

# SAINTS PETER & PAUL CHURCH

360 US HWY 46 - GREAT MEADOWS, NEW JERSEY 07838

*Welcome to  
our Church!*

Phone  
908-637-4269

Fax  
908-637-6896

Office Hours  
Monday - Friday,  
9:30 am to 3:00 pm



Rev. Grzegorz Podsiadlo  
Administrator

Eileen Wyss  
Parish Secretary

Diane Francis  
Religious Ed. Director

Music Director

## MASSSES:

**Saturday Evening:** 5:00 pm

**Sundays:** 7:30 am, 10:00 am (*Eng*)  
11:30 am (*Pol*)

**Holydays:** 7:00 am & 6:30 pm,  
8:00 pm (*Polish*)

**Weekdays (including Sat.):** 8:30 am  
Rosary Mon.-Sat 8:00 am

**CONFESSION:** Saturday,  
4:00 - 4:50 pm (*before the 5:00 pm  
Mass*) and before the 8:30 am Mass  
(*by appointment only*).

**BAPTISMS:** Class and  
arrangements must be made by  
contacting the Rectory. If you are  
a newly registered family you are  
required to be attending Mass for  
at least three months and using  
offering envelopes.

**MARRIAGES:** Requirements...  
Marriage preparation classes and  
Confirmation (*if you are Catholic*).  
Arrangements are to be made at  
least six months in advance. At  
least three meetings with the priest  
are required.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

Classes are held for Parish registered  
members only on Sunday mornings  
from mid September to May. Children  
seeking their Sacraments must attend  
all 8 years of a Religious Education  
Program. Call 908-637-4269.

**R.C.I.A.:** Anyone interested in adult  
religious education or becoming  
Catholic. Call Marilyn Gorski at  
908-459-4483.

## VISITATION OF THE SICK:

Every first Friday of the month, at  
home or in the hospital, please call  
the church office, 908-637-4269.

## FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH NIGHT PRAYER:

In Polish from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm.

## BLUE ARMY PRAYER GROUP:

Every Monday from 5:00 pm in the  
Chapel. New members are always  
welcome!

**OUTREACH PROGRAM:** If you are  
in need please call the Parish Office at  
908-637-4269. All calls kept  
confidential.

**ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY:** New  
members are always welcome! We meet  
every third Wednesday of the month at  
7:00 pm. Call Walt at 908-459-5861.

**POLISH ROSARY SOCIETY:**  
Meets every first Friday of each month  
at 7:00 pm. New members are always  
welcome!

### E-mail

[stpeterandpaul@comcast.net](mailto:stpeterandpaul@comcast.net)

**Religious Education E-mail**  
[peterpaulreled@comcast.net](mailto:peterpaulreled@comcast.net)

### Website

[www.peterpaulgm.com](http://www.peterpaulgm.com)

**Walking Pilgrimage**  
[www.walkingpilgrimage.us](http://www.walkingpilgrimage.us)

## PARISH REGISTRATION

Every family should be properly registered. New parishioners should register at the Parish Office. Children 18 and over should be registered as adults. Envelopes are the only means we have to verify parishioners attendance at Mass. Please use your envelope regardless of the amount you are able to include. Without verification of Mass attendance we cannot issue sponsor certification for Baptism, Confirmation, or any character references, etc. Please notify the Parish Office of any address change as soon as possible.

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 23/24, 2023

### **SAT – Dec 23 (St. John Kanty)**

5:00p +MaryAnn Boatman req Pat & Norman Willis

### **SUN – Dec 24 (Fourth Sunday of Advent & Christmas Eve)**

7:30a +Eleanor Vasko req brother Joe & Florence Dzurek

10a +Joseph & Helen Olenick req daughter Arlene

11:30a Pol +Anna Buczek od Eva & Bogdan Zubel

5:00p +Rev. Arthur Anderson

10:00p Pol: +Adam Talajczyk od wife Krystyna

12:00a +Josephine & Henry Topoleski

### **MON – Dec 25 (Nativity of the Lord-Christmas)**

7:30a +Benjamin, Julia, Edward, Anna (Tracy)

Trzeciakiewicz req Ed Tracy Family

10:00a +Agnes Kowalski req daughter Adella

11:30a Pol: -Birthday blessings for Steve Turbek od rodziny Gzella

### **TUES – Dec 26 (St. Stephen)**

8:30a +Stanislaw Szumouski req his family

7:00p Pol: -Birthday blessings for Beata Lukijaniuk od rodziny

### **WED – Dec 27 (St. John)**

8:30a +Jim Meringer req Schelckmann Family

### **THUR – Dec 28 (Holy Innocents)**

8:30a +Rev. Arthur Anderson

### **FRI – Dec 29 (St. Thomas Becket)**

8:30a +Jim Meringer req Jennifer & Chris Mulhall

### **SAT – Dec 30**

8:30a -For the health of Marian Gzella req Polish 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion class

5:00p +Irene Wyss req Pat & Norman Willis

### **SUN – Dec 31 (Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph)**

7:30a +Jean Kasharian req Michael Huffert & Margaret Seme

10a +Leon Fortin req his wife MaryLou & family

11:30a Pol +Marie & Jana Juskiewicz od rodziny Hader

5:00p -God's blessings on the occasion of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniv. in the priesthood of Rev. John Gorski, MM req Steve & Marilyn Gorski

### **MON – Jan 1, 2024 (Mary, Holy Mother of God)**

10:00a +Ruth Kurnath req Dean Kurnath, Greg & Kim

11:30a Pol: +Tadeusz Kaczynski od syna i rodziny

**Altar Flowers** – are donated by our parishioners

**Bread & Wine** – is offered this week in memory of Jan Lubas req his family

**Sanctuary Lamp** is lit this week in memory of Rosemarie Olenick req her sister Arlene

**Divine Mercy Candle** is lit this week in memory of Irene Wyss req her family

**Family Christmas Candles** sponsored by: McKenna, McArdle, Medore, Hourihan, Gaynor, Koonz, Maza, Thurgood, Swider, Horzepa, Crawford, Granata, Gac, Pilny, Bielecki, Grudzinski, Gunther, O'Neill, Zubel, Szurnicki, Talajczyk, Borzecki, Mysona, Dziewierz, Kaczmarek, Szmigielski, Buga, Lubecki, Grzybczyk, Szczeblewski, Lukijaniuk, Gzella, Pawlikowska, Grzybczyk, Turbek, Jacek, Wheeler, anonymous, Reed, Greco, Leta, Saulewicz, Hancock, V. Dait, O. Dait, Smith, Wyss, Yturbe, Ronoski, Crawford, Baldwin families

### 2024 CALENDARS

Free 2024 calendars are available in the back of our church compliments of Maguire Funeral Home & Cochran Funeral Home of Hackettstown and Newbaker Funeral Home of Blairstown. Please help yourselves to one.

### WEEKLY OFFERINGS – December 2023

1<sup>st</sup> week - \$2822

2<sup>nd</sup> week - \$3193

3<sup>rd</sup> week - \$3261

4<sup>th</sup> week - \$

### 2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Boxed 2024 Offering Envelopes are now available in the back of our church. We ask that you take 1 box per family. Please write your last name and an amount on the envelopes if you wish us to keep track of your donations for tax purposes. Using offering envelopes also helps us when it comes time to issue sponsor certificates for a Baptism or for Confirmation.



### YEAR-END CHARITABLE GIFT GIVING

As you consider your year-end tax planning, we hope that you will consider making good use of the income tax charitable deduction and remember our church. All monies are greatly appreciated and will be well spent with the good of the entire parish in mind.

### CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERING ENVELOPES



It's not too late to donate towards our Christmas Flowers. This will also help area flower growers that supply us with our flowers. Offering envelopes can be found on our large brown table in the back of our church. You may donate in memory of or in honor of loved ones. If you have more than two names, please write all the names on

a separate piece of paper and slip it into the flower offering envelope. All names will be printed in the bulletin after Christmas.

**CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES**

Sunday, December 24th  
5:00 PM Mass  
10:00 PM (Polish)  
12:00 Midnight Mass

**CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES**

Monday, December 25th  
7:30am,  
10:00am,  
11:30am (Polish)

**NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS**

Sunday, December 31st  
5:00 PM, Vigil Mass

**NEW YEAR'S DAY MASSES**

Monday, January 1st, 2024  
10:00am (English)  
11:30am (Polish)

**Don't stop celebrating: After Christmas Day**

The secular world “prepares” for Christmas with months of garish decoration, holiday treats, and spending sprees, but when December 26 rolls around, the world already feels that Christmas is “over.” At most it will allow itself a day or two of recuperation from excess jollity and then get back to work. In a best-case scenario, decorations might stay up till January 1st or a bit later, for “ringing in the new year.” After that, the season of celebration is over. Catholics ought to have a totally different conception of Christmas. Before Christmas, we observe the penitential season of Advent, preparing for the great feast without too much overt joy. Traditionally, families would decorate the Christmas tree together before the great day of Christmas. Families would attend Christmas Mass together. It is very important for us not to surrender to the secular approach that, in a way, celebrates Christmas before Christmas and not afterward. We should really make an effort — in the way our homes are decorated, the way we observe Sundays and holy days, the stories we read and the other activities we do in the house — to keep the spirit of Christmas alive, even if at a “low burn,” especially throughout the period from December 26th to February 2nd. *Yes, this great feast is that big of a deal!* Such observance also becomes a countercultural catechesis in one of the central mysteries of the Christian faith: the Incarnation of the Son of God. This is the pivot point of all human history and of the story of each man, woman, and child.

**GENTLE REMINDER...**

Think of our beautiful church building as your home. Just as you always want your home to be ready to welcome guests and visitors, please be conscious of picking up after you and your family at the end of Mass; readying the church for others. Please replace all misselettes and song books and take the bulletin with you so we all make the church ready to welcome others for worship.

**CHRISTMAS MASS REMEMBRANCES**



If you would like your loved ones, living or deceased, remembered in Christmas Remembrance Masses during Christmas and throughout the month of January, please pick

up a Christmas Mass Remembrance envelope found on the large brown table in the back of our church. If you have more than two names, please write all the names on a separate piece of paper and slip it into the remembrance offering envelope. All names will be printed in the bulletin after Christmas.

**Christmas Festival of Lights**

Will be held at the Blue Army Shrine, 674 Mountain View Rd. East, Asbury, NJ from Dec 17<sup>th</sup> through Jan 7<sup>th</sup> from dusk until 9pm everyday.

**THEOLOGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

The Office of Ongoing Faith Formation will be offering a 12-week Adult Enrichment Course entitled "Theology of the Eucharist" on twelve consecutive Thursdays starting January 4 through March 21, 2024 from 10:00AM – 11:30 AM. The course will be offered at the St. John Neuman Pastoral Center located at 146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway, NJ. Admission is \$15 for all twelve classes. Please register at [www.diometuchen.org/faith-formation](http://www.diometuchen.org/faith-formation). For more info, please email [amarshall@diometuchen.org](mailto:amarshall@diometuchen.org) or call 732-562-1543.

\*\*\*\*\*  
Loving Father, help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and worship of the wise men. Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clear hearts. May the Christmas morning make us happy to be thy children, and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

**Robert Louis Stevenson**

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**PRAY FOR:**

**Living:** Ellen Cavaliere, Kathy Hurley, Lottie Grochowicz, Irena Pietras, Julia Gromnicki, Marian Gzella

**Deceased:** Regina Lukijaniuk, Frank Gomez, Jr., Zbigniew Grzywna, Rosemary Washuta, Zofia Koc

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Woody

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