



ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

621 W Belmont Ave, Chicago, IL

The Second Sunday of Advent

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.



Welcome to St. Peter's. We are glad you are here!

If you are visiting with us today, please feel free to participate as much or as little as you are comfortable. There are visitor cards in the pews, and if you fill one out, we will get in touch with you. Please introduce yourself to us and join us for coffee hour after the service if you have time.

At the time of communion, all baptized Christians are welcome to receive. If you do not want to receive communion, but would like a blessing, come forward at the time of communion and place your arms across your chest to indicate your intention. If you have any questions at all, don't hesitate to ask.

Gluten-free bread for communion is available. Just let the minister know when he or she presents the bread to you.

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Prelude *Fantasia con imitazione in H Minor BWV 563* Johann Sebastian Bach

Processional Hymn “On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry” **Hymn 76**

The Word of God

The people standing, the Celebrant may say

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Celebrant says

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Here is sung or said

Celebrant Lord, have mercy up on us.

People **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Celebrant Lord, have mercy upon us.

Gloria in Excelsis (*see insert for service music*)

Hymn S 202

Glory be to God on high,
 and on earth peace, good will towards men.
we praise thee, we bless thee,
 we worship thee,
 we glorify thee,
 we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy;
thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ,
with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All are seated for the lessons.

First Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be lifted up,

and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.
Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

A voice says, “Cry out!”

And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.
The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
“Here is your God!”

See, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

Reader The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm

Read responsively by whole verse.

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

You have been gracious to your land, O LORD, *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

**You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.**

I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.

**Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.**

Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

**Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.

**Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.**

The Epistle

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Reader The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn

“O come, O come, Emmanuel”

Hymn 56 vv. 3-4

The Gospel

Mark 1:1-8

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,’”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

Sermon

The Rev. Shane Patrick Gormley

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made.
who for us and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;

and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the quick and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and giver of Life,
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;
who spake by the Prophets.
And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church;
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Form V

Deacon or other leaders

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

For Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, for Michael our Presiding Bishop, for Jeff, our own Bishop, for Shane, Ellen, and Nancy our Clergy, and for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who do not yet believe, and for those who have lost their faith, that they may receive the light of the Gospel, we pray to you, O Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

For those in positions of public trust, especially Donald, President of the United States, and Bruce, Governor of Illinois, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who live and work in this community, especially Rahm, our Mayor, and Tom our Alderman, we pray to you, O Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

For a blessing upon all human labor, and for the right use of the riches of creation, that the world may be freed from poverty, famine, and disaster, we pray to you, O Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer, especially NN.; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

For this congregation, for those who are present and those who are absent, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

For our enemies and those who wish us harm; and for all those whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you, O Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have commended themselves to our prayers, especially NN.; for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Peter, and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

People **To you, O Lord our God.**

Silence. The people may, again, add their own petitions.

The Celebrant concludes the prayers with the following Collect

Hasten, O Father, the coming of thy kingdom; and grant that we thy servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold thy Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

The Confession

The Deacon says

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Silence is kept.

Minister and People

Almighty God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
maker of all things, judge of all people:
We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness,
which we from time to time most grievously have committed,
by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.
We do earnestly repent,
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,
the burden of them is intolerable.
Have mercy upon us,
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may ever hereafter
serve and please thee in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of thy Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and truth faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Minister may then say one or more of the following sentences, first saying

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

This is a true saying, and worthy of all to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Timothy 1:15*

If anyone sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world. *1 John 2:1-2*

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion

Offertory Hymn “Comfort, comfort ye my people” Hymn 67

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer II

Sursum Corda (*if sung, see insert for service music*) Hymn S 120

The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and says

The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

The Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Because thou didst send thy beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High
Blessed is he that commeth in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The people kneel or stand.

Then the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant which is shed for you and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may

be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *AMEN.*

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

The Lord's Prayer *(see insert for service music)*

Hymn S 119

People and Celebrant

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread—Agnus Dei *(see insert for service music)*

Hymn S 158

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. Immediately the following is sung

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: grant us thy peace.

The following prayer may be said. The People may join in saying this prayer

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

As the Celebrant consumes the Sacrament in both kinds, a bell is rung, and the people may proceed to the altar rail to receive communion. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [Amen.]

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [Amen.]

Communion Interlude *Shepherds*

Gilbert M. Martin

Post Communion Prayer

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The People may join in saying this prayer

Almighty and everliving God,
we most heartily thank thee
for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries,
with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood
of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us;
and that we are very members incorporate
in the mystical body of thy Son,
the blessed company of all faithful people;
and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom.
And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father,
so to assist us with thy grace,
that we may continue in that holy fellowship,
and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,
be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

The Blessing

The Celebrant blesses the people with the following or similar words

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Recessional Hymn *“Prepare the way, O Zion”* Hymn 65

The Dismissal *(see insert for service music)* Hymn S 174

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *Tocatta in D Minor (Dorian) BWV 538* Johann Sebastian Bach

**Please join us for coffee, food, and fellowship in the Guild Room.
All are welcome!**

Liturgical Notes

At the beginning of this new church Liturgical Year, we're using the form of service commonly called "Traditional" or "Rite One." At St. Peter's, we have used Rite Two at both our Sunday services for some time. The Rite One service was included in the 1979 Book of Common Prayer for those who didn't wish to part with the richness of the language of the 1928 Book of Common Prayer, and it is often the case that you find Rite One used at an early service in many Episcopal Churches.

This week, I'd like to mention the first change we find when we use Rite One: "The Summary of the Law," first included in the Book of Common Prayer of 1789.

"Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

Specifically, this version of the Summary is from Matthew 22:37-40. Jesus, there, is asked a question by a lawyer, trying to trap him into saying something blasphemous or that would get him into trouble in some other way. Jesus responded by quoting the *Shema*, the central "creed" of Judaism, and combining it with a passage from Leviticus on the love of one's neighbor.

For Jesus, it served to show his devotion to the *heart* of the Jewish law and faith that was so vital to his culture and faith. For us, it reminds us of the same: every action and every attitude we live out should reflect the love of our creator and his creation. All we have is from God, and our lives are to be lived as responses to God's gift of love to us in creating and redeeming us through Jesus Christ.

Why do we begin our service with this? (It's also an option to use before the Confession of Sin, which might seem more appropriate!). It sets the tone for what we do. When we hear the call to love God with everything we have, and to love our neighbors as ourselves, we are called inward to see how we might improve—how we might grow in love for God and love for others. As our worship together seeks to form us into God's people, equipping us for the work of reconciliation in the world, that worship becomes a place where we can focus and allow God to inspire us with his own love—the love that grounds all of our own acts of love.

So hear, and allow God to speak to you today as we all, continually, seek to increase our loves, and grow in companionship with one another and with God.

FATHER SHANE PATRICK

Advent Devotions

On the Infancy of Our Savior (I)

by Francis Quarles (1592-1644)

Hail! blessed Virgin, full of heavenly grace,
Blest above all that sprang from human race,
Whose heaven-saluted womb brought forth in one
A blessed Savior and a blessed Son.
O what a ravishment 't had been to see
Thy little Savior perking on thy knee!
To see Him nuzzle in thy virgin breast,
His milk-white body all unclad, undressed;
To see thy busy fingers clothe and wrap
His spraddling limbs in thy indulgent lap;
To see His desperate eyes with childish grace
Smiling upon His smiling mother's face;
And when His forward strength began to bloom
To see Him diddle up and down the room.
O who would think so sweet a Babe as this
Should ere be slain by a false-hearted kiss?
Had I a rag, if sure Thy body wore it,
Pardon, sweet Babe, I think I should adore it;
Till then, O grant this boon, a boon far dearer:
The weed not being, I may adore the Wearer.

Annunciation

by John Donne (1572-1631)

Salvation to all that will is nigh;
That All, which always is all everywhere,
Which cannot sin, and yet all sins must bear,
Which cannot die, yet cannot choose but die,
Lo, faithful virgin, yields Himself to lie
In prison, in thy womb; and though He there
Can take no sin, nor thou give, yet He will wear,
Taken from thence, flesh, which death's force may try.
Ere by the spheres time was created, thou
Wast in His mind, who is thy Son and Brother;
Whom thou conceivst, conceived; yea thou art now
Thy Maker's maker, and thy Father's mother;
Thou hast light in dark, and shutst in little room,
Immensity cloistered in thy dear womb.

Parish Announcements

Upcoming Events

- Sunday, Dec. 17 Third Sunday in Advent
Holy Eucharist at 8:00am and 11:00am
- Sunday, Dec. 17 Greening the Church
If you can stay after the 11:00 service to help, it would be greatly appreciated!
Let Father Shane or Deacon Nancy know.
- Sunday, Dec. 24 Fourth Sunday in Advent
Holy Eucharist at 10:00am (no 8:00am service)
- Sunday, Dec. 24 The Eve of the Nativity of Our Lord
Holy Eucharist at 9:00pm
- Monday, Dec. 25 The Nativity of Our Lord
Holy Eucharist at 10:00am

Opportunities to Connect

Growth Groups are St. Peter's primary "small groups" or "fellowship groups" that meet regularly to discuss life, faith, and more. To find more information about the growth groups, please feel free to reach out to the following coordinators:

20s/30s Growth Group: Becca Wicker (rgkingman@gmail.com)

40s/50s Growth Group: Qiana Johnson (q-johnson@pobox.com)

60s+ Growth Group: Nancy Fifield (fifielddnancy@gmail.com)

Prayer Requests

Your prayers are asked for the following members and friends of St. Peters (those in bold are appearing for the first time). To add persons to the prayer list, contact Deacon Nancy (deacon@stpeterschicago.com).

For those who are sick in body, mind, or soul and those caring for them: Maryann, Carol, Pam, Bruce, Judy, Gary, William, Philip, Mary, Pete, John, Tom, Cathy, Thessy, Betty, **George, and the Sexton family.**

In thanksgiving for Ruby Woods who celebrated her birthday last week.

For inspiration, perseverance, and insight for Ellen as she works to complete her book, and for Shane as he works on his dissertation.

For John as he applies to doctoral programs and deals with personal and family issues.

For Qiana as she continues in parish discernment.

Opportunities to Deepen Your Faith

“Becoming Disciples” Class—For our next class, we’ll continue to talk about the basics of what’s in the Bible and begin to talk about how we read and interpret the Bible. ***Our next class is set for Thursday, December 14 at 6:30 pm.*** Bring a sandwich and we’ll bring the soup.

Weekly Bible Study—At 10:00am every Sunday morning, Father Shane is offering an informal Bible study on the lessons of the week. Come have coffee and chat about the Word of God! There’s no pressure—we read the lesson, we notice what stands out to us and what questions we have, and we learn more about how God may be speaking to us through Scripture. *Next week’s (Dec. 17) lessons are [Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11](#); [1 Thessalonians 5:16-24](#); [John 1:6-8,19-28](#); [Psalm 126](#)*

The Gospel of Mark—Performed—TODAY! Sunday, December 10, 4:00 p.m., St. James Cathedral. Stage and film actor Tom Bair will deliver the Gospel according to Mark in a passionate performance as though an eyewitness were sharing it for the first time. Regardless of church affiliation or denomination, all Christians revere the riveting journey that Mark tells of Jesus’ life and the urgency with which he shares the Kingdom of God. It is performed in the simple, elegant English prose of the King James Bible.

Administrative Announcements

E-Blast and Bulletin. If you would like to announce something (a meeting, a notice, an event) in the E-Blast or the Bulletin, please send the text of your announcement and any other details to Betsy Lent (administrator@stpeterschicago.com) by Wednesday of the week you’d like the announcement posted.

Outreach Ministry

Crib Dinners. We’ve resumed serving dinner at the Night Ministry’s Crib once a month. The last dinner for this year is tonight, Dec. 10. If you’d like to help out by providing, cooking, transporting, or serving food in 2018, please contact Jordan Rutledge (jordanrutledge@gmail.com).

Lakeview Pantry. During the month of December, we are collecting non-perishable food donations which can be placed in the donation basket in the back of the church. We hope that you will participate in this month’s drive. Please contact Deacon Nancy with questions or to sign up for more outreach opportunities.



St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Clergy and Staff

The Rev. Shane Patrick Gormley, *Priest in Charge*

The Rev. Nancy R. Meyer, *Deacon*

The Rev. Ellen Wondra, *Assisting Priest*

Charlie Carpenter, *Organist*

Betsy Lent, *Parish Administrator*

Vestry

Jack Adrian, *Treasurer*

Randall Fearnow, *Interim Warden*

Glenn Charlton, Jarod Couch, Nancy Fifield,

Whitney Michel, Guy Norred, Jordan Rutledge, Becca Wicker

Regular Sunday Services

8:00 (spoken) and 11:00 (with hymns) Holy Eucharists

Every first Sunday of the Month with Anointing and Prayers for Healing

Parking

Please note that our Parking garage, PARK ONE, has closed.

We are searching for an alternative option.

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Contact us: (773) 525-0844 | administrator@stpeterschicago.com

www.stpeterschicago.com