

*A Place to Share God's Word, Faith, Family Life & Fellowship*  
St. Peter Claver St. Pius V Catholic Church – “One in the Spirit”



## Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph December 31, 2023

### **WEEKEND MASSES**

Saturday Vigil 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday 9:30 a.m.

### **DAILY MASSES**

Mondays 8:00 a.m.  
Tuesdays 8:00 a.m.  
Thursdays 8:00 a.m.  
Fridays 8:00 a.m.

### **HOLY DAYS**

TBA

### **Religious Education**

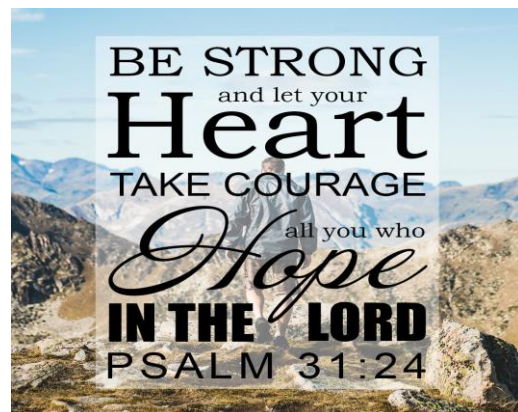
Elementary & First Communion  
Sundays: Immediately following Mass

High School & Confirmation  
2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, & 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays – 11:00 a.m.

RCIA – 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays – 7 p.m.  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays – 11 a.m.

### **Baptism & Marriage Preparation**

By Appointment



*Thank You!*

For delighting us with your presence. We hope you will come again!

*“The Lord is near to all who call out to him,  
to all who call out to him sincerely.”*

**Psalm 145:18**

# ***PASTOR'S CORNER***

“There is more to life than personal gains!! The ultimate fulfillment in life is the joy that comes from creating legacies, not temporal personal gratification!!”

## **Upcoming Events/Meetings**

**January 4** – Health & Wellness Exercise

**January 7** – Elementary PREP/RCIA/Sodality Meeting

**January 8** – Exercise with Young Adults

**January 11** – Health & Wellness Exercise

## **Weekly Readings**



**Sunday:** Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 or Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3/ Psalm 28:1-5 or 105:1-6, 8-9/  
Colossians 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/ Luke 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

**Monday:** Numbers 6:22-27/ Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8/ Galatians 4:4-7/ Luke 2:16-21

**Tuesday:** 1 John 2:22-28/ Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/ John 1:19-28

**Wednesday:** 1 John 2:29-3:6/ Psalm 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/ John 1:29-34

**Thursday:** 1 John 3:7-10/ Psalm 98:1, 7-9/ John 1:35-42

**Friday:** 1 John 3:11-21/Psalm 100:1b-5/ John 1:43-51

**Saturday:** 1 John 5:5-13/ Psalm 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/ Mark 1:7-11 or Luke 3:23-38 or  
Luke 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38

**PRAY FOR THE SICK & SHUT-IN OF OUR PARISH** - As a community of believers bound together by the Spirit of Christ, one of the most priceless and possibly least obvious gifts we can give to one another is the gift of our prayers. Would you kindly offer up a prayer for everyone on the list?

Alfreda Butler  
Sylvia Ford  
Warren Nixon  
Anthony Scales

Catherine Case  
Debbie Holly  
Shirley Payne  
Norma Shaw

Bridget Chase  
Melvinda Jones  
Cecelia Price  
Bessie Wilson

Ellen Dutton  
Mary Malachi  
Romaine Price

**December 23 & 24**  
Total Attendance - 103  
Total Collections -\$4,577.74  
Year to date Collections -\$265,774.55

# A stroll through Christmas . . .

Christmas is one of the shortest yet most distinctive liturgical seasons in the Church. It includes additional feasts related to the revelation that Jesus is Lord of the nations, as well as the eight-day celebration of the Lord's Nativity, often known as the Christmas octave. Additionally, a number of saints have feast days, and the stories of many of them have particular relevance to the season.

*Dec. 26: Feast of St. Stephen* - There are a number of feast days with rich customs and history across the octave. It's fascinating to notice that December 26th, the day following Christmas, is a martyr's feast. Christians are reminded at this early point in the Christmas season of the Lord's command that everyone who chooses to follow him must pick up his cross, recalling the reason for Christ's coming and the assignment of his holy mission. One of the first martyrs in Christian history, St. Stephen, is revered as a living example of what it means to confess Christ as Savior without considering the price.

*Dec. 27: Feast of St. John* - St. John the evangelist and apostle has a feast day on December 27. John, who is thought to have written the Gospel, the Book of Revelation, and three New Testament letters, is regarded as the disciple who was closest to Jesus and is credited with teaching us that "God is love" (1 John 4:8). This feast has traditionally been connected to the blessing of wine because only St. John's Gospel records the miracle at the Cana wedding feast, where Jesus magically transforms water into wine.

*Dec. 28: Feast of the Holy Innocents* - Herod's violent wrath led to the martyrdom of the Holy Innocents on December 28, as he felt compelled to destroy any threat to his authority by executing anybody who matched the description of the unborn king he had learned about from the Magi (Mt 2:13–18). He gave the order to kill every boy in or near Bethlehem who was less than two, not wanting to take any chances with the baby's survival. The angelic warning to St. Joseph to escape to Egypt with Mary and Jesus in the middle of the night, of course, is a sign of divine intervention and the reason Christ survives. The above-mentioned Gospel preached on this day raises two primary concerns facing the Church today: immigration and abortion.



Today is the feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. During our New Year may our families “grow in wisdom and have the favor of God upon them.” *This month, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to bring Christmas to the hearts of the poor, by assisting families in need. Thanks!*

# OUTREACH & EVANGELIZATION

**Seek the City to Come** - For the past year, parishioners throughout the city have showed up to participate in open/public gatherings. This mission has been a yearlong listening journey to engagement all 61 parishes in the City and Eastern vicariate, and your time to help reshape the new model for our city church is NOW!! Your VOICE MATTERS.....and your City Church needs You! Please sign up at <https://bit.ly/4aoxMYj> for the January 7th City-wide Visioning Workshop at St. Matthew parish, 5401 Loch Raven Boulevard, from 2:00pm – 5:00pm or contact Geri Byrd at [geri.byrd@archbalt.org](mailto:geri.byrd@archbalt.org).

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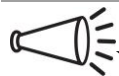
The Visioning Workshop for the Black Catholic Focus Group, is scheduled for Wednesday, January 17, 2024 from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at St. Matthew. Register for this event at <https://bit.ly/stc-bcfg> or email [OBCM@archbalt.org](mailto:OBCM@archbalt.org)

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**MLK Celebration** - January 14, 2024 from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Come hear the words of our community members as they discern and share their hopes and visions for a just society. This is a Zoom meeting hosted by St. Ignatius Catholic Community. Register at [st-ignatius.net/mlk](http://st-ignatius.net/mlk).

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**11th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr./Msgr. Edward M. Miller Peace Walk** – Join Archbishop Lori and Bishops Lewandowski and Madden for the peace walk on January 15, at noon at St. Bernardine’s Church, 3800 Edmondson Avenue.



You have three (3) ways to submit bulletin items/church announcements: email to [saintpeterpius@gmail.com](mailto:saintpeterpius@gmail.com); contact form on the church’s website; or text to (443)527-5478. All announcements must be received no later than 5 p.m. on Wednesday.

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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### SIPS (Saints in Progress)

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