

# ST. PETER & ST. CASIMIR PARISHES

## 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### DECEMBER 17, 2023

Welcome to the  
Catholic Parishes of  
St. Peter & St. Casimir

**Parish Office**  
**715-344-6115** at  
800 Fourth Ave.  
Stevens Point

**Website:**  
[stpeter.us](http://stpeter.us)  
**Facebook:**  
Saint Peter Catholic Church

#### **MASS SCHEDULE**

Weekdays: 8:00am Tues-Fri  
4:00pm Saturday @ St. Peter  
7:30am Sunday @ St. Peter  
@ St. Casimir 9:00 am Sunday  
10:30am Sunday @ St. Peter  
**MONDAY MASS ROTATION:**  
St. Stephen Church  
8:15 am

#### **CURRENT OFFICE HOURS**

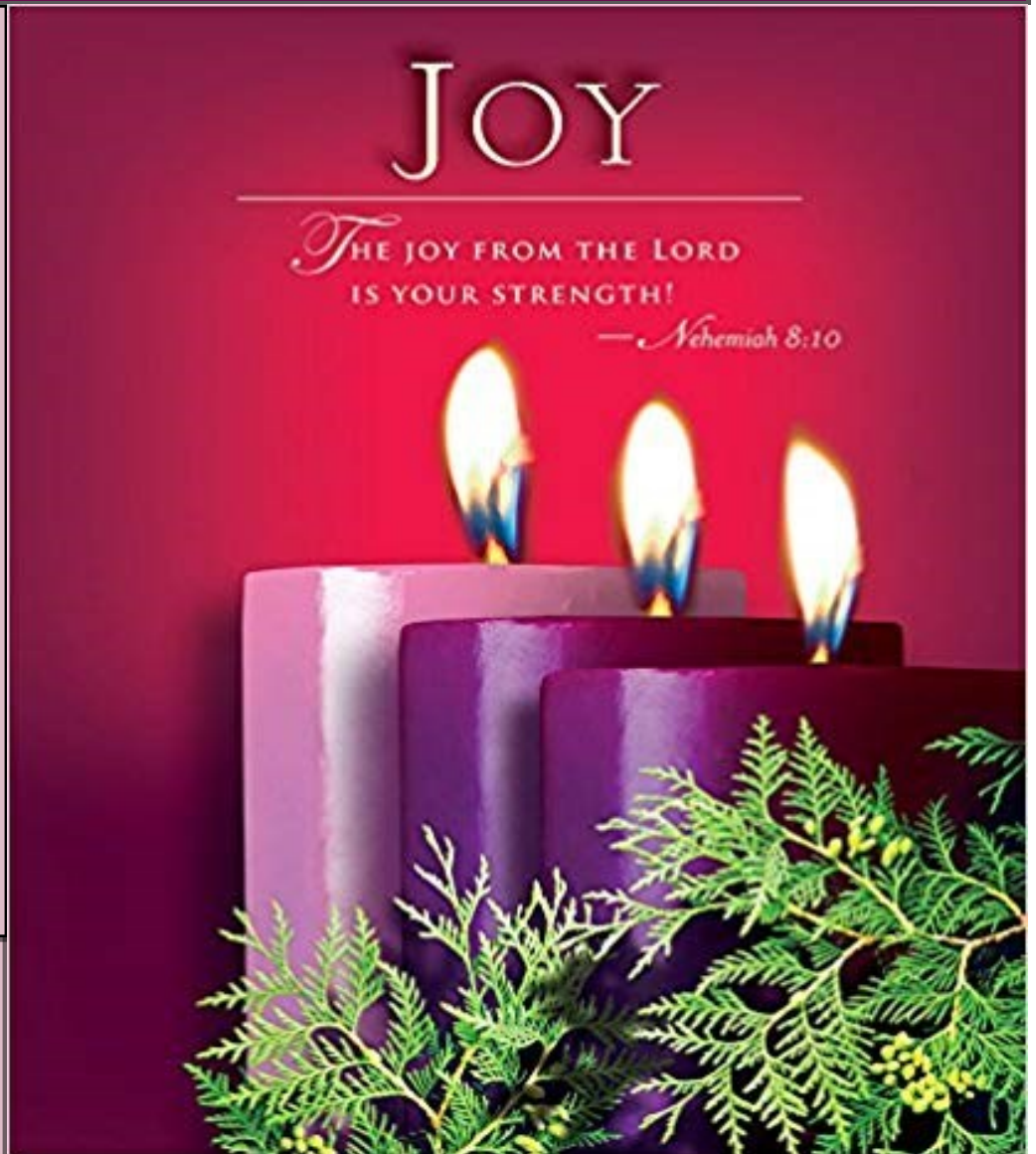
**MON-THURSDAY:**  
8:30am - 3:00pm  
**Friday:** by appt. only

**LIVE-STREAMED MASS:**  
**Saturday at 4:00pm**

**Website:** [stpeter.us](http://stpeter.us)  
**Facebook:**  
'Saint Peter Catholic  
Church'

#### **24 HOUR EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

Wednesdays from 8:30am -  
8:00am on Thursday  
1st FRIDAY of the month  
Adoration from 8:30am until  
5:00pm



#### **REMINDERS:**

**Thursday, Dec. 21: St. Peter's Communal Penance  
Service 6:00pm**

#### **HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS:**

St. Peter Parish Office will be  
**CLOSED** Dec. 25th & 26th  
Regular hours resume Dec. 27, 2023

<b>Date: Dec. 23/24th</b>	<b>Lectors</b>	<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Servers</b>	<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	<b>SCRIP Sellers</b>
<b>4:00pm</b>	Nancy Koch	Bill Kolodziej Paul Koch	Mark Pakulski Dick Glinski	Kay King Gerry Weber Mateo Koch	NO SALES this weekend
<b>7:30 am</b>	Donna Bemowski	Bob Bernas Bob Govett Kevin Pudroski	Andrew & Matthew Schoenecker	Deacon Ray Mike Spaid Pam Spaid	NO SALES this weekend
<b>10:30am</b>	Johanna McIntyre	Dick Glinski Jeff Czudec	Gloria Gebeau Mathias Gebeau	Joe Demrath Cheryl Kehl Eve Krueger	NO SALES this weekend

#### St. Peter Parish Weekly Financial Report:

**Dec. 10, 2023 : \$info NOT available at time of publishing**

Envelopes & Offertory: \$

Year to Date: \$

Diocesan Annual Appeal 23/24: \$17,165.00 (23.44%)

CONFESSION IS THE  
SACRAMENT OF THE  
TENDERNESS OF GOD;  
HIS WAY OF EMBRACING US.  
~Pope Francis



## CONTACT INFORMATION

#### St. Peter's Pastor:

**Rev. John Potaczek**

715-344-6115 or jpotaczek@diolclergy.org

#### Associate Pastor:

**Rev. Todd Mlsna**

715-252-8157 or tmlsna@diolclergy.org

#### Deacon Ray Heitzinger:

**Lay Ministry Coordinator,**

**Director of Religious Educ. (DRE)**

rheitzinger@outlook.com 715-630-1275

#### Senior Priest:

**Rev. Arul Joseph Visuvasam**

v\_aruljoseph@hotmail.com

**Administrative Assistant: Mishelle O'Shasky**

715-344-6115

stpeters@pacellicatholicsschools.com

**Parish Secretary: Nancy Koch**

715-344-6115

bulletin-secretary@pacellicatholicsschools.com

**RCIA Coordinator:** 715-344-6115

**Music Committee: Della Schoenecker**

614-507-1345 / dellaschoenecker@yahoo.com

**Maintenance: Jeff Patton**

715-347-3400



## SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

**Reconciliation: Tuesday-Friday @ 7:15 - 7:45am**

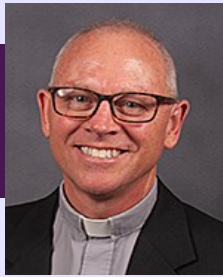
**Saturday @ 3:00 - 3:45pm**

**Baptism:** New parents are required to take part in a preparation program, if possible, before the child's birth. Please contact the Parish Office (715-344-6115) for more registration information.

**Marriage:** Couples requesting the Sacrament of Matrimony should contact the Pastor at the time of Formal engagement or at least 6 months prior to the date of the wedding. It is required that you participate in a two-fold marriage preparation program. Please call the Parish Office (715-344-6115) to schedule a meeting with the Pastor.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Those who are seriously sick, ill for an extended period of time or are about to undergo surgery may receive Anointing & Holy Communion. Call the Parish Office (715-344-6115) to make the necessary arrangements.

## Inspiration from Deacon Ray



### There Is One Among You Whom You Do Not Recognize

Today we are introduced to John the Baptist in the Gospel passage from John. John the Baptist is somewhat of a mysterious figure to us. He lived a very austere life; living in the wilderness, eating locusts and wild honey, wearing a garment of camel's hair. He preached a message of repentance and baptized in the Jordan River. John was not the messiah and readily told those who questioned him as much. John was the person Isaiah wrote of when he said; "A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord." (Is 40:3)

In today's passage we hear John's reply to the Pharisees who questioned why he baptized; "I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie." John knew his place. He was not seeking glory or honor, rather he was there to prepare the people for the messiah. He was a humble man of God doing what God had asked.

We live in a world that all too often does not recognize the One among us. We fail to realize God dwells with us. Some people fail to recognize that God even exists! How tragic it is they will not open their minds and hearts to the One who created them in His own image. Perhaps there are even people who come to gather with us who fail to acknowledge the God we worship is present to us in the tabernacle and in the Most Precious Body and Blood of Jesus in the Eucharist. We, like the Pharisees of old, can fail to see God present in our midst.

How can we assist those who fail to recognize God among us? I believe by living an active, loving faith life, God shines through us. When others see our inner joy that comes from knowing God, they will want what we hold so dear. When they see us bear our burdens with a spirit of hope, they will desire the same. We can be witnesses of God in our world- that is what we are called to. So shine the light of God in your life, attract others to the One in our midst.

Prepare the way of the Lord! And may God bless you!

Deacon Ray



## Mass Intentions for the Week

### MONDAY, December 18

Monday Mass rotation: St. Stephen Parish @ 8:15am

### TUESDAY, December 19

8:00 am † Mattie Litzer  
† Mary Wasieleski

### WEDNESDAY, December 20

8:00 am † Dan Taylor

### THURSDAY, December 21

8:00 am † Lorraine Glodowski  
† Ralph Meshak

### FRIDAY, December 22

8:00 am † Veronica Zimbauer  
† Henry Korgor

### SATURDAY, December 23

4:00 pm † Irene Zurawski

### SUNDAY, December 24

7:30 am For Healing for Dr. Jennifer Blahnik  
For the Families of St. Peter & St. Casimir Parishes

10:30 am † Sr. Loretta Zelewski  
For the Families of St. Peter & St. Casimir Parishes



## Mass of the Nativity of the Lord



### **Dec. 24: Anticipatory Mass of the Nativity of the Lord / Christmas Eve:**

4:00pm: † Clifford Falkowski & † Wally & Lil Jakusz

### **Midnight Mass: The Nativity of the Lord**

Thanks to Jesus for Mercy, Love & Blessings  
† Ray & Charlotte Gollon & Gary Vollert

### **Dec. 25: Christmas : The Nativity of the Lord**

10:30 am † Dr. Mike Klasinski  
† Kenneth Thompson

### **24 HR. EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

Beginning after the 8am Mass every Wednesday until  
immediately before the 8am Mass on Thursday  
Divine Mercy Chaplet  
is prayed at 3PM

*Let every heart prepare  
Him room...*

# Advent Confession

SCHEDULE

**DEC. 21 : St. Peter 's  
Communal Penance  
6pm**

DEC. 18 : St. Bronislava's  
at 6:30 pm

DEC. 20 : St. Stephen's  
at 6:30 pm

Holy Spirit : 6-7pm  
Wednesdays/ Sat. 9-11am

FRANCISCANS

DOWNTOWN: Fr. Placid  
2-3pm on Dec. 12 & 19th



**Congratulations,  
On your 1st Reconciliation!**

Pictured: some of the  
2nd Grade class



**Does Jesus understand everything  
about me??**

Jesus knows exactly what you are feeling & understands. Where you are, Jesus has been; He shares every joy and every pain with you.

Let's pray this right now and every day this week: If you have something painful in your heart, speak with Jesus about it and give it to Him.

This week, read from Scripture how the angel Appears to Joseph & guides him to take his wife Mary into his home in Matthew 1: 18-25. Note: Mary and Joseph were married in the Jewish Tradition, which is referred to as betrothed.



***Encounter Jesus  
in the Eucharist.  
He waits for you!***

## Thank you, Family Life! Thank you, EVERYBODY!!

We, once again, wish to thank everyone for supporting the St. Peter Cookie Walk. Thanks to our Reliable & Fabulous bakers for generously donating their time & talent....and to all the folks who purchased goodies or placed bids at the Silent Auction. It was a delightful time...and a wonderful



success! Cookie sales & contributions: \$3,075.64, Silent Auction: \$2,000.00 for a total net earned of \$5,075.64.

What does Family Life DO with our fundraiser Earnings? We serve free luncheons which the parish provides for All Souls Day and the Anointing Mass. We donated \$3,000 toward the upgrading of the wiring in the kitchen in Kolbe Hall. We were able to donate \$8,000 toward the landscaping project, and we also pay for postage for mailing out bulletins to the homebound. Additional gifts are provided for Giving Tree, 1st Communion & Confirmation candidates etc.

All thanks to ALL of YOU helping to support Family Life! ♥



### *Watch & Prepare!!*

For this time of waiting...the Advent Wreath draws a family together around the lighting of one of the four candles, each representing a week of this season. It is a special time to pray a Rosary, or a decade of the Rosary, and focus on the Joyful Mysteries that call to mind the events of Christ's birth.

A prayer card for the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary can be downloaded here:

**[diolc.org/deeper](http://diolc.org/deeper)**

Also....

There are seven Scripture Readings pertinent to the season of Advent on a Downloadable prayer card available here under the title

**"Praying with Scripture: [diolc.org/deeper](http://diolc.org/deeper)."**

Or..

If you would like to read the Scripture readings from Mass each day during Advent as a beautiful way to prepare for Christmas,

Visit: **[bible.usccb.org](http://bible.usccb.org)**

**At St. Peter Church**

- Advent Communal Penance: Dec. 21 @ 6pm
- Christmas Eve Mass: December 24 @ 4pm  
(Prelude Music begins at 3:30pm)
- Anticipatory Mass of the Nativity of the Lord
- MIDNIGHT Mass: 12:00am The Nativity of the Lord / (Prelude Music beginning at 11:30pm)
- Christmas Day: The Nativity of the Lord Mass  
December 25 at 10:30 am Prelude Music at 10:00

*Oh Come, all Ye Faithful*

# Saint Casimir Parish

152 years of Faith and Family  
The Third Sunday of Advent  
December 17, 2023

Secretary: Lori Gollon  
Bookkeeper: Rebecca Jones  
Bulletin Editor: C. Strojny  
Email: [secretary@stcstp.diocparish.org](mailto:secretary@stcstp.diocparish.org)  
Phone Number: 715-344-9582

Saint Casimir Parish Support



**Collection Totals for December will not be available until January due to early submissions for the bulletins.**

Thank you for your continued support of St. Casimir Parish!

## Happy Birthday:

Sam Stevenson (Dec. 17)  
Lynn Ligman (Dec. 18)  
Sally Bukowski (Dec. 23)



## Rosary

Please remember that the rosary is said at 8:20am before every mass. Join us as we continue to pray for the sick of our parish and any special intentions that you may hold.

## Thank you!

Thank you to Father Todd for holding confessions last Sunday at St. Casimir Parish. We appreciate you administering this sacrament for our parishioners as we prepare for the birth of our Savior.

During this winter season St. Casimir's will be collecting non-perishable food items, personal hygiene items and warm children's hats, gloves and scarves. Items can be placed in the collection box located at the front entrance of the church. We will be collecting through January 14th. Thank you for your generous support!

Mass Intention for Sunday, December 24, 2023

† **Kathy Zelhofer Lepak**

† **Elayne Klicinski**



Mass Intention for Monday, December 25, 2023



† **Carl & Frances Zimbauer**

† **Rose Barbers**

## St. Casimir Parish Ministry Schedule

**December 24, 2023**

Commentator: Bonnie Ziolkowski

Lector: Debbie Wolfe

Servers: Jacob and Joey Gollon

Eucharistic Minister: Debbie Wolfe

Ushers: Kurt and Caden Strojny

## Inspired by the Spirit Capital Campaign

Goal: \$131, 375

Total Pledged: \$107,141



## Question of the Week

Last Weeks Question and Answer:

Q: Who was sent to free the Israelites from bondage?  
Why was he sent?

A: Moses, "I have heard the groaning of the Israelites' who the Egyptians have enslaved and remembering my covenant, tell them, 'I am the Lord and will rescue them.'" - Exodus 6:5

This weeks question is:

**What is the main purpose of the book of Leviticus?**



A Eucharistic Rally : JUNE 7, 2024 at the La Crosse Center. This event kicks off the first day that the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage will be in the Diocese of La Crosse. It will begin with a Eucharistic Procession Across the Cameron Street Bridge in La Crosse. It will end at the La Crosse Center where the rest of the rally will take place. The day will include Mass, Adoration, Confession, powerful speakers such as

Chris Stefanick, Immaculee Illibagize, and Josh Rosa.

Music from Luke Spehar and plenty of vendors.

The cost: \$15 per person. This rally is for middle and high school youth, young adults, adults, families, etc. **Tickets will go on sale December 15, 2023.** You can find more information about the event by visiting:

<https://diolc.org/the-answer/>



## Ministry Schedule for CHRISTMAS Mass

**Dec. 24th at 4:00 PM:**

**Christmas Vigil Mass**

Reader: Cherye Rolnicki

Ushers: Kay & Steve King

Servers: Mark and Dick G.

Volunteer Servers welcome!

Eucharistic Ministers: Kay King

Deacon Ray & Don Rolnicki

**Midnight:** Reader: Angel Gebeau

Ushers: Fred Vieth & Volunteer

Servers: Gloria & Mathias Gebeau

Euch. Ministers: Deacon Ray & Mary

**Dec. 25 at 10:30 AM CHRISTMAS**

Reader: Matt Bablitch

Ushers: Bernie & Dick

Servers: Aiden & Chase

Euch. Min: Eve Krueger, Deacon Ray  
& Cheryl Kehl