

# St. Peter Catholic Church

31300 Overseas Hwy  
Big Pine Key, FL 33043



305-872-2537

Office: 9am-3pm Mon.-Fri.

[www.stpeterbpk.org](http://www.stpeterbpk.org)

## SEPTEMBER 20, 2020

## 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### PARISH STAFF:

#### Parochial Administrator :

Rev. Fr. Jesus "Jets" Medina

#### Property Manager/Bookkeeper:

Nancy McCrosson  
[nancy@stpeterbpk.org](mailto:nancy@stpeterbpk.org)

#### Director of Music Ministry/Admin.Asst.:

Megan Constantine  
[megan@stpeterbpk.org](mailto:megan@stpeterbpk.org)

#### Director of Religious Education:

Honora Shaffer  
[honora@stpeterbpk.org](mailto:honora@stpeterbpk.org)

#### Administrative Assistant:

Connie Hauk  
[connie@stpeterbpk.org](mailto:connie@stpeterbpk.org)

#### Maintenance Supervisor

Vincent Padron

### MASSES:

Saturday Vigil Mass 5:30-pm  
Sunday Masses 8:30 and 11:00am

Daily Masses: 9am Mon-Thurs.  
Fridays are a Communion Service

**HOLY DAYS:** Vigil Mass 6 pm  
Holy Day Mass 9 am

### CONFESSIONS:

Saturday: 4:45 pm to 5:15 pm  
in the Ministry Center  
(or by appointment)

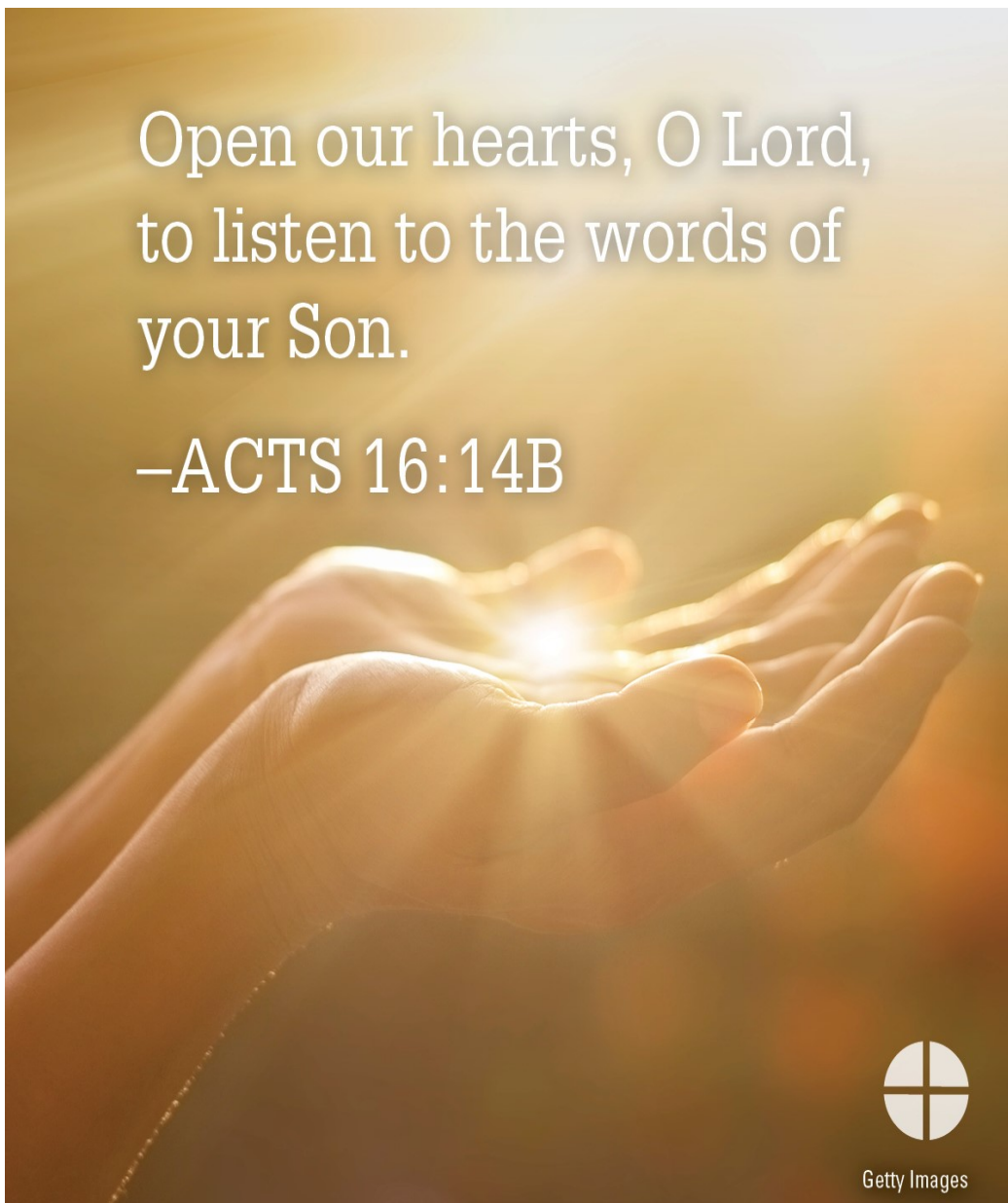
**BAPTISMS, FUNERALS and WEDDINGS** (by appointment)  
Contact Nancy or Connie in the parish office at 305-872-2537

**Office Hours:** M-F 9:30am-3pm

For additional parish information, call or email [nancy@stpeterbpk.org](mailto:nancy@stpeterbpk.org) or [connie@stpeterbpk.org](mailto:connie@stpeterbpk.org)

Open our hearts, O Lord,  
to listen to the words of  
your Son.

—ACTS 16:14B



Getty Images

# All Are Welcome

*No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church,  
No matter what your current family or marital situation,  
No matter what your past or present religious situation,  
No matter your personal history, age, background, race etc.,  
No matter what your own self-image or self esteem,  
YOU are Invited, Welcomed, Accepted, Loved and Respected  
here at St. Peter Catholic Church.*



## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, September 19, 2020

5:30pm +Roger Lederer by Conie Hauk  
S.I. David Brummer by Vivian Brummer

### Sunday, September 20, 2020

8:30 am +Roger Lederer by William & Charlene Lederer  
+Brent Barrett by Tom & Diane Schoonbeck  
11:00am +Rose King by Rowena & Phil Frank

### Monday, September 21, 2020

9:00am S.I. Taylor Austin (Birthday)  
S.I. Brandon Bilecki (Birthday)  
by John & Pauline Snyder

### Tuesday, September 22, 2020

9:00am: +George Crittenden by Mike Coppola  
S.I. Deacon Bill Rich by St. Peter Parishioners

### Wednesday, September 23, 2020

9:00 am: +Bob Iacone by Mike Coppola

### Thursday, September 24, 2020

9:00am: +Joanne Muriello (Birthday) by  
Steve Muriello

### Friday, September 25, 2020

9:00am Communion Service —Sick Members of  
St. Peter Parish

### Saturday, September 26, 2020

5:30pm Mass: +Roger Lederer by  
Diane & Howard Bleich

### Sunday, September 27, 2020

8:30am Mass +Billy Pullen by Margaret & Jim Burns  
William & Charlene Lederer  
+Marci Kiser (Birthday) by Lee Kiser  
11:00am Mass: +Myron Frank by Rowena & Phil Frank

**All parish activities, with the exception of  
Mass, have been  
temporarily suspended.**

## Prayer for the Rebuilding of St. Peter Church:

Heavenly Father,  
We ask your blessings on all those involved in  
our church rebuilding.

We ask you to guide the minds and the hands of  
the planners and workers and may they know  
they are doing Your work.

We ask your blessings on those who have made  
the rebuilding possible through their generous  
donations that their lives may be enriched.

We ask your blessings on the family of St. Peter  
that we may continue to flourish through the  
challenges we face as we rebuild and renew  
ourselves as a true and loving community.

May we listen to Jesus' words and act on them  
so that we will be like the wise man who built  
his house on rock and pray the psalm..

"Only goodness and love will pursue me all the  
days of my life. I will dwell in the house of the  
Lord for years to come."

Amen

Norma Thompson, St. Peter Church

**If you cannot attend Mass in person and attend  
on computer or tv, here is another variation of  
the Spiritual Communion prayer  
(often recited by Blessed Solanus Casey).**

Lord, please come to me in Spiritual Communion.  
Send your body and blood gushing through my  
veins. Send your love into my heart, my soul and  
my mind. Lift me up to your bosom and infuse  
me with your divine love. Amen



*Thank You*

FOR SHARING YOUR TIME,  
TALENT AND TREASURE

### ***Collections for the Weekend:***

#### **Donations received this past week:**

**1st Collection: \$ 1,749.00**

**2nd Collection: \$ 240.00 (Holy Land)**

**Direct Debit: \$ 550.00 (weekly)**

**Thank you** to those of you who mailed your weekly donations to us, and **Thank you** to those of you who elected to change to Direct Debit!

**Thank you for your generosity!**



There is a **Financial Transparency binder** in the bookkeeper's office with detailed statements, financial reports and parish budget history. This information is available to registered parishioners who wish to view it. Call and make an appointment with Nancy in the office at 305-872-2537.

#### **Want to go paperless in 2020 with Direct Debit pulled from your checking account?**

Let us know....

Call Nancy in the office for information.

Direct debit options are:

- ◇ Weekly
- ◇ Weekly 50/50
- ◇ Monthly
- ◇ Monthly to Rebuild Fund

#### **Are you registered?**

If you are not sure, call us in the office and we can check.

**Thank you for your help!**

### ***Pray For Those Who Are Sick:***

We ask your prayers for Parishioners and friends:

Guenther Glatt, Rachel Miles, Mary Doris Scheidell, Doug Krout, Bill Carver, Lani Dugger, John Mescal, Ismael Lopez, John Snyder, Javier Herrera, Ann Fisher, Katherine Fasano, Frank Fasano, James Archambeault, Pat and Connie Medina, Belle Medina-Ricasio, Beth Rodman, Bill Van Ryn, Flo Boyle, William Scheidell, Mike Graham, Mason Skiver, Tiffany Howard, Nancy Lopez, Jim Oettle, Kate Menser Hughey, Marilyn Nichols, Mark Stump, Bob Gaster, Gerry & Dorothy Bauer, Pat McCullah, Lance Hill, Randy Reinhart, Patrick Mescal, Mickey McEnaney and Maria Wirshing.

Please let us know in the office if you or someone else is homebound and would like to receive the Eucharist at home. Call the office at 305-872-2537.

**Address Change: We have closed our Post Office box. Our only mailing address now is: 31300 Overseas Highway, Big Pine Key, FL 33043 .**

**Check this out!!** Have you ever wondered why the person next to you never puts anything into the collection basket? Could be that person has signed up for Direct Debit and his or her donation comes directly from his or her checking account—they don't have to mess with envelopes or checks or cash. If that sounds good to you, call Nancy in the office at 305-872-2537 and she can get you started.



**50 / 50 Weekly Jackpot**

**The 50/50 has been suspended until 2021. Your Direct Debit 50/50 account will not be charged, and please do not turn in your \$5 50/50 envelopes until 2021. Thank you!**

### ***Grief Support***

If you are dealing with the loss of a loved one, grief support is available.

Contact Mary Quirk at 305-744-0139, or through the church office at 305-872-2537.



**NEW  
UPDATE**

9/17/20

Looking toward the Church



Looking at the Parish Hall,  
Food Bank and Kitchen

Bell tower

Rectory






September 17, 2020

# Construction update

## 2 week look ahead

### 2-Week Look Ahead

|                                   |  |  |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Project Name:                     |  | <div></div> |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| St. Peter Catholic Church         |  |  |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Project Start Date:               |  |  |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        | Prepared by:  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                                   |  |  |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        | Hassib & Jael |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Date:                             |  | Month:   |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9/14/2020                         |  | Sept   |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Description                       |  | 14-Sep   | 15-Sep | 16-Sep | 17-Sep | 18-Sep | 19-Sep | 20-Sep | 21-Sep | 22-Sep | 23-Sep | 24-Sep | 25-Sep |               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                                   |  | M  | T      | W      | T      | F      | S      | S      | M      | T      | W      | T      | F      |               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Forming Beam Over Steel Columns   |  |  |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Forming Hall and Church Roof Slab |  |  |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Forming Walkway Roof Slab         |  |  |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Roof Rebar Church                 |  |  |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Roof Rebar Hall                   |  |  |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Roof Rebar Walking                |  |  |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rough Electric Roof Slab          |  |  |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rough Plumbing Roof Slab          |  |  |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

 TENTATIVE

 HOLIDAY

 TO PERFORM

## St. Peter Community Food Bank



*Thank you to our St. Peter Food Bank  
HEROES for continuing to keep the  
doors open to serve the public in spite  
of COVID-19!*

We will continue to remain open as long as  
we have food to distribute.

**Effective September 2, 2020, we will be  
open only on Wednesdays from 9:30-noon**

**Thank you for your food and cash donations!**

**Together we are working to provide hope and  
to a positive impact on the lives of the needy in  
our community.**

Most needed items are: canned goods: tuna &  
chicken, Vienna sausage, Hearty soups, canned  
meats—Chef Boyardee products (flip top cans  
appreciated), canned vegetables & fruit.

**Your donations are needed even more now  
during this time of covid19!**

**Thank you for your generosity!!**

### **Participate in Winn-Dixie's Giving Tag Program**

which runs all year long. All you have to do is  
purchase the Community Bag for @2.50 at  
any Winn-Dixie and follow the instructions on  
the attached Giving Tag to direct a \$1  
donation to the **St. Peter Community Food  
Bank.** To learn more about this program,  
please visit [seg.bags4mycause.com](http://seg.bags4mycause.com).

**In August the program raised \$45 for the St.  
Peter Community Food Bank!**

**New Family support  
resource !!!**

A few months ago, Children's Home Society launched their CHS Family Support Warm Line, a free, confidential resource that provides a line of support for youth, adults and families—24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Through text or a phone call, individuals can connect with one of the CHS counselors in their time of need. Whether they need a listening ear or connections to ongoing counseling or other services, callers find hope for tomorrow. This service is offered across the state to provide much-needed support to families: in dealing with COVID-19, in coping with related issues like domestic abuse or in helping people with suicide ideation, etc.

Please share this support line with those you work with and serve, with your partners and with others in your community--**our Warm Line can be reached 24/7 via call or text to 1-888-733-6303 or at [www.chsfl.org/support](http://www.chsfl.org/support).** It's completely free and anonymous – callers and texters don't even need to give their name.



## September 23 is the Feast Day of Saint Padre Pio

Francesco Forgione, who later became known as Padre Pio, was born in Italy on May 25 more than 130 years ago. He had 1 younger brother and 3 younger sisters. His family were poor farmers and it was his job to look after the sheep. When he was little, he loved to sing, read, pray and play church. Throughout his life, God gave him many gifts—**while still a young boy, God gave him the ability to see his guardian angel, Jesus and Mary.**

He and his family were Catholics who loved God very much, went to church every day and prayed the rosary nightly. His parents would often tell the children the great stories of the Bible.

When he was 15 years old, he entered a Monastery. When he was 18 years old, Jesus appeared to him. When Jesus left, Francesco miraculously had wounds on his hands, feet and side like those that Jesus received on the cross. This is called the “stigmata” which he had till he died. At the age of 23, he was ordained a priest and chose the name Padre Pio.

He had the gift of being able to heal people. He also had the ability to bilocate, meaning that he could be in two places at once! People loved going to confession to him—they would stand in line for days to see him.

He established a hospital and medical center that are still there today. God called him home when he was 81, and one hundred thousand people came to his funeral. In 2002 Pope John Paul II canonized him a saint.

### Prayer to St. Michael

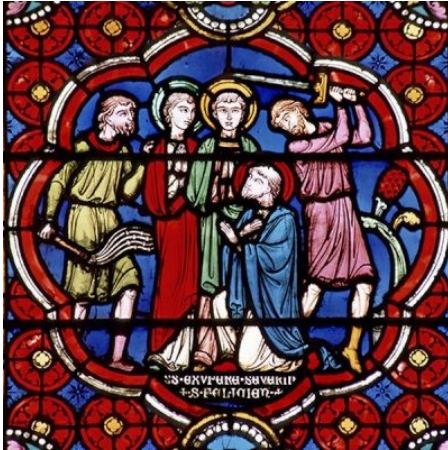
Saint Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, thrust into Hell Satan and the other evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen



September 29 is the Feast Day of Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels.

## Saint Maurice and Companions

(died circa 287)      Feast Day Sept. 22



In the 5th century, St. Eucherius of Lyons described the legendary martyrdom of Maurice and the Theban Legion, comprised of Christians from Upper Egypt. Maurice was first officer of the legion sent by Emperor Maximilian to Switzerland to put down some rebellious Gauls. When Maximilian ordered the soldiers to sacrifice to Roman gods, Maurice and his legion refused. The outraged emperor ordered “decimation” in which one of every 10 men was killed. When the remainder still would not worship Roman gods, Maximilian had other soldiers massacre the entire legion of 6,000. Though the number may be exaggerated, a martyrdom of some Christian soldiers seems believable. Maurice is a patron saint of all armies, the Swiss Guard and Austria.

Stewardship Is...



Love in Action

There are many wonderful ways to pass on love and financial support to your parish and Catholic family even after you are gone. Learn about the many ways to give by contacting Nancy in the office at 305-872-2537 or the Office of Planned Giving at 305-762-1112 to learn more.



*“Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money? Are you envious because I am generous?”*

*( Mathew 20:15)*



### Prayer to Spare the Florida Keys from Storms and Hurricanes:

Eternal Father, creator of all the world  
and all that is in it,  
we beg you to spare the  
Florida Keys from storms and Hurricanes.

If one should occur, we ask that it go  
out to sea where it may do the  
least amount of damage to anyone.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

As Christian stewards, we are likewise free to make our own choice. Is a generous return to the Lord in thanksgiving for His many blessings among the choices we have made? Are we generous in returning our “first fruits” to the Lord in response to His many gifts?







Grandparent's Day  
Blessings at 11:00 Mass  
last Sunday







Grandparents' Day Blessings at 5:30 pm  
Mass last Saturday night





Grandparent's Day Blessings  
at 11:00am Mass last Sunday



Kathy Rhodes Birthday Blessing  
photo from Sept. 6th—(due to a  
glitch her photo was not in last  
week).





# PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE COMPARISON // NOV 3, 2020



Compiled by the Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops

In keeping with its mission, the Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops aims to educate and inform Catholics about a wide range of issues. The information compiled here has been gathered from policies, public statements, official and campaign websites, and other resources, as of September 1, 2020, to help voters form their consciences before voting in November. The issues that appear here do not represent a complete list of issues that may be of importance to Catholics. The FCCB neither supports nor opposes any candidate for public office.

## President DONALD TRUMP



## Former Vice-President JOE BIDEN



### ABORTION

In 2016, [Trump said](#) that the overturning of *Roe v. Wade* “will happen automatically...because I am putting pro-life justices on the [U.S. Supreme] Court.”

In 2017, [Trump signed into law](#) a resolution to allow states to restrict Title X funding for Planned Parenthood and other abortion providers.

According to his website, “As president, [Biden will work](#) to codify *Roe v. Wade*, and his Justice Department will do everything in its power to stop the rash of state laws that so blatantly violate the constitutional right to an abortion...”

“As president, [Biden will...reverse](#) the Trump Administration’s rule preventing Planned Parenthood and certain other family planning programs from obtaining Title X funds.”

### DEATH PENALTY

In 2020, [the Trump Administration presided](#) over five executions (three in July and two in August), the first to be carried out by the federal government in 17 years. Two additional executions are scheduled in September 2020.

According to his website, “[Biden will work](#) to pass legislation to eliminate the death penalty at the federal level, and incentivize states to follow the federal government’s example. These individuals should instead serve life sentences without probation or parole.”

### EDUCATIONAL CHOICE

In February 2020, [Trump said](#), “Yet, for too long, countless American children have been trapped in failing government schools. To rescue these students, 18 states have created school choice in the form of Opportunity Scholarships...no parent should be forced to send their child to a failing government school.”

In January 2020, [Biden tweeted](#), “When we divert public funds to private schools, we undermine the entire public education system. We’ve got to prioritize investing in our public schools, so every kid in America gets a fair shot. That’s why I oppose vouchers.”

### ENVIRONMENT

[Trump has begun](#) the process of withdrawing the U.S. from the Paris Agreement on climate change, an international agreement to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions.

According to his website, [a Biden administration will re-enter](#) the Paris Agreement on day one.

### ETHICS IN RESEARCH

In 2019, [the Trump Administration announced](#) its decision to discontinue research conducted within the National Institutes of Health “involving the use of human fetal tissue from elective abortion”.

While serving in the U.S. Senate: In 2007, [Biden voted](#) in favor of the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act of 2007 (S.5), which provides for human embryonic stem cell research. In 1998, [Biden voted](#) against the Human Cloning Prohibition Act (S.1601).

### GENDER ISSUES

In 2019, [the White House confirmed](#) Trump’s opposition to the [Equality Act](#), which would add the new terms “sexual orientation” and “gender identity” to the definition of “sex” in federal civil rights laws, and would exempt itself from the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993: “The Trump Administration absolutely opposes discrimination of any kind and supports the equal treatment of all. However, this bill in its current form is filled with poison pills that threaten to undermine parental and conscience rights.”

According to his website, [Biden believes](#) the [Equality Act](#) is the “best vehicle for ensuring equal rights under the law for LGBTQ+ Americans, and will guarantee that LGBTQ+ individuals are protected under existing civil rights laws.” Biden lists enacting the Equality Act as a top legislative priority.





## PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE COMPARISON

### DONALD TRUMP

### JOE BIDEN

#### HEALTH CARE ACCESS

According to his website, [Trump](#) “repealed the Obamacare individual mandate, expanded plan choices and increased competition to bring down costs for consumers.” In June 2020, [the Trump administration argued](#) in a legal brief that the entire Affordable Care Act (ACA) should be invalidated. Signed into law in 2010, ACA expanded access to health care coverage for the uninsured.

According to a White House fact sheet, [Trump](#) “is using all available means to ensure safe vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics are developed, manufactured, and distributed in unprecedented time and scale in response to COVID-19.”

According to his website, [Biden will protect](#) the Affordable Care Act and build on it by “giving Americans a new choice, a public health insurance option like Medicare; increasing the value of tax credits to lower premiums and extend coverage to more working Americans; [and] expanding coverage to low-income Americans.”

According to his website, [Biden’s COVID-19 plan](#) “ensures the wide availability of free testing; the elimination of all cost barriers to preventive care and treatment for COVID-19; the development of a vaccine; and the full deployment and operation of necessary supplies, personnel, and facilities.”

#### IMMIGRATION/REFUGEES

According to his website, “Upon entering office, [President Trump called on](#) Congress to fully fund a wall along the Southern border, to close legal loopholes that enable illegal immigration, to end chain migration, and to eliminate the visa lottery program.”

In July 2020, [the Trump Administration announced](#) it would reject applications for the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program stating, “...the fact remains that Congress should act on this matter.”

[The Trump Administration proposes](#) resettling 18,000 refugees under a new refugee ceiling. The number admitted in 2016 was nearly 85,000.

According to Biden’s website, “As president, [Joe will prioritize](#) a comprehensive immigration reform to finally give 11 million undocumented immigrants a roadmap to citizenship.”

In June 2020, [Biden stated](#), “As President, I will immediately work to make [DACA] permanent by sending a bill to Congress on day one of my Administration.”

[Biden will set](#) the annual global refugee admissions cap to 125,000.

#### POVERTY

In 2019, [the Trump Administration opposed](#) a House-passed bill that would raise the federal minimum wage to \$15, stating, “efforts to reduce taxes, eliminate regulations, and implement fairer trade deals are driving economic growth and increasing workers’ take-home pay far more effectively and efficiently than legislation like H.R. 582.” The current federal minimum wage is \$7.25 per hour; a number of states and localities have adopted higher rates.

According to Biden’s website, “[He firmly believes](#) all Americans are owed a raise, and it’s well past time we increase the federal minimum wage to \$15 across the country. This increase would include workers who aren’t currently earning the minimum wage, like the farmworkers who grow our food and domestic workers who care for our aging and sick and for those with disabilities.”

#### RACIAL EQUITY

In June 2020, [Trump announced](#) four steps to address racial inequity and police reform: 1) aggressively pursuing economic development in minority communities; 2) confronting healthcare disparities, including addressing chronic conditions and investing in minority-serving medical institutions; 3) an [executive order](#) that will encourage police departments nationwide to meet the most current professional standards for the use of force, including tactics for de-escalation; and 4) renewing a call on Congress to enact school choice.

In a June 2020 op-ed, [Biden said](#), “We should also be directing our resources to actively undo the negative effect systemic racism has had on opportunities for black Americans,” citing inequities for African-American entrepreneurs, the gap in home ownership and discriminatory lending practices. [Biden also said](#), “...I’m proposing an additional \$300 million to reinvigorate community policing in our country. Every single police department should have the money it needs to institute real reforms...”

#### RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

In 2017, [Trump signed](#) an executive order, which states, “Federal law protects the freedom of Americans and their organizations to exercise religion and participate fully in civic life without undue interference by the Federal Government. The executive branch will honor and enforce those protections.”

In response to a July 2020 U.S. Supreme Court ruling preserving the religious liberty of the Little Sisters of the Poor, [a White House statement said](#), “As the Supreme Court has previously stated, protecting the ability of people to worship and live according to the dictates of their conscience is part of ‘the best of our traditions.’”

According to Biden’s website, “The Trump-Pence Administration has deliberately and systematically attempted to gut protections for the LGBTQ+ community by carving out broad religious exemptions to existing nondiscrimination laws and policies across federal agencies. [Biden will reverse](#) Trump’s policies misusing these broad exemptions...”

Regarding the July 2020 ruling, [Biden said](#) the decision, “will make it easier for the Trump-Pence Administration to continue to strip health care from women--attempting to carve out broad exemptions to the Affordable Care Act’s commitment to giving all women free access to recommended contraception.”

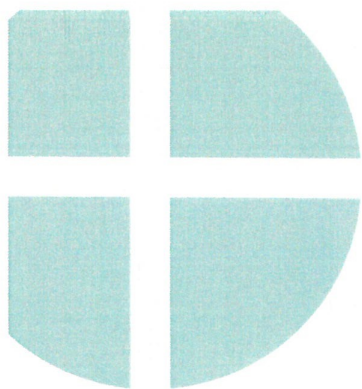
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*Disclaimer: As a nonprofit 501(c)(4) organization, the Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops is not associated with any political party and does not endorse any candidate, political party, or political action committee.*



FLORIDA CONFERENCE  
OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS





# CIVILIZE IT



DIGNITY BEYOND THE DEBATE

2020

## Builders of Bridges

By Emily Schumacher-Novak

Assistant Director of Education and Outreach  
USCCB Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development

*"Although there are many reasons to be discouraged, amid many prophets of destruction and condemnation, and so many negative and despairing voices, may you be a positive force, for this society.*

*Like the engine of a train, may you be the driving force leading all towards their destination. May you be sowers of hope, builders of bridges and agents of dialogue and harmony."*

—Pope Francis, Apostolic Journey, April 29th, 2017

We need now, more than ever, "agents of dialogue and harmony" in every community across our country. So, how can Catholics respond to Pope Francis' call to be these "sowers of hope" that might help heal our communities, when there is so much trying to tear us apart?

Our Catholic tradition has a long history of commitment to human dignity, that requires us to raise our voices when we see injustice happening around us. Our commitment to human dignity is broad and deep. We are called to uphold the dignity of all people: those not yet born, immigrants at the border, those suffering under racist systems that deny their full humanity, the elderly whose lives are not valued, people without proper healthcare, and yes, even those who disagree with us about how to solve the problems our communities face.

In recognizing the need for more agents of dialogue in our communities, USCCB launched an initiative called Civilize It in November of 2019, a year ahead of our now imminent national election. As the bishops state in *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship* (FCFC), "The Church calls for a different kind of political engagement: one shaped by the moral convictions of well-formed consciences and focused on the dignity of every human being, the pursuit of the common good, and the protection of the weak and the vulnerable." (FCFC, no. 14)



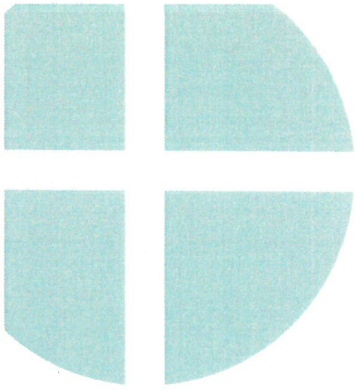
Catholic  
Current

Prayer taken from the Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers, Revised Edition (Washington, DC: USCCB, 2007), 365.  
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BULLETIN

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## Civilize it—page 2

Civilize It calls us to speak truth with love. Civilize It is an opportunity to build bridges in our communities and for each one of us to become an agent of dialogue by avoiding making assumptions about others and resisting hurtful personal attacks when engaged in important, often difficult conversations. Open dialogue requires authentic relationship. We must be willing to listen with an open mind to the experiences which inform the viewpoints of our brothers and sisters. At the same time, we know that not all viewpoints hold the same weight. Those which advocate for the destruction of human lives or uphold racist stereotypes are our responsibility to correct with charity. This is how we are called to love our neighbor.

Loving our neighbor through open dialogue is even more important today, while so many of us are at home more and spending more time interacting virtually. It is often easier to deny the dignity of someone who is not right in front of you. While interacting online, we don't have the benefit of non-verbal cues and body language. And yet our call remains the same: speak the truth with love.

We can be builders of bridges and agents of dialogue, as Pope Francis calls us to be, by adhering to the three tenets of the Civilize It campaign: civility, clarity, and compassion. Here's what each of the components of the pledge invite us to do:

- **Civility:** Honor the human dignity of the other, recognizing each person and a *beloved* child of God. This is especially true for those we find it difficult to love, or even those closest to us, within our own families.
- **Clarity:** Seek understanding first. This might be accomplished by asking ourselves, "How do I enter this conversation? Am I trying to "win" or am I authentically looking to understand the experiences and viewpoints of others?" Assuming a posture of learning from one another often helps.
- **Compassion:** Be willing to take a step into the life and experiences of another person. Are we willing to stand together in the pain or the joy, and to seek commonality and solutions together?

Honoring human dignity means answering the call in our communities to seek solutions as brothers and sisters, united by our care for one another. We are not afraid of tough conversations, but approach one another with civility, compassion, and clarity, sowing the hope we gain from Christ our savior.

Emily Schumacher-Novak holds an M.A. in Systematic Theology from Marquette University. She worked for ten years in Catholic higher education before coming to the USCCB. Emily now serves as the Assistant Director of Education and Outreach in the Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development at USCCB.



## **St. Peter Catholic Church Website**



Visit the St. Peter Church website at  
<http://www.stpeterbpk.org>

Click on the Photos tab or follow us on Facebook to look at the photos taken at recent event at St. Peter Church!

**You can also donate to our Rebuild Fund on the website now!**

Have you filled out your census form yet?

If not, just go to 2020 Census.gov.

It only takes a few minutes and can have an impact on government funding of some of the programs listed below:

# Census data impacts funding for resources like:

- > Libraries
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- > Community centers

For more information, visit:  
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# St. Peter Catholic Church

31300 Overseas Hwy

Big Pine Key, FL 33043

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www.stpeterbpk.org



*Dear Peterites and Friends of St. Peter's,*

*St. Peter Catholic Church invites you to consider the option of Direct Debit, an electronic collection program to automate your regular weekly offerings, pulled directly from your checking or savings account.*

*Would you prefer to go paperless and take advantage of any of the following Direct Debit choices?*

*Here are the choices currently available to consider:*

***Weekly Offering:*** Funds pulled weekly.

***Weekly 50/50:*** \$5.00 pulled weekly.

*{The 50/50 Drawing: ACH weekly debits & collecting of cash or checks have been suspended until Masses resume.}*

***Monthly Choices:***

*Funds pulled on next Business Day after 20<sup>th</sup> of the Month.*

***Monthly Rebuild Offering:*** Funds pulled on next Business Day after 20<sup>th</sup> of the Month.

*Direct Debit giving is convenient for you and provides much-needed consistency for our parish, especially during these times. There is no cost for you to participate.*

*If you are currently giving on a weekly basis, you will no longer need to write out 52 checks a year or prepare 52 envelopes. And if you are seasonal or when future travel opportunities resume, illness or other circumstances like what we are faced with currently, prevent you from attending Mass with us here at St Peter's, this program will allow your weekly offerings to continue uninterrupted.*

*To get started, simply call and speak to Nancy McCrosson in the Parish office to answer any questions you may have #305-872-2537.*

*We thank you for your continued support to our parish here at St. Peter and we pray all of you and your loved ones are safe and well.*

*God Bless You,*

*Nancy McCrosson*

**Guidelines for Reopening of Mass**  
**At St. Peter Pavilion Chapel**  
**As of May 29, 2020**  
**For St. Peter's Parishioners and Visitors**

Welcome back to the public celebration of the Holy Eucharist at St. Peter's Pavilion Church. We give thanks that we are able to join once again as the Body of Christ for communal worship. As you know, these are not normal times and there will be new ways of doing things as we come together for Mass. Every effort is being made to protect you and your loved ones and to respect the sanctity of our liturgical traditions.

We ask that you and your family faithfully adhere to all guidelines put in place for your protection and for all those who gather. Though we face challenging times, we can rest in the comfort and peace that only Christ can give us through the celebration of the Mass as one family.

**General Norms**

The parish will follow the orders of the county health authorities and the directives of the Archdiocese of Miami.

The number of persons allowed to participate at Mass in the Pavilion is from 55 to 110 people (depending on single or double seating) to ensure that the six-foot social distancing may be observed. On-line reservations for Mass may be offered in the future to help with over-flow.

Ushers will seat the allowed number of persons in the Pavilion. Once capacity is reached, others may hear Mass via video or live stream in their cars (utilizing their own internet access). Holy Communion will be distributed to those in the parking area.

Weekend Mass on the regular schedule of 8:30 & 11:00am and daily Mass at 9:00 am. The Pavilion Chapel will be used for all Masses.

The public restrooms will be available for emergency or urgent use only.

The Parish cleaning teams will be sanitizing pews, entrances, restrooms, and all other facilities before and after Mass.

Due to our "tent" situation, the Pavilion will be closed after the celebration of daily and weekend Masses and will not be available for personal prayer.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is now available with our new plexiglass confessional.

**Guidelines for the Assembly**

It is suggested you use your best judgement as it relates to your attending public Mass, considering your health risk. Dispensation for the faithful is still in effect and if you are at risk, you may continue to watch Mass on-line or on television. You may also attend daily Mass in lieu of Sunday, when there is normally less people in attendance.

If you are sick, have flu-like or COVID-19 symptoms, stay at home. If you are frail because of age or vulnerable because of an underlying condition, or you are a caretaker of someone who is, it might be reasonable for you to stay home. If you are fearful, stay home.

Parents should seriously consider leaving young children at home due to reported COVID-19 complications for some. Masks are required for the duration of the Mass for any children over the age of 2. There will be no free space available to roam or move about.



Everyone is required to bring their own mask and wear it correctly for the duration of the Mass. The Usher will check that everyone is wearing one upon entry. Thoroughly wash your hands before Mass and bring sanitizer with you for use during Mass.

You are required to maintain six feet of distance at all times with others attending Mass. The Usher will direct you upon entry, exit and during Communion. Please listen and comply respectfully to the Usher's requests. They are serving for your protection.

There will be no missals or handouts; however, an abbreviated version of the Bulletin will be at the exits for you to take yourself. Ushers will use long-handle baskets for the collection. A collection basket will also be at the exit for special or additional contributions.

You enter the Pavilion at the normal entrance. There will be a seating pattern to maintain proper social distancing. All Mass attendees will be seated according to the parish seating plan by an Usher. People living together in a house may be seated together in "double chairs". Please do not move the chairs.

You are encouraged to participate in the prayer responses and to listen meditatively to sung prayers and hymns. Simply enjoy being in the presence of the Lord and one another.

For Communion, persons will come forward in a single line up the center aisle or the pavers aisle to the Celebrant, designated at six-foot intervals. Follow the Usher's instructions for the procession. Masks are worn in the Communion line and then lowered while in line before approaching the Communion Minister. After receiving Communion, the mask is raised immediately. Communion will be received in the hand only.

An Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion will distribute Holy Communion to those listening to Mass in the overflow area/parking lot. Follow the Usher or Parking and Traffic Minister's instructions for the procession and six-foot distancing. Masks are worn in the Communion line and then lowered while in line before approaching the Communion Minister. After receiving Communion, the mask is raised immediately. Communion will be received in the hand only.

There will be two (2) exits to be used. People seating in the main pavilion area will exit by the entrance. Those seated in the pavers area will exit by the door in front towards the sacristy trailer. The Usher will instruct each row to leave at the appropriate time to maintain distancing. Please do not congregate at the exits.



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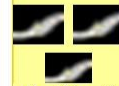
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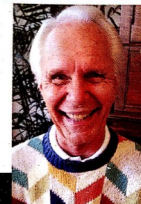
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