

From the Pastor's Desk:



This Thursday, December 17, we will be having our joint St. Peter/St. Mary Advent Penance Service at 7:00 p.m. There will be six priests here hearing confession. Give the Lord (and yourself) an early Christmas gift by repenting and confessing.

In Christ,
Fr. Hahn



Altar Flowers have been donated by the Meeker Family in Memory of Sr. Mary Peter on the second anniversary of her death.

Thursday, December 17 – The daily Mass will be at 8:30 a.m. due to the penance service at 7:00 p.m. There will also be no confessions prior to the morning Mass or at 5:00-5:15 p.m.

The new security entrance system is now in place at the parish hall/office. When you come to the parish office/hall during business hours, please press the button on the grey box to the left of the doors. Someone will answer the call and let you know when the door is unlocked for entrance.

Responsorial Psalm for this weekend's Masses:

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Is. 12: 2-3, 4, 5-6

YEAR C

Cry out with joy and gladness: for among
you is the great and Holy One of Is-rael.

Musical notation for the Responsorial Psalm, consisting of two staves with notes and lyrics.

The Church encourages us to sing the Ordinaries of the Mass. What are the Ordinaries? They are the invariable texts of the Mass. That is, they remain the same from week to week: the Kyrie (Lord Have Mercy), Gloria, Credo (Nicene Creed), Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy), and Agnus Dei (Lamb of God). During the four weeks of Advent we will be singing the Nicene Creed at the 11:30 a.m. Mass. It can be found in the Saint Michael Hymnal #126.

Faith and Light community gathering at St. Peter parish center is this Sunday, December 13th.

Gathering begins shortly after 11:30 a.m. Mass. The theme for December is "The most beautiful of Cribs." We will be watching a video about the Annunciation; be discussing how we, like Mary, can say Yes and prepare to receive Jesus. If you have a family member or friend with developmental disabilities please come have lunch with us and let the light of Christ enhance your faith.

St. Vincent de Paul Society – Current Needs of the

Food Pantry are canned fruit, soup, and cereal. The Food Pantry will be closed from December 23, 2015 through January 4, 2016. So if you know of someone needing assistance, please have them contact the Society before this time.



Christmas Flower Memorial Fund Envelopes are located in the pews. Place envelopes in the collection basket or drop off at the church office. What more wonderful way to honor a loved one than to help us beautify the altar for Christmas. The List of names will be printed in the church bulletin over a couple of week's span due to the printing deadlines.



We are looking for children who want to sing at the 5:00 Children's Mass on Christmas Eve. There will be a practice to go over the songs from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, December 20th, in the choir loft. For questions, please call Diane Corcoran at 740-703-2196.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 12

9:00 a.m. Success of Mexico 2016 Mission –
Our Lady Outreach Network

5:00 p.m. Fred Ginther – David & Jody Cutright

Sunday, December 13

Zep 3:14-18a; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

8:00 a.m. Russ Dooley – Mary Jo Dooley

11:30 a.m. David Minch – St. Peter Class of 1965

Monday, December 14

Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Mt 21:23-27

5:30 p.m. Gale & Mary Dazey –
Tim & Maralee Scheeler

Tuesday, December 15

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Mt 21:28-32

8:30 a.m. George & Mary Scheeler –
Tim & Maralee Scheeler

Wednesday, December 16

Is 45:6-8, 18, 21-25; Lk 7:18b-23

8:30 a.m. Don & Katie Ringwald – the Estate

Thursday, December 17

Gn 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17

8:30 a.m. Sofia Taguba – Carol Stamper

Friday, December 18

Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25

9:30 a.m. Barbara Manegold – Chris Manegold

Saturday, December 19

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25

5:00 p.m. Gertrude Purpero –
Janet & Geary Griffith

Sunday, December 20

Mi 5:1-4a; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

8:00 a.m. Greta Ivins – Richard & Carol Rooney

11:30 a.m. James Dennewitz – Sonia Dennewitz



The Christian Service Christmas Gift Giving Project gifts are due back by the end of the 11:30 a.m. Mass this weekend. Join the Christian Service committee on Sunday, December 20 for delivering the gifts to the nursing homes. Gather for breakfast at the K of C breakfast next Sunday and stay to help deliver presents and cheer to elderly members of our community. This is a chance

for a wonderful family Christmas project. For more information or questions, contact Brenda Pickerrell at 740-703-7561.

Calendar for the Week

Saturday, December 12

4:00-4:30 p.m. – Confessions – Church

4:25 p.m. Rosary Recitation – Church

5:30 p.m. Doors Open – International Dinner –
Parish Hall

6:00-8:00 p.m. Living Nativity – Bishop Flaget

Sunday, December 13

9:15 a.m. PSR – 2nd Floor Parish Center

9:30 a.m. Bible Study – Holy Family Library

12:30 p.m. Christmas Gifts need returned to Church

12:30 p.m. Faith & Light Program – Parish Hall

Monday, December 14

6:30 p.m. Flame of Hope Prayer Group –
Blessed Virgin Mary Room

6:45 p.m. Knights of Columbus –
St. John Bosco Room

7:00 p.m. Penance Service – St. Colman, WCH

Tuesday, December 15

9:30-10:30 a.m. – St. Vincent de Paul Office Open

3:00 p.m. Mass at Heartland Nursing Home

7:00 p.m. RCIA – Holy Family Library

Wednesday, December 16

10:00 a.m. Sisterhood of the Frogged Stitches –
Blessed Virgin Mary Room

7:00 p.m. Choir Practice – Church

7:00 p.m. Sisterhood of the Frogged Stitches –
Blessed Virgin Mary Room

Thursday, December 17

8:30 a.m. Mass – Church

9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. – Adoration – Church

10:00 a.m. Creighton Fertility Session –
Holy Family Library

7:00 p.m. Advent Penance Service – Church
High School Youth Group

Social following Penance Service

Friday, December 18

1:30-2:30 p.m. – St. Vincent de Paul Office Open

3:00 p.m. Mass at Bristol Village – Waverly

Saturday, December 19

4:00-4:30 p.m. – Confessions – Church

4:25 p.m. Rosary Recitation – Church

Sunday, December 20

8:45 a.m. K of C Breakfast – Parish Hall

9:30 a.m. Bible Study – Holy Family Library

12:30 p.m. K of C Breakfast – Parish Hall

12:30 p.m. Gather for Christian Service Project –
Parish Hall

1:00 p.m. PSR Party – Parish Hall

Lectors are reminded to pick up their workbooks for this Liturgical Year. They are located on the table in the back of church and are labeled by name.

Secular Franciscan Order beginning at St. Peter Parish. Please mark your calendars for Thursday, January 28, at 6:30 p.m. for a “Come & See” Session to learn more about the Secular Franciscan Order. It will be held in the St. Peter Parish Hall. The session will be presented by Mr. Dave Osborn, who works for St. Gabriel Catholic Radio and is a member of the St. Padre Pio Secular Franciscan Group in Columbus. The Secular Franciscan Order is a worldwide community committed to live their lives after Christ in the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi. Sr. Leonard Mary will be the Spiritual Director for our parish chapter of the Secular Franciscans. If you have any questions or want any additional information, please contact Sr. Leonard or Fr. Dooley at 740-774-1407.

Prayer List

(Please check this prayer list for people who are no longer in need of prayer. We strive to keep this list current for those in their hour of need. If someone needs to be removed, please call the office. If someone is in need of prayer, please let us know that, too!)

Donald Hayburn, Ed Moyer, Elaina Neff, Joyce Neff, Nancy Kight, Pat Manion, Marjorie Prince, Joe Schumann, Mike Obert, Faye Keefer, Elinor Jworski, Veronica Geimer, Albert Geimer, Carol Seachrist, Gloria Jones, Mary Margaret Rhoads, Wyatt Schumacher, Nancy Gatten, Jean Hosier, Rick Rinehart, Kathy Dye, Rosemary Cox, Floyd Wofford, Olivia Jones, Kim Dempsey, Brenda Estep, David Conley, Barbara Conley, Brookie Heightsman, Karen & Raymond Gibson, Mike Bigler, John Lisle, Keith Lovensheimer, Evelyn Silva, Michael Dixon, Bernice Heron, Michael Quinn, Peggy Lisle, Donna Stevens, Jo Burchett, Steve Dennis, Pam Thomas, Nancy Leasure, Melissa Falhgren, Mandy Hatmacher, Tracy Jalbueno, Rosemary McHarg, Kelly Chandler, Kathryn Hunt, Angie Currier, Herman Swisher, Rose Montavon, Patsy Cutler, Deb Zimpher, Evelyn Weinman, Tim Ott, Dave Neal, John P. Hess, Mary Ellen Diesher, Joshua Hicks, Rosalina Prog, Rose Shoemaker, Ray Janko, Roger Wilburn, Alfred Gabiels, Paul Scoles, Mary Wachter, Paula Romans, Douglas Griffith, Sister Martha Sebesta, Tony Azcona, Lynn Smith, Ruth Neal, Bill Neal, Eva & Melvin States, Julie Carey, Kathy McNight, Lucille Maimone, Norma Whitley, Nicholas Smith, Lib Fisher, Joseph Lynch, Jody Morrison, Dan & Jane Harness.

Today’s Gospel provides a blueprint for good stewardship: “Let the man who has two coats give to him who has none. The man who has food should do the same.” See Luke 3:11

Your financial support of our parish is greatly appreciated!

	Weekly Offertory	YTD Offertory
Budgeted	\$ 8,405.21	\$193,420.86
Actual Offertory from 12/6/2015	\$18,392.78*	\$186,094.09
Difference	\$ 9,987.57	(\$ 7,326.77)
Improvement Fund	\$ 150.00	\$ 1,866.00

*Number includes one time yearly gift from a parishioner.

Online Giving is the easiest way to give your first fruits to our Lord! Visit the Parish website at www.stpeterchillicothe.com to sign up by clicking the “online giving” tab. Now there is an “Online Giving” mobile app to donate through your phone! See website for details.

Are you new to the parish and need to register?

Having trouble getting into the office to fill out a registration form or remembering to pick one up in the vestibule of church? We now have another option for you! Online Registration is now available on the parish website! Go to www.stpeterchillicothe.com and under the Parish Information tab you will find “Parish Registration” at the bottom of the pull down. Click on this and fill out the information. Once submitted, it will go directly to the church office. It’s as easy as that!



JUBILEE YEAR of MERCY

This Advent, begin the Year of Mercy by making a good confession

by Fr. William Saunders

QUESTION: I have heard the priests of my parish encouraging us to go to confession during Advent. I admit I have not been to confession in years because I am not sure I know how to go to confession. Would you please review how to go to confession?

The Second Vatican Council did decree that “the rite and formulas of penance are to be revised in such a way that they may more clearly express the nature and effects of this sacrament” (*Sacrosanctum Concilium* No. 72). Accordingly the Sacred Congregation for Divine Worship issued The Rite of Penance in 1973. The new rite did add options for prayers, provide for a reading of Sacred Scripture, and introduce “penance services” with private confessions. Nevertheless, the norms stipulated, “It is for priests, and especially parish priests in reconciling individuals or the community, to adapt the rite to the concrete circumstances of the penitents” (No. 40). Therefore, on a Saturday afternoon with a line of penitents waiting for confession, the parish priest may follow a more “streamlined” version of the Rite, which would include by custom the traditional format for confession.

With that in mind, a person begins with a good examination of conscience. We need to hold up our life to the pattern of life God has revealed for us to live. For instance, we take time to reflect on the 10 Commandments, the Beatitudes, the precepts of the Church, and the virtues of prudence, fortitude, temperance, and justice. (Several clear, simple pamphlets with an examination of conscience may be found on the internet; **an examination of conscience is included as part of this bulletin.**)

The examination of our conscience is like stepping back and looking at the picture of our life in comparison to the masterpiece of life revealed by God. Remember when we were children, we used to trace pictures. Tracing helped us learn to draw. We would take a piece of plain paper, hold it over the original picture, and then put it up to the window. The light would enable us to trace the original picture onto our blank sheet of paper. Periodically, we had to stop and step back to see if our paper had slipped and was out of kilter with the original or if we had deviated from the lines.

In a similar way, as we live our lives, we are tracing them in accord with God’s pattern of life. In examining our consciences, we step back and honestly assess how well we fit God’s pattern and have stayed within His boundaries. At this time, we reflect on the progress we have made since our last confession in dealing with weaknesses, faults, temptations, and past sins. Hopefully, we see improvement in our spiritual well-being. However, when we have gone out of kilter or gone out of bounds with God’s masterpiece, we have sinned. We must recognize the venial sins — those lighter sins which weaken our relationship with the Lord — from the mortal sins — those sins which sever our relationship with the Lord and “kill” the presence of sanctifying grace in our souls. Here we remember the words of Jesus, “Everyone who practices evil hates the light; he does not come near it for fear his deeds will be exposed. But he who acts in truth comes into the light, to make clear that his deeds are done in God” (Jn 3:20-21).

Given this examination of conscience, we have contrition for our sins. While we are sorry for sin because we do fear the fires of Hell and the loss of Heaven, and the just punishments of God, we are sorry most of all because our sins offend God whom we should love above all things. The love for God moves us to repent of sin and seek reconciliation. All of the great saints regularly examined their consciences and made frequent use of the Sacrament of Penance. (Even Pope Saint John Paul II confessed his sins weekly, as did Mother Teresa.) One must ask, “Why? What sins did these saints possibly commit?” They loved the Lord so much that even the slightest omission or commission moves them to confession. They do not want even the slightest sin to separate them from the love of God. For love of God, we too are sorry for our sins.

Sorrow for sin moves us to have a firm amendment not to sin again. We probably will sin again, but we try in earnest not to do so. We do not plan on leaving the confessional and committing the same sins again.

We then confess our sins. When we enter the confessional in most Churches, we have the option of remaining anonymous or facing the priest. Whichever option a person chooses, always remember that whatever is said during the confession is held in secret by the priest.

Remember also that we confess to the priest for three reasons.

First, the priest has the authority of the Apostles by virtue of his ordination. On the night of the resurrection, Jesus said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive men’s sins, they are forgiven them; if you hold them bound, they are held bound” (Jn 20:22-23). The priest is the minister of the sacrament acting in the person of Christ.

Second, the priest is our spiritual father. Just as we see a doctor for healing when we are physically sick, we see a priest when our soul is sick and needs healing.

Third, the priest represents the Church and the people we have sinned against. In the early days of the Church, people publicly confessed sin at the beginning of Mass and were absolved. Much to our relief, for centuries now we have had private confession.

We proceed by making the sign of the cross and saying, “Bless me father for I have sinned.” One could also simply begin, “In the name of the Father....” We should then state when we made our last confession: “It has been (timeframe) since my last confession.”

We then confess our sins. We must be specific. Sometimes people say, “I broke the sixth commandment,” which covers everything from a lustful thought to rape and adultery. We do not need to provide the full-blown story, just the basics to enable the priest to help. We need to give some quantification — missing Mass once is different from several times which is different from all the time. When we are finished confessing our sins, we state, “I am sorry for these and all of my sins.” With this information, the priest may counsel us. He also assigns a penance for the healing of the hurt caused by sin and the strengthening of our soul against future temptation. He then asks us to say an *Act of Contrition*, which is generally the traditional prayer: **“Oh my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee. I detest all of my sins because of Thy just punishments, but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, who are all good and deserving of all of my love. I firmly resolve with the help of Thy grace to sin no more and to avoid the near occasions of sin. Amen.”**

Finally, the priest imparts absolution. Ponder these beautiful words: “God the Father of mercies, through the death and resurrection of His son, has reconciled the world to Himself and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins; through the ministry of the Church may God give you pardon and peace, and I absolve you from your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” This formula emphasizes our merciful Heavenly Father, the saving mystery of our Lord’s passion, death, and resurrection, and the healing ministry of the Holy Spirit through the Church.

The priest then dismisses us, saying, “Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,” to which we respond, “His mercy endures forever.” (Many priests may simply say, “May God bless you.”) We then leave the confessional to do the assigned penance.

The Sacrament of Penance is a beautiful sacrament through which we are reconciled to God, ourselves, and our neighbors. Remember the words of St. Paul, “God is rich in mercy; because of His great love for us, He brought us to life with Christ when we were dead in sin” (Eph 2:4). As we draw closer to Christmas, make the time to give a good confession.

Fr. Saunders is Pastor of Our Lady of Hope Parish in Potomac Falls, Virginia. His book series STRAIGHT ANSWERS is available in many Catholic bookstores, or on the internet. This article is reprinted courtesy of THE CATHOLIC HERALD, the newspaper of the Diocese of Arlington.



50+ Group Members – The December Get Together will be caroling at the nursing homes in conjunction with Christmas Gift Giving Project. Watch the bulletin for details!

December Birthday Wishes

(if you have a special birthday and wish to be on the list, please contact Leigh Ann Meeker at 773-6115)

St. Peter Parish family extends congratulations and many blessings to the following on their “special” birthdays:

December 14, Dorothy Hagerty, 7627 Egypt Pike
 December 19, Dona Schumacher, 405 Robin Road

What is your Spiritual Charism? To follow up with the Spiritual Gifts Workshop in October 2015, we will look at each of the Charisms presented. The third Charism is CRAFTSMANSHIP. *The Charism of Craftsmanship* empowers a Christian to be an effective channel of God’s goodness to others through artistic and creative work that beautifies and/or orders the physical world. Examples of using this charism would be helping Habitat for Humanity, photography, making props for liturgy, jewelry/rosaries for church, or doing crocheting/needlework.



**Pilgrim Virgin Statue
 of Our Lady of Fatima Schedule
 (sign up sheets through the
 calendar year have been added)
 December 6-12 – Dave Purpero
 December 13-19 – Carol & Rod Stamper**



LITURGICAL ASSIGNMENTS

	December 19 5:00 p.m. Fourth Sunday of Advent	December 20 8:00 a.m. Fourth Sunday of Advent	December 20 11:30 a.m. Fourth Sunday of Advent
Eucharist	George Hassey – B Bonnie Pinnix – C1 Mary Brown – C2	Elmer Palisbo – B Vicky Palisbo – C1 Roger Cenci – C2	Tess Hatmacher – B Sr. Leonard Mary – C1 Donna Weisenberger – C2
Lector	Pauline Spriggs – 1 Chris Manegold – 2	Aaron Brown – 1 Jim Maimone – 2	Michael Althouse – 1 Jess Hamm – 2
Server	Joey Mihelich Christopher Beatty James Beatty	Isaac Maimone Vinz Palisbo Gabe Maimone Justin Wood	Dominic Nunziato Danny Bentley Gabriel McNichols
Greeter	Phyllis Hassey Bill Seidensticker	Jason Shuman James Shuman	Barbara Sherwood Nanette Stanton
Offertory	Eric Rinehart	Schumacher Family	Henry/Carolyn Barlage Family
Usher	Mary Anne Brown Lisa Diehl Pete Simmons Thomas Zuber	James Burgess Doug Corcoran Maralee Scheeler Tim Scheeler	John Crowe Ken Miller Frank Nunziato Bret Reisinger

Church Cleaning	Team #4 – Jeff Hammond	Linens for the Month of December: Laura Lewis
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