

# SAINT PETER

## CATHOLIC CHURCH

800 Fourth Avenue, Stevens Point

www.saintpetercatholic.com

December 7, 2008

### Parish Mission Statement

“Through faith and Baptism the members of Saint Peter Parish have been born into new life in Christ and incorporated into His Body, the Church. Our mission is to know, serve, and love the One Only God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – so as to one day attain the fullness of this communion in Heaven.”

### Staff

**Pastors:** Rev. Kevin C. Louis, STL  
Rev. Keith Kitzhaber, Pacelli/St. Peter  
School Chaplain, In Residence  
Rev. Joseph Raja, In residence

**Administrative Assistant:**  
Susan Varga

**Secretary:** Heather Clark

**Maintenance/Custodian:** Ronald  
Helmrichs

### Religious Education

**Director of Catechesis and**

**Evangelization:** Phil Lawson, MTS  
[lawsphil@gmail.com](mailto:lawsphil@gmail.com), 344-6115

### Sacred Music

**Director of Sacred Music, Organist:**  
Patrick Burkhardt  
[paburkha@yahoo.com](mailto:paburkha@yahoo.com), 344-6115

### Office Hours

Monday-Friday: 8:30-11:30 a.m. and  
12:30-3:30 p.m.....344-6115

**Stevens Point Catholic Schools**

**Central Office.....**341-2445

**St. Peter Middle School....**344-1890

*New Parishioners: If you wish to join our parish, register at the office during office hours.*



## Mass schedule and Sacrament policies

### Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

**Weekend:** Saturday: 4 p.m.  
Sunday: 8 and 10 a.m.  
**Weekdays:** Listed inside  
**Holy Days:** 8 a.m., 5:15 p.m.  
**First Friday:** 8 a.m., 5:15 p.m.

### Sacrament of Penance

**Tuesday:** 4:30 to 5 p.m.  
**Wed.-Saturday:** 7:15 a.m.  
**Saturday:** 3 to 3:45 p.m.  
**Sunday:** 7 to 7:45 a.m.  
**First Friday:** 7:15 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

### Sacrament of Baptism

Parents should request the Baptism of their infants at least two months prior to the anticipated date of Baptism. The Baptism of infants is normally celebrated on the fourth Sunday of the month during any of the regularly scheduled Masses or at 11:15 a.m.. Baptisms are not celebrated during Lent. New parents are required to take part in a preparation program, if possible before the child's birth.

### Sacrament of Matrimony

Couples who want to request the celebration of the Sacrament of Matrimony should contact the Pastor at the time of formal engagement or at least six months prior to the date of the wedding. Couples are required to participate in the Stevens Point Deanery-based group course and our parish-based program. If one person is not Catholic or non-practicing

the couple must arrange for a course in the Catholic faith. Weddings are not celebrated during Advent and Lent.

### Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

Those who are seriously ill, with long-term illness or to undergo surgery should receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick and Holy Communion. Contact the parish office to make arrangements.

## Mass Intentions

### MONDAY, December 8

8:00 AM † Frank and Pauline Suchowski

5:15 PM Parish Family Members

### TUESDAY, December 9

5:15 PM † Chester and Dorothy Golla

### WEDNESDAY, December 10

8:00 AM † Wally Lorbecke

### THURSDAY, December 11

8:00 AM † Catherine and Bernard Makuski

### FRIDAY, December 12

8:00 AM † Audrey Kedrowski

### SATURDAY, December 13

8:00 AM Special Intentions for Lester Searl family

4:00 PM † Frank and Lucy Falkavage

### SUNDAY, December 14

8:00 AM † Ben and Helen Serafin

10:00 AM Parish Family Members

## Today's Gospel:

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: "Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way." - Mk 1:2

### Week of Dec. 7, 2008 readings:

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11  
2Pt 3:8-14  
Mk 1:1-8

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20  
Eph 1:3-6, 11-12  
Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11  
Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31  
Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Is 41:13-20  
Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab  
Lk 1:26-38 or 1:39-47

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11  
Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Next Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11  
1 Thes 5:16-24  
Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

## Welcome to Saint Peter Catholic Church

### Strengthen Your Brethren...

*I have recently begun a new cycle of visits to all our homebound and institutionalized parishioners. Take a guess as to how many of our parishioners are homebound or institutionalized. You will find the answer later in this column.*

*This past Friday we bid farewell to our parish secretary, Heather Clark. We are grateful to*



Father Kevin C. Louis

Heather for her warm personality, positive faith-filled attitude, and ready smile that greeted all who came to the parish office. She leaves us with our best wishes and assurance of prayer for her and her family. *As we say "goodbye" to Heather, we say "welcome" to Candace Ostertag.* Candace takes over the position of parish secretary whose responsibilities have been expanded and hours extended. Please be warm in your welcome of Candace!

Today, at the 10:00 a.m. Mass, we celebrate the *Rite of Acceptance and Welcoming for those eleven people participating in our Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.) program.* Through this

formal ritual, *those who have never been baptized are accepted as catechumens seeking to receive the gift of faith in Baptism.* Also, *those who have been baptized in other ecclesial communities and who now are seeking to be received into the full communion of the Catholic Church are welcomed as candidates.* Finally, there are those who, although baptized in the Catholic faith, now seek to *complete their initiation by receiving the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist.* During the Rite of Acceptance and Welcoming the *catechumens and candidates* formally declare their intention to diligently work and pray during the course of the next five months culminating with the sacramental celebration at the Easter Vigil; their *sponsors* affirm their readiness to help the catechumens and candidates during this time of intense preparation; and *all of us parishioners of Saint Peter* warmly welcome the catechumens and candidates and state our intention to accompany and prayerfully support them on their spiritual journey. God is at work in our midst!

*This afternoon, Sunday, December 7,* we have the opportunity to listen to some beautiful music and pray at the same time. *At 3:00 p.m. in church is the first of our Advent Preludes.* This week features on the organ our own Director of Sacred Music and Organist, Patrick Burkhart, and area brass players who will be performing *various works for organ and brass. This is not simply a concert but also features prayer interspersed throughout.* Come and bring a friend to enjoy this time of lifting mind and heart to God through music and prayer!

*Monday, December 8, is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, Patroness of our United States of America and a holy day of obligation for us to assist at Mass. The Vigil Mass for the Solemnity is 5:15 Sunday afternoon while Masses on Monday are at 8:00 a.m. and 5:15 p.m.* Please note that you are *obliged* (perhaps our attitude should rather be *privileged*) to assist at one Mass for the Second Sunday of Advent and one Mass for the

*please see Strengthen, page 5*

## People to know

### Church Committees

#### Pastoral Council

Angie Jakusz 344-4064  
Robert Giese 342-9817  
(Assistant to the President)  
James Miller 344-3132  
Lee Petersen 345-1734  
Mary Sadler 344-6448  
Bernice Sevenich 344-7515  
Mary Skrzeczkoski 342-0645  
Jeff Zdroik 345-9993  
John Krupka 344-8174

#### Finance Council

Bill Grimstad 342-4249  
Jean Stroik 341-1470

#### Rosary Society

Lorraine Glodowski 344-1860

#### Holy Name Society

Gene Kemmeter 344-2598

#### Order of St. Francis

Nancy Tillman 341-0852

#### Family Life Committee

Jean Stroik 341-1470

#### Picnic Committee

Larry Proulx 341-0634

#### Faith, Formation & Evangelization Committee

TBA

#### Senior Citizens & Interfaith Caregivers

Lorraine Studinski 344-3158

#### Ministers of Hospitality

TBA

#### Buildings and Grounds

Gary Glodoski 344-0003

#### Justice & Peace

Lorraine Glodowski 344-1860

Faith Formation

**REP Wednesdays** from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. for those in grades one through nine.

**Young Adult/College**

**Ministry: DTS** — **Tuesdays** at 7:15 p.m. in the St. Faustina Room. Open to all college students and young adults. Focus will be on St. Paul and the Pauline Epistles.

**Men of Christ:** The next Men of Christ breakfast and prayer meeting will be **Tuesday, December 16**. Meet at 6:00 a.m. in the church for morning prayer and teaching followed by breakfast at Perkins at 6:30 a.m. All men are welcome.

**Third Annual Men of Christ Conference** will be **Saturday, January 10, 2009** in Milwaukee. One bus already is reserved; more are available as needed. Cost is \$55 and includes registration and transportation. Make checks to St. Peter's

Church. Early registration (and reduced cost) is **due by December 9**. [www.menofchrist.net](http://www.menofchrist.net)

**Women of Christ:** Women of Christ Conference will be in Milwaukee Saturday, February 28, 2009. Watch for more details! [www.womenofchrist.net](http://www.womenofchrist.net)

**Angels, Demons, and Cults?** All area high school students are invited to come and find out what is real, what is myth, and what the Catholic Church has to say about these topics. Sessions will be held **December 3, 10, and 17**, from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. in the Youth Room in St. Stanislaus School. Mrs. Lorie Liss, Pacelli religion teacher, is the featured speaker. This event is co-sponsored by Sts. Stan's, Steve's, Joe's, Bron's and St. Peter's. Discussion will run from about 7 - 8 with time for games, pizza and fellowship on either

end. Contact Phil Lawson or Patrick Burkhart, 344-6115, for more information.

**Church Smiles:** "Some of the most imaginative thinking that children do is on that favorite of questions — 'Where did I come from?' A mother reports that she and her children were out for a ride one day when her four-year-old daughter suddenly asked their five-year-old son, 'Where do babies come from?' The parents remained silent while the boy thought it over. Finally, he said, 'Babies come from Heaven, of course.' This explanation didn't satisfy his sister. 'If babies come from Heaven,' she asked, 'why did Mommy have to go to the hospital?' There was a long pause. Then the boy said, 'To get their skins put on.'"

— *Faith, Hope and Hilarity: The Child's Eye View of Religion*, by Dick Van Dyke

Musical Notes

**Advent preludes:** During the three Sundays of Lent, St. Peter's offers opportunities for prayer and reflection through music. All are at 3 p.m. **SUNDAY, December 7** features Patrick Burkhart, organist, with *Advent Music for Strings, Brass and Organ*. If you miss it, be sure to pick up the remaining ones! The next one on Sunday, **December 14** will be the *Monteverdi Choral*; and December 21 will be the *Solemn Vespers*. The first is free with a free-will offering; an admission ticket is required for the Monteverdi Choral.

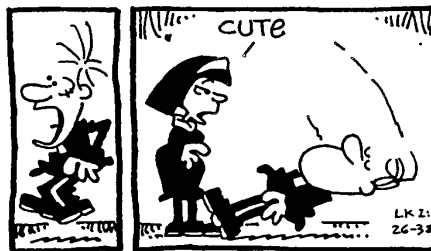


Youth Apostolate

**Adventure Camp** 2009 will be at Crossroads Camp in Chequamagon National Forest near Drummond, WI July 12-17, 2009. Cost is \$450 with a \$50 non-refundable deposit due with registration. Youths entering seventh through 12th grade may attend. Camp includes rappelling, rock-climbing, kayaking, as well as daily catechesis, confessions, and prayer. Contact Patrick Burkhart, 344-6115, to register or visit [www.stbrons.com/youth/](http://www.stbrons.com/youth/)

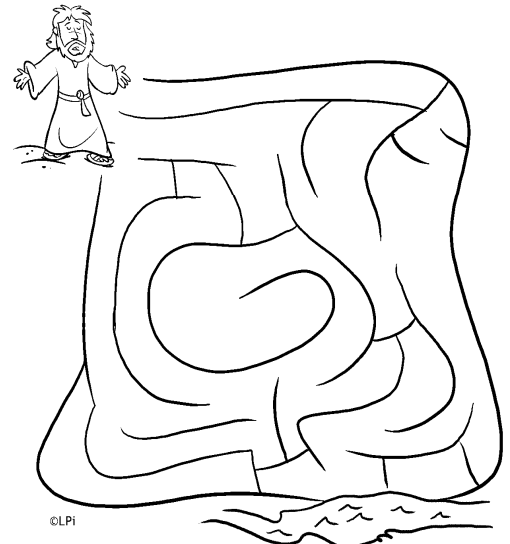


IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



Puzzle

Help John the Baptist find his way to the Jordan River.



Prayer

Lord, I repent of my sins. Bathe me with your waters of forgiveness.

Mission for the Week

Every day I will tell God that I am sorry for my sins.

## Looking Ahead

### Monday, December 8

*Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

- Mass 8 a.m. (Middle School), Mass 5:15 p.m.

### Tuesday, December 9

*Juan Diego*

- Confessions, 4:30 p.m., Mass 5:15 p.m.

### Wednesday, December 10

*Human Rights Day*

- Confessions, 7:15 a.m.; Mass 8 a.m. followed by Exposition and 24-hour Adoration

### Thursday, December 11

*Damasus I*

- Confessions, 7:15 a.m.; Benediction, 8 a.m. followed by Mass

### Friday, December 12

*Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe*

- Confessions, 7:15 a.m.; Mass 8 a.m.

### Saturday, December 13

*Lucy*

- All Day Confessions
- Mass 8 a.m., 4 p.m.

### Sunday, December 14

*Third Sunday of Advent*

- Confessions, 7-7:45 a.m.
- Mass 8 a.m., 10 a.m.

## Meeting schedule

### Sunday, December 7:

- Advent Concert, 3 p.m., church

### Monday, December 8:

- Buildings and Grounds, 5:30 p.m., Middle School

### Tuesday, December 9:

- DTS, 7:15-8 p.m., Faustina Room

### Wednesday, December 10:

- Schola Cantorum, 5:30-6:30 p.m., church

- Post Confirmation REP, 6:30 p.m. Kolbe Hall

### Thursday, December 11

- Adult Schola, 6:30-7:30 p.m., church

- Finance Committee, 6:30 p.m., conference room

### Saturday, December 13:

- Cookie walk, 8:30 a.m., Kolbe Hall

### Monday, December 15:

- Committee Meetings, 6:30 p.m., Kolbe Hall

## Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

“Lord Jesus Christ, pierce my soul with your love so that I may always long for you alone, who are the bread of angels and the fulfillment of the soul's deepest desires. May my heart always hunger for you, so that soul may be filled with the sweetness of your presence.”

- Saint Bonaventure

### Come join us for Weekly Adoration

Wednesday after 8 a.m. Mass to Thursday before 8 a.m. Mass

Questions? Call Darcy Bunn 343-9007 or go to

[www.saintpetercatholic.com](http://www.saintpetercatholic.com)

Eucharistic



Adoration

## News and Notes

**Baptism:** Saint Peter Parish congratulates the parents and godparents of Evelyn Etta Laszinski, who was baptized here on Sunday, November 30, 2008. Her parents are Matthew and Joanna Laszinski; Her godparents are Jacob and Kendra Kluck. We pray that she will grow in knowledge of Christ's Love.



**Lighting the Advent Wreath Candles:** First Sunday of Advent (Nov. 30): Cherye Rolnicki and Lillian Jakusz (4 p.m.), John and Amy Rechner and family (8 a.m.), David and Anna Timm (10 a.m.) **This week, Second Sunday of Advent** (Dec. 7): Dan and Julie Glodowski and family (4 p.m.), Rob and Jess Giese and family (8 a.m.), and the Martinez family (10 a.m.).

**The Christmas Wafer or Oplatki** is a custom shared at the Christmas meal as we break a piece with one another while visiting God's blessing upon us. It can also be mailed to an absent friend, reminding them of our prayer for them. It is a reminder too of Christ's sharing Himself in his Eucharistic bread. Packages of four wafers are available for \$1.25 at the parish office during office hours.

**St. Peter's Cookie Walk** is **Saturday, December 13** in Kolbe Hall. Containers will be provided, cookies will be sold by the pound. Proceeds go toward security system installation. Bakers are asked to bake 7 dozen of the same cookies and bring them to Kolbe Hall before the 8 a.m. Mass Saturday.



**Rosary Society Craft** and bake sale is **THIS WEEKEND**, in the St. Faustina Room.

**Advent and Religious** items are available in the St. Faustina Room, before and after each weekend Mass. Candles, books, rosaries and wafers are among the items.

**Giving Trees are here!** Each colored tag on the giving tree has gift ideas for a Portage County Nursing Home, Stevens Point Care Center resident or homebound parishioner. Please bring your gift in a gift bag with the tag by **December 14**.

**Attention ministers:** Please contact the parish office by **Monday, December 8** with any Mass during the Christmas season you prefer to serve or weekends you cannot serve.



**Kwik Trip:** Don't forget our monthly Kwik Trip Power Sale **THIS WEEKEND, December 6 and 7!** Gift cards are sold at all church entrances. Have a check made out to SPACS or \$20 cash. One dollar of each purchase goes directly to St. Peter Church. Volunteers are always welcome.

**St. John's Court 1807 Catholic Order of Foresters** will have their annual Christmas Dinner Meeting in Kolbe Hall on December 16th. Social at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6:00 p.m. For reservations members call Joe Cera at 344-2539 by Dec. 10th. Bring your own place settings.

## Area Communal Advent Reconciliation

**Wednesday, December 10:** Newman University Parish, 6:30 p.m., St. Joseph Convent

**Thursday, December 11:** St. Bronislava Parish, 7 p.m., church

**Saturday, December 14:** St. Joseph Parish, 3 p.m., church

**Monday, December 15:** St. Stanislaus Parish, 7 p.m., church

**Tuesday, December 16:** St. Mazimilian-Kolbe, 7 p.m., church

**Thursday, December 18:** St. Stephen Parish, 7 p.m., church

## SPACS News

**Christmas is nearly here!** If you're traveling this holiday season or still in need of purchasing those last minute gifts, don't forget about SPACS gift cards. They are available after weekend Masses and in the parish office Tuesdays through Fridays during office hours. Not only is there a wide variety, the church gains from your purchase. The rebate received from your purchase helps reduce St. Peter's SPACS cash assessment.

## Respect Life!

"A new book entitled *My Child, My Gift: A Positive Response to a Serious Prenatal Diagnosis* quotes one mother of a child with Down syndrome, "The greatest surprise is this: Out life together has been less about my helping him reach his potential than about him helping me reach mine."



*That we may reach out in love and understanding to women experiencing difficult pregnancies, we pray...*

## Sunday Offertory, Envelopes



Budget for Year: \$535,500.76  
Need Weekly: \$10,298.09

### November 29/30:

Offertory envelopes and offertory received: \$7,416.55  
Budget Year to Date: \$226,557.98  
Actual Year to Date: \$202,780.44  
Year to date shortfall: (\$23,777.54)

Envelopes for November 22/23: 232  
Envelopes for November 29/30: 237

## Stewardship quote

**Second Sunday of Advent:** Advent reminds us that while we await "new heavens and a new earth," we should make ready a way for the Lord now as John the Baptist proclaims. God's plan for us is not just for the future. It is already with us, urging us to activate it. We are stewards of God's plan. How are we revealing, unveiling, fulfilling God's plan in our daily lives? How are we "preparing the way of the Lord?"

## Area Events and Items of Interest

### **St. Peter Parishioners and Staff,**

*I want to express my heartfelt and sincere thanks for this past year of working with and for you all. From the first day, you all welcomed me with open arms and made me feel like part of a wonderful, faith-filled family! Each one of you has touched my life in different ways during my time here and I am extremely grateful. I wish that it could be longer, but God must have different plans for my family and me and I am putting my trust and faith in Him to continue to guide us along this new journey. I have learned so much from you all, God has truly blessed me. I wish His blessings upon you all as well!*



*Thank you again,  
Heather Clark*

**Advent Come and See Days:** A time for young ladies to learn about prayer and the Consecrated Life will be at Mater Redemptoris Convent, Friday, Dec. 19 from 5 p.m. to Sunday, Dec. 21 at 11 a.m. It is for women 17-25 years of age. No charge, donations accepted. Contact Sister M. Stephania at 608-788-4530, 608-791-2690

### **Strengthen**, continued from page 2

Immaculate Conception. Come and beg for God's blessings on our nation through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of the Lord and our Mother! "Father, you prepared the Virgin Mary to be the worthy Mother of your Son. You let her share beforehand in the salvation Christ would bring by His death, and kept her sinless from the first moment of her conception. Help us by her prayers to live in your presence without sin" (Collect, Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception).

From **6:30 to 7:30 on two consecutive Wednesday evenings (December 10 and 17)** Phil Lawson – our Director of Catechesis and Evangelization – and I will be leading a **series entitled "Why Catholic?" We will explore the beauty of our Catholic faith and seek to answer that question of "Why be a Catholic?"** Come and bring a friend!

Since Advent is a time for new beginnings, I encourage you to **unburden yourself of your sins** by receiving the **Sacrament of Penance**. There are ample opportunities to receive the Lord's mercy as Confessions are ordinarily heard **before Masses** on Tuesday (4:30-5:00 p.m.), Wednesday through Saturday (7:15-7:45 a.m.), Saturday afternoon (3:00-3:45 p.m.), and Sunday morning (7:00-7:45 a.m.). **Also, several priests will be hearing Confessions on Saturday, December 13 (9:00 a.m.-Noon and 1:00-3:45 p.m.).**

As I mentioned at the beginning of this column, as always, it has been a **delight and inspiration for me to personally greet so many wonderful and faith-filled parishioners who are now confined to home or an institution!** Let us remember them in our prayers as they pray for us. **We have 63 (that is not a typo!) homebound and institutionalized parishioners.** Another ten parishioners who are temporarily homebound have asked me to visit them as well. **Obviously, for me to arrange for personal visits to 73 individuals scattered throughout Stevens Point, Plover, Weyauwega, King, Wisconsin Rapids and several other locales takes a long time!** It will be well into 2009 before I get to everyone. Thank you to Lorraine Studinski for her dedication in serving the homebound and institutionalized members of Saint Peter throughout the year. Thanks, too, to our devoted parishioners who visit and bring Holy Communion to our elderly. If you know of a family member, friend or neighbor who is homebound – either temporarily or long-term – and who would like to receive the Holy Eucharist please call Lorraine. "Amen I say to you, whatever you do for one of the least brothers of mine, you do for me" (Matthew 25:40).

Saints Peter and Paul, pray for us! Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us!  
Father Kevin C. Louis