

Ss PETER & PAUL

DECEMBER 20, 2020 | FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



4TH SUNDAY *of* ADVENT

After Jesus, we look to Mary as an ideal steward. Her entire life was lived in obedience to God's call. Mary teaches us to live with joy for all we have been given. Just as the moon reflects the light of the sun, Mary reflects the light of Christ. Like Mary, we are called to reflect Christ's light to the world through our gratitude and generosity.

Parish info



CONTACT DETAILS

404 Hudson Street, Hoboken NJ 07030

🌐 spphoboken.com

📞 201.659.2276 Fax: 201-353-2333

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday | Tuesday | Friday 10 am - 4 pm
Wednesday | Thursday 10 am - 7 pm
Saturday and Sunday Closed

PASTORAL TEAM

PASTOR

Rev. Msgr. Michael A. Andreano

WEEKEND/WEEKDAY ASSISTANTS

Msgr. Neil Mahoney, PhD

Msgr. Paul Bochicchio

Fr. Yuniur Almonte

DIRECTOR OF OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

Stephanie Panzariello, BS

stephanie.panzariello@spphoboken.com

DIRECTOR OF STEWARDSHIP, IT & SECURITY

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DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES & LITURGY

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DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES MAINTENANCE

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BOOKKEEPER & HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATOR

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COORDINATORS OF LECTORS

Katie Bakarich

Peter Bakarich

lector@spphoboken.com

FINANCE COUNCIL

Ed Yruma (Chair) ● Grace Bale ● Bill Burke

Diane Daley ● John Faucher ● Raymond Fiore

Michael Flett ● Carrie Gallaway Maglia

TRUSTEES

Rose Perry ● Don Meyer

CANTORS

Maria Brinkmann ● Jason Darenbourg

Katie Riley ● Allison Melissa ● Gretchen Terrell

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY

5:00 pm *Vigil Mass*

SUNDAY

8:30 am *Quiet Mass*

10:30 am *with Music*

12:00 pm *with Music*

DAILY LITURGIES

Monday ▶ Friday

Mass 12:10 pm

CHURCH OPENING HOURS

(Weather Permitting)

Monday thru Friday 11 am → 1:30 pm

Saturday Noon → 6 pm

Sunday 8 am → 1 pm

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

During Pandemic Restrictions:

Monday | Tuesday | Friday: 10 am - 4 pm

Wednesday | Thursday: 10 am - 7 pm

Saturday | Sunday: closed

Call for other urgent arrangements.

VISITORS MUST WEAR MASKS - NO EXCEPTIONS.

Please call ahead for appointment, or to ensure ability for safe distancing upon your arrival, dependent on the presence of others.

This Week's Mass Intentions

Please note, temporary pandemic Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 19

5:00 pm For the People of the Parish

Sunday, December 20

8:30 am † *Ad Intentionem Dantis*

10:30 am † Kathleen Cinotti

12:00 pm † Gregory Denis Hodkinson

Monday, December 21

12:10 pm † *Ad Intentionem Dantis*

Tuesday, December 22

12:10 pm † John & Domenica Knezic

Wednesday, December 23

12:10 pm † Cosmo Scardigno

Thursday, December 24 *Christmas Eve*

4:00 pm For the Children of the Parish

6:00 pm For Babies Baptized During the Year

8:00 pm For the Protection of Newborn Babies

10:00 pm For All Parents & Guardians of Children

Friday, December 25 *Christmas Day*

7:30 am For the People of the Parish

9:00 am For Single Adults of the Parish

10:30 am For the Parish Staff & Volunteers

12:00 pm For Single Parents

Saturday, December 26

5:00 pm For the People of the Parish

Sunday, December 27

8:30 am † *Ad Intentionem Dantis*

10:30 am † For Health and Well Being of

Sr Symphorosa and Sr Veronica

12:00 pm † Peter Petesic

Baptism Ministry

See Dates & Details on Parish Website

Staff Contact:
Stephanie Panzariello

Ministry Assistant:
Muzzi John Roggio

Confession/Reconciliation

During the ongoing pandemic restrictions, Confessions are by appointment only at the discretion and availability of the Priest.

Contact the Parish Office.



Please consider helping us to defray the expense of these necessary items by donating: Hosts, Altar Flowers, Sanctuary Tabernacle Candle, Altar Wine.

The requested donation for each is \$25.00.

This Week, the Altar Flowers are donated
In Thanksgiving and with Special Prayers for
Mr. Nic Vasil

This Week, the Altar Wine is donated
In Thanksgiving and with Special Prayers for
Lucia Palestroni & The Palestroni Foundation

This Week, the Altar Hosts are donated
In Thanksgiving and with Special Prayers for
Drs./Mr. & Mrs. Anthony & Jennifer Gagliardi

The Sanctuary Tabernacle Candle is donated
In Loving Memory of
Cosmo Scardigno

God bless your generosity.



A Leap of Faith

Written by **Mike Duffy**

A French diplomat once said: "It will work in practice but will it work in principle?" When I first read it, it struck me as a pretty cool thought. At a basic level, I think what he meant was that it can be hard to explain or understand why some things work: you have to actually make the leap of faith and do them to get that knowledge. This is true for example in simple things such as swimming: it's only when you actually get in the water and experience it that you can understand that the water will indeed hold you up. It's also true in our faith journey: but more on that in a minute.

In a homily to children being confirmed, Bishop Robert Barron talked about the "Big Four" things that society encourages us to pursue: power, wealth, pleasure and honor, with the implied or maybe even explicit message, that if we have enough of these four things, we will be happy. At first blush, having all of our physical and ego needs met seems to make sense and in fact sounds appealing. And yet, there are numerous TV shows and magazines that thrive on reporting the dysfunctional lives and unhappiness of people who seemingly have everything one could want. But if power, wealth and so forth, don't make us happy, how can we know what will?

I don't recall where I first heard it, but someone said happiness can be likened to a butterfly. You can't force the butterfly to land on you, all you can do is be still and wait for it. In our own lives, not chasing happiness but waiting for it to "land on us", is accomplished in large part by being faithful to our commitments, vocation or calling, even though at times our fidelity may not make sense especially in our culture's value system. A good example might be marriage.

In marriage you commit to someone, often early in life when you may have many choices and opportunities open to you. You commit that you are willing to love that person (a concrete action not just an emotion), and that in the name of that love, you will make certain sacrifices and set aside personal preferences. Is it always easy and filled with "Hallmark Card" moments, of course not. But we know deep down, that making and living this commitment, can indeed be a path to happiness. But it only becomes truly apparent when you live it together over time.

In our Christian teaching, we often hear the call to repent. Typically we construe this as lamenting the sorry state of our faith practice and the many ways we do not follow Jesus teachings. However, in my opinion, a better way to look at repentance, is to see it as a call to look in a new direction for happiness. The Big Four that society pushes at us, can appeal to our egos but to be truly happy, we need to have something that feeds our souls.

We see in John's Gospel, Chapter 21, Jesus says to Peter "when you were younger, you used to dress yourself and go where you wanted; but when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go." This is Jesus predicting how Peter will glorify God with his death. But there's a message here for all of us. And while I hope none of us end up being martyred, there is a call here to go where our ego's may not be inclined to go. To step up to the invitation to make our lives something bigger than ourselves, so that we can find our path to happiness; taking that leap of faith to glorify God by responding to His call.

2020 CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

All with Music Ministry

CHRISTMAS EVE THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

4 PM
Christmas Vigil Mass

6 PM
Christmas Vigil Mass

8 PM
Christmas Vigil Mass

9:30 PM
Candlelight Carols
[THIS WILL BE LIVE STREAMED]

10 PM
Christmas Vigil Mass
[THIS WILL BE LIVE STREAMED]

CHRISTMAS DAY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25

7:30 AM
Christmas Mass

9 AM
Christmas Mass

10:30 AM
Christmas Mass
[THIS WILL BE LIVE STREAMED]

12 NOON
Christmas Mass



Around the Parish

Celebrate the birth of the Savior

by singing as a community, featuring
the Ss Peter & Paul Choir and Music Ministry.

Join Us For

*Candlelight
Carols*

Thursday, December 24th

9:30pm

The beautiful, prayerful and joyful melodies in this Christmas Carols program will center and uplift our hearts, and lead us to the procession of the 10:00 PM Christmas Eve Mass.

Call for Volunteers!

**Help us Decorate the Church
for Christmas!**

We are looking for some extra hands to assist with our Annual Church Christmas setup. **This year, the decorating will take place on Monday, Dec 21 at 1:00 pm.**

If you are able to assist, please contact Stephanie.
Thank you in advance for your help!



Parish Office Christmas Schedule

Once the parish office closes on Wednesday, December 23, at 5 pm, it will remain closed until Tuesday, December 29. Although the office will be closed, Masses will still be celebrated in church.

Hoboken Shelter

This month, our Hoboken Shelter volunteers, led by Hannah Osterman and Laura O'Brien, are trying something different! They are organizing a meal of Penne, Meatballs, and salads (five trays of each!) from Leo's Grandesvous to be delivered to the shelter. Leo's is owned by SPP's very own Grace Sciancalepore and her family. In the spirit of the holidays, this is a fantastic way to support our community in multiple ways! Saints Peter and Paul is sponsoring a large portion of this meal and if you would like to contribute as well, please let Hannah or Laura know, and they can send along more information!

Hannah: hannah.osterman@gmail.com

Laura: laobrien22@yahoo.com

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!



**Super
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*Tickets make great
stocking stuffers for
Christmas!*

Tickets \$20

Drawing will be held
on June 29, 2021

**Total
Already
\$9,160**

as of 12/11/20





Blessing of the Christmas Tree

Christmas is almost here! Have you blessed your Christmas tree yet? According to custom, the Christmas tree is set up just before Christmas and may remain in place until the Solemnity of Epiphany. The lights of the tree are illuminated after the prayer of blessing. In the home the Christmas tree may be blessed by a parent or another family member, in connection with the evening meal on the Vigil of Christmas or at another suitable time on Christmas Day.

When all have gathered, a suitable song may be sung.

The leader makes the sign of the cross, and all reply "Amen."

The leader may greet those present in the following words:

Let us glorify Christ our light, who brings salvation and peace into our midst, now and forever.

R/. Amen.

In the following or similar words, the leader prepares those present for the blessing:

My brothers and sisters, amidst signs and wonders Christ Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea: his birth brings joy to our hearts and enlightenment to our minds. With this tree, decorated and adorned, may we welcome Christ among us; may its lights guide us to the perfect light.

One of those present or the leader reads a text of sacred Scripture, for example, Titus 3:4 (lines 4-7) or Ezekiel 17:22 (lines 22-24 4; I will plant a tender shoot on the mountain heights of Israel.)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

R/. Thanks be to God.

The intercessions are then said. The leader says:

Let us ask God to send his blessing upon us and upon this sign of our faith in the Lord.

R/. Lord, give light to our hearts.

That this tree of lights may remind us of the tree of glory on which Christ accomplished our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **R/.**

That the joy of Christmas may always be in our homes, let us pray to the Lord. **R/.**

That the peace of Christ may dwell in our hearts and in the world, let us pray to the Lord. **R/.**

After the intercessions the leader invites all present to say the Lord's Prayer.

The leader says the prayer with hands joined:

*Lord our God,
we praise you for the light of creation:
the sun, the moon, and the stars of the night.
We praise you for the light of Israel:
the Law, the prophets, and the wisdom of the Scriptures.
We praise you for Jesus Christ, your Son:
he is Emmanuel, God-with-us, the Prince of Peace
who fills us with the wonder of your love.
Lord God,
let your blessing come upon us
as we illumine this tree.
May the light and cheer it gives
be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts.
May all who delight in this tree
come to the knowledge and joy of salvation.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.*

R/. Amen.

The lights of the tree are then illuminated.

The leader concludes the rite by signing himself or herself with the sign of the cross and saying:

*May the God of glory fill our hearts
with peace and joy, now and forever.*

R/. Amen.

The blessing concludes with a verse from "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel":

*O come, thou dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night
and death's dark shadow put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*



God's Servant First: Our King of Peace

Written By Aaron Weldon

As my family sang the line from O Come, O Come Emmanuel, "Bid Thou our sad divisions cease, and be Thyself our King of Peace," it occurred to me that Advent is a particularly good time to think about how we foment "sad divisions" in the body of Christ, and what it might mean for us to take our role in those divisions seriously.

Catholics who try and bring their faith to bear on social questions - whether we focus on religious liberty, care for creation, or justice for immigrants—often get caught up in the polarizing habits of current American political culture. Polarization can infect the Church, rendering us unable to engage in mission. The Church isn't much of a field hospital when her members are actively picking at the wounds in our society.

To be clear, polarization is more than deep disagreement. You and I can disagree with one another in good faith, and our disagreement can even generate fruitful discussion that benefits everyone. But if I know that you belong to "the other side," and I decide to hold to a cluster of positions in opposition to yours simply because you are on the other side, then our relationship is polarized.

What can we do? We can ask for the grace to be humble. The Solemnity of the Nativity reveals the humility of God. In the Incarnation, the all-powerful, unchanging God enters fully into our human situation. In a sense, God lowers Himself to reach us. However, in our need to elevate ourselves, we often cling to tribal identities and nurse resentments, and in the process, we close ourselves off from being able to simply listen to others. As we make our pilgrimage to Christmas, perhaps we can have the humility to listen to and make the effort to understand those we see as the other side.

We can commit to truth over tribe. At Christmas, we celebrate that God makes His Word flesh. In Jesus Christ, God communicates the truth of Himself to us. Our commitment to Christ implies a commitment to truth, wherever it might be found. We cannot be committed to truth and polarized at the same time. It's one thing to disagree with others, but it's another thing to take a side on an issue before even considering what the truth of the matter is. And that's what polarization is all about.

Advent is a perfect time to avail ourselves of the sacrament of reconciliation. We can honestly examine how we contribute in negative ways to our politics—by harboring resentments, nursing bad attitudes, refusing to listen to our opponents, and filling social media with comments whose only purpose is build up our side, rather than to move closer to truth.

During this season, we wait for the birth of our King of Peace. Perhaps we will see him more readily if we can humble ourselves, turn our eyes away from tribal agendas, and re-commit to being open to the light of truth.

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GUIDE TO PRAYER During Christmas Holidays:

Pray for God's protection upon all who are traveling over the Christmas holidays.

Pray for a sense of God's presence and mutual love as families and friends gather.

Pray that healing and harmony will come to strained family relationships.

Pray that those unable to be with family will enjoy the fellowship of friends.

Pray for God's special comfort upon family and friends who have lost loved ones this year.

Pray for families and friends who have loved ones in the military.

Pray for divine protection and comfort upon military personnel separated from family.

Pray for missionary parents and children who are apart during the holidays.

Pray for churches and ministries, that their Christmas services and outreaches will be effective in reaching the lost, ministering to believers, and helping those with practical, emotional, family, and spiritual needs during the holiday season.

Pray that people who do not yet know Christ as Savior will find the greatest gift of all in salvation through Him.

Pray that Christians and unbelievers alike will reject the temptation to focus on the material side of Christmas, choosing instead to recognize it as the celebration of Christ coming into the world to save us and give us new life.

Pray that God will move on the hearts of Christians to pray for and reach out to those with practical and emotional needs during the holidays, such as the homeless, those in poverty, and those residing in hospitals, nursing homes, prisons, and other institutions.

WAYS TO GIVE

Legacy Fund

Aiming to secure the sustainability of parish ministries and outreach programs, the Legacy Fund provides funding for parish specific endeavors such as outreach programs, maintaining our buildings and enhancing ministries. The Legacy Fund is restricted for 100% use towards particular Parish projects most in need. Please consider letting others know of parish's importance to you at life's hallmarks, from a milestone birthday, anniversary or remembering a loved one. Some parishioners have asked friends and family to donate to the Fund in lieu of flowers or gifts at important life moments. Donations are made by check (please include a note designating the donation to the Legacy Fund) or by donating via FaithDirect at www.faithdirect.net, using the parish code and choosing to donate to the Legacy Fund. For more information, please contact the parish office. Thank you for your generosity in making a gift or remembrance to the Legacy Fund.

Matching Gifts

Many employers offer employees the opportunity to make contributions to charitable organizations such as Ss Peter & Paul through:

1. Payroll withholding deposited into the employer controlled trust account(s)
2. Credit card donations deposited into the employer's controlled trust account(s)
3. Personal checks paid to the employer's controlled trust account(s)
4. Matching gifts
5. Paid work days to serve as a volunteer

Securities

By giving appreciated securities that you have owned for more than a year, your charitable deduction is the fair market value of the securities on the day of the gift. Such gifts provide income tax savings and eliminate your capital gains tax liability.

Wills & Estates

The parish can be remembered in your Will while still providing for your loved ones. Suggested wording for such bequests is: I give the sum of \$—— (or —— % of my estate) to the Church of ——, for its general purposes (or something more specific of your choosing).

Life Insurance

Consider naming Ss Peter and Paul Church as the beneficiary or owner of a new life insurance policy or the beneficiary of an existing policy. For a young adult, the premium for purchasing a new policy is minimal, yet the lasting benefits to the parish are significant.

Retirement Plans

Consider naming the Church as the beneficiary or contingent beneficiary on your Beneficiary Designation of your retirement plan, IRA or 401(k). It's easy, requires no attorney or fee, and is tax advantageous.

HOW to GET INVOLVED at SPP

LECTOR

Proclaim the readings at Mass



EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER

Distribute Holy Communion at Mass or to the homebound



SING SING SING

Become a cantor or join the choir



PLAY PLAY PLAY

Share your musical gifts by playing an instrument



WELCOME

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SERVE

Become an altar server



ENVIRONMENT

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