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Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

Rev. Msgr. Leo J. Enlow, Pastor Rev. Zachary Samples, Parochial Vicar 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

Parish Staff

Mrs. Cindy Venvertloh, Principalc.venvertloh@cospq.org
Mrs. Kristi Smith, Business Managerk.smith@cospq.org
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Mrs. Monica Scholz, Director of Musicm.scholz@cospq.org
Mrs. Gina Bergman, D.R.Eg.bergman@cospq.org
Mrs. Rebecca Knuffman, Parish Nurseparishnurse@cospq.org

Mass Times:

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

Except Wednesday 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 Prearation: 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.

Third Sunday of Advent

DECEMBER 17, 2023

Isaiah 61:1-2a,10-11; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8,19-28

The Third Sunday of Advent is called "Gaudete" Sunday (pronounced "Gow-DAY-tay"); the word means "Rejoice!" It is taken from the first word of the Latin Entrance Antiphon (Introit) for this Sunday.

On this Sunday, the organ and other instruments may be used, and flowers may appear on the altar. The texts of Mass are filled with joy: In the Collect we pray that we may experience the joy of salvation.

In the first reading, "I rejoice heartily in the Lord...." The second reading tells us, "Rejoice always!" Christianity is *Good News*! Gloomy and doomy people who wallow in self-pity and never see anything good are not very Christian!

We are called to be a people of joy even though this world is imperfect. We rejoice because the Lord has come, and because he will come. We rejoice because even our crosses have meaning. We rejoice because nothing can separate us from God's love and from the eternal joy which awaits us.

The Thessalonian people were worry-warts, afflicted with anxiety and depression. Paul urges them to rejoice always, to persevere in prayer, and not to "stifle" the Spirit.

By this he means, "Don't have a negative attitude; be positive!" We may not live to see everything perfect, but we must be joyfully confident that the Lord will bring all things out all right.

--Msgr. William Carr
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1012 Vermont Street • Quincy, IL 62301



The Parish of St. Peter Quincy, IL

Third Sunday of Advent, December 17, 2023

~Mass Intentions~ December 18-24 2023

18. Monday 8:00 a.m.Don Sturhahn &
Julie Barry

19. Tuesday 8:00 a.m. Orville Lubbe

20. Wednesday 8:30 a.m. Loren Tournear

21. Thursday 8:00 a.m. Steve Sinnock

22. Friday 8:00 a.m. Charles & Mildred Veihl

23. Saturday 8:00 a.m.Doug Frese

23. Saturday 5:00 p.m.Don Adolfs

24. Sunday 8:00 a.m. Rita Terford

24. Sunday 9:30 a.m. Our Parish Family

24. Sunday 11:00 a.m. Dale Tangy

24. Sunday 4:00 p.m. Dan Barry

24. Sunday 6:00 p.m. Brian D. Reis

24. Sunday 8:00 p.m. Fr. Roy Bauer

— 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.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

Dear Parishioners,

This weekend, the Church celebrates the 3rd Sunday in our season of Advent. The Third Sunday is traditionally called "Gaudete Sunday." The reason for this particular designation is found in our Introit, or Entrance Antiphon, which proclaims "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say rejoice. For indeed the Lord is near." This proclamation sets the tone of joyful expectation for the Lord's birth and Second coming. To help us enter into this joyful expectation, the Church invites us to wear rose-colored vestments (not pink, but rose).

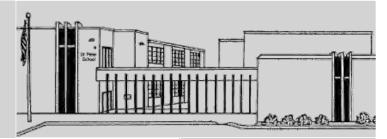
There are many differing symbols that we use at Christmas that often either go unnoticed or are not very apparent to us as we use them. So often we see Christmas trees with candy canes hanging on branches or we buy these same candy canes to fill stockings or given as gifts. The candy cane has an interesting significance. It is shaped like a shepherd's crook, representing the Nativity's first witnesses to the Bethlehem scene along with being symbolic of Christ the Good Shepherd being born. It's alternating white and red stripes represent the Lord's purity. It's lively peppermint flavor stands for the royal gift of spice. Finally, like the Body of Christ itself, the candy cane is given to be broken and shared. As I read these fun-filled facts of the candy cane, I never realized the full significance of this piece of candy in Christian symbolism.

In our gospel for this Third Sunday of Advent, we hear a little more about John the Baptist. When he was confronted by Jewish leadership concerning what he was doing and why he was doing it, John acknowledged that He was not the Christ, the long expected Messiah. Then when asked if he were Elijah, he denied that reality. In answer to the question, then who are you, John would respond by quoting the prophet Isaiah, "I am a voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord." Thus John sets the stage as one who is preparing the way for someone far greater than he, "someone whose sandal strap he is not worthy to untie." This is our Christ, this is our long awaited Savior who would save us from ourselves and the sinful condition in which we find ourselves. May each of us make room in our lives this Christmas for the long-awaited Savior, Jesus the Christ.

To help us make room in our lives, we all need to acknowledge our sins, and open our hearts to our Lord. To help us in this endeavor, we will be having a city wide penance service this Sunday, December 17, at 2:00 p.m. at St. Francis Church. There will be a number of priests in the area who will be present to provide individual Confession for those in attendance. Please make use of this sacrament as we prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus.

One of the things for which I am so proud of this parish family is the giving wreath event held each year to help various community organizations help their clienteles to have a nice Christmas. Our parishioners take various tags, buy the gifts, wrap the gifts, and then return them. It is so amazing to see all these gifts in the narthex, reflecting the spirit of Christmas and our generosity toward our brothers and sisters. To each of you who will bring smiles on faces, I thank you for being the stewards of God's graces that you are. I am most proud of you!

The School of St. Peter



Week of December 17, 2023

A Message from Mrs. Cindy Venvertloh

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



CELEBRATING ADVENT

One of our traditions at St. Peter School is to celebrate the coming of the Advent Season. We begin this special time each year with a prayer service. Each classroom created a chain of blessings that we linked together to brighten our Christmas tree in the gym lobby. Each link on this chain represents a blessing that our students and staff have been given in their lives. It is our hope that during this



special season we all take time to thank God for these special blessings, especially our greatest gift of all, our Lord Jesus Christ. It is with great joy and deep gratitude that we look forward to the very special celebration of Jesus' birth and we ask that He come and rest in our hearts, not only during this Advent Season, but always.











MENU

Monday: BBQ rib on bun, hash brown, green beans, fruit.

Tuesday: Nachos, black beans & corn, salsa, fruit.

Wednesday: 1/2 day—

Grandparents Day.

Thursday: Christmas Break **Friday:** Christmas Break

THIS WEEK

Monday, December 18:

Tuesday, December 19: All School Musical—6:30-7:30pm. Students arrive at 6:10 p.m. to head straight to classrooms—parents wait in the gym for the Musical Program!

Wednesday, December 20: Grandparent/Special Person's Day—8:30 Children's Mass MASS—7th grade in charge.

December 20, 2023: 8:30 Mass; 9:30 classroom visits; 10:30 Special Christmas Program; 11:30 dismissal.

Christmas Break

No School—December 21-January 3, 2004

School of St. Peter
2500 Maine Street
Quincy, IL 62301
Phone: 217-223-1120
Website: www.stpeterschool.com
Email: c.venvertloh@cospq.org

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, December 18:

Tuesday, December 19:

Wednesday, December 20: Ladies Cursillo 1:30 p.m.,

Fr. Bauer Prayer Room

Thursday, December 21:

Friday, December 22: Parish Office Closed

Saturday, December 23: Sunday, December 24:

Christmas Eve Masses: 4:00, 6:00, 8:00 p.m.

Monday, December 25:

Christmas Day Masses: 8:00 & 10:00 a.m.

Project Rachel

Help for women and men to heal from the pain of abortion. For assistance call 1-877-RACHEL-5.

Reporting Allegations of Child Sexual Abuse

To report allegations of sexual abuse of a minor by clergy or other church personnel — even if it is in the past — individuals are encouraged to call the Diocese's Child Abuse Reporting and Investigation number at (217) 321-1155. Individuals may also contact Illinois Department of Children and Family Services Child Abuse Hotline at 1.800.25.ABUSE.

Fr. Leo's column continued..

With Christmas falling on Monday, there will be a great amount of confusion concerning Masses and which Mass will fulfill the differing obligations. So again here is the schedule:

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT:

Saturday, December 23: 5:00 p.m. Mass. Sunday, December 24: 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Masses.

SOLEMNITY OF CHRISTMAS

Sunday, December 24: Christmas Eve Masses will be at 4:00, 6:00 and 8:00 p.m.

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

P.S. Save yourself of phone call and cut these schedules out and post them in a very visible area.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE:

Funny Quotes:

- 1. Instead of cleaning my house, I just watch an episode of "Hoarders" and think, "wow, my house looks great."
- 2. So my neighbor knocked on my front door at 3 a.m. Luckily I was already up playing the bagpipes.
- 3. Never trust an electrician with no eyebrows.
- 4. A guy walks into a lumberyard and asks for 2 X 4's. The clerk asks, "how long do you need them?" The guy answers, "A long time. We're gonna build a house."
- 5. It only takes one slow-walking person in the grocery store to destroy the illusion that I'm a nice person.



WEEKLY COLLECTION December 10 Total to Date Loose Collections \$25,489.95 \$1,179.25 **Regular Collections** \$35,138.40 \$653,061.13 Annual School Fund \$4,901.00 \$181,068.00 Holy Days \$4,436.76 \$12,464.76 Totals \$45,655.41 \$872,083.84 Total Budget Goal \$32,000.00 \$768,000.00 Difference \$13,655.41 \$104,083.84

Diocesan Collections

Quincy Catholic Cemeteries: \$75.00 Justice & Hope: \$10.00

Home Mission: \$100.00 Retired Religious: \$1,358.00

Haiti Sister Parish Collections

Collected \$1.610.00

Parish in Action

December, 2023

Dear Friends in Christ,

The mission of the Catholic Children's Home (CCH) is to be a beacon of hope for thousands of children in need of safe harbor and a place to call home. For the past 144 years, the (CCH) has continued 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 severe autistic challenges.

The children served by CCH have been chronically abused, designated "unmanageable" by their schools or simply have no place to call home. They are some of the most vulnerable in our society. In the words of Pope Francis, "We need to see each child as a gift to be welcomed, cherished and protected."

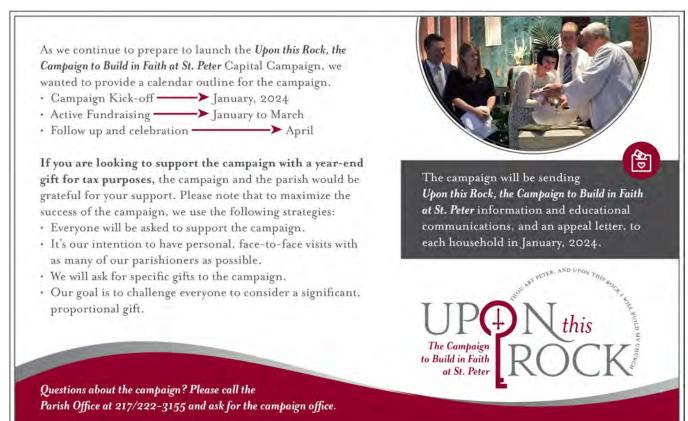
The holiday season is a particularly difficult time for these youths as many of them are without a family. Those who have a family often lack the special care they need. Please keep these children in your prayers throughout this holy season of Advent and Christmas. With your help, the Catholic Children's Home can continue to serve the special needs of these children in the name of Jesus Christ, as it has since 1879.

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. "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." (Romans 15:13) 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.

Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki Bishop of Springfield in Illinois



Welcome!

Please welcome to our parish family Samantha Marre!

EMHC & Usher Sign Up for Christmas Masses

We need Eucharistic ministers and ushers for the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses. Please signup in the Narthex if you can help. Thank you!

Holy Moments Group

We are looking into starting a weekly informal discussion group based on the book "Holy Moments" by Matthew Kelly. The group would read a few pages from the book and then discuss how God has helped us to recognize and utilize these moments for the good of others. We are looking at meeting on Thursday evenings, around 6:30 p.m. If you are interested, please call Denny Meyer at 217-926-4829.

Adoration Chapel Hours

We have the following hours OPEN at the Adoration Chapel located at St Peters. OPEN Hours that are available are:

Tuesday: 2 p.m.

Wednesday: 1 a.m., 2 a.m., 3 a.m., 11 am weeks 1,3,

4 p.m. weeks 2,4,5 **Thursday:** Midnight week 2 **Friday:** 1 a.m., 11 p.m.

Saturday: Midnight, 1 a.m., 2 a.m., 3 p.m. weeks 1, 5,

5 p.m. weeks 2

Ask a friend to join you in taking an hour or share the time slot! Please call Mary Voorhis at 217 653 3127 or call or text Gina Wolf at 217 257 9966 with questions or to fill an hour. We always have room on our sub list also if that fits your schedule better.

QND Pancake & Sausage Breakfast

The Annual QND Pancake and Sausage Breakfast will be Sunday, January 7 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.

Happy Hour at Quincy Brewing Co.

Happy Hour at Quincy Brewing Co. on Saturday, January 27, 2024, 2:40-4:30 p.m. at 110 N. 6th Street in Quincy. Grab a date or a group of friends and join us for a fun afternoon of fellowship! Take advantage of this opportunity to spend some quality time together. Light snacks will be provided and the first FIVE couples to arrive will each receive a free drink on us! Signup at: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0C4DA9A822A02-46831017-quincy

Need more info or to phone in RSVP, call 217-214-0187.

Please keep the following in your prayers:

~Donna Schutte ~Isabella Benner ~Steve Hull ~Charlotte Siebers ~Cindy Barner ~Ed Berry ~Kathy Schuckman ~Bill Morrison ~Anonymous

~Kathy Schuckman ~Bill Morrison ~Anonymo ~John & Barb Meyer ~Michael Mason ~Elias Erd

~Hunter Hildebrand ~Debra Sparrow ~Dan Dailing ~Kristopher Schreacke ~Diane Wagner ~Julie Eftink ~Alden & Joyce Shipp ~Sue Hildebrand ~Jo Buckley

~Nancy Bohan ~Liem Thanh Mai ~Amy Seibert ~Diane Zoller ~Mario Camacho ~lan Mehaffy ~Michelle & Dustin Houston ~Maria (Eberhardt) Sparrow

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

2024 Calendars

We now have the new 2024 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.



Men's Cursillo #365

Men's Cursillo #365 will be held January 18-21 at the Franciscan Retreat Center in Quincy.

During this three-day experience, those attending pray together, celebrate the Eucharist, listen to talks given by priests, religious and laypersons, and share the fellowship of Jesus Christ and each other. It provides a casual and relaxed experience in a Christian community.

Cost of the weekend is \$185.00 with lodging and all meals provided. A partial monetary gift to defray the cost is available if needed.

For more information or to receive an application please call Dwight/Barb Seeley at 217-224-5615 or go to www.quincycursillo.com and "applications" and print one.

Catholics Returning Home

St. Francis Solanus Parish will offer a six-week series entitled "Catholics Returning Home" beginning Wednesday, January 3, at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall, located on the north side of the church at 17th and College Avenue. It will run for six consecutive Wednesday evenings and will conclude on February 7. The sessions are for non-practicing Catholics who are seeking answers to questions about returning to the Church. If you know someone who has left the Church, please invite them to join us. For more information, call Deacon Wayne Zimmerman, 217-430-7792.

Deacon Dennis Holbrook to Give Talk About Dying

Living a Christ-centered life means we can face suffering and death without fear. I pray that this talk will enlighten our perspective on this topic and how our relationship with God can truly help us approach the end of our earthly life. This talk will take place on Tuesday, January 2 at 7 p.m. in the St. Francis Parish Center. All are welcome to attend! Ray Wheeler will accompany us that evening with music and songs.

2024 Calendar Raffle Knights of Columbus

Looking for stocking stuffers? The Knights of Columbus raffle calendars make great Christmas gifts with 366 chances to win cash in 2024. A chance to win cash every day in 2024 for only \$25 per calendar. Pick some up at the bar or call John Veith at 653-0258 or Mike Schlipmann at 653-9318 for more details or to purchase your 2024 raffle calendar. Your purchase will help support the KofC charities which includes our Catholic Schools, Ladies of Charity, Birthright and many others. Thank you for your support.

Christmas Mass Times

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

Christmas Eve:

~Joan Wilson

~Ted Kemner

4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m. Christmas Day:

8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.



F

Next Meeting Dodgeball January 7 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! January 21 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.
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Pray For Pro-Life and Vocations



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