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Christmas at St. Peter the Apostle



Christmas Eve
4PM • 7PM • 10PM

Christmas Day
10AM

52 Church Street, Parry Sound
spta.church

Fourth Sunday of Advent ✦ December 18, 2022

Welcome to St. Peter the Apostle!

If this is your first time at church, or your first time in a long time, we're so glad you're here! We exist to carry out the mission of Jesus Christ; make disciples of all nations. If we can be of any assistance to you, please don't hesitate to call on us.

TODAYS READINGS

1st Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14
2nd Reading: Romans 1:1-7
Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24

MASS INTENTIONS

Wednesday, December 21
 12:10PM + Aaron Higgins
 6PM *Advent Confessions*

Thursday, December 22
The Gardens 10:00AM For the Residents

Friday, December 23
 12:10PM + Vern McLeod and deceased relatives

CHRISTMAS - THE NATIVITY OF OUR SAVIOUR

Saturday, December 24 *Christmas Eve*
 4PM, 7PM, 10PM - Missa Pro Populo (Mass for the People)

Sunday, December 25 *Christmas Day*
 10AM Missa Pro Populo (Mass for the People)

LET US PRAY



For the sick

Maria Lewis, Mary Renaud, Judith Romero

► New prayer requests are in **bold type**. To have a person added to our prayer list, please contact the Parish Office. The person's name will remain on the prayer list for **four weeks**.

For the deceased

We remember all our deceased loved ones, especially those we've lost this past year. May they rest in peace.

ADVENT CONFESSIONS

December 21 at 6PM

Come experience the Father's mercy.

UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION

From time-to-time phone numbers, addresses and email addresses change. If yours has changed, please update the Parish Office. If you're a parishioner and **didn't** get a Christmas Card from Father last year, chances are our information isn't correct - so please update it.

CHRISTMAS DECOR

Help beautify our sanctuary for Christmas with beautiful flowers. Envelopes are now available as you enter the Church. Write names of loved ones to remember during the Christmas season.

CHRISTMAS CHOIR

Do you enjoy singing Christmas carols? If so, our Choir needs you for the 10PM Christmas Eve Mass. Rehearsal: Dec. 22 at 7:30PM. Thank you!

CHURCH CLEANUP AND DECORATING

On Thursday December 22nd at 6PM we will have our pre-Christmas Church Cleanup and Decorating. Sign-up sheets are available in the Narthex. Many hands make light work!!

TAX RECEIPTS FOR 2022

Tax Receipts will be issued for all donations received by December 31, so all who wish to make a year-end financial gift to the parish have until the end of the month to do so. Thanks for your generosity.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

The bulletin is provided to St. Peter the Apostle Parish free of charge thanks to the local businesses that advertise. Please consider our advertisers first when you are shopping for services and goods.

A word from our Pastor

Dear Parish Family,

The countdown is on! We're one week away from celebrating Christ's Birthday! It will probably be a hectic time for some of us because of all that needs to be done, but because of so many people working together here at Church, this will be a Christmas to remember. Everything here at St. Peter the Apostle becomes possible because of all the volunteer ministers who help prepare our church for the Christmas season like those who help clean and decorate, hosts, greeters, behind-the-scenes, and so many more. Many ministers are needed to help make our Christmas Masses amazing. Think about giving some time to warmly welcome who will come to celebrate Christmas with us this year. Signups are easy, just fill out the forms in the Narthex (or visit our website and click on 'serve at Christmas').

This is one of the high seasons in the Church year, and it is our best opportunity of the whole year when it comes to growing disciples—investing and inviting, welcoming new people to our community and introducing them in a new and exciting way to Jesus. Even inviting them to visit us for Mass on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. Investing in the people that come to us at Christmas is so important. We want to create a wonderful Christmas experience for those who come to us. Here are some of the things that we seriously need to consider putting on our **TO DO LIST** at St. Peter the Apostle as we open our doors to visitors:

1. **Pray for our visitors.** Beginning today and all through the entire Christmas season which ends on January 9th the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, keep them in your prayers.
2. **Anticipate newcomers.** We need to be sensitive and aware of all those who haven't come through our doors for a long time or who are coming through our doors for the first time ever. What is that experience going to be like for them? What role do I play in making that experience a good one? Maybe it's being ok that your typical seat is taken, or scooting over in the pew and making room.
3. **Invite them.** Be on high alert around you— be on the lookout for possible invitees.
4. **Welcome them.** When the person has been away for a long time or coming to join us for the first time, we need to give a warm welcome with at least a smile.
5. **Speak to them.** Introduce yourself and welcome them to our community.

Your part is so crucial and important for our upcoming Christmas celebrations. I ask everyone to do their best to make the Christmas experience here at St. Peter the Apostle warm, welcoming and one that people will not forget and want to return.

Keep warm and have a wonderful week!
 See you at the Christmas Masses,

Fr. Jerry Tavares
 Pastor

Celebrate Christmas with us!

Christmas Eve 4PM - First Mass of Christmas
 7PM - Christmas Mass
 10PM - Solemn Mass (incense used)
 Christmas Day 10 AM - Mass of Christmas Day

 New Years Eve (Dec. 31) 4PM
 Adoration 5PM - 7PM
 New Years Day (Jan. 1) 9AM & 11AM

Holy Night



WORSHIP OFFERING

Your Financial Stewardship for December 11th:

Envelopes	3,184.00
Electronic Giving	1,370.87
Loose	340.65
Total Offertory:	\$ 4,900.52