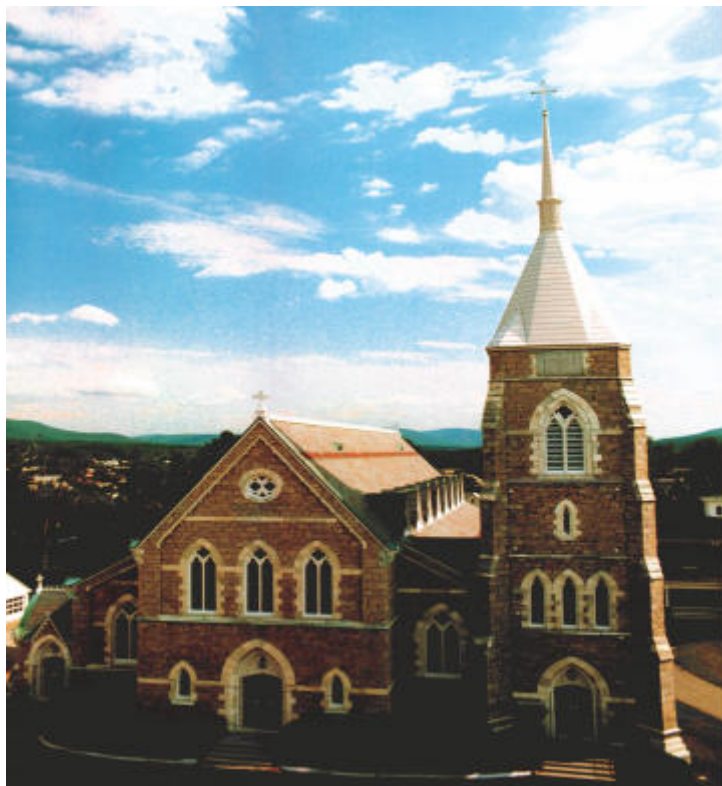


Fourth Sunday of Easter—May 3, 2020

St. Peter Parish

**A ministry of the Capuchin Franciscans,
Province of St. Mary, New York and New England**



**Fr. Thomas R. Houle, O.F.M. Cap.
Pastor**

**Fr. Maurice Moreau, O.F.M. Cap.
In Residence at St. Alphonsus
During the Corona Virus**

Sunday Masses:

Saturday—4:15 PM

Sunday—11:00 AM

Suspended until further notice

134 Convent Ave.
Rutland, VT 05701

Phone: (802) 775-1994

Fax: (802) 775-0178

Parish Website:

StPeter.VermontCatholic.org

Weekday Masses

Chapel of our Lady

Monday—4:45 PM—Except Holidays

Suspended until further notice

Sacrament of Baptism

Please call the Parish Office to make arrangements.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Please call the Parish Office at least six months in advance to make arrangements.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

By appointment

New Parishioners

Please call Parish Office to register.

Religious Education

DRE, Michael Audette

Email: maudette@msjvermont.org

Please visit parish website or Facebook
(Saint Peter Parish Religious Education)

Parish Council Members

Sue Ahearn, Chair

Sheree Bloch, Secretary

Dcn. Bob Paolucci

Sue Audette

Joe Barbagallo

(Fin. Council Rep.)

Nick Denardo

Joe Eno

Laura Goodrich

Mary Gunn

Josef Peterson

Nichole Peterson

Finance Council Members

Joe Barbagallo

Anna Maria Barucco

Jim Davidson

George Hooker

Bob LeBlanc

Gary Randall

Liturgy Committee Members

Dcn. Bob Paolucci

Sue Ahearn

Michael Audette

Esterina Bergendahl

Beth Charles

Joe Eno

From the Pastor's Desk...

These days seem to be filled with farewell's, thank you's, and trying to keep one another informed. And so I have some personal news that I wish to share with you at this time; this is not exactly the way that I had hoped or envisioned to relay these news to you, but as we all know too well, corona virus has affected all of us on every level and in every aspect of our lives. As was mentioned in a previous Bulletin, a Capuchin gathering of the friars had been scheduled for the last week of May; our Superiors from Rome urged us to postpone that gathering and have since informed us that until we are able to re-schedule this gathering, at which time we will elect our new team of leadership, our current Provincial and team remains in place.

That being said, it has been nine years since I have come to Rutland, and have had the honor and privilege to serve throughout these nine years as pastor of St. Peter's. I've also had the honor and privilege of serving as pastor at St. Dominic's and St. Alphonsus. These have been nine blessed and happy years for me; my heart is full with so many fond memories; such wonderful friendships and bonds have been formed and developed. I can truly say, from my heart, that there could not have been any place else better than having been here for these past nine years as far as I am concerned. But the time has come for me, to inform you, that I will soon be bidding you farewell.

In four months, I will be 71 years old; I have some health issues that need to be taken care of, such as the possibility of knee replacements. I cannot foresee having that taken care of while still in active ministry, as it would mean having to have someone to replace me, while in recovery from this procedure—but, there is no one available for this. I also know that since my last illness with cellulitis three and a half years ago, I have never fully recovered; I do not have the stamina nor the strength; I tire very easily; standing is very difficult for me; hearing issues have become another issue that I must deal with; and when I do become ill, it is more and more difficult to fight off the illness. You all deserve so much more than what I can give at this particular stage of my life, and so for these reasons, after much prayer and reflection, I have asked to go into retirement.

In the midst of all the uncertainties, what I do know and what I can share with you now is that the Capuchins are staying in the diocese, and there is a replacement for me here at St. Peter's; this is so reassuring to me. What we do not know for sure at this time, is when the transfer will take place, mostly due to the corona virus, and its twists and turns.

I would have much rather been able to announce all of this to you, in some other way, but with the uncertainty of things as they are, without the public celebration of Masses, I did want you to hear this from me, and this seemed like the most appropriate time and way of informing you.

OFFICE CLOSED TILL FURTHER NOTICE

In accordance with the Governor's "Stay Home—Be Safe" Executive Order, our parish staff is not permitted to come in to work, and so the office is closed. Fr. Tom is abiding by this order to the best of his ability as well, so he is almost always available, and delighted, to take your phone calls.

THANKS TO ALL FOR YOUR WEEKLY OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

So many parishioners have been so faithful in sending in or dropping off their weekly Offertory envelopes; the report in today's Bulletin of the past several weekends reflects your generosity and loyalty to the parish so very clearly, even during these most difficult times. Thank you so much. Your continued contributions are very deeply appreciated.

**ST. PETER COLLECTION REPORT
WEEKENDS OF APRIL 18/19 AND APRIL 25/26**

Offertory

4,040.00

**COMMUNITY CUPBOARD DRIVE THROUGH
FOOD DRIVE**

**ST. PETER CHURCH
SUNDAY MAY 3, 2020
10:00 AM TO NOON**

There will be someone at the handicapped entrance of the Church to accept your donations—no need for you to step out of your car.

This food drive is in conjunction with the first Sunday of the month being **FOOD SHELF SUNDAY**. Thank you for considering to participate in this.

HARD TO KEEP UP WITH THINGS

St. Peter Parish is attempting to set up an e-mail listing of as many of our parishioners as possible; if you do have e-mail and are not sure whether or not the parish has your current e-mail address, would you be kind enough to send it to us at stpeterrutland@comcast.net. This will allow us to be better able to communicate things to you. Please check the parish website—StPeter.VermontCatholic.org—as well as the Diocesan website—as often as you can for the latest information.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

CALVARY CEMETERY

Calvary Cemetery is now officially opened, and has been cleaned. Since we are still at a “Stay Home and Be Safe” executive order, due to the Corona Virus, we continue to adhere to that until further notice. At the time of this writing, should there be burials, no more than 10 people are permitted to be present; that includes family, funeral home personnel, and the priest—10 in all.

Calvary Cemetery is a final resting place for our loved ones. In order to maintain the grounds at a high standard and low cost we ask that the following rules be observed.

NO WIRE ORNAMENTS, NO ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS NOR ANY GLASS THINGS

All of these pose a safety hazard to the maintenance crew. Flying wire as they are working around the stones could cause a possible injury.

NO INGROUND PLANTING

Flowers and shrubs are beautiful, but also need a lot of “TLC”. Many might maintain them, but many others will not and they make for an unsightly area.

NO SOLAR LIGHTS

These are beautiful, but they are also light weight and blow over. This poses an obstacle for mowing and can be dangerous if hit by the mower blade.

NO DOGS ARE ALLOWED ON THE CEMETERY GROUNDS

This has always been a rule of the cemetery, as it is in all cemeteries, but unfortunately not always obeyed. The maintenance crew has found dog waste on top of flat head stones! Dog walkers have been warned, but do not always heed the warnings. This is very disrespectful and unsightly for anyone visiting the cemetery.

We ask that everyone respect these rules in order to help us keep the cemetery beautiful and safe for the crew that takes care of it, and we promise to do our best to maintain it.

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2020

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Today, Sunday, May 3, 2020 marks the 57th Anniversary of “*World Day of Prayer for Vocations*”. Today is also known as “Good Shepherd Sunday”. Pope Francis, in his papal message for this world day of prayer states, “*Dear friends, on this day in particular, but also in the ordinary pastoral life of our communities, I ask the Church to promote vocations. May she touch the hearts of the faithful and enable each of them to discover with gratitude God’s call in their lives, to find courage to say ‘yes’ to God, to overcome all weariness through faith in Christ, and to make of their lives a song of praise for God, for their brothers and sisters, and for the whole world. May the Virgin Mary accompany us and intercede for us.*”

If you are interested in reading about men who have shared their stories about their Capuchin vocations please go to www.facebook.com/St.MaryOFMCAp. To help you say an extra prayer for vocations, here is a prayer dedicated to our own Capuchin Blessed Solanus Casey:

God our Father, you gifted Blessed Solanus Casey with a heart of gratitude as he instilled hope, brought healing, and gave consolation to the people who came to see him. Blessed Solanus trusted in your providence and never allowed worry or stress to take away the peace you brought to his soul. Through the intercession of Blessed Solanus Casey, may more men be inspired to listen to your voice, trust in your will, courageously serve you, and be open to the call to consecrated life and priesthood, especially in the Capuchin Franciscan Order around the world. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

In these days when Mass is not publicly celebrated, thereby Holy Communion is also not available, spiritual communions may be offered. If you are able to watch Mass on TV, at communion time you can offer the following prayer to make this spiritual communion.

*My **Jesus**, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive You **into my soul**. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from You.*

Amen.

WEEKLY BULLETINS AVAILABLE

Even though we are not able to meet as a congregation, the weekly Bulletin is a good means of communication; please know that they are available at 2 of the church entrances—one at the handicapped entrance and the other at the side door entrance nearest to our outdoor sign announcing Mass times etc. as well as being online on our parish website.

DEADLINE FOR THE BULLETIN

There is a deadline each week for information to be put into our bulletin. It is Monday by noon. Holiday bulletin deadlines may vary.

WORLD DAY OF
Prayer

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