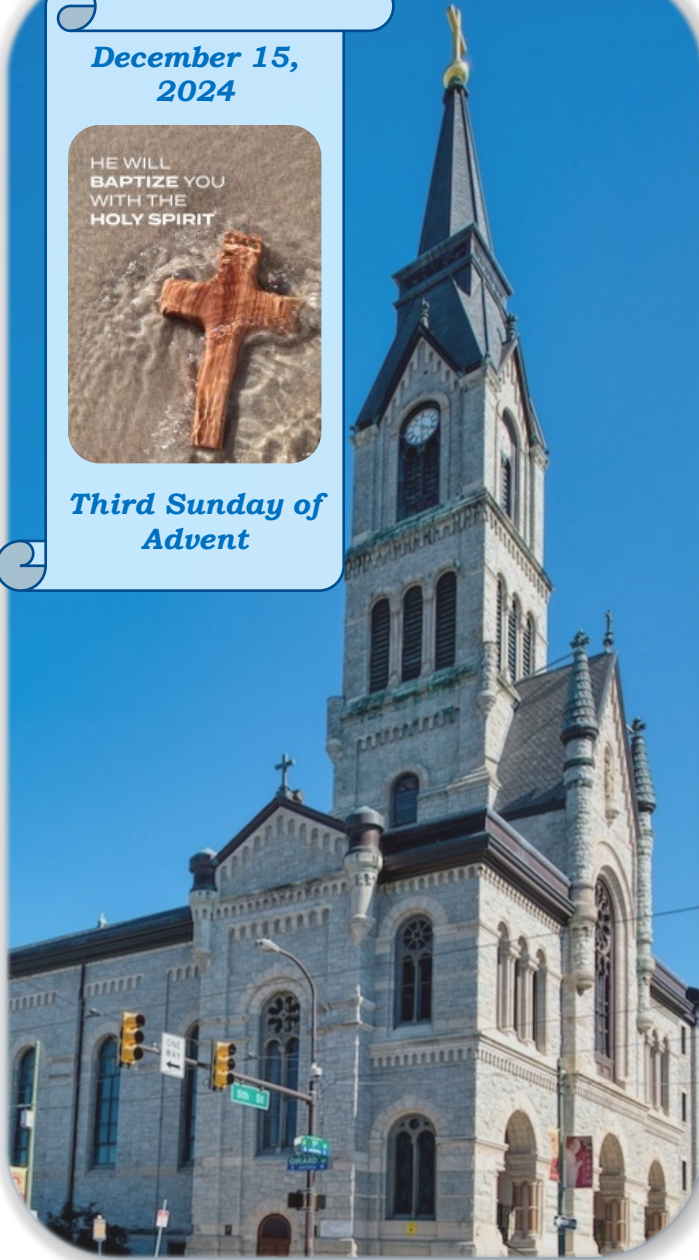


**December 15,
2024**



**Third Sunday of
Advent**



St. Peter the Apostle National Shrine of St. John Neumann

A Redemptorist Parish
www.spaphilly.org
1019 North 5th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19123

ACCREDITED BY
PRAESIDIUM
2020-2025

St. Peter's Rectory Office

(215) 627-2386 Parish fax: 215-627-4232
Email: parish.office@spaphilly.org

Very Rev. Michael Cunningham, CSsR, Pastor

Parochial Vicars – Redemptorists

Rev. Gerard Chylko, CSsR
Rev. Gerard Knapp, CSsR
Rev. Charles McDonald, CSsR

Missionaries In-Residence

Rev. Joseph Dionne, CSsR
Rev. Francis Mulvaney, CSsR
Rev. Huyen Nguyen, CSsR

Religious Education Coordinator

Mr. Nelson Malave 215-625-9755

Reverend Deacon

Rev. Mr. Miguel Betancourt

National Shrine of St. John Neumann

(215) 627-3080 Email: sjnoffice@comcast.net

Very Rev. John G. Kingsbury, C.Ss.R, Director
Sister Koreen Marie, IHM, Assistant Director

Gift Shop

(215) 627-3080 Fax: (215) 627-3296
Linda Farrell

St. Peter the Apostle School

(215) 922-5958
Email: srdanielle@stpetertheapostleschool.com

Sister Danielle Truex, IHM, Principal

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 12:15 p.m. and 5:30 p.m (Vigil).
Sunday: 7:30 a.m, 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. (Spanish),
12:30 pm
Weekdays: 7:00 a.m, 12:15 p.m., 5:30 p.m.
O.L.P.H. Novena: 7:00 p.m. (Shrine) Filipino Sponsored

CONFESSIONS

Mon - Sat: 11:45 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 10:30 a.m. (Spanish)

RECTORY OFFICE

Monday - Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday 9 a.m. - 12 noon.

GIFT SHOP SCHEDULE

Monday - Sunday: 10 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

APPOINTMENTS: You are asked to arrange an appointment in advance by telephone with the Priest you wish to see.

SICK CALLS: Emergencies & Hospital Visitation: Please contact the Rectory office.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: The Sacrament of Baptism is administered monthly. Arrangements are made in advance at the Rectory. Sponsors must provide proof of eligibility by a letter from their respective pastors, and must have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Communion, and Confirmation. Parents attend a Pre-Jordan meeting prior to Baptism, which is arranged at a mutually convenient time.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Arrangements must be made with the pastor at least six months before the date of the wedding. Pre-Cana instructions are required. Couples rather than parents or wedding coordinators should contact the church. If either party was previously married, an annulment must be granted prior to the selection of a future wedding date.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

5:30 PM † Roxana Graulau - rb: Eneida Davila

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

7:30 AM Purgatorian Society

9:30 AM † Joan Hammel - rb: Children & Grandchildren

11:00 AM Parish Family and † Jose Luis Santiago Colon –
rb: Ada Olivo

12:30 PM † Mildred Grace – rb: Madeleine Johnson

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

7:00 AM Purgatorian Society

12:15 PM † Vincent Onugu - rb: Chuka Onugu

5:30 PM † Efrain Torres & Reynel del Valle - rb: Haydee
Velazquez

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

7:00 AM Purgatorian Society

12:15 PM † Sr. M. Milada Sukany, SSCM – rb: Mary
Giampietro

5:30 PM † Thomas Barnes - rb: Karl Buchert

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

7:00 AM Purgatorian Society

12:15 PM OLPH MASS LEAGE

5:30 PM † Amando Baez - rb: Haydee Velazquez

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

7:00 AM Purgatorian Society

12:15 PM † Thomas McGrath Sr. - rb: Patricia McGrath

5:30 PM Dejah O'Bryan - rb: Eneida Davila

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

7:00 AM Purgatorian Society

12:15 PM Neumann Guild

5:30 PM † Thomas McGrath - rb: Patricia McGrath

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

12:15 PM OLPH MASS LEAGE

REMEMBER THE SICK OF THE PARISH

In your prayers, please keep in mind our sick, homebound, and those in healthcare facilities including: Fr. Gerard Brinkmann CSsR, Jennifer Woods, Andrew Boyle, John Paul Gordon, Jr., Rose M. Noordzy, Charles Lovett, Mary Zajac, Aelya Farrell, Elsie Cintron, Leonor Alfonso, William Santos, Mia Cassoli, Gail Warren, Matthew Lee, Robert Federico, Shawn Wojciechowicz, Clara Torres, Ada Olivo, John Fairey, Carmen Rodriguez, Crecensia Ayala, Luis Soler, Jr., Wayne Shaak, Jacob Rivera, Grazyna Kolondra, Michaela Breslin, Jose Dorotan M.D., Rodolfo Suarez, June Ambrose, Minerva and Saulo Pena and Michael Miccilo. *Please call the rectory office to add a name.*

1-125



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners,

This Sunday's Gospel continues last week's focus on John the Baptist and his role in

preparing the way for Christ. Recall that last week's reading described John's appearance in the desert and established his connection with the prophetic tradition of Israel. If we were to read Luke's Gospel continuously, we would learn about John the Baptist challenging the crowds who came to him and calling upon them to show evidence of their repentance. John tells his listeners that they cannot rely on their lineage as Israelites because children of Abraham can be raised up from stones. Repentance, rather, must be observable in one's actions. Here, Luke is continuing to set up two important themes of his Gospel message: the Christian faith is expressed in one's actions, and the call to salvation is extended to everyone, Jews and Gentiles.

In today's Gospel reading, the crowds ask John the Baptist for specifics. What evidence of repentance is required? John replies by naming concrete actions: crowds should share their food and cloaks; tax collectors should be just; soldiers should act fairly. The concern for justice is a hallmark of Luke's Gospel.

When the crowd begins to wonder if John the Baptist might be the Messiah, John interprets his baptism and makes it clear that his ministry is in preparation for the Messiah. John the Baptist knows his place and role in God's plan of salvation. By encouraging the crowd to act similarly in accordance with their stations in life, John's teaching suggests that each person has a role to play in God's salvation. It is the great mystery of our salvation that God permits and even asks for human cooperation in his divine plans.

The third Sunday of Advent is also called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is a Latin word that means "rejoice." This name is taken from the entrance antiphon for Sunday's Mass, which is also echoed in today's second reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians. Some people mark this Sunday by lighting a pink candle instead of a purple one on their Advent wreath. It is a reminder that the Advent season is a season of joy because our salvation is already at hand.

(<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year>)

Blessings,

Fr. Mike



ST. PETER THE APOSTLE CHURCH

REGISTER WITH OUR PARISH

We are updating our registration records and invite you to make any changes to your household record or register with our parish if you're new to our church!



**SUNDAY
DECEMBER 15
AFTER 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM
AND 12:30 PM MASS**

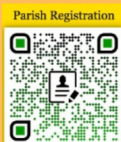


What to Expect

- On-site registration assistance in the Atrium from our Parish Secretary Eneida
- Hard copy form to complete in person, or QR code to register online (see below)



UPDATE YOUR RECORD OR REGISTER WITH OUR PARISH!



THE ROSARY

We invite you to join us each day at 11:55 a.m. in the Shrine as we pray the Rosary for peace. Please come and pray with us.



ELECTRONIC GIVING



Go to the page: spaphilly.org tab **Donate** and select the link with the **Parish Giving Logo**
Follow the simple instructions

Celestial Wonders: A Glimpse into God's Creation

The Wild Duck Cluster, located 6,200 light-years from St. Peter the Apostle Church, is a stunning open star cluster with about 2,900 stars. It showcases the beauty of God's universe.



SANCTUARY CANDLES

This week, the candles in the sanctuaries will burn for the following intentions:

Blessed Sacrament Altar (Lower Church)

Nguyen Family - rb: Le Nguyen

OLPH Shrine (Upper Church)

Little Family - rb: Nora Little

St. John Neumann Altar

Nguyen Family - rb: Le Nguyen

Blessed Sacrament Altar (Upper Church)

Joan Ambrose - rb: Donald Ambrose

Redemptorist Chapel

Available



The Announced Mass book is now open for 2025. Please bring your intention and donation to the Parish Office.

Each intention is \$10.

LA MISA DE HOY

11:00 AM Familia Parroquial Y † Jose Luis Santiago
Colon – sp: Ada Olivo

CONFESIONES EN ESPAÑOL

10:30 AM

DONACIONES DE UNITED WAY

Si usted contribuye a United Way a través de su trabajo, favor considere designar a la **Escuela San Pedro, United Way #52989**, para que su donación ayude a nuestra escuela.

VELA DEL SANTUARIO

Esta semana, las velas de los santuarios se encenderán por las siguientes intenciones:

Altar del Santísimo Sacramento (Iglesia de Abajo)

Familia Nguyen - sp: Le Nguyen

Santuario de Nuestra Señora del Perpetuo Socorro (Iglesia de Arriba)

Familia Little - sp: Nora Little

Altar de San Juan Neumann

Familia Nguyen - sp: Le Nguyen

Altar del Santísimo Sacramento (Iglesia de Arriba)

Joan Ambrose - sp: Donald Ambrose

Capilla de los Redentoristas

Disponibile

RECORDEMOS A LOS ENFERMOS DE LA PARROQUIA

En sus oraciones, por favor, tenga en cuenta a nuestros enfermos, confinados en casa, y aquellos en los centros de salud, incluyendo: Fr. Gerard Brinkmann CSsR, Jennifer Woods, Andrew Boyle, John Paul Gordon, Jr., Rose M. Noordzy, Charles Lovett, Mary Zajac, Aelya Farrell, Elsie Cintron, Leonor Alfonso, William Santos, Mia Cassoli, Gail Warren, Matthew Lee, Robert Federico, Shawn Wojciechowicz, Clara Torres, Ada Olivo, John Fairey, Carmen Rodriguez, Crecensia Ayala, Luis Soler, Jr., Wayne Shaak, Jacob Rivera, Grazyna Kolondra, Michaela Breslin, Jose Dorotan M.D., Rodolfo Suarez, June Ambrose, Minerva and Saulo Pena and Michael Miccilo. Favor de llamar a la rectoría para incluir un nombre en la lista.

3-125



DEL ESCRITORIO DEL PASTOR

Queridos Feligreses,

El Evangelio de este domingo continúa con el enfoque de la semana pasada sobre Juan el

Bautista y su papel en la preparación del camino para Cristo. Recordemos que la lectura de la semana pasada describió la aparición de Juan en el desierto y estableció su conexión con la tradición profética de Israel. Si leyéramos el Evangelio de Lucas de manera continua, aprenderemos que Juan el Bautista desafió a las multitudes que acudían a él y las llamó a mostrar evidencia de su arrepentimiento. Juan les dice a sus oyentes que no pueden confiar en su linaje como israelitas porque los hijos de Abraham pueden ser resucitados de las piedras. El arrepentimiento, más bien, debe ser observable en las acciones de uno. Aquí, Lucas continúa estableciendo dos temas importantes de su mensaje evangélico: la fe cristiana se expresa en las acciones de uno, y el llamado a la salvación se extiende a todos, judíos y gentiles.

En el Evangelio de hoy, la multitud le pide a Juan Bautista que dé detalles. ¿Qué pruebas de arrepentimiento se exigen? Juan responde nombrando acciones concretas: las multitudes deben compartir su comida y sus mantos; los recaudadores de impuestos deben ser justos; los soldados deben actuar con equidad. La preocupación por la justicia es un sello distintivo del Evangelio de Lucas.

Cuando la multitud comienza a preguntarse si Juan el Bautista podría ser el Mesías, Juan interpreta su bautismo y deja en claro que su ministerio es una preparación para el Mesías. Juan el Bautista conoce su lugar y su papel en el plan de salvación de Dios. Al alentar a la multitud a actuar de manera similar de acuerdo con su posición en la vida, la enseñanza de Juan sugiere que cada persona tiene un papel que desempeñar en la salvación de Dios. El gran misterio de nuestra salvación es que Dios permite e incluso pide la cooperación humana en sus planes divinos.

El tercer domingo de Adviento también se llama domingo Gaudete. Gaudete es una palabra latina que significa “regocijaos”. Este nombre proviene de la antifona de entrada de la misa del domingo, que también se repite en la segunda lectura de hoy de la carta de Pablo a los Filipenses. Algunas personas celebran este domingo encendiendo una vela rosa en lugar de una violeta en su corona de Adviento. Es un recordatorio de que la temporada de Adviento es una temporada de alegría porque nuestra salvación ya está cerca.

(<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year>)

Bendiciones,
Padre Mike

STORYBOOKS AND SMILES

Book Donation Drive



Pay it forward and donate a new book to assist women and children at a local shelter!

HELP SUPPORT OUR ALTAR SERVER GIANCARLO SORICILLO WITH HIS 7TH GRADE NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY SERVICE PROJECT, BY PURCHASING A BOOK FROM THE TARGET OR AMAZON REGISTRY BELOW, OR DROP OFF A NEW BOOK OF YOUR CHOICE TO THE RECTORY OFFICE.



AMAZON



TARGET

DROP OFF LOCATION

RECTORY OFFICE THROUGH FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20TH

EL ROSARIO

Les invitamos a unirse a nosotros todos los días a las 11:55AM en el Santuario a rezar el Rosario por la paz. Venga y únase a nosotros con el arma espiritual.



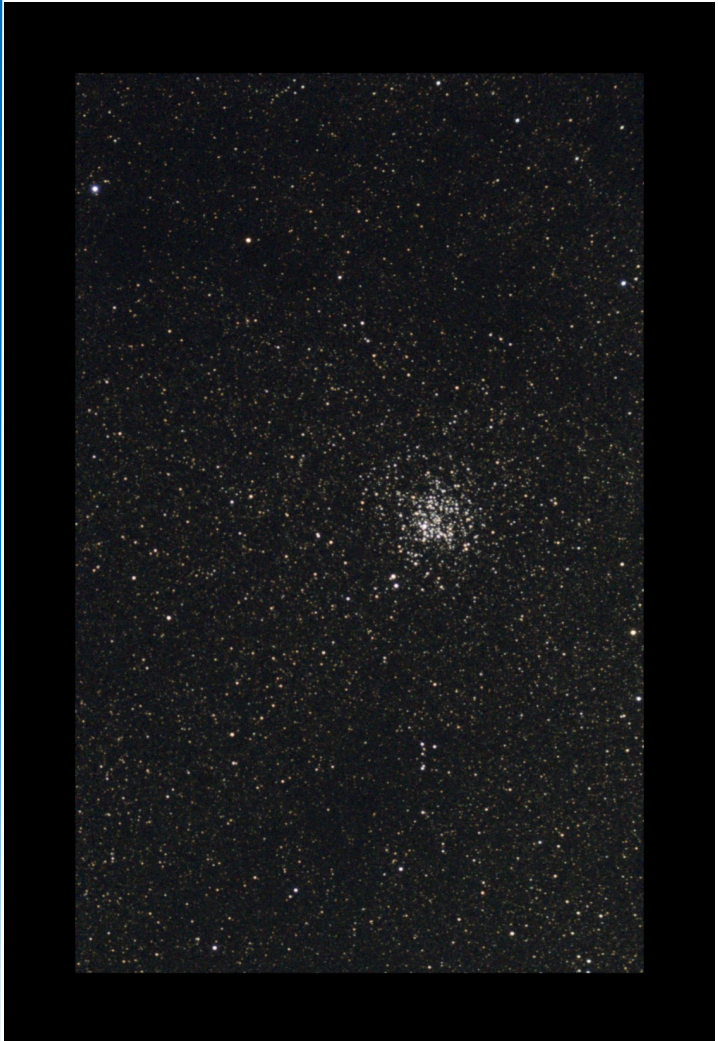
DONACION ELECTRONICA

Ingrese a la página spaphilly.org y seleccione el enlace bajo el logotipo **Parish Giving**. Siga las sencillas instrucciones para registrarse.



Maravillas celestiales: una mirada a la creación de Dios

El cúmulo de los patos salvajes, ubicado a 6200 años luz de la iglesia de San Pedro Apóstol, es un impresionante cúmulo estelar abierto con aproximadamente 2900 estrellas. Muestra la belleza del universo de Dios.



A message from our Pastor,

FR. MICHAEL CUNNINGHAM, CSSR



UNITED IN FAITH AND LOVE Program

ON COMMITMENT WEEKEND, NOVEMBER 23RD AND 24TH, I INVITE EACH OF YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS IMPORTANT PROGRAM AND HELP US RESPOND TO GOD'S GREAT GIFT OF LOVE. I ASK THAT YOU PLEASE REVIEW THE BROCHURE YOU SHOULD RECEIVE IN THE MAIL AND PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER HOW YOU AND YOUR FAMILY CAN HELP ST. PETER THE APOSTLE CHURCH BY FINANCIALLY SUPPORTING OUR MINISTRIES, FURTHERING OUR MISSION, AND REINFORCING OUR FUTURE.

WE ASK THAT ALL FAITHFUL PARISHIONERS COMPLETE A COMMITMENT CARD. A CARD WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE BROCHURE MAILING FOR YOU TO:

- MAIL TO THE CHURCH USING THE PRE-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE
- BRING YOUR CARD TO MASS NEXT SUNDAY
- OR YOU MAY VISIT OUR PARISH WEBSITE AT WWW.SPAPHILLY.ORG AND COMPLETE AN ELECTRONIC COMMITMENT CARD

THE BACK OF THE COMMITMENT CARD HAS A PLACE FOR YOU TO INCLUDE ANY PRAYER INTENTIONS YOU WISH TO SHARE. WE WELCOME ALL INTENTIONS AND THEY WILL BE PRAYED FOR COLLECTIVELY OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK TO A PRIEST, PLEASE INDICATE SO ON YOUR CARD AND WE WILL BE IN CONTACT WITH YOU. OUR GOAL IS 100% PARTICIPATION. THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT OF ST. PETER THE APOSTLE CHURCH!



ST. PETER THE APOSTLE PARISH CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH:
REGULAR WEEKDAY MASSES IN SHRINE
AT 7:00 AM AND 12:15PM

CHOIR CONCERT AT 5:00 PM
VIGIL MASS AT 5:30 PM IN THE UPPER CHURCH
NO CONFESSIONS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25TH:
9:30 AM (ENGLISH) AND 11:00 AM (SPANISH)
IN THE UPPER CHURCH, NO CONFESSIONS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1ST:
9:30 AM IN THE SHRINE
NO CONFESSIONS

SIMBANG

2024 SCHEDULE

THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF ST. JOHN NEUMANN

Gabi

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13-FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

7:00 pm in the Shrine

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

6:30 pm in the Shrine, followed by
the Nativity Play and Christmas Party in the SJN Center

for information and sponsorship
requests, please call 856.425.8870



THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF ST. JOHN NEUMANN
1019 N. 5TH STREET IN PHILADELPHIA

Holiday Christmas Card Donation Drive

Gift cards of \$10 or above to Wawa,
Dunkin, Target, ShopRite, etc.

Help make the holidays special for
DEPAUL:
St. Raymond's House, Depaul House,
and St. Joseph's House.

These programs serve formerly homeless
individuals and housing-insecure college
students in our area.

DONATIONS CAN BE BROUGHT TO THE
RECTORY OFFICE.

Join us for the ST. JOHN NEUMANN FEAST DAY Masses

**SUNDAY,
JANUARY 5TH
FEAST DAY**

12:30 PM
Upper Church

Rev. Jerome Chavarria, C.Ss.R.
Coordinator
Conference of Redemptorists
of North America

**MONDAY,
JANUARY 6TH**

12:15 PM
Upper Church

Bishop Bruce A. Lewandowski,
C.Ss.R.
Titular Bishop of Croae
Auxiliary Bishop of Baltimore

