2835 MANOR ROAD WEST BRANDYWINE, PA 19320 www.saintpeterchurch.net



Phone: 610-380-9045; Fax: 610-380-9049 Office e-mail: office@saintpeterchurch.net



MAY 9, 2021





Catholic Schools and COVID response.

Avi Wolfman-Arent February 21, 2021

About 100 elementary schools in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia have been open for full-time, face-to-face education since the school year began. Together, the schools host about 35,000 educators and children in buildings every day, according to the archdiocese. Archdiocesan high schools, meanwhile, have been open on a hybrid schedule.

While public debate swirls over whether (some public schools) should reopen school buildings on a part-time basis... Leaders say they've managed to do so safely. Schools in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia share the same geography as the city's public schools. And perhaps more than any other school system in the region, the parochial sector shares the public schools' legacy of contraction, tight budgets, and, in some places, aging infrastructure.

Using bedrock mitigation strategies, the parochial system believes it's kept kids safer in schools than they would've been in the outside world. They're determined to keep it that way.

"We're gonna hold the course until June," said Andrew McLaughlin, the archdiocese's secretary of elementary education. About 30% of the system's elementary schools — which span the city and suburbs — have shifted to virtual education temporarily at some point because they were in a county that recommended temporary school closures or because they registered enough individual cases to trigger automatic, temporary closure under state guidelines.

Parochial school officials claim contact tracing showed that those cases were brought in from the broader community — not spread within schools. The archdiocese's safety plan for elementary schools...emphasizes student cohorting so that children stay in the same group all day, which limits the chances of unchecked transmission throughout a building. It focuses on physical distancing in classrooms, mandatory mask-wearing, regular cleaning of surfaces, and at-home health screening by families. The opt-in rate among parochial school families is roughly triple the rate for school district families, and it highlights an area where the two systems seem to diverge: trust.

COVID only added to the financial pressure for many private and parochial schools. If families want in-person learning and don't receive it, they can take their tuition dollars elsewhere. Public school budgets aren't as susceptible to short-term enrollment shocks — another factor that could explain the difference between public and parochial staff reactions. Also key to note: Private schools aren't generally subject to the same level of scrutiny and disclosure as public schools.



Leadership Commission

Our Parish Vision Statement:

We are a Vibrant and Prayerful Catholic Community Welcoming you to Worship God in Spirit and Truth. Enlivening the Vision of Faithful Stewardship, Charitable Outreach and Dynamic Evangelization.

Our Parish Mission Statement:

Baptized into the Life of the Holy Trinity and called to Service in the Name of Jesus Christ, we of Saint Peter Parish strongly desire to be united as a Christian Family. Together we will make prayer the source and strength of all our actions. As a Spirit-Filled Catholic community, we commit ourselves to use our individual talents and gifts to reach out to one another in love and friendship.

REV. MICHAEL J. FITZPATRICK, PASTOR

Rev. Emmanuel Iheaka (*Chaplain in Residence*) *Fr. Emmanuel serves at Coatesville Veterans Hospital* Deacon Todd Smith: Permanent Deacon

Commissioned in Service of the Parish:

Mrs. Robin Burckhardt: Coordinator of Parish Ministries ministry@saintpeterchurch.net Mr. Austin Flinn: Music Director, Coordinator of Liturgy music@saintpeterchurch.net Ryan Morris: Media Director media@saintpeterchurch.net Mrs. Dorothy Pepe: Business Manager bizmgr@saintpeterchurch.net Mrs. Susan Kenna: Administrative Assistant office@saintpeterchurch.net Mr. Steve Forrest: Buildings and Facilities Mrs. Krystal Snyder: Safe Environment Coordinator childsafety@saintpeterchurch.net Mrs. Kathy Hoffman: Parish Organist Mrs. Veronique Hadfield: Adult Choir Director

Commissioners: Serving on the Parish Pastoral Council

Outreach:Lawrence Barron, Carol &Chuck Beebe,
Joe Lisowski, and Jim MulryWelcome:Barbara McClearyWitness:Bill & Pat O'Brien, and Chris & Jessica Valentino
Jeff Yoder, Polly PrattEducation:Tim Perry, Kathy Kelly-Borowski, Cathy Turpin,
and Sharon & Ian Bowman

Parish Finance Council: Father Fitzpatrick, Pastor Tom Stern, Phil Moran, Natalie Carrozza, Ted Mirenda, Don Courtney and Alicia de la Torre-Yoder (Dottie Pepe, Advisory Member - Business Mgr.)

Our Catholic Education Programs

POPE JOHN PAUL II REGIONAL CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY: PHONE: 610-384-5961 FAX: 610-384-5730 PRINCIPAL: DR. SARAH KERINS SCHOOL WEB SITE: <u>WWW.POPEJOHNPAUL2SCH.ORG</u>

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (PREP): OFFICE AND CLASSES AT POPE JOHN PAUL II SCHOOL: PHONE: 610-384-3145 FAX: 610-679-5985 DIRECTOR: MRS. PATRICE PETERSON prep@saintpeterchurch.net

PREP Advisory Council: Father Fitzpatrick, Pastor, Patrice Peterson, DRE, Debbie Boone, David Duva, Karen Givens, Jen Murphy, Pat O'Brien, Tim Perry, Tracy Philips, and Ginny Fennimore.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Register with us, and learn about St. Peter Parish. Please feel free to call the parish office 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Monday - Friday.





Pray the Rosary & the Divine Mercy Chaplet Daily

May 9

Mother's Day

12:30 p.m. RCIA "Virtual"

Sunday

Monday

7:30 p.m.

May 10 Knights of Columbus "Zoom" Mtg

Tuesday	May 11
10:00 a.m.	Reserved - Bethany Rm
12:00 p.m.	Reserved - St. Joseph A & B
6:00 p.m.	Gethsemane Holy Hour - Church
6:15 p.m.	Confessions - Shrine Rm
7:00 p.m.	Benediction - Church
7:00 p.m.	Reserved - St. Joseph A
7:00 p.m.	The King's Men - Bethany Rm
7:30 p.m.	KEPHAŠ "Zoom"

WednesdayMay 1210:00 a.m."Mary: A Biblical Walk" - SS. Drexel & Neumann7:00 p.m.Cantor Practice - Church

Thursday	May 13
7:00 a.m.	Holy Day Mass - Church
9:30 a.m.	Holy Day Mass - Church
12:00 p.m.	Holy Day Mass - Church
12:00 p.m.	Reserved - St. Joseph A & B
6:00 p.m.	Never Give Up (A/A) - Bethany Rm
7:00 p.m.	Boy Scouts - SS. Drexel & Neumann

Friday May 14

SaturdayMay 153:30 p.m.Confessions - Shrine Rm

Saint Peter Parish Apostleship of Prayer



MAY 2021

PRAYER INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS **The World of Finance:** Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens

from its danger.

Please join in prayer for those remembered in our Mass Intentions for the Week of 5/10/2021

I			
	Monday	8:30 a.m.	Robert Corcoran
	Tuesday		Deceased members of the Swarcheck & Kaczmarczyk families
	Wednesday	No M	orning Mass
	2	7:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m.	Thomas Burckhardt
	Friday	8:30 a.m.	Tara Sheridan
	Saturday		Intention of the Capato family Richard DeMell
	Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Ronald Skuback Mary Southern ~ 17th Anniv. Intention of Robert Peters

Also in your prayers please remember: Frank Sherlock, Casimer W. Sniechoski, and Edelgard Warwas, who have recently died.

The publication of the intention of the Mass in the Parish Bulletin fulfills the obligation to "announce" the intention of the Mass.

Sn your prayers, please remember the sick of our parish including...

Jay Algier, Thomas Alvord, Jean Anderson, Steven Craig Anthony, Henry Assetto, Carol Beebe, Linda Belmonte, Haydee Rodriguez Bonhomne, William Boyd, Melanie Boyle, Jim Bree, Larry Bridge, Donna & John Byrne, Michael Cervone, Jack Clarkson, Leeann Clevenstine, Elizabeth Dunn Couch, Jenna Cummings, Joseph D'Angelo, Ramsey DiLibero, Megan Dixon, Jenny Doyle, Dave Dunlap, Walter Dworecki, Kelly Felins, Kate Fiore, Laurie Flynn, Margaret Gentry, Diane Goschler, Bud Griffin, Patti Hackett, Dick Harbaugh, Bill Harkness, Keri Herbert, Bruce Katz, David Kelley, Jerry Kelly, Kathleen Kelly, Kristy Fiore Kennedy, Peter Knebel, Pat Kenna, Richard Kern, Deborah Kirkwood, Bernard Korch, Fr. Andy Lasko, Frank Laurento, Larry Lawrence, Sr., James Leger, Sr., Marianne Lewis, Daniel & Kate Lewis, Barbara Lombardi, Bailey Lynch, John Lynch, Kurt Martin, Maryann Brown-Martin, Clara Melitz, Ed Morris, Beverly Mueller, Samuel Narisi, Louis Neal, Judy Orr, Steven Pennock, Patrice Peterson, Angelo Pezzulo, Geri Phillip, Edward Pristernik, Kathy Przychodzien, Mike Reber, Anne Riley, Rosie Roberts, Helen Barker Romano, Louise Sabo, Tom Sandri, Joe Santo, Joseph Scheuren, Barbara Schober, Sr. Irene Setlow, Toni Sharpless, Ruth Soto, Sally Stieber, Mary Jo Tracy, Brandon Twiss, Tony Vabre, Chris Valentino, George & Kim Walton, Billy Weingartner, Ron Yavorka, and all the residents of our nursing homes.





Throughout the time of the pandemic there will be "<u>no</u>" anointing of the sick on the 1st Saturday of the month, during morning Mass.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR ALL OUR YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE ARMED SERVICES:

Brandon A'Hara, Ron Jon Annaballi, Justin Bevan, Timothy M. Bruce, Justin Chandler, Anthony Christof, Sean Douglas Cobourn, Dillan T. Duvall, Geoffrey Finch, Timothy Givens, Cristin A. Goerlitz, Brittany Kessler, Brendan Kessler, Mallory Kessler, Tim Laurento, Jr., Ryan McGuckin, Molly McGuckin, Ian Miller, Brandon Mistretta, Kevin & James Moran, Timothy R. Powledge, Camilo Ramirez, Zachary Schaeffer, Mark Thompson, Claudia Twiss, Jason Twiss, Matthew Twiss, Brian Weightman, Erick Williams, and Jodi Zellers.

STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION

Sunday, May 2	20,961.49
Annual Fund Annual Fund to date	2,237.00 68,553.20

Thank you to those who are financially supporting us during the pandemic. We are praying for all our families, especially those facing financial stress.

The practice of tithing provides a regular reminder of your dependence on God. In good times, tithing helps you remember that God is the source of all blessings, and it allows you to demonstrate your gratitude for His care. In hard times, tithing motivates you to remember God's faithfulness and enables you to demonstrate trust in God to provide for all of our needs.



The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): For information, please email the parish at office@s<u>aintpeterchurch.net.</u>



If you are able, please support Saint Peter Parish through the Parish Support Initiative.

This initiative is made possible through a partnership with The Catholic Foundation of Greater Philadelphia. Scan this code and select "Saint Peter West Brandywine" from the drop-down menu. Your support will ensure that we can continue our work through these uncertain times.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish family and God bless!



Hope for the Future

The signs are all around us. God's grace is active and alive in the world. Grace, active and alive through this parish body of Christ, the Church of Saint Peter.

At the same time each of us individually along with our families and the communities in which we live experience anxiety, concerns, and frustrations. These feelings are real, sometimes lying just below the surface, and affecting us in ways we may not always see. Often, far too often, anger wells up and results in unkindness, 'cancel culture' reactions, cynicism, and a feeling of hopelessness or dread.

I am hopeful that most of us can opt for dialogue, collaboration, and mutual respect that allows for accompanying one another while respecting honest disagreements. Fear can push us to the fringes as we feel we have to defend our position from the clear threats we see posed by the other. Personal attacks replace respectful discussion about issues. All manner of meanness and accusation can then ensue. I know we are better than this.

<u>America</u> the Jesuit journal quotes Archbishop Perez (April 2020) "It has been a painful, confusing, and trying time, but in Christ and his triumph on the cross, God's great love for us prevails. That love transcends our human understanding and is more powerful than we can comprehend. It will never fail us regardless of where life finds us. Right now, life finds us in a particularly difficult time that has slowed our world to a near stop. Yet it has also given us an opportunity to rediscover those things that are truly important.

These ominous days will pass. We shall overcome them as a united Christian family.

"So, during this Easter season, let us look to God with renewed hearts and minds more so than ever before. May his love flow through us and inspire us to encounter one another with tenderness and mercy. May that same love also strengthen us each day with the resolve to see value in ourselves and in one another. A new day will dawn and we can rebuild through him who makes all things possible...Easter brings hope to our lives and inspires us to take actions that build a better community."

Our call here at St. Peter Church is to renew the parish, the families of the parish, and the ministries of the parish as disciples, <u>MISSIONARY</u> disciples of Jesus Christ. In future YouTube and podcast videos you will hear a lot about renewal.

We have been very encouraged by the positive response to the Offertory Enhancement effort, the 'Increased Offertory Program'. You are appreciated and supported as you prayerfully consider how to support the parish financially.

I thank everyone who has helped St. Peter Parish to be present and active throughout the COVID-19 period. We engage the planning for the future with great confidence because of the support and success experienced in these last 13 months.

Fr. Fitzpatrick

6th Sunday of Easter May 8 & 9, 2021

First Reading Acts 10: 25 - 26, 34 - 35, 44 - 48 When Peter entered, Cornelius met him and, falling at his feet, paid him homage. Peter, however, raised him up, saying, "Get up. I myself am also a human being." Then Peter proceeded to speak and said, "In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him." While Peter was still speaking these things, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who were listening to the word. The circumcised believers who had accompanied Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit should have been poured out on the Gentiles also, for they could hear them speaking in tongues and glorifying God. Then Peter responded, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit even as we have?" He ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

Responsorial: Psalm 98

R. The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

Second Reading 1 John 4: 7 - 10 Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love. In this way the love of God was revealed to us: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might have life through him. In this is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as explation for our sins.

Gospel Reading

John 15: 9 - 17

Jesus said to his disciples: "As the Father loves me, so I also love you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy might be complete. This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I no longer call you slaves, because a slave does not know what his master is doing. I have called you friends, because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father. It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you. This I command you: love one another."



WORSHIP COMMISSION

TUESDAY:

Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament Gethsemane Holy Hour (6 - 7 p.m.) (Rosary and Intercessory Prayer) Evening Prayer and Benediction at 7 p.m.

The Chapel is open 6 a.m. - 3 p.m. weekdays for Adoration and prayer.

Parish Sacramental Celebrations

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Penance) Tuesdays 6:15 to 7 p.m. / Saturdays, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Sacrament Anointing of the Sick: The Pastor should be notified as soon as possible when a family member or friend becomes ill, is hospitalized, or is in danger of death.

Sacrament of Baptism: Infant Baptisms are usually celebrated on the first and third Sunday of the month at 2:30 p.m. Prior arrangements for Baptism are made through the parish office at least one month before the celebration of the sacrament. Please call the parish office.

Sacrament of Marriage. Arrangements for Marriage are made with the parish office at least six months prior to the wedding.



Saint Michael Archangel, defend us in *battle, be our protection against the* wickedness and snares of the devil; may God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prínce of the heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl through the world seeking the ruin of souls.

Amen

In full compliance with Vatican directives and Archdiocesan guidelines, low-gluten communion hosts are offered at each Mass for those who have special concerns regarding wheat and wheat products. Directions for receiving the low-gluten hosts will be given at the time of the Communion Rite.



Community



Technology & Innovation Teacher: Pope John Paul II Regional Catholic School is accepting applications for a Technology & Innovation Teacher for the 2021-2022 school year. Pope John Paul has a robust STEM program and is seeking an innovative

teacher to join our team. Responsible for teaching STEM concepts using computer technology for grades 5 - 8 and managing the school's Google Workspace and other technology licenses. Interested and qualified applicants please contact Dr. Sarah Kerins, Principal: skerins@popejohnpaul2sch.org with a resume, cover letter, and updated clearances (FBI fingerprint, Child Abuse, and Criminal Background). Honors Math Teacher: Pope John Paul is seeking an honors math teacher responsible for grades 4 - 8 (including Algebra I) Interested and qualified applicants please contact Dr. Sarah Kerins, Principal:skerins@popejohnpaul2sch.org with a resume, cover letter, and updated clearances (FBI fingerprint, Child Abuse, and Criminal Background) Year-Round Maintenance Help needed: Part Time (weekday mornings) year-round maintenance help needed at St. Mary of Providence Center. Call 610-942-4166. Part-Time Cleaner St. Joseph School: 16-18 hrs. per week, "Evening Hours Only" (after 3 p.m.) For more information please contact: Allan Anderson at 610-269-8294 x207 or aanderson@stjosephrc.org. Part-Time Cook: St. Joseph Parish is looking for a part-time cook to prepare dinners for the four resident priests at the rectory. We are looking for someone who likes to cook, has culinary experience, or is a cooking professional interested in some additional hours. Position would occasionally need to cook for large groups/events at the rectory. This position is approximately three hours Monday - Thursday evenings (during the dinner hour), and approximately 3 hours on Monday afternoon for shopping. Pay is \$15 - 19 per hour depending on experience. If interested or for more information please contact Allan Anderson, Business Manger, at aanderson@stjospehrc.org if interested. Part-Time (Paid) Executive Director: Birthright of West Chester is seeking an Executive Director to oversee administration of the pregnancy center, manage social media content, and promotion of Birthright in the community. A pro-life, compassionate, and nonjudgmental attitude is required. Good verbal, written, and collaborative communication skills a plus. This is a part-time paid position. Please send resume to birthrightwestchester@gmail.com.





When you're a child she walks before you, to set an example.

When you're a teenager she walks behind you, to catch you should you fall.

When you're an adult she walks beside you, so that as two friends you can enjoy life together!



new postings.

MOVING FORWARD: ENHANCED OFFERTORY PROGRAM GUIDE

Today, we give thanks to all those who have responded to our St. Peter Parish Offertory Enhancement Initiative. If you have not already responded and would like to, please visit our online Parish Support Initiative link, thecfgp.org/stpeterpsi, or reply using the card included with your letter.

I ask that you please keep our Offertory Enhancement Initiative in your prayers. The needs of our community are sustained through your servant giving contributions and dedication to our good works.

Please take advantage of our parish's Parish Support Initiative e-giving option or place your response card in today's collection or return to the Parish Office.

QPR Suicide Prevention Training hosted by Saint Elizabeth Parish

Question ~ Persuade ~ Refer

Three simples steps that may save a life!

Wednesday, May 12, from 7 - 9 p.m. Training is free and presented by



Just as people trained in CPR and the Heimlich Maneuver helps save thousands of lives each year, people trained in QPR learn how to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis and how to Question, Persuade, and Refer someone to help. Stigma causes the mentally ill to suffer in silence. Now is the time to reach out and help. Sign up to get trained!

Training is in-person in the Saint Elizabeth Social Hall & virtual by Zoom.

Please register at www.stelizabethparish.org to reserve a seat and provide your email for the Zoom link.



Spiritual Support for Addiction: Hope in Christ:

Addiction webpage provides a central location for

resources, ongoing support, testimonies and events that are happening throughout the Archdiocese of

Philadelphia. Visit archphila.org/hope for details and

Seeking spiritual support in the journey towards recovery? Many parishes around the Archdiocese are extending God's merciful and loving hand to those who have an addiction as well as their families and loved ones. The Hope in Christ: Spiritual Support for





This program is for all children who attend Public, Charter Schools, or are Homeschooled.

Grades 1 - 8 offered at both sessions: Sunday: 9:15 - 10:45 a.m. Tuesday: 6:15 - 7:45 p.m.

Phone: 610-384-3145 E-mail: prep@saintpeterchurch.net Director: Mrs. Patrice Peterson Assistant: Mrs. Krystal Snyder

All Re-Registering families have been emailed: A new registration letter

JotForm Tuition sheet Family Handbook Be sure to read the letter thoroughly.

New families will be able to access registration materials on the PREP page of the parish website shortly.

Contact the PREP Office with any questions.



Words cannot express our sincere "Thanks" for the wonderful job this group of Sunday Catechists did with Virtual PREP this year. May God continue to bless you in ministry!

This is a photo of our Sunday Volunteers (and some of their children) at the Sunday PREP Car Parade where all students who came received a Free Ice Cream certificate from Dairy Queen.

Pictured here: - The Drake Children, Lily, Jen Murphy, Krystal Snyder, Melissa Drake, Andrew Babala, Heather Daniels, Maureen Otis, Maureen Wodnick, Joanne Burke, Joe Babala, Patrice Peterson

Not pictured: Amy Van Kempen and Pat Sheehan

Faithful Stewardship St. Peter PREP (Parish Religious Education Program) Families Monthly Contribution in Support of Saint Peter Parish

October 2020	110 Families	November 2020	114 Families
No Contributions	74 Families	No Contributions	74 Families
\$5 to \$59	14 Families	\$5 to \$59	12 Families
\$60 or more	22 Families	\$60 or more	28 Families
Total Stewardship	\$ 4,888	Total Stewardship	\$ 6,133

Bishop Shanahan High School www.shanahan.org Phone: 610-518-1300 Fax: 610-343-6220 Sr. Regina Plunkett IHM, President Mr. Michael J. McCardle, Principal

5/10 - Green Day 5/11 - White Day 5/12 - 12th Grade Only 5/13 - Ascension 5/14 - Green Day

5/15 - Personal Tour Day 9 a.m.



"Mothers hold their children's hand for a while, but their hearts forever!"

Pope John Paul II Regional Catholic Elementary School

www.popejohnpaul2sch.org Phone: 610-384-5961 Fax: 610-384-5730 Dr. Sarah Kerins, Principal Mrs. Patty Tarquinio, Vice Principal PJPII School Enrollment 622 ~ St. Peter Students 324

Registration is now open to new families and is first-come first-served. Unregistered students will be placed on a waiting list once the grade level is full. The tuition assistance portal through FACTS Grant and Aid is open. Applications are due by January 31, 2021 to be considered for tuition assistance for next school year.

For more information or to schedule a tour, please feel free to visit <u>www.popejohnpaul2sch.org</u>.

Faithful Stewardship

Saint Peter Catholic Elementary School Families at PJPII Monthly Contribution in Support of Saint Peter Parish

October 2020	145 Families	November 2020	146 Families
No Contributions	84 Families	No Contributions	80 Families
\$5. to \$59.	22 Families	\$5. to \$59.	15 Families
\$60 or more	39 Families	\$60 or more	51 Families
Total Stewardship	\$ 5,604	Total Stewardship	\$ 8,669 Page 7 - 0146

Outreach Commission



Prayer Shawl Ministry: Do you know someone who is suffering, struggling, facing overwhelming challenges, or major life changes? Consider gifting them with a prayer shawl or lap blanket to bring them comfort and let them know

people are praying for them, no matter their age, faith, or problem. Our ministry members are knitters and crocheters of all skill levels and others who deliver our handiwork. All of us weave prayers into our handiwork and pray for all our recipients who live nearby, around the country, and even overseas! If you'd like to join our ministry, our gatherings are fun, inspirational, and optional. To find out more or select a piece for someone, contact Jan Smith at 610-269-1756 or <u>editsmith3@aol.com</u>. We meet every other Monday at noon as noted in the bulletin calendar. **Our next gathering is Monday, May 17, at 12 p.m.**



In the Gospel today, Jesus says to us, "This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you...You are my friends if you do what I command you." By your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul you fulfill

the commandment to love one another as Jesus has loved you. Society of St. Vincent de Paul Helpline is 610-470-9090.





The Cancer Support Group meets the second Saturday of each month at 11 a.m. in Meeting Rooms SS. Drexel & Neumann. We offer support to anyone diagnosed with cancer, anyone who is presently undergoing treatment, has completed treatment, is a family member and/or caregiver. *Our next* "ZOOM" meeting is Saturday, June 12, at 11 a.m. For information, call 610-857-2342.



Good Works: We are St. Peter Parish volunteers who join many other local Christian church groups in performing home repairs. We reach out in love and friendship to transform

substandard houses into warmer, safer, and drier homes, and by doing so, turn despair into hope. The team welcomes new volunteers of all skill levels. For more information or to be a part of Good Works, contact Jim at 610-496-1393 or jim mulry@mcenvironmental.com.



Spring is here! If you like to dabble in the garden and are interested in helping with the St. Peter Community Gardens this year, please email Lawrence at <u>barronLF@comcast.net</u>.

Caring for Friends: Cooks: Thank you for your ongoing dedication and support for Caring for Friends. There is an on-going need for no saltadded meals. Instead of salt, such meals can be seasoned with spices, herbs, lemon, garlic, ginger, vinegar, and/or pepper. Foods with 400 mg or more of sodium are considered high. Examples of high sodium foods are: smoked, cured, salted or canned meat, fish or poultry; bacon, cold cuts, ham, frankfurters, sausage, frozen breaded meats and dinners such as burritos and pizza; canned entrees such as ravioli, spam, chili, beans canned with salt added. Please tie a ribbon or special string around these meals to make it easier to identify them for the visitor. Thanks for your help in this matter. Visitors: Thank you for your continuing care for your friends. For any problems or questions, please contact ecerritelli@comcast.net or call Ellen at 484-678-6602.



Nourish for Caregivers will "not" be meeting at the Church until further notice, but we will be available to support any caregiver who needs a listening ear. We understand that everyday as a care-

giver, you lay down your life, your needs, your comfort, for the sake of your loved one. Even in these times you are faithful in your ministry of love. We, Beth and Cathy, are here for you and support you in prayer everyday. If you have any special prayer request, or just need to talk, please call or email us. We are happy to listen. Beth: 330-242-0206; <u>bethtrubachik@comcast.net</u> or Cathy: 484-433-9705; csamoylo@yahoo.com.

Welcome Commission



2021-22 Catholic School Scholarship Applications are due back this weekend and must be submitted by end of day, Sunday, May 9. The application has been available on the website and social media for several weeks. All families who

are registered as members of the Parish and have students entering the 7th through 12th grades at an accredited Catholic school in the Fall are eligible to apply. Please make sure that you have included all the required information. Instructions are included on the application for eligibility, completion, and submittal. Email to prutledge@comcast.net.

A great big **THANK YOU** to all those that supported the Scholarship Committee by purchasing Zook's meat pies and apple dumplings during the Mother's Day fundraiser. We raised \$800 for funding scholarships for the coming school year. The committee will share the names of scholarship recipients in early June.

SILVER LINING SENIORS: Can't believe it has been more than a year since we have been able to have a meeting. There is still no news about when a group as large as ours will be able to get together. I hope to hear something in the near future as to the guidelines with regard to our ability to meet at church again. Please keep checking your emails as we have several members who need our prayers. When I have more information, I will communicate it to all of you! Please feel free to call Pat Currie at 610-913-0721 if you have any questions or concerns. Stay healthy and keep praying!!

Witness Commission

In honor of and thanksgiving for all mothers, the St. Peter Respect Life Committee will have complimentary roses available at the doors of the church at all Masses.



"The Most Important Person on earth is a mother. She cannot claim the honor of having built Notre Dame Cathedral. She need not. She has built something more magnificent than any cathedral—a dwelling for an immortal soul, the tiny perfection of her baby's body. . . The angels have not been blessed with such a grace. They cannot share in God's creative miracle to bring new saints to Heaven. Only a human mother can. Mothers are closer to God the Creator than any other creature; God joins forces with mothers in performing this act of creation. .. What on God's good earth is more glorious than this: to be a mother?"

Venerable Jozsef Cardinal Mindszenty (source)

Join us June 4 - 6 for "A Theology of the Body Retreat for H. S. Girls"

St. Mary of Providence Center, 227 Isabella Road, Elverson, PA. Retreat Leader: Samantha Kelley of Fierce Athlete.org; Priests: Father Timothy Danaher, O.P. of St. Patrick Church, Philadelphia and Fr. Reuben Nuxoll, Legionaries of Christ; Speaker: Marie DiCecco, Speaker on Women's Health in conformity with Theology of the Body; Small Group Facilitators: The Sisters of Life. Arrival time is Friday at 7 p.m. and ends Sunday at 11:30 a.m. Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner served Saturday & Breakfast served Sunday. Reconciliation offered and Mass celebrated. Cost: \$125 per person (scholarships available). Sponsored by: St. Peter Parish Respect Life Committee. For more information, text Eileen Christian at 610-716-1840; email at eileenchristian@usa.net or Sign up link: https:// www.eventbrite.com/e/wonderfully-made-a-theology-of-the -body-retreat-for-high-school-girls-tickets-148927503171



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