



St. Peter Parish Quincy, IL

Third Sunday of Advent, December 14, 2025

~Mass Intentions~

December 15-21, 2025

- 15. Monday 8:00 a.m.
Marjorie Bergman
- 16. Tuesday 8:00 a.m.
Jim Schlipmann
- 17. Wednesday 8:20 a.m.
David Adam Oakley
- 18. Thursday 8:00 a.m.
Elmer Otis Miller
- 19. Friday 8:00 a.m.
Ann Anderson
- 20. Saturday 8:00 a.m.
Frank Poore
- 20. Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Billy Smith
- 21. Sunday 8:00 a.m.
Priscilla Morrison
- 21. Sunday 9:30 a.m.
Our Parish Family
- 21. Sunday 11:00 a.m.
Bradley Havermale &
Jerry Eberhardt

— Mass Schedule —

- Monday-Saturday
8:00 a.m.
- Wednesday 8:20 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,

Advent this year is just three and a half weeks. There was, however, time when Advent went much longer. According to Wikipedia, “the season of Advent originated as a fast of forty days in preparation for Christmas, commencing on the day after the feast of St. Martin, that is, November 12, whence it was often called St. Martin’s lent, a name by which it was known as early as the fifth century. In the ninth century, the duration of Advent was reduced to four weeks, and Advent preserved most of the characteristics of a penitential season which made it a kind of counterpart to Lent. The spirit of the liturgy all through Advent is one of expectation and preparation for the feast of Christmas as well as the second coming of Christ, and the penitential exercises suitable to that spirit are thus continued. However, these penitential exercises were always suspended on the Third Sunday of Advent as the Church celebrated “Gaudete Sunday.” With the celebrations of many Christmas parties during Advent, we lose the meaning of this particular Sunday, and its penitential exercises. Nevertheless, the Church continues its celebration of joy and expectation with the coming of Christ. In the entrance antiphon for our Mass for this weekend, this is what is proclaimed: “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.” (Phil 4.4-5) The Word “Gaudete” is the Latin word to “rejoice.” So we are to set aside the penitential practices as we look ahead and experience the joy that the Lord is near. As a symbol of this joy, the Church encourages the priest to wear rose colored vestments and we light the rose colored candle on our Advent wreath. So, on this Third Sunday of Advent, let our hearts rejoice for the Lord is near!

I’m not sure how many of you have noticed but the candles on our back altar near the tabernacle have been refinished and look great. In the years that I have been here, this is the first time this has been done. The candles near the altar that we use for Mass are being refinished as I write this column along with the candle holder for our sanctuary lamp. Then our Easter candle holder along with the tabernacle itself will be refinished. This project is being completed through the generosity of a parishioner in memory of his wife. It looks beautiful and this project was much needed as our candle sticks and tabernacle were well in need of this polishing.

As our candlesticks needed refinishing in order to see once again their splendor, so also our souls need the same. And the way that we finish our souls to their original splendor is through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The parishes of Quincy will be celebrating a city-wide Penance Service on Sunday, 21st day of December at St. Francis Church. Our celebration will begin at 2:00 p.m. and will have a number of priests of the area present for individual confessions. I encourage you to celebrate this Sacrament of Reconciliation with us and have your lives in order as we prepare our hearts and lives for the coming of Jesus. If you haven't been to confession in a while, this is a tremendous opportunity to be filled with God’s graces and have your lives and hearts ready for the coming of Christ.

Also, for those among us who have been away from the Sacraments, I want to welcome you back to our celebration of Christmas. We hope and pray that you rediscover your faith and join us again at the celebration of the Eucharist.

**F
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Next Meeting
Sunday, Jan. 11th
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Meet in Martha Jane Room

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

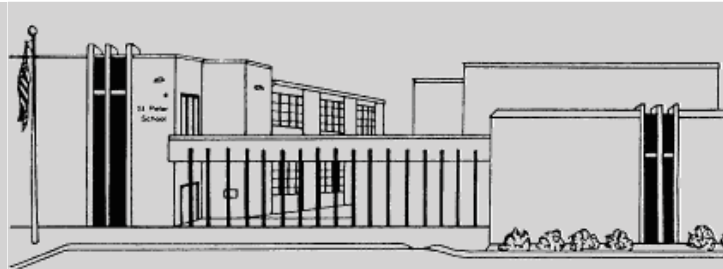


Let Me See
Your Halo

Saints Alive!
December 18th
6:00-7:30 p.m.

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 the fun! Please check Facebook for updates.

St. Peter School



Week of December 14, 2025

A Message from Mrs. Cindy Venvertloh

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

THE ADVENT SEASON IS UPON US



Students and staff participated in an Advent Prayer service. Each child wrote a blessing on a chain link. The links were attached and now appear on our Advent tree in the gym lobby.

During the season of Advent our students participate in various projects. Preschool 3's collected toiletry items for Quincy Catholic Charities. Preschool 4's celebrated Advent by creating baby Jesus mangers. They also held a baby Jesus Birthday party.

Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grades participated in a special service project to help celebrate the season. They had a baby shower for Jesus and collected baby items for Care Net. Care Net offers hope to women facing unplanned pregnancies by providing practical help and emotional support. They are always so grateful to St. Peter School for restocking their supplies each year.

Fourth grade purchased items from the Giving Wreath tags.

Fifth grade students purchased a gift from the Giving Wreath tags and wrote letter to the shut-ins in the parish.

The 6th-7th grade service project for Advent will be supported Clarity Healthcare by providing them with fidgets, journals, and/or coloring supplies for school-based clients ages 6-18.

SCHOOL MENU

Monday: Pancakes, sausage, veggie juice, fruit.

Tuesday: Hamburger on bun, smiley fries, baked beans, fruit.

Wednesday: No Lunch - House Lunch

Thursday: Nachos, corn/black beans, salsa, fruit.

Friday: No Lunch - Early Dismissal

THIS WEEK

Monday, Dec. 15: 6th grade Christmas field trip.

Tuesday, Dec. 16: Preschool receiving a special visitor—Mrs. Claus!

Wednesday, Dec. 17: **Children's HOUSE Mass** 6th grade in charge; Students wear their HOUSE shirts.

Thursday, Dec. 18: 7/8 grade Christmas field trip.

Friday, Dec. 19: 1/2 day—11:30 dismissal.

School of St. Peter
2500 Maine Street
Quincy, IL 62301

Phone: 217-223-1120
Website: www.stpeterschool.com
Email: c.venvertloh@cospq.org

Fr. Leo's column continued..

Our Mass schedule for Christmas is as follows:
Wednesday, Christmas Eve, Masses will be at 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.
Thursday, Christmas Day, Masses will be at 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

N.B. For those inclined to attend the 4:00 p.m. Mass, I caution you that this Mass has standing room only, as it is so crowded. In order to have a seat, one needs to be present between 3:00 p.m. and 3:45 p.m.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE: After my husband and I had a huge argument, we ended up not talking to each other for days. Finally, on the third day, he asked where one of his shirts was.

"Oh," I said, "so now you're speaking to me." He looked confused. "What are you talking about?" "Haven't you noticed I haven't spoken to you for three days" I challenged. "No," he said, "I just thought we were getting along."

Billy Crystal Quotes:

1. By the time a man is wise enough to watch his step, he's too old to go anywhere.
2. It's money. I remember it from when I was single.
3. At 60, I could do the same things I could do at 30, if I could only remember what those things are.
4. I don't like heights. This is why I stopped growing at 5th grade.
5. I'm married. I caught my limit.

Mary. Lisa J. Eubank

Mark Your Calendar

Mon. Dec. 15:

Tues. Dec. 16: Tuesday Treats after Mass in Narthex
OCIA 7:00 p.m., Martha Jane Room

Wed. Dec. 17: Ladies Cursillo 1:30 p.m., Fr. Bauer Prayer Room
PSR 6:30 p.m., School

Thurs. Dec. 18: Saints Alive 6:00 p.m., Cafeteria

Fri. Dec. 19:

Sat. Dec. 20:

Sun. Dec. 21:

Please keep the following in your prayers:

~John & Barb Meyer	~Elias Erd	~Jo Buckley
~Isabella Benner	~Amy Seibert	~Nancy Bohan
~Hunter Hildebrand	~Terri May	~Julie Eftink
~Kathy Schuckman	~Mary Lavery	~Bill Morrison
~Darin & Cathy Green	~Joyce Shipp	~Cheryl Liesen
~Donna Schutte	~Virginia Hunter	~Lori Eaton
~John Douglas Holford	~Norman Kemner	~Ken Althoff
~Sarah Sturhahn Stegeman	~Maria (Eberhardt) Sparrow	~Pat Arnold
~Linda Mettemeyer	~Ellie Peters	
~Anonymous	~Abram Kelle	~Dick Hopkins
~Jordyn Holtmeyer	~Ian Mehaffy	~Mary Neuser
~Bonnie Haubrich	~Emmett Hertle	~Rinley Barry
~Winnie Vogel	~Tom Friye	

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

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.

Online Giving Now Available

St. Peter has partnered with Pushpay to create an easy way to make online contributions to the Church, School, or Haiti. Please use QRCode or Pushpay link below to start your yearly giving. Any questions please contact the parish office.

<https://pushpay.com/g/stpeterquincy>



WEEKLY COLLECTION

	December 7	Total to Date
Loose Collections	\$1,099.00	\$26,726.13
Regular Collections	\$32,269.74	\$637,243.37
Annual School Fund	\$13,716.00	\$162,386.51
Holy Days	\$3,127.25	\$10,380.56
Totals	\$50,211.99	\$836,736.57
Total Budget Goal	\$32,000.00	\$736,000.00
Difference	\$18,211.99	\$100,736.57

Diocesan Collections

Catholic Children's Home: \$195.00 U.S. Military: \$175.00
Justice & Hope: \$605.00 Retired Religious: \$435.00
Quincy Catholic Cemeteries: \$205.00 Others: \$150.00

Haiti Sister Parish Collections

Collected \$2,563.00

Rest in Peace
May the soul of
Charlotte Johnson
sing praises with the Angels in Heaven forever.

Return 2025 Giving Wreaths This Weekend

Please make sure you return your giving wreath presents this weekend. The gifts are to be wrapped and returned to Church with the gift tag **securely taped** this weekend, **December 13 and 14**. The local organizations will pick up their gifts on December 15, so NO gifts delivered to church after December 14.

Weekday Mass Readers Needed

Want to start your day with Jesus? Please consider volunteering as a Weekday Mass Reader. It's easy. Just read the daily readings and petitions, except Wednesdays during the school year when it's the Children's Mass. If you can't commit to a full week, consider partnering with another parishioner. Contact the parish office at 217-222-3155 for more information.

St. Peter Job Opening - Director of Liturgy and Music

St. Peter's Church is looking for a Full Time or Part time - Director of Liturgy and Music. This person will oversee all aspects of the parish's liturgical life. Qualifications requested are a professional who holds specialized credentials in music and has a thorough understanding of Roman Catholic liturgy, serves the parish as principal musician, organist/pianist, and choir director. This person of faith is responsible for the technology in the church and effective planning, coordination, and execution of both the rituals and music for the parish liturgies. Salary ranges from \$20,000 to \$40,000. Please send resume along with 2 references to St. Peter Parish Office, 2600 Maine Street, Quincy IL, 62301 or email k.smith@cospq.org.

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, it is NOT too late. Returning your card is an important part of being an active member of St. Peter Church. Please take this opportunity to discern how God is calling you to grow closer to Him this year.

St. Anthony Pancake & Sausage Breakfast

The Pancake & Sausage Breakfast sponsored by the St. Anthony Men's Society will be Sunday, Dec. 14th, 7 a.m.-noon. Adults \$14, Children \$7 (under 5 free). Dine in/carry out.

Blessed Sacrament Job Opening

Blessed Sacrament Church is seeking to fill the role of **full time Parish Secretary** to support the daily operations of our parish. This position is open for **immediate hire**. The role is ideal for someone who enjoys working with people, has strong administrative skills, and is comfortable using technology and databases to keep parish life running smoothly. For more information, please contact Audreana Derhake at 217-222-2759 or faithformation@blessedscs.org.

Quincy Catholic Charities Part-Time Job Opening

Quincy Catholic Charities is seeking a part-time Office Assistant. The hours for this position are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:30-4:30, with some flexibility to determine the set schedule. Interested candidates can apply on Indeed. For additional information you may reach out to Kevin Williams, Area Director at Williams_qcc@cc.dio.org.

Welcome!

Please welcome to our parish family **Blake & Kristin Niemann!**

St. Peter Social Concerns Christmas Cookie Sale - Bakers! December 13th & 14th

We need your help! Bake a batch of Christmas cookies for this special fundraiser. Bring Cookies to the Cafeteria on that SATURDAY (12/13) after 2:00 pm or on SUNDAY (12/14) before 9:30 am Mass. If you are willing to volunteer to work the sale, call Sharon at (217) 257-1376. Coffee & Cinnamon Rolls Will Be Available!

Adoration Chapel Open Hours

Are you looking for an uninterrupted quiet hour alone with the Lord once a month or every week? Doesn't everyone need an hour with the Lord? We need you and are asking for your assistance in getting the hour below filled!

Wednesday: 1:00-2:00am

Thursday: 2:00-3:00pm

We are still in need of substitutes to help when an Adorer cannot cover their hour due to sickness, work or other reasons, especially the middle of night hours.

Please consider an hour in the Adoration Chapel. Contact Mary at (217) 653-3127, Jean Anne at (217) 430-6967 or Gina W. at (217) 257-9966. Thank you!

2026 Calendars

We now have the new 2026 calendars in the Narthex. Please take one. If you know someone in a nursing home, or that is staying at home right now, take one for them too.

Knights of Columbus Calendar Raffle

The Knights of Columbus "2026 Calendar Raffle" is in progress which helps support many local charitable causes such as QND, Ladies of Charity and Birthright. Please consider purchasing a raffle calendar for \$25. A winner every-day of the year with over \$24,000 in cash prizes. And they make Great Christmas Gifts.

The raffle calendars are available at the K of C east building during business hours or by calling Mike Schlipmann at 217-653-9318 or John Veith at 217-653-0258.

Fourth Day Renewal

Consider attending a Fourth Day Renewal to deepen your spiritual journey. If you have ever attended a Cursillo weekend, you are invited to attend. All are welcome - couples, singles, widowed, divorced, male and female. These 24 hours can be a real gift from God to you and a re-fueling of your Piety, Study, and Action. The 12/19-12/20 weekend from 7pm Friday to 7pm Saturday and is held at the Franciscan Retreat Center, Quincy, IL. Cost is \$55 per person. To learn more and to register online, go to <https://www.quincycursillo.com/applications/fourth-day-renewal/>, or contact Emily Goodapple, 217-242-8802.

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.

Christmas Day:

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



Parish in Action

December, 2025



DIocese of Springfield in Illinois
 OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Dear Friends in Christ,

The Catholic Children's Home has been protecting and caring for needy and dependent children since the 19th century. Although times have changed, their mission to serve as a 'beacon of hope' for children in need has not. The Catholic Children's Home (CCH) has been a safe harbor and a place to call home for thousands of children over the years.

Today, CCH continues their mission by meeting the emotional, social, academic and basic material needs of all the children sent for residential care or special education services. "Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from him." Psalm 127:3. 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.

The Christmas season can be 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,

+ Thomas John Paprocki

Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki
 Bishop of Springfield in Illinois



ST. PETER SOCIAL CONCERNS CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE

THIS WEEKEND - DECEMBER 13th & 14th

Come join us after All Masses this weekend in the cafeteria.

Come buy some wonderful Christmas Cookies

Coffee & Cinnamon Rolls Will Be Available!

This is one of Social Concerns Committee's biggest ways to fund their work.
 Social Concerns helps provide assistance for needy people in our area along with providing funds to
 Horizon Soup Kitchen, Quincy Catholic Charities, Quincy Teen Reach and other local organizations.

Christmas Decorations (Please print legibly)

To make a donation (\$10.00) for Christmas poinsettias & decorations in memory of a loved one, please put money in a plain envelope labeled "Christmas Decorations" by Sunday, December 14, or email church@cospq.org.

A Donation for Christmas Decorations

Given by: _____

In Memory of: _____