

**YEAR OF SACRAMENTS**

**ONE WORD AT A TIME**

**Stand Out**

Most people probably consider a marriage that takes faith and religion seriously as a matter of quiet and private domesticity. In fact, the opposite is true. People truly living the sacrament of Marriage **stand out** not only in the crowd but in the world at large. Exactly because it is a sacrament, marriage is a public sign. A sacramental couple gives effective and practical witness to the presence of God's love in this often loveless world. They affirm enduring love in a world in which love seems shaped by transitory feelings, which make it disappear with ease. They are life-givers in a world that seems only to prize personal satisfaction. Sacramental couples do, indeed, stand out.

The witness value of the sacrament of Marriage is extraordinary, precisely because marriage and family life are embedded in the ordinary. It's not in heroics but in the routines of life that a sacramental marriage becomes a window to the heart of God.

[Pope Francis's Vision of Healing and Communion](#)

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 More on Pope Francis's Vision at [www.loyolapress.com/popefrancis](http://www.loyolapress.com/popefrancis)  
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PETER

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PAUL

*Mass Schedule*

Weekdays ~ Mon-Fri 6:45am ~ Saturday Vigil 4pm ~ Sundays 8:30am & 5pm

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*The Son of Man must be lifted up*

**Fourth Sunday of Lent - March 15, 2015**



## God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that who believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is called Lætare (Rejoice) Sunday. Since this Sunday occurs in the middle of Lent, as Gaudete Sunday is celebrated midway through Advent, Lætare Sunday reminds us of the Event we look forward to at the end of the penitential season. As on Gaudete Sunday, rose-colored vestments may replace violet, with flowers on the altar. These outward signs symbolize the Church's joy in anticipation of the Resurrection, a joy which cannot be contained even in Lent, though we still refrain from Alleluias and the singing of the Gloria until the magnificence of the Easter Vigil.

The central theme of today's readings is that our salvation is the free gift of a merciful God given to us through Jesus His, Son. The readings stress God's mercy and compassion, the great love, kindness and grace extended to us in Christ. As an act of love and gratitude to God Who is "rich in mercy" and as an expression of our Faith, we are invited to share his sufferings by doing penance during Lent so that we may inherit our eternal salvation and the glory of his Resurrection in Heaven. As we continue our Lenten observance in the fourth week, the Sacred Liturgy invites us to enter more deeply into the mystery of God's grace, mercy and salvation. In the first reading, taken from the Second Book of Chronicles, we learn the compassion and patience of God. God allowed Cyrus the Great, a pagan conqueror, to become the instrument of His mercy and salvation for His chosen people who were in exile in Babylon. In the second reading, Paul tells us that God is so rich in mercy that He has granted us eternal salvation and eternal life as a free gift through Christ Jesus. Today's Gospel tells us that Jesus, the Son of God, became the agent of God's salvation, not just for one sinful nation but for the sinfulness of the whole world. Through John 3:16, the Gospel teaches us that God expressed His love, mercy and compassion for us by giving His only Son for our salvation.

We need to love the cross, the symbol of God's forgiving and merciful love: The crucifix – the symbol of the "lifted up" Jesus - holds a central place in our Churches because it is a forceful reminder not only of God's love and mercy, but also of the price of our salvation. Hence, no Christian home should be without this symbol of God's love. The crucifix invites us to more than generosity and compassion. It inspires us to remove the suffering of other people's misery. It encourages us not only to feel deep sorrow for another's suffering, but also to try our best to remove that suffering.

Father Honoratus Mwageni

### Parish Staff

**Administrator: Rev. Honoratus Mwageni**

**Email: hmwageni@archchicago.org**

**Resident: Rev. Joseph Kaye**

**Parish Secretary: Susan Vicario**

**Office hours: Tuesday—Friday 10am – 1pm**

**Phone 773-785-1200 / Fax 773-785-1201**

### Lector's Schedule

Mar 14 @ 4:00 pm – Robin. Sikora

Mar 15 @ 8:30 am – Beulah Reed/Martha Gross/Barbara. Randell

Mar 15 @ 5: 00 pm - Yona. Lajeune/Carol. Juarez

March 21 @ 4:00 pm – Marlene Talaski

March 22 @ 8:30 am – Nellie Bell/Eva Sturgies/ Dolores Pettis

March 22 @ 5:00 pm – Yona Lajeune/ Carol Juarez

March 28 @ 4:00 pm – Marlene Talaski

March 29 @ 8:30 am – Julie Jamison/ James Maslanka/ Betty Taylor

March 29 @ 5:00 pm – Yona Lajeune/ Carol Juarez



Welcome to everyone who worships with us, whether visitor, long-time resident or newly arrived in the parish. If you are not registered at SS. Peter & Paul Parish, or are registered and need to make changes, please fill out the form on the table at the back of the church. Include your name address and phone number.

### FATHER AUGUSTUS TOLTON PILGRIMAGE

On Saturday April 11<sup>th</sup>, the Black Catholic Association will be hosting a local pilgrimage to historic sites associated with Father Tolton. The tour will begin at 9:00am at the Cardinal Meyer Center with the expected return around 4:00 pm.

Among the sites visited will be St. Monica's St. Elizabeth's, Mercy Hospital and Mt Olivet Cemetery. A sit down lunch will be also included in the guided

bus tour which will cost \$55 a person. The Most Reverend Bishop Joseph Perry will be the tour guide. Interested parishioners should contact the rectory.

## PARISH NEWS

**UPDATE ON TO TEACH WHO CHRIST IS:** To Teach who Christ Is Campaign is well under way. In these days some of you have met with one of the members of the Campaign Executive Committee and have already made your commitment to this campaign or you are still praying about your sacrificial gift. Some of you are still waiting to meet with a committee member. The good news is that we have already received **144%** of the pledges of our goal. This means, we have exceeded our goal! Thanks to all who have made a commitment to this campaign. For those of you who have not yet made your pledges don't think that the campaign is over because we have exceeded our goal, instead you should be more excited to make your pledge because from now on **every dollar we get beyond our goal 100% will remain in our parish!**

**WOMEN'S CLUB MINISTRY:** Based on survey results and inquiries, there is a lot of interest in starting a Sts. Peter and Paul Women's Club. On Sunday, March 22, I am asking all women of the parish who would like to become a part of this ministry to please come to the Social Center after the 8:30 am Mass. Fr. Honoratus.

**The Financial Council Meeting** will be March 18 at 7:00 pm in the rectory.

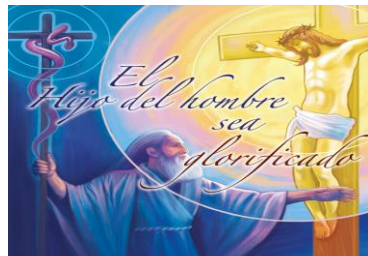
**Bake Sale:** Saints Peter and Paul will be conducting a bake sale at the weekend of March 28-29. Anyone willing to donate items should drop them off before Mass on March 28<sup>th</sup> or 29<sup>th</sup>. This is one of our fundraisers to increase our parish revenue. Thank you for your support.

**Eucharist Ministers:** Those who have been Eucharist ministers and want to continue and the new ones who want to do this ministry are asked to call the rectory as soon as possible. We are planning to have a training for them very soon.

## RAISED UP BY THE MESSIAH

Last week, when Jesus referred to the destruction of the temple, the account from today's first reading is what would have come to the minds of his listeners. But, as Jesus was speaking on a deeper level, so does today's first reading. In the first paragraph we hear that Israel had, in effect, "fallen" already through its infidelity to the covenant. Lest we get too cozy, this account reminds us that God, though just, loving, and merciful, is capable of punishing sin when that sin is unrepentant. But we are also reminded that God, rich in mercy, anoints individuals to be vessels of salvation as well (in Hebrew, King Cyrus of Persia is called "messiah"). In the Gospel reading, we hear of another Messiah being "lifted up" for our salvation in one of the best-known passages from the New Testament. As Lent concludes and we enter Holy Week, we need to keep our gaze steadfast upon the cross of Christ, the Son of God who came into the world to raise us who had fallen.

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## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

March 30

Bob Laskey

The Catholic Community of SS. Peter and Paul Church is dedicated to nurturing Christ's love among God's people. Our Mission is the mission of Jesus Christ as stewards of God's Gifts, we strive to fulfill His plan by exercising our rights and responsibilities.



### We are committed to:

Living God's Word in our lives providing for education in faith to our members sharing our faith with others, and serving our sisters and brothers. Through our participation in prayer, the Eucharist and the Sacraments, we express our unity in Christ.



Patricia Baylock, Jean Bosak, Thomas Burkhart, Gayle Campbell, Larry Campbell, June Carlson, Jim Carter, Debra Coursey, Arlene Cuprisin, Frank Dabrowski, Robert Davis, Kathe Dulinskas, Bettie Edwards, Wally and Kathy Eggert, Greg Fusco, Mary Granberry, Fr. John Harvey, Margaret Hillyard, Jozefa, Kathryn Kalloway, Andrew Knoell, Robert Koppers, Adeline Korsak, Pam Miller, Edmund Mitchell, Opis Murray, Chuck Napoli, Jim Paul, Tanis Pedretti, Jeanne Peredna, Rick Riley, Louise Rummage, Elizabeth Sanders, Julia Schade, Dolores Scott, Deborah Sharbak, Barbara Talaski, Steve Tolnai, Herman Vallo, Dan and Susan Vicario, Gloria Violante, Madeline Wellard, Joyce Schultze.

Please contact the rectory when you need to add/remove a loved one from the Prayer List. Remember to pray for the deceased of SS Peter and Paul.

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54  
Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16  
Wednesday: Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30  
Thursday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rm 4:13:16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a  
Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30  
Saturday: Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53  
Sunday: Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51:3-4, 12-15; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33 Alternate readings (Year A): Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]



# Mass Intentions for the Week



**Sunday, March 15, 2015 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

**8:30 am-** †Bernhardt Bolz – Talaski Family

**5:00 pm** – For peace – The People of the Parish

**Monday March 16, 2015**

**6:45am** – Tommy Dunn, intentions - Family

**Tuesday, March 17, 2015 - St. Patrick, Bishop**

**6:45 am-** Michael Dunn, intentions - Family

**Wednesday, March 18, 2015 - St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop, Doctor of the Church**

**6:45 am** – †Florence Garritano - Linda

**Thursday, March 19, 2015 SAINT JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

**6:45 am** – In Thanksgiving - Bob Koppers and Family

**Friday, March 20, 2015**

**6:45 am** – Pope Francis, intentions – Dolores Pogor

**Saturday, Vigil, March 21, 2015 - Sts. Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs**

**4:00 pm** – Living and Deceased Members of Pogor and Kuncitus Family – Dolores Pogor

**Sunday, March 22, 2015 - FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

**8:30 am-** O'Baryant, intentions – Barbara James

**5:00 pm** – †Irene Koppers – Bob Koppers and Family

**This week the Sanctuary Lamp will burn for the Deceased of SS Peter and Paul.**

There are still many available dates for Mass intentions in 2015. Please call the rectory if you need to request Mass intentions.

**Fourth Sunday of Lent  
March 15, 2015**

God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

— *John 3:17*



- **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confessions):** 30 minutes before every weekend Mass and other times by appointment
- **MARRIAGES:** **MUST** contact the Parish at least four months in advance and **MUST** participate in the (Pre-Cana)
- **BAPTISMS:** Arranged in advance. Please contact the Parish for additional information
- **SICK CALLS/COMMUNION FOR HOMEBOUND:** Contact the Parish immediately **773-785-1200**
- **FUNERALS:** Please contact the Rectory prior to making any arrangements
- **MOVING:** Please notify the Rectory as soon as possible so Parish records can be updated

## Weekly Collections

### STEWARDING GOD'S GIFTS

**We are always grateful to the trust given through the weekly offerings may God continue to bless us with prosperity.**

Offerings - \$3,201

Weekly Budget - \$2,771.78

If you are unable to attend Mass, we remind you to either mail in your offering or drop your envelope in the basket next time you are present at Mass. Thank you.

#### **UPCOMING SECOND OFFERINGS**

March 15 - Aid for Church in Central and Eastern Europe

March 22 – Loan Reduction

Thank you for your many gifts. "The gifts build the church and the builder provides the gifts." (Eph 4:7) It is never too early to plan for the future. Please remember Sts. Peter and Paul Church in your will.