



Pastor:

Fr. Mark Derise

Office Hours: Mon 10 AM-12 PM, 1 PM-3 PM

Tues - Thurs: 9 AM-12 PM, 1 PM-3 PM

Friday: 9 AM-12 PM

Deacons:

Cliff Tanner &
Jake Prejean

Fourth Sunday of Advent



December 21, 2025

Mass Schedule

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 12:10 PM

Wednesday & Friday 6:30 AM

Saturday: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 6:30 AM, 8:00 AM, & 10:00 AM

Rosary Schedule

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 11:30 AM

Wednesday & Friday 5:55 AM

Saturday: 3:15 PM

Sunday: 5:55 AM, 7:15 AM, & 9:15 AM

Confession:

Saturdays: 3:00-3:45 PM or By appointment

Adoration

Mon: 8AM-5PM **Wed:** 7AM-7PM **Fri:** 7AM-5PM

Mailing Address:

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Scott, LA 70583


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School:

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Sts. Peter & Paul Staff

In Residence: Bishop Emeritus Michael Jarrell

Secretary: Mary Beth Ardizone & Ursula Gouner

Bulletin Editor: Anne-Claire Viator

Trustees: Abby Aucoin & Brian Schlesinger

Music Coordinator: Jacqueline Savoie

School Principal: Danielle Babineaux

Religious Education: Bethany Duplechin,
Janet Hebert, James Franke

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 20th-

4:00 PM-Alex Lantier (D) / Sheilah Resweber (D) / Alberie & Inez Barras (D) / Kenny Beaugh (D) / Joshua Hebert (D) / The Catholic Daughters / Dupre & Teresa Hebert (D) / Raymond Martin (D) / Lee & Ida Bergeron (D) / John Bourque (D) / Thomas Sinitiere (D) / George Trautman (D) / Verlie & Walter Boudreault (D) / Viola & Forest Blanchard (D) / Mike Matthieu (D) / Peggy Adams (D) / Joseph Thai Pham (D) / Ray/Mable Brasseaux (D) / Earl J. Landry (D)(ANN) / M/M Camille Delhomme (D) / M/M Wilfred Hebert & Woodley (D) / M/M Jack Tanner (D) / M/M George Griggs, Sr. (D) / M/M Larry Hebert (D) / M/M Earl Tanner, Sr. (D) / Souls in Purgatory (D) / Rebecca Walters (D) / Stephen Walters (D)(ANN) / Rev. Tan (D) / David/Marlene Arnaud (D) / Inez Tabb Richard (D) / Thomas Ehni (D)

Sunday, December 21st-

6:30 AM-For the People

8:00 AM-Dustin Wiltz (D) / Leana Suire (D) / Herman Rabalais Family (D) / John M. Verzwyvelt (D) / Marilyn Brewer (D) / M/M Louis Roger & Daughter (D) / Allan J. Picard & Family (D) / M/M Francis T. Resweber (D) / Spiritual Healing (D) / Gene Stelly (D)

10:00 AM-Jerry D. Guidry (D) / Louella / Buck Ransonet (D) / John B. Sonnier Family (D) / Rayford Domingue (D) / Deanna Sonnier (D) / Rosamaria Reyes-Silva (D) / J. L. & Claire Courville Raggio (D) / Doris (Doc) Hebert (D)(HBD) / Paul /Myrtle Breaux (D) / Belinda Thibodeaux (L) / Maria Mung Do (D) / Poochie Frederick (D) / M/M Errol Robichaux (D) / Rev. Francis (D) / M/M Harold Brashear (D) / Joshua Myers (D)(HBD) / M/M Larrell Richard (D) / Craig Richard (D) / Joey Sonnier (D) / M/M Lidley Dugas (D)

Monday, December 22nd-

12:10 PM-Doris (Doc) Hebert (D) / Lorena "Ti-Moon" Guillot (D) / Celeste P. Guilbeau (D) / Maria Lua Hoang (D) / Maria Uyen Vu (D)

Tuesday, December 23rd-

12:10 PM-Michael O'Neil Mouton (D) / Mr. Hubert Leger, Jr. (D)(HBD) / Simon Becnel (D)(ANN) / Noelie Martin (D)(ANN) / Souls in Purgatory (D) / Joseph Toan Nguyen (D)

Wednesday, December 24th-Christmas Eve

4:00 PM-Ted Moon, Jr. (D) / W.J. (Jim) Guilbeau (D) / M/M W.F. Guilbeau (D) / M/M Francis Segura (D) / M/M Adley Scrantz (D) / M/M Loney Hebert, Sr. (D) / Alberie & Inez Barras (D) / Loretta H. Crouch (D) / Jack E. Allen (D) / Kyle Credeur (D) / Anna Lou Broussard (D) / Russell Credeur (D) / Harry Leger (D) / M/M Lucien Leger (D) / M/M Elmo Broussard Sr. (D) / M/M Don Montoucet (D) / M/M Jacques Montoucet (D) / M/M Jerome Roger, Sr. (D) / M/M Bud Boudreault (D) / Perjice Boudreault, Jr. (D) / M/M Alpha Boudreault (D) / M/M Oledja Cormier, Sr. (D) / M/M C.J. Delhomme (D) / M/M Clence Ancelet (D) / M/M Joseph Thibodeaux (D) / James LeJeune (D) / Lorena Moss (D) / M/M Ashton Deculus, Jr. (D) / M/M Ashton Deculus, Sr. (D) / M/M Joseph LaTour (D) / Janet Paquin (D) / Carroll J. Sonnier (D) / Joe & Cole Primeaux (D) / Frank & Edna Sonnier (D) / Dorothea Sonnier & Family (L) / Dustin Wiltz/Ryan Guidry (D) / Louis & Verna Mae Bearb (D) / Ronald Fontenot (D) / Bernida & Elmo Hebert (D) / John M. Verzwyvelt (D) / Mike Matthieu (D) / Teresa Dinh Nguyen (D) / Ray/Mable Brasseaux (D) / Becky Goodness (HBD) / David/Marlene Arnaud (D) / Louis Dupuy (D) / Barbara Broussard Magnon (D)

6:00 PM-Edward & Emetile Bourque (D) / Edward Bourque, Jr. (D) / Claude Oliver, Sr. (D) / Harold & Norma Dugas (D) / Deceased Family Members of Jim/Annaeine Credeur (D) / Nick/Noelie Provost (D) / Hilda/Russell Hebert (D) / Woodley J. Credeur (D) / Maria Son / Lois D. / Dave Lutring (D) / Gloria Domingue (D) / Darrell Sonnier (D) / James "Cass" Castile (D) / Mary "Mom" Meche (D) / Cora & Emma Meche

Thursday, December 25th-Christmas Day

7:00 AM-Alex & Grace Prejean (D) / LFM of Carral Menard (L) / DFM of Carral Menard (D) / Alfred Legere (D)(ANN) / Frances Hightower Minchew (D)(ANN) / Paul & Leatrice Brown (D) / Robert Lee Savoy (D) / Valencia Brown (L)(HBD) / Joseph Thai Doan (D) / Norma Fontonet (D) / Angela Fontonet (D) / David Stenson (D) / Terry Quebodeaux (D) / Terry Quebodeaux (D) / Johnny Quebodeaux (D) / Claire Daigle (D) / M/M Louis Thibodeaux & Fly (D) / Kenneth Wayne Gary (D) / Joseph G. Gary (D) / Kristi Dawn Rebarde (D) / Elaine T. Gary (D)

9:00 AM-M/M Alex Lantier (D) / Curley Menard (D) / M/M Duma Menard (D) / M/M Lloyd Touchet (D) / Jane Credeur (D) / Ted Moon (D) / George W. / Marie Louise Stoute (D) / R.O. / Agnes Mouton (D) / Michael O'Neil Mouton (D) / Mabel & Loomis Dugas (D) / James Leewood Breaux (D) / Ray/Helen Duhon (D) / Paul/Myrtle Breaux (D) / Lawrence Duhon (D) / Hector N. Sonnier Family (D) / Rayford Domingue (D) / M/M Davy Hollier (D) / M/M Hubert Leger, Sr. (D) / M/M Clam Duhon (D) / M/M Hubert Leger, Jr. (D) / Forest P. Duhon (D) / Dallas J. Courville (D) / Claude and Lucy Pellessier (D) / Shirleen Richard (D) / Doris (Doc)/Flo Hebert (D) / Rita & Dudley Duhon (D) / Don Duhon (D) / Donahue Fly. (D) / Martha B. Wimberly (D) / Tammy Smith (D)(HBD) / M/M Joseph Stewart (D) / Geneva Smith (D) / Isabelle Roller (D) / Joan Dailey Comeaux (D) / Gloria Domingue (D) / Jerry & Harriet Shea (D) / Leana Suire (D) / Brian Fontenot (D) / Doug Roberts (D) / Belinda Thibodeaux (L) / Rev. Francis (D) / Earl & Sabie Landry (D) / Sherry Credeur (D) / Dee Vincent Family (L) / Carroll & Sylvia Vincent (D) / Maurice Blanchard / Poochie Frederick (D) / M/M Errol Robichaux (D) / M/M Tony Battaglia (D) / M/M Harold Brashear (D) / Napoleon & Elverda Doga (D)

Friday, December 26th-

6:30 AM-Gerald / Louella Savoy (D) / Landon Trahan (L)(HBD) / Barbara Ella "Bobbie" Cormier (D) / M/M Francis Resweber (D) / Maria Uyen Vu (D) / Souls in Purgatory (D)

Saint Joseph, Our Patron and Protector

Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her."

Matthew 1:20

Joseph knew that the penalty for adultery was death by stoning. His heart must have been deeply conflicted. On one hand, the virtues of his betrothed wife, Mary, were abundantly clear. Mary radiated holiness. Impurity was foreign to her Immaculate Heart. Yet she was pregnant, and Joseph was not the father. What should he do?

To protect Mary from public shame, Joseph decided to do what he believed was the most merciful thing—he “decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention...” Though little is known about Joseph, this Gospel passage identifies him as “a righteous man.” Many saints, popes, and Church documents highlight his unquestionable sanctity. He was not immaculate and free from sin as was his wife, but God the Father would have chosen a righteous and holy man to be the foster father of the Son of God.

Joseph’s actions reveal his deep faith. As he slept, “the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, ‘Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her.’” The angel explained to him that Isaiah prophesied that the Messiah would be born of a virgin (see Isaiah 7:14) and that Joseph was to take Mary and her unborn Son into his home and care for them. When he awoke, he did as the angel commanded.

Joseph’s dream was no ordinary dream. The Holy Spirit accompanied the angel and instilled the certitude of faith in Joseph’s mind, empowering his will to obey God’s will. Joseph became the father and guardian of the Savior of the World. On December 8, 1847, Pope Pius IX declared Saint Joseph to be the Universal Patron and Protector of the Catholic Church. Just as he protected the Son of God, so he intercedes for us who are members of Christ’s body, the Church.

As our Advent season enters its final week, we are reminded of the role that Jesus’ foster father played not only in the life of the Holy Family, but also about the role Saint Joseph continues to play in the life of the Church and in each one of our lives. His intercessory power from Heaven is great, and we should not hesitate to call upon his prayers, especially when we need protection, struggle with fear, or face some grave challenge.

Reflect today on your personal devotion to Saint Joseph. Ponder, especially, his deep faith and obedience to the will of God as was communicated to him in a dream. Strive to imitate that obedience in your own life, never hesitating to undertake the mission God has given you. Turn to Saint Joseph in prayer and know that his powerful intercession will help protect you and win God’s grace in the areas you need it the most.

Saint Joseph, you were a holy and righteous man, entrusted with the guardianship of the Mother of God and the Son of God. You fulfilled your role faithfully and continue that role from Heaven, protecting all of God’s children through your intercession. Please pray for me, that I will imitate your obedience and will be protected from all sin so as to fulfill the unique role God has given me. Saint Joseph, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.

PLEASE PRAY FOR PRIESTS

We thank you, God our Father, for those who have responded to your call to priestly ministry. Accept this prayer we offer on their behalf; Fill your priests with the sure knowledge of your love. Open their hearts to the power and consolation of the Holy Spirit. Lead them to new depths of union with your Son. Increase in them profound faith in the Sacraments they celebrate as they nourish, strengthen and heal us.

Lord Jesus Christ, grant that these, your priests, may inspire us to strive for holiness by the power of their example, as men of prayer who ponder your word and follow your will.

O Mary, Mother of Christ and our mother, guard with your maternal care these chosen ones, so dear to the Heart of your Son. Intercede for our priests that, offering the Sacrifice of your Son, they may be conformed more each day to the image of your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Vocation Prayer

O God, we earnestly ask You to bless this diocese with many priests, brothers, and sisters who will love You with their whole strength and gladly spend their entire lives to serve Your Church and to make You known and loved. Bless our families, bless our children, choose from our homes those needed for Your work. Mary, Queen of the Clergy, pray for us, pray for our priests, religious, and deacons. Obtain for us many more. *Amen.*

LET US PRAY DAILY FOR OUR PRIESTS, SEMINARIANS, AND DEACONS OF THE DIOCESE OF LAFAYETTE

December 21st	Rev. Chidiebere Dominic, SSJ	Nolan Savoy	Dcn. Nolton Senegal
December 22nd	Rev. Michael Dooley, SJ	Braden Scalisi	Dcn. Charles Smith
December 23rd	Rev. Dustin Dought	Zachary Schnaars	Dcn. Kenneth Soignier
December 24th	Rev. Blake Dubroc	Thor Stewart	Dcn. John Bennett Soileau
December 25th	Rev. Wayne Duet	Agustin Tarazona	Dcn. Byron James Soley
December 26th	Rev. Casey Dugas	Micah Thomas	Dcn. Thomas Sommers
December 27th	Rev. John Karol Dugas	Matthew Vidrine	Dcn. Glynn Martin Stutes

Twice today we hear the words Isaiah proclaimed hundreds of years before Christ's birth: "the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel." This Hebrew name means "God is with us," and when Joseph, a devout and righteous man, is visited by an angel in his dream, he recalls Isaiah's prophecy. We know that God is also with us as we gather here to listen to God's word, and so at this time we allow ourselves to be immersed in God's presence as we actively listen to today's readings.

Question of the Week:

What small act of mercy can I carry out this fourth week of Advent?

Altar Flowers:

We'd love to honor your special day(s), person, and/or memory with a beautiful flower arrangement in the Sanctuary for the Weekend masses.

New Address, name, and/or phone number?

If you have any change in your membership information, please notify us at the office by calling 337-235-2433 or by emailing us at stspeterandpaulscott@hotmail.com or sppreception@outlook.com

Parish News:

Keep up with the Parish at our Facebook Page or Church Website!

Church Website



Church Facebook



Are YOU a fan of "The CHOSEN"?

Join us as we watch season 5 as a group and then discuss each episode together!

Meetings are Sunday evenings at the CCD hall and go from 5:30-7 PM on the following dates:

December 21st
January 4, 2026

EVERYONE is welcome and feel free to invite anyone else who would like to join us!
Hope to see you there!



Visit our ACTS Retreat page on the Sts. Peter & Paul Church Website—stspeterandpaulscott.org—for more information on ACTS, upcoming retreat dates & the applications to apply. The information can be found under ACTS.

ACTS Retreat Dates:

Women's ACTS:

April 23-26, 2026.

Registration will open up early in the new year. Keep an eye out for announcements in Church, the bulletin, and on the Church Facebook page.



The Sanctuary Candle this week is lit for:

In Memory of JoJo & Hue Sonnier & Family

The Adoration Candle this week is lit for:

Our SPP Parish Community



Hallow



Scan the QR code to go directly to our Church's group on the Hallow App!



We are in need of dedicated adorers on

Wednesdays for:

2-3 PM



Please prayerfully consider joining in Adoration for our Lord. Call the Church office for more information or to sign up.

Weekly Readings

Sunday:

First Reading: Isaiah 7: 10-14
Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 24: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6

Second Reading: Romans 1: 1-7

Alleluia: Matthew 1: 23

Gospel: Matthew 1: 18-24

Monday:

First Reading: First Samuel 1: 24-28

Responsorial Psalm: First Samuel 2: 1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd

Gospel: Luke 1: 46-56

Tuesday:

First Reading: Malachi 3: 1-4, 4: 5-6

Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 25: 4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14

Gospel: Luke 1: 57-66

Wednesday:

First Reading: Isaiah 62: 1-5

Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 89: 4-5, 16-17, 27, 29

Second Reading: Acts 13: 16-17, 22-25

Gospel: Matthew 1: 1-25

Thursday:

First Reading: Isaiah 52: 7-10

Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 98: 1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6

Second Reading: Hebrews 1: 1-6

Gospel: John 1: 1-18

Friday:

First Reading: Acts 6: 8-10; 7: 54-59

Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 31: 3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17

Alleluia: Psalms 118: 26a, 27a

Gospel: Matthew 10: 17-22

Saturday:

First Reading: First John 1: 1-4

Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 97: 1-2, 5-6, 11-12

Gospel: John 20: 1a and 2-8

COLLECTION FOR 12/14/2025

Regular \$ 11,993.00

Retired Religious: \$ 1,796.00

Immaculate Conception: \$ 2,960.00

Thank you for your generous spirit of giving!

Christmas Season

Mass Times 2025:

The Nativity of our Lord (Christmas)

Wednesday, December 24th:
 (anticipated) 4 pm & 6 pm

Thursday, December 25th:
 7 am & 9 am

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Wednesday, December 31st:
 (anticipated) 4 pm

Thursday, January 1st:
 7 am & 9 am



Sts. Peter and Paul
Catholic Church

Congratulations to our 2025 Capital Campaign raffle winners!

Krystal Arabie: Virgin of Paris & Child Jesus statue brought back from Notre Dame de Paris Cathedral

Laura Glaser: Last Supper painting by Jacob LeBlanc, our seminarian!

Stacy Knight: Bottle of Woodford Reserve

Kelly Leger: Bust of Jesus

Koua Herrick: \$500 cash

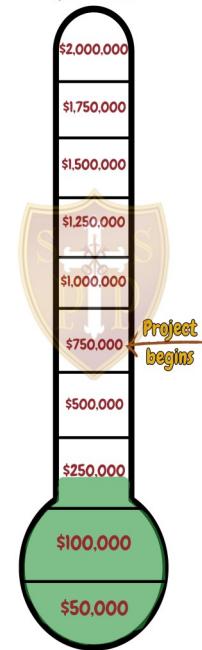
A huge **thank you** to everyone who helped support our Capital Campaign by purchasing raffle tickets for the Parish Life Center renovation! Your generosity and support mean so much and are helping us create a renewed space for fellowship, ministry, and community. Thanks to your generosity, **we have raised over \$10,000 for this project!!**
 We are truly grateful for each and every one of you!

The ADVENT WREATH PRAYER for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

Leader: On the Fourth Sunday of Advent, we light THE CANDLE OF LOVE. The angels announced the good news of a Savior. God sent his only Son to earth to save us, because he loves us! (A reading from the Gospel of John) "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him." (John 3:16-17)

ALL: Lord Jesus, we approach that holy moment when Your coming as man is renewed in our hearts. Fill our hearts with LOVE so that everything we do will be a reflection of your love for us. Remind us to always listen to others sincerely, speak to them kindly, and see your face in everyone we meet. We ask this of You, who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, as One God, now and forever. Amen

Sts. Peter and Paul
Catholic Church
Parish Life Center
renovation goal
\$2 Million



"And in the end, everything else will turn out to be unimportant and inessential, except for this: Father, Child, and Love." – **St. (Pope) John Paul II**

FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE/

SUNDAY: LOVE

The fourth candle of Advent represents Love, the ultimate love of God that He might send His only Son for us. Called the "Angel's Candle," the fourth candle of Advent is lit the Sunday before Christmas, and it is the color purple, leading us to eagerly await the new Kingdom of God on earth.



Saint Peter Canisius

On October 31, 1517, Father Martin Luther, a German Augustinian monk and theologian, nailed his Ninety-five Theses that criticized various Catholic Church practices to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. This event is often considered to be the beginning of the Protestant Reformation that threw the Church into turmoil over the next century. Theological debates were fierce, the Church began to splinter, and cities and nations fought, leading to violence and deaths. Though the sixteenth century was chaotic for the faith, many saints emerged to defend the truth and reform the Church. We honor one of those saints today—Saint Peter Canisius. Pieter Kanis (Peter) was born in the city of Nijmegen, in the Duchy of Guelders of the Holy Roman Empire, modern-day Netherlands. His father was well educated and served as the mayor of the town. Shortly after Peter's birth, his mother died. In 1536, when Peter was fifteen, his father

sent him to the University of Cologne, and for a short time to the University of Louvain, where he studied the arts, civil and canon law, and theology. In Cologne, Peter frequently visited the Cologne Charterhouse of the Carthusian monks of Saint Barbara. Though much of Germany had been thrown into turmoil as a result of the Protestant Reformation, the Cologne Charterhouse remained firmly Catholic. Peter especially learned from the monks a spirituality referred to as *Devotio Moderna* (Modern Devotion), which emphasized personal conversion, the internalization of faith, prayerful meditation on Christ's life, simplicity, and humility. This spirituality would become a defining characteristic of Peter's life and future ministry. In 1540, at the age of nineteen, Peter received his Master's Degree of Arts. His father wanted him to marry a wealthy noblewoman, but Peter's deepening faith led him to make a personal commitment to a life of celibacy. That same year, the future Saints Ignatius of Loyola, Francis Xavier, Peter Faber, and four others co-founded what would become the Society of Jesus, or Jesuits. Over the next two decades, the Jesuits grew to an estimated 1,000 members, founded about thirty-five schools, and became missionaries to non-Christian territories. The Jesuits also played a significant role in the Catholic Counter-Reformation, becoming staunch defenders of the Catholic Church. In 1543, Peter made a thirty-day retreat with the new Jesuit Father Peter Faber using the Spiritual Exercises written by Father Ignatius of Loyola. The primary goals of the Spiritual Exercises are personal conversion and the discernment of God's will. They are especially designed to help a person arrive at a major life decision and resolution. Upon the completion of his thirty-day retreat, Peter Kanis discerned a call to enter the Jesuits. It was around that time that Peter began using the Latinized form of his name, Peter Canisius. In 1545, the Holy Father opened the Council of Trent that helped lay the theological groundwork for the Catholic-Counter Reformation. The council clarified Catholic doctrines that were under attack due to the Protestant Reformation and enacted various reforms that were sorely needed within the Church. The Council of Trent continued to hold sessions until 1563. In 1546, Peter Canisius was ordained a priest and was asked to attend the Council of Trent as an assistant to Cardinal Otto Truchsess von Waldburg, Bishop of Augsburg. In 1548, Peter went to Rome with Father Ignatius for further studies, and the following year was sent to Sicily where he assisted at the College of Messina, preaching and carrying out humble domestic duties. In 1549, he received his doctoral degree and made his final profession as a Jesuit. Fully professed, well trained in Catholic doctrine, and intimately united to Christ through a life of personal prayer and devotion, Father Peter Canisius was ready for his life's mission. At that time, Pope Paul III asked Father Ignatius of Loyola to recommend a Jesuit priest whom he could send to Germany to help renew the Catholic faith that was in turmoil. Father Peter Canisius was chosen. After meeting with the pope, Father Peter went to Saint Peter's Basilica to pray to Saints Peter and Paul, asking them to make the apostolic blessing he received from the Holy Father permanent, so he could fulfill the daunting task ahead of him. He later wrote in his journal that he sensed great consolation at that moment. He had a conviction that he was being sent as an apostle to Germany, and that the Apostles Peter and Paul would accompany him. In 1549, Father Peter set out for the Duchy of Bavaria, modern-day southern Germany, where he first served as dean, rector, and vice chancellor of the University of Ingolstadt. He quickly sought to personalize the faith and to win over hearts and minds. His concern for the students and faculty reached far beyond academics and good doctrine. He was also concerned with forming them spiritually, helping them come to know Christ through prayer and the Sacraments. In 1554, he was asked to become the Bishop of Vienna, but he declined, preferring to continue his Jesuit mission of teaching and preaching. Instead, he served as the interim diocesan administrator for a year where he continued to share his intimate love for Christ and the people by engaging in pastoral work, such as serving in hospitals and prisons. It was there that he also took up the pen and began to write his influential German catechism: *Summa Doctrinae Christianae* (Summary of Christian Doctrine). This three-volume catechism was written for three different groups of people: theology students, older youth who were educated, and younger youth needing initial instruction. He wrote in a clear, concise, and down-to-earth way, using a question-and-answer format. One of Father Peter's deep convictions was that those who had left the faith often did so out of ignorance, not out of ill-will. He believed that if their questions were answered with kindness and clarity, the true faith would once again be accepted. Pope Benedict XVI, a German born in 1927, said of these catechisms, "So it was that still in my father's generation people in Germany were calling the Catechism simply 'the Canisius.' He really was the Catechist of Germany for centuries..." After his time in Vienna, Father Peter worked nonstop. He founded the College of Prague in 1556, served as the first superior of the Jesuits in northern Germany, coordinated a network of Jesuit communities and colleges, was entrusted with diplomatic missions, and continued to contribute to the Council of Trent. In 1580, he moved to Fribourg, Switzerland, where he spent the last seventeen years of his life preaching and writing. His writings were voluminous, flooding Germany with devotionals, theological commentaries, spiritual texts, apologetic works, educational guides, and translations of Latin texts into German. He was so influential that 300 years after his death, Pope Leo XIII proclaimed him the "Second Apostle of Germany" (after Saint Boniface). As we honor this great apostle of the Catholic faith, ponder the reasons for his success. He loved Christ, and he loved God's people. He didn't teach with arrogance or pride. He wasn't harsh or heavy-handed. Instead, he won hearts as he won minds, gently but clearly leading people back to the faith, introducing them to the Person of Christ, and showing them the way to Heaven. Seek Saint Peter Canisius' intercession today, praying that you, too, will become an evangelist in his mold. Commit yourself to sharing the Gospel with compassion, while never wavering from the truth.

Prayer: *Saint Peter Canisius, God called you into His service at a crucial time when the Church in Germany and all of Europe was experiencing confusion and was in need of reform. Your deep faith in Christ, coupled with your theological knowledge, enabled you to be a holy instrument of conversion for countless people for centuries afterward. Please pray for me, that I will learn from your example and become an apostle to those to whom I am sent. Saint Peter Canisius, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.*

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

Cahanin's Tax Service

Keith J. Cahanin

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**This week, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to
Cahanin's Tax Service for their generous support
of our parish community.**

**Their commitment helps us continue our mission
and serve our congregation in numerous ways.**

**Please consider supporting them as a token of
appreciation for their dedication to our church.**

Thank you, Cahanin's!



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