

# 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)

## FEBRUARY 21, 2021

### 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

#### **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:

Jack Louden  
[Jack@stpeterbpk.org](mailto:Jack@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)

Debbie Krieger  
[Deborah@stpeterbpk.org](mailto:Deborah@stpeterbpk.org)

##### Maintenance Supervisor

Vincent Padron

#### **MASSES:**

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

Daily Masses: 9am Mon-Fri.

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

#### **CONFESSIONS:**

Saturday: 4:45 pm to 5:15 pm  
in the Pavilion Chapel  
(or by appointment)

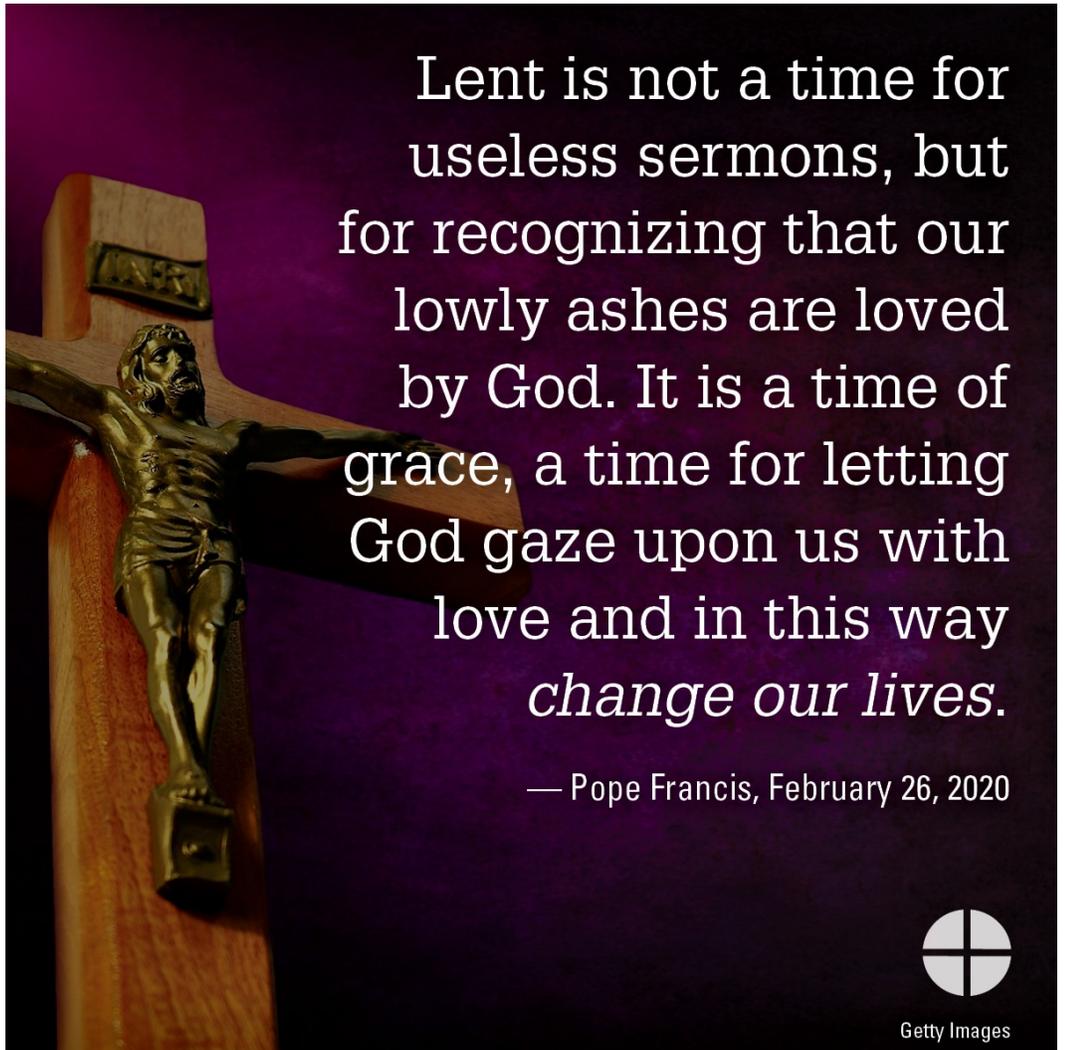
**BAPTISMS, FUNERALS and  
WEDDINGS** (by appointment)

Contact Nancy or Connie in the  
parish office

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

Lent is not a time for  
useless sermons, but  
for recognizing that our  
lowly ashes are loved  
by God. It is a time of  
grace, a time for letting  
God gaze upon us with  
love and in this way  
*change our lives.*

— Pope Francis, February 26, 2020



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, February 20, 2021

5:30pm +Richard Reithmayr by Mike Coppola

### Sunday, February 21, 2021

8:30 am +Rose Pasquarella by Mike Coppola

11:00: +Brian Zuchowski by Cheryl Esian

### Monday, February 22, 2021

9:00am + Fr. Seamus Ward by Mike Coppola

### Tuesday, February 23, 2021

9:00am +Thomas Weiss by Carol Schulz  
+Mariana Swan by Carol Schulz

### Wednesday, February 24, 2021

9:00 am +Nicholas Chamicki by the Pannick Family

### Thursday, February 25, 2021

9:00am

### Friday, February 26, 2021

9:00am

### Saturday, February 27, 2021

5:30:

### Sunday, February 28, 2021

8:30:

11:00am Parishioners and Friends of St. Peter Church

**All in-person Ministry 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 line or on 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



# Living the Faith

## JOURNEY TO THE FOOT OF THE CROSS: BISHOP RICKEN OFFERS 10 THINGS TO REMEMBER FOR LENT

*Bishop David L. Ricken of Green Bay, Wisconsin, former chairman of the Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), offers “10 Things to Remember for Lent”:*

**1. Remember the formula.** The Church does a good job capturing certain truths with easy-to-remember lists and formulas: 10 Commandments, 7 sacraments, 3 persons in the Trinity. For Lent, the Church gives us almost a slogan—Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving—as the three things we need to work on during the season.

**2. It’s a time of prayer.** Lent is essentially an act of prayer spread out over 40 days. As we pray, we go on a journey, one that hopefully brings us closer to Christ and leaves us changed by the encounter with him.

**3. It’s a time to fast.** With the fasts of Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, meatless Fridays, and our personal disciplines interspersed, Lent is the only time many Catholics these days actually fast. And maybe that’s why it gets all the attention. “What are you giving up for Lent? Hot dogs? Beer? Jelly beans?” It’s almost a game for some of us, but fasting is actually a form of penance, which helps us turn away from sin and toward Christ.

**4. It’s a time to work on discipline.** The 40 days of Lent are also a good, set time to work on personal discipline in general. Instead of giving something up, it can be doing something positive. “I’m going to exercise more. I’m going to pray more. I’m going to be nicer to my family, friends, and coworkers.”

**5. It’s about dying to yourself.** The more serious side of Lenten discipline is that it’s about more than self-control—it’s about finding aspects of yourself that are less than Christ-like and letting them die. The suffering and death of Christ are foremost on our minds during Lent, and we join in these mysteries by suffering, dying with Christ and being resurrected in a purified form.

**6. Don’t do too much.** It’s tempting to make Lent some ambitious period of personal reinvention, but

it’s best to keep it simple and focused. There’s a reason the Church works on these mysteries year after year. We spend our entire lives growing closer to God. Don’t try to cram it all in one Lent. That’s a recipe for failure.

**7. Lent reminds us of our weakness.** Of course, even when we set simple goals for ourselves during Lent, we still have trouble keeping them. When we fast, we realize we’re all just one meal away from hunger. In both cases, Lent shows us our weakness. This can be painful, but recognizing how helpless we are makes us seek God’s help with renewed urgency and sincerity.

**8. Be patient with yourself.** When we’re confronted with our own weakness during Lent, the temptation is to get angry and frustrated. “What a bad person I am!” But that’s the wrong lesson. God is calling us to be patient and to see ourselves as he does, with unconditional love.

**9. Reach out in charity.** As we experience weakness and suffering during Lent, we should be renewed in our compassion for those who are hungry, suffering, or otherwise in need. The third part of the Lenten formula is almsgiving. It’s about more than throwing a few extra dollars in the collection plate; it’s about reaching out to others and helping them without question as a way of sharing the experience of God’s unconditional love.

**10. Learn to love like Christ.** Giving of ourselves in the midst of our suffering and self-denial brings us closer to loving like Christ, who suffered and poured himself out unconditionally on the Cross for all of us. Lent is a journey through the desert to the foot of the Cross on Good Friday, as we seek him out, ask his help, join in his suffering, and learn to love like him.





## Thank You

FOR SHARING YOUR TIME,  
TALENT AND TREASURE

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

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

**1st Collection: \$ 4,678.00**

**2nd Collection \$ 1,250.00**

**Direct Debit: \$ 580.00**

**Ash Wednesday \$ 1,639.00**

**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, Mary and William Scheidell, Mike Graham, Tiffany Howard, Jim Oettle, Kate Menser Hughey, Marilyn Nichols, Mark Stump, Bob Gaster, Gerry & Dorothy Bauer, Pat McCullah, Lance Hill, Randy Reinhart, Patrick Mescal, Mickey McEnaney, Fr. Peter Scott, Maria Wirshing, the Paans Family, Diane Neault, Ruth Fidler, Kaylee Mescal.

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 we are in our new church. Your Direct Debit 50/50 account will not be charged, and please do not turn in your \$5 50/50 envelopes until we resume. 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.

# 10 Pointers for Prayer



The baby's crying, the dog is whining, and you need to leave for work in five minutes. Finding time for prayer can seem impossible. Amid the busyness of family life, how can one respond to God's ongoing invitation to speak with and listen to Him? Here are 10 pointers to help you do just that:

1. **Pray as you can, not as you can't.** God calls most Christians to an active life in the world, with family, work, and community responsibilities. Such a call, while holy, does not usually allow for long periods of prayer and reflection. Lay people can become discouraged when they try to pray like a cloistered contemplative. Be realistic about what's possible
2. **Take ten—or twenty.** If a half hour for prayer isn't possible, how about ten minutes, or twenty? Choose a good time of day and stick with it. Designate a special site for prayer so that spot becomes holy. Spouses and children can help by minding children during respective quiet times.
3. **Pray as a family.** Build upon rituals such as grace before meals. In addition to the usual "Bless us, O Lord,...", encourage family members to offer thanks for the blessings of the day, as well as prayers for those in need. Couples can deepen their spiritual relationship by taking a few minutes, perhaps before bedtime, to commend to God the joys and sorrows of the day.
4. **Decorate your domestic church.** When we enter our parish church, the statues and pictures focus our minds on Jesus, Mary and the saints. We can create an atmosphere for prayer in our home—the domestic church—by displaying a crucifix, icons, the Bible and other holy objects. Take the children to a religious goods store and let them choose a picture or statue for their rooms.
5. **Short prayers count too.** When you're stopped at a long light or put on hold, consider it as God's invitation to turn your heart and mind to Him, if only for a few seconds.
6. **Find God at work.** Connecting with God in the workplace takes effort. Try to cultivate a few simple habits, For example, offer the day to God as you turn on your computer, or pray for the person you're about to call or wait upon.
7. **Jump start your prayer life.** Sooner or later almost everyone experiences dryness in prayer. God seems far away and prayer becomes a burden. Praying with Scripture, perhaps the daily mass readings, can help us focus. So, too, can an inspirational book, especially one of the spiritual classics. A good choice is St. Francis de Sales' "An Introduction to the Devout Life", written specifically for lay people who are striving for holiness.
8. **Ask your mother for help.** The Blessed Virgin Mary, our spiritual mother, understands our needs and offers profound comfort. One family, gathered around the bedside of their dying husband and father, found peace and healing through the recitation of the rosary. The rosary is ideal for the family since children can be taught the simple prayers at an early age. Check out instructions on how to pray the rosary.
9. **Read a good story.** Children and adults alike enjoy an inspiring story, and few stories are more compelling than those of the saints. Whether it's the little way of Therese of Lisieux or the heroism of Maximilian Kolbe, their stories offer something for everyone. Consider the particular virtue that a saint demonstrates and pray for help to emulate it. Perhaps it's the humility of St. Francis of Assisi, the patience of St. Monica or the courageous witness of St. Thomas Moore.
10. **Walk with a spiritual friend.** Prayer can lead to new thoughts and questions. Who better to share them with than a spiritual friend? A friend can help us to work through the concerns that inevitably arise in prayer. Good friends will hold each other accountable for their prayer life, making sure that prayer has not been neglected in the busyness of life. For married couples, a spouse is often this spiritual friend, but God will also put wise and holy people in our path when we need them. They can be the answer to prayer.

# 2021 ABCD

## ARCHBISHOP'S CHARITIES & DEVELOPMENT DRIVE

**Thank You!** With a grateful heart, thank you to those who generously made a commitment to the 2021 Archbishop's Charities and Development Drive (ABCD). We are truly grateful for the love and support of our parish community to help serve our Church above and beyond what happens here at St. Peter's. Because of your sacrificial giving, the ABCD can bring hope by serving others in their time of need, help our students continue on their journey of learning and prepare them for the future and raise a unified voice for peace and dignity of all human life.

Together, we are the Church.

If you have yet to respond to this year's ABCD, we need your help to reach our **parish goal of \$37,000.00**. So far, pledges and donations collected amount to **\$24,630.00**. This leaves us **\$12,370.00 short** of our goal. Please make your pledge or donation now before the end of February 2021. You may do this online at [www.isupportABCD.org](http://www.isupportABCD.org). Make sure you indicate our Parish name: **St. Peter Church**. If you need assistance, please call Nancy at 305-872-2537. You can obtain a pledge envelope from the parish office or the back of the pavilion. The names below are names of parishioners who have donated so far—this list will be updated weekly.

### Thank you and God bless you!

Barbara Barzen	Stephen Golder	Pat Parenty	Norma Washabaugh
Gary Beaton	Rosalinda Hally	Patricia Pollotta	
Mark Berenz	Neil Haring	Eliseo Pombo	
Howard Bleich	Robert Harrell	Jorge Ramos	
Armand Boiselle	Connie Hauk	Kathleen Rhodes	
Vivial Brummer	Mary Ann Henderson	Barrie Ricketts	
Larry Bullock	Kathleen Henry	Antonio Ricketts	
Thomas Carbone	Thomas Janzen	Antonio Rodriguez	
Albert Casagrande	Sheri Jude	Robert Sangrey	
Roberta Castillo	Patrick Kennedy	Thomas Schoonbeck	
Edward Christie	Pat Kersey	Carol Schulz	
Olga Conrady	Lee Kiser	Honora Shaffer	
Michael Coppola	Vicente Lopez	Richard Shenk	
Patricia Cumberbatch	Sheila Madden	George Sherko	
Richard DiBonaventura	Louis Martin	Tamara Snider	
Terry Dusseau	Bruce Maaxwell	Lurana Snow	
Darrell Dye	Fr. Jets Medina	Anthony Sporer	
Larry Elfers	William Miller	Peter Stella	
Paul Engel	Dominic Monaco	Leonora Stulken	
Deniz Fonseca	Sue Myers	Enrique Suarez	
Daniel Ford	Donald Nelson	James Thompson	
Rowena Frank-Garcia	James Nichols	John Threadgill	
		Steve Wagner	



Thank you Lisa and Jack Lewis for touching up, repairing and hanging our Stations of the Cross in the pavilion again. They worked on them upstairs in the Ministry Center Chapel, carried them down one by one to the pavilion and got up on ladders to put them in place. Thank You!!

### Lenten Regulations:

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.

### St. Peter Community Food Bank

**We are now open only on Wednesdays from 9:30-noon — food is temporarily being distributed from the tent in the parking lot**

**Dear Peterites: THANK YOU for your generosity and continued support! Because of your good deeds we were able to continue to help many clients with food during difficult times. We pray the Lord blesses your giving hearts abundantly.**

**Gratefully: the Food Bank Volunteer Staff**

Most needed items are:

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



**The Food Bank trailer has been sold.** The Food Bank has been temporarily relocated. Food distribution will be from a tent on the parking lot on Wednesdays from 9:30-noon until they move into their new location adjacent to the Parish Hall. Money realized from the sale will be used to pay for needed items that were not covered by insurance. **The entrance to our property has changed too.** Thank you for your patience and cooperation—we are all struggling to adapt to the changes, but just keep in mind how wonderful it will be when the construction is complete!

# Amazing Grace

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound,  
That saved a wretch like me...  
I once was lost but now am found,  
Was blind, but now, I see.

T'was Grace that taught...  
my heart to fear.  
And Grace, my fears relieved.  
How precious did that Grace appear...  
the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares...  
we have already come.  
T'was Grace that brought us safe thus far...  
and Grace will lead us home.

The Lord has promised good to me...  
His word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be...  
as long as life endures.

When we've been here ten thousand years...  
bright shining as the sun.  
We've no less days to sing God's praise...  
then when we've first begun.

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound,  
That saved a wretch like me...  
I once was lost but now am found,  
Was blind, but now, I see.

**Rice Bowls** will be available from Ash Wednesday through Lent. Each family should have a Rice Bowl box in their homes for the entire family to sacrifice their pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters and dollars to help feed the poor aided by Catholic Relief Services.

**Pray harder, sacrifice more and give to the poor this Lent.**

Our next **CCD Mass** for all students through High School will be March 7. Each student can bring or will be given a **Rosary** to be blessed by Father Jets in remembrance of Our Lady of Lourdes' request that we pray.

This week, think about our reading from Genesis:

The Rainbow is the sign of God's covenant with His people. When you see a rainbow,



know that God is speaking to you: "I am your God, you are my people. I am with you, you are mine and I love you." Pray and give glory to God.

## 10 Lessons I Want to Instill in My Kids...

- If you're thankful, show it.
- If you love someone, tell them.
- If you're wrong, fess up.
- If you're confused, ask questions.
- If you learn something, teach others.
- If you're stuck, ask for help.
- If you made a mistake, apologize.
- If you trip, get back up.
- If someone needs help, help them.
- If you see wrong, take a stance.



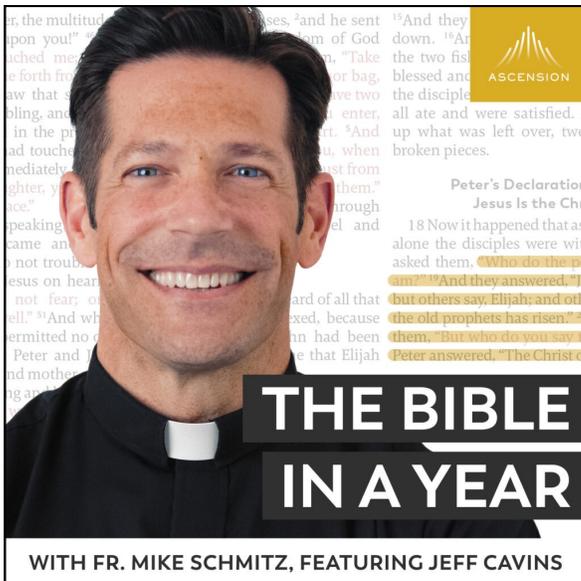
Blessing of Married couples  
World Marriage Day  
Feb. 14, 2021



## Lenten Faith Formation Opportunity:

Are you interested in enhancing your Lenten experience and learning more about your Catholic Faith? Join us each Friday during Lent (February 19<sup>th</sup> – April 2<sup>nd</sup>) from 12:00 – 1:00 for a Zoom gathering as we explore the 7 themes of Catholic social thought using resources available through the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and Catholic Relief Services.

Because we will be using zoom, this opportunity is open to Catholics from Key West to Key Largo. To register, or for more information, please call Patrice Schwermer at 305 807 4503 or email [pschwermer@ccadom.org](mailto:pschwermer@ccadom.org).



If you've struggled to read the Bible, this podcast is for you.

Ascension's *Bible in a Year* Podcast, hosted by Fr. Mike Schmitz and featuring Jeff Cavins, guides Catholics through the Bible in 365 daily episodes starting January 1st, 2021.

Each 20-25 minute episode includes:

- two to **three scripture readings**
- a **reflection** from Fr. Mike Schmitz
- and **guided prayer** to help you **hear God's voice in his Word.**

Unlike any other Bible podcast, Ascension's *Bible in a Year* Podcast for Catholics follows a reading plan inspired by the Great Adventure *Bible Timeline*® learning system, a **groundbreaking approach to understanding Salvation History** developed by renowned Catholic Bible teacher Jeff Cavins.

Tune in and live your daily life through the lens of God's word!

You can listen using any free podcast app on your smartphone or tablet or via your browser at [ascensionpress.com/bibleinayear](http://ascensionpress.com/bibleinayear).



Chaplet of Divine Mercy Novena at St. Peter's  
Weekly on Wednesday after 9 am Mass -- February 3 until  
March 31

Daily from April 2 to April 10

Please come and pray the Novena - All are welcome!

**Pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy**

God asked Saint Faustina to become the apostle and secretary of God's mercy, a model of how to be merciful to others, and an instrument for reemphasizing God's plan of mercy for the world. This message of mercy is now being spread throughout the world,

Through Saint Faustina, Jesus also revealed special ways to live out the response to His mercy—one of which is praying the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, as both a novena and a prayer. As a novena, the Chaplet is usually begun on Good Friday and completed on Divine Mercy Sunday, the Sunday following Easter. During each day of the Novena, which is prayed on Rosary beads, Jesus asked that different groups of souls be brought to his merciful heart to receive His graces and the gifts of His mercy. A second option is to pray the novena weekly, for nine weeks leading up to Divine Mercy Sunday. In this weekly format, the groups of souls are prayed for weekly. Both options are available this year at St. Peter Church.

As we prepare to transition to our new and permanent church, we turn to God in gratitude, devotion and petition. Surely, if we put out a little extra effort to pray this Novena during Lent, our parish will experience many blessings and conversions, God's mercy will increase in the world and we will live out the response to God's mercy as requested through St. Faustina.

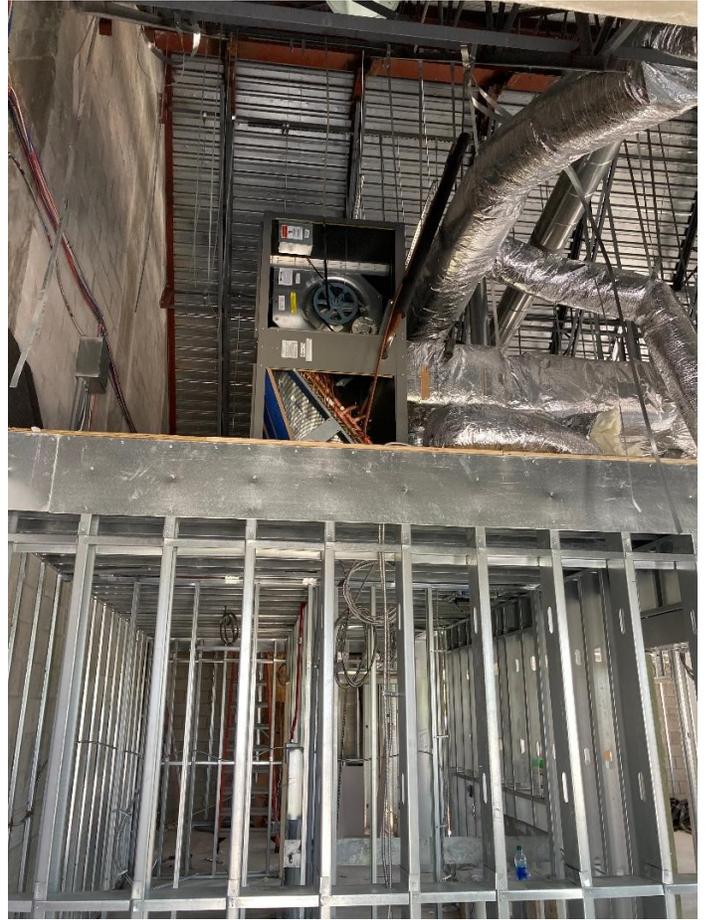
Please prayerfully consider participating in the Divine Mercy Novena this year. Choose the option that works best for you, or come to both if possible:

WEEKLY on Wednesday after 9 a.m. daily Mass in the pavilion from February 3 to March 31, AND

DAILY from Good Friday, April 2 to Saturday April 10, before Divine Mercy Sunday.

All are invited to pray this powerful prayer. Of course, the option to join in praying the Divine Mercy Novena from home is available.







Two week look ahead  
 Feb. 18, 2021

**2-Week Look Ahead**

Project Name:														
St. Peter's Catholic Church														
Project Start Date:	Prepared by:													
	Jesus													
Date:	Month:	15-Feb	16-Feb	17-Feb	18-Feb	19-Feb	20-Feb	21-Feb	22-Feb	23-Feb	24-Feb	25-Feb	26-Feb	
2/16/2021	February	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	
Description														
Ceiling Frame installation at Church														
Walls insulation and hanging GWB at Parish Hall walls														
Rough electrical installation at Mezzanine														
Rough Plumbing & main water at Buildings														
Rough Electrical for lights at Office, church, rectory														
AHU & Condensing Units installations(refrigerant lines) Office, Church and Parish Halls														
Stucco Church and Parish Halls details														
Stone Installation														
Windows buck installations														
Roof system														
Rectory Main Building Work														
Gas Line installation.														
Sitework Backfill & parking area preparation for asphalt and retention area.														

■ TENTATIVE  
■ HOLIDAY

■ TO PERFORM



We have \$25.00 Gift Certificates for the  
**KiKi's Sandbar**



**Square Grouper**

**Milagro**

**RE: Milagro: Milagro Restaurant in Big Pine will close the end of February and re-open in Key West on May 1st at 1401 Simonton St. You will be able to use your gift certificates in their KW location as of May 1, or you can return them to us for a refund or exchange.**

**A percentage of the \$25.00 goes to our Religious Education Fund and helps finance our Religious Ed and Scholarship Programs.**

**Gift Certificates can be purchased through the office during office hours, M-F 9:30am-3pm, or call the office at 305-872-2537 to make other arrangements.**



Our children's future is our responsibility. Creating an endowment in your will for Catholic Education is a great way to pass on your Catholic Faith and create a long-lasting legacy. To learn how you can start an endowment fund toward Catholic education, contact the Office of Planned Giving at 305-762-1112 or contact Nancy in St. Peter's office at 305-872-2537

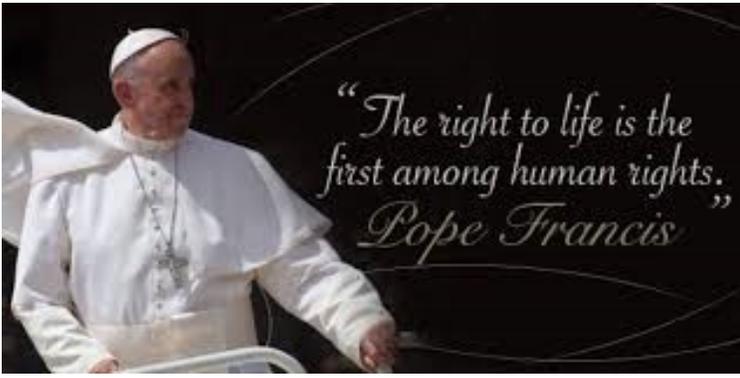


*"After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God"*

*( Mark 1:14)*

Do you ever think about how difficult it must have been for Jesus to come into Galilee, knowing that John had just been arrested for teaching the same message that Jesus was proclaiming? It must have taken great love and trust for Jesus to do what the Father had sent Him here on earth to do. In the same way, following a life of stewardship takes great love and trust from us. We must be willing to surrender completely to God, trusting that God will always give us all that we need to fulfill his plan for us.





### **Walking With Moms**

This year is the 25th anniversary of the encyclical of the Gospel of Life (Evangelium Vitae) by Pope St. John Paul II. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has launched the initiative of a year of service entitled "Walking with Moms" in alliance with this Gospel of Life.

All parishes in the Archdiocese of Miami are invited to participate in this initiative to support Moms facing a difficult pregnancy in our local community. All parishes are invited to increase awareness of and to support our five respect life crisis pregnancy centers in South Florida.

In our own parish, an inventory tool has been completed to identify what local resources are available and to identify gaps in service. The next phase is to identify and implement ways this parish can help fill those gaps in service.

**For more information and ways to participate and volunteer in the respect life ministry in our parish, please contact Maria Sims at 305-394-7857 or the parish office, Please review the information in more detail at the website [respectlifemiami.org](http://respectlifemiami.org).**



**Respect Life Ministry exists to uphold the sanctity of all human life from conception to natural death;**

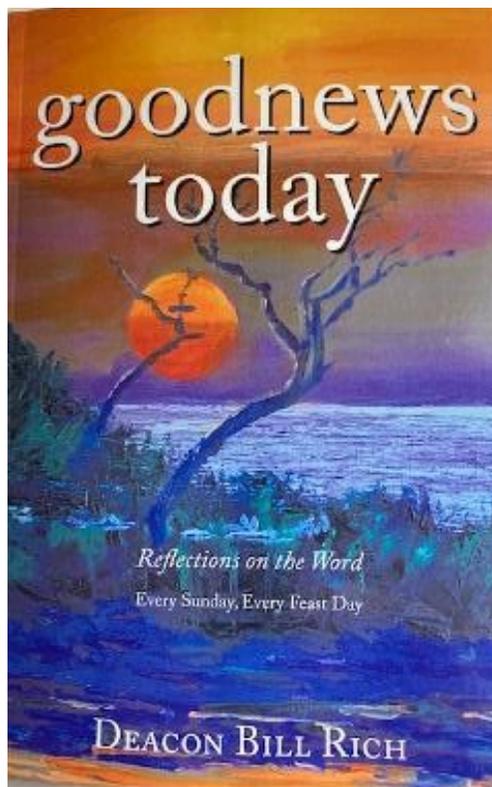
**The four pillars are:**

- 1.)** Public information and education to deepen understanding of the sanctity of life and the moral evil of intentionally killing innocent human beings.
- 2.)** Prayer, that the culture of death will be replaced by a culture of life and love (both individual and communal).
- 3.)** Public policy efforts that are directed at restoring legal protection to the lives of unborn children by providing morally acceptable alternatives to abortion.
- 4.)** Pastoral care which involves care for women with problems related to pregnancy and for all those who have been involved in abortion.



## **Walking With Moms in Need**

During Advent, we remember Mary's journey to motherhood. Today, many women are in need of support. Take the pledge to pray and serve women facing challenging or unexpected pregnancies and learn more about how you can help. Visit <https://www.walkingwithmoms.com>



Many thanks to Deacon Bill Rich who has donated 15 copies of his new book to our St. Peter Education Fund. We will be selling them for the cover price of \$28.99 with all the proceeds going to our Education Fund which supports CCD, Vacation Bible School, Adult Faith Formation and Scholarships.

His book, Good News Today, has reflections for every Sunday and every feast day for cycles A, B and C. The source materials for the book are three years of short reflections he did for a multi-parish website many years ago called "Good News Today".

This book is written for any Christian who would like to celebrate the good news in his or her life or is looking for thought-provoking reflections based on selected Gospel passages; or would just like to have a thoughtful homily to reflect on every Sunday.

Deacon Bill and his wife Frannie served for many years at St. Peter Parish and Bill was the driving force behind 12 years of Emmaus Retreats here. They now live in Juno Beach, Florida.

Anyone who would like to write a review of this book on Amazon is eligible to receive a print of the cover painting. It was painted by Deacon Bill from an Easter Sunday Sunrise service here in the Keys. If you have written such a review, please let us know in the office and we will forward the info to Bill and he will send you a print.



# Meet Me in the Desert



Lord of Lent, Lord of Easter,  
As you went into the desert  
So do I follow  
Putting aside that which distracts me  
Grabs at me  
Falsely claims me.  
To search inside  
To confront myself  
My best, my worst  
My good works and my sins.

And each time,  
I find you there  
To call to me again  
With words of challenge and words of mercy.

And as I fall to my knees, in prayer, in fasting  
In sacrifice and penitence  
Somehow, you have it in yourself to reach out and gently lift me  
To renew me  
To claim me as nothing of this world can claim me.

Meet me in the desert, Lord.  
Claim me anew.  
Amen.



"Meet Me in the Desert" is a Lenten prayer published by Catholic Relief Services in 2014.  
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Image: Getty Images

## 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!**



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

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

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

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

Donna Dye asks that we continue to bring cancelled stamps, eyeglasses and rosaries for the Missions. You can bring them to church and put them in the collection basket. Below is a thank you letter for the latest batch of rosaries she sent to the Rosary Project for Africa.

## *ROSARY PROJECT FOR AFRICA*

11223 Columbia Pike  
Silver Spring, MD 20901  
Email: [Bikira10@hotmail.com](mailto:Bikira10@hotmail.com)  
Phone: 240 432-7973  
October 10, 2020

Ms. Donna Dye  
St. Peter's Church  
17046 Almanda Dr. W.  
Sugarloaf Shores, FL 33042-3707

Dear Ms. Dye,

We thank you very much for donating rosaries to our **Rosary Project for Africa**. We are very grateful to you for supporting our mission of distributing rosaries free of charge to people in Africa. God bless your heart.

Great things have been happening in spite of the Corona virus lockdown. We have managed to ship out 7 barrels of rosaries during this lockdown period... each barrel containing around 13,000 rosaries. God is great.

Christians are being persecuted in some countries of Africa, Asia and the Middle East. They need our prayers. The Rosary is our mighty weapon and with it, the Sacred Heart of Mary will triumph.

Let us also pray for an end to abortion and other forms of population control, senseless wars and human exploitation. Our prayers also go to our relatives, friends and neighbors who are suffering from cancer and other deadly diseases. God save all of us from this Corona virus.

Wishing you and your family good health and God's blessing during these difficult times of Corona pandemic.

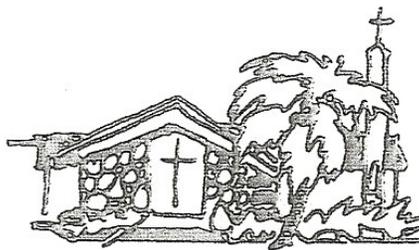
To Jesus through Mary,



Remigius Kintu

# St. Peter Catholic Church

31300 Overseas Hwy  
Big Pine Key, FL 33043  
Ph-305.872.2537  
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:*** Suspended until we are in the new church.

*{The 50/50 Drawing: ACH weekly debits & collecting of cash or checks have been suspended until we are in the new church.}*

***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*



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