



SAINT PETER

CATHOLIC CONGREGATION

ISSUE NUMBER TWENTY-THREE

WINTER 2011

Dear Students and Families,

The first Sunday of Advent, November 26-27, 2011, we began to make full use of the new English translation of the Roman Missal, and it went largely without a hitch! Thank you for reading the mailed materials we sent to every parish household, for a patient reading the 10 consecutive weekly inserts that were provided in the Sunday bulletins; there will be one more "Cliff Notes" insert in the bulletin for any who may still need further information. We have handy pew cards with all the changes in the people's parts printed in bold, red ink; I encourage their use during the next several months at Mass until you feel familiarity beginning. The new translation will also be in our missalette for those more comfortable using them. Thanks for patience with the number of homilies needed to detail the reasons for and behind the changes – and thanks to all our school teachers and religious education program catechists for readying our children and youth to embrace these historic changes. I was a child when Mass changed from Latin over to English +40 years ago; changes made me pay more attention at Mass and was part of my vocation to priesthood; I am sure the changes we'll be experiencing will enable all of us, priests and people alike, to pay renewed attention to what a treasure the Mass is. When things do not change in quite a time, we start to take them for granted; now we can find ourselves more attentive, getting more out of Mass again because we'll be listening more closely, growing in faith, hope and love with the new sounds of so many words!

My thanks again to so very many of you for your expressions of sympathy, prayer and condolence on the death of mother, Marion J. Stoffel, on October 25, 2011, at age 83. As I am an only child (not spoiled, by the way!), it is my joy and privilege to be providing a home with me for my father, so along with pastoral duties I will also be taking good care of him as I promised Mom during her passing. We are making the rectory at 214 E. Washington not just my home but our home; Dad will make us his faith community, too. I am also grateful to those whose memorial gifts allowed Dad and me to make a significant contribution to St. Peter Parish Endowment Fund at the Heritage Society level. Church was always an important part of mom's life as she especially, willingly gave me to a vocation of priestly service, only wishing for my happiness and not counting some of the experiences she would not have as a loss – having grand-children, etc., - or a reason to hold back what she had received as a gift from God; instead, she discovered many gains and untold rewards. May many more mothers find it in their hearts to give the gift of a son to the Church as a priest!

Lastly, a few bits and pieces...when you are admitted to a hospital, rehabilitation, hospice or nursing facility, please remember to request that they notify us as such is not automatic & only your request makes it happen; don't let even a few days pass wondering why we haven't visited; if we haven't, we don't know you're there! And if your stay is going to be of a shorter nature, quick turn-around between admission & discharge, please tell us before you go so that we can keep you in prayer and anoint you with the holy oil of the sacrament for the sick before you go for good care! Both Christmas and New Year's fall on a weekend this year; there is a special, religious gift for all families at Christmas Mass for as long as supply lasts. God Bless You!

December

- 3rd Christian Women Cookie & Bake Sale-Church Hall
- 9th Friday Night at the Movies
- 16th School Christmas Program
- 17th Communal Tri-parish Penance Service at Resurrection Parish
- 18th Rel. Ed. Christmas Program
Knights of Columbus cinnamon roll sale
- 19th Blood Drive-Church Hall
Confessions
- 20th Confessions
- 21st Confessions (last scheduled)
- 29th Market Day orders due

January

- 3rd Market Day pick up-Church Hall
- 13th Friday Night at the Movies
- 15th Knights of Columbus cinnamon roll sale
- 26th Market Day orders due
- 27th Scout Rain Gutter Regatta-Church Hall
- 31st Market day pick up
Catholic Schools Week

February

- 4th Scout Mass 5PM
- 10th Friday Night at the Movies
- 11th "That's Amore" couples dinner-Church Hall
- 18th Blood Drive-Slinger Fire Department, 8AM-1PM
- 19th Knights of Columbus cinnamon roll sale
- 22nd Ash Wednesday
- 23rd First Communion Parent Meeting-Church Hall
- 24th Fish Fry 4-7PM Church Hall
- 26th Pack 3739 Blue & Gold Dinner-Church Hall
- 28th Market day pick up-Church Hall

Parish School / Youth News and Events

"It is not how much we do, but how much love we put in the doing. It is not how much we give, but how much loving we put in the giving." - Mother Theresa

Since I have been hired in July, I have been welcomed in so many ways by teachers, staff, parents, students and parishioners of the Tri-Parish (St. Peter, St. Lawrence and Resurrection.) There is a lot of dedication and commitment by various committees within the school and parishes.

Many, many thanks to the members of the St. Peter Parish Council, School Board, Home and School, Marketing, Finance and Grant Committees for their time, talents and treasures. special thanks to Father Rick Stoffel for his continued support and guidance for our Catholic school! Thank you all for purchasing SCRIP, Market Day, Magazines and Pizzas for St. Peter Catholic School. The dinner auction was also a huge success! It was the highest attendance ever and it was a fabulous night for all!

Our special 5K-5th grade Christmas Program for St. Peter Catholic School is on Friday, December 16th at 6:30PM in St. Peter Catholic Church (new location.) All are welcome and invited to attend the program.

Cheryl Jaeger, Principal/Marketing Director

The youth program at St. Peter's continues to flourish here, and we continue to grow, with special emphasis being placed on the formation of our catechists to serve our young people.

Some highlights that we've seen this year, include wonderful enrollment (approximately 110 middle school/ 125 high school), and wonderful participation in our great extra-curriculars like the Dead Theologian's Society, and our retreat program. Some 25 St. Peter's students experienced great music, fun, speakers, and worship at the St. John Bosco Youth Day the first weekend of October, and half of our Confirmation candidates moved a step closer to receiving the Sacrament by attending their Confirmation retreat on the first weekend of November.

Speaking of Confirmation, we have 42 candidates this year for the reception of the Sacrament, which will occur on May 10, 2012 at Holy Angels in West Bend, along with the candidates from Resurrection and St. Lawrence. Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus Richard J. Sklba, a favorite for his passion for young people in general and the Sacrament of Confirmation in the specific will be our celebrant.

Also, just one message of excitement, on January 15th, at the initiation of our great tri-parish, District VI (Washington County) will be hosting an event known as "The Greatest is Love" at St. Boniface in Germantown. We are expecting some 750 young people and catechists from the area to come for a youth Mass with Bishop Hying and a great multi-media presentation on chastity from national speaker, author, father, and Archdiocesan Youth Ministry Director (Denver), Chris Stefanick

Lastly, I just wanted to come full-circle and reflect on the mention of catechist formation. It has been an axiom of the Church for centuries, that when it comes to the faith, you can't give what you don't have (Doesn't this really apply to all life?). While we have tremendously skilled and gifted catechists here at St. Peter's, all of us can get better. Several catechists attended a retreat weekend in the end of October to grow in their own faith walks, and we have several excellent opportunities coming up, including a 10-week program utilizing the brand new and brilliant Catholicism documentary series, as well as a day-long program that will be given by Professor of Catechetics, James Pauley, STL, on "Catechesis for Conversion", helping catechists at every level utilize their ministry to help prepare those to whom they minister, to get the most out of the Sacraments. All of these are exciting tools that can only enhance the religious formation of all the people of our wonderful parish.

Joshua Dieterich, DRE/YM 6-12



Because of our advertisers we are able to provide the bulletin and this newsletter free of cost...**"thank you"** to all the businesses that do advertise for us!!

In Our Parish Community

St. Peter's Christian Women bake sale, Sat. Dec. 3rd from 8AM to 12Noon. **All parishioners** are encouraged / asked to bake for the sale. Smaller size cookies are desired for the 1# packages - but all types of bakery is most welcomed. Bring



items to the Church Hall on Fri., Dec. 2nd before 12Noon. Help is needed on Friday afternoon for packaging the cookies (after 12:30PM). Call Clare Mae at 644-5167; and please plan on stopping in at the bake sale on Saturday morning!!

A Prayer for Families

All-Loving God, we thank you for all your good gifts especially the gift of family.

For parents and grandparents who nurture our faith and lift us up in difficult times, we thank you, God.

For brothers and sisters who laugh and listen and celebrate with us in joyful times, we thank you, God.

For holidays and holy days when we join together around the table and remember the bond that unites us, we thank you, God.

For all those who love us and care for us and welcome us home again and again, we thank you, God.

For the gift of eternal life and the promise that we will one day join all of the beloved who have gone before us, we thank you, God.

With the guidance of the Holy Family, may we remain a strong and vibrant family of faith, now and forever. Amen



Slinger Community Blood Drive

St. Peter's will host the Slinger Community Blood Drive on Mon. Dec. 19th, from 2 to 7PM in the Church Hall. This year with Christmas falling on the weekend... the Blood Center of WI will experience critical shortages, so the drives leading up to Christmas are so important. The Knights of Columbus will be serving hot sandwiches to our donors. Schedule an appointment to donate after weekend Masses at the table on the lower level Dec. 10 & 11th and Dec. 17 & 18th, or on-line at www.bcw.edu/slinger or call Arlene Barron, Parish Nurse 644-8083 ext. 16. Give the gift of life this Christmas, and help ensure an adequate blood supply to those in need.



Christmas Gifts for the Homebound

The Human Concerns and Health Ministry Committees invite you to help provide gifts and bring smiles to our Parish's homebound and those living in care facilities in our community. A large gift collection bin will be located at the lower church level entrance thru Tues. Dec. 13th, when the gifts will be packed into gift bags and delivered.

Some gift suggestions are: kleenex, large print puzzle books, lotions, soft throws or slipper socks, small snacks or candy, homemade items too. The gift bags will be decorated by the artistic work of St. Peter School children. Thank you for helping bring the joy of the season from St. Peter Parish. If you know of someone whom you would like us to include on our list to receive a gift bag, please leave a message for Arlene, Parish Nurse at 644-8083 ext. 16.

Our designated weekend to bring non-perishable food items for the Slinger Food Pantry is the third weekend of each month. However, we will gladly accept donations at any time. Kindly put them in the basket directly across from the elevator on the main level of church (cash donations also appreciated). Thank you so much for your help in assisting those in need.



Endowment...A never-ending commitment to growth! Did you know that a great way to honor the life of a loved one is to ask that a memorial be made to St. Peter Congregation Endowment Fund? You want the memory of your loved one to remain. Gifts to the Endowment Fund ensure that the mission of St. Peter Congregation will remain strong and secure. Memorials given to the Endowment Fund will benefit the parish for years to come and the memory of your loved one will be honored.

Stewardship Prayer: My church is composed of people like me. I help make it what it is. It will be friendly, if I am. Its pews will be filled, if I help fill them. It will do great work, if I work. It will make generous gifts to many causes, if I am a generous giver. It will bring other people into it's worship and fellowship, if I invite and bring them. It will be a church of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, as well as a church with a noble spirit, if I, who make it what it is, am filled with these same things. Therefore, with the help of God, I shall dedicate myself to the task of BEING all the things that I want my church to be. Author Unknown

Sponsored by the Time, Talent & Treasure Committee



Advent...the season of anticipation, expectation, watchfulness, and waiting. Prepare for Christmas with alternative gifts that challenge our excess affluence. Make donations to charity in the name of another or give gifts to the institutionalized. Challenge family members to trim shopping lists and create alternative gifts that show their own hearts in the present. **Please pray for..** All members of St. Peter's parish; our priests, our parish staff; all who are ill and recovering; our military and their families; for those unemployed; our homebound, assisted living/nursing home & hospice members; for all who are lonely or facing difficult situations and for all who have died.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Permit No. 10
SLINGER, WI
PAID
U.S. POSTAGE
Non-Profit Org.

St. Peter Congregation
208 E. Washington Street
Slinger, WI 53086

ST. PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH • SLINGER, WISCONSIN

Winter 2011 Newsletter



Tri-Parish Communal Penance Service

Saturday, December 17, 2011
10:30AM at Resurrection, Allenton

Confession Schedule:

Saturday, December 3, 10 & 17, 2011
4 - 4:45PM

Monday, December 19, 2011
11AM - 12Noon

Tuesday, December 20, 2011
9 - 10AM

Wednesday, December 21, 2011
11AM - 12Noon

4 - 5PM

7 - 8PM (last scheduled before Christmas)

Christmas Mass schedule:

Saturday, December 24, 2011
4PM, 6PM and 8PM

Sunday, December 25, 2011
8AM and 10:30AM

New Year's Mass Schedule:

Saturday, December 31, 2011
5PM & 8PM

Sunday, January 1, 2012 7:30 & 10:30AM