday, Dec. 22nd starting at 9:30 am to **decorate the church for Christmas**. There are jobs for people of all ages. A great service opportunity for our young people. Please come and bring a friend. Many Hands Make Light Work.

Prison Ministry Corner

The preparation for our annual Catholic Choir Christmas Program at RiCI resulted in a joy-filled day. This year's concert was based on the theme "The Twelve Days of Christmas" with a group of our brothers and our team members sharing their talents as musicians, singers, decorators, narrator, and sign language performers! After so many weeks of hard work planning and practicing, we were blessed with an enjoyable evening of fun, games, and snacks the evening following the concert day. You haven't played "Pictionary based on Bible stories and Catholic teaching" until you've experienced it with our creative brothers!



ONLINE GIVING AT ST. PETER

THANK YOU for your ongoing financial support to St. Peter Parish, whether through offertory envelopes or online giving. If you would like to give to St. Peter electronically, here are some options:

1. TEXT 'GIVE' TO 419-518-5008
2. GIVE ONLINE AT MANSFIELDSTPETERS.ORG
3. SCAN THE QR CODE NOW



IT'S SO EASY TO GIVE !

If you have questions or need assistance, please call the St. Peter Finance Office at 419-524-2572

AD SPACE

AD SPACE

Parish Prayer List

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 office.



Lura Barnes
Holly Barnes
MaKaya Butler
Marianne Cappadonna
Christine Caudill
Caroline Clark
Betty Connolly
Paul Conry
Josephine Contra
Frederick Dale
Scott Darnell
Kathy Deckard
Cherrie De La Paz
Adrian DeLeon
David Donley
Jeffrey Downing
Mick Frye SPHS '71
Micah Galuzny
Rick Gasper
Alan Gleisenger
Mary Lou Halter
Danny Kiehl
Jeannine Klotz
Cindy Lassen
Susan Leach

John & Cindy Lloyd
Beth Malaska
Krista Marshall
Danny Marti
Rosemary Musille
Kathy Nash
Dr. Kimberly Nemeth
Carol Pittenger
Lynn Raque
Stephanie Reynolds
Barbara Riley
Bill Ruhl
Colleen Schambre
Joan Schonhardt
Larry Strauser
Linda & Cindy Thompson
Sandy Trebonik
Sharon Valdry
Genevieve (Jenny) Wala
Beth Weiland
Penny Wendland
Gwen Yockey
Don Yockey
Michael Yoha

Scripture Readings

For the Week of December 18, 2023

Monday	Third Monday of Advent Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Tuesday	Third Tuesday of Advent Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
Wednesday	Third Wednesday of Advent Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
Thursday	Third Thursday of Advent Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
Friday	Third Friday of Advent 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
Saturday	Third Saturday of Advent Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14; Lk 1:57-66
Sunday	Fourth Sunday of Advent 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38



In God's Arms

Herman Baur

Herlihy 2024 Calendars

Your 2024 calendars are here compliments of Herlihy Funeral Home. We are proud to have served the Mansfield area for nearly 100 years! Our family would like to wish yours a blessed Christmas season and a safe and healthy New Year!

Church Parking Request

When attending any Mass during the school week, please park in the church parking lot. The parking lot beside the rectory is reserved for elementary staff parking. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Tri-parish Youth News

Tri-Parish High School

JESUS MOVEMENT

At Resurrection Parish 2600 Lexington Ave.

Next Event is Sunday



January 14

6 to 8 PM

MIDDLE SCHOOL

JESUS MOVEMENT

ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL TEENS FROM OUR TRI-PARISH AND BEYOND ARE INVITED

St Peter in the Franciscan Activity Center Atrium
111 W. First St. Mansfield, Oh 44902

SEE YOU JANUARY 14TH

6:00PM - 8:00PM

FOOD | COMMUNITY |
GAMES | WORSHIP | AND
SO MUCH FUN

Upcoming Dates

January 14 & 28
February 18
March 3 & 17
April 7