February 14, 2016 • First Sunday of Lent

Saints Peter & Paul Catholic Church
902 East Ninth Street • Hopkinsville, KY 42240

Established 1872

OUR MISSION STATEMENT
We are a Roman Catholic Community of Christians called to be a priestly people, a household of faith, a temple of the Holy Spirit, a beacon of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church shining for Jesus Christ in the heart of Christian County.

Rev. Fr. Richard Meredith, Pastor
crmeredith@stsppchurch.org
Rev. Fr. Julio Barrera, Parochial Vicar
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Permanent Deacon, Mr. Tim Barnes
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PARISH OFFICE PHONE: (270) 885-8522
PARISH FAX: (270) 885-5296
PARISH WEBSITE: www.stsppchurch.org
OFFICE HOURS: 8 AM – 5 PM Monday – Friday;
(Closed Noon - 1:00 pm Daily)

SCHOOL TELEPHONE: (270) 886-0172
SCHOOL FAX: (270) 887-9924
SCHOOL WEBSITE: www.stspps school.org

Truth Radio WSPP 93.5 FM
Saints Peter and Paul Assistance: 270-886-6027
Saints Peter and Paul Thrift Store: 270-962-7008

MEMBERSHIP IN THE PARISH
We give a sincere welcome to all new families moving into our Parish. Please register in the Parish Office as soon as possible. Families who plan to move from our parish community are asked to inform us.

Bulletin material deadline:
Monday at noon in writing or email.

F I R S T  S U N D A Y  O F  L E N T

THE TEMPTATION
OF CHRIST

MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday evening......................... 5:00 PM
Sunday....................................... 8:00 AM, 10:30 AM
   Misa en Español............... 2:00 PM, 10:30 PM
Monday - Saturday ..................... 8:00 AM
       Wednesday .......................... 5:30 PM
Thursday Misa en Español........... 5:30 PM
   First Friday of each month....... 6:00 PM
MINISTRY TO THE SICK
Please notify the Parish Office upon admission of a family member into any hospital or nursing home. Any parishioner who is ill or infirm may request anointing by calling the Pastoral Office.

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
This is a devotion whereby members of the parish unite in taking hours of Adoration before the Most Blessed Sacrament during the day and throughout the night, seven days a week. (Code required for evenings.) There is a regular schedule of adorers but all are welcome to stop in for a visit. Parishioners are encouraged to sign up for a scheduled weekly Adoration time. Please contact Bill & Jenny Rush at 270-885-2888, if you are interested in adopting an hour or if you can be a substitute or prayer partner. These hours are available—6 am & 7am Sundays, 10 pm Mondays, 7 pm Wednesdays—prayer partner needed, and Thursdays 3 pm. (Prayer partner needed 3 pm Tuesdays)

Parish Pastoral Council
Tim Barnes, Chair/Spiritual Life ……….tdbarnes@stsppchurch.org
Robin Bilan, Education……………………………………rcbilan@hotmail.com
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Joe Mezzoni, Vice Chair/Administration…joemezzoni216@att.net

A Closer Walk: Jesus invites each one of us to a deep personal relationship with Him. We respond to the Lord’s call by becoming disciples. More than simply tagging along in the crowd, discipleship involves a commitment to abide with Jesus, a surrender to the transforming power of His love. Wherever you may be on the journey, the following reflection on discipleship hopes to inspire a person to a closer walk with the Lord.

The Capital (or Deadly) Sins: Anger

One way to examine our conscience is through the lens of the “capital sins,” as traditionally defined by Pope St. Gregory the Great. These seven sins — pride, envy, anger, sloth, avarice, gluttony, and lust — are described as “capital,” from the Latin caput for “head” — because they give rise to other sins.

A compelling treatise of these sins can be found in the great Florentine poet Dante’s Divine Comedy. Pope Francis has encouraged us to use Dante as a spiritual guide through this Year of Mercy. Accordingly, as we consider each of the capital sins over the next several weeks, we’ll include some insight from the second volume of Dante’s triloby, Purgatorio.

The simple feeling of anger is not a sin, since emotions are part of our make-up as human beings. But what can become sinful is how we respond to that feeling.

God gave us an intellect to guide our emotions. Anger can be rightly channeled, such as toward the cause of justice.

If we allow anger to control us, however, we sin: for example, if we desire to inflict harm in retaliation; let our anger become excessive; or react from a selfish motive. Left unchecked, anger can lead us to lash out in hurtful words or deeds, and even commit violence.

In Gregory the Great’s phrase, “sinful anger blinds” our reason. Dante illustrates the point in his poem: the souls in Purgatory who are being cleansed from their sins of anger are enveloped in a deep, impenetrable smoke. This is symbolic of what uncontrolled anger does to us, rendering us unable to see past ourselves.

With God’s grace, we can strive to overcome anger by cultivating the opposite virtue of meekness (not skimpiness, but kindly strength). We learn how to do this from Jesus, the “Lamb of God,” Dante therefore depicts these souls chanting the Angola Dei, asking Him to “grant us peace.”

We have a few “Little Black Books” still available. These are great prayer opportunities during the Season of Lent.
President’s Day: The parish office will be closed on Monday, February 15th as we celebrate President’s Day. The office will re-open on Tuesday, February 16th at 8:00 a.m. If you have a pastoral emergency, please call the parish office and follow the emergency prompts.

The Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion: Catholic Bishops around the country this weekend will welcome those catechumens (unbaptized) sent by the parish to gather together with their godparents and sponsors in what is known as the Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion. To send a catechumen to the Bishop means that a parish has discerned that the person is ready to enter the Catholic Church. In Sacred Scripture, the Book of Revelation makes reference to a “Book of Life” in which are written the names of those who have chosen to follow the Lord Jesus and be baptized. Those who are already baptized, as Catholics or in other denominations, had our names written in the Book of Life at our Baptism. In The Rite of Election, those preparing for Baptism are invited to come forward and sign a book, which we call the “Book of the Elect,” as a sign of their desire to be numbered among the chosen of God. Following the Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion, our catechumens will be called our elect. Our candidates (baptized) in RCIA, recognize their call to continue their journey of conversion to Jesus Christ at this rite and seek to deepen their faith and trust in this third period of the process, called the Period of Purification and Enlightenment.

Create in Me a Clean Heart: A Pastoral Response to Pornography: At their November 2015 General Assembly, the U.S. bishops approved the formal statement “Create in Me a Clean Heart: A Pastoral Response to Pornography” with an almost unanimous vote.

Bishop Richard J. Malone of Buffalo, chairman of the Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth, which directed the statement’s development, said: “My brother bishops’ approval of this statement shows our collective concern for the widespread problem of pornography in our culture today. As the statement says, virtually everyone is affected by pornography in some way. So many people—including within the Church—are in need of Christ’s abundant mercy and healing. My hope is that the statement can serve as a foundation and catalyst for increased pastoral attention to this challenge at the national and local level.”

The formal statement provides a basic catechesis on human sexuality and chastity, an explanation of why the production and use of pornography is a sin, an overview of its effects in our society, a closer look at its effects on men, women, children, young people, marriages and families, and a word of hope and encouragement to those who have been harmed by pornography use or in its production. The statement’s main audiences are Catholic leaders and parents, but it is also intended to be helpful for those who struggle with pornography use and all people of goodwill who want to work together for a culture of purity and respect for all women and men.

We have ordered 30 copies of this document in hope families will take advantage of this opportunity to read this document for its impact upon marriage and families. The cost is $8.00 per book and can be picked up in the sacristy of the church.

World Marriage Day Celebration – Sunday, February 7th: We had a beautiful celebration on Sunday evening for World Marriage Day. We thank all those who attended and who recommitted themselves through the vows they shared. We thank our Committee who planned and carried out the event, we thank Lynne Hensley who made a beautiful wedding cake for the event, the youth who helped us clean up as well as JoAshley Hall, Robin Bilan and Libby Downs who helped behind the scenes. The reception was beautiful and delicious. We pray this opportunity to renew your wedding vows helped you to remember why you said “I do” then and why you continue to say “I do” today. May God bless our married couples here at Saints Peter and Paul.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: It is easy to NOT go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and there are plenty of excuses. The time is not convenient, I haven’t really done anything that serious, I tell God that I am sorry I don’t need to tell the priest, I don’t want the priest to think less of me, etc… And yet there are plenty of reasons to go: we hear God’s great love for us as we receive his mercy and are forgiven of our sins, it is healing to name our sinfulness to another person, our sinfulness effects not only our relationship with God but with the community, the priest do not look down on you for your sins but admire your courage and faith in the mercy of God. So we invite you to leave the excuses behind and allow this Sacrament be a part of your renewal for Lent. If you have forgotten what to say or do, simply tell the priest and he will assist you. Remember, the Act of Contrition is there printed on the wall for you to see and pray.

Rediscover Jesus: On Ash Wednesday, did you get your e-mail from Matthew Kelly, the author of Rediscover Jesus? Did you pick up your book “Rediscover Jesus” and read Chapter 1? On Thursday as you began reading Chapter 2 “Getting to Know Jesus”, were you able to give yourself a number from 1 to 10 of how well you know Jesus? Were you able to write down things you know about Jesus? Remember Jesus wants to have a deep, dynamic, personal relationship with you. So we pray, “Jesus, open my heart and my mind so that I can get to know you as you really are. Amen”
Lent: “A Time of Healing and Reconciliation”: The word Lent means springtime. This word comes from the same root as lengthen. Daytime lengthens during Lent. The northern hemisphere turns toward the sun, the source of life, and winter turns into spring. In Hebrew, the word for repentance is the same as the word that means to turn, like the turning of the earth to the sun, like the turning of the soil before planting. The word sin means separation. We are called to turn from our separate selves, from our sin, to come together in community. Self-denial is the way we express our repentance. In the lengthening brightness from Ash Wednesday until the evening of Holy Thursday, our holy Lent, we turn to God as our source of life.

Parish Lenten Penance

The Church for the last 50 years has asked – in the Instruction on the Roman Missal – that all Catholics around the World be able to pray and to sing together in Latin the Lord’s Prayer – Pater Noster, and the Creed. As a Lenten Penance for the whole parish, I ask that we learn to pray and sing together the Pater Noster. 

Fr. Richard

The Lord’s Prayer
Pater noster,
qui es in cælis:
sanctificétur nomen tuum;
advéniat regnum tuum;
fiat volúntas tua,
sicut in cælo, et in terra.
Panem nostrum cotidiánum
da nobis hódie;
et dimítte nobis débita nostra,
sicut et nos dimíttimus
debítóribus nostris;
et ne nos inducás in tentatiónem;
sed líbera nos a malo. Amen.

Fasting and Abstinence: Abstinence - Remember all persons who have completed their fourteenth year are to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent including Good Friday. Fasting - All persons who have completed their eighteenth year to the beginning of the Sixtieth year are to Fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Operation Rice Bowl: Looking for a Lenten service project? Once again during Lent, Saints Peter and Paul will support the valuable work of Catholic Relief Services through participation in Operation Rice Bowl. Rice Bowls continue to be available this weekend. We hope these Rice Bowls give the families the opportunity to discuss in your home what poverty and starvation truly is and how we can choose to cut back from our excess and donate these monies to Catholic Relief Services. Rice Bowl remains in your home during Lent and is brought to the Mass on Holy Thursday as gifts of alms to the poor.

KC’s Annual Lenten Fish Fries: Join the Monsignor James Willett Council #7847 of the Knights of Columbus for three Friday evenings during Lent for terrific food and fellowship – February 19th, March 4th and March 18th. Serving each night from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. with the menu including: Fried Catfish, Slaw, Hush Puppies, French Fries, Drink and Dessert.

Soup Suppers: Come and join us for our meatless Soup Suppers during Lent? They are scheduled for two more Friday nights during Lent and take place immediately after we pray the Stations of the Cross at 6:00 p.m.

This year’s dates are: Friday, February 26th and Friday, March 11th

St. Maximilian Kolbe Bookstore will be here at Saints Peter and Paul next weekend, February 20th and 21st, after all Masses in the narthex. This would be a great time to get a spiritual book for Lent to read or items for Easter, First Communion, and RCIA gifts. St. Maximilian Kolbe Catholic Bookstore is operated in Owensboro and enjoys coming to our parish to provide religious items and literature. Let us be grateful for this opportunity. *We need help! If you can be here at the church on Saturday afternoon, February 20th at 3:30 p.m. to help Kelly to unload the truck, please let Libby know. It will take less than 30 minutes.

Family Movie Night: On Sunday, February 21st at 5:00 p.m. we are offering another “Family Movie Night” We will be showing the moving “Woodlawn”. Woodlawn is based in 1973, a spiritual awakening captures the hearts of the Woodlawn High School Football team. The team makes an astounding run at the playoffs, leading to the largest high school football game ever played in the torn city of Birmingham, Alabama, and the rise of it’s first African American superstar - Tony Nathan. Bring your favorite soup to share, hotdogs or whatever you wish to bring. After dinner we will continue with the Movie. Popcorn and lemonade will be provided. So come and join us, bring your own comfortable chair and gather as families of Saints Peter and Paul to see this powerful movie.

“God wants to live amidst his sons and daughters. Let us make space for him in our hearts.” Pope Francis
As Lent is the time for greater love, listen to Jesus’ thirst…

Mother Teresa has a beautiful quote concerning Lent:

“As Lent is the time for greater love, listen to Jesus’ thirst… ‘Repent and believe’ Jesus tells us. ’What are we to repent? Our indifference, our hardness of heart. What are we to believe? Jesus thirsts even now, in your heart and in the poor—He knows your weakness. He wants only your love, wants only the chance to love you.”

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE….. Today’s first reading describes the offering of first fruits the people of Israel were to present to the Lord in thanksgiving for their deliverance from Egypt and the gift of the promised land. Is my offering at today’s Mass an appropriate response to the many blessings the Lord has given me?

Budget News

Weekly Parish Collection…………………………………….. $13,805.35
Weekly Parish Budget Needs ................................. $15,850.00
Unpaid 2015-16 Diocesan Assessment ..................... $42,651.00
Weekly Capital Improvement Donations .................... $887.00
Capital Improvement Fund Balance .......................... $15,095.39
Weekly A Legacy of Faith Fund Pledge Payments ........ $3,498.00
A Legacy of Faith Fund Balance ............................... $843,697.78
(Includes Proceeds from the Mardi Gras Fundraiser)
Needed to Break Ground on New Building ......... $122,167.62
Stained Glass Window Donations ......................... $620.00
Stained Glass Window Fund Balance .................. $389,501.28

Mass Intentions

Monday, February 15
8:00 AM  LARRY BORDERS & FAMILY
Tuesday, February 16
8:00 AM  † ELLEN BURMAN
Wednesday February 17
8:00 AM  † 7 HOLY FOUNDERS OF THE SERVITE ORDER
5:30 PM  † CHRISTOPHER STEVENSON
5:30 PM  † TIFFANY SCHUCK
Thursday, February 18
8:00 AM  † SANDY & WOODY MACKENZIE
5:30 PM Spanish  † BOB HARDESTY
Friday, February 19
8:00 AM  † DOT CHERRY
Saturday, February 20
8:00 AM  BILL CHAUDOIN
5:00 PM  STEVE & SHARON MOSELEY
Sunday, February 21
Second Sunday of Lent
8:00 AM  † GEORGE SPURR
10:30 AM  FOR ALL PARISHIONERS
2:00 PM Spanish  † MARY MACIAS
10:30 PM Spanish  † POOR SOULS IN PURGATORY

† Indicates Requiem Mass
SANCTUARY LAMP
In Honor of Mary Macias
By Sue Wassmer

Youth Ministry

Our Middle School and High School Youth programs resume this Wednesday, February 17th beginning with Mass at 5:30 p.m.

February Schedule:
February 17th – Class  February 24th – Class
March 2nd – Class  March 9th – Class
March 16th – Class
March 23rd – No Class – Holy Week
March 30th – No Class – Spring Break,

Youth 2000: YOUTH 2000 is responding to the call of Pope John Paul II to enable young people to live and proclaim the Gospel. You are invited to a YOUTH 2000 Retreat on March 11th-13th at Owensboro Convention Center. This retreat is being sponsored by the Diocesan Offices of Youth Ministry and Faith Formation and the Diocesan Marian Shrine Committee. Youth should register through a Parish, School or other Group. For registration forms, see Libby. The deadline for registration is approaching fast.

Snow Day! Please be advised when the Hopkinsville/Christian County School System is closed due to inclement weather, Middle and High School Youth Programs on Wednesday night are cancelled at Saints Peter and Paul.

Please Pray for our Deployed
Ace Crawford, Wesley Britt, Scott Donohue, Louis Fay and Michael Larwa

Seven Themes of Catholic Social Teaching: The Church’s social teaching is a rich treasure of wisdom about building a just society and living lives of holiness amidst the challenges of modern society. Within the theme of “Call to Family, Community and Participation”, we see the importance and our call to participate in society. One of these ways is to register to vote, to search out candidates and their view of issues and then of course to Vote. So are you aware that there will be a 2016 Kentucky Caucus?

On Saturday, March 5th, 2016, Kentucky will make history by holding our Commonwealth’s first-ever Republican Presidential Caucus. Here in Hopkinsville, all registered Republican voters will be able to vote for their candidate from the hours of 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Convention Center.

Year of Mercy—During Lent we are being asked by Pope Francis to focus on the Spiritual Work of Mercy - to forgive offences willingly. During February reflect on the need for forgiveness in your life. Is there someone you need to forgive or someone you need to ask for forgiveness? Start by resolving to pray for that person everyday this month. Mentally standing in the Lord’s presence with this person can open your heart to peace.

Important Liturgical Dates to Remember:
Palm Sunday, March 20th
Chirsmas Mass, March 22nd
Holy Thursday, March 24th
Good Friday, March 25th
Holy Saturday, March 26th
Easter Sunday, March 27th
Divine Mercy Sunday, April 3rd
First Holy Communion, Sunday, April 24th at 4:00 p.m.
Priesthood Ordination, May 28 at 10:00 a.m. – St. Stephen Cathedral
Pentecost, May 15th
and blindness. For those caught up in the seven deadly sins sight and understanding, leading to hardened ignorance ways begins with a prayer for humility. Sin poisons spiritual spiritual contagions in our lives. This is not so easy and al-

again Jesus was victorious.

had the crowd taunt Jesus to come down from the cross, ex-

wheat” and snared Judas in its deceits. At the very Cross it 
disciples or at Jesus. It demanded “to sift the Twelve like 
turbed, the devil returned at various times to strike at the 
Evil One,” the very last petition of the Lord’s Prayer. Unper-

Jesus taught the disciples to pray for deliverance from “the 
tions by which it prompted both the original sin and by which 
Gospel tells us, it employed against Jesus the same tempta-
er to sabotage the redemptive work of God in person by 
the prince of this world, beelzebul (lord of the flies), the evil 
derer from the beginning, the ancient serpent, the dragon, 
against or across God’s plans), the tempter, a liar, a mur-
derer from the beginning, the ancient serpent, the dragon, 
 prince of this world, beelzebul (lord of the flies), the evil 
.

The evil one is a spiritual creature of great power and intelligence which was created immensely good but freely and irrevocably rebelled against our Creator through pride. It fell into a frustrated condition of spite and horror, bent on the opposition of God’s goodness. This fallen angel is named in the Scriptures as Satan (which is translated “the Accuser”), the devil (diabolos– the one who throws itself against or across God’s plans), the tempter, a liar, a murderer from the beginning, the ancient serpent, the dragon, the prince of this world, beelzebul (lord of the flies), the evil one. It is so vain as to attempt with all its cunning and pow-
er to sabotage the redemptive work of God in person by way of attacking the humanity of the Divine Son. As the 
Gospel tells us, it employed against Jesus the same tempta-
tions by which it prompted both the original sin and by which 
it led Israel into sin in the wilderness. But Jesus prevailed. 
Jesus taught the disciples to pray for deliverance from “the 
Evil One,” the very last petition of the Lord’s Prayer. Unper-
turbed, the devil returned at various times to strike at the 
disciples or at Jesus. It demanded “to sift the Twelve like 
and snared Judas in its deceits. At the very Cross it 
had the crowd taunt Jesus to come down from the cross, ex-
posing its final objective as the inducement of despair. But 
again Jesus was victorious.

As Lent begins we do well to survey the state of spiritual contagions in our lives. This is not so easy and al-
ways begins with a prayer for humility. Sin poisons spiritual sight and understanding, leading to hardened ignorance and blindness. For those caught up in the seven deadly sins or in the webs of social sins it takes immense humility or hum-
bling to break through the encrustations defending the prac-
tice of sin. But there are subtler forms of evil. The pois-
ons of resentment, accusation, bitterness, and vindictiveness 
through the cracks of sadness or injury into otherwise virtuous souls by way of self-pity or self-righteousness and are per-
haps the devil’s most vicious corruptions. Many are infected 
this way, unaware of the source of their unhappiness which 
they blame on others. Always, always, the devil’s goal is a 
human’s despair of grace, the extinction of hope. It is ours 
then to give our weakness, woundedness, and sins to Jesus, 
acknowledging our own part in his crucifixion, so that we 
may receive our participation in the victory of his resurrec-

Christ’s faithfulness on the cross destroys the devil’s 
decepts and overthrowes despair. Fr. Richard

Lenten Challenges

1. Eat Dinner together as a family at least one night each week. During this meal, refrain from cell phones, i-pads, television and other forms of media. Spend this time talking to each other.

2. Pray together as a family at least one night each week of Lent. Pray the Stations of the Cross; Pray the Rosary – Meditate on the Sorrowful Mysteries

3. Come to Mass early and pray together as a family or stay late and pray.

Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy: As we come to this sea-
son of Lent we turn to the words of Pope Francis found in 
his Bull of Indiction of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy. 
In this document as he called for the Jubilee year of Mercy, 
he addresses the season of Lent in particular. He says, “The 
season of Lent during this Jubilee Year should also be lived 
more intensely as a privileged moment to celebrate and 
experience God’s mercy.” He calls us to reflect on the mer-
ciful face of the Father which is found abundantly in Scrip-
ture, he suggests two such images found in Micah 7:18-19 
and Isaiah 58:6-11.

As we reflect on the merciful face of the Father, 
may we be drawn to actions of mercy. God’s mercy trans-
forms human hearts; it enables us, through the experience 
of a faithful love, to become merciful in return. The spiritual 
and corporal works of mercy, the pontiff said, “reminds us 
that faith finds expression in concrete everyday actions 
meant to help our neighbors, in body and spirit; by feed-
ing, visiting, comforting, and instructing them.” For all of us, 
then, the season of Lent in this Jubilee Year is a favorable 
time to overcome our alienation from God and one another 
by listening to God’s word and by practicing the works of 
mercy. In the corporal works of mercy, we touch the flesh 
of Christ in our brothers and sisters who need to be fed, 
clothed, sheltered, and visited. In the spiritual works of 
mercy – counsel, instruction, forgiveness, admonishment, 
patience and prayer we touch more directly our own sinful-

Pope Francis concludes his letter with the message, 
“Let us not waste this season of Lent, so favorable for con-
version.”