



**Saints Peter and Paul Chapel**  
A Ministry of the Ecumenical Catholic Church+USA  
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**January 2024 Parish Bulletin**

Parish Web Site: [www.sspp-eccusa.org](http://www.sspp-eccusa.org) or [www.peterandpaulchapel.org](http://www.peterandpaulchapel.org)

Parish Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/ssppECCUSA](http://www.facebook.com/ssppECCUSA)

National Church Web Site: [www.ecc-usa.org](http://www.ecc-usa.org)

National Church Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/eccusa2001>

**Mass Schedule**

**All In-Person Worship Services are at 2:00 PM unless otherwise noted**

January 7, 2024: The Epiphany of the Lord

January 14, 2024: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 21, 2024: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 28, 2024: Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Pastoral Staff:**

**Pastor:** +Fr. Bob Catlett, 314.800.3456, [pastor@sspp-eccusa.org](mailto:pastor@sspp-eccusa.org)

**Founding Bishop:** +Fr. Carl Swaringim, 314.650.1487,  
[domcarl@protonmail.com](mailto:domcarl@protonmail.com)

### **Prayer Intentions**

If you would like us to remember a special intention for you at Mass or, if you or someone you know is in need of spiritual assistance (prayers, Sacrament of the Sick, etc.), please contact the pastor.

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

### **Scripture Reflections**

+Fr. Bob Catlett, M.Div.

**January 1, 2024 – Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God:** “God sent his Son, born of a woman,” proclaims St. Paul. This is the mystery we celebrate today: Mary’s role in our redemption. While contemplating this awesome reality, we prepare to begin a new year, strengthened by the blessing from the Book of Numbers. O Mary, we place this year under your protection and guidance. (Numbers 6:22-27, Galatians 4:4-7, Luke 2:16-21)

**January 7, 2024 – The Epiphany of the Lord:** Here comes everyone...it’s the Catholic Church. Today’s passages from Isaiah and Matthew foreshadow the reality proclaimed in the selection from Ephesians: The Church, firmly rooted in the history of ancient Israel, is for all people. We want to remember this in our daily lives and try to let Christ shine through us. (Isaiah 60:1-6, Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6, Matthew 2:1-12)

**January 14, 2024 – 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time:** Our personal call from the Lord may not have been as dramatic as the calls of Samuel, Andrew, Peter, and other prophets and apostles. But, as St. Paul tells us in the second reading, “I am the Lord’s – I’m his temple, and I’m called to do something for God.” As St. John Henry Cardinal Newman wrote, “I have my mission.” (1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19, 1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20)

**January 21, 2024 – 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time:** St. Paul warns us, “I tell you; time is running out.” In the Old Testament Book of Jonah, when time starts to run out for the Ninevites, they repent of their sins. In the Gospel, when time runs out for the Baptist, Jesus begins his ministry. Time may be running out for us, but wouldn’t we be wise to use our time better? (Jonah 3:1-5, 10, 1 Corinthians 7:29-31, Mark 1:14-20)

**January 28, 2024 – 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time:** “I will raise up...a prophet,” proclaims the Lord in the reading from Deuteronomy, and “will put my words into his mouth.” The early Christians saw this as a reference to Jesus, who, Mark says, teaches “with authority.” Other teachers like St. Paul, instead, sometimes give an opinion, as in the second reading, rather than authoritative teaching. When we need answers, do we know where to find authoritative Church teaching? (Deuteronomy 18:15-20, 1 Corinthians 7:32-35, Mark 1:21-28)

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 **First Corinthians**

**ON SUNDAYS** between Christmas Time and Lent, the Second Reading at Mass is taken from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians. On Ordinary Time Sundays throughout the year, the Second Reading gives us several excerpts from the same New Testament letter for several consecutive weeks. Usually we hear from a given letter for one series of weeks every three years. However, Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians is an exception. It is a long, important letter, so the lectionary divides it up into three parts. We hear from it every year as Ordinary Time first gets underway.

Earlier in his career, St. Paul had made a lengthy visit to Corinth. After he left, members of the young Christian community contacted him about some problems and questions they were facing in his absence. St. Paul deals with these issues one by one. When we read the letter today, we learn about the challenges in the early church and the position Paul held on controversial topics, and we realize that some things haven't changed. It is comforting to know that the issues we face today are not new and that the solutions Paul proposes are still practical and inspirational.

The letter includes many famous passages: the divided community of Corinth, God's choice of the weak instead of the strong, the Cross of Christ as a stumbling block for many, the unmarried life, the imperative to preach the Gospel, the Body of Christ, the gift of love, the Resurrection of Christ, and the eternal life of believers. For several weeks each year, we hear familiar passages from one of the Bible's great letters. The pastoral, hopeful message of Paul can always inspire those who drop everything else and listen to his words.

## **Pastor's Corner**

+Fr. Bob Catlett, M.Div., Pastor

**Birthdays:**           None this month

**Anniversaries:**      None this month

**It's "Tax Time" Again...** Parishioner donation statements will be mailed shortly after the first of the year. Thank you to all who continued to contribute to the church during the year. We are grateful for your generosity.

**Masses on Facebook Live!** Just a reminder...we are now able to livestream our Sunday masses on our Chapel Facebook page. If you are unable to attend in person, join us virtually...we would love to "see" you! You do **not** have to have a Facebook account to join us. Just go to our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/ssppECCUSA](http://www.facebook.com/ssppECCUSA) at 2:00 PM on Sunday afternoons.

**Bulletin Inserts (page 3):** We continue "getting to know the church, its practices and other pressing issues" with *Bulletin Inserts for the Liturgical Life of the Parish*. The short bulletin inserts provided in this resource cover a variety of liturgy-related topics that aim to assist the parish in the liturgical formation of the assembly. The author, Fr. Paul Turner, provides short catechesis on a wide variety of topics to help the reader gain a better understanding of the "what, how, and why" of the liturgy. Each insert is designed to help the reader engage the liturgy and manifest it in their lives. Fr. Paul Turner is pastor of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Kansas City, Missouri, and director of the Office of Divine Worship for the Diocese of Kansas City–St. Joseph. He holds a doctorate in sacred theology from Sant'Anselmo in Rome. ***This month, we learn about the First Letter of St. Paul to the People at Corinth, which is used during the Sundays between Christmas and Lent.***