



ST. PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH

Monthly Newsletter

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OCTOBER 2022



CHECK OUT OUR LENDING LIBRARY: A RESOURCE FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND LEARNING

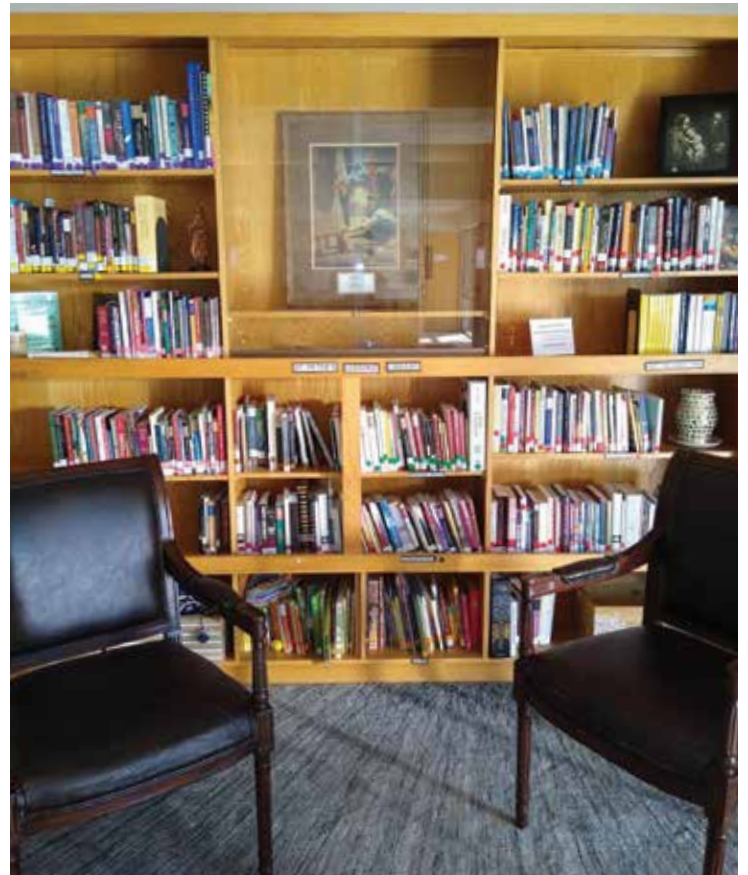
Over the past couple of years, the Lending Library here at St. Peter has been growing as more books and materials have been generously donated. There are several shelves located to the right as you walk into the Church. There is a light and some chairs, making it a comfortable place to browse, sit and read through a new book.

“The Lending Library is a service to the people of our parish,” says Carol Wathen, organizer of the Lending Library. “People can check out books and bring them back when they are finished, or even pass them on to someone else if they feel moved to do so. The Lord speaks to people in different ways. For some, it is through a book – it can be a source of meditation or comfort.”

The Lending Library has expanded quite a bit and is now categorized so it is easier to find books on topics in which you are interested. The biggest organized category is Christian Living, which contains books on topics ranging from dating, to family life and parenting, and everything in between. Other categories available include Bible Studies, Mary, Lives of the Saints, Theology, and Prayer.

“It draws people into different aspects of the Church – aspects that they maybe weren’t very familiar with before or didn’t even know about prior to seeing it at the Lending Library,” Carol says. “Through studying various things, you become more aware of the large scope of the Church.”

Carol says that the Lending Library is a wonderful resource for parishioners. Sometimes people don’t have access or don’t know where to look for good, Catholic books. The books that are donated to the Lending Library are checked to make sure that they



are in line with the Catholic Church and would provide spiritual benefits to the reader. This makes them readily available and easy for parishioners to access.

Parishioners may donate books by simply placing them in the box on the bottom shelf of the Lending Library. There is currently a small group of volunteers who help keep the Lending Library organized and categorize all new books that get donated. Volunteers also check in on the library from time to time to make sure books are placed back in the proper place.

*If you have questions about the Lending Library,
please reach out to Carol Wathen at 402-742-6468.*

A Letter from Our Pastor

IF NOT STEWARDS, THEN WHAT ARE WE?

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As a stewardship parish, it is important to ask how well we understand the message of stewardship that keeps surfacing in all we do in our personal life and the life of our parish. If not stewards, then what are we? If not disciples of Jesus Christ, then what purpose do we serve as members of His Holy Catholic Church? Aren't these intriguing questions for any believer? And if not, why aren't they?

God's goodness and the gifts given to each of us shouldn't be taken for granted and our lives should be motivated by our gratitude for all we have, including every opportunity that gives glory and honor to God. Those opportunities are given at each moment of each day. Wait for them and expect them to become obvious. The idea of being a steward of those gifts and opportunities isn't new to the realm of believers in the Old Testament or the New Testament. And certainly, the Gospels of Jesus Christ make it quite clear that our Lord views us to be the stewards He expects us to be. His stories and parables confirm it. So, if you cannot or will not see yourself as "that" steward He invites you to be, then what are you? I am curious about those who reject being that steward. I am even more curious about what they believe are the other options.

I am still in awe of the first line in the U.S. Bishops' pastoral letter, *Stewardship: A Disciple's Response*, that boldly states: "Once one has decided to be a disciple of Jesus Christ, stewardship is not an option." They were so convinced that the stewardship way of life is a disciple's way of life. And yet, that is what we are and have always been.



"If not stewards, then what?" remains a challenging statement to invite us to reflect on what our Catholic faith is calling us to experience and participate in for the time we are given on this earth. It challenges us to face our reflection in the mirror of this life given to us by God and see what our Lord sees in us, and then embrace the opportunities being handed to us each day of our lives. Blessings and challenges await us, and no matter what the balance may

be from day to day, our God equips us with all we need. He created us and sees us as stewards. Why would we dare resist seeing ourselves in the way our God sees us?

Connecting stewardship and discipleship is inevitable in my book. For that matter, it is inevitable in the "Good Book," which we identify and recognize as the Word of God. It matters to our God what we do with the gifts He so generously gives to each of us. Why would it not matter to us? I ask you to take some time to refocus, reevaluate and re-commit yourself to the faithfulness of the life, the time, the talent, and the treasure you have been given.

We are the stewards of those precious gifts. What are we doing with them?

In His Mercy,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Eric Clark". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Fr. Eric Clark,
Pastor



PHOTOGRAPHY *TELLING THE VISUAL*



One of the key blessings of a photo is its ability to tell a story that words can't, evoking emotions that written words never could. Recognizing the need for quality photos at parish events and ministry gatherings, Parish Manager Katherine Norman wanted to get a photography ministry started here at St. Peter Catholic Church. Fortuitously, Shelley Moser has been taking photos since she was 8 years old – at that time, using a Kodak Instamatic camera. The ministry is just getting started. Katherine and Shelley look forward to adding to the parish's photo archive.

"Through our photos, we hope to show a welcoming place that has something for everyone," Shelley says. "We want people to see our parish as a place they belong."

But if someone isn't assigned to take pictures, the moment passes without them – and that's why this ministry is so important. Shelley wants to invite others with a knack for photography to get involved.

"Friendly faces sharing in fellowship, food and fun is a great way of extending hospitality to those

MINISTRY: STORY OF OUR FAITH COMMUNITY

looking at our parish,” Shelley says. “We hope people will see a place where they can connect with others.”

The photos will be used on social media to promote events, ministries and more, and also will serve to evangelize in our community.

“Today, we have an image-driven culture, and photographs have the potential to bring visitors to our church,” Shelley says. “Through our photos, hopefully, people can actually see themselves as part of our community.”

We all have talents that we can use here at the parish. Photography probably isn’t the first talent that comes to mind when we think of parish ministries, but it is just as important. Shelley is honored to use her talent to serve the parish.

“For me, it is a creative outlet to express how God can be seen in everything around us,” she says.

Katherine is thankful that Shelley is a faithful steward and sharing her talents to get the Photography Ministry started.

“Shelley takes such beautiful photos, and I know our parishioners will appreciate seeing her work,” Katherine says.

“This is a perfect match – my love for taking pictures and a heart to serve our parish,” Shelley says.

Ministry members can also help organize the 30 years of archived photos at St. Peter Catholic Church.



Photos taken by the Photography Ministry



If you would like to get involved in this new ministry, please contact Shelley Moser at 402-730-1281 or shelley-moser@cdolinc.net.



ST. PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH

LOOKING TOWARD OUR PARISH'S 2022 CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Join us after all Masses on October 1 and 2, when we unveil our parish's capital campaign. The goals of this campaign are two-fold: give glory back to God and provide for the needs of our parish, now and for the future. The new physical changes to our campus will embody the spiritual renewal we strive for each day as we abide in Christ and build His Kingdom. This capital campaign will include a number of phases and updates to our campus, to make this truly a place to belong.

DEFERRED MAINTENANCE

- Parking lot to ensure a safe and reliable place for worship.
- Improve signage and marquees so that all who enter our campus can easily identify our buildings.
- HVAC system and units to make our prayer with God pleasant for all.

SECURITY

- Enhance security of our church and school to keep safe what God has given us to include a new fire alarm system, door locking, and camera system.

BEAUTIFICATION OF OUR SANCTUARY

- Remodel the Church sanctuary to incorporate beauty into the sacred liturgy and our sacred space.
- Renovate the church to draw us more deeply into celebration of the Mass.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

- Establish a parish endowment to provide for future needs, as well as scholarships for school tuition.



St. Peter Renderings



EMBRACING ROSARY DEVOTIONS FOR THIS MONTH OF MARY

THE POWER OF PRAYING WITH ALL OUR HEARTS

With the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary on Oct. 7 comes an entire month dedicated to our Blessed Mother and the gift of the Rosary. The Rosary is a powerful prayer that Mary has given to us to draw us closer to her Son. At St. Peter, we pray the Rosary before every Mass. Maryann Boumann has helped to lead the Rosary for 26 years and has seen the fruit of this devotion to Mary in her own life and in the life of the parish.

“Here are all these little humble prayer warriors praying the Rosary,” Maryann says. “I believe in the power of prayer and how much good can come from it when we try to have purity of intention and pray with our heart. We have no idea how powerful our prayers are. One day we will see!”

The Rosary starts 25 minutes before any Mass. Maryann is one of many leaders who have committed to lead the Rosary. These leaders take on a day that fits their schedule and they ensure that there is someone to begin the prayer on time and unite all those who have come to pray. Maryann has seen the number of people coming together grow. Often, as they begin praying, more people join. Families and individuals join in prayer and Maryann is impressed by the

The infographic is titled "The 15 PROMISES of the VIRGIN MARY FOR THOSE WHO PRAY THE ROSARY". It features a background image of a hand holding a rosary. The promises are listed in a grid format:

- 1 Whoever shall faithfully serve me by the recitation of the rosary, shall receive signal graces.
- 2 I promise my special protection and the greatest graces to all those who shall recite the rosary.
- 3 The rosary shall be a powerful armor against hell, it will destroy vice, decrease sin, and defeat heresies.
- 4 It will cause virtue and good works to flourish. Oh, that souls would sanctify themselves by this means.
- 5 The soul which recommends itself to me by the recitation of the rosary shall not perish.
- 6 Whoever shall recite the rosary devoutly, shall never be conquered by misfortune.
- 7 Whoever shall have a true devotion for the rosary shall not die without the sacraments of the Church.
- 8 Those who are faithful to recite the rosary shall have, during their life and at their death, the light of God.
- 9 I shall deliver from purgatory those who have been devoted to the rosary.
- 10 The faithful children of the rosary shall merit a high degree of glory in heaven.
- 11 You shall obtain all you ask of me by the recitation of the rosary.
- 12 All those who propagate the holy rosary shall be aided by me in their necessities.
- 13 All the advocates of the rosary shall have for intercessors the entire celestial court during their life and at the hour of death.
- 14 All who recite the rosary are my sons, and brothers of my only son Jesus Christ.
- 15 Devotion of my rosary is a great sign of predestination.

Mary, Queen of the Holy Rosary, pray for us

CatholicLink

dedication of the families that are teaching their children the value of the Rosary.

“We’ve got big families at St. Peter and they’re noisy and fun and the parents are so good,” Maryann says. “I just think of all the graces that the families that come early to pray are gaining for their children. I really believe that our young people need every

prayer and grace that they can get.”

Maryann has felt incredibly supported by our priests. In addition to praying the Rosary, they’ve supported Maryann and other parishioners in making a consecration to Mary which they renew at the First Saturday devotion. Maryann feels that since the consecration, participation on First

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ST. PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH



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MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

DAILY MASS

Monday-Friday: 6:30 a.m., 8:15 a.m.,
5:30 p.m.

Saturday: 8:15 a.m.

CONFESSION

Monday & Friday: 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.

Wednesday: 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Saturday: 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Sunday 30 minutes before each Mass

EMBRACING ROSARY DEVOTIONS FOR THIS MONTH OF MARY *continued from page 7*

Saturdays has grown.

“Our priests are very Marian and they love Mother Mary so much,” Maryann says. “They are leading us in a beautiful way to become holier.”

Maryann has been inspired by the Fifteen Promises of Mary to those who pray the Rosary daily. These promises give her hope and reason to persist in prayer and to encourage others to pray.

“Every Hail Mary I say reminds me that at the hour of my death, she will be here with me,” Maryann says.

Maryann coordinates the Rosary leaders along with Betty Nelson. They are looking for more leaders and substitutes, especially as Maryann and others look to step back after many years leading this devotion.

“Please pray and ask Jesus and Mary if they want you involved in this beautiful ministry,” Maryann says.

“I just think of all the graces that the families that come early to pray are gaining for their children. I really believe that our young people need every prayer and grace that they can get.” — Maryann Boumann

If you are willing to lead or sub before daily Mass, please email Betty Nelson at bettynelson1015@gmail.com. If you would like to lead or sub before a weekend Mass, email Maryann Boumann at Mboumann333@neb.rr.com.