



Sts. Peter and Paul Ecumenical Catholic Church+USA
808 N. Mason Road
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August 2017 Parish Bulletin

Parish Web Site: www.sspp-eccusa.org

Church Web Site: www.ecc-usa.org

PASTORAL STAFF:

Pastor: +Fr. Bob Catlett, 314.800.3456, pastor@sspp-eccusa.org

Associate Pastor: Fr. Bill LaGrand, 314.650.9214, associate@sspp-eccusa.org

Diocesan Bishop: +Fr. Carl Swaringim, 636.240.7839, domcarl@ecc-usa.org

CLERGY MASS SCHEDULE

All Mass Times 4:00 PM unless otherwise noted

August 6, 2017: Transfiguration of our Lord Baptism of Abigail Laurene Monroe	Fr. Bill
August 13, 2017: Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	+Fr. Bob
August 20, 2017: Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Fr. Tom
August 27, 2017: Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: Mark Kreutz, son of parishioner, Rita Kreutz	+Fr. Carl

PRAYER INTENTIONS

If you would like us to remember a special intention for you at Mass, please contact one of our priests.

If you or someone you know is in need of spiritual assistance (prayers, Sacrament of the Sick, etc.), please contact one of our priests.

Inquiries regarding the administration of Sacraments or services (Baptisms, First Communion, Marriages, and Funerals) are welcomed.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS – AUGUST 2017

Fr. Bill LaGrand, M.A.

August 6, 2017: Transfiguration of the Lord: Moses represented the law; Elijah represented the prophets; and Jesus is understood to fulfill all that Moses and Elijah stood for. The divinity of Christ is clarified by the voice of God. (Matthew 17: 1-9)

August 13, 2017: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time: When the disciples see Jesus walking on the water, they are terrified. Jesus reveals his divine identity by saying, "Take courage, it is I. Do not be afraid." Is our faith as weak as that of Peter? (Matthew 14: 22-33).

August 20, 2017: 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time: The Canaanite woman is focused and persistent. The faith of this woman is so powerful that not even a rebuke from Jesus will keep her from seeking help for her daughter. Faith transcends all barriers. (Matthew 15: 21-28)

August 27, 2017: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time: Peter's answer to Jesus is clear. Jesus is impressed by Peter's response and declares that this understanding must come from divine revelation and not simply Peter's own knowledge. This understanding is important for us today. (Matthew 16: 13-20)

From the Presiding Bishop's Desk

+Fr. Carl Swaringim, Ed.D.

Over the last eight months, we have reviewed the theology of the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Penance, Communion, and Marriage with particular emphasis on Sacramental Beliefs within the Ecumenical Catholic Church+USA. This month, we will look at the Sacrament of Holy Orders and we will conclude this series with the Anointing of the Sick in the September bulletin.

The Sacrament of Holy Orders is the continuation of Christ's priesthood, which He bestowed upon His Apostles; thus, the churches within the Catholic Faith Tradition refer to the Sacrament of Holy Orders as "the Sacrament of Apostolic Ministry." Clergypersons are ordained to minister to God's people through Word and Sacrament.



In the Sacrament of Holy Orders, a person is incorporated into the priesthood of Christ at one of three levels: as a deacon, priest or bishop. A person cannot demand ordination; the Church has the authority and obligation to determine eligibility for the Sacrament.

In the Ecumenical Catholic Church+USA, all levels of the sacrament of Holy Orders are open to men and women. Celibacy, before or after ordination, is not a requirement for the reception of the sacrament of Holy Orders.

Jesus is always with us, as he promised, in the person of the bishop, the priest, and the deacon.

The purpose of this sacrament is the spiritual nourishment of God's people through the ministry of the seven sacraments; preaching the Word of God; teaching the Catholic Faith Tradition; and evangelization of anyone who seeks to find the will of God.

The Ecumenical Catholic Church+USA conducts a clergy preparation program under the auspices of Vilatte Theological Seminary. Through the seminary program, candidates are prepared for ministry by their study of Sacred Scripture and the doctrines of the Catholic Faith Traditions of the first millennium. As clergy candidates progress through their studies, they advance through the Minor Orders of Porter, Acolyte, Lector and Subdeacon. Once proven through study and service, the Council of Bishops determines the appropriateness of calling a candidate to the Sacred Order of Deacon and eventually the Sacred Priesthood.

Within our Church congregations, pastors may recommend to the Diocesan Bishop dedicated laypersons who commit themselves to serve the local congregation as clergy in the Minor Orders; particularly as sacristans, lectors, acolytes, and subdeacons. Our Church reinstated the Minor Order of Subdeacon in order to provide ordained help particularly to pastors who are the only cleric in a ministry or congregation. The subdeacon can perform many, but certainly not all, of the liturgical functions of a deacon and can fill in for a pastor in certain emergency situations. The course of studies for a permanent subdeacon is considerably less than for the cleric whose goal is to become a deacon or priest.

Our Church also invites former Roman Catholic priests, seminarians, and lay men and women with Religious Education backgrounds who may be interested in ministry in this Church to visit our National Church website at www.ecc-usa.org or contact our Presiding Bishop at inquiry@ecc-usa.org.

Blessings,

+Fr. Carl

From the Pastor's Desk

+Fr. Bob Catlett, M.Div.

Birthdays: August 11 – Barb Butchart
August 22 – Erlaine Eltomi
August 28 – Fr. Tom Whitehead

Anniversaries: August 31 – Dr. Nathaniel and Sandra Murdock

Best wishes to all who have special days to celebrate this month!

Welcome:

Our parish welcomes Abigail Laurene Monroe as she is baptized into the faith on Sunday, August 6, 2017. Fr. Bill will baptize Abigail during the celebration of the Eucharist.

Wedding Banns:

Tanner Allen Peters and Julie Lydia Fotinos were united in Holy Matrimony on Saturday, June 3, 2017, at Wine Country Garden, Defiance, Missouri. +Fr. Carl presided. Tanner Peters is the grandson of our parishioner, Becky Kaley.

Mark Mikecin and Adrienne Weber were united in Holy Matrimony on Saturday, July 8, 2017, at The Jewel Box, St. Louis, Missouri. Fr. Bill presided.

Sympathies:

The parish extends its deepest sympathies to our parishioner and former Pastoral Musician, Rita Kreutz, on the death of her son, Mark, at the young age of 64. Mark passed away on Monday, July 17, 2017, after a short battle with pancreatic cancer. Eternal rest, grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen!

Mark Your Calendars! 2017 Synod – October 20-22, 2017:

This year's Synod/Retreat will be held at Mercy Retreat and Conference Center, Frontenac, Missouri, from Friday afternoon, October 20, 2017, through noon on Sunday, October 22, 2017. This year's Synod will, once again, be full of prayer, learning and reflection. The topic is entitled, "Beginning the Conversation" and deals with the theology and practicalities for end of life issues that are often not dealt with until people find themselves in a crisis situation. So, this topic will be practical for each of us, as well as an important training session for clergy, but also a training session for any of us if (when) we are asked for help and advice by friend or family.

If you are interested in attending, please contact me. The parish will pay the registration fee (commuter fee) for any parishioner wishing to attend, which includes lunches, dinners and materials.