

December 25, 2022 ~ The Nativity of the Lord



614 North Defiance Street
Archbold, OH

THE CATHOLIC, CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY OF ST. PETER

A MEMBER OF OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE DEANERY

WELCOME TO OUR COMMUNITY

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419-446-9288

MAINTENANCE

Nick Wlasiuk

Parish Mission Statement

For all who enter; we at St. Peter are a community who believe Jesus Christ is the center of our lives. We are committed to live life in relationship with each other; we strive to heed the call to reach out and touch the lives of people. We invite newcomers to join us and those who have been away to rejoin us!

New Parishioners

A warm welcome as you enter our Parish Community! You are asked to register at the parish office as soon as possible, 419-446-2150. If you are moving from the parish, please inform the office so we may remove your name from our parish roster.

Sacrament of Marriage

Initial arrangements are to be made 6 months prior to the actual wedding day. The Diocesan policy is to allow sufficient time for the couple to make adequate preparation to receive the sacrament. Please call the rectory to make arrangements or Deacon Larry.

Sacrament of Baptism

If someone is to be baptized, please call Fr. Bill. All parents must attend pre-baptism sessions for their first child. Call the rectory to make arrangements, 419-446-9288 or Deacon Larry (419) 966-7091.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Having questions about the Catholic faith? Thinking of joining the Catholic Church? You can learn more by attending our Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) sessions. Classes start each fall. Call Fr. Bill at 419-446-9288

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULES

Office Hours: Tue. & Thurs.

9:30 am - 4:30 pm

St. Peter, Archbold

Weekend Masses

Saturday ~ 4:30 PM

Sunday ~ 10:30 AM

Reconciliation

Tues. 6:30 pm & Sat. 4:00
or by appointment



Office Hours: Tue. & Thurs.

9:30 am - 3:00 pm

Our Lady of Mercy,
Fayette

Weekend Mass

Sunday ~ 8:30 AM

Reconciliation Sun.
8:00 AM or by appointment

THE CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY OF ST. PETER

Saturday, December 24:
Chris Short
Eddie Joe Britenriker
Marjorie Grime

Sat., Dec. 31, 2022~4:30 pm Sun., Jan. 1, 2022~10:00 pm

Sunday, December 25:
 For the People

GREETERS

Ruth Solarik
 Sylvia Miller

Frank & Benie Smith

Monday, December 26:
 St. Stephen
 No Mass
 Acts 7:8-10, 7:54-59/
 Mt 10:17-22

LECTORS

Mary Ann Thatcher

Arlene Hicks

Tuesday, December 27:
 St. John
 St. Peter~7:00 pm
 1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

SERVERS

Caleb Harrow
 Tripp & Vaughn L.

Carson Armstrong
 Brylee Grime
 Karter Zachrich

Wednesday, December 28:
 The Holy Innocents
 St. Peter~9:00 am
 1 Jn 1:5-2:2/Mt 2:13-18

USHERS

Tyson & Trish Langenderfer

John Smith
 Frank Smith

ROSARY LEADER

Arlene Hicks

Thursday, December 29:
 St. Thomas Becket
 Our Lady of Mercy~9:00 am
 1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35

MONEY COUNTERS

Dave & Mari Yoder
 Ron & Carlene Reese

Friday, December 30:
 The Holy Family of Jesus,
 Mary and Joseph
 St. Peter~9:00 am
Pauline Morford
 Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Mt 2:13-15,
 19-23

Please find a sub if you cannot make your scheduled date.

Servers should arrive 15 minutes before Mass time.

**ROSARY ~ The Rosary is said every Sunday at 10:00 AM before Mass.
 No weekday rosary.**

Saturday, December 31:
 St. Sylvester
 No Mass
 1 Jn 2:18-21/Jn 1:1-18

Vigil
 St. Peter~4:30 pm
Patrick Malone
Grace New

Sunday, January 1:
 Solemnity of Mary
 Our Lady of Mercy~8:30 am
 For the People
 St. Peter~10:30 am
Marjorie Grime
Gina Damman
 Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/
 Lk 2:16-21

Area Happenings

Archbold Knights of Columbus Fish Fry

Mark your calendars for January 13, 2023 as our first fish fry. We will be serving 13 weeks this year and finish on Good Friday April 7.



Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

December 25, 2022

Amidst the beautiful Christmas readings at today's Masses is a reading from a small New Testament letter from Saint Paul to his protégé, Titus, read at Midnight Mass. Saint Paul reminds Titus that God has given us a gift in the person of Jesus Christ. This gift represents God's active presence in our lives and in our world. This gift redeems us from evil and death. This gift purifies us as God's people. This is a gift that also comes with an expectation: that we receive it with thanksgiving, allow it to transform us into Christ's image; and from it, learn how to live a life "eager to do what is good." Take time the next few days to reflect on the marvelous gift we celebrate at Christmas, and how we might become better stewards of this gift.

Saint Stephen: Stewardship Saint of December

The day after Christmas is called "St. Stephen's Day" to commemorate the first Christian martyr. It is also this "Feast of Stephen" that is mentioned in the English Christmas carol, "Good King Wenceslas." Stephen was a Greek-speaking Jew living in Jerusalem. He became a follower of Jesus Christ and was one of seven individuals chosen by the twelve apostles to serve tables, look after the distribution of the community funds (alms), especially to widows, and assist in the ministry of preaching. Stephen was also a leader in the Christian group known as the "Hellenists," a community that had its own synagogues where the scriptures were read in Greek. The Hellenist Christians maintained that the new Christian faith could not grow unless it separated itself from Judaism and specifically the Temple and the Mosaic law. The Hellenists also urged the expansion of the Church's mission to the Gentiles. The elders in a number of neighboring synagogues opposed Stephen and the Hellenists and charged him with blasphemy for saying that the Temple would be destroyed and that Jesus had set aside the Mosaic law even though Stephen maintained that Jesus came to fulfill the law, not set it aside. When dragged before the Sanhedrin, the supreme legal court of Jewish elders, Stephen made an eloquent defense of the Hellenist Christian teaching. He charged his accusers of trying to stifle the movement of the Holy Spirit, of persecuting those who spoke prophetically and of betraying and murdering Jesus. Then he looked up to heaven and began to describe a vision he was having of the recently executed Jesus standing on the right side of God. The council erupted into a furor and its members began shouting, covered their ears and ordered Stephen to be dragged outside the city and executed. As he was being stoned to death, Stephen asked God to forgive his attackers while the witnesses to his martyrdom placed their cloaks at the feet of Saul of Tarsus who consented to Stephen's death. Saul would later undergo a conversion experience and become Saint Paul. Saint Stephen was one of the most popular saints in the Middle Ages and in many countries his feast day of December 26 is still a public holiday. He is the patron saint of deacons and his name is included in Eucharistic Prayer I of the Mass.



THE CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY OF ST. PETER

Thank you to everyone who supported the youth group fundraiser! Because of your generosity they raised \$422.

Servers can pick up Christmas envelope in the sacristy.



St. Peter: Christmas Eve
Saturday, December 24
4:30 pm & 10:00 pm
Our Lady of Mercy: 7:00 pm

Our Lady of Mercy:
Christmas Day
Sunday, December 25
9:00 am

This Week

There will be no Religious Education class this week. We will resume on Wednesday, January 4.

Wednesday, December 21
Religious Education K-12
6:30 pm

Eucharistic Adoration starts at 8 am ending with Mass at 7 pm every Tuesday. Call Pat Dominique: 419-446-2206

Stewardship of Treasure
Sunday Offering: \$5344.00

Weekly Budget: \$3375.00
Over/(Under) Budget:
\$1969.00

Past collections:
December 11 \$3,453.00
December 4 \$4215.10
November 27 \$2230.00

Dear Padre

December 25, 2022

I haven't been to Mass in a long time, but lately I feel drawn to come again. Can you help me better understand the Mass?

Welcome home! To learn more about the Mass, you might consider participating in your parish's program for those who are thinking about joining the Catholic Church. Meanwhile, we can offer five principles that form the foundation for what happens at Mass.

Participation rather than passive attendance: Mass is a time of prayerful activity—listening intently, praying fervently, reflecting quietly, singing and worshipping joyfully.

Gratitude for God's mercy as we acknowledge our sinfulness: There are several occasions during Mass when we are called to acknowledge that we sin, but also that mercy and forgiveness are offered freely to all who acknowledge their imperfections and sinful behavior.

Word and sacrament: The liturgy comprises the Liturgy of the Word (penitential act, Scripture readings, homily, and prayers of the faithful) and the Liturgy of the Eucharist (presentation of gifts, eucharistic prayer, and Communion rite). Both are important.

Christ's Real Presence: Under the forms of bread and wine (the Eucharist), the Real Presence of Christ retains a prominent place in the Mass. Christ is also present—in different ways—in the words of Scripture, in the presence of the priest, and in the assembly gathered in his name.

A celebration of family and community: Jesus fostered a sense of family among his disciples. Parish liturgies should be a time when young and old, rich and poor, families and single people join together to experience unity in Christ Jesus. ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

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