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### Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

Rev. Msgr. Leo J. Enlow, Pastor

Deacon Robert Lundberg

Deacon Jeff Wolf

#### Parish Office Information:

Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Office: 217-222-3155

Email: [church@cospq.org](mailto:church@cospq.org)

#### Parish Staff

Mrs. Cindy Venvertloh, Principal .....[c.venvertloh@cospq.org](mailto:c.venvertloh@cospq.org)

Mrs. Kristi Smith, Business Manager .....[k.smith@cospq.org](mailto:k.smith@cospq.org)

Mrs. Carolyn Tipton, Parish Secretary.....[c.tipton@cospq.org](mailto:c.tipton@cospq.org)

Mrs. Monica Scholz, Director of Music .....[m.scholz@cospq.org](mailto:m.scholz@cospq.org)

Mrs. Gina Bergman, D.R.E. ....[g.bergman@cospq.org](mailto:g.bergman@cospq.org)

Mrs. Rebecca Knuffman, Parish Nurse. ....[parishnurse@cospq.org](mailto:parishnurse@cospq.org)

#### Mass Times:

Weekday Mass: Monday through Saturday: 8:00 a.m.

Except Wednesday & Thursday 8:30 a.m.

Sunday Mass: Sat.: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

#### Reconciliation:

Saturday 7:30-7:50 a.m., 3:30-4:30 p.m., or by appointment.

#### Sacramental Preparation:

*Baptisms:* Please contact the Parish Office to sign up for Baptism Class.

*Weddings:* Please contact a St. Peter Priest at least six months in advance.

*Sacramental Preparation:* Is offered through St. Peter School and the St. Peter Parish School of Religion.

*R.C.I.A.:* Please contact the Parish Office.

#### To Join St. Peter Parish:

Please phone the Parish Office at 217-222-3155

Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

DECEMBER 18, 2022

Isaiah 7:10-14; Romans 1:1-7;  
Matthew 1:18-24

The eight days before Christmas have had special Scripture readings which summed up all of “salvation history.” Today, our readings tell us who Jesus is: He is “God with us.” He is “Son of David” (and therefore the fulfillment of the promises made to David,) and he is “Son of God.” He is born of the Virgin Mary.

In its original context, the first reading had nothing to do with the Messiah or Christ. Ahaz was a rather corrupt king; his neighbor kings wanted him to join in a revolt against Assyria, the empire which was threatening to conquer the entire Middle East.

On Isaiah’s advice, Ahaz refused to join the revolt. Thereupon, his neighbor kings threatened to invade Judah and replace Ahaz with their own puppet king. Isaiah tells Ahaz that it won’t happen; Ahaz can’t believe Isaiah. Isaiah thereupon tells Ahaz to ask for a sign from God; Ahaz pietistically and hypocritically refuses. Thereupon Isaiah gives him the sign: “A maiden shall conceive and bear a son...”

The “sign” in the original context was the birth of Ahaz’s son, Hezekiah. By the time Hezekiah was weaned, the threat was over. Through the centuries, however, the words were given a new context, a context of hope for the future. Matthew uses them as a convenient way of expressing the fulfillment of our hope: The Messiah, God-with-us, is born of the Virgin.

The second reading is from the opening words of Paul’s letter to the Romans. Jesus is “Son of David;” this means he is fully human, and that he is the fulfillment of the promises made to David. He is “Son of God.” We think of his eternal coming forth from the Father. Paul, however, says that he becomes “Son of God in power” through his resurrection. In other words, he manifests his divinity by rising from the dead. He calls on all, Jew and Gentile, to believe in him.

In the Gospel, Joseph is presented as a “just” (or “upright”) man, who does not know what to do. He knew that the child was not his. The Torah said that women who committed adultery after their betrothal and before their marriage should be stoned.

The word “upright” (or, better, “just”) means that he tried to do everything right, according to the will of God, and not merely according to the letter of the Law. At this point, he receives a message in a dream that the child is of the Holy Spirit. Joseph followed in faith.

What kind of faith do we have? Whether or not we see signs and wonders, let us strive for the faith of Joseph, a faith born of upright living – the desire always to do what God wants of us.

--Msgr. William Carr

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# *The Parish of St. Peter* *Quincy, IL*

*Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 18, 2022*

*~Mass Intentions~*

*December 19-25, 2022*

- 19. Monday 8:00 a.m.  
Don Adolfs
- 20. Tuesday 8:00 a.m.  
Carolyn Schuering
- 21. Wednesday 8:30 a.m.  
Becky Schuering
- 22. Thursday 8:00 a.m.  
Luke Mayfield
- 23. Friday 8:00 a.m.  
Charles & Mildred Veihl
- 24. Saturday 4:00 p.m.  
Dan Barry
- 24. Saturday 6:00 p.m.  
Robert Deters
- 24. Saturday 8:00 p.m.  
Our Parish Family
- 25. Sunday 8:00 a.m.  
D.J. Venvertloh
- 25. Sunday 10:00 a.m.  
Marty Peters

**Dear Parishioners,**

This Sunday we light the fourth and final candle in our Advent wreath. This fourth candle indicates to us that this season of preparation is coming to an end. What we have awaited we celebrate in history, the birth of the Messiah and His coming into our world to save us from ourselves and to lead us back to the Father. May this final week of preparation for this historical moment draw us ever closer to our Lord who comes to us in mystery, through His Word we preach and His presence we celebrate in our Sacraments.

Our gospel for this weekend introduces us to a man named Joseph. As our Scripture indicates, Joseph was “a righteous man” who was placed in quite a predicament in history. He was betrothed to a young lady whom we can presume that he loved. However, as our gospel tells us, she was found to be with child. And I could only imagine the turmoil he must have felt. He knew this child not to be his, but as this righteous man, “unwilling to expose Mary to shame, decided to divorce her quietly.” But as is often the case, God does not abandon His people. In the case of Joseph, in order for His will to be done, sends an angel who appears to Joseph in a dream. And what we find in this man who was righteous, is that he trusted God. Then the final words of our Gospel reflect our salvation history as it states “when Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took his wife into his home.” Joseph trusted because he believed in God’s power and God’s goodness. He trusted in the words of an angel in a dream and down deep knew that somehow he and Mary were chosen for a special purpose in God’s plan of salvation. Uncertain as to what that was, Joseph trusted. What does this say about each of us. We too have a special purpose in God’s plan. God continues to speak to us, whether in a dream, or in a thought, or in our own readings—God speaks to us and we, like Joseph, need to trust. And when we do, we will find unveiled for us God’s plan for us. So trust, and when doubts arise, trust more.

Next weekend is our celebration of the Solemnity of Christmas. Our Mass schedule is as follows:

*— Mass Schedule —*

- Monday-Saturday  
8:00 a.m.
- Wednesday 8:30 a.m.
- Saturday 5:00 p.m.
- Sunday 8:00 a.m.,  
9:30 a.m., & 11:00 a.m.

**Saturday, December 24, Christmas Eve: Masses will be at 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Just to forewarn you, the 4:00 p.m. Mass is extremely crowded and we advise if you can, to choose another to celebrate. People start arriving at 2:00 p.m. and many who show up closer to 4:00 p.m. will find themselves standing in the back.**

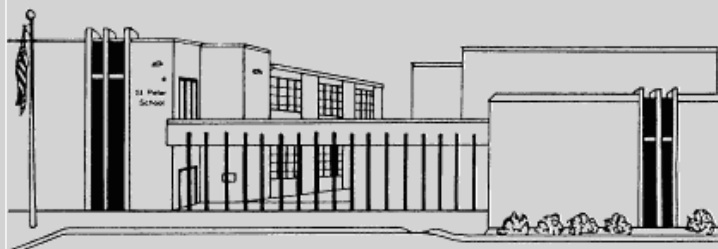
**Sunday, December 25, Christmas Day: Masses will be at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.**

It takes a number of people to help us with the Christmas celebration. First, I want to thank parishioners for their contributions toward our flowers and Christmas decorations. Second, I want to thank the people on the committee who use their talents to decorate our Church in the Christmas décor. As always, our Church is so beautiful both inside and out. I cannot thank you enough for your Christmas spirit as evident in the decorations especially in our Church.

*Sacrament of  
Reconciliation*

Saturday: 7:30-7:50 a.m.  
3:30-4:30 p.m.

# The School of St. Peter



Week of December 18, 2022

## A Message from Mrs. Cindy Venvertloh

*"St. Peter School provides a quality education built on Catholic values and teachings."*



### ADVENT BLESSINGS

Every year during Advent, our school does a service project for our community. This year, our service project was selected to specifically assist families within our school community. We asked our students and families in grades Kindergarten through 8th grade to send in monetary donations to assist: one of our third grade teachers who is receiving cancer treatments, one of our students who is recovering from heart surgery and one of our teacher's husband who underwent brain surgery. The money collected will assist with many of their needs as well as offer help with medical expenses. Since we pray for these school family members each day during our morning announcements we felt this would be one additional way to express our love for them as they are away from us and to hopefully brighten the Advent/Christmas Season for them.

Our students and families went above and beyond any expectation with this project. Thank you to our families who assisted in this project. We were able to give all three families a little over \$2,000 to help them during this difficult time. We are blessed to have them in our lives. God is Good.

Please continue to keep these wonderful people in your prayers.

### GIVING TREE



The Giving Wreath is a program that allows us at St. Peter to help those in need in our community. Our 8th grade students assisted with the loading of the Giving Wreath gifts given by parishioners to various areas of need in the community. Local organizations picked up their gifts on December 12.

### MENU

School Not In Session

### THIS WEEK

CHRISTMAS BREAK takes place until January 2.  
Students return on January 3!



*Merry Christmas!  
The teachers and staff of  
St. Peter School  
wish to extend to  
everyone  
a very Blessed and  
Merry Christmas!  
May you and your  
family  
keep Jesus in your hearts  
throughout this  
joyful season!*

**School of St. Peter**  
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Website: [www.stpeterschool.com](http://www.stpeterschool.com)  
Email: [c.venvertloh@cospq.org](mailto:c.venvertloh@cospq.org)



### Mark Your Calendar

Mon. December 19:

Tues. December 20: Fellowship Tuesday after 8:00 a.m.  
Mass, Narthex

Wed. December 21: Ladies Cursillo 1:30 p.m., Fr. Bauer  
Prayer Rm

Thurs. December 22:

Fri. December 23: Parish Office Closed

Sat. December 24: NO 8:00 a.m. or 5:00 p.m. Masses  
Masses at 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m.

Sun. December 25: Masses at 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.  
(NO 9:30 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. Masses)

### —Mass Servers—

Not Assigned At This Time but can  
Signup Online for Weekdays and Weekends

### —Daily Mass Ministry Schedule—

Not Assigned At This Time

### Fr. Leo's column continued..

Just a reminder that the parish offices will be closed next Friday, December 23, in preparation for our Christmas celebration.

Just a reminder that if you have not picked up your new 2023 parish calendars that they are available in the narthex for you to take home with you. They are compliments of Duker & Haugh Funeral Home. I ask that you also take some home to our shut-ins or those in the nursing homes. Also, this weekend we have special Advent/Christmas gifts for you. It is a book written by Matthew Kelly entitled "The Wisdom of the Saints." I ask that you take one home per family and read it on a daily basis. Like the calendars they provide some inspirational material either in pictures or in writing for you to use as we grow in the grace of God.

**ON THE LIGHTER SIDE:** "Thanks for the electric guitar you gave me for Christmas," little Bobby said to his uncle when he saw him after the holidays. "It's the best present I ever got."

"That's great," said his uncle. "Have you learned how to play it yet?"

"Oh, I don't play it," little Bobby said. "My mom gives me a dollar a day not to play it during the day, and my dad gives me five dollars a week not to play it at night."

A sense of humor is good for you. Have you ever heard of a laughing hyena with heartburn. (Bob Hope)

*Magy. Leo J. Eulow*



### WEEKLY COLLECTION

	<u>Dec. 11</u>	<u>Total to Date</u>
Loose Collections	\$1,200.12	\$23,874.52
Regular Collections	\$24,018.20	\$645,531.29
Annual School Fund	\$2,336.00	\$223,642.21
Holy Days	\$2,729.30	\$6,994.30
Totals	\$30,283.62	\$900,042.32
Total Budget Goal	\$32,000.00	\$768,000.00
Difference	(\$1,716.38)	\$132,042.32

### Diocesan Collections

Dependent Children: \$245.00  
Retired Religious: \$2,638.00  
Catholic Cemeteries: \$100.00

### Haiti Sister Parish Collections

Collected \$1,636.00

# Parish in Action



DIocese OF SPRINGFIELD IN ILLINOIS  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

December 2022

Dear Friends in Christ,

For the past 143 years, the Catholic Children's Home (CCH) has served as a beacon of hope for thousands of children in need of safe harbor and a place to call home.

The CCH continues this mission by meeting the emotional, social, academic and basic material needs of all the children sent for residential care or special education services. This includes an innovative program designed to serve the needs of children with immense challenges of autism.

The children served by the CCH have been chronically abused, designated "unmanageable" by their schools or simply have no home. They are some of the most vulnerable in our society. Our Lord says, "What you have done for the least of my people, you have done for me." (*Matthew 25:38*) The CCH will continue to serve the special needs of these children in the name of Jesus Christ.

The holiday season is a particularly difficult time for these youths as many of them are without a family. Those who have a family are often lacking the special care they need. Please keep these children in your prayers throughout this holy season of Advent and Christmas.

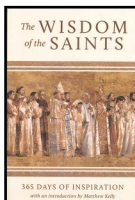
In the spirit of Christ's incredible love for all children, I ask that you continue to support the work of the Catholic Children's Home and generously contribute to the special Christmas collection. "Let all that you do be done in love." (*1 Corinthians 16:14*) May God fill your hearts with love, grace and a spirit of giving during these blessed days of Advent and Christmas.

With every best wish and gratitude, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*† Thomas John Paprocki*

Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki  
Bishop of Springfield in Illinois



## A Gift from Fr. Leo

Fr. Leo would like to give you a gift for Advent/Christmas.  
It is the book *The Wisdom of the Saints*.  
Please take one home for your family.

**IT'S BACK! - Save The Date!**

## 10th Annual St. Peter Pancake and Sausage Breakfast

Sunday, January 26, 2020 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

\$5 per plate - all you can eat!

Featuring Chris Cakes Flying Pancakes Join us for a Flippin' Good Time!  
St. Peter School Gym, 25th and Maine





*Rest in Peace*  
*May the souls of*  
**James Steinkamp**  
*and Dr. Jim Nuessen*  
*sing praises with the Angels in Heaven forever.*



**EMHC & Usher Sign Up for Christmas Masses**

We need EMHCs and ushers for all of the Christmas and New Year's Masses. Please sign up in the Narthex if you can help. Thank you!

**Fellowship Tuesdays**

Join us for Fellowship Tuesdays after 8:00 a.m. Mass this week (12/20). Come for Mass, fellowship, coffee and treats!

**2023 Calendars**

We now have the new 2023 calendars in the Narthex. Please take one. If you know someone in a nursing home, or that is staying at home right now, please take one for them too.

**Don't Forget to Turn in Your Commitment Card**

We're still in the midst of our annual Stewardship Renewal. If you haven't returned your Commitment Card or completed one online at the parish website, [www.cospq.org](http://www.cospq.org).

**Adoration Chapel**

Our prayers have been answered to be able to open the Adoration Chapel for 24 more hours (72 hours total so far - open Wed. 9 a.m. to Sat. 9 a.m.) We are now seeking Adorers for several more hours.

Hours available are:

Wednesday 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. ON THE 1st, 3rd and 5th weeks of the month

Saturday 11 a.m. to Noon, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m., 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. the 4th week of the month

Thank you for your consideration in taking an hour of quiet prayer in the Adoration Chapel.

Please contact Mary Voorhis at 217-653-3127 or call or text Gina Wolf at 217-257-9966.

**Baptisms**

Eleanor Grace Genenbacher, daughter of Andrew & Nicole (Henning) Genenbacher, and Lucy Nicole Paul, daughter of Nicholas & Megan (Brennan) Paul, were made children of God through the reception of the sacrament of Baptism on Sunday, December 11, 2022.

**Mass Times Changed because of Christmas**

There will not be an 8:00 a.m. or 5:00 p.m. Masses on Saturday, December 24 and there will not be a 9:30 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday, December 25.

**Parish Office Closed**

The Parish Office will be closed on the following days during the holidays. The following is our schedule.

Friday, 12/23/22

Monday, 12/26/22 & Tuesday, 12/27/22

Friday, 12/30/22 & Monday, 1/2/22

**SAVE THE DATE**

**LENTEN PARISH MISSION**

**FEBRUARY 18-20, 2023!**

- Begins during all Weekend Masses on 2/18 and 2/19
- Continues with Parish Mission Conferences on 2/19 and 2/20 at 6:30 p.m. in the Church
- A reception will follow on 2/20 in the Narthex
- Childcare available for children age 1 and older



Fr. Denis Robinson, OSB will offer this second Parish Mission during Lent. He will discuss the Eucharist in the context of Lent/the coming of Christ's Passion, Death, and Resurrection at Easter.

Please keep the following in your prayers:

- |                            |                      |                 |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| ~Kristopher Schreacke      | ~Michelle Houston    |                 |
| ~Lilli Foster              | ~Amy Seibert         |                 |
| ~Hunter Hildebrand         | ~Isabella Benner     | ~Julie Eftink   |
| ~Natalie Meyer             | ~Theresa Althoff     | ~Steve Hull     |
| ~Rose Hockgraver           | ~Bonnie Haubrich     | ~Evelyn Garrett |
| ~Alden & Joyce Shipp       | ~Norma Johnson       | ~Ted Kemner     |
| ~Matt Mast                 | ~Joan Wilson         | ~Jack Terford   |
| ~Priscilla & Bill Morrison | ~Daniella Kendrick   | ~Jo Buckley     |
| ~Kathy Schuckman           | ~John & Barb Meyer   | ~Judy Domme     |
| ~Ken & Barb Wolf           | ~Donna Schutte       | ~Dan Dailing    |
| ~Anonymous                 | ~Michael Mason       | ~Elias Erd      |
| ~Mark & Diane Zoller       | ~Valerie Fox Ortball | ~Jack Bunte     |
| ~JoAnn Schaefer            | ~Dustin Houston      | ~Debra Sparrow  |

To have a name added to this list, please call the Parish Office at 222-3155 or email [church@cospq.org](mailto:church@cospq.org).



**QND Pancake & Sausage Breakfast**

The Annual QND Pancake and Sausage Breakfast will be Sunday, January 8 from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the QND cafeteria. The cost is \$9.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children. (Children under 5 eat free). All proceeds benefit the Catholic Heart Workcamp trip this summer.

**Christmas Mass Times**

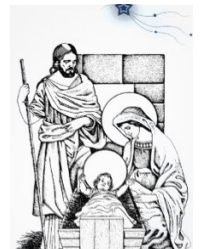
The following are the Mass Times we will have for Christmas this year:

**Christmas Eve:**

4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m.  
**NO 8:00 am. & 5:00 p.m. Mass**

**Christmas Day:**

8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.  
**NO 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Mass**



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**Next Meeting  
January 8  
Dodgeball  
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

**Drop Off & Pick Up - Martha Jane Room**

All 7th, 8th, & 9th graders & their friends welcome!



**Saints Alive!  
Generosity and St. Maximilian  
Kolbe - December 11  
6:00-7:30 p.m. in the Gym**

A youth group for 4th, 5th, & 6th grade Parishioners and guests! Have fun with your friends while you learn more about the Saints and your Catholic Faith. Come enjoy these fun evenings in the St. Peter Gym 6:00-7:30 p.m. Wear your Saints Alive Shirt! Please check Facebook for updates.

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**TV Mass for Shut-Ins**  
The Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus broadcasts Mass for the Shut-Ins every Sunday 10:30 a.m. on Channel ABC (Basic Cable 3)  
If you know of someone who would benefit from a missal, CONTACT Terry Obert and we will send a Pray Together Missal free of charge.  
Terry Obert, 217-257-3161

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