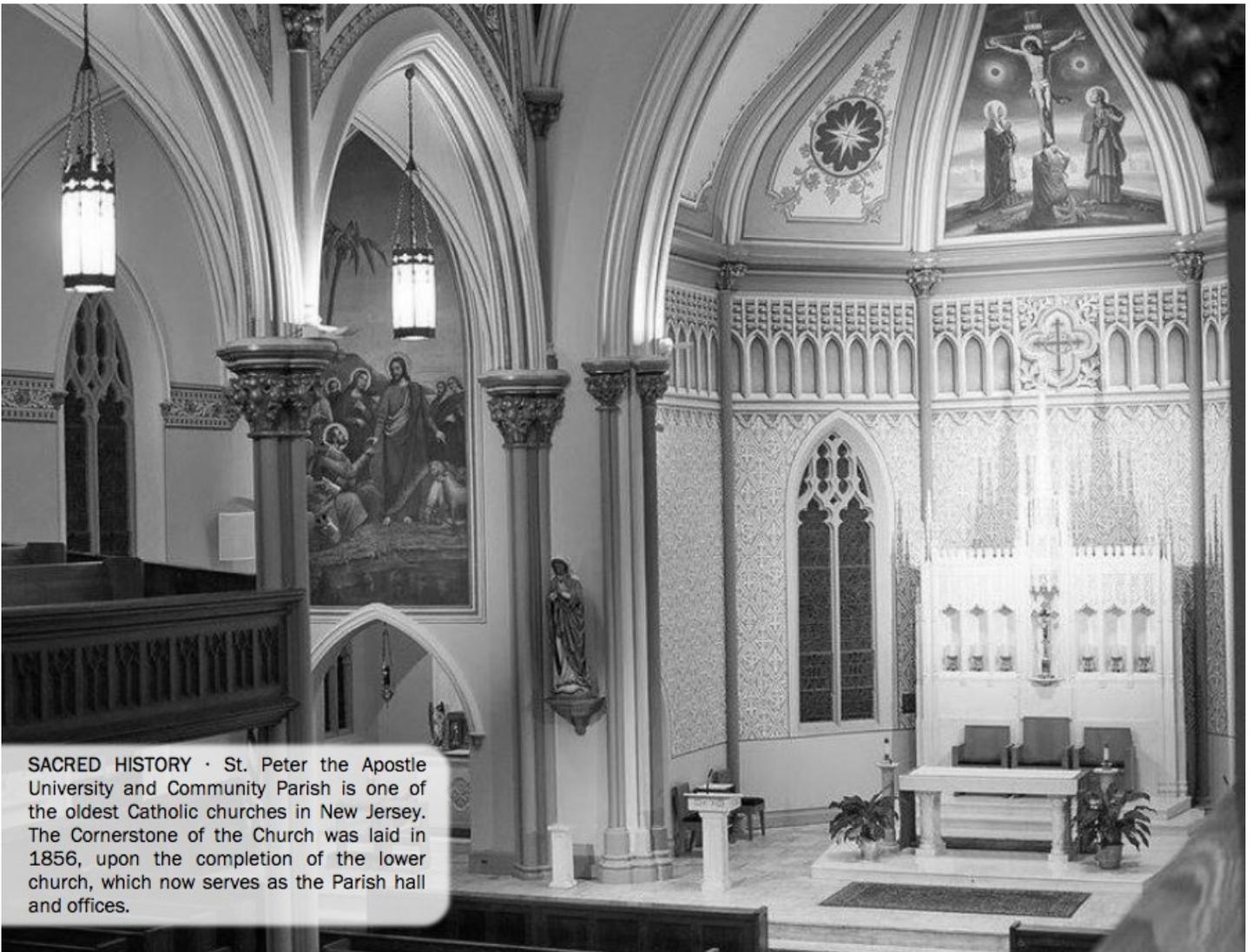


# St. Peter the Apostle University & Community Parish The Catholic Center at Rutgers University



**SACRED HISTORY** · St. Peter the Apostle University and Community Parish is one of the oldest Catholic churches in New Jersey. The Cornerstone of the Church was laid in 1856, upon the completion of the lower church, which now serves as the Parish hall and offices.

## **SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE:**

**Saturday Vigil:** 5:00 p.m.

**Sunday:** 8:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m.

## **WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE:**

**Monday – Friday:** 7:30 a.m. in St. Peter's Church

**Monday – Thursday:** 12:15 p.m. in the Catholic Center Chapel

**Saturday:** 9:00 a.m. in the Catholic Center Chapel

**HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION:** 7:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m., 7:30 p.m.

For any last minute changes regarding the Mass schedule on Holy Days of Obligation, please visit: [StPeterNewBrunswick.org](http://StPeterNewBrunswick.org).

## **CONFESSION (Sacrament of Reconciliation):**

Mondays: 12:45 - 1:30 p.m.; 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. (CC Chapel)

Saturdays: 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon; and by appointment

## **EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION:**

In the case of an **emergency** requiring a priest after business hours, please call **732-545-6185**.

## **ST. VINCET DE PAUL SOCIETY:** 732-668-6584

(for assessment of assistance needed, leave message including name and contact number)

## **BAPTISMS:**

Normally scheduled on the second & fourth Sundays of the month at 12:30pm (not during Lent). Please observe the requirements for sponsors. Must contact the office in advance to register. First-time parents are required to attend a baptism formation session.

## **WEDDINGS:**

Marriage arrangements should be made one year in advance of the wedding. Please call the parish office before making other definitive plans. Once a wedding is approved and the date is confirmed, the required marriage preparation process may commence.

## **PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK:**

Please call the parish office to make arrangements for the administration of the Sacrament of the Sick and/or for the reception of the Holy Eucharist to those who are ill or elderly.

**PARISH OFFICE AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH**

94 Somerset Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901  
 Phone: **732.545.6820** Fax: 732.545.4069  
 Visit our website: [StPeterNewBrunswick.org](http://StPeterNewBrunswick.org)

**Office Hours:** Mon-Thurs, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
 Fri-Sun, **CLOSED**

**Parish Clergy:**

**Msgr. Joseph Celano - Pastor**  
 MsgrCelano@StPeterNewBrunswick.org  
 732.545.6820 Ext. 113

**Rev. Jay Pavich - Chaplain/Parochial Vicar**  
 FrJay@StPeterNewBrunswick.org  
 732.545.6820 Ext. 111

**Fr. Dario Endiape - Chaplain/Parochial Vicar**  
 FrDario@StPeterNewBrunswick.org

**Patrick Gutsick, Permanent Deacon**  
 DeaconPatrick@StPeterNewBrunswick.org

**Helmut Wittreich, Permanent Deacon**  
 DeaconHelmut@StPeterNewBrunswick.org

**Parish Staff:**

**Karen Dill - Office Administrator**  
 ParishOffice@StPeterNewBrunswick.org  
 732.545.6820 Ext. 110

**Sr. Lorraine Doiron, SJH - Religious Education**  
 SrLorraine@StPeterNewBrunswick.org  
 732.545.6663 Ext. 15

**Colleen Donahue - Office Manager & Wedding Coordinator**  
 Colleen@StPeterNewBrunswick.org  
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**Anthony Nardino - Director Of Sacred Music**  
 Anthony@StPeterNewBrunswick.org

**Katie Cerni - Bulletin Editor**  
 Katie@StPeterNewBrunswick.org

**William Casey - Business Manager**  
 Bill@StPeterNewBrunswick.org

**Jude Lasota, BH - Pastoral Assistant**  
 BrotherJude@StPeterNewBrunswick.org

**Tom Setar - Maintenance**  
 Tom@StPeterNewBrunswick.org

**St. Peter's Cemetery**

500 Somerset Street (Rt. 27), New Brunswick, NJ 08901  
 Phone: **732.249.0894** [SPTAcemeteryNB@gmail.com](mailto:SPTAcemeteryNB@gmail.com)

**Staff:** William Carroll - Cemetery Director



**Our Parish Is On Venmo!**

RU Students and those who use debit cards, St. Peter the Apostle University and Community Parish is now on Venmo! Please consider sacrificing one cup of name-brand coffee each week and donate the cost to help support our parish and campus ministry. Every sacrifice to the Lord matters and is appreciated!

You can find us on the Venmo app by searching for either of the following two options, or by scanning the QR code with your cell phone camera. The profile picture will be the front of St. Peter's Church.

SEARCH FOR:

OR SCAN:

*St Peter the Apostle University Parish at Rutgers*

OR @MsgrJoseph-Celano



***Report of the Sunday Offerings in Support of Our Parish***

**Fiscal Year 2019-2020**

The Sunday offering is the principle means by which we fund the ordinary operations of our parish and its ministries. Thank you for making ministry possible at St. Peter the Apostle University and Community Church.

Please consider using WePay or another form of automated giving as your preferred means of contributing to the support of the parish. You can sign up for online giving by clicking on the "Giving" photo-button on the home page of our Parish website: [www.StPeterNewBrunswick.org](http://www.StPeterNewBrunswick.org)

When writing or updating your will, please remember our parish in your planning. For more information on planned giving, please contact the parish office.

RU Students, please consider giving the cost of one name brand cup of coffee, or making some similar sacrifice, each week to help support your parish.

**Weekly Collection for Dec. 14/15, 2019:**

Weekly Budget Need	<b>\$5,125</b>
Total Weekly Envelope and Cash Contributions	\$5,512
WeShare/Automated Giving and Other Contributions	\$1,635
Total Weekly Offering for Dec. 14/15, 2019	\$7,147
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>\$2,022</b>



## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

*A reflection from Msgr. Celano on Christmas*

It once was a series of caves in the soft limestone hills that surrounded the village. For centuries, these caves served as a shelter to the local shepherds and as stables for their flocks. The shepherds carved a feeding trough, a manger, into the soft rock wall of one particular cave so they might have a place to feed and water their sheep.

Today, the oldest church in the world, the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, stands above these caves. The central cave is illuminated by the light of oil lamps suspended from its' ceiling. On the marble floor toward the rear of the cave, a silver star has been laid upon the floor. The star is inscribed with a simple inscription, written in Latin, which memorializes the event that took place in this cave. It reads: "Here, Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary". To the right of the star is the hollow of the animal's feeding trough - the manger. Today, it is covered with marble and adorned with silver oil lamps that fill the cave with the fragrance of frankincense and myrrh.

I once sat on a wooden bench in the rear of that cave. During the course of the hour or so I was there, I watched a steady stream of tourists enter the cave of the Nativity, look around, and immediately begin to take pictures. Smiling poses were struck before the star. Selfies were taken by the manger. After the pictures and video had been taken, people just left: sometimes in small groups, sometimes one by one.

Watching this, I was struck by the fact that very few people paused to pray in the cave that once heard the cries of the young woman who labored to give birth there; or of her newborn son, whose first



*The site of Christ's birth in the Church of the Nativity, Bethlehem*

cradle, a feeding trough for the animals, still remains carved in its wall. Perhaps, it was because their tour directors were eager to keep to the day's schedule and there was no time for such a trivial thing as prayer. Perhaps still, it is because what I witnessed betrays something else...

People are hungry. I believe we hunger to reclaim a sense of the "sacred" that we seem to have been forgotten along the way. We look for the "spiritual", that elusive element that opens us to the deeper meaning of who we are and restores our proper place in the universe. I believe we are seekers, you and me. But what will we do if we should find what we're looking for? What difference will it make in our lives?

St. John Paul II tells us that, "The birth of Jesus at Bethlehem is not an event which can be consigned to the past. The whole of human history in fact stands in reference to Him... In the encounter with Christ, every man discovers the mystery of his own life" [Incarnationis Mysterium, 1].

You see, deep in the heart of every person is the intuitive knowledge that we are more than what we are; that life is about far more than just living. The knowledge of the eternal is in us and we sense in ourselves that we cannot truly live fully, joyfully, humanly, apart from it. Yet we also perceive that our vision of it is darkened; that somewhere along the line we strayed from its truth, goodness, and beauty and became "less than,"

*Continued on page 5*

*Mass Intentions***Monday, December 30**

7:30 a.m. Intentions of M/M Bob Pakulski

**Tuesday, December 31**

7:30 a.m. Frank and Mary Tamkutonis

5:00 p.m. Dennis Pacyna

**Wednesday, January 1—Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

9:00 a.m. For the People

**Thursday, January 2—Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church**

7:30 a.m. Joseph Schlicker

12:15 p.m.

**Friday, January 3**

7:30 a.m. Eddie &amp; Claire Lasota

**Saturday, January 4—St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious**

9:00 a.m. Helen Lasota

5:00 p.m. Alberto Balthazar

**Sunday, January 5—Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**

8:00 a.m. Frank Mulvey

11:00 a.m. Jeanne O'Brien

6:00 p.m. Michael Deheron



*In your charity, please pray for...*

Kevin Hoagland, Thomas Spataro, Connor Montferrat, Theresa Birdsey, Ginnie Previte, Jonathan Swedel, John William Criscuoli, Danielle Reiser, Esther Wambui, Norman Corbett, Florence Gowin, Margaret Cleary, Teresa Yannazzone, Bill Spataro, Nicholas Rossi, Chris Joyce, Gary Vavila, Patricia & Sylvanus Ashamole, Louis Svelec, Joseph D'Imperio III, the sick members of the Akushie and Nwachukwu Families, Doris Tarquinio, Peg Byrne, Rick Scuderi, Linda Ryan, Rita Pietrobono, Nicole Mancini, Angelo Mancini, Becky Yurga, Rebecca Miller, Orlando Gines, Yvonne Finaldi, Sheila Lavery, Tanya Davis, Sgt. John McLaughlin, Patricia Deri, Alessia DePasquale, Brian Donoghue, Christine Fellin, Jose Lopez, Joseph Gerity, Mary Cignarella, Lorraine Fellin, Russell C. Hall, Russell J. Hall, Angelo Rossi, Mary Ann Hrapsky, William Kish, Maria Kratzar, Theresita DeGuzman, Bette Smith, Mary Spicer, Tom and Kathleen Monchek, Anna Graziosi, Shirley Murphy, Joey Mahoney, Evelyn Echevarria, Patricia Krakowski, Carmella LaVera, Joseph Gutsick, Marlene Salimbene, Barbara Wittreich, Frederick DeLong, Anne Gutsick-Smith, W.J.R., Ag Yashinski, Marian Egan

*All the sick, those who are homebound, the hospitalized, and all who serve in the military.*

**FROM THE PARISH****HOLIDAY PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

Please note the following office hours for our parish this coming week:

<b>Monday, Dec. 30:</b>	9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
<b>Tuesday, Dec. 31:</b>	CLOSED
<b>Wednesday, Jan. 1:</b>	CLOSED - Happy New Year!
<b>Thursday, Jan. 2:</b>	9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

If you are in need of a priest, please see the emergency contact information on the front page of the bulletin.

*For those who will be in town for the upcoming Christmas season, please take note of the following Mass schedule at St. Peter's:*

**Sunday, December 29, 2019**

Feast of the Holy Family, Jesus, Mary & Joseph  
Mass Times: 8:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, December 31, 2019**

\*Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
the Mother of God  
Mass Times: 5:00 p.m. (Vigil)

**Wednesday, January 1, 2020**

\*Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
the Mother of God  
Mass Times: 9:00 a.m.

**Sunday, January 5, 2020**

The Epiphany of the Lord  
Mass Times: 8:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m.

**Sunday, January 12, 2020**

The Baptism of the Lord  
Mass Times: 8:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 6:00 p.m.

*\*The Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God is a holy day of obligation in the Diocese of Metuchen.*





From the Pastor continued...

caught in an unbreakable web of sin and death. Yet, the most profound statement of our Catholic faith is that in this darkness the Eternal God has searched us out. God has heard the cry of the human heart and has answered it in a way that, if we pause to consider it, should astound us. God reveals Himself to us, not in spectacles and wonders, but in something so ordinary - so human - that we may miss it entirely. The fullness of the Revelation of God, and the mystery of our own lives, is seen and heard in the cry of a newborn child. In this child. God says to each of us "Here I am!" by becoming one with us; by suffering and dying for us; by placing Himself in our hands in simple gifts of bread and wine.

This time, this year, can we dare come, not as "accidental tourists" in our own faith, people who consign this story to history as if it has no lasting relevance, but as pilgrims who are searching for the encounter with God? This year, can we come bringing the deepest hungers of our hearts to this place; to Him who is a child no longer? What wonders of love might be revealed to us here? What hope might we find in the Mystery of the Word Made Flesh? And what might we become if we should, for but one brief instance, look upon the human face of God?

*On behalf of the Clergy and Staff of St. Peter's University & Community Parish, we wish you a blessed and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*

*Rev. Msgr. Joseph A. Delano*



For a child is born to us, a son is given to us; upon his shoulder dominion rests.

**Isaiah 9:5**



## PETROS YOUNG ADULTS

Please join us for our annual spring retreat!



### A Weekend Retreat for Young Adults

In the hustle and bustle of daily life, it can be easy to forget that God has already promised us a perfect dwelling place - with no rent! And no matter what comes our way, the invitation doesn't expire. This spring, Petros will be exploring further how this COVENANT God has made with us impacts our daily decisions, relationships, and overall joy. We need only to say -Yes! (Isaiah 54:10) Cost is \$150 (includes weekend lodging and food). Check out the registration form for more details.

**WHEN:** Friday, Feb. 21st (7:30 p.m. start) through Sunday, Feb 23rd (12:00 p.m. end).  
*This is an overnight retreat.*

**WHERE:** Bernards Township, NJ

**COST:** \$150 (lodging & meals included)\*

To register, please visit:

[www.StPeterNewBrunswick.org/young-adults](http://www.StPeterNewBrunswick.org/young-adults)

**Don't miss another update from our parish!**

We have a tremendous community here at St. Peter's and we want to make sure it's as easy as possible for every one of you to be involved and connected to it all.



Text SPNB to 84576 and join our parish Flocknote Community! Once you send that in, Flocknote will text you back a confirmation message AND another message with a link you'll need to click to complete the process.



## 2019 CHRISTMAS FLOWER LIST

*We are grateful to the following people for their contribution towards the Christmas decorations in our Church. Please remember them and their intentions in your prayers.*

### **Donation given by:**

**Mr. and Mrs. Donatus E. Anigbogus families**

**Mr. and Mrs. Michael Colligan**

**Mrs. Barbara Curry**

**Kathleen DeSimon**

**Mr. and Mrs. Julius D'Mello**

**Fidelia Emesue**

**Mr. James Feaster**

**Mr. and Mrs. Peter Heinz**

**Mr. and Mrs. Stanton Hubbard**

**Mr. and Mrs. Robert Igbinovia**

**Mr. and Mrs. Peter Janssen**

**Mrs. Marie Kuchnicki**

**Mrs. Lynn Lashen and Julie Lashen**

**Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan London**

**Ms. Rose Perrino**

**Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Polakowski**

**Brian Polansky**

**Jaime and Farley Restrepo**

**Flora Sunga**

**Mr. and Mrs. Radames Vazquez**

**Mrs. Andrew Welter**

### **In Memory of:**

**Deceased members of The Anigbogus and Dnwuasonya's**

**Moira Colligan**

**Joseph F. Curry**

**DeSimon Walker family**

**D'Mello and Viegas family**

**Deceased Family Members**

**Mary Kelly and Hellen Feaster**

**Gae andn Tony Mangarella**

**Comfort and Godwin Agbonifo**

**Sterbez and Janssen Family**

**Chester Kuchnicki**

**Donald Welker**

**Grace Alice Theresa London**

**Daughter Donna, Mom and Dad**

**Carol F. Polakowski**

**Deceased members of Sunga/Runar families**

**Leonard and Nancy Klotzek, Michael and Sue Klotzek, Wilbur and**

**Anna Jones, Juan Vazquez**

**Charles and Helen Welter**

*These donors were not listed in last week's bulletin because it went to print one week early; Thank you to all of our donors for your great generosity.*

### **"Like" St. Peter the Apostle on Facebook!**

See reminders and stay up-to-date with all things happening around St. Peter the Apostle University & Community Parish by "liking" our Facebook page!



**facebook.com/StPeterNewBrunswick**

Do you seek information or have questions about Catholic Marriage, Engagement, Marriage Preparation, Parenting, Family, Church Teaching, Enrichment...and more?

Check out this great resource:  
**[www.foryourmarriage.org](http://www.foryourmarriage.org)**

**FOR YOUR  
MARRIAGE**

INFORMATION SHEET

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: