

Saint Peter's Parish



THE HOLY FAMILY

The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.
- Lk 2:40

SCHEDULE OF LITURGIES

Saturday 4:30 pm
Sunday 8:30 and 11:00 am
Monday-Thursday 8:00 am
Rosary 7:35 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:30 pm
Anytime by request

IN YOUR TIME OF NEED

Fr. Michael, Peter Sabourin,
George Murray, William Ballou,
Ron Rej, Rebecca Siegle,
Sharon Dupre

FAITH FORMATION COMMITTEE

Victoria Neville, Barbara Ramian,
Audra Gaul, Rosa Orazine,
Christine Fung-A-Fat,
Craig Consigli, Louise Forget

MUSIC MINISTRY

Alice Bucca, Chris Harris,
Kevin Burokas

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

Elaine Nowlan

Rev. Michael Lavallee, Pastor
39 Church Avenue, PO Box 446,
Northbridge, MA 01534

Parish Office Hours
Monday-Thursday 9:00am-1:00pm

Elaine Nowlan: Parish Secretary
Christine Fung-A-Fat: Administrative Assistant
George Murray: Business Manager

Parish Office: 508-234-2156
Email: Parishoffice@stpeterrockdale.org
FrMichael@stpeterrockdale.org
Website: www.stpeterrockdale.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Louise Forget: Religious Education Coordinator
Email: religiouised@stpeterrockdale.org
Phone: 508-234-6355

Elementary: PreK to 4th
Middle School: 5th-8th
High School: 9th-10th Confirmation: 11th

*New to our Parish Family and would like to join?
Please contact the parish office.*

BAPTISMS

Please call the Parish Office.

MARRIAGES

Please call the Parish Office at least twelve months in advance to begin required marriage preparation.

PARISH COUNCIL

Barbara Ramian,
Pete Sabourin,
Thomas Heney,
Jeff Roy, Kim Poudrier,
Mary Sheehan

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Homer Rajotte,
Thomas Heney,
Jeffrey Thibeault,
George Murray,
Bob Dziekiewicz,
James Archibald-ex officio

Saint Peter's Parish

Northbridge, MA



SATURDAY December 30th

4:30PM **William Blodgett 5yr. Anniv.** by Family

SUNDAY December 31st

8:30AM **William, Elsie & Phyllis Mangan**

by Fr. Michael & Barbara Lavallee

11:00AM **Ronald Greenwood** by the Heney Family

MONDAY January 1st-New Years Day

8:00AM **For a Special Intention** by Leo Lussier

TUESDAY January 2nd

8:00AM **Henry J. Coz** by the Lavalles

WEDNESDAY January 3rd

8:00AM **Fr. James Clifford**

by St. Peter's Parish Family

THURSDAY January 4th

8:00AM **Christine Chaput**

by St. Peter's Parish Family

SATURDAY January 6th

4:30PM **Raymond Renault** by his Wife Mary

SUNDAY January 7th- The Epiphany of the Lord

8:30AM **Leo & Terry Hetu** by Judy & Gary Morvan

11:00AM **Henry E. Bertulli**

by St. Peter's Parish Family

December 17, 2023

Envelopes Weekly	75	\$ 4322.98
Electronic Giving	19	528.50
Renovation	23	365.00
Music Ministry	7	95.00
Winter Envelopes	9	272.00
Donations		163.00
Christmas Trees Holiday Baskets		220.00
Group Hall Rental		110.00
Religious Ed Registration Fee		90.00
Oxford Basketball Hall Rental		200.00
Peace of Bread		550.00
Hospital Stipend		500.00
Church Vestment Donation		260.00
Advent Day of Reflection Donations		230.00
Holiday Baskets		830.00
Christmas Flower Offering		93.00
Christmas Offering		145.00

Total

\$ 8974.48

Upcoming Collections

Parish Collection-Solemnity of Mary-January 1st

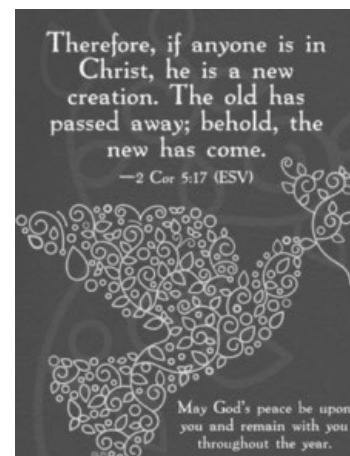
Parish Collection-Music Ministry-January 7th

Second Collection

Catholic University of America-January 7th



Rose Boulanger, Bertha Oyola Gimenez,
Michele Small, Christine Brouillard, John Letscher,
Alfred Venincasa, Sandra Krause, Jeff Thibeault,
George Murray, Norman Gauthier, Scarlett Hubsch,
Kyle Osterman, Jeanne Weldon, Logan Bernard
Rich, Lori Alves, Robin Warwick, Charles Giambusso,
Margarite Pomponio, Rhonda Lavallee
and all those in our parish book of prayers.





A Note From Father Michael

Dear Friends in Christ,

This weekend we celebrate the feast of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. This feast reminds us that family is the foundation of society and faith practiced in the home makes each family a domestic church.

In this Sunday's gospel, Joseph and Mary present the infant Jesus to God in the Temple. In this, they acknowledge that the child is a gift from God and that they are grateful for that gift. They also act in obedience to the Law of Israel, making faith the foundation of their family life.

The Church describes Christian families as small "domestic churches." This means that when faith is the foundation of family life, God is honored and loved in the home through prayer, charity and the practice of the Faith. Parents lead their children through example and act as the first teachers of their children in the ways of faith.

Parish religious education programs act as a support to parents in their Baptismal role as the primary educators of their children in faith. We remember that at Baptism, parents make a sacred promise to God to raise their children as practicing Catholics.

The human personality and character of Jesus was formed in the Holy Family's home in Nazareth. This development shaped Jesus into the person He was. Being prayerful and faithful people, Joseph and Mary instilled virtue in their son and encouraged Him to pray and practice holiness. As we begin a new year this Monday, may the Feast of The Holy Family inspire our family relationships in 2024.

On behalf of St. Peter's Parish Staff, I wish all of you a New Year 2024 filled with God's blessings of peace, joy, good health and grace.

*In Christ,
Fr. Michael*



This week in the media confusing reports were broadcasted to suggest that the long standing Church teaching concerning marriage & same gender couples had officially changed. Despite this confusing presentation, neither Church doctrine or theology concerning marriage and same gender unions has changed.

Below, please read an official statement given by Bishop McManus concerning this issue.

Let us pray that this official statement clears up any misunderstandings some may have about this matter.

*In Christ,
Fr. Michael*

Statement from Bishop McManus:

Fiducia Supplicans, issued by the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith and approved by Pope Francis, **has reaffirmed that the Church does not have the power to impart a liturgical blessing on irregular or same-sex couples or to bless their union.** It can, however, offer a type of blessing that can be conferred **on anyone** to invoke God's help and mercy in their lives if the individual seek to be guided by a greater understanding of God's plan for love and truth. These blessings are offered for the people themselves, **not their union.**

Calendar of **EVENTS**

Monday, January 1st

9:00am New Years Day Mass

Wednesday, January 3rd

7:00pm Bible Study– Parish Hall

Sunday, January 7th

Parish Open House

After all Masses in the Rectory

Monday, January 8th

7:00pm Catechist Training—Parish Hall

Wednesday, January 10th

7:00pm Bible Study– Parish Hall

Saturday, January 13th

5:30pm Thank You Dinner–Parish Hall



**Join Fr. Michael for
Bible Study!
Wednesdays 7:00pm
in the Parish Hall.**

We will reflect upon the gospel for the upcoming Sunday, learn more about our Catholic Faith and pray for various intentions. Please bring a New American Bible if you have one, we do have some available.

If you are new to bible study or haven't been in a while, you are welcome to join at anytime.

*If you would like to join us on Zoom,
please contact the parish office.*



Join us for a community meal to thank the members of the Mumford Knights of Columbus.

We acknowledge with great appreciation the donation from the Knights, to our parish, which enabled us to purchase a new stove for our parish center this past fall.

**Saturday, January 13th
5:30pm in the parish hall**

**Tickets are \$20
with your choice in advance of
Haddock or Sirloin.**

Tickets are now on sale at all Masses .

All meals must be purchased in advance.

Dinner includes salad and dessert.
To Go orders will be available for pickup
starting at 5:00pm.

50/50 Raffle to benefit our Religious Education.

Pay it Forward

Buy an extra dinner and we will deliver it to someone in need in our local community.



Don't forget to....

Donate your empty & clean returnable cans and bottles to help support our parish.

Bring in your full, closed bags of rinsed, redeemable bottles and cans. Redemption of these bottles and cans will help us to defray costs and supplement our regular income.

Bins are located in the gathering area, in the back of the church. Please separate your cans and bottles before bringing them.



A very BIG thank you to the Alto Vista ensemble chamber group. They performed a beautiful concert of Christmas music in the Church on Sunday, December 17th.



This year Saint Peter's is pleased to hold a parish open house at the rectory on Sunday, December 7th between the Masses.

Join us for refreshments and fellowship. Everyone is welcome to attend!



Are you looking for a place to call home this new year?

Consider this your invitation to be a part of our family!

Contact the parish office, speak to Fr. Michael or fill out an information card located in the pews.



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!
All classes resume on Sunday, January 7th

**Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Ages 3-6
& Grades 2nd-4th**

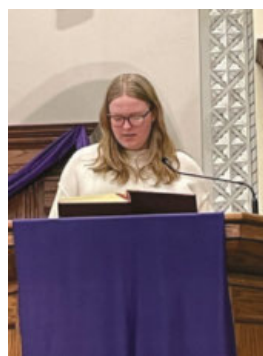
Sunday, January 7th 9:30-10:45am

Grades 5th-10th

Sunday, January 7th 6:30-8:00pm

Confirmation

Sunday, January 7th 5:00-6:30pm



Thank you to Eva & Madison for reading and Lucas & Anthony for serving at our Religious Ed/Parish Mass on December 17th.

Join us for our next Mass on Sunday, January 28th at 6:30pm.





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