



ADVENT

Saints Peter and Paul Ecumenical Catholic Church+USA
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December 2019 Parish Bulletin

Parish Web Site: www.sspp-eccusa.org or www.peterandpaulchapel.org

Parish Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/ssppECCUSA

National Church Web Site: www.ecc-usa.org

National Church Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/eccusa2001>

Pastoral Staff:

Pastor: +Fr. Bob Catlett, M.Div., 314.800.3456, pastor@ssppaul-eccusa.org

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Associate Pastor and Diocesan Bishop: +Fr. Carl Swaringim, Ed.D., 636.240.7839,
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Prayer Intentions

If you would like us to remember a special intention for you at Mass, please contact one of our priests.

If you or someone you know is in need of spiritual assistance (prayers, Sacrament of the Sick, etc.), please contact one of our priests.

Inquiries regarding the administration of Sacraments or services (Baptisms, First Communion, Marriages, and Funerals) are welcomed.

CLERGY MASS SCHEDULE

ALL MASS TIMES ARE 2:00 PM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

December 1, 2019: First Sunday of Advent	+Fr. Carl
December 8, 2019: Second Sunday of Advent	Fr. Bill
December 15, 2019: Third Sunday of Advent	+Fr. Bob
December 22, 2019: Fourth Sunday of Advent	+Fr. Bob
December 25, 2019: The Nativity of our Lord Mass Time: 2:00 PM	+Fr. Carl
December 29, 2019: Feast of the Holy Family	Fr. Bill

Sunday Scripture Reflections Fr. Bill LaGrand, M.A.

December 1, 2019 – 1st Sunday of Advent: Advent is a season of hope for the good things God has prepared for us. We need to be prepared to receive them. (Isaiah. 2: 1-5)

December 8, 2019 – 2nd Sunday of Advent: God's plan for creation is one free from the strife of sin. The promised king will be like no other. Our task is to turn away from sin and prepare for his coming. (Isaiah 11: 1-10)

December 15, 2019 – 3rd Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday): The vision of our faith can grow dim, but by responding to the rituals of the season and our faith, that vision can be restored. (Matthew 11: 2-11)

December 22, 2019 – 4th Sunday of Advent: We should consider our response to the invitation to each of us to say "Yes" to the dream that God has for the world. Emmanuel comes with hope, peace, and love when each of us shares in fulfilling God's dream. (Matthew 1: 18-24)

December 25, 2019 – The Nativity of the Lord: The throne of David is finally occupied by an ideal, but unconventional king. This king comes in an ordinary way but with extraordinary grace and promise. (Luke 2: 1-14)

December 29, 2019 – Feast of the Holy Family: This family is not at all like our ordinary family. However, when we look at it with a little inspired awareness, we can find a connection between our family and the Holy Family (Matthew 2: 13-15, 19-23)



A new Liturgical Year (Cycle A) begins with the celebration of the 24 days of Advent. Some quotes for us to ponder as we prepare for the celebration of Christ's birth.

An Advent Self-Assessment.

Advent is the perfect time to clear and prepare the Way. Advent is a winter training camp for those who desire peace. By reflection and prayer, by reading and meditation, we can make our hearts a place where a blessing of peace would desire to abide and where the birth of the Prince of Peace might take place.

Daily we can make an Advent examination. Are there any feelings of discrimination toward race, sex, or religion? Is there a lingering resentment, an unforgiven injury living in our hearts? Do we look down upon others of lesser social standing or educational achievement? Are we generous with the gifts that have been given to us, seeing ourselves as their stewards and not their owners? Are we reverent of others, their ideas and needs, and of creation? These and other questions become Advent lights by which we may search the deep, dark corners of our hearts.

from: A Pilgrim's Almanac by Father Edward Hays (+2016)



WARNING -- WARNING: ADVENT VIRUS

Anonymous

Be on the alert for symptoms of inner **Hope, Peace, Joy and Love**. The hearts of a great many have already been exposed to this virus and it is possible that people everywhere could come down with it in epidemic proportions. This could pose a serious threat to what has, up to now, been a fairly stable condition of conflict in the world.

Some signs and symptoms of ***The Advent Virus***:

- A tendency to think and act spontaneously rather than on fears based on past experiences.
- An unmistakable ability to enjoy each moment.
- A loss of interest in judging other people.
- A loss of interest in interpreting the actions of others.
- A loss of interest in conflict.
- A loss of the ability to worry. (This is a very serious symptom.)
- Frequent, overwhelming episodes of appreciation.
- Contented feelings of connectedness with others and nature.
- Frequent attacks of smiling.
- An increasing tendency to let things happen rather than make them happen.
- An increased susceptibility to the love extended by others as well as the uncontrollable urge to extend to others.

This virus can and has affected many persons. It's transmitted person to person.

“For this is how God loved the world: he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.” – John 3:16

From the Pastor's Desk
+Fr. Bob Catlett, M.Div.

Congratulations and Best Wishes to members of our congregation who celebrate special days this month:

Birthdays:

December 4:	Rosann Swaringim
December 17:	Dr. Nathaniel Murdock

Anniversaries:

None this month

MASS TIME CHANGE: Please remember our mass times during the Winter months has changed to 2:00 PM!

CHRISTMAS MASS: Our Christmas Celebration will be on Tuesday, December 25, at 2:00 pm. All are welcome! Bring a friend, a relative, or a few!

SHARING THE BLESSINGS: Our priests, Fathers Bob, Carl, and Bill, extend to you and your families the blessings of this sacred time of God's grace to each one of you and to humankind. Our Christmas Mass on Tuesday, December 25, would be an especially good time to invite a relative or friend to attend Mass with you.