

SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Ponca City, Oklahoma

Dear parishioners,

On Feb. 22nd, we celebrate the Feast of the Chair of St. Peter. What? A feast for a chair? Those crazy Catholics! However, the feast of the chair of St. Peter is an important feast in our belief, because the chair (Latin – cathedra) is seen as where the authority of Peter sits. That's why cathedrals are called cathedrals...that's where the bishop's chair is located, the one he sits on when exercising his authority as a successor to the apostles. Let's take a look at what St. Leo the Great says about the authority of St. Peter...

From a sermon by Saint Leo the Great, pope Out of the whole world one man, Peter, is chosen to preside at the calling of all nations, and to be set over all the apostles and all the fathers of the Church. Though there are in God's people many shepherds, Peter is thus appointed to rule in his own person those whom Christ also rules as the original ruler. Beloved, how great and wonderful is this sharing of his power that God in his goodness has given to this man. Whatever Christ has willed to be shared in common by Peter and the other leaders of the Church, it is only through Peter that he has given to others what he has not refused to bestow on them.

The Lord now asks the apostles as a whole what men think of him. As long as they are recounting the uncertainty born of human ignorance, their reply is always the same.

But when he presses the disciples to say what they think themselves, the first to confess his faith in the Lord is the one who is first in rank among the apostles.

Peter says: *You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.* Jesus replies: *Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jona, for flesh and blood has not revealed it to you, but my Father who is in heaven.* You are blessed, he means, because my Father has taught you. You have not been deceived by earthly opinion, but have been enlightened by inspiration from heaven. It was not flesh and blood that pointed me out to you, but the one whose only-begotten Son I am.

He continues: *And I say to you.* In other words, as my Father has revealed to you my godhead, so I in my turn make known to you your pre-eminence. *You are Peter:* though I am the inviolable rock, the cornerstone that makes both one, the foundation apart from which no one can lay any other, yet you also are a rock, for you are given solidity by my strength, so that which is my very own because of my power is common between us through your participation.

And upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. On this strong foundation, he says, I will build an everlasting temple. The great height of my Church, which is to penetrate the heavens, shall rise on the firm foundation of this faith.

The gates of hell shall not silence this confession of faith; the chains of death shall not bind it. Its words are the words of life. As they lift up to heaven those who profess

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them, so they send down to hell those who contradict them.

Blessed Peter is therefore told: *To you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth is also bound in heaven. Whatever you lose on earth shall be loosed also in heaven.*

The authority vested in this power passed also to the other apostles, and the institution established by this decree has been continued in all the leaders of the Church. But it is not without good reason that what is bestowed on all is entrusted to one. For Peter received it separately in trust because he is the prototype set before all the rulers of the Church.

Have a good week, and know of my prayers!

Sincerely in Christ, *Fr. Larson*

Mass Intentions for the Week

- MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2019**
12:10pm COMMUNION SERVICE
- TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2019**
12:10pm COMMUNION SERVICE
- WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2019**
8:20am Spec. Int. Nora Meyers (92nd Birthday)/Darlene Reed
- THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2019**
9:30am People of the Parish
(St. Francis of Assisi, Newkirk, OK)
4:00pm †Rosemary Glaser/Dean & Maria Tate
(Via Christi Village Chapel)
- FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2019**
7:00am Spec. Int. Kathleen Auschwitz & Child in Womb
12:10pm †Deceased Members of the Bellinghausen Family
- SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2019**
9:00am Spec. Int. Theresa Bohon/Fred & Eileen Spellman
5:00pm †Cortney Whitecotton/Jimmy & Suzy Paschal
- SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2019**
8:00am †Teresa Epperson/Jo Wear
9:30am MASS (St. Francis Church, Newkirk)
11:00am †Martha Robinson/Grace Nalepa
1:00pm People of the Parish (Spanish Mass)
7:00pm †Mel & Imogene Leavitt/The Leavitt Family

THE Week Ahead	February 18-24, 2019
Monday	NO SCHOOL-PROFESSIONAL DAY
Tuesday	7:00pm RCIA, McGurk Room
Wednesday	9:30am ST. FRANCIS GUILD, McGurk Room 6:30pm K-12 RE
Thursday	10:00am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY, McGurk Room 7:00pm SAINTS & SPIRITS, Newkirk Rectory
Friday	8 th GRADE TO BISHOP McGUINNESS 10:30am CONFESSION, Waiting Room
Saturday	3:30pm CONFESSION, Church
Sunday	9:15am FAMILY SEMINAR, Parish Hall 12:00pm CONFIRMATION REHEARSAL, Church 6:00pm CONFESSION, Church

St. Mary's Catholic Church - Ponca City, Oklahoma

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Please Pray For those who need prayers: Jeanette Vassar, Charlotte Meyer, Charlene Vap, Dora Behar, Cindy Wardlow, Fran Baur, Don Schiltz, Jeanne Glaser, Patsy Hastings, Bennie Westerman, Keith & Sue Behara, Eileen Spellman, Linda Courtney, George F. Brown, Martha Begwin, Ted Thomas, Elaine Gray Calahan, Todd Hatchett, Gary Kirchmeyer, Donna Schlitz, Jim Sheets, Shelly Behar, Jill Kestler, Mary Knori, Hannah Boyer, Asher Dailey, Betty Dimond, Tyson Rutter, Diego Blanco, Mary Boor, Mark Ramsey, Betty Pino, Kaye Cunningham, Carol Stewart, Vivian Rose Graeff, Sue Odom, Barbara Spore, Jim Smith, Owen Greer, Scarlett Wimer, Alicia Aguilar, Audrey Ginn, Bill Hyatt, Regina Cadeñanes, Judy Cocci, Mike Gray, Lorraine McKain, Marcus Roggenbuck, Dakota Miller, Christopher Roggenbuck, Linda Cross, Mike & Jerry McGoldrich, Brian McCallen, Marianna Counter, Helen Voegelé, Matthew Sears, Theresa Bohon, Janet Wilson, James Hess, Gabriel Dietz



**Saturday March 2nd!
Mardi Gras Celebration
Dinner & Dance
6:30pm - School Gym
21 & Older, \$15/person
Limited Seating.
Babysitting is provided.
Call the office
to reserve your seat
765-7794**

Thankful & Grateful

A Thank you to everyone who brought meals to my daughter, Teresa Epperson, sent cards, and had Masses said for her. My sincere gratitude, Joe Wear and Family.

Weekly Income Report February 10, 2019	
Weekly Collection	\$14,701.08

WE CAN NOT DO THIS ALONE. WE NEED YOUR HELP.

We need your HELP - to pull together the most accurate history of the *Our Parish!* And, we would like to include your stories, feedback, and know what you would be interested in learning. So, we are asking for just 5 minutes of your time to complete a quick survey. It is only three questions and can be completed from your smart phone. Here's the link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DZZXDTH>.

Don't want to complete the survey? But, still want to contribute? We are looking for the following:

- 1) Names of individuals that should be interviewed about the Parish, School or St. Mary's contributions to the community.
- 2) Stories or memories of events surrounding the Parish, School, and members of the Parish.
- 3) Pictures, photographs, that you think should be included.

You can email questions or comments to Frankie Wood-Black at fwoodblack90@gmail.com or contact Maria in the Church Office at 580-765-7794 or office@stmarypc.com. We are collecting the information **NOW**.

The regular meeting of **St. Francis Guild** will be held Wednesday, February 20 in the McGurk Room of the Parish Center at 9:30 am. Refreshments and a business meeting will be on the program. All members guests are welcome to join us.

Youth

Join us for Faith Formation this Wednesday from 6:30-8PM in the Byrnes room. All 7-12th grade youth are invited!

Great Day of Service Plans are well underway scheduled for Sunday, April 7, 2019. Several church organizations are banding together with the City of Ponca City to do some spring cleaning in our beautiful town. Workers will do yard work, cleanup, sweep, rake and do minor repairs free of charge. St. Mary's Catholic Church is again going to participate in this community service. We will be looking for yards to work in and workers to help. This is a formal invitation to the entire church family to step up and be a part of this wonderful day of service for our community. Anyone interested, kind of interested, not sure yet please call Rick Steichen 580-762-1020 or Mary Meyers 580-763-2251 and we will help you decide to join us on Sunday, April 7th.



Our St. Mary's students will begin trash bag sales this week. Please be on the lookout for student's after Mass or around the school yard and order your trash bags to help support our great school!



FAITH FORMATION

First Communion Family Seminar for First Eucharist Preparation is Sunday, February 24th, 9:00-noon in

the Parish Hall, or on Sunday, March 3rd, 9:00-noon in the Parish Hall. Please call Bridgit with your date choice if you have not already done so.

Mark your calendars for Fat Tuesday! Annual Pancake Supper, Tuesday, March 5th beginning at 6:00 PM in the Parish Hall. Bring your family to eat, drink, and race with pancakes!

