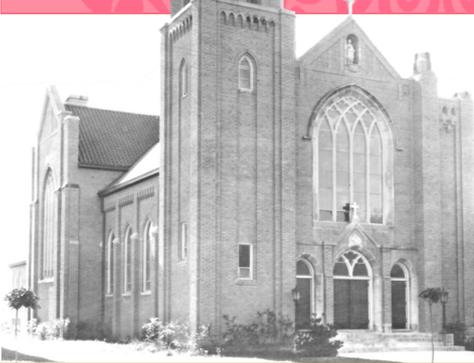




THOU ART PETER AND UPON THIS ROCK I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH

# St. Peter Church



27551 Volo Village Road, Volo, IL 60073

815-385-5496 | office@stpetervolo.org

www.stpetervolo.org

## DECEMBER 14, 2025

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT • GAUDETE SUNDAY

### REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

<b>Monday:</b>	6:15 AM Latin*		8:00 AM English	
<b>Tuesday:</b>	6:15 AM Latin*		8:00 AM English	
<b>Wednesday:</b>	6:15 AM Latin*		8:00 AM English	7:00 PM Latin*
<b>Thursday:</b>	6:15 AM Latin*		8:00 AM English	
<b>Friday:</b>	6:15 AM Latin*		8:00 AM English	
<b>Saturday:</b>	8:00 AM Latin*		5:00 PM English	
<b>Sunday:</b>	7:00 AM Latin*		8:30 AM English	10:00 AM English
	11:30 AM Latin*		1:00 PM Spanish	
<b>1st Friday:</b>	6:15 AM Latin*		8:00 AM English	7:00 PM Latin*
<b>1st Sunday:</b>	7:00 AM Latin		8:30 AM English	10:00 AM English
	11:30 AM Latin		1:00 PM Spanish	

*\*The Mass according to the liturgical books of 1962*

FR. NATHAN CASWELL, SJC ..... PASTOR  
 FR. DENNIS KOLIŃSKI, SJC ..... ASSOCIATE PASTOR  
 FR. JOSEPH BROM, SJC ..... ASSOCIATE PASTOR  
 FR. SCOTT THELANDER, SJC ..... ASSOCIATE PASTOR  
 BR. MARKO CULJAK, SJC ..... SEMINARIAN  
 BR. KEVIN DOERGE, SJC ..... SEMINARIAN  
 ETHAN AVINA ..... BUSINESS MANAGER  
 CONNIE BALLANTINE ..... SACRAMENT COORDINATOR  
 NOEL KLEBOSITS ..... RELIGIOUS EDUCATION  
 STEPHANIE BRUNE ..... LITURGICAL MUSIC

*FOR AFTER HOUR EMERGENCIES ONLY - PLEASE CALL (224) 376-3395*



*a parish staffed by the*  
**CANONS REGULAR OF ST. JOHN CANTIUS**

### Confession Times

*Listed below are Confession start times.*

**SUNDAY:** 6:50 AM | 8:15 AM | 9:45 AM | 11:15 AM | 12:45 PM  
**WEEKDAYS:** 8:35 AM **WEDNESDAY:** 6:30 PM  
**SATURDAY:** 7:45 AM | 4:30 PM

### Divine Office

**SUNDAY:** 6:25 AM Matins & Lauds | 2:15 PM Rosary & Vespers | 6:00 PM Compline  
**WEEKDAYS:** 7:15 AM Matins & Lauds | 11:45 AM Mid Day Prayer | 4:45 PM Rosary & Vespers | 6:45 PM Compline *(when no other events)*  
**SATURDAY:** 7:15 AM Matins & Lauds | 11:45 AM Mid Day Prayer | 4:00 PM Rosary & Vespers | 5:45 PM Compline

### Adoration



**THURSDAYS:** 4:30 PM - 9:00 PM  
**1ST FRIDAY:** 9:00 AM - 7:00 PM

### Parish Office Hours

**Weekdays:** 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM  
**Closed:** Saturdays, Sundays, Holy Days, & legal holidays.

### Welcome New Parishioners

We're very pleased to welcome you to St. Peter's in Volo! If you are interested in joining the parish, you may register quickly and easily by visiting the parish website at [www.stpetervolo.org/registration](http://www.stpetervolo.org/registration).

### Sacraments

Do you have a newborn to be Baptized? Are you a couple ready to be married? Do you know someone who wants to become Catholic? If so, visit us at [www.stpetervolo.org/sacraments](http://www.stpetervolo.org/sacraments) for more information on how to obtain the Sacraments at St. Peter's.

### Blessing of Sacramentals

Items such as Rosaries, St. Benedict medals, Miraculous medals, water, salt, images, etc. will be blessed at the communion rail on **Saturdays only** after the Mass and Rosary), or by appointment.

### Observing the Ember Days



The Ember Days are an ancient tradition of fasting and penance in the Church, which take place on a Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, typically around the

beginning of each season. On these days, we give thanks to God for the blessings of His Creation, pray for our priests, and work to cleanse our hearts and souls of sin.

### Questions about the Bulletin?

For all inquiries regarding event postings, Prayer Intentions, or other content, please contact us at [bulletin@stpetervolo.org](mailto:bulletin@stpetervolo.org).

### Offertory Collection

The total Collection from last Sunday was \$15,766.70.

We invite you to join the Canons Regular in observing the upcoming winter Ember Days, beginning **December 17th**. Please consider joining us for Mass, as well as the Divine Office, on these three days.

## Mass Intentions

### Monday, December 15th - *St. Christiana (H)*

- 6:15 AM - † Kathleen Bell
- 8:00 AM - † Curt Rahilly

### Tuesday, December 16th - *St. Eusebius of Vercelli (T), St. Adelaide (H), Sts. Ananias, Azarius, & Misael (H)*

- 6:15 AM - Maria Edith Lopez
- 8:00 AM - † Paul Tonyan

### Wednesday, December 17th - *St. Olympias (H), St. Lazarus (H)*

- 6:15 AM - Javier Castillo
- 8:00 AM - Kyle & Jenn Grant
- 7:00 PM - † John & Marie Guzik

### Thursday, December 18th – *St. Gatian (H), Expectation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (H)*

- 6:15 AM - Servando Lopez
- 8:00 AM - † Albert Gammel

### Friday, December 19th - *Bl. Urban V (H)*

- 6:15 AM - Diana Rogus
- 8:00 AM - † Patricia Slisz

### Saturday, December 20th - *St. Dominic of Silos (H), Sts. Abraham, Isaac, & Jacob (H)*

- 6:00 AM - Zachary Bielowicz
- 8:00 AM - Paulina Maczuga
- 5:00 PM - † John Riggio

### Sunday, December 21st - *4th Sunday of Advent*

- 7:00 AM - † Roy Dudzik
- 8:30 AM - † Alan Kroll, and Steve and Kim Kroll (living)
- 10:00 AM - Steve Wilson
- 11:30 AM - Robert Rochelemagne
- 1:00 PM - Pro Populo

*Our calendar of Intentions includes both New (N) Sundays and feast days as of 1970, as well as Traditional (T) Sundays and feast days as of 1962.*

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## Prayer Requests

Gianna & John Raimondo  
Waide Miller  
Mel Probst  
Elitania Tellez  
Aria Tellez  
Christian Tellez  
Margaret Benoit

Brandon Stoy  
Bridgette Swanick  
Mary Jane Pfister  
Richard Ryan  
Nancy Heilgeist  
Dawn Miller  
Sandy Weber

Paula & Juliette Sigurnjak  
Mary Jadrich  
Declan Blackburn  
Larry Box

And for the repose of the souls  
of John & Claudia Cyboran,  
and Jim Wodrich.

*Names will remain for 1 month, as space permits. Please send all requests to [bulletin@stpetervolo.org](mailto:bulletin@stpetervolo.org).*

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*The Advent Wreath -  
Gaudete Sunday*

- P. The Lord our coming King, hasten to adore Him.
- A. **The Lord our coming King, hasten to adore Him.**
- P. Let us pray to the promised Son of David!
- A. **Come and reward Your people's hope.**
- P. You are of the house and line of David.
- A. **Reward those who obey Your will.**
- P. You are the gift of God's love to those who awaited Your coming in faith.
- A. **Strengthen our faith as we look forward to the celebration of Your coming.**
- P. You have opened to us the Father's house, where there are many dwelling places.
- A. **Bring us to the home which You have prepared for us.**
- P. Let us pray. Lord, show us Your ways and teach us Your paths. Fill our hearts with true joy. Help us to live soberly, justly, and Godly in the world, so that Your coming at Christmas, Your coming on our deathbed, and Your coming in majesty may redound to Your glory and our perfect salvation. We ask this through Christ our Lord.
- A. **Amen.**

*Chorus Veritatis Splendor, St. Gregory Choir,  
& Chorus Spes Ecclesiae perform*



**Nine Lessons & Carols**

Saturday, December 27th | 7:00 PM

Come experience the joy and wonder of Christ's birth through Scripture readings, choral music, and carols. All are invited to a light reception in the school following the program. Admission is free, but good will donations are appreciated.

**Ordinaries for Sunday**

Mass XVII, #399-402

**Propers for Sunday**

10:00 AM

**Introit**—Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Let your forbearance be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Do not be anxious over anything; but in all manner of prayer, let your requests be made known unto God. Lord, you have blessed your land; you have put an end to Jacob's captivity.

**Gradual**—O Lord, who are enthroned upon the Cherubim, stir up your might and come forth. O Shepherd of Israel, hear us, you who lead Joseph like a flock.

**Alleluia**—Stir up your might, O Lord, and come to save us.

**Offertory**—O Lord, you have blessed your land, you have put an end to Jacob's captivity; you have forgiven the guilt of your people.

**Communion**—Say: "Take courage, you who are fainthearted, and do not fear; behold, our God will come and he will save us."

**Hymns for Sunday**

8:30 AM Mass

**Communion:** #277

*Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying*

**Recessional:** #180

*O Come, Divine Messiah*

10:00 AM Mass

**Communion:** #277

*Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying*

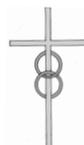
**Recessional:** #180

*O Come Divine Messiah*

11:30 AM Mass

**Recessional:** #180

*O Come, Divine Messiah*



*Wedding Banns*

Joseph Pugh & Allison Tucker

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## The Mercy of Food and Drink

This week, the Church observes the winter Ember Days, brief periods of fasting and abstinence that come in the middle of Advent, just before Christmas. Advent is already a penitential season, and some people may wonder why these special days matter.

In fact, they're older than many Advent traditions, and closely tied to the harvest and wine-making. We fast, while meditating on God's abundant generosity. We pray for His priests, especially for new vocations. There's a strong connection here between physical and spiritual nourishment, which Scripture reflects: in the prophet's descriptions of divine banquets, in manna falling from Heaven, in Jesus turning water to wine and feeding the crowds, and, above all, in the Holy Eucharist.

Centuries ago, in agrarian cultures, these supernatural connections were readily acknowledged, but in a world of supermarkets and fast food, we tend to forget them. Fasting and abstinence remind us of our blessings; we also think more about those who have nothing. This can definitely affect one's spiritual orientation.

Feeding the hungry and giving drink to the thirsty – the first two Corporal Works of Mercy – have always been central to our Eucharistic faith. Early deacons like St. Stephen and St. Lawrence were ordained specifically to help the poor and starving; this laid the groundwork for later Catholic initiatives, like St. Vincent de Paul's highly-organized, lay-supported network for distributing food in times of crisis.

Yet the Church is also full of people who've made an impact through small, incremental acts of charity. These include nobles like St. Margaret of Scotland and St. Wenceslaus, who both personally cooked for the poor; religious like St. André Bessette, who fed the hungry lined up outside the Montreal Oratory; and laity like St. Zita of Lucca, who was only a domestic servant, yet constantly gave away her food and savings. Zita left no great works or writings, and performed no miracles, but when she died in 1272, people flooded into the streets crying that she was a saint.

What these individuals had in common was that they saw the hungry as worthy of dignity and belonging. Food and drink became for them an expression of mercy and love, reflecting Christ in the Eucharist. Not incidentally, these saints all practiced fasting, in solidarity with the poor, and as a path to humility. We can learn much from them.

All this doesn't mean that Catholics aren't allowed to enjoy good meals. We're encouraged to celebrate on feast days, and otherwise enjoy in moderation. We should also fast or abstain occasionally, and find ways to share our bounty with others.

This can mean founding a large-scale humanitarian project – or just inviting a lonely neighbor over for supper. The important thing is that we practice these Works of Mercy out of love, and constantly, for this is how God loves us.

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### *Rorate Caeli High Mass*

**Saturday, December 20th | 6:00 AM**

The Rorate Mass is an ancient Advent tradition that takes its name from the first word of the Introit: *Rorate, caeli, desuper, et nubes pluant iustum*, "Drop down dew, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness."



This beautiful candlelit Mass in honor of Mary begins in the darkness of early morning. The interplay of light and shadow as the church becomes progressively brighter with the sunrise symbolizes the coming of the Eternal Light, whom we await during the Advent season.

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