

# Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church



First Sunday of Advent November 30, 2025

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	

Rosary will begin 30 minutes Before each weekend Mass

## 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 Konyale  
Web Site  
ckonyale@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

## 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

**GASPP**—Monday 12:00 p.m. in Parish Hall

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

**OCLIA**—Tuesday 6:00 p.m. in classrooms

**Altar Society Lunch**—11:00 a.m. Fatty's Seafood in Slidell

**Legion of Mary**—Thursday 2:30 p.m. Parish Hall

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

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

**Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary**—Saturday beginning at 8:00 a.m. with Devotion, mass & confession

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Monday, December 1**

(Is 4:2-6; Mt 8:5-11)

No Mass Scheduled

**Tuesday, December 2**

(Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24)

8:00 a.m. Larry Laughlin

**Wednesday, December 3**

(Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37)

6:30 p.m. Purgatorial Society

**Thursday, December 4**

(Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27)

8:00 a.m. Agnes V. Marchese†

**Friday, December 5**

(Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31)

8:00 a.m. Patrick Laughlin

**Saturday, December 6**

(Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8)

8:00 a.m. Gustave & Viola Wahl

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, Claude Yarborough†, Bruce Guidry† & Family, Lester Coupel†, Augie Paretti†, Ralph Landry†

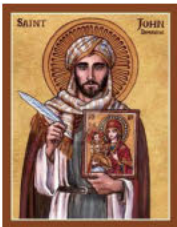
**Sunday, December 7**

(Is 11:1-10; Rm 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12)

7:00 a.m. Fr. Chris DeLerno

8:30 a.m. Deacon Pat Downey†, Eydie Richmond†, May Caballero†, Pat Cuccia†, Robert & Jimmie Lou Fava, Augie Paretti†, Lester Coupel†

10:30 a.m. People of the Parish



## SAINT JOHN OF DAMASCUS (C. 675-749)

## DECEMBER 4

From almost 1300 years ago, John's message for the church's spirituality and mission is surprisingly contemporary. Pope Benedict says that, in our modern culture of images, sacred images often speak more eloquently than words. This "incarnational theology," the concept that visible, tangible elements can give believers access to divine realities beyond, found an eloquent champion in John of Damascus. He challenged the Iconoclasts (image-breakers), whose misinterpretation of the biblical prohibition of idolatrous images (Exodus 20:4-5) led them to campaign for the destruction of all sacred art. Before this controversy, however, John bore witness to Christ in a way that provides a timely example for Christians in today's pluralistic society. Succeeding his grandfather and father, John served as chief financial officer to the Muslim Caliph, professing his Christian faith without compromise, while winning the esteem of his Islamic sovereign by his competence and integrity. No wonder John could eloquently defend icons as "windows into heaven"—he had already learned to see Christ in the living icons of people different from himself yet fashioned in the same divine image!

—Peter Scagnelli



## PRAY FOR THE SICK

Michael McKelvey, Mary Salzer Brown, Elizabeth Kittel, Zachary Cresson, 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, Sue Miller, Molly Hymel, Lucy Reese, Brenda Dehm, Landon Jeffrey, Glenn Bunting, Lucy D'Antoni, Judy Aleman, Isabella & Dylan Gornor, Vaughn Gay, Cathy Stanford, Herbert Landry, James White, Maria Kalcic, Dave Anderson, Lisa Wayne, Robert Lawtum, Bailey Battle, Patricia Barrois, Amy Fandal, Val Methe

## PARISH ROSARY PROGRAM

Weekly Rosaries: 306

Year to Date: 14,943





### POPE INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER

Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts might find the support, care, and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.



### TABERNACLE LAMP

This week, the Tabernacle Lamp in the Sanctuary burns for

† Wallace & Jewel Bailey †

## DO WHAT YOU CAN

The reading from the prophet Isaiah this Sunday contains a remarkable prediction—the end of war between nations (Isaiah 2:4). While most of the good predictions of the prophets were fulfilled in Jesus, we still await the end of all wars. So why hasn't that one been fulfilled? We can look to the second reading and the Gospel for some hints.

Both readings talk about being awake and ready for our salvation (Romans 13:12) or the coming of the Son of Man (Matthew 24:39). Being awake doesn't mean consuming lots of coffee or turning the music volume all the way up. Paul calls it "putting on the Lord Jesus Christ" as a soldier would put on armor before a battle. He even mentions rivalry and jealousy as attitudes to avoid. Both of those vices have been the cause of many wars in our history. What if we not only avoided them, but also taught our children to avoid them? What if everyone eventually learned not to be jealous and hateful?

We are a long way from ending all wars. There are still people who teach hate to the poor instead of helping to feed them. There are still people who get rich selling the weapons of war. This brings us back to the first reading, in which Isaiah speaks of beating swords into plowshares. Do we have enough faith in God's love to stop building weapons and use those resources to feed the hungry or cure diseases in underprivileged countries? Until we convert everyone to following Jesus, that's not likely. The Gospel calls us to be ready. Maybe we need to be ready to share our faith. Maybe we have to be awake to any opportunity to show God's love to those around us. Are we afraid to offer to pray for someone in need? Maybe we need to put on the "armor of light," as St. Paul calls it. Instead of trying to stop all wars, could we at least show forgiveness to someone who has hurt us?

Jesus never said to do the impossible. If we can be ready to see Jesus in those around us, to show his love to those who need it, or just be patient with other people's faults and weaknesses, we may not stop all wars, but we will be prepared for the coming of the

## AROUND THE PARISH

**Altar Society Lunch**—Wednesday, December 3rd at Fatty's Slidell location

**Blood Drive**—December 7th from 7:40 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

**PSR Christmas program and pot luck lunch**—Sunday, December 14th at 11:30 a.m.

### Christmas Mass Schedule:

Christmas Eve: 5:00 p.m. and Midnight

Christmas Day: 10:30 a.m. ONLY

**Solemnity of Mary:** (Holy day of obligation)

New Year's Eve: 6:30 p.m.

New Year's Day: 8:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

"People in love make signs of love," wrote our bishops in a document guiding the renewal of liturgical music. They were not merely urging us to sing at Mass, but suggesting that the song itself is a sign of the love of Christ. Love never expressed dies, as we know from experience. Flowers for no special reason, a caress, a hug, a turn around the dance floor, a note on the pillow or in the lunchbox, the aroma of fresh bread in the kitchen, all are signs of love's vitality.

A significant treasure in our Catholic tradition is the place of the sacraments as signs of Christ's love. We can trace the sacraments back to scriptural sources, through centuries of history. They are woven through family tradition and our own life story. Sacraments are the way Christ makes signs of love for the Church. For twenty centuries, God has spoken to us in the arena of the sacraments, and we have responded.

For the next year of "Treasure" essays, we will explore the story of sacraments: their sources, their signs and rituals, and the way Christ nurtures and sustains us as we encounter him, the companion on our journey who loves us and faithfully makes signs of that love.

—Rev. James Field



PASTOR'S CORNER

### Today, I begin presenting meditations on the Mysteries of the Rosary

I hope that by now you have come to see what a blessing the devotion of the Rosary is and how much that it can enrich your spiritual life. When we move beyond just a simple repetitive praying of the Rosary to a more meditative or contemplative praying of the Rosary, it has the ability to bring us into a closer relationship with Jesus. Over the next four weeks, I will give simple meditations on the mysteries of the Rosary for you to bring to your time of prayer with the Rosary. Allow it to become a more meditative prayer. These meditational prayers were written by Merrieth Frediani, and while simple, I am sure that they will enrich your Rosary prayer time with new thoughts on each of the mysteries contained in the Rosary.

#### Rhythm and Meditation

The rhythm of the Hail Marys quiets my mind to reflect on Christ's life. I began having insights into the important parts of his life and grew in appreciation of His sacrifice, and as a result I have grown in my desire to sin less and pray more. I have also experienced spiritual attack which is not unexpected. Mary wants to help us be closer to her son. Satan is not a fan of that. As Padre Pio said, "Love the Madonna and pray the Rosary, for her Rosary is the weapon against the evils of the world today."

The Rosary is most effective when we meditate on the mysteries. Below are some thoughts to help in your own prayer.

### JOYFUL MYSTERIES

#### The Annunciation – Fruit of Humility

Mary said yes. God was asking a great amount of her. She could face disapproval. Joseph could abandon her. She might not be believed. Mary risked a lot because she had faith in God's goodness. I imagine her kneeling in wonderment at the angel Gabriel, his hands encompassing hers, his forehead pressed against hers as he tells her of God's great plan. She whispers "yes" knowing that her life is forever changed and possibly going to be much harder. She allows God's will to be done and with that *fiat* the salvation of the world is set in motion. I pray that I can put God's will before my own.

#### The Visitation – Love of Neighbor

Newly pregnant, Mary walks several days to visit her cousin Elizabeth. Elizabeth greets her with great joy and Mary exclaims her *Magnificat*. While knowing that all will call her blessed, she spends several months serving Elizabeth. I imagine her performing the tasks of life so that Elizabeth, in her third trimester when the physical burden of pregnancy is greatest, can rest. Despite her own possible exhaustion and morning sickness, she serves her cousin. I imagine them at the end of the day sitting together and sharing their feelings about these two miraculous babies. I pray that I can serve as Mary did.

#### The Nativity – Poverty of Spirit

Mary and Joseph are far from home and she is about to give birth. They find nowhere to stay. Rather than panicking, they rely on God who leads them to a safe, warm place for his son's birth. I imagine their worry but also their sense of calm. They know God cares for them and he will not abandon them on this holy journey. As the angels announce Jesus' birth and the shepherds come to pay him homage, Mary and Joseph are surrounded by God's love. I pray for the grace to depend on God completely.



### Presentation in the Temple – Obedience

Mary and Joseph obey the law and bring their newborn son to the temple and offer a sacrifice. There they meet Simeon who has waited many years to meet the Messiah. I imagine Simeon gazing at Jesus. The Christ for whom he has waited has arrived just as God promised. He raises his eyes to heaven in thanks. He also warns Mary that her own heart will be pierced. She continues to trust God, not knowing what lies ahead. I pray for trust in God's plan and patience in waiting for it to unfold.

### Finding Jesus in the Temple – Piety

After not knowing where he was for three days, Mary and Joseph find Jesus in the temple. I imagine the fear they felt when they realized Jesus was not with them as they returned from Jerusalem. I imagine how scared they felt as they looked for Him and the increasing anxiety they experience as time passed. At last they find Him in his father's home. What relief and joy. We look for Jesus too and we can always find him in church. He is there waiting for us. I pray that I will not find reasons to avoid visiting Jesus regularly.

## STAY AWAKE

As we enter the first week of Advent, we hear in Matthew's Gospel, "Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come." This is a familiar verse and one that we might be tempted to gloss over. Yet, Advent is an invitation to a time of expectation, of quiet waiting, and deep spiritual preparation. It is a time to slow down and consider what it means in our lives in 2025, to stay awake.

Have you ever been so exhausted that you cannot physically stay awake? I am a nervous flyer. I have no problem staying awake on long flights because the adrenaline coursing through my body guarantees that I will not fall asleep. However, my inability to sleep on these flights makes my first day of travel very challenging, excruciating even, and I struggle to stay awake without drinking coffee or espresso. Merely resisting sleep in this exhausted state is not what this passage means by staying awake. Sure, I can keep my eyes open after a long flight, but I am not alert enough to pay attention and perceive what is happening around me.

Today's Gospel reading is a call not just to have our eyes ajar, but to be alert, attentive, and expectant. That is what it means to stay awake. In this passage, Jesus invites us to recall the Old Testament story of Noah when people were going about their daily lives. They were "eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day that Noah entered the ark." Though Moses and his family were building an ark with precise measurements in the midst of their community, onlookers were not sufficiently alert or awake to realize that a great flood was coming. Many people found themselves unprepared when the flood arrived.

In a similar way, we too, can live life in a distracted state. Especially in this modern age, our lives are fast and overstimulated. During the holiday season, we zip from parties, to shopping, to school plays and concerts, fueling ourselves on cookies and coffees. Our bodies are in motion but not necessarily alert or awake to the miracle of Advent: Christ is coming.

The invitation to stay awake beckons us to be conscious of the virtue of hope, of the miracle of life, and the prodigious love that our God has for us in choosing to become incarnate. Let us stay awake this season to be attentive to the details surrounding Jesus' birth and to prepare ourselves for His ultimate return in glory.

By Elizabeth Tomlin

## SAINT ANDREW, APOSTLE (C. 5-65) NOVEMBER 30



As one of the disciples blessed to be called an Apostle, according to the Gospel of John, St. Andrew was the first of the Twelve to be led to Christ. One day, John the Baptist was with two of his disciples "and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said, 'Behold, the Lamb of God.' The two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus... Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, was one of the two who heard John and followed Jesus. (John 1:36-37, 40). Andrew began following Jesus after a simple indication from John the Baptist, without ever hearing a word come out of Jesus' mouth. What incredible faith! In the same light, we could also consider him the very first evangelist, since after meeting Jesus and finding out where he was staying, he immediately went to find his brother Peter and bring him to the Lord as well. All he had to say was, "We have found the Messiah" (John 1:41). And that is how his mission began, following the Messiah and learning all he could from Him so as to continue leading others to Him. After Christ's death and resurrection, Tradition holds that Andrew preached in modern day Greece and Turkey. He was crucified at Patras on an X-shaped cross because he did not feel worthy to die in the same manner as Our Lord. St. Andrew, intercede for us, that we too may become disciples and evangelists for Christ.

—Tami Urcia



## 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 9:00 am

### ANTONIANS

Howard Hebert 985-863-5319

1<sup>st</sup> 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

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

### FAITH FORMATION-OCIA

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

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

### LECTORS

Office 985-863-7935

### LEGION OF MARY

Paula Hilton 985-707-4539

Meet on Thursdays at 2:30 pm

### MINISTER OF EUCHARIST SUNDAYS

Deacon Bryan McCauley

### 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

Fr. Kevin DeLerno

Every Tuesday after 8:00 am Mass

### USHERS & 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)

Laurnyn 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](mailto:kdickerson@sppcprla.com)

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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](http://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  
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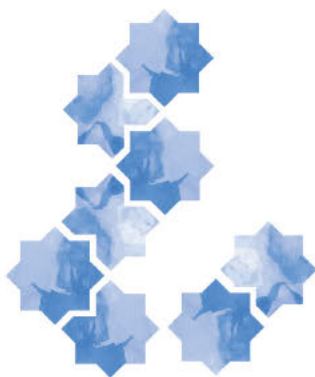
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You can support our mission to make our community a wonderful place to live for  
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Please check the meeting times and dates with ministry  
leaders, the Church Office, website or inside the Parish bulletin.





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