

Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 23, 2025



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66192 St. Mary Drive, Pearl River, Louisiana, 70452
www.sppcprla.com email: 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 Bryan McCauley

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-Friday 8:00-3:00

CONTACT US

Main Office
985-863-7935

Fax
985-863-5431

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.

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."



WEEKLY EVENTS

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

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

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

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

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament—Friday beginning with Mass at 8:00 a.m. and ending with Benediction at 5:00 p.m.

Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary—Saturday 8:00 a.m. with Mass, the Rosary and Confession

PSR—Sunday begins with 8:30 a.m. Mass

STAGNANT OR OVERFLOWING?

We find ourselves in the midst of a short, seven and a half week stint of Ordinary Time. It can seem like we are somewhat lost in time - no longer in the Christmas season and not yet in the throes of Lent. It can also be a dreary time. All of the exterior lights are extinguished; the days are still short and the nights still long. The gray clouds and threats of snow linger on in some parts, yet without the childlike anticipation to pull us through. What do we have to look forward to now? How can we not grow stagnant in our walk of faith during this time?

A friend once told me that Ordinary Time was his favorite season of all. When he first said it, I thought he was crazy. How can anyone enjoy Ordinary Time more than Christmas or Easter?! But then he shared that, just as the liturgical color green indicates, Ordinary Time is a season of growth. As we muddle through the mundane, tackle the trivial and battle the boredom, we are invited to continue blossoming and blooming.

In today's first reading we discover Saul and David in the middle of a cat and mouse chase. Saul finds himself in a jealous rage and wishes to extinguish David, while David's men encourage him to obliterate Saul. David could have just as easily become enraged. After all, his best friend's father wanted to chop his head off! But he fled in self defense, and when afforded the opportunity to retaliate, refused to lay a finger on the Lord's anointed one. He acquiesced to God rather than anger.

Jesus puts the actions of David into words saying: "love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you... Do to others as you would have them do to you...and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked." Sounds selfless and saintly and... super hard. To act in a way that gains no reward, not even a tiny bit of dopamine, sounds just horrible. It offers my humanness no motivation, my pride no boost.

Yet we live for the promise of a different kind of reward all together: "then your reward will be great and you will be children of the Most High...gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down and overflowing..." So let us shake off the ordinaryness of this time and dive into the growth, so that our heavenly reward may be overflowing.

Tamir Urcia

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, February 24

(Sir 1:1-10; Mk 9:14-29)

No Mass Scheduled

Tuesday, February 25

(Sir 2:1-11; Mk 9:30-37)

8:00 a.m. Jerome Roszczynialski†

Wednesday, February 26

(Sir 4:11-19; Mk 9:38-40)

6:30 p.m. Purgatorial Society

Thursday, February 27

(Sir 5:1-8; Mk 9:41-50)

8:00 a.m.

Friday, February 28

(Sir 6:5-17; Mk 10:1-12)

8:00 a.m. Nellie Roszczynialski†

Saturday, March 1

(Sir 17:1-15; Mk 10:13-16)

8:00 a.m. Claude Yarborough†

5:00 p.m. Joseph D'Antoni, Jr.†, Roszczynialski/Stottman Family, Poor Souls in Purgatory, Lee & Yvonne Tracey†, Ken & Adele Salzer†, Danny Ragusa, Sr.†, Lawrence Otillio†, Lee Ann Scogin†, Judy Woods†, Patti & Vaughn Gay

Sunday, March 2

(Sir 27:4-7; 1 Cor 15:54-58; Lk 6:39-45)

7:00 a.m. Fr. Chris DeLerno

8:30 a.m. Deacon Pat Downey†, Wanda Morel†, Tommy Gilbert†, Lou Lou Battle†, Lloyd Vieages†

10:30 a.m. People of the Parish

PARISH ROSARY PROGRAM



Weekly Rosaries: EARLY

Year to Date: PUBLICATION



POPE FRANCIS' INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

PRAY FOR THE SICK

May Caballero, Diana Bradshaw, Mary Salzer Brown, Elizabeth Kittel, Zachary Cresson, Patricia Cuccia, Ed Roszczynialski, Norris Ripp, Mary Ware, Ryan Ware, Lily Jorns, Dalin Davis, Israel & Joyce Landry, Steve Dunn, Joann Brewin, Joseph Decaro, Lois Leonard, Donald Paul & Larry Dickerson, Shirley Matthews, Jim & Eydie Richmond, Ed & Carol Wallace, Sue Miller, Molly Hymel, Lucy Reese, Brenda Dehm, Landon Jeffrey, Glenn Bunting, Lucy D'Antoni, Don & Judy Aleman, Dylan Gornor, Vaughn Gay, Cathy Stanford, Herbert Landry, John McKelvey, Jr., James White



AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW ORLEANS

Men's Conference 2025 – I Trust in You Join us for the 2025 Archdiocese of New Orleans Men's Conference; March 15, 2025 at St. Dominic Church in New Orleans. The Men's Conference is the largest gathering of Catholic Men in the Archdiocese. There will be dynamic speakers, inspiring music with the Vigil Project, time for adoration, dozens of priests to hear confessions, Mass with Archbishop Aymond, and breakfast and lunch besides! This year's Conference theme, "*I Trust in You*", focuses on building greater trust with God and one another in order to take our faith to the next level. Register today and help our parish win bragging rights with the Men's Conference Best Represented Parish award! Learn more at Nolacatholicmen.com. Call the office to register and take advantage of our group discount.

REVOLUTIONARY LOVE

"And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love. Yes, they'll know-ow we are Christians by our love." The well-known song, written in the 1960's by Fr. Peter Scholtes, echoes today's Gospel. Sixty years later and two thousand years into Christianity, the song might seem trite or timid. Sweet images of walking side-by-side, and hand-in hand; that's nice. In truth, though, it is so much more. It is, like today's Gospel, the call for a revolution.

Christ encourages his disciples to a revolutionary love, one unheard of in their time — a love that gives expecting nothing in return, a love that is neither earned nor deserved. Love those who hate you. Love those who hurt you. Forgive the unforgivable and have mercy on the merciless.

There is nothing trite in this love. It is so unexpected, so counter-cultural, so revolutionary that it sets us apart. It is a generous, self-sacrificing, humbling love that makes the world wonder, "What is up with that?"

There is nothing timid in this love. It is bold, strong, and steadfast. This love calls for the courage to stand in the wake of hate, cruelty, and injustice. This love calls for the fortitude to speak God's truth even when it's unpopular. No, not to judge or condemn, but to challenge and correct.

If I have run a wooded path and know that it opens to a cliff, what am I to say to another who is running headlong and full speed through the thicket? Does this powerful love step back and say, "Hey, you be you, friend. Who am I to judge?" Or does this steadfast love look the runner in the eye and urge him, "Hey, that path is dangerous. There's another way we can travel together." Of course it is the latter. What that runner does next and how he finishes is not mine to decide — that is between him and God — but the love of today's Gospel begs me to speak up in mercy.

This kind of love is downright supernatural; we are not capable of it on our own. Only with the strength of grace, only through Christ can we love like this, and when we do, He shines through. This love should set us apart so the troubled world might notice and long to know more.

Indeed, by the grace of God, they will know we are Christians by our love — by our humble, self-sacrificing, unexpected, bold, steadfast, merciful, revolutionary love.

By Pamela Kavanaugh

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

This week's calendar appears at first to have a feast day for a piece of furniture: the Chair of Peter. In fact, it functions as a kind of ecclesial "Presidents' Day." The church day points to Peter, but just as Presidents' Day began with Washington's birthday and now includes all presidents, this day celebrates the Petrine ministry: Peter's apostolic presidency passed down in our tradition as an essential aspect of Catholic identity. Maybe the day should be subtitled "Popes' Day." As for the "chair" itself, it can be traced to the house of Priscilla and Aquila in ancient Rome. Peter sat there to instruct the faithful and to receive the newly baptized. When Christianity became legal, the house was transformed into a place for public prayer, and soon the chair was transported to the tomb of St. Peter on the Vatican hill. Over the centuries, the hill was leveled, but the tomb and the chair were preserved.

Today, it is said that the chair from that ancient Roman community is raised high above the altar in St. Peter's, clearly visible just beneath the oval window showing the descent of the Holy Spirit. The symbol of the chair reminds the current occupant of the Petrine office of his duties to shepherd the flock by clear teaching and by building up the unity of the Church. Last year, on this very day, Pope Benedict XVI named fifteen new cardinals as an expression of this pastoral care for the unity of the Church, drawing them from a variety of cultures everywhere around the globe.

—Rev. James Field

SAINT GREGORY OF NAREK, ABBOT AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH (C. 945-1003)

FEBRUARY 27



It can be so comforting to those who have experienced certain hardship in life to be able to identify with a particular saint. For example, today's saint, Gregory of Narek, was an orphan. He was born in Turkey in the middle of the 10th century. After his parents died, he went to live with his uncle, who was a monk. Gregory entered the monastery and later became a priest and a theology professor. He was also a mystic and became a well-known writer and poet. One of his pieces, which he described as "an encyclopedia of prayer for all nations," has been translated into thirty languages. He spent his life within the walls of the Narek monastery and was buried there in the early 11th century. Pope Francis declared Gregory, already a saint of the Armenian Apostolic Church, a Doctor of the Church in 2015. He is the patron saint of musicians, singers, students and teachers. Saint Gregory of Narek, pray for us!

—Tami Urcia

SAINT POLYCARP (DIED 155)

FEBRUARY 23



"Eighty-six years I have served Christ, and he never did me any wrong. How can I blaspheme my King and Savior?" Boldly answering the official who demanded he worship pagan gods, Polycarp, today's "Senior Citizen Saint," demonstrates that courage, far from being the preserve of the young, is a virtue cultivated through life-long fidelity and crowned by final perseverance. A disciple of Saint John, who is said to have consecrated him bishop of Smyrna in modern day Turkey, Polycarp witnesses to the truth that, whatever time and space may separate us, Jesus' gift of the Eucharist unites us. Polycarp's final words, preserved by the Church of Smyrna, sounds like a Eucharistic Prayer in which the saint offers himself: "Lord, almighty God, Father of your beloved and blessed Son Jesus Christ, through whom we have come to the knowledge of yourself . . . may I be received among the martyrs as a rich and pleasing sacrifice . . . through the eternal priest of heaven, Jesus Christ . . . through him be glory to you, together with him and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen."

—Peter Scagnelli

St POLYCARP of SMYRNA

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March 2025

Devoted to: St. Joseph

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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MINISTRY DIRECTORY

ALTAR SERVERS

Karen Dickerson 985-863-7935

kdickerson@sppcprla.com

ALTAR SOCIETY

Susan Mercier 985-690-6617

3rd Thursday each month 9:00 am

ANTONIANS

Howard Hebert 985-863-5319

1st Tuesday each month 7:00 pm

BIBLE STUDY

Deacon Bryan McCauley

985-863-7935

ELIJAH HELPERS

Karen Dickerson 985-863-7935

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Ellie Ross 985-960-1613

1st Friday each month 8:00 am

FAITH FORMATION-RCIA

Elizabeth Brent 985-640-6938

FINANCE

Patti Gay 985-863-7935

FLORAL DESIGN

Cathy Downey 985-290-4702

GRAND ADULTS (GASPP)

Alicia O'Brien 985-863-1938

1st Monday each month 12:00 pm

LECTORS

Office 985-863-7935

LEGION OF MARY

Paula Hilton 985-707-4539

Meet on Thursdays at 10:00 am

MINISTER OF EUCHARIST SUNDAYS

Roger Ruiz 601-799-4527

rogruiz@gmail.com

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Cynthia Ripoll 985-774-9917

Braden Eymard

Mike & Cynthia Ripoll

PATRIOTIC ROSARY

Ellie Ross & Dana Bunting 985-960-1613

Every Thursday in Church 6:30 pm

PRAYER CHAIN

Barbara Laughlin 985-290-9482

SEVEN SISTERS APOSTOLATE

Andrea Leonard 985-640-7412

ST. JOSEPH ALTAR

Tony Colombo 985-863-7309

TUESDAY ROSARY

Eydie Richmond

Every Tuesday after 8:00 am Mass

USHERS & GREETERS

Howard Hebert, Sr. 985-863-5319

howardhebert@bellsouth.net

WIDOWS GROUP

Sandra Bailey 985-250-9013

Stella Jenevein 504-884-0106

3rd Thursday each month 12:00 pm

YOUTH GROUP (CYO)

Lauryn Jeffrey 985-259-9604

In order to keep our data base current and accurate, please contact the office if you have moved and have a new address or new phone number.

Office: 985-863-7935 or

Email: kdickerson@sppcprla.com

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BULLETIN DEADLINE:

The office requires information no later than
Monday, **two (2) weeks** before publication.

For current Parish happenings (funeral information, changes in mass times, etc.),
check the bulletin boards at the entrances to church and www.sppcprla.com.

GOOD SAMARITAN MINISTRY

Good Sams Ministry is open Monday (12:30-3:30 pm), Tuesday-Friday (9:30 am-3:30 pm). Please call ahead for appointment, 985-641-6421

We do not accept clothing or furniture donations. Bring these to
Community Christian Concern at 2515 Carey St., Slidell

HOW TO DONATE:

You can support our mission to make our community a wonderful place to live for
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<https://saintlukeslidell.org/donategoodsams>

Please check the meeting times and dates with ministry
leaders, the Church Office, website or inside the Parish bulletin.

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JANE L. TRIOLA
Attorney & Notary

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