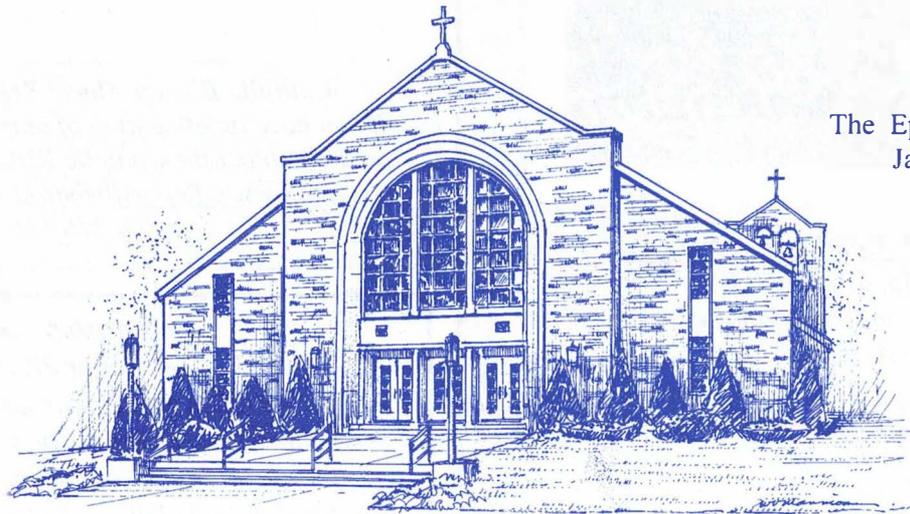


Saint Peter Church

4 South 5th Street • Coplay, Pennsylvania 18037



The Epiphany of the Lord
January 3, 2021

Mission Statement

We, as a Catholic parish under the patronage of Saint Peter, are a Eucharistic family, centered in prayer and worship, dedicated to self-sacrificing stewardship, and journeying together, Spirit-inspired, to the heavenly Kingdom.

PARISH STAFF

PASTOR: Rev. Msgr. John J. Martin
PASTOR EMERITUS: Rev. Msgr. William E. Handges
PERMANENT DEACONS: Thomas Reimer, Maurice Kelly
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Mrs. Lina Abi-Samra
PARISH ACCOUNTANT: Mr. Michael Leshko
DIRECTOR OF REL. ED.: Mrs. Linda Johnson
DIOCESAN VICTIM ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR:
Ms. Wendy Krisak, Direct Telephone 1-800-791-9209
Email: victimassistance@allentowndiocese.org
DIOCESAN SAFE ENVIRONMENT OFFICE:
Ms. Pamela Russo, MSW, MS 610-871-5200, Ext. 2204
prusso@allentowndiocese.org

MASS SCHEDULE:

DAILY: 8 A.M. (No morning Mass Thursday & Saturday)
Saturday Evening: 4:00 P.M. Sunday: 8:00 & 10:30 A.M.
Holy Days Vigil: 6:30 P.M.
Holy Days: 8:00 A.M. & 6:30 P.M.

PENANCE:

Saturday: 3:00 to 3:45 P.M.
During Advent and Lent, Communal Penance Services are celebrated. Arrangements can always be made by appointment.

BAPTISM: Contact the rectory for an appointment.

Baptism is scheduled on Sunday after the 10:30 A.M. Mass at 11:30 A.M. Parents may be required to attend a preparatory instruction in the rectory.

MARRIAGE: Couples should contact the parish priest at least 1 year but no later than 6 months prior to the intended wedding date. The normal day for weddings is Saturday between 10 A.M. and 1 P.M.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Notify the rectory when someone at home becomes seriously ill, or weak on account of old age, so that the person might receive this Sacrament.

COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND: The priests and Eucharistic Ministers perform this service monthly. Notify us when someone wishes to be visited.

HOSPITALIZED: Alert us whenever someone has to be hospitalized, especially when their admission is an emergency. The parish identification number at each of the Valley hospitals is #171.

PARISH REGISTRATION: New members should make an appointment with the pastor at the rectory. Any change of an address, notify the rectory.

HIGH SCHOOL: Allentown Central Catholic, 4th & Chew Sts., Allentown 18102 (School Office: 610-437-4601)

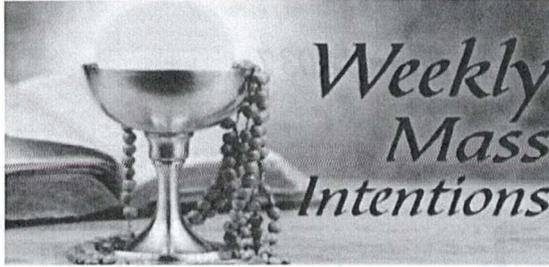
ELEMENTARY:

Good Shepherd Catholic School
Mrs. Susan Parker, M.Ed. Principal
1300 Newport Avenue, Northampton, PA 18067
610-262-9171

CCD PROGRAM: Classes conducted at the Holy Apostles Catholic Education Center, 3008 Ruch St., Whitehall. The program is from September to the end of April. These classes are necessary for eligibility to receive the Sacraments of Penance, Eucharist and Confirmation. Contact Mrs. Linda Johnson at 610-261-0144

Rectory: 610-262-2417 Fax: 610-262-2652

Web Address: www.stpeterchurchcoplay.com • E-mail: info@stpetersccoplay.com



Sunday January 3rd: Epiphany of the Lord

Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

8:00AM- Horvath and Yoo Families

10:30AM- Dominic Anthony

Monday January 4th: Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Rel.

1Jn 3:22-4:6; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

8:00 AM- John G. Brem

Tuesday January 5th: St. John Neumann, Bishop

1Jn 4:7-10; Mk 6:34-44

8:00 AM- Matthew Rodriguez

Wednesday January 6th: Christmas Weekday

1Jn 4; Mk 6:45-52

8:00 AM- Deceased Members of Dragovits Family

Thursday January 7th: Christmas Weekday

1Jn 4:19-5:4; Lk 4:14-22

No AM Mass

Friday January 8th: Christmas Weekday

1Jn 5:5-13; Lk 5:12-16

9:30AM- Francis Pumberger

Saturday January 9th: Christmas Weekday

1Jn 5:14-21; Jn 3:22-30

Vigil Mass

4:00 PM- Jonathan Karo

Sunday January 10th: Baptism of the Lord

8:00AM- Holy Name Society

10:30AM- Sandra Mengel



Sanctuary Lamp

Will burn in memory of
Joe Weber, Sr.

Back to Church with Caution

Please continue to wear masks during Mass use hand sanitizer & maintain social distancing. **DO NOT** leave your used masks in the pews

Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service

If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or by calling 800.276.1562

Stewardship Corner

December 27, 2020

\$8599 plus Online Giving \$395

Please continue your weekly or monthly giving to our parish. Your contributions are vital in order for us to meet our obligations. If unable to attend Mass kindly send your envelopes through the mail or drop them in the rectory mail slot. I thank you for your kind and generous response

Monsignor Martin

Flame of Love Tuesdays Rosary and Benediction in the church 6-7:30 PM

Online Giving

*****Start giving online today!*****

Visit our parish website at

<https://www.stpeterchurchcoplay.com>

- Click on the online giving link
- Create an account.
- Schedule your recurring gifts.

Masses said by Retired Priests and Missionaries

Deceased: Joseph Sodl, John Lohr, Steve Burker, John Brem, Edward and Mary Lazur John and Frances Szerencits

Cookie Sale
To Combat World Hunger

Thanks to all who donated to the "cookie-less" "Cookie Sale" to combat world hunger at Masses on December 12 & 13. St. Peter's Parish donated \$1,490 toward this collection. This equates to 24,830 VITAFOOD meal packets. Cross Catholic Outreach and Cross International are grateful for your generosity

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

January 2021

Rev. Msgr. John J. Martin
Saint Peter Church, Coplay

One Minute Meditations

Tough times?

Throughout history, God has proven his faithfulness and care over and over again. He promises that He will help you through whatever tough times you face. *"God is faithful and will not let you be tried beyond your strength; but with the trial he will also provide a way out, so that you may be able to bear it"* (1 Corinthians 10:13). Lean on Him.



Tune out the world and tune into Go

In our noisy world, it can be hard to hear God's voice over the din. Yet, listening is as important as talking during prayer. *"By waiting and by calm you shall be saved, in quiet and in trust your strength lies"* (Isaiah 30:15). Talk to Him often, but make a point of listening for God's voice.

"Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God" (Philippians 4:6).



Give the gift of friendship in the New Year

When times are tough, it can be our family and friends who help us through. There wasn't much Jesus wouldn't do for His friends. In fact, He was more concerned with being a good friend than with having one. In our current pandemic situation, we can care for our loved ones as Jesus would:

Make spending time together a priority. Connections between loved ones are critical now. When meeting in person isn't possible, phone calls, letters, and emails can keep us connected. Video conferencing has become a staple of daily life; consider organizing regular get togethers with friends and family using your favorite conferencing program.

Help other people feel important. No matter how you interact, give the other person your full attention in conversation, and show appreciation and understanding for what he is saying.

Celebrate your friends' successes. A true friend is genuinely happy when something good happens in the other's life.

Value differences. Don't try to change your loved ones.

Celebrate their diversity.

Be willing to apologize. You may let each other down but a sincere apology can bring friends closer together.

Don't forget old friends. Call someone you haven't been in touch with for a long time. Don't know what to say? Try, "I don't want another moment to go by without being in touch. I've missed you."



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics honor the image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus?

The image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is a symbol of Christ's love for us. It is often a heart surrounded by flame, pierced by a lance, topped by a cross, and circled by a crown of thorns.



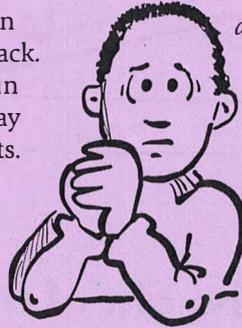
Jesus' love for us burns bright and intense like a flame. His heart is pierced by the lance representing our sins and the crown of thorns and the cross remind us of the death he suffered to bring us life.

“What do you want from me, Lord?”

God gives to us freely, but what does he want in return? Simply put, God wants us to love Him back.

Know Him. God made each of us with a space in our heart just for Him. Until we discover it, we may try to fill it with earthly things, but nothing else fits. When we turn to Him, the reward is beyond our dreams.

Love Him. Jesus said, *“You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul,*



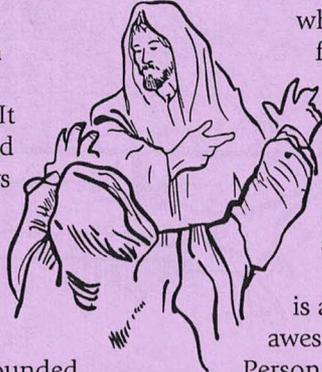
and with all your mind” (Matthew 22:37). He wants us to surrender to his infinite love. Show your love by praying frequently, seeking Communion with Him often, and praising Him continually.

Serve Him. *“Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me”* (Matthew 25:40). When we make sure everyone has enough to eat, warm clothes to wear, and a place to stay, Jesus takes it personally. It’s what he wants from us.

from Scripture

Mark 1:21-28, God’s authority is not a formality

In this Gospel passage, Jesus and his apostles entered the synagogue at Capernaum where Jesus taught those gathered at the Sabbath. It was customary for learned teachers to say, “Thus says the Lord...” Instead Jesus said, “I say to you ...” He taught as one who spoke with the authority of God.



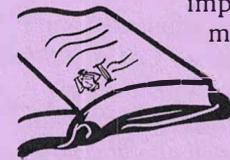
man at the synagogue recognized who Jesus was. They were forced to obey Him when he commanded them to depart, despite their reluctance. In fact, God’s power and authority isn’t just a formality. What God says, happens.

Our kind and gentle Savior is also our powerful and awesome Lord. As the Second Person of the Trinity, Jesus has supreme majesty and we will one day appear before Him to be judged. Yes, he is our divine savior and mediator. But if we say, “Jesus is Lord,” then we give Him our loyalty and obedience.

His calm authority astounded Jesus’ listeners. Just as they began to wonder what it meant, he gave them a sign. He further demonstrated his authority by performing an exorcism. Spirits that bedeviled an unfortunate

Q & A How can I choose Catholic references that are accurate and faithful?

One good way to determine whether or not a book or pamphlet accurately reflects Catholic doctrine is to look for an “imprimatur” printed in the first few pages of the book. The presence of an



imprimatur generally means that a bishop’s office has determined it to be free of doctrinal or moral errors. It may be accompanied by a “nihil obstat” (Latin for “nothing stands in the way”) which means that someone well-versed in Catholic theology has reviewed the contents and found the same thing. Keep in mind that neither the imprimatur nor the nihil obstat imply agreement with the content or opinions.

It is particularly important for a book that purports to teach about the faith of the Church to carry the approval of the Catholic Church. There are many well-meaning people who intend to educate others about God’s infinite love but may have an imperfect understanding of Catholic doctrine. When choosing materials to learn more about our religion, you will want to be sure that they are accurate.

Feasts & Celebrations

Jan. 1 – Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. Today, we honor Mary, but also Jesus as God. In their honor, pray a Rosary. Because this feast day is on a Monday, Mass attendance is optional (but encouraged) this year.

Jan. 25 – The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle (1st Century). Setting out for Damascus to carry on the persecution of the Christians, he encountered Christ (Acts 9:1-19; 22:5-16; 26:12-18) while on the road to Damascus. He was struck blind from

the experience until he was baptized by Ananias three days later. He converted and began preaching the faith as he travelled around the Mediterranean.

Jan. 26 – Sts. Timothy and Titus (1st Century). Timothy was a convert of St. Paul’s and later became his trusted friend, joining him in apostolic work. He was with Paul at the founding of the Church in Corinth. Titus, also a friend of Paul’s, served the early Church as a peacemaker and administrator to a community on Crete.



Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.
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 (Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)

A Prayer for the New Year

O GOD of new beginnings
And wonderful surprises,
Thank You for the gift of a new year.
May it be a time of grace for me,
A time to grow in faith and love,
A time to renew my commitment
To following Your Son, Jesus.
May it be a year of blessing for me
A time to cherish my family and friends.
A time to renew my efforts at work,
A time to embrace my faith more fully.
Walk with me, please, in every day
And every hour of this new year,
That the light of Christ might shine
Through me, in spite of my
weaknesses and failings.
Above all, may I remember this year
that I am a Pilgrim on the sacred path to you.
Amen

R.C.I.A. INFORMATION

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a way of welcoming, forming and initiating new members into the Church. It is a process through which non-baptized men and women become members of the Catholic Church. It is also suitable for those baptized in different faith traditions who are interested in becoming Catholic, or for those who were baptized Catholic but have yet to receive the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation. For more information call Msgr. Martin

Catholic Charities Ecumenical Kitchen

Due to insufficient funds we had to suspend our Meals to Go Program. We are in need of monetary donations to purchase food. Please make checks payable to Catholic Charities, (Ecumenical Kitchen in the memo line)

Employment Opportunity

Holy Family Villa, a private home for retired priests, is seeking Personal Care Aides or Medication Assistants. Holy Family Villa, offers a family-like environment in a pleasant residential setting. Duties include compassionate care of the residents and assistance in their daily activities. Prior direct care experience preferred, but we will train a PCA to become a Medication Assistant, with a salary increase at that time. Pay: \$12.00 - \$13.50 per hour. Please email to resumes@allentowndiocese.org OR fax to 610-439-7693



Good Shepherd Catholic School

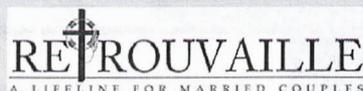
We are now accepting registrations for the 2021-2022 school year. We offer full day Preschool and Pre-K programs as well as K- grade 8. To schedule a tour or for info please contact Mrs. Lauri Tripaldi, Advancement Director, at 610.262.9171 or mrstripaldigscs@gmail.com We are HIRING! If you are interested in teaching and have the proper credentials, please call 610.262.9171 or email Mrs. Parker at mrsparkegscs@gmail.com

Holy Apostles RE

Hours 3-8PM Mon-Thurs~ Closed for the holidays
Christmas Break 12/24-1/1~ classes resume Jan. 4th
First Communion Parents Mtg 1/7 St. Peter Church 6:30PM
We are in need of 8th grade teacher & substitutes please contact the office if interested at 610.261.0144

Whitehall Copley Hunger Initiative

We are looking for volunteers with full Diocese of Allentown Volunteer clearances to help with our new food pantry located at St. John the Baptist Church Whitehall, in the Christ the King Cafeteria. Contact Shari Noctor at 484.225.0358 or WhitehallCopleyHunger@gmail.com
Opening date is 1/14/21



Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program begins 2/12-14, 2021 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. for info or to register visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215.766.3944 or 800.470.2230. All inquiries are confidential



What does Love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs & sorrows of humankind. That is what love looks like.

St. Augustine of Hippo



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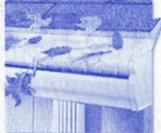
Participants who attend an estimated 60-90 minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$25 gift card. Retail value \$25. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company programs, sales, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or involved with a life partner, both cohabiting persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo ID, be able to understand English, and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Gift may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a gift of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Gift card will be mailed to the participants via first class United States Mail within 30 days of receipt of the promotion form. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not approved or provided by Lowe's and is subject to change without notice prior to expiration. Expires 9/30/20.

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