

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT
DECEMBER 24, 2023

With our hearts wide open, we celebrate the birth of our Savior.
Let us ask for the grace to be faithful to him.

Mass Intentions for the Week
Saturday December 23rd
NO MASS
Sunday December 24th
8:00 AM Daren & Arvin Dexheimer † Req Family
1:00 PM Spanish Mass
6:00 PM Bernard Geisel † Req by: Shirely & Family
Monday December 25th
8:00 AM Congregation
Thursday December 28th
8:30 AM NO MASS FUNERAL AT St. Joseph
Saturday December 30th
NO MASS
Sunday December 31st
8:00 AM Roger F Bochek † Req by: Paul & Joane Surfus
1:00 PM Spanish Mass

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Serving in Christ
December 31st
Lector: Rita Daubner
Eucharistic Minister: Deacon Mark
Ushers: Dick Smith & Dale Peterson
Sacristan: Tom Ploor

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DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

MONDAY: Is 52:7-10 / Heb 1:1-6 / Jn 1:1-18
TUESDAY: Acts 6:8-10,7:54-59 / Mt 10:17-22
WEDNESDAY: 1 Jn 1:1-4 / Jn 20:1a,2-8
THURSDAY: 1 Jn 1:5,2:2 / Mt 2:13-18
FRIDAY: 1 Jn 2:3-11 / Lk 2:22-35
SATURDAY: 1 Jn 2:12-17 / Lk 2:36-40
SUNDAY: Gn 15:1-6,21:1-3 Heb 11:8,11-12,17-19 / Lk 2:22-40

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Summary of Contributions Received
(Treasures)

Parish Support	\$ 3,642.45
Visitors	\$ 83.00
Online	\$ 547.00

END OF YEAR CHURCH CONTRIBUTIONS
As you begin year-end tax planning for your family or business, don't forget that donations to Saints Peter & Paul Church qualify as a tax-deductible charitable contribution. Most members give a cash gift, but a gift of stocks or bonds is another way to benefit your parish and gain a tax advantage. Seek the advice of your tax professional and keep in mind this alternative method for providing a gift to your parish.

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

Week of December 25th the Office will be open on Thursday December 28th from 8:00am to Noon.

Week of January 1st the Office will be open Thursday January 4th from 8:00 am to Noon.

No Mass here on Thursday December 28th and January 4th Due to Funerals at St. Joseph's.

UPCOMING EVENTS
Next Choir practice is January 8th at 6:30 pm. All are welcome!
“That Man Is You”
Will resume in January . Call Ron White with any questions at 715-820-1704

Father Matthew will be on vacation January 1 thru January 5th

Suffering In Christ
If you know of anyone that is homebound and would like one of our Deacons or Father to visit and bring communion please call the office at 920-743-4842 Father and the Deacon will visit parishioners on the last Friday of the month.


A perpetual candle burns in the sanctuary by the tabernacle representing the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist at all times. The tabernacle candle is available to parishioners who wish to donate. The candle cost of \$30 a month in honor of a loved one

 The **DECEMBER** Tabernacle Candle is lit in Loving Memory of **ROGER & JOSIE BOCHEK**
Requested by: Paul & Joanne Surfus

Funeral Note
When we have a Funeral during the week on a Mass day the Mass will be cancelled due to the Funeral.
Funeral Masses will ordinarily be celebrated at Saints Peter & Paul Parish on Tuesdays—Fridays at 11am.


We are in need of volunteers for Sunday Eucharist Ministers for Assisted Living Homes. Please call St. Joseph's if interested 920-743-2062. Thank you

FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT
We light these candles, the candle of joyous hope, of proclaimed peace, of deep everlasting joy, and today of presence that speaks of love, as a sign that no matter our circumstance, we know we are not alone.



Father Matthew and Staff at Saints Peter & Paul Would like to wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

MASS MINUTES
By Deacon Ed Winter
Bishop Robert Barron has said that the Mass is the supreme form of play. Play? As in fun? Is he kidding? He explains that work is something we do for an end outside itself. For example, we work so that we can afford and shelter for ourselves. Play is something we do for itself. We don't attend a baseball or football game for some purpose other than itself. The Mass is a privileged encounter with Jesus, the Christ. That is its purpose. It is a call and response between Christ, the head, And his mystical body, the Church, us. It is not a lecture, or performance which we witness from a distance, that is why we are called to full, active, and conscious participation in it. If they are not participating in it, no wonder they think it is “Boring.” They are not these. They may consider themselves Christians, but Christianity is not a sociology, not a philosophy, or a moral system, not a collection of rules and regulations. Christianity is a relationship with a person, Jesus Christ. Without that relationship, it is just another club. Thanks to Bishop Robert Barron in This Is My Body.
Next: Why can't we just sit still throughout the Mass?

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
 Imagine how Mary felt at the birth of Jesus: excited, awed, frightened. Deep faith was her light in the darkness, for Jesus was born during the night of the year when darkness is the longest!

Your support of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul brought light into the darkness surrounding the heart of those living in poverty bringing them the real, lasting, and deep joy of Christmas.

Due to your generosity our Conference here at St. Joseph has been able to reach out with additional help for many struggling families. You have spoken loud and clear that someone cares. That they indeed are loved. Thank you and on behalf of all our Vincentians here may you have a very joyous and blessed Christmas season.

“Jesus is the reason for the season, but we do not have to force Jesus on anyone. Just put on the person of Jesus and others will take note, and the Gospel will be proclaimed.

It's not just what we say and do that matters, but how we say and do it!”

Blessing Box
Located on the side of Church
We are in need of mittens, hats and gloves, & boots any cold weather items **Please no Perishable items.**
Nancy Anderson 920-743-0216,
Cathy Gerdmann 920-823-2934,
Rae Ann Gosser 920-743-2781,
Karen Haen 920-495-3197
Pat Ploor 920-559-0352

This week's spotlight
PINKERT LAW FIRM, LLP
We strongly encourage you to support our Advertisers

Edge and life Teen Middle and High School Religious Education and Youth Ministry

Thank you to everyone who donated to our Christmas Wish Program! So many families have been given the JOY of Christmas because of your goodness!

And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore
And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore
Unto us a child is born
The King of kings and Lord of lords
And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore

Merry Christmas to you and your families!
No Confirmation, Edge or Lift Teen on December 27th

Genesis
Facebook Page: GENESIS/Tri Parish Elementary Religious Education Program
If NO GENESIS CLASSES WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27th THROUGH JANUARY 3rd. CLASSES RESUME WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10th

The Religious Education office will be closed December 21st. Through January 7th.

The Catholic Mass is an amazing and rich aspect of our faith, but it is difficult for children to engage with its language, symbolism, and miraculous nature. You can find a Catholic Kids bulletin at the entrance to church. These bulletins will help children to learn about the Sunday Mass with different activities while they grow up in our amazing faith.

*There is a wonderful Bible Study every Tuesday at 10:00am at St. Joseph's Faith Formation Center. Come join Penny Biwer as she leads a reviving bible study on the weekly readings that will stir your spirit.

Our second Genesis Service Project!
We are collecting hats and mittens for our local school children starting Wednesday, November 15th. The Faith Formation Center will have a Christmas Tree where you can place hats and mittens on. Thank you for your donations.

ENCOUNTERING JESUS- Greatest Act of Gratitude
It is common courtesy for us to say “Thank You” for any gift, and God is the ultimate source of every good thing we've had in life. God's gifts to us are beyond counting—in both the natural and supernatural orders—and so our debt of gratitude is beyond our capacity to express. We owe him something more than common courtesy. We owe him a debt that only the Mass can repay, because there Jesus himself is making the offering—and Jesus himself is the offering. Worship always involves thanksgiving.

“Eucharist” is one of the earliest terms applied to the Mass. Its Greek root means simply, “Thanksgiving.” When Jesus takes bread in the Gospels, he gives thanks and, having given thanks, he blesses and distributes the bread. This happens when he feeds the multitudes. It happens, most importantly, at the Last Supper.

