

# SAINTS PETER & PAUL CHURCH

360 US HWY 46 - GREAT MEADOWS, NEW JERSEY 07838

*Welcome to  
our Church!*

Phone  
908-637-4269

Fax  
908-637-6896

Office Hours  
Monday - Friday,  
9:30 am to 3:00 pm



Rev. Grzegorz Podsiadlo  
Administrator

Steve Gunther  
Deacon

Eileen Wyss  
Parish Secretary

Diane Francis  
Religious Ed. Director

Kevin McCann  
Music Director

## MASSSES:

**Saturday Evening:** 5:00 pm

**Sundays:** 7:30, 10:00 am,  
11:15 am and 12:30 pm (*Polish*)

**Holydays:** 7:00 am & 6:30 pm,  
8:00 pm (*Polish*)

**Weekdays (including Sat.):** 8:30 am

**CONFESSION:** Saturday,

4:00 - 4:50 pm (*before the 5:00 pm  
Mass*) and before the 8:30 am Mass  
(*by appointment only*).

**BAPTISMS:** Class and

arrangements must be made by  
contacting the Rectory. If you are  
a newly registered family you are  
required to be attending Mass for  
at least three months and using  
offering envelopes.

**MARRIAGES:** Requirements...

Marriage preparation classes and  
Confirmation (*if you are Catholic*).  
Arrangements are to be made at  
least six months in advance. At  
least three meetings with the priest  
are required.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

Classes are held for Parish registered  
members only on Sunday mornings  
from mid September to May. Children  
seeking their Sacraments must attend  
all 8 years of a Religious Education  
Program. Call 908-637-4269.

**R.C.I.A.:** Anyone interested in adult

religious education or becoming  
Catholic. Call Marilyn Gorski at  
459-4483.

## VISITATION OF THE SICK:

Every first Friday of the month, at  
home or in the hospital, please call  
the church office, 908-637-4269.

## SECOND SATURDAY OF THE MONTH NIGHT PRAYER:

In Polish from 8:00 pm to 12:00 am.

## BLUE ARMY PRAYER GROUP:

Every Monday from 7:00 to 8:00 pm  
in the Chapel. New members are

**OUTREACH PROGRAM:** If you are  
in need please call Lisa French at 908-  
343-7831. All calls kept confidential.

**ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY:** New  
members are always welcome! We meet  
every third Wednesday of the month at  
7:00 pm. Call Walt at 908-459-5861.

## POLISH ROSARY SOCIETY:

Meets every first Friday of each month  
at 7:00 pm. New members are always  
welcome!

### E-mail

[stpeterandpaul@comcast.net](mailto:stpeterandpaul@comcast.net)

### Religious Education E-mail

[peterpaulreled@comcast.net](mailto:peterpaulreled@comcast.net)

### Website

[www.peterpaulgm.com](http://www.peterpaulgm.com)

### Walking Pilgrimage

[www.walkingpilgrimage.us](http://www.walkingpilgrimage.us)

## PARISH REGISTRATION

Every family should be properly registered. New parishioners should register at the Parish Office. Children 18 and over should be registered as adults. Envelopes are the only means we have to verify parishioners attendance at Mass. Please use your envelope regardless of the amount you are able to include. Without verification of Mass attendance we cannot issue sponsor certification for Baptism, Confirmation, or any character references, etc. Please notify the Parish Office of any address change as soon as possible.

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 19/20, 2020

### SAT – Dec 19

5p +Irene Wyss req her family

### SUN – Dec 20 (4th Sunday of Advent)

7:30a +Joseph & Helen Olenick req daughter  
Arlene

10a +Len A. Garriques req Ann Rhinesmith

11:15a +Francis Munley req his wife Annette

12:30p (Pol) +Jan i Stanislaw Kasprzyk od rodziny  
Hader

### MON – Dec 21 (St. Peter Canisius)

8:30a +John Barton req Alberta Piasecki

### TUES – Dec 22

8:30a -God's blessings for Bogumila Sikora

**7 – 8pm Confession**

### WED – Dec 23 (St. John of Kanty)

8:30a -Return to good health of Dariusz Smolenski

### THUR – Dec 24 (Christmas Eve)

8:30a +John & Jenny Kantz req daughter Pamela

5:00p +Rev. Arthur Anderson

10:00p (Pol): +Adam Talajczyk od zona Krystyna

12:00a +Josephine & Henry Topeleski

### FRI – Dec 25 (Christmas Day)

7:30a +Benjamin & Julia “Tracy” Trzeciakiewicz  
req Ed Tracy Family

10a +Agnes Kowalski req daughter Adella

11:15a +Louis Iorio req Joan Iorio

12:30p (Pol): +Maria Chinalska req daughter Diana  
Vernacchia

### SAT – Dec 26 (St. Stephen)

8:30a +Jan Lubas req his family

5p -Birthday blessings for Beata Lukijaniuk req her  
husband & sons

### SUN – Dec 27 (Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph)

7:30a +For all people listed on the Christmas Rem  
Envs

10a +Walter & Stella Lencewicz req their family

11:15a +John Barton req Frank & Gail McMahon

12:30p (Pol) +Emilia Lubecka od rodziny Lubecki

Altar Flowers are available

Bread & Wine is offered this week in memory of  
Rosemarie Olenick req sister Arlene

Sanctuary Lamp is lit this week in memory of Helen  
“Honey” & Raymond Hendershot req sons & fam

Divine Mercy Candle is available

### CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

Because of our very generous parishioners, we were able to help 33 families with a full Christmas dinner and a total of 86 children with presents. The presents were outstanding. All food/gifts are being handed out on Monday, Dec 21<sup>st</sup> from 2-4pm and again from 6-7:30pm. Thank you, God bless, and Merry Christmas.

### FOREST MANOR DONATIONS

Today is the last day for all donations for all the residents of Forest Manor. They will be picked up tomorrow, Monday, December 21<sup>st</sup> to be distributed to all residents on Christmas Day. Thank you and Merry Christmas—have a blessed one!

### WEEKLY OFFERINGS-December

1<sup>st</sup> week - \$2218

2<sup>nd</sup> week - \$2613

3<sup>rd</sup> week - \$

4<sup>th</sup> week - \$

LIVE BROADCAST OF SUNDAY MASS -  
facebook.com/PeterPaulGM/ this Sunday at **10am**.

### **CHRISTMAS FLOWERS/DECORATIONS**

Please help us to keep up our traditions and donate towards our Christmas decorations. This will also help area flower growers that supply us with our flowers. Offering envelopes can be found on our large brown table in the back of our church. You may donate “in memory of” or “in honor of” loved ones. If you have more than two names you would like to remember please write all the names on a separate piece of paper and slip it into the flower offering envelope. All names will be printed in the bulletin after Christmas.



**CHRISTMAS CONFESSION**

Tues., Dec. 22, 7-8pm, in the chapel & classroom.

**YEAR-END CHARITABLE GIFT GIVING**



As you consider your year-end tax planning, we hope that you will consider making good use of the income tax charitable deduction and remember

our church. All monies are greatly appreciated and will be well spent with the good of the entire parish in mind.

**CHRISTMAS MASS REMEMBRANCES**



If you would like your loved ones, living or deceased, remembered in Christmas Remembrance Masses during Christmas and throughout the month of January, please pick up a Christmas Mass Remembrance envelope found on the large brown table in the back of our church. If you have more than two names you would like to remember please write all the names on a separate piece of paper and slip it into the remembrance offering envelope. All names will be printed in the bulletin after Christmas.

**ALL MASSES FOR 2021**

Starting in January, 2021:

Saturday, 5pm-English

Sunday, English-7:30a & 10a; Polish-11:30AM.

***OUTREACH DIRECTOR(s) NEEDED***

We are still looking for someone to take over the Outreach Program. If you can help please call Eileen in the Church Office as soon as possible, 908-637-4269.

**Thank You, Parishioners**

Thank you to all our parishioners that are mailing, or dropping off your weekly offerings. What a blessing! We do rely on them. May God bless you.



**FRIENDLY REMINDER**

Please remember to wear your masks properly when entering our church (over the nose and mouth) and please wipe



down your area where you were sitting after the Mass. Extra masks are available as well as alcohol wipes in the back of our church.

**CHRISTMAS 2020**



**RECONCILIATION**

Saturday, December 19th

4pm - 4:45pm (in the chapel)

Tuesday, December 22nd

7pm – 8pm (in the chapel & CCD classroom)

**CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES\***

Thursday, December 24th

5:00 PM Mass

10:00 PM (Polish)

12:00 Midnight Mass

**CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES\***

Friday, December 25th

7:30am, 10:00am, 11:15am

12:30pm (Polish)

**NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS\***

Thursday, December 31st

5:00 PM, Vigil Mass

**NEW YEAR'S DAY MASSES\***

Friday, January 1st, 2021

10:00am (English)

11:30pm (Polish)

**\* (Christmas & New Years are Holy days of Obligation)**

## CHRISTMAS WAFERS

Are available in the back of the church. Each envelope contains 3 wafers. The asking donation is \$5 per package. Family members and friends break off a small piece of the *oplatek* wafer and give it to one another along with a blessing. Breaking off and exchanging part of the *oplatek* with someone is a symbol of forgiveness and is meant to remind participants of the importance of Christmas, God, and family.



A sample blessing can take the form of "I wish you much health, happiness and the Lord's bountiful blessings as well as the fulfillment of all your plans and everything you wish for yourself" or just wishing good grades to a child and good health to your parents. It is also common to put a "shared piece" into the Christmas card you are sending. The tradition of sharing the wafer is one of the rich variety of traditions that Poles still celebrate during Christmas Eve Supper which is the most elegant and pompous evening in the whole year. Among others there are:

- lent - as for the quality (not eating meat) and quantity (eating only three times a day, the fullest of which is obviously the Supper)
- eating dishes; there should be 12 of them (for the memory of 12 Apostles), no meat but carp in various forms and other fish
- putting the hay under the white table cloth (for the memory of Jesus lying on the hay)
- strictly close family circle meal
- one place at the table left for "the unexpected guest"
- carols singing in the waiting for the Mass in churches at midnight

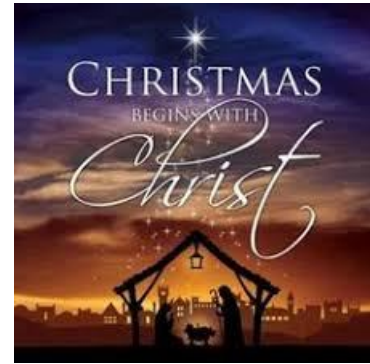
### Christmas Gift

Looking for the perfect Christmas gift for your spouse? Why not give yourselves a Marriage Encounter Experience. A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience gives you the time and tools to revitalize romance, deepen communication, and nourish the spirituality in your marriage. Join us from the comfort of your home via Zoom for eight evening sessions presented on Sunday & Wednesday evenings from January 20 to February 14. Phone Tony & Linda Massimo 1-302-220-9833 for application and information. Visit us at: [www.wwme-delmar.org](http://www.wwme-delmar.org) for more information.

## THANK YOU

Thank you to all the Religious Ed students and parents for helping to sort and bag all the donated groceries for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Thank you to our Outreach team for helping sort all the Christmas presents that were donated by our wonderful parishioners. May God bless them and may they have a blessed Christmas.

## KEEPING CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS



Some tips on keeping Christ in Christmas:

- Use postage stamps that feature a religious theme
- Hang an Advent Calendar at your work and in your home
- Display your nativity set where others can see
- Place an electric candle in a window symbolizing the light of Christ
- Listen to traditional Christmas carols that honor Christ's birth
- Find religious Christmas wrapping paper and decorations
- Read Christmas scripture and stories to children
- Purchase a gift and give it to the poor, encourage your children to do the same.
- Explain the original Christmas tree tradition to your children
- Use decorations, cards, etc., with Merry Christmas instead of "Happy Holidays"
- Have your children place a piece of straw in the creche each day that they do a good deed during Advent
- Pray for the young, so that when they become adults, they will not regard Christmas as just another holiday free from work

### 2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Please help yourselves to one box of offering envelopes per family for next year, 2021. Remember, if you wish us to keep track of your donations for tax purposes, please put your name and amount on each envelope. The free address labels are an easy and fast way to address your envelope. Also, Religious Ed families are asked to put your name on each offering envelope. This helps determine your involvement in our parish.



**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

Fr. Grzegorz “Greg” Podsiadlo, our Deacon, Stephen Gunther, and the staff of Ss. Peter & Paul wish everyone a very blessed Christmas and a safe and healthy New Year.

**CHRISTMAS PLEDGE**

“On my honor, I will do my best to promote the CHRISTmas traditions. I will incorporate, use the word “CHRISTmas”: in my CHRISTmas greetings and conversation, in my CHRISTmas cards, CHRISTmas stamps, and every appropriate CHRISTmas way. This I pledge to CHRIST, my Lord.”

Don't stop celebrating: After Christmas Day The secular world “prepares” for Christmas with months of garish decoration, holiday treats, and spending sprees, but when December 26 rolls around, the world already feels that Christmas is “over.” At most it will allow itself a day or two of recuperation from excess jollity and then get back to work. In a best-case scenario, decorations might stay up till January 1st or a bit later, for “ringing in the new year.” After that, the season of celebration is over. Catholics ought to have a totally different conception of Christmas. Before Christmas, we observe the penitential season of Advent, preparing for the great feast without too much overt joy. Traditionally, families would decorate the Christmas tree together before the great day of Christmas. Families would attend Christmas Mass together. It is very important for us not to surrender to the secular approach that, in a way, celebrates Christmas before Christmas and not afterward. We should really make an effort — in the way our homes are decorated, the way we observe Sundays and holy days, the stories we read and the other activities we do in the house — to keep the spirit of Christmas alive, even if at a “low burn,” especially throughout the period from December 26th to February 2nd. *Yes, this great feast is that big of a deal!* Such observance also becomes a countercultural catechesis in one of the central mysteries of the Christian faith: the Incarnation of the Son of God. This is the pivot point of all human history and of the story of each man, woman, and child.

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**A Christmas Prayer for Action**

When the song of the angels is stilled,  
when the star in the sky is gone,  
when the kings and princes are home,  
when the shepherds are back with the flocks,  
then the work of Christmas begins:  
To find the lost,

to heal those broken in spirit,  
to feed the hungry,  
to release the oppressed,  
to rebuild the nations,  
to bring peace among all peoples,  
to make a little music with the heart.  
And to radiate the Light of Christ, every day, in every way, in all that we do and in all that we say. Then the work of Christmas begins.

–Howard Thurman

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**PRAY FOR:**

**Living:** Joseph Godlewsky, Marian Gzella, James Vernacchia, Diana Vernacchia, Ken Pandorf, Eleanor McCann, Robert Willis, Susan Karner, Lyle Smith, Covid-19 patients

**Deceased:** John Barton, Karen Kolln, Joan Tibak, Caroline Carbone, Len A Garriques, Aurora Neabore, Edward Czajkowski, Covid-19 deceased

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