

Mon.	7am	Mary Mido by Grace Merlino
Tues.	7am	Ed Blazejewski by Wife, Helen & Sons, Ed, Dave & Steve
Wed.	7am	Communion Service
Thurs.	7am	John & Helen Kutz by Grandson
Fri.	7am	Catherine Neishell by Rose & Gerald Oliver
Sat.	4pm	John Krulack by Mr. & Mrs. Paul Krulack
Sun.	8am	Joyce Fadelsak by Celia & John Wincek
	11am	Parishioners

PASTOR’S MESSAGE

Mark 1:7-11

“I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals.” That was a lowly job. Removing someone’s sandals back in the days when everyone walked everywhere on dusty, sandy desert ground was a dirty task. So when John the Baptist said he wasn’t even worthy for that humble duty, he was emphasizing an important point. John understood Jesus’ real identity.

He knew that this was not just another good man, not just a wise teacher or a gifted leader. John realized that Jesus was truly God-made-man. And in relation to this perfection, John honestly acknowledged his own sinfulness with this analogy about the sandals. But look what happened: Jesus showed up at the Jordan River and asked John to baptize him! Jesus humbled himself by going through this ritual of cleansing and purification, even though he didn’t need to. John may have thought himself unworthy, but that didn’t stop Jesus from coming to him.

Jesus wants to come to us too, not because we have earned his love or because we are worthy of some great honor, but simply because he loves us. God sent his Son to us to be one of us, to walk among us, to care for us, and to guide us. By our baptism we are always his children, even when we may be disobedient. His love is a free gift. May we appreciate this gift enough to show our gratitude by a life well lived.

In Memory of
The Sanctuary Lamp

John Kozik

Votive by the Blessed Virgin Mary

Nello & Orella Caparoni

January 4, 2015

Contributions	\$5,702
Dues	\$1,052
Maintenance	\$79
Charity	\$31
Care of Priest	\$687
School	\$892
Utilities	\$10
Christmas	\$1,132
Christmas Novena	\$20
Lenten Offering	\$10
Initial Offering	\$1,442
Ash Wednesday	\$5
Campaign Human	\$5

A good place for the “buck to stop” is in the collection basket!

Questions of the Week

Mark 1:7-11:

How do you imagine John reacted to hearing God’s voice at Jesus’ baptism?

Isaiah 55:1-11:

Where do you see others hungry and thirsty for the Lord?

1 John 5:1-9:

How does your faith help you “conquer” the world?

Pastor

Rev. John Boyle

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Joseph Greskiewicz

Coordinator of Religious Education

Sande Holena

Eucharistic Minister/Lectors

David Loiacono

Youth Group

Maryann and Michael Quinn

Altar Servers

Gloria Flynn

Food Pantry

Pauline Makowski

Security

Shiloh & Kolbe Inc.



Justice Notes:

*With joy you will draw water at the fountain of salvation
Isaiah 12: 3*

When we have a baptism during Mass, I sometimes find myself looking at parishioners' reactions as the child is being baptized. Most of us seem to be completely identifying with the reaction the baby has to the water being poured on his/her head and there is a palpable sense of joy in the sanctuary at the completion of the ceremony. The practice of infant baptism is a tradition with explicit testimony from the second century on, and it is quite possible that, in apostolic times, when whole households received baptism, infants were included (CCC, 1252). Not all babies are so fortunate as to have a whole community of spiritual support.

Pope Francis writes in *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel, 213) that, "Among the vulnerable, for whom the Church wishes to care with particular love and concern, are unborn children, the most defenseless and innocent among us. Nowadays, efforts are made to deny them their human dignity and to do with them whatever one pleases, taking their lives and passing laws preventing anyone from standing in the way of this. Frequently, as a way of ridiculing the Church's effort to defend their lives, attempts are made to present her position as ideological, obscurantist and conservative. Yet this defense of unborn life is closely linked to the defense of each and every other human right. It involves the conviction that a human being is always sacred and inviolable, in any situation and at every stage of development."

There is an annual event coming up in defense of unborn life. **The March for Life**, January 22, the annual pro-life rally protesting abortion in Washington, D.C. An estimated 650,000 people attended the March in 2013. Upon arriving in Washington, attend Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception then travel to the National Mall for the noon Rally and the 1:00pm March for Life. Join with thousands of other pro-life Catholics on this pilgrimage to witness to the truth. For additional information contact the Parish Office.

Parish Activities

January 11 through January 18

**Sun. Class 9:30am – 10:30am
Father John Albosta
50th Celebration**

Mon. Quilting 5:00pm
Rosary 6:30pm
Faith Sharing 7pm

Tues. Quilting 9am – Noon
Finance Meeting 6:30pm

Thur. Quilting 9am – Noon
Food Pantry Prep

Fri. Food Pantry 9am

**Sun. Religious Education Classes
Youth Group Christmas Party**

Pastor's Appreciation

I want to thank all who made Christmas so beautiful and meaningful here at SS Peter and Paul. Every element of the Christmas Celebration was nothing less than GREAT!!! Additionally, your kindness and generosity to me is deeply appreciated – the cards, gifts and edible treats helped to make my first Christmas at St. Pete's very enjoyable. Thank you to everyone who contributed their time, talent and/or treasure for Christmas. May God bless you.

Thank You

Gina Macaravage, our Organist and Choir Director has submitted her resignation, effective this Sunday, January 11. I want to express to Gina, on behalf of SS Peter and Paul Parish our gratitude for then many years of dedicated service she rendered to our Parish. We pray that the Lord will bless Gina abundantly for sharing her talents with the Parish to worship the Lord. *"Sto Lot!"*

Lottery Winner

1-1 #471 Richard Partington
1-2 #805 Mary Drew
1-3 #911 Monica Jdrzejewski
1-4 #565 Stan Stanski III

Congratulations to All!

Previous Contributions

Dec. 22, 2014	Dec. 28, 2014
\$6,904.....	Contributions.....\$5,217
3,870.....	Dues.....615
187.....	Maintenance.....20
18.....	Charity.....2
154.....	Education of Priest.....4
40.....	Utilities.....10
823.....	Christmas Flowers.....9
155.....	Novena.....54
1,492.....	Christmas.....3,269
46.....	Holy Day.....5

Dec. 25, 2014	Jan. 1, 2015
\$3,722.....	Contributions.....\$2,933
1,537.....	Dues.....410
62.....	Maintenance.....12
20.....	Charity.....
38.....	Education of Priest.....33
45.....	Utilities.....20
102.....	Christmas Flowers
22.....	Novena
15,800.....	Christmas.....1,191
53.....	Holy Day.....368
	Initial.....\$1,776

Memorial Donations

The following donations and memorials have recently been given to our Parish:

SS. Peter and Paul Parish

\$1500 Kevin and Bridget O'Connor
for Defibrillator
\$70 in memory of Robert J Kubicki
for Christmas Flowers.

SS. Peter and Paul Food Pantry

\$280 Anonymous
\$50 Kathleen Harrington
\$25 Ann Marie and Frederick Hall
\$50 Elizabeth Segeda
\$50 Marilyn Krawczyk
\$75 Joseph & Deborah Bronack
\$100 Mariann & Joseph McGroarty
\$200 in memory of John and Anna Krokos &
Family by Children and Relatives
\$25 in memory of Ronald Rygielski
by Nancy Hrab

We thank all who have made memorial and free-will donations. May God bless you for your generosity. We will keep your intentions and love ones in our prayers.

Attention all Liturgical Ministers, Music Ministers, Volunteers at the Food Pantry, Parish Employees, Youth Group Advisors, Religious Education Teachers and Aids, Members of the Parish Pastoral Council and Parish Finance Council, Collection Counters, Marriage Preparation Couples, Adult Altar Servers, Ushers and Quilters

I would like to invite all of you to our 2015 Parish Appreciation Dinner to be held on Friday, January 30 (*Note: Date Changed*). This is one means that I use to show my appreciation to all the Volunteers and Ministers who give so freely to help our Parish meet the challenges of Parish Life during the course of the year. I have tried to mention all the groups of SS Peter and Paul Parish that "Work together to build the kingdom of God". If I have forgotten anyone, please forgive me and bring it to my attention. This will enable me to say "Thank You" for all you do for SS Peter and Paul Parish. There will be a Social Hour followed by a buffet dinner and entertainment. All I ask is that you call the Parish Office (570-825-6663 extension 5) and leave your name and the number of people attending. Sunday, January 25th is the cut-off date for reservations. Thank you for all your help and guidance...

Food Pantry

Thank you to all, who continue to support the Food Pantry. We are grateful for the food and monetary donations received in the past year. The holidays were an extremely busy time for the Pantry. The shelves are quite empty and need restocking. We are in need of:

Canned fruits and vegetables
Cereal, Peanut Butter and Jelly
Soups, Tuna, Canned Meats
Boxes: Pasta, Spaghetti, Macaroni & Cheese
Hamburger Helper

We cannot use outdated, opened or dented items. Again thank you for your continue support!!!!

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Heb 1:1-6; Ps 97:1, 2b, 6, 7c, 9; Mk 1:14-20
Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab, 5, 6-9; Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Mk 1:29-39
Thursday: Heb 3:7-14; Ps 95:6-11; Mk 1:40-45
Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11; Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-8; Mk 2:1-12
Saturday: Heb 4:12-16; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 2:13-17
Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10;
1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42

Women Society of SS Peter and Paul will meet on Monday Jan. 19th at 7pm in the Parish Center. The group should meet at 6:30pm to recite the rosary Reports on the recent trip to Lancaster will be shared. Hostesses will be Kathy Savitsky and Betty Tkach. The group is planning a trip to New York to the 911 Memorial. A date, time, and cost will be announced. We will also see The Miracle of Christmas on Nov. 18 in Lancaster. Cost and further details will be announced. A new ministry "The Prayer Shawl" will be put into motion. The Prayer Shawl is symbolic of an inclusive, unconditionally loving God. They wrap, comfort, cover, give solace, hug, shelter and beautify those who receive them. Those who have received them have been uplifted and affirmed as if given wings to fly above their troubles. Anyone can make the prayer shawls. You do not have know how to crochet or knit, someone will help teach you. The group will begin in February, a date and time to be announced. Bring a friend and your needles. The group will meet for 90 minutes. The shawls will be blessed by Father Boyle, packaged and delivered to the people in need. For more information contact Joan Pisack at 570-822-3815 or Mary Jo Marek at 570-825-6969. The Circle of Prayer is still taking place in the group. For requests contact Mary Jo Marek, Joan Pisack or Diana at the rectory.

A Night at the Races will be held at Our Lady of Sorrow's Church Hall on Friday, Feb. 6th. Doors open at 6pm. Admission is \$10, only 175 Seats will be sold. For further information contact tom Tomsak at 570-237-2188.

Travel Opportunity

Fr. B is sponsoring a trip to CANYON COUNTRY - featuring Arizona & Utah. The trip is 9 days, 12 meals (7 Breakfasts, 5 Dinners). The trip also will stop in Las Vegas for 2 nights. Date of the trip is: September 24, 2015 – October 2, 2015. Price – based on double occupancy is \$ 2929 – book now and save \$100 per person. For further information, please call the Parish Office and/or Fr. B.

Be a Voice for the Unborn – March for Life

January 22, 2015 in Washington DC. Call St. Joseph Mareello Parish for more details (570-654-6902)

Marriage Moments

A trip down Memory Lane #10: First home. Homes can be wonderful, but they can also take a lot of work. Remember the first home you shared together whether it be a house, a rental, or a tent. What did you like most about sharing the same dwelling? Did you have any decorating or lifestyle disputes?
-Susan Vogt

Parenting Pointers

Many children are baptized soon after birth and much later confirmed. Others come to Baptism as adults. What difference has Baptism made in your life? (Really! Think about something specific). Once you have your own answer talk to your children about their baptisms. Show photos. Reenact it.

Know a Marriage That Needs Help?

If your marriage is tearing the two of you apart, if there is little or no meaningful communication, if you are considering separation or divorce, then the Retrouvaille program can help. Retrouvaille is helping couples put the pieces back together and to rediscover a more loving relationship. The next local program will be Feb. 27 – March 1, 2015 at the Ramada Inn, Clarks Summit, PA. Registration required. All calls confidential. Cost is by donation. Please call 1-800-470-2230 or visit <http://www.retrouvaille.org> for more information or to register.

Bulletin Briefs

"I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly
- John 10:10

