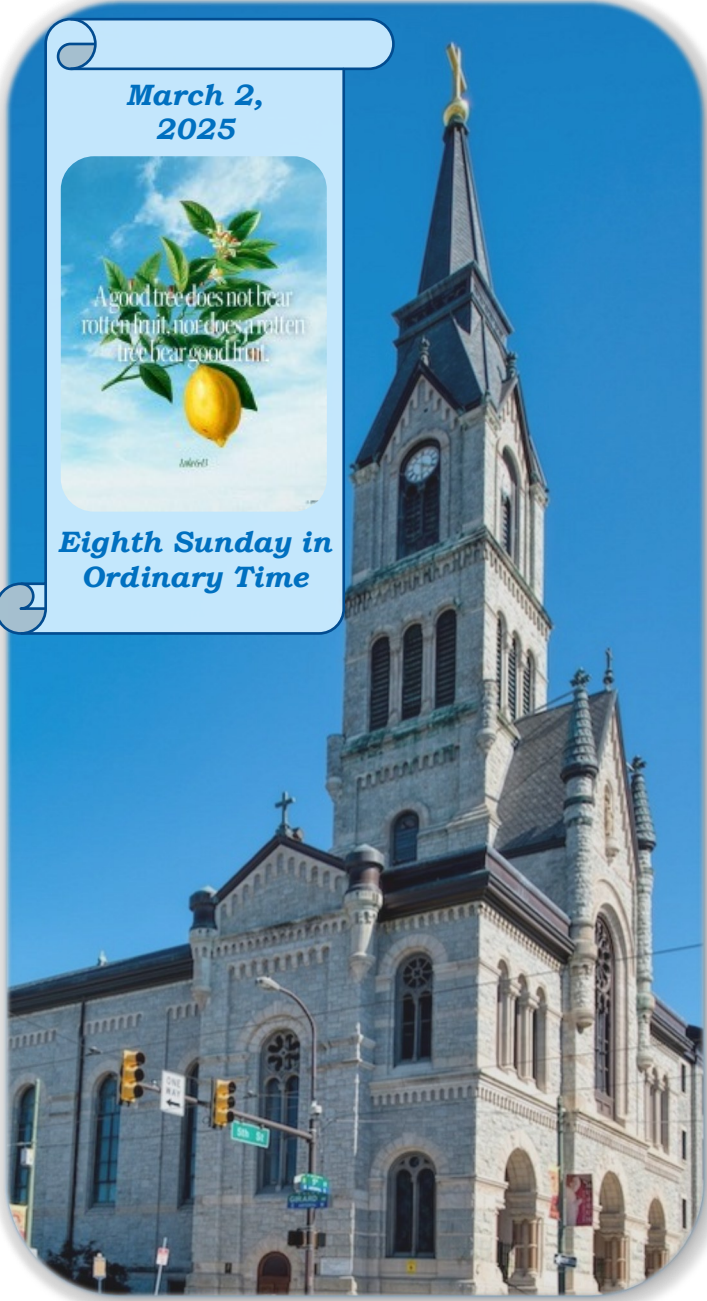


March 2,
2025



**Eighth Sunday in
Ordinary Time**



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, MARCH 1

5:30 PM Ronald Murray - rb: Eneida Davila

SUNDAY, MARCH 2

7:30 AM Purgatorian Society

9:30 AM † Robert Rachko - rb: Michelle and Brendan Devlin

11:00 AM Parish Family and † Arelis Hernandez – rb: Junaira Hernandez

12:30 PM † Dominic and Maria Nguyen - rb: Le Nguyen

MONDAY, MARCH 3

7:00 AM Purgatorian Society

12:15 PM Sr Maeve Nativitas – rb: Campione Family

5:30 PM † Tim Rossiter - rb: Bernadette and Family

TUESDAY, MARCH 4

7:00 AM Purgatorian Society

12:15 PM † Angel Freddy Betancourt –rb: Nydia Betancourt

5:30 PM Editha Andriputri - rb: Donny Han Jaya

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5 - *Ash Wednesday*

7:00 AM Purgatorian Society

12:15 PM OLPH MASS LEAGE

5:30 PM † Howard Walton - rb: Greg Walton

THURSDAY, MARCH 6

7:00 AM Purgatorian Society

12:15 PM † Josephine Scicchitano - rb: Anthony Scicchitano

5:30 PM † Celestino Rivera - rb: Deacon Miguel & Nydia Betancourt

FRIDAY, MARCH 7

7:00 AM Purgatorian Society

12:15 PM Neumann Guild

5:30 PM † Denise Marie Bryan - rb: Geri Kotch

SATURDAY, MARCH 8

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, Clara Torres, Ada Olivo, John Fairey, Wayne Shaak, Jacob Rivera, Michaela Breslin, Jose Dorotan M.D., Rodolfo Suarez, June Ambrose, Minerva and Saulo Pena, Michael Miccilo, Marcelino Casiano, Luz Martines, Juana Ortiz, Collette Berg, Mary Zajac, King Phoenix Santiago Cruz, Charles Ambrose, Donald Ambrose, Ann Pham, Richard Simpson, Danielle Sorrichillo, and Jack Michael Little. *Please call the rectory office to add a name.*



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners,

Ash Wednesday

The first day of Lent

Ash Wednesday is one of the most popular and important holy days in the liturgical calendar. Ash Wednesday opens Lent, a season of fasting and prayer.

Ash Wednesday takes place 46 days before Easter Sunday and is chiefly observed by Catholics, although many other Christians observe it too.

Ash Wednesday comes from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting. The practice includes the wearing of ashes on the head. The ashes symbolize the dust from which God made us. As the priest applies the ashes to a person's forehead, he speaks the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Alternatively, the priest may speak the words, "Repent and believe in the Gospel."

Ashes also symbolize grief, in this case, grief that we have sinned and caused division from God.

Writings from the Second-century Church refer to the wearing of ashes as a sign of penance.

Priests administer ashes during Mass, and all are invited to accept the ashes as a visible symbol of penance. Even non-Christians and the excommunicated are welcome to receive the ashes. The ashes are made from blessed palm branches, taken from the previous year's Palm Sunday Mass.

It is important to remember that Ash Wednesday is a day of penitential prayer and fasting. Some faithful take the rest of the day off work and remain home. It is generally inappropriate to dine out, to shop, or to go about in public after receiving the ashes. Feasting is highly inappropriate. Small children, the elderly, and the sick are exempt from this observance.

It is not required that a person wear the ashes for the rest of the day, and they may be washed off after Mass. However, many people keep the ashes as a reminder until the evening.

Recently, movements have developed that involve pastors distributing ashes to passersby in public places. This isn't considered taboo, but Catholics should know this practice is distinctly Protestant. Catholics should still receive ashes within the context of Mass.

In some cases, ashes may be delivered by a priest or a family member to those who are sick or shut in.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. It is a season of penance, reflection, and fasting that prepares us for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday, through which we attain redemption.

Why we receive the ashes.

Following the example of the Ninevites, who did penance in sackcloth and ashes, our foreheads are marked with ashes to humble our hearts and remind us that life passes away on Earth. We remember this when we are told.

"Remember, you are dust, and unto dust, you shall return."

Ashes are a symbol of penance made sacramental by the blessing of the Church, and they help us develop a spirit of humility and sacrifice.

The distribution of ashes comes from a ceremony of ages past. Christians who had committed grave faults performed public penance. On Ash Wednesday, the Bishop blessed the hair shirts which they were to wear during the forty days of penance and sprinkled over them ashes made from the palms from the previous year. Then, while the faithful recited the Seven Penitential Psalms, the penitents were turned out of the church because of their sins -- just as Adam, the first man, was turned out of Paradise because of his disobedience. The penitents did not enter the church again until Maundy Thursday after having won reconciliation by the toil of forty days' penance and sacramental absolution. Later, all Christians, whether public or secret penitents, came to receive ashes out of devotion. In earlier times, the distribution of ashes was followed by a penitential procession.

The Ashes

The ashes are made from the blessed palms used in the Palm Sunday celebration of the previous year. The ashes are christened with Holy Water and are scented by exposure to incense. While the ashes symbolize penance and contrition, they are also a reminder that God is gracious and merciful to those who call on Him with repentant hearts. His Divine mercy is of utmost importance during the season of Lent, and the Church calls on us to seek that mercy during the entire Lenten season with reflection, prayer, and penance.

Catholic Online (<https://www.catholic.org/lent/ashwed.php>)

Blessings,
Fr Mike

WEEKEND COLLECTION - 2/16/2025

Masses	\$3,135.00
Envelopes Mailed - Offerings	\$90.00
Electronic Giving -	\$1,467.00
<hr/>	
Total.....	\$4,692.00
Total 2nd Collection.....	\$895.00

WEEKEND COLLECTION - 2/23/2025

Masses	\$2,838.38
Envelopes Mailed - Offerings	\$350.00
Electronic Giving -	\$1,711.50
<hr/>	
Total.....	\$4,899.88
Total 2nd Collection.....	\$974.27

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)***
Available
- Redemptorist Chapel***
Available

DEPAUL
Homelessness has no place

We are partnering again with Depaul USA, an organization that operates 5 different programs in Philadelphia providing services to people experiencing homelessness. As Lent approaches, we plan to offer more support to those programs by addressing some of the physical needs of the residents. As we enter the season of sacrifice and hope, we will collect specific items needed by the residents every Sunday in Lent. We also will need volunteers to deliver the goods to Depaul.

Contact the Rectory at 215.627.2386 with questions, and thanks for your support!

- MARCH 9: toilet paper, paper towels and disinfectant wipes
- MARCH 16: toothbrushes, toothpaste and deodorant
- MARCH 23: cereal bars and breakfast items that don't require milk, spoons, forks and mugs. Utensils don't need to be new but should be in good condition
- MARCH 30: laundry detergent

DROP OFF TO THE RECTORY
OR BIN LOCATED IN THE UPPER CHURCH VESTIBULE
EVERY SUNDAY IN LENT

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

-SIGN UP FOR ELECTRONIC GIVING-

LA MISA DE HOY

11:00 AM Familia Parroquial y † Arelis Hernandez –
sp: Junaira Hernandez

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)

Disponible

Capilla de los Redentoristas

Disponible

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, Clara Torres, Ada Olivo, John Fairey, Wayne Shaak, Jacob Rivera, Michaela Breslin, Jose Dorotan M.D., Rodolfo Suarez, June Ambrose, Minerva and Saulo Pena, Michael Miccilo, Marcelino Casiano, Luz Martines, Juana Ortiz, Collette Berg, Mary Zajac, King Phoenix Santiago Cruz, Charles Ambrose, Donald Ambrose, Ann Pham, Richard Simpson, Danielle Sorrichillo, and Jack Michael Little Favor de llamar a la rectoría para incluir un nombre en la lista.



DEL ESCRITORIO DEL PASTOR

Queridos Feligreses,

Miércoles de ceniza

El primer día de Cuaresma

El Miércoles de Ceniza es uno de los días santos más populares e importantes del calendario litúrgico. El Miércoles de Ceniza abre la Cuaresma, una temporada de ayuno y oración.

El Miércoles de Ceniza tiene lugar 46 días antes del Domingo de Pascua y lo celebran principalmente los católicos, aunque muchos otros cristianos también lo celebran.

El Miércoles de Ceniza proviene de la antigua tradición judía de penitencia y ayuno. La práctica incluye el uso de cenizas en la cabeza. Las cenizas simbolizan el polvo del que Dios nos hizo. Cuando el sacerdote aplica las cenizas en la frente de una persona, pronuncia las palabras: "Recuerda que eres polvo, y en polvo volverás".

Alternativamente, el sacerdote puede pronunciar las palabras: "Arrepiéntanse y crean en el Evangelio". Las cenizas también simbolizan el dolor, en este caso, el dolor por haber pecado y haber causado división de Dios.

Los escritos de la Iglesia del siglo II se refieren al uso de cenizas como signo de penitencia. Los sacerdotes administran las cenizas durante la misa y todos están invitados a aceptarlas como símbolo visible de penitencia. Incluso los no cristianos y los excomulgados son bienvenidos a recibir las cenizas. Las cenizas se elaboran con ramas de palma bendecidas, extraídas de la misa del Domingo de Ramos del año anterior.

Es importante recordar que el Miércoles de Ceniza es un día de oración penitencial y ayuno. Algunos fieles se toman el resto del día libre en el trabajo y se quedan en casa. Generalmente es inapropiado salir a cenar, ir de compras o andar en público después de recibir las cenizas. Festejar es muy inapropiado. Están exentos de esta observancia los niños pequeños, los ancianos y los enfermos.

No es necesario que una persona use las cenizas durante el resto del día y pueden lavarse después de la Misa. Sin embargo, muchas personas guardan las cenizas como recordatorio hasta la noche.

Recientemente, se han desarrollado movimientos que involucran a pastores que distribuyen cenizas a los transeúntes en lugares públicos. Esto no es considerado tabú, pero los católicos deben saber que esta práctica es claramente protestante. Los católicos aún deberían recibir las cenizas en el contexto de la Misa.

En algunos casos, un sacerdote o un familiar puede entregar las cenizas a quienes están enfermos o reclusos.

~ Noticias de la Parroquia ~

El Miércoles de Ceniza marca el inicio del Tiempo de Cuaresma. Es un tiempo de penitencia, reflexión y ayuno que nos prepara para la Resurrección de Cristo el Domingo de Pascua, a través de la cual alcanzamos la redención.

Por qué recibimos las cenizas.

Siguiendo el ejemplo de los ninivitas, que hacían penitencia en cilicio y ceniza, nuestras frentes están marcadas con ceniza para humillar nuestros corazones y recordarnos que la vida pasa en la Tierra. Recordamos esto cuando nos lo dicen.

"Recuerda que eres polvo, y al polvo volverás". Las cenizas son un símbolo de penitencia sacramental gracias a la bendición de la Iglesia y nos ayudan a desarrollar un espíritu de humildad y sacrificio.

La distribución de las cenizas proviene de una ceremonia de tiempos pasados. Los cristianos que habían cometido faltas graves hacían penitencia pública. El Miércoles de Ceniza, el Obispo bendecía los cilicios que debían llevar durante los cuarenta días de penitencia y rociaba sobre ellos cenizas de las palmas del año anterior. Luego, mientras los fieles recitaban los Siete Salmos Penitenciales, los penitentes fueron expulsados de la iglesia a causa de sus pecados, tal como Adán, el primer hombre, fue expulsado del Paraíso a causa de su desobediencia. Los penitentes no volvieron a entrar en la iglesia hasta el Jueves Santo, después de haber logrado la reconciliación mediante el trabajo de cuarenta días de penitencia y la absolución sacramental. Posteriormente, todos los cristianos, ya fueran penitentes públicos o secretos, llegaron a recibir las cenizas por devoción. Antiguamente, a la distribución de las cenizas le seguía una procesión penitencial.

Las cenizas

Las cenizas se elaboran a partir de las palmas bendecidas utilizadas en la celebración del Domingo de Ramos del año anterior. Las cenizas se bautizan con Agua Bendita y se perfuman mediante la exposición al incienso. Si bien las cenizas simbolizan la penitencia y la contrición, también son un recordatorio de que Dios es clemente y misericordioso con aquellos que lo invocan con corazones arrepentidos. Su Divina misericordia es de suma importancia durante el tiempo de Cuaresma, y la Iglesia nos llama a buscar esa misericordia durante todo el tiempo de Cuaresma con reflexión, oración y penitencia.

Bendiciones,
Padre Mike

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

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



COLECTAS DEL FIN DE SEMANA 2/16/2025

Misas	\$3,135.00
Sobres por Correo - Ofrendas	\$90.00
Donaciones Electrónicas -	\$1,467.00

Total.....	\$4,692.00
<i>Total 2a colecta.....</i>	<i>\$895.00</i>

COLECTAS DEL FIN DE SEMANA 2/23/2025

Misas	\$2,838.38
Sobres por Correo - Ofrendas	\$350.00
Donaciones Electrónicas -	\$1,711.50

Total.....	\$4,899.88
<i>Total 2a colecta.....</i>	<i>\$974.27</i>



VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS NEEDED!



CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!
WE NEED YOUR HELP FOR
OUR ANNUAL SOUP AND
BREAD SUPPER 3/13/25

This soup and bread supper has been a beautiful ongoing tradition since 2018, to help center everyone on Lent and provide fellowship amongst Parishioners. Everyone is welcome to attend and it's FREE, immediately following the 5:30 pm mass on Thursday, 3/13. We need contributions of one or more of the following:

- Soup and bread of any kind
- Paper products
- Water or non-alcoholic beverages
- Volunteers to help serve soup to attendees, set-up or clean-up

SIGN UP AT THE
RECTORY OFFICE
TODAY OR THROUGH
THIS SIGN UP GENIUS
LINK:

[HTTPS://WWW.SIGNUPGENIUS.COM/GO/10C0E49ADAA2EA7F5C70-47926628-FRIDAY](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e49adaa2ea7f5c70-47926628-friday)

SOUP AND BREAD

Supper

13 March | Thursday
2025

A SIMPLE SOUP AND BREAD DINNER
WILL BE SERVED
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING 5:30 PM MASS
FROM 6-7:30 PM
AT THE ST. JOHN NEUMANN CENTER
1039 N. LAWRENCE STREET

FREE ADMISSION

Leaders & Achievers AWARDS

AN EVENT BENEFITING SAINT PETER THE APOSTLE SCHOOL

The 2025 Leaders & Achievers Awards

is a semi-formal event with an award presentation followed by a cocktail reception with music, a silent auction and open seating.



Thursday, April 10, 2025
6-9 PM

Honoring

Connie Milek & Caden Huff '25

SAINT JOHN NEUMANN CENTER
1039 N Lawrence St | Philadelphia, PA 19123

Scan the QR code
to purchase tickets
or sponsorship



For additional information, please contact Teresa Przybylski, Director of Advancement & Enrollment at tprzybylski@stpetertheapostleschool.com or 215-922-5958.



ASH WEDNESDAY REMINDERS

Services

5 March 2025 | Ashes will be distributed at every service

7 AM MASS: LOWER CHURCH
12:15 PM MASS: UPPER CHURCH
5:30 PM MASS: LOWER CHURCH
7:00 PM NOVENA: LOWER CHURCH