YEAR OF SACRAMENTS

ONE WORD AT A TIME

Strengthen

The very word *confirm* means to **strengthen** or to make stronger. Baptism gives us new life in Christ and makes us sons and daughters of God in the Son, Jesus Christ. Confirmation strengthens us in that identity with another outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Even more, Confirmation makes us stronger to live out that identity.

As we walk through this world, we often feel pulled in many directions. There are many forces, some good but many quite negative, that press in on us. How will we respond? Will we feel overwhelmed and unable to do anything? From what can we draw the strength and courage to make the right decisions, to stay on course, and to follow through on our commitments? For believers who have been confirmed in the Holy Spirit, the answer lies in the strengthening that is already within us. Faith alerts us to the precious and graced resource that we carry within ourselves.

Pope Francis's Vision of Healing and Communion

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SS. PETER & PAUL ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH 12433 S. HALSTED ST. CHICAGO, IL 60628

Telephone 773-785-1200 ∞ Fax 773-785-1201 email: sspp-halsted@archchicago.org www.sspeterandpaul.parishesonline.com





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



"Alleluia" The Lord has risen

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord - April 5, 2015



Administrator: Rev. Honoratus Mwageni Email: hmwageni@archchicago.org Resident: Rev. Joseph Kaye Parish Secretary: Jennell Vaughn

> Office hours: Tuesday—Friday 10am – 1pm Phone 773-785-1200 / Fax 773-785-1201

Lector's Schedule

April 4 @ 5:30 pm – Check Eater Virgil Schedule April 5 @ 8:30 am - Barbara Randall/Martha Goss/ Michelle Reed April 5 @ 5:00 pm - Yona Lajeune/ Carol Juarez April 11 @ 4:00 pm – Marlene Talaski April 12 @ 8:30 am Julie Jamison/ Betty Taylor/ Beulah Reed April 12 @ 5:00 pm - Yona Lajeune/ Carol Juarez April 18 @ 4:00pm – M. Talaski April 19 @ 8:30am – N. Bell – J. Maslanka – E. Sturgies April 19 @ 5:00pm – Y. LeJeune – C. 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 11th, 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.

Congratulations to Michelle Reed!

Please join with us on congratulating Michelle Reed for being an awardee of the Sister Thea Bowman award.



Easter is the greatest and the most important feast in the Church. It marks the birthday of our eternal hope. The resurrection of Christ is the basis of our Christian faith. The Resurrection is the greatest of the miracles - it proves that Jesus is God. That is why St. Paul writes: "If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain; and your faith is in vain... And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is a delusion and you are still lost in your sins... But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruit of those who have fallen asleep" (I Cor 15: 14, 17, 20). If Jesus Christ did not rise from the dead, then the Church is a fraud and faith is a sham. But if he really did rise from the dead, his message is true! Without the Resurrection, Jesus would have remained forever a good person who met a tragic end. People would remember some of his teachings, and a handful of people might try to live according to them. All the basic doctrines of Christianity are founded on the truth of the Resurrection. "Jesus is Lord; he is risen" (Rom 10: 9) was the central theme of the preaching of the apostles.

Easter is the guarantee of our own resurrection. Jesus assured Martha at the tomb of Lazarus: "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me will live even though he dies" (Jn 11: 25-26). Christ will raise us up on the last day, but it is also true, in a sense, that we have already risen with Christ through our baptism. By virtue of the Holy Spirit, our Christian life is already a participation in the death and Resurrection of Christ. Easter is a feast which gives us hope and encouragement in this world of pain, sorrows and tears. It reminds us that life is worth living. Easter gives us the joyful message that we are a "resurrection people." This means that we are not supposed to lie buried in the tomb of our sins, evil habits and dangerous addictions. It gives us the good news that no tomb can hold us down anymore - not the tomb of despair, discouragement, doubt nor death. Instead, we are expected to live a joyful and peaceful life, constantly experiencing the real presence of the resurrected Lord in all the events of our lives. "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad" (Psalm 118:24).

Happy Easter!

Fr. Honoratus Mwageni

PARISH NEWS

UPDATE ON TO TEACH WHO CHRIST IS: Thanks to all who have made a commitment to this campaign. We are glad to announce that we have received **211%** pledges of our goal. For those of you who have not yet made your pledges and you are still praying when you are ready you can call one of the committee members or Fr. Honoratus to schedule a day to make your pledge. For those of you who have send your check and it has not been cashed you need to wait because the processing takes about four weeks. And for the reminder for your payment each one will be reminded according to the cycle which one chose, that is, monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or annually. In case you have questions please call 312-534-8500.

New Parish Secretary: We thank Susan Vicario for the time she has served as secretary of our parish. Now she is unable to work due to health issues. Please let us continue to remember her in our prayers. Now we have Jennell Vaughn who was a secretary at St. Helena of the Cross Parish as our new secretary. We thank her for accepting to be our secretary.

Confirmation: Parents and grandparents who have teenagers who need confirmation and have not yet called the rectory or have not talked with Fr. Honoratus are reminded to do so.

Thanks be to God! The **Sts. Peter and Paul Women's Club** had their inaugural meeting on Sunday, March 22, 2015 with 16 women in attendance. Fellowship, coffee and cake primed us, an opening prayer by member Nellie Bell was our prompt and we all responded by getting down to business . An executive board was established and our first outreach activity is scheduled for April 26th. We invite all women of the parish to join us. Our next meeting is April 26th after the 8:30 am Mass. Hope to see you there. Betty Taylor, President. CBR 773 568-1104

SEEKING

Easter Sunday is a day all about seeking. The early Christian communities gathered around the Apostles, seeking more about the life and ministry of the Lord Jesus. Saint Paul told the baptized Colossians to "seek what is above." Mary of Magdala went to the tomb, seeking to find the Lord's body so that she could anoint it. We come to church on Easter Sunday seeking many things. For some of us, this is a once-a-year journey, when we seek connection with the foundations of the Christian faith. For others, this day is the culmination of a long journey of Lenten repentance. For the newly baptized, this is the first day of a new life filled with promise and expectation. Whatever it is that we seek, let us be inspired by the disciple whom Jesus loved who, when he saw the wrappings of cloth inside the empty tomb, "saw and believed." Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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, 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. Hannah Griffin, Jessye Henderson.

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:Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11; Mt 28:8-15Tuesday:Acts 2:36-41; Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22; Jn 20:11-18Wednesday:Acts 3:1-10; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Lk 24:13-35Thursday:Acts 3:11-26; Ps 8:2ab, 5-9; Lk 24:35-48Friday:Acts 4:1-12; Ps 118:1-2, 4, 22-27a; Jn 21:1-14Saturday:Acts 4:13-21; Ps 118:1, 14-15ab, 16-21; Mk 16:9-15Sunday:Acts 4:32-35; Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24; 1 Jn 5:1-6; Jn 20:19-31



Mass Intentions for the Week



Sunday, April 5, 2015 – Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord 8:30 am- †Paul Shade – Napoli Family 5:00 pm –† Edward and Helen Kasza – Bob Koppers and Family

Monday April 6, 2015 – Monday with in the Octave of Easter 6:45am - †Albert Garritano - Linda

Tuesday, April 7, 2015 - Tuesday with in the Octave of Easter 6:45 am- †Kathe Dulinskas – Napoli Family

Wednesday, April 8, 2015 – Wednesday with in the Octave of Easter 6:45 am – †Christine White – Napoli Family

Thursday April 9, 2015 - Thursday with in the Octave of Easter 6:30 pm – †Irene Miller – Napoli Family

Friday April 10, 2015 – Friday with in the Octave of Easter 6:45 am – †Rose Clemson – Napoli Family

Saturday, April 11, 2015 Saturday with in the Octave of Easter 4:00 pm – Recovery of Kayo Juarez - Bob & Sue Talaski

Sunday, April 12, 2015 – Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday) 8:30 am- St Benedict Lay Carmelite – The St. Benedict LCC 5:00 pm –Susan V. Winblad – The Vicario 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.

> Easter Sunday April 5, 2015

I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.



- **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confessions):** 30 minutes before every weekend Mass and other times by appointment
- MARRIAGES: <u>MUST</u> contact the Parish at least four months in advance and <u>MUST</u> 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



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 - \$2,417

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

April 5 – (Easter Sunday) - Easter Gift April 12 - Monthly Sacrifice

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.