

# Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church

Second Sunday Ordinary Time  
January 14, 2024



66192 St. Mary Drive, Pearl River, Louisiana, 70452  
[www.sppcprla.com](http://www.sppcprla.com) email: [info@sppcprla.com](mailto:info@sppcprla.com)

# ABOUT OUR PARISH

## WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday  
5:00 p.m.

Sunday  
7:00 a.m.  
8:30 a.m.  
10:30 a.m.

## WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon	No Mass
Tue	8:00 a.m.
Wed	6:30 p.m.
Thu	8:00 a.m.
Fri	8:00 a.m.

## HOLY DAY MASSES

Vigil and Holy Day Mass times vary; please see bulletin or website

## SPECIAL DEVOTIONS

**Tuesday:** St. Jude Novena following  
8:00 a.m. Mass

**Thursday:** Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
Novena following 8:00 a.m. Mass

**Thursday:** Patriotic Rosary in Church  
6:30 p.m.

**First Friday:** The Most Blessed Sacrament  
and Eucharistic Adoration following 8:00 a.m.  
Mass until 5:00 p.m. closing  
with Benediction

**First Saturday:** Mass at 8:00 a.m. followed  
by the Rosary and Confession

## RECONCILIATION

Sat	4:00-4:45 p.m.
Wed	6:00-6:15 p.m.
Or by request	

## YOUR CLERGY

Most Rev. Gregory M. Aymond, D.D.  
Archbishop of New Orleans

Very Rev. Gerald Seiler  
Dean, Deanery X

Fr. Kevin DeLerno  
Pastor

Deacon Francis "Frank" Drake  
(Retired)

## YOUR STAFF

Karen Dickerson  
Office Secretary  
kdickerson@sppcprla.com  
info@sppcprla.com

Mary Kittel  
Director of Religious Education  
mary@sppcprla.com

Cedric Konyaole  
Web Site  
ckonyaole@sppcprla.com

Jerry Broussard  
Facility Custodian

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday 1:00-3:00  
Tuesday-Thursday 8:00-3:00  
Friday 8:00a.m.-3:00 p.m.

## CONTACT US

Main Office  
985-863-7935

Fax

985-863-5431

## Parish Mission Statement

It is the mission of our Church Parish to follow the commands of Jesus to Saints Peter and Paul: "Feed My sheep" and "Carry My name among the nations."

## REGISTER

If you are new to the parish, we invite you to register by filling out a form located in the holder at the Church entrances and place it in the collection basket or come by the office.

## SACRAMENTS

### Baptism

Usually the third Sunday of the month (except during Lent) following the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Please call for registration forms at least **three weeks** in advance.

### Matrimony

By appointment with the parish priest or deacon at least **six months** in advance. No other arrangements should be made before contacting the priest.

### Anointing of the Sick

Upon request for the seriously ill, infirm and those undergoing major surgery. Please contact the Church Office when someone is homebound or hospitalized and in need of the sacrament.

### Communion for Ill/Shut-In

Please call the Church Office if you know of anyone who would benefit from this ministry.

### Funerals

Families should contact the priest (office) before making arrangements.



## WEEKLY EVENTS

Monday—Office Closed for Martin Luther King Day

Tuesday Morning Rosary—Tuesday after 8:00 a.m. Mass and St. Jude Novena in Parish Hall

RCIA Tracks I & II—Tuesday 6:30 p.m. in classrooms

Altar Society—Thursday 9:00 a.m. Parish Hall

Widow's Group—Thursday 11:00 a.m. Italian Pie

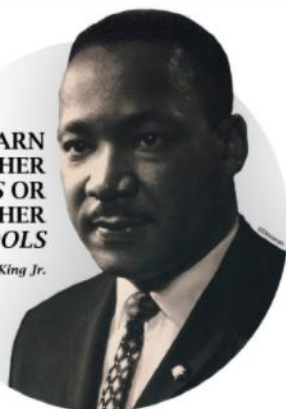
Legion of Mary—Thursday 10:00 a.m. St. Anthony Hall

Patriotic Rosary—Thursday 6:30 p.m. in church

PSR—Sunday begins with 8:30 a.m. Mass

**WE MUST LEARN  
TO LIVE TOGETHER  
AS BROTHERS OR  
PERISH TOGETHER  
AS FOOLS**

*Martin Luther King Jr.*



## POPE FRANCIS' INTENTION FOR JANUARY

We pray the Holy Spirit may help us to recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community and to discover the richness of different traditions and rituals in the Catholic Church.



## PRAY FOR THE SICK

Audrey Bonnet, May Caballero, Diana Bradshaw, Mary Salzer Brown, Elizabeth Kittel, Zachary Cresson, Patricia Cuccia, Kathy Johnson, Ed Roszczynialski, Norris Ripp, Bunny Shiver, Mary Ware, Ryan Ware, Lily Jorns, Dalin Davis, Maria Kalcic, Beverly Cosse, Lou Lou Battle, Fay Vogt, I&J Landry, Steve Dunn, Joann Brewin, Vivian Sedgebeer, Romana Smith, Joseph Decaro, Barbara Galino Gonzales, Isaiah Deblanc, Lois & Larry Dickerson, Shirley Matthews, Jim Richmond, Catherine Lambert, Ed & Carol Wallace, Frederick Songy, Sue Miller, Molly Hymel, Lucy Reese, Brenda Dehm, Gwen Maffei



## MASS INTENTIONS

### Monday, January 15

(1 Sm 15:16-23; Mk 2:18-22)

No Mass Scheduled

### Tuesday, January 16

(1 Sm 16:1-13; Mk 2:23-28)

8:00 a.m. Tom & Pat Cuccia

### Wednesday, January 17

(1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51; Mk 3:1-6)

6:30 p.m. Purgatorial Society

### Thursday, January 18

(1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7; Mk 3:7-12)

8:00 a.m. Deacon Pat Downey†

### Friday, January 19

(1 Sm 24:3-21; Mk 3:13-19)

8:00 a.m. Yvonne Tracey†

### Saturday, January 20

(2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27; Mk 3:20-21)

5:00 p.m. Joseph D'Antoni, Jr.†, Roszczynialski/Stottman Family, Poor Souls in Purgatory, Lee & Yvonne Tracey†, Ken & Adele Salzer†, Danny Ragsa, Sr.†, Sarah Stokes, Eleanor Strickland, Lawrence Otilio†, Yvette & Al Bowman

### Sunday, January 21

(Jon 3:1-5, 10; 1 Cor 7:29-31; Mk 1:14-20)

7:00 a.m. Karen & Gabriel Dickerson

8:30 a.m. Deacon Pat Downey†, Dan Jocks†, Hazel Guidry†, Cheryl Cook, Carolyn Jocks, Laurie Parker, Elizabeth Mae Barrois†, Catherine Schaefer†, Fr. John Robinson, CM†, Pat Koch, May Caballero, Molly Hymel

10:30 a.m. People of the Parish

## PARISH ROSARY PROGRAM

Rosary count total for 2023: 19,024

Weekly Rosaries: 332

Year to Date: 332





## ITALY PILGRIMAGE DAY 7 SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO AND THE CAVE OF ST MICHAEL (PART ONE)



### PASTOR'S CORNER

There is so much to talk about this day with these two locations that I will break it up into two pastor's corners.

We started this day by heading to San Giovanni Rotondo, the town where Padre Pio once lived. We began our visit by celebrating Mass at the tomb of St. Pio, which is located in a crypt area under the church Santa Maria delle Grazie (Our Lady of Grace). We had to use stairs or an elevator to access the tomb, and the church itself was on a hill. This was a special day for me, having the opportunity to celebrate mass in this holy place so close to where St Pio was laid to rest for many years was a true blessing for me, it was also a humbling experience. The chapel was simple in the fact that there were no paintings on the walls. The walls were brown and white marble. The ambo was made from wood with an eagle carved into it. Behind the altar was a metal lattice work with a white curtain. The altar was made of white marble, with the striking feature of having a life size statue of the crucified body of Jesus under the altar behind Plexiglas. So by seeing this you know that it is saying in symbolic language that the altar is the body of Christ, which is in fact what we believe as Catholics. I was the celebrant for the mass and my brother concelebrated the mass. Now, I do have to say that I was disappointed to see that while we were in the crypt where St. Pio's body had been interred, it was no longer there. This left me to wonder where his body had been moved to. On the walls of the crypt area were paintings, which look to be from Photos of when St. Pope John Paul II, and Pope Benedict XVI visited St Pio's partially incorrupt body. So I know that his body had to be somewhere, but where?

Right after mass on the way into the church, we were able to stop by the confessional where St Pio spent most of his life hearing confessions. If you don't know he had the gift knowledge which he used to read people's hearts and tell them the sins that they left out of confession. So I stopped in front of the wooden confessional and asked that God would give me some of that gift, since he helped so many people come into right relationship with Jesus. That is an awesome gift to really touch people's lives in such a way that they would be totally contrite and able to accept Jesus into their lives in a more complete way. I can only imagine what people must have experienced when they went to him for confession, or what St. Pio experienced when he read their hearts to tell them their sins. It was said he spent upwards of sixteen hours some days in that confessional, with lines around the block of penitents waiting to go to confession, some even spent days in line waiting. I could only imagine what that would be like to see something like that today, since many churches have only a few people going to confession.

After this we were given a tour of the rest of the church which also has a memorial to St Pio set up. In the memorial were artifacts of his life and work. There was his bedroom set up the way in which he had it in life, obviously all of his belongings from his room were moved and placed in this alcove for all to see. His bedroom was simple, a bed, a desk, a few holy pictures on the wall, his chair, a few shadow boxes containing some of his personal effects, his shoes, and even a pile of old cards under the desk, that must have been from all of the people who wrote to him asking for his help. He received hundreds of letters weekly, if not daily, later on in his life. After we saw his room, we saw niches set up with many of the items he used in life like the ciborium, chalice and paten that he used. There is one of the bloodstained corporals that he used hanging on the wall, since he had the stigmata of Christ his hands were always bleeding. I believe this is why he was always so sick, it was said that he almost died many times before he finally did die in 1964. Next to the corporal was an old metal crucifix with Mary and John at the base.

On display were also a kind of reliquary of the many bandages that covered St Pio's hands over the years he had the stigmata. He had it for fifty years. This was a metal frame depicting the angels and the crucifix, as well as, Jesus in the garden. In the frame was also another blood stained corporal.

Next, we saw many pictures of him throughout his life of him and his parents and family, as well as, other events with him in it.

One thing I learned is that Padre Pio, whose birth name was Francesco Forgione, after St Francis of Assisi, had taken the religious name of Pius after Pope Pius and somewhere on down the line it was shortened to Pio as he came to be known across the world. He became a Capuchin novice at the age of sixteen and received the habit in 1910. On September 20, 1918 kneeling in front of a crucifix, he received the visible marks of the crucifixion. We were also able to see this crucifix which was a great blessing.

After our tour, we were given time to walk around the campus of San Giovanni Rotondo, which as I said earlier, is on a hill so we had many paths and flights of stairs to go up. We started out in the old church and then we were able to see the new much larger church. The new church is far more spacious with mosaic artwork covering the entrance way. The mosaics cover images of the Annunciation, the crucifixion, scenes of the life of St Pio, there is even one image of St. Pio embracing Jesus on the cross.



This is a more modern church so there is a pipe organ, vaulted ceilings, even stone arches reminiscent of the Renaissance era right inside of the church.

As we walked through the new church, I saw a sign that said “relics”. Well I love to see relics of the saints, so I guided my brother that way, thinking there would be a relic display. But I was joyed to see the relic that was on display in the crypt area of the new church was none other than St. Pio's partially in-corrupt body. Finally, I was able to see and venerate this great saint. I had heard about the state of his body after death, normally bodies corrupt shortly after death, but his body is still mostly preserved as if he is sleeping, even though he died in 1964. Now his left hand does show signs of decay, it looks mummified, but his face just looks like he is asleep and you can count the hairs of his long beard. The crypt area itself had mosaics covering every visible wall of the angels and saints.

After this church, we journeyed on to the Cave of St Michael.



Bedroom of St. Pio



Confessional



Crucifix where Padre Pio received his stigmata



St. Pio



Statue of Jesus and St. Pio





New Church of St. Pio



The old Church

## NOSTALGIC MOMENTS

Don't you enjoy the nostalgia of pleasant memories, such as the beginning of a beautiful friendship?

How wonderful it is to relive the moment when Jesus called His first followers. I love to envision the sheer excitement and camaraderie that must have existed among those He called. An endless jubilee, God uniting with those He loves, ordinary human beings, you and me.

During His first interaction with his future Apostles Jesus declares, "Come, and you will see!" How good God is! By following His way, we find the true peace that no worldly satisfaction can ever give us.

God's love for the world indeed endures forever. Still today, know that God always sees You! Whether it is a time of joy or heartache, the mundane or the extraordinary, God promises He will always be there with us. Like He called Peter and Andrew by name, He is also calling YOU by name to have an ongoing relationship with Him. Through our steadfast prayers and by studying His teachings, let us always strive to be one with Jesus Christ, Who is past, present and forever and ever.

By Alexis Dallara-Marsh

## HELLO, GOD

Just before our first reading it says that "the word of the LORD was rare;<http://www.biblestudytools.com/1-samuel/3.html> - [cr-descriptionAnchor-2#cr-descriptionAnchor-2](#) there were not many visions.<http://www.biblestudytools.com/1-samuel/3.html> - [cr-descriptionAnchor-3#cr-descriptionAnchor-3](#)" (1Sam 3:1) I imagine most people today would think that was true. Haven't you ever wished you lived in biblical times, to see some of the miracles you read about? Wouldn't it be cool to hear the LORD speaking in a vision? Do you think God has stopped talking? People apparently felt that way in Samuel's time. Let's look at the reading to see what Samuel's experience can teach us.

At first Samuel thinks it is Eli calling him. It is not unusual for people to miss a sign from God. If you have a talent that you are proud of, perhaps it is a sign that God wants you to use that talent to help others. Or if a friend tells you she is concerned about your health, it could be God's way of telling you to get help. Try to see God speaking in whatever happens to you and you may hear a lot more than you think.

Samuel also gets help from Eli. Eli began to recognize that the LORD was speaking to Samuel. Sometimes we need help discerning what the Lord is telling us. A good spiritual director can lead you to understand what God is saying to you. Your pastor may be able to do that, or at least able to refer you to someone.

Warning: A spiritual director will probably ask how often you pray. In our reading Samuel finally speaks directly to God, instead of going back to Eli. Then God tells him what God's plan was. So if you wonder what God plans for your life, try spending more time in prayer with him. Don't be like the man who complains he never know what his wife wants from him. When asked what she tells him, he says, "I don't know; we never talk." I bet we have all had times where we didn't know if we are doing God's will because we didn't take time to pray. But don't do all the talking. Give God some quiet time to hear his response. For God hasn't stopped talking; we just stopped listening.

Tom Schmidt





## MINISTRY DIRECTORY

## ALTAR SERVERS

Karen Dickerson 985-863-7935

[kdickerson@sppcprla.com](mailto:kdickerson@sppcprla.com)

## ALTAR SOCIETY

Susan Mercier 985-690-6617

3rd Thursday each month 9:00am

## ANTONIANS

Howard Hebert 985-863-5319

1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday each month 7:00 pm

## APOLOGETICS

Peter Dakin 985-781-4789

[peter@peter315.org](mailto:peter@peter315.org)

## ELIJAH HELPERS

Karen Dickerson 985-863-7935

[kdickerson@sppcprla.com](mailto:kdickerson@sppcprla.com)

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Ellie Ross 985-960-1613

1<sup>st</sup> Friday each month 8:00 am

## FAITH FORMATION-RCIA

Elizabeth Brent 985-640-6938

## FINANCE

Robert Johnson 985-863-7935

## FLORAL DESIGN

Cathy Downey 985-290-4702

## GRAND ADULTS (GASPP)

Alicia O'Brien 985-863-1938

1<sup>st</sup> Monday each month 12:00 pm

## LECTORS

Office 985-863-7935

## LEGION OF MARY

Laurie Howell 985-290-6983

Meet on Thursdays at 10:00 am

## MINISTER OF EUCHARIST SUNDAYS

Roger Ruiz 601-799-4527

[rogrus1@gmail.com](mailto:rogrus1@gmail.com)

## MUSIC DIRECTOR

Cynthia Ripoll 985-774-9917

[cynthiaripoll@yahoo.com](mailto:cynthiaripoll@yahoo.com)

Mike &amp; Cynthia Ripoll 8:30 am

Harold &amp; Shelia Loyacano 10:30 am

## PATRIOTIC ROSARY

Every Thursday in Church 6:30 pm

## PRAYER CHAIN

Barbara Laughlin 985-290-9482

## SEVEN SISTERS APOSTOLATE

Andrea 985-640-7412

## ST. JOSEPH ALTAR

Tony Colombo 985-863-7309

## TUESDAY ROSARY

Eydie Richmond

Every Tuesday after 8:00 am Mass

## USHERS &amp; GREETERS

Howard Hebert, Sr. 985-863-5319

[howardhebert@bellsouth.net](mailto:howardhebert@bellsouth.net)

## WIDOWS GROUP

Sandra Bailey 985-250-9013

Stella Jenevein 504-884-0106

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday each month 12:00 pm

## YOUTH GROUP (CYO)

Laurny Jeffrey 985-259-9604



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