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Rev. Fr. Michael Raj Arokiasamy, HGN

Rev. Msgr. Samuel J. Tomaselli, Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Mark Komula, Deacon - 814-233-9285



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Linda Gattian, Church Secretary

Beth Svonavec, School Secretary

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MASSES FOR THE WEEK: MAR. 10 - 16

Mon.	7AM	Algernon Hines - Bill & Janice Schrift
Tues.	7AM	Dennis Penatzer - Fred & Kathy Weaver
	7PM	Joyce Bagshaw - Denise Madden
Wed.	7AM	Rose Ann Coyle - Son, George
	7PM	Robert Keech - Ann Schreiber
Thurs.	7AM	Kenny Stairs - John Vinzani
Fri.	7AM	Nathaniel & Anne Barbera - Family
	11:15AM	Mary Preston - Daughter
Sat.	4PM	JD Matthews - Suzie Coleman
Sun.	8AM	For the People
	10AM	Judy Visalli-Vince Jacob
	12:15PM	Ambrose Lizambri - Joan

LENTEN FISH FRY! Join us Friday, March 21st and April 11th from 4PM - 6PM for a delicious fish dinner, available for both dine-in and take-out!

LENTEN DAY OF PRAYER - Join us on March 15th from 9AM to 2:15PM at St. Peter's Church. There will be a featured speaker followed by a free lunch and afternoon prayers and reflection. To register, use the Google link on the Parish Facebook page @StPetersChurch-Somerset.

Prayer for Lent: My precious and crucified Lord, I offer You this Lent. I offer it to You with total abandonment and trust. I offer You my prayers, sacrifices and my very life this day. Do with me, Lord, as You will. I pray that this Lent will be fruitful. I know You have much to say to me and much to do in my life. May this Lent be a time through which Your mercy is poured in abundance into my soul, and into the souls of all Your faithful. Dearest Lord, help me to especially see my sins, this Lent. Humble me so that I may see clearly. Give me courage and strength to confess my sins, and to turn from them with all my heart. Enlighten me with Your Holy Word, dear Lord. Help me to come to know You and to deepen the gift of faith in my life. Show me the plan You have for me, and place my feet upon the path You have chosen. My suffering Lord, I thank You for the fullness of Your perfect Sacrifice. I thank You for holding nothing back, giving Your life to the last drop of blood. May I offer You my very life as a sacrifice, trusting in Your mercy with every offering. Amen.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE: MAR. 9 - 16

Sun.	11AM	CCD Class
	12:15PM	2nd Grade Parent Meeting - Reconciliation
	6PM	Confirmation Class
	7PM	Stations of the Cross - Church
Mon.	12:15PM	Stations of the Cross - Church
Tues.	12PM	Bible Study - Sue Sube's House
	11AM	Padre Pio Relic Tour
	7PM	Mass
Wed.	8AM	Quilters - Annex
	11AM	Padre Pio Relic Tour
	6PM	Children's Choir Practice - Annex
	7PM	Mass
Fri.	1PM	Stations of the Cross - Mary's Way
Sat.	9AM	Lenten Day of Prayer - Church/Hall
Sun. 3/16	11AM	Collection for the Poor - All Masses
	6PM	CCD Class
	7PM	Confirmation Class
	7PM	Stations of the Cross - Church

IN YOUR PRAYERS please pray for Art Gusbar who died recently. May he rest in peace! May God bless, sustain and console his family and friends.

ORDINARY SCHEDULE - Sat. Mass: 4PM, Sun. Masses: 8AM, 10AM, & 12:15PM.
HOLY DAY MASSES - As announced.
CONFESSIONS: 2:45PM Sat. or upon request.
BAPTISM: Parish registration and participation in baptismal preparation are necessary.
MARRIAGES: The priest is your initial contact. Interview with the couple must precede setting a date.
PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK: Call the Rectory to request the Sacrament of the Sick for family members who are seriously ill. Communion is taken to the hospital, nursing homes, and home-bound on a regular basis.
PARISH MEMBERSHIP: It is important to be a registered parishioner in order to gain the benefits & privileges of parish membership. New parishioners are welcome. If you have moved into, within or outside the parish or are not a member, call the rectory so that your situation may be addressed. For questions, call the rectory, 814-443-6574.

Message of the Holy Father for Lent 2025

Dear brothers and sisters, We begin our annual pilgrimage of Lent in faith and hope with the penitential rite of the imposition of ashes. The Church, our mother and teacher, invites us to open our hearts to God's grace, so that we can celebrate with great joy the paschal victory of Christ the Lord over sin and death, which led Saint Paul to exclaim: "Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" (1 Cor 15:54-55). Indeed, Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is the heart of our faith and the pledge of our hope in the Father's great promise, already fulfilled in his beloved Son: life eternal (cf. Jn 10:28; 17:3).[1]

This Lent, as we share in the grace of the Jubilee Year, I would like to propose a few reflections on what it means to journey together in hope, and on the summons to conversion that God in his mercy addresses to all of us, as individuals and as a community.

First of all, to journey. The Jubilee motto, "Pilgrims of Hope", evokes the lengthy journey of the people of Israel to the Promised Land, as recounted in the Book of Exodus. This arduous path from slavery to freedom was willed and guided by the Lord, who loves his people and remains ever faithful to them. It is hard to think of the biblical exodus without also thinking of those of our brothers and sisters who in our own day are fleeing situations of misery and violence in search of a better life for themselves and their loved ones. A first call to conversion thus comes from the realization that all of us are pilgrims in this life; each of us is invited to stop and ask how our lives reflect this fact. Am I really on a journey, or am I standing still, not moving, either immobilized by fear and hopelessness or reluctant to move out of my comfort zone? Am I seeking ways to leave behind the occasions of sin and situations that degrade my dignity? It would be a good Lenten exercise for us to compare our daily life with that of some migrant or foreigner, to learn how to sympathize with their experiences and in this way discover what God is asking of us so that we can better advance on our journey to the house of the Father. This would be a good "examination of conscience" for all of us wayfarers.

Second, to journey together. The Church is called to walk together, to be synodal [2] Christians are called to walk at the side of others, and never as lone travelers. The Holy Spirit impels us not to remain self-absorbed, but to leave ourselves behind and keep walking towards God and our brothers and sisters. [3] Journeying together means consolidating the unity grounded in our common dignity as children of God (cf. Gal 3:26-28). It means walking side-by-side, without shoving or stepping on others, without envy or hypocrisy, without letting anyone be left behind or excluded. Let us all walk in the same direction, tending towards the same goal, attentive to one another in love and patience.

This Lent, God is asking us to examine whether in our lives, in our families, in the places where we work and spend our time, we are capable of walking together with others, listening to them, resisting the temptation to become self-absorbed and to think only of our own needs. Let us ask ourselves in the presence of the Lord whether, as bishops, priests, consecrated persons and laity in the service of the Kingdom of God, we cooperate with others.

Whether we show ourselves welcoming, with concrete gestures, to those both near and far. Whether we make others feel a part of the community or keep them at a distance. [4] This, then, is a second call to conversion: a summons to synodality.

Third, let us journey together in hope, for we have been given a promise. May the hope that does not disappoint (cf. Rom 5:5), the central message of the Jubilee, [5] be the focus of our Lenten journey towards the victory of Easter. As Pope Benedict XVI taught us in the Encyclical Spe Salvi, "the human being needs unconditional love. He needs the certainty which makes him say: 'neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord' (Rom 8:38-39)". [6] Christ, my hope, has risen! [7] He lives and reigns in glory. Death has been transformed into triumph, and the faith and great hope of Christians rests in this: the resurrection of Christ!

This, then, is the third call to conversion: a call to hope, to trust in God and his great promise of eternal life. Let us ask ourselves: Am I convinced that the Lord forgives my sins? Or do I act as if I can save myself? Do I long for salvation and call upon God's help to attain it? Do I concretely experience the hope that enables me to interpret the events of history and inspires in me a commitment to justice and fraternity, to care for our common home and in such a way that no one feels excluded?

Sisters and brothers, thanks to God's love in Jesus Christ, we are sustained in the hope that does not disappoint (cf. Rom 5:5). Hope is the "sure and steadfast anchor of the soul". [8] It moves the Church to pray for "everyone to be saved" (1 Tim 2:4) and to look forward to her being united with Christ, her bridegroom, in the glory of heaven. This was the prayer of Saint Teresa of Avila: "Hope, O my soul, hope. You know neither the day nor the hour. Watch carefully, for everything passes quickly, even though your impatience makes doubtful what is certain, and turns a very short time into a long one" (The Exclamations of the Soul to God, 15:3). [9] May the Virgin Mary, Mother of Hope, intercede for us and accompany us on our Lenten journey. - **Rome, Saint John Lateran, 6 February 2025. Memorial of Saint Paul Mike and Companions, martyrs. FRANCIS**

STRENGTH IN CHRIST Men's Conference - Sun., March 30th, 2025 from 11:30AM - 5:30PM at Mount Aloysius College, Cresson. Join us for a day that includes lunch, Sunday Mass, talks from local priests, personal testimonies, and a panel discussion with local Catholic men. Visit www.dioceseaj.org to register online. There is no cost. For those unable to register online, paper registration forms can be found at each parish to complete and return via mail. Please register by March 21st. Online registration is encouraged.

STEWARDSHIP: March 9th, 2025. Scan the QR code for online giving or a one-time gift.



Regular Sunday: \$7,565
Votive: \$154
Online Giving: \$2,115



ST. PETER SCHOOL

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SCHOOL NEWS FOR MARCH 9, 2025

3/10: Stations of the Cross 12:15PM - Please join us!

3/11: PTA Hot Lunch; Rock'n Readers Practice 3 - 4PM

3/12: Forensics Practice 3 - 4PM

3/13: Forensics Practice 3 - 4PM

3/14: Grade 6 School Mass - Please join us!; Gardner's Candy Orders Due; Modified Busing Somerset School District has an early dismissal this day. St Peter School will dismiss at the regular time. Vans and "mini buses" will run as usual. Parents of all SASD bus students are to sign up for Modified Busing or Car Rider in PickUp Patrol by 10AM, Mon., March 10th. Thank you.

LOOKING AHEAD:

3/17: St. Peter School will be in Session - Special Busing; Stations at 12:15PM in the Church: Rock'n Readers Practice 3-4PM

3/18: Forensics Practice 3-4PM

3/19: Forensics Practice 3-4PM

3/20: NO SCHOOL - Diocesan Professional Learning Day for St. Peter School Staff

3/21: Grade 4 School Mass 11:15AM - Full Uniforms; Regional Forensics Competition at Holy Name Elementary School

GARDNERS CANDY 2025! St. Peter School's longest standing and most successful fundraiser is going on now! All of your favorites and some new sweet treats as well! Place your orders by seeing a school family or stopping in the rectory or school to pick up an order form. Candy orders and payments are due Fri., March 14th and will be delivered beginning Tues., April 8th in time for all of your Easter celebrations.



MINISTRY SCHEDULE: MARCH 15 - 16

Saturday - 4PM

E.M.: D. Sube
Lector: C. Madigan

Greeters: Keiser
Cleaners: Sekela & Lizambri

Sunday - 8AM

E.M.: J. Ansell
Lector: J. Wahl

Greeters: Gusbar & Deskevich

Sunday - 10AM

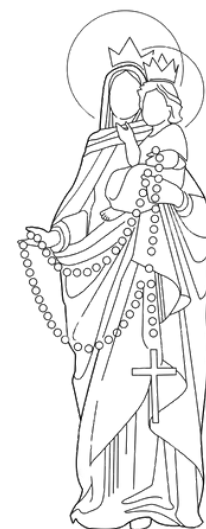
E.M.: Deacon Komula
Lector: F. Reeping III

Greeters: Sekela & Svirsko

Sunday - 12:15PM

E.M.: B. Farkosh
Lector: L. Latuch

Greeters: Soberdash



**Our Lady of the Rosary,
Pray for us!**

For social media or website content, email editor@stpetersparish.com. For bulletin announcements & events for the calendar, email editor@stpetersparish.com AND lrgattian@stpetersparish.com. Submit bulletin announcements by the Wednesday before.

We would like to thank our sponsor of the week: Miller Funeral Home

CCD NEWS

Prudence Shaulis, DRE 814-443-6574 ext. 4 & pshaulis@dioceseaj.org

3/9: CCD Class & Confirmation Class

3/16: CCD Class & Confirmation Class

3/23: CCD Class

3/30: CCD Class

LOOKING AHEAD:

3/9: 2nd Grade Parent Retreat/Meeting for Reconciliation from 12:15PM - 1:15PM in the Annex.

3/22: 10th Grade Retreat from 10AM - 3PM, information was provided. Please register your 10th grader.

3/27: Sacrament of Reconciliation at 7PM.

4/5: 11th Grade Retreat from 10AM - 5PM. Information was provided via email; please register your 11th grader.

4/6: 2nd Grade Parent Retreat/Meeting for Communion from 12:15PM - 1:15PM.

5/10: Sacrament of Holy Communion at 10AM.

THE CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF AMERICA will meet Thurs., April 2nd at 6PM in the annex.

PADRE PIO RELIC TOUR - March 11th - 12th, 11AM - 7PM. Mass is at 7PM each evening. Please join us!

NIGHT AT THE RACES - March 22nd, 5:30PM and dinner is served at 6PM. B.Y.O.B and you must be 21+ to enter. \$25 ticket includes dinner, refreshments and one horse. To purchase a ticket, contact Ann, 814-233-0193.

SAVE THE DATE! - The world-famous Westminster Cathedral Choir of Boys & Men, London, England will present a concert at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament on Thurs., April 3, 2025, 7PM. Founded in 1901, the Choir of Westminster Cathedral remains the only Catholic cathedral choir in the world to sing daily Mass and Vespers, while still performing concerts at home and abroad. Comprised of up to 20 boy trebles and altos, aged 8-13, and ten professional Lay Clerks, the Choir is known internationally through its tours and recordings. The concert is free, but tickets are required to attend. This is an official Jubilee 2025 event!

TURKEY DINNER - The Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel in Loretto will have the Annual Men's Turkey Dinner on Sun., March 16th, 2025, 11AM - 3PM or until sold out. Turkey dinner with all of the trimmings. Dine in for \$14 or take-out for \$15. Please stop by for dinner!

Men of God: Are you Irish Catholic? As we celebrate each March, Irish American Heritage Month, do you feel called to embrace more fully your Irish Culture and Catholic Faith? The Ancient Order of Hibernians is the Oldest, Largest Catholic Fraternal Organization in America. Now is your chance to become a member of a local AOH Division. If interested, please contact one of our division presidents: John Skelley (814)-525-2505 or Tom Hallinan (814) 934-7940.