

**Christmas
Nativity of the Lord
December 25, 2019**



Masses for the Week

Tuesday	<i>Christmas Vigil</i>	4:00pm
Wednesday	<i>Christmas</i>	8:00am
	<i>Christmas</i>	10:00am
Thursday	<i>St. Stephen</i>	8:00am
	Teresa Andrusko	
Friday	<i>St. John, Apostle</i>	5:30pm
	Harriet Principe	
Saturday	Matthew & Ruth	5:00am
	Bowen	
Sunday	People of the Parish	8:00am
	Nelson Giordano and Sal Bulla	10:00am

Please Pray for Our Sick

Fanny Bonventre, Lorraine DeFelicis, Sr. Maureen Jerkowski, Fred Kimlin, Maureen Krom, Lynne Lazzaro, Mary McNamara, Frank Merrill, Lucy Padilla, Tony Peralta, Joe Petras, Betty Schilt, Wm. Schlossher, Alice Theiss, Thomas Vavrinec, Luisa Walsh, Amelia Zak

We also want to remember parishioners who are currently in Nursing Facilities. They are: Peggy Knott, Elizabeth LaFera, Rose Sferrazza, Alice Tochterman, Joan Waage

Blessings

As we stop to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Father Burke, Father John Audu and the staff at St. Peter's want to take this opportunity to offer to you and your loved ones Best wishes for a Happy, Blessed, and a Merry Christmas and a heartfelt thank you for the continued support you have given to us in 2019.

Christmas Calendar

The parish office will be closed Christmas December 26th.

Religious Ed News

Religious Ed classes will not be in session on December 25th and January 1st but will resume on January 8th.

Joy to the World

And the Word became flesh. John 1:14

We desire to be able to welcome Jesus at Christmastime, not in a cold manger of our heart but in a heart full of love and humility, in a heart so pure, so immaculate, so warm with love for one another.

The coming of Jesus in Bethlehem brought joy to the world and to every human heart. The same Jesus comes again and again in our hearts during Holy Communion. He wants to give the same joy and peace. May His coming this Christmas bring to each one of us that peace and joy that He desires to give. Let us pray much for this grace of peace and joy in our own heart, in our communities, in our society and in the Church.

Glory to God in the highest, we pray for peace on earth.

Mother Teresa

Christmas Calendar

Looking ahead into the Christmas season, these are the next few week's celebrations: this coming Sunday, December 29th



will be the *Feast of the Holy Family*; January 1st will be the *Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God*, the following Sunday, January 5th, will be the *Feast of the Epiphany*; and the following Sunday, January 12th will be the *Feast of the Baptism of the Lord*. That feast will mark the end of the Christmas season and Monday we return to Ordinary Time.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

The mission of Worldwide Marriage Encounter is to proclaim the value of Marriage and Holy Orders in the Church and in the world. Together we are making marriages, families, and our Church stronger and healthier.

January 31st Huntington, NY Get away from your busy life and search diligently for the marriage God desires for you with His son at the center.

"The Lord will bless His people with peace" Give your marriage the gift of His peace on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend.

March 27th Albany NY "Here I am Lord I come to do your will" Find out the will of God for your marriage on a WWME weekend. For more information or for a listing of upcoming dates go to www.wwme.org or call 877-NYS-WWME ext. 3



Silent Night, Holy Night

“Silence. Why does it frighten us so much? For one, our world is inundated with noise. Our i-pods, telephones, televisions, and those who live under the same roof with us are constantly bombarding us with noise. Even when we think we are

in the midst of silence, there is that ever-present whirring of the fluorescent lights above. Silence can be frightening because we become accustomed to a life filled with noise. Silence frightens us because it challenges us to confront ourselves and how well we live out our divine calling as Christians. Silence is powerful because it is in silence that we are able to examine our lives in the light of Christ. In silence, we are confronted with ourselves—for better or for worse. It is in this confrontation that we are either challenged to become more Christ-like or are frightened by our wretchedness and thus run from Christ—the One Whom we should be striving to become like.

As Christians, we all share the same call to become *alter Christi-s*, or ‘other Christs.’ This is a non-negotiable fact. Paul’s letter to the Ephesians clearly states that ‘in love God destined us for adoption to Himself through Jesus Christ’ (Eph 1:5). Jesus Christ is God’s only Son by nature, but we become God’s sons and daughters by adoption. We become adopted sons and daughters through baptism, which in turn gives us the special grace of becoming *alter Christi-s* in our world. We are able to bring Christ to others because we *are* other Christs.

In silence, we are able to listen, not with our ears, but within the quiet depths of our hearts. In silence, we can grow in our mission of becoming more like Christ. The importance of silence in the Christian life is not something that was invented by monks. The monks, rather, found the need for silence affirmed in the Scriptures. . . .

It may seem as if attaining silence is impossible. Sure, we can easily turn off the television and the cell phone. But what about dealing with the people we live with? The solution is simple. Take any free time we might have—those precious few minutes after the baby is put to bed or when the college roommate leaves the room. Giving God this time in silence allows *Him* to do the ‘talking.’ In silence, we can better

understand His will in our lives so to better live out our divine calling to become another Christ.

Silence is a gift from God that calls us to convert our lives more truly and more perfectly to that of Jesus Christ, so that, like Christ, we can live out our mission as sons and daughters of the Father. Let us take a break from the noise and allow the silence to fashion us into other Christs in Our world.”

The Power of Silence, Br. John Kozlowski OP, Catholic Exchange, 9-14-06



Healing After Abortion: Do you know someone who is carrying the grief of a past abortion? There is always hope. The pain and sorrow of abortion does not need to endure for a lifetime. A “Day of Prayer and Healing” offers the opportunity to experience the love and mercy of God and to respond to His invitation to begin the journey of healing the wound of abortion. Upcoming dates in the NYC area are: Jan 18th, Feb 8th, Feb 22nd (Spanish), March 21st, and more. For more dates, locations, and confidential registration, or just to talk to a Sister, please call the Sisters of Life at (866)-575-0075 (toll free) or reach us by email hopeandhealing@sistersoflife.org
All communication is confidential



**American
Red Cross**

**Join the American
Red Cross**

Make a Difference in your Community

Down the street, across the country and around the world, Red Cross volunteers deliver help and hope where it’s needed most. Join the Red Cross. For questions or more information contact Donna Gabriel

Donnagabriel6@gmail.com

845-382-9743

Heavenly Father, please increase our faith in the Real Presence of Your Son Jesus Christ, in the Holy Eucharist. Please send down the Holy Spirit upon us to give us the grace to respond to the invitation to Eucharistic Adoration. We beseech You to spread Perpetual Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament at our Chapel and in parishes around the world. Amen

Rosary Altar Society

This weekend team four *is* scheduled. The RAS meeting will be on Jan. 5th.