



*St. Peter's  
Catholic Church*

*...a country church in  
the city.....*

RECONCILIATION EVERY SATURDAY 3:00—3:35 PM

ROBOCALL NUMBER THAT APPEARS ON CALL FROM ST. PETER'S.....1-800-679-0847

PARISH WEBSITE [www.saintpeterscb.org](http://www.saintpeterscb.org)

PARISH PHONE NUMBER 712-322-8889

PARISH EMAIL [jeanthomas@cox.net](mailto:jeanthomas@cox.net)

Pastor

**FATHER CHARLES KOTTAS**

Deacons

Rev. Mr. Stephen Rallis

Rev. Mr. Pat Snook

DRE

Heather Olson

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Jean Thomas

Maintenance

Rob "The Happy Elf" Beck

3 DECEMBER, 2023

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## FROM FATHER CHUCK

### Feast of Immaculate Conception.

The mass schedule for the feast of the Immaculate Conception is as follows: Thursday December 7th mass at 5:30 p.m. Friday, December 8th Masses at 8:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. The Immaculate Conception is a Holy Day of Obligation please attend mass and celebrate this special Holy Day.

### Advent Materials.

I ordered more of the Advent materials because we ran out last week. These materials are on the table in the front of the church. Please take them as Advent begins today.

### Advent Message.

The Advent season is a very special time to experience the fullness of the blessings of preparing for the celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. My first thought is that I hope that everyone was able to receive the Advent materials that we have for you. The second thing that I think is most important is that all of us take some time to spend in quiet prayer so that we can truly know Jesus' great love for us. The third thing is that I hope that all of us are mindful of our financial situation and not to over spend during the season. The great gift that we can give to anyone is to share our faith and love of Jesus Christ. My last thought is that I hope all of us can spend some time in the classroom of silence so that we can know, who we are, where we are going, what is most important to us and what is least important to us. I hope that this Advent season is a time of great spiritual growth for all of us.

### Daily Masses.

The cost to heat the church is very expensive. To save money we will have all the daily masses in the Social Hall to save money, beginning Tuesday December 12. We will return to the church February 13th when Lent begins.

### Lighting of the Advent Wreath.

One of the great traditions of our church is having the first communion students light the Advent wreath. Our first communion class is small this year with ten children. We are going to start a new tradition this year and we will have many of the confirmation students light the Advent wreath also. This will be a great way for the congregation to get to know many of the young people making their first communion and their confirmation. One of the great blessings of our parish family is that our children are deeply involved in the sacred life of our parish.

### Knights of Columbus Car Washes.

The Knights of Columbus are selling car washes for Gorilla Car Wash. There are two levels of car washes, \$12.00 and \$18.00. The Knights of Columbus receive half of each sale. **THIS SPECIAL PROJECT WILL END ON THE 11TH OF DECEMBER SO BE CERTAIN TO BUY YOUR CAR WASHES BEFORE THEN. THEY MAKE EXCELLENT CHRISTMAS GIFTS.**

### Thanksgiving Day Miracle Moment.

Miracles come in many ways and this Thanksgiving Day mass was one of those miraculous times. I opened the church at 7:20 a.m. like I do most every day and waiting at the door was Leo, who serves mass for us at the 8:00 a.m. mass. Leo is from the Congo and is a refugee living here. Leo walks from his home on Sixth Avenue to come to church to serve. It was cold yet Leo walked to church to serve mass. His example is a miracle for all of us to be inspired by the he loves the church in such a wonderful way

3 DECEMBER, 2023

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Readings for December 10, 2023

1st Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

2nd Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

Mass for the Immaculate Conception, December 8 will be celebrated Thursday December 7 at 5:30 pm, Friday December 8 at 8:00 am & 5:30 pm.

St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery has wreaths for sale for placement in any Council Bluffs, Lewis Township, Gardner, or St. Joseph Cemetery. Wreaths will be placed as soon as ordered and remain until Spring. To order a wreath call Jean Thomas at St. Peter's Office 322-8889.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas® Court St. Anthony #330-Meeting Tuesday, December 5, 2023 at St. Patrick's Mass at 6:00 pm, Potluck dinner, brief meeting followed by Christmas Party and \$10 knick-knock gift exchange. GIK to Citywide Christmas Baskets. [www.cda330.org](http://www.cda330.org)

MASS SCHEDULE

Tue	12/5	8:00 am	Norma Marr
Wed	12/6	8:00 am	Jacque Rallis
Thur	12/7	5:30 pm	Robert Kirlin & Bill Epperson
Fri	12/8	8:00 am	JoAnn Kirlin
Fri	12/8	5:30 pm	Teri Regan
Sat	12/9	4:00 pm	Shirley McConnell & Ray Daugherty
Sun	12/10	8:00 am	Deceased members of K of C
Sun		10:00 am	Bill Fritzsche
Sun		Noon	Linda Schmitt

SATURDAY, 4PM December 9, 2023  
ALTAR SERVERS: Annette & Rod Nuss, Nicholas Rodenburg  
LECTORS: Jim Beck, Amy Rallis  
EUCH MINISTER: Pat Shadden  
USHERS: Jack Gross, Linda Bonham, Fred Schaben

SUNDAY, 8 AM, December 10, 2023  
ALTAR SERVERS: Connor & Elle McGrath, Grace Veit  
LECTORS: Genette Wirtz, Sean Dunphy  
EUCH MINISTER: Patti Ford  
USHERS: Russ Goesser, Andy Juranek, Gary Juranek, Keith Wirtz

SUNDAY, 10 AM December 10, 2023  
ALTAR SERVERS: Aiden Gaul, Ben Rosenberger, Aubree Brandeau  
LECTORS: Chris & Ed Fink  
EUCH MINISTER: Barb Nielsen  
USHERS: Craig Menges, Mike Nielsen, Paul Schmitz, Andrea Nelson

SUNDAY, NOON December 10, 2023  
ALTAR SERVERS: Nolan & Evelyn Duitsman, Mason Olson  
LECTORS: Mary Ramsdell, Mikayla Yanovich  
EUCH MINISTER: Susan Lorkovic  
USHERS: Chris Olson, Rob Peters, Trevor Yanovich

LIFE ACCORDING TO JEAN...

- Managing your weight around the holidays just takes a little planning. For example, I took the batteries out of my scale.
- I went on two diets, because there wasn't enough food on just the one.
- I didn't want to run today, but the ice cream truck wouldn't stop.
- You know what would make house cleaning way more fun? A maid.
- When you're a kid, it makes you feel proud when someone says, "Wow! You've gotten so big since the last time I saw you!" As an adult, not so much.
- Be sure to bring up politics at your next family dinner. It's going to save you money on Christmas gifts. Follow me for more holiday money saving tips.
- If I stretched a dollar any further, Washington would look like he's had a facelift.
- Holiday eating tips:
  - Avoid carrot sticks. Anyone who puts carrots on a holiday buffet table knows nothing of the holiday spirit.
  - Drink as much egg nog as you can. You only get it once a year, enjoy.
  - If something comes with gravy, use it, a lot.
  - Ask if the mashed potatoes are made with skim or whole milk. If they are made with skim milk, why bother.
  - Do not snack before going to the party. The whole point of going to someone else's party is to eat their food. Hello.
  - Position yourself in front of the frosted Santa cookies and the pies. They are like beautiful new shoes. If you leave them behind you'll never see them again.
  - Fruitcake. Seriously, Even I have my standards.

HAVE A GREAT WEEK, STAY SAFE, BE NICE TO EACH OTHER

FATHER'S THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

One of the things that I have been contemplating are miracle moments. A miracle moment is when we can feel the Father, Son and Holy Spirit acting in our life. A very precious miracle moment is when a baby is born. My thought for the week is for all of us to be aware of God's presence in our life and to experience at least one miracle moment in our lives this week.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday, December 6-Rel Ed 6:15 Worship Center  
9th & 10th Confirmation 6:15 hall  
Thursday, December 7 Immaculate Conception Mass 5:30  
Friday, December 8-Immaculate Conception Mass 8 am & 5:30 pm  
Sunday, December 10-Santa Claus in the Social Hall after 10:00 am Mass  
Monday, December 11-Knights of Columbus Meeting 6 pm  
Tuesday, December 12-Women's Prayer Group 6:30 hall  
Wednesday, December 13-Rel Ed 6:15 Worship Center  
9th & 10th Confirmation 6:15 hall

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