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"You do not see Him, yet you love Him; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward that is, the salvation of your souls."

St. Peter

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ST. PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14TH - THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (GAUDETE SUNDAY)

433 WEST CHURCH STREET

SOMERSET, PA. 15501

RECTORY: 814-443-6574

FAX: 814-445-7766

www.stpetersparish.com

Rev. Fr. Angelo J. Patti, VF, Pastor

Rev. Fr. Michael Raj Arokiasamy, HGN

Rev. Mark Komula, Deacon - 814-233-9285



Jill Harris, School Principal

Linda Gattian, Church Secretary

Tiffany Foy, School Secretary

Prudence Shaulis, DRE

Dan Paugh, Maintenance Supervisor

Brett Wilmotte, Pastoral Council

Sean Isgan, Finance Council

Jason June, Choir Director

Abby Bristor, Social Media/Bulletin

WEEKLY SCHEDULE: DEC. 14 - 21

Mon.	7AM	Special Intention-John & Betsy
Tues.	7AM	Mirko, Anthony & Jenny Rehar - Karen and Sam
Wed.	7AM	Josephine Hill - Family
Thurs.	7AM	William Piccirillo - Claudia Watt
Fri.	7AM	Mary Lou Sheehan - Jerry & Mary Grace Neugehauer 11:15AM Terry Wilmotte - Wilmotte Family
Sat.	4PM	James Hultzel - Maureen & Gary Peltzer
Sun.	8AM	Clyde Davidson
	10AM	For the People
	12:15PM	Mary Preston - Daughter Linda

CORRECTION: The Mass for this Sunday at 10AM is for Gregory Svonavec, Sr. from John Kuhn & Angie



ADVENT PRAYER:

Help us, Lord Jesus, to hold steadfast to prayer, relying on the Word of God, in all our joys and sorrows, that our hopes in You will ever increase, while our doubts and fears slowly decrease. Help us, Lord, to be a light of hope to those who are in need. To be an example of Your love and mercy, and to tell others of Your great grace and glory. Amen.

ORDINARY SCHEDULE - Sat. Mass: 4PM, Sun. Masses: 8AM, 10AM, & 12:15PM.

HOLY DAY MASSES - As announced.

CONFESIONS: 2:45PM Sat. or upon request.

BAPTISM: Parish registration and participation in baptismal preparation are necessary.

MARRIAGES: The priest is your initial contact. Interview with the couple must precede setting a date.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK: Call the Rectory to request the Sacrament of the Sick for family members who are seriously ill. Communion is taken to the hospital, nursing homes, and home-bound on a regular basis.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP: It is important to be a registered parishioner in order to gain the benefits & privileges of parish membership. New parishioners are welcome. If you have moved into, within or outside the parish or are not a member, call the rectory so that your situation may be addressed. For questions, call the rectory, 814-443-6574.

CHRISTMAS MASS & CONFESSION TIMES:

Christmas Eve: Wednesday, December 24th

Solemn Christmas Eve Mass - 5PM

Solemn Christmas Mass at Night - 10PM

(Songs by the Choir begin at 9:30PM)

Christmas Day: Thursday, December 25th

Solemn Mass of Christmas Morning - 8AM

Solemn Mass of Christmas Morning - 10AM

CONFESIONS - In the Church

Thursday, December 18th: 6PM - 7PM

Saturday, December 20th: 1:30PM - 3PM

Tuesday, December 23rd: 1:30PM - 3:00PM

Please join us this Christmas Season and celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.



SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN-UP FOR ONLINE GIVING.
THANK YOU!



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14TH: PASTOR'S NOTES:
Retirement Fund for Religious - *They gave their lives in service —now they need your help.* For decades, women and men religious have cared for others, teaching, praying, and serving those in need. Many now face retirement without sufficient savings. Your support ensures they receive the care they deserve. Let us now offer them the dignity they have so selflessly granted to others. Your generosity today is not just a donation—it's a way of thanking them for their lifelong service. Please give to the Retirement Fund for Religious.

ADVENT CONFESSON OPPORTUNITIES

- Thursday, December 18, 6:00-7:00 PM
- Saturday, December 21, 1:30-3:00 PM
- Tuesday, December 23, 1:30PM-3:00PM

Prayer Before Confession: Come, Holy Spirit, enlighten my mind that I may clearly know my sins. Move my heart that I may be sincerely sorry for them, honestly confess them and firmly resolve to amend my life. Spirit of Wisdom, grant me to see the malice of sin and my ingratitude toward You, the all-loving God. Spirit of Fortitude, help me to make whatever sacrifice is needed to avoid sin in the future. Amen.

How to go to Confession: 1. Make the Sign of the Cross. 2. The penitent says: "Bless me, Father, for I have sinned." You then say how long it has been since your last Confession. 3. The penitent tells the priest his sins and briefly answers any relevant questions. 4. The priest will give you some advice and will assign you a penance. 5. The penitent will next pray the Act of Contrition (such as the one below or any one you know). 6. The priest then gives the penitent absolution. The priest will then dismiss you.

Act of Contrition: O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended You and I detest all my sins because of Your just punishments. But most of all, because they offend You, my God, Who are all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Your grace, to sin no more, and to avoid the near occasions of sin. Amen.

Prayer After Confession: Almighty and Merciful God, Whose mercy is boundless and everlasting and of Whose goodness the riches are infinite, I thank You because You have so graciously pardoned all my sins and restored Your Heavenly favor. I am awed by Your divine compassion and the incomprehensible love of Your Son, which has led Him to institute so gentle and powerful a remedy for sins. In union with all the gratitude that has ever ascended to You from truly penitent hearts, I proclaim Your merciful praises on behalf of all in Heaven, on earth and in purgatory, for ever and ever. Amen.

RORATE MASS - On December 20th Queen of Angels Parish in Central City will offer a Rorate Mass at 6:30AM at the St. John site (164 Wheeler Street). Common in Eastern and Central Europe, a Rorate Mass is celebrated only by candlelight just before dawn. Offered in honor of the Blessed Mother, the interplay of light and darkness speak to the meaning of Advent and the coming of Christ as the light of the world. The Mass will be in English and Latin (Novus Ordo) and will feature Gregorian chant under the direction of Professor Nicholas Will. All are welcome to participate in this annual Mass (a tradition in Central City) – a sublime way to understand more fully the holiness of this season.

Polish Christmas Carols - All Saints Parish in Boswell will host their annual singing of Polish Christmas carols (known as Koledy or Pastoralki) on Sunday, January 4, 2026 at 2:00 PM at their Church (325 Quemahoning Street, Boswell). The carols will be sung by the parish Polish choir. Following the singing of the hymns there will be benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and refreshments. While the singing of koledy was once a very common practice in the Polish-American community, in recent times church choirs that continue

(CONT.) the tradition of singing kolrdy have become increasingly rare. These hymns help to capture some of the finest sentiments, values, and emotions of the Polish religious, national, and artistic heritage. Polish Christmas customs are very rich; whether you are Polish or not, please come and experience these time-honored hymns celebrating the birth of Christ. For more information, please call the parish office at 814-629-5551.

The Christmas Offertory Collection is very important for the well-being of our parish, especially as we continue to upgrade and improve our parish and school plant. Please be as charitable as you can to St Peter's parish and its ministries by contributing generously to this year's Christmas collection.

ST. PETER'S 2026 CALENDAR - For many years the parish religious calendar was a tradition. An impressive 2026 calendar has been made available compliments of the Miller Funeral Home and Crematory.

PENANCE SERVICE will be held on Thursday, December 18th from 6:30 - 7:30PM in the church. All are welcome and encouraged to join!

OPLATKI (Christmas Waffers) are now available in the Rectory. The cost is \$3 a package.

MEALS ON WHEELS - St. Peter's is looking for a volunteer to take over the Meals on Wheels project. If you are interested please call the rectory.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL FLOWERS - Cost for a poinsettia is \$20 and there are envelopes in the vestibule. The deadline is December 15th. For questions, please call the rectory, 814 - 443 - 6574.



DEAR PARISHIONERS, The second collection will be for the building fund. The sum total of the costs for the following projects is \$122,000.

1. Roof Repairs: The slate roofs on our Church, Hall and Rectory are aging and are missing several slate tiles and ridge caps. The cost to repair the roofs and to install heat tracing in the gutters is \$25,000. **COMPLETED**

2. Church Pavers: \$6,700 **COMPLETED**

3. Parking Lot: Pavement repairs and resealed are needed. Total cost for this work is \$22,000. **COMPLETED**

4. Hall Air Conditioners: Replace the existing units with two high efficiency units at a cost of \$14,400.

5. School Boilers: We had to replace the boilers in the school. One boiler was replaced at a cost of \$18,000 and \$36,000 is still needed for the two remaining boilers, for a total cost of \$54,000. **COMPLETED**

Our Parish has always been very generous in supporting the needs of our Church and we hope you will be as generous as your means permit. Thank you! **FUNDS RAISED: \$92,700**



ST. PETER SCHOOL

433 WEST CHURCH STREET | SOMERSET, PA. 15501 | 814-445-6662

SCHOOL NEWS FOR DEC. 14TH, 2025

- 12/15: "Follow the Star" 6:30PM
- 12/18: St Peter School Nativity Play 11:15AM in Church
- 12/19: Grade 2 School Mass 11:15AM – Full Uniforms

LOOKING AHEAD:

- 12/22: "Red & Green Dress Down Day!"
- 12/23: Early Dismissal 12:40 PM with Regular Transportation
- 12/25 – 1/2: **Christmas Break**
- 1/5: School Resumes

CCD NEWS

Paula Vinzani, Interim DRE
814-443-6574 ext. 4 & paula.vinzani@gmail.com

12/14: CCD & Confirmation Class

12/21: CCD Class

12/28: NO CLASS - CHRISTMAS BREAK

1/4: NO CLASS - NEW YEAR'S BREAK

LOOKING AHEAD:

1/11: CCD and Confirmation Class

1/18: NO CLASS - MLK weekend

1/25: CCD and Confirmation Class

CCD and confirmation students! Bring your Christmas ornaments to decorate our tree in the sanctuary now through Christmas.

We are in need of a first grade CCD teacher. If you are interested, please contact Paula Vinzani at 814-279-1474 or paula.vinzani@gmail.com. Clearances are required.

CONGRATULATIONS to Waylon Matthew Close, son of Matthew and Kimberly Close and Cora Bosch, daughter of Christopher and Jane Bosch, who recently joined our parish family through Baptism. May God bless them and their families.

GAUDETE SUNDAY is the third Sunday of Advent in the Roman Catholic calendar of the church year. The term is derived from the Latin opening words of the introit antiphon, "Rejoice (Gaudete) in the Lord always."



STEWARDSHIP: Dec. 7th 2025 - "Do not complain, brothers and sisters, about one another, that you may not be judged."

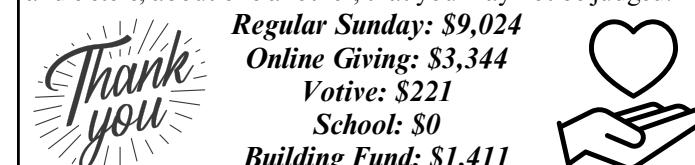
Regular Sunday: \$9,024

Online Giving: \$3,344

Votive: \$221

School: \$0

Building Fund: \$1,411



PRO-LIFE ROSARY will be said after 7AM Mass this Thurs., Dec. 18th. Please join us as we pray to end abortion in our country and the whole world. *"Nothing we do to defend the human person is ever unfruitful or forgotten.*

ROSARY & PRAYERS - Please join members of the Women's Group for the monthly Rosary & Prayers on Mon., Dec. 15th at 1PM in Church.



ST. PETER'S MEN'S GROUP - **That Man Is You!** continues for 2 more weeks and concludes the Fall Semester on Dec 16th at 7PM in the Parish Hall. We will resume sometime in January every Tuesday evening at 7PM in the hall. All men are encouraged to attend.

THE CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF AMERICA will have their next meeting on Wed., Jan. 7th, at 6PM in the annex.

THE PARISH MISSION COMMITTEE will meet on January 7th, at 6:30PM in the annex. Please contact Deacon Mark for more information.

(PROCLAIM! TO AIR CHRISTMAS SHOW AND MASS The **Proclaim!** TV Christmas special *Joy to the World: Christmas in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown* will air on Sun., Dec. 21st at 6PM on WWCP FOX 8. The 1 hour show will highlight the spirit of Christmas throughout the diocese and include beautiful music from parish and Catholic school choirs, as well as the **Proclaim!** priests' choir. The **Proclaim!** TV Christmas Mass will air live from Saint John Gualbert Cathedral in Johnstown on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24th, at 4PM on WATM ABC 23 with Bishop Mark as celebrant.

BIRTHRIGHT OF SOMERSET is a local pregnancy support center and currently collecting donations for mothers and babies in our community. There is a giving tree in the vestibule in the church with more information.

MINISTER SCHEDULE:

Dec. 20 - 21

Saturday - 4PM

E.M.: S. Kinsinger

Lector: D. Demchak

Greeters: Keiser

Cleaners: V Saylor

Sunday - 8AM

E.M.: C. Gombita

Lector: D. Halverson

Greeters: Kuhn

Sunday - 10AM

E.M.: Deacon Komula

Lector: F. Reeping III

Greeters: Hook, Sekela

Sunday - 12:15PM

E.M: J. Faidley

Lector: F. Kovak

Greeters: Soberdash



Our Lady of Angels,
Pray for us!

For social media or website content, email editor@stpetersparish.com. For bulletin announcements & events for the calendar, email editor@stpetersparish.com AND lrgattian@stpetersparish.com. Submit bulletin announcements by the Wednesday before.

We would like to thank our sponsor of the week: **Gus's Auto, LLC**