

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4TH PASTOR’S NOTES:

We have been given so many gifts and blessings by our Heavenly Father. Yet, in our fallen state it is all too easy to take them for granted. Our readings today teach us that we must live with an intentional awareness of our many blessings and use them gratefully to glorify God.

Our Second Reading, from St. Paul’s letter to the Philippians, is a reminder of one key blessing that is surprisingly easy to take for granted – the gift of our thought life. Our intellect is gift from God and we are called to steward it well. Lack of discipline in our thoughts can easily lead us down a path of discontentment and fear. St. Paul instructs us rather to “have no anxiety at all.” How are we to do this? He tells us, “In everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God.” And as it turns out, by turning our thoughts towards God with gratitude, we will be blessed immediately.

So let us live each day with a profound awareness of all that we have been given by God. Let us use our intellect to think on these gifts throughout the day and resolve to use all our gifts for God’s glory. We will find peace, joy and purpose as we do.

Nationwide Invitation to Prayer and Action Announcement- Every abortion involves the death of a child and harm to the mother. Now with easier access to abortion pills, the abortion rate is tragically climbing, along with increased health risks. The Food and Drug Administration has established a nationwide mail-order abortion industry by allowing abortion pills to be prescribed in telehealth appointments and sold both at neighborhood pharmacies and online, circumventing state laws that protect life in the womb. This leaves women vulnerable to suffering an abortion alone at home, without any medical supervision. It also sets up additional opportunities for exploitation by violent partners or human traffickers. From now through the end of October, Respect Life Month, the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities is inviting Catholics to join a focused effort of prayer and action to stop the spread of abortion pills. In addition to invoking the intercession of St. Joseph, Defender of Life, participants can learn about the danger of abortion pills, and can send messages to pharmacies and pharmaceutical companies that are involved. Sign up at Respect Life Prayer and Action. Thank you for your prayers and actions to protect innocent children and their vulnerable mothers from the evil of abortion. St. Joseph, Defender of Life, pray for us!

-Archbishop Paul S. Coakley, President U. S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, &
-Bishop Daniel E. Thomas, Pro-Life Chairman

A Prayer to St. Joseph, Defender of Life
Dearest St Joseph, at the word of an angel, you lovingly took Mary into your home. As God’s humble servant, you guided the Holy Family on the road to Bethlehem. Welcomed Jesus as your own son in the shelter of a manger, and fled far away from your homeland for the Safety of both Mother and Child. We praise God that as their faithful protector, you never hesitated to sacrifice for those entrusted to you. May your example inspire us also to welcome, cherish, and safeguard God’s most precious gift of life. Help us to faithfully commit ourselves to the service and defense of human life—especially where it is vulnerable or threatened. Obtain for us the grace to do the will of God in all things. Amen.

HEALING MASS - Holy Spirit Ministry will hold a special Healing Mass on Tuesday, October 6, 2026, at 7 pm, at St. Michael Church, Hollidaysburg. This powerful night of hope and healing is for all who are suffering physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Fr Alan Thomas will be the main celebrant. Praise and worship will precede the Mass at 6:30pm, and prayer ministry, sacramental anointing of the sick, and confessions, will follow the Mass. If you are suffering physically, or from an addiction, or hurting or struggling in any way, come and experience the healing power of Jesus and be set free! All are welcome!

Hearing God’s Voice Workshop - Jonna Schuster, nationally known speaker, author, and Director of Catholic Revival Ministries will be leading the “Hearing God’s Voice” Workshop, on Saturday, October 24,th, from 9 AM to 3:30 PM at St. Catherine, Duncansville. The workshop will include Jonna’s keynote addresses, group discussion, Adoration-Holy Hour, praise & worship, and lunch will be provided. Free will offering. Students are free. The workshop is a collaborative effort of Holy Spirit Ministry, the Altoona-Johnstown Cursillo Movement, OMOS Prayer Ministry, Railroad City Catholics, and St. Catherine’s. All ages are welcome! To register e-mail at holyspiritministry20@gmail.com or call 814-207-9110. Jesus said, “My sheep hear my voice.” Many Catholics desire greater confidence in recognizing God’s voice. This workshop offers practical, biblical guidance for growing in confidence and intimacy with the Lord.

2026 Mission Appeal Weekend

This weekend, October 3rd - 4th, we will welcome Father Simon, HGN, (St. Benedict’s Church, Johnstown) from the Society of Heralds of the Good News Religious Institute, located in India, for our annual Mission Appeal at all Masses. The Society was founded in 1984. Their specific aim is the promotion of vocations to the priesthood, the training of seminarians and the supply of hardworking missionaries to the diocese of India and Africa. This year's appeal will benefit the following work:

- Education of the poor and orphaned children.
- The Jesus Feeding Project which feeds over 300 poor and homeless people with a daily meal.
- The formation of 95 seminarians for priesthood.
- The construction of a multi-specialty hospital in Tanzania.
- Parish ministries and social work for the poor and taking care of the abandoned and poor elderly in nursing homes.

Please be generous in your donations to this appeal. Any amount given will go directly to the ministries of Divine Mercy Province of Heralds of the Good News. Envelopes with donations can be turned in this weekend or next in the collection basket or dropped-off to the rectory.



St. Peter’s Children’s Choir is back and open to all parish children ages 6 and up, including school, CCD, and homeschool students. The first rehearsal is on Wednesday, October 7th at 6PM in the choir loft, continuing weekly until the final dress rehearsal on December 16th. The choir will perform at the 4PM Mass on December 19th, beginning at 3:45PM. Interested participants should scan the QR code for the registration form. For assistance or questions, please contact Jason June: jasone.june@gmail.com or 814-279-8132 (texting fine). This is a wonderful activity meant to empower our young Catholics to find a way to welcome God into their hearts, minds and lives through singing!



ST. PETER SCHOOL

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

SCHOOL NEWS FOR OCTOBER 4th 2026

10/9: Grade 2 School Mass 11:15; EARLY DISMISSAL - 12:40PM; Regular Transportation
10/9 – 10/11: St. Peter School PTA Fall CROP in Hall

LOOKING AHEAD:

10/12: NO SCHOOL – Fall Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences
10/16: NO SCHOOL – Diocesan In-Service

 **St. Peter School PTA Fall Crop** 

Friday, October 9th - Sunday, October 11th, in St. Peter’s parish hall. Call to reserve some space and bring anything you’d like to do or hang out and visit! All are welcome! This is a wonderful event and fundraiser for our school PTA every year. If you’d like to register, please get a form from the rectory or email Melinda Jacob at jwjmljmj@aol.com or call 814-442-1119. Registration includes table space for chosen dates, light breakfast, lunch, dinner, and coffee and drinks throughout the day; Goody Box and Door Prize tickets. Hope to see you there!

CCD NEWS

Paula Vinzani, DRE

814-443-6574 ext. 3 & paula.vinzani@gmail.com

10/4: CCD / Confirmation Class & Rite of Commitment Mass at 12:15PM
10/11: NO CCD OR Confirmation Class
10/18: CCD/ Confirmation Class - (Confirmation students and the 8th grade CCD class will have a presentation from 11AM-12:05PM with Stuart Sibold of the Respect Life Committee from the Diocese. We ask that one parent or guardian attend the class with their child.
10/25: CCD/ Confirmation - Protecting Gods Children

BUILDING FUND COLLECTION:

Thank you to all who have contributed to the building fund. To date, we have completed several projects including:

- Roof and gutter repairs and heat tracing in gutters.
- Replaced the electric panel in the hall.
- Removed deteriorating pavers at the Church entrance and replaced with concrete.
- Contracted to have the hall air conditioners replaced.
- Replaced the boilers in the school.
- Replaced the stone steps at the hall.

Fundraising will continue for the following projects:

- Replace the pipes from the hall gutters that drain under the parking lot. Budget estimate is \$20,000.
- Upgrade the air conditioning in the rectory. Budget estimate is \$25,000.
- Replace the broken sidewalk at the east end of the school. Budget estimate is \$10,000.
- Roof Replacement (Church, Hall Rectory). This is a future project but the roofs are soon beyond repair and have storm damage. Budget estimate is \$200,000.
- Parking Lot Replacement. This is another future project and will be done in phases. Budget estimate is \$300,000.

FUNDS RAISED: \$211,834

For social media or website content, email editor@stpetersparish.com. For bulletin announcements and parish calendar events, email both editor@stpetersparish.com **and** office@stpetersparish.com. Submit bulletin requests by the Wednesday before the Sunday announcement.

Thank you to our sponsor of the week: AC-PRO Tree Service

ST. PETER’S MEN’S GROUP - *That Man Is You!* will be held this Tuesday, October 6th at 7PM in the hall.



THE CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF AMERICA will have their next meeting this Wednesday, October 7th at 6PM in the annex.

‘Cards and Games Afternoons’ will be held on October 8th in the church hall from 1:30 - 3:30PM. This event will be held the second Thursday of each month. All parishioners and guests are welcome! Bring a deck of cards or your favorite board game or just show up. More information can be found in the vestibule of church.

International Potluck Celebration- Everyone is invited on Saturday, October 17th, following the 4PM Mass, for a fun gathering! Please bring an appetizer, side dish, main course, or dessert that reflects your ethnic heritage or a cherished family recipe. Please sign up in the vestibule or contact Danielle Holiday at 410-961-3018 if you plan to attend. All parish families are welcome and please invite your friends!

On behalf of our parish family, we would like to extend our congratulations and blessings to all couples celebrating their wedding anniversaries this month.



Heavenly Father, bless these couples so that the love they have for each other may continue to reflect the love of Christ for his Church. Look with kindness upon them and continue to bless them with peace, joy, health and happiness.



IN YOUR PRAYERS, please pray for JoAnn Davidson, who died recently. May she rest in peace! May God bless, sustain and console her family and friends.



THANK YOU for the donation to the St. Peter’s Building Fund in memory of Penny Greene from Dave Greene.

MINISTER SCHEDULE:

OCTOBER 10 - 11

Saturday - 4PM Mass

EM: S. Kingsinger

Lector: J. Matthews

Greeters: Saylor

Sunday - 8AM Mass

EM: T. Woy

Lector: B. Wilmotte

Greeters: Delano

Sunday - 10AM Mass

E.M.: R. Halverson

Lector: D. Rullo

Greeters: Menser, Halverson

Sunday - 12:15PM Mass

E.M.: B. Farkosh

Lector: F. Kovak

Greeters: Soberdash

STEWARDSHIP:

Jesus makes it clear that if we squander the gift of salvation, we will lose it. It is a sobering truth. So, let us use our intellect to think on these gifts throughout the day and resolve to use all our gifts for God’s glory.

SEPTEMBER 27TH 2026

Sunday Giving: \$13,393

School: \$276

Votive: \$125

Building Fund: \$11,759

thank you!