

Our Lady Queen of Peace

132 Butcher Street, Bethalto, IL 62010

Phone: (618) 377-6519

Fax: (618) 377-9550

Website: <https://www.olqpbethalto.org/parish/>

Fr. Tom Liebler, Pastor

Rectory: 618-377-6519; Cell: 618-409-7444; Email: tliebler@aol.com



PARISH SCHOOL

Mr. Steve Menke, Principal, 618-377-6401

Fax: 618-377-6146, Email: smenke@olqpbethalto.org

Elaine Withers, School Secretary: ewithers@olqpbethalto.org

COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND

Holy Communion is brought to homebound & residents of Villa Rose, Cedarhurst and Hollybrook on first Fridays for those unable to attend Mass. Call parish office to request.

BAPTISM

Parents of infants to be baptized, call parish office to request a meeting with Fr. Tom.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturdays: 3:30 pm—4:15 pm & by appointment.

PARISH OFFICE

Hours: Monday through Thursday, 8:30 am—4:00 pm
Closed 12-1 for Lunch

Phone: 618-377-6519, Fax: 618-377-9550

Email: church@olqpbethalto.org

Office Manager: Terri Zykan

Secretary/SCRIP Coordinator: Bea Albarado

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING

Call parish office to request a hospital visit or the Sacrament of Anointing.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Bethalto Council #4688, 4th Degree #203

Grand Knight: Ryan Frazier

Email: bethaltoknight@gmail.com;

Website: www.bethaltoknights.org

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Mass Intentions

Sat., Dec. 18	Advent Weekday
4:30 pm	Nelson Gregory
Sun., Dec. 19	Fourth Sunday of Advent
8:30 am	For the Parishioners
10:30 am	Tom Connoyer
Mon., Dec. 20	Advent Weekday
8:30 am	Noah Rogers (L)
Tues., Dec. 21	Advent weekday
8:30 am	Steve & Virginia Ostanik
Wed., Dec. 22	Advent Weekday
6:30 pm	Anna Holmes
Thur., Dec. 23	Advent Weekday
8:30 am	For the Parishioners
Fri., Dec. 24	Nativity of the Lord
4:30 pm	Kenneth & Loretta Weber
9:00 pm	Nelson Gregory
Sat., Dec. 25	Nativity of the Lord
9:00 am	Jerry Durbin
Sun., Dec. 26	Holy Family
8:30 am	Charles Calhoon
10:30 am	For the Parishioners

Prayer Requests



The sick: Conor Vogel, Keita Salantai, Mary Wagner, Charlie Mattingly, Noah Rogers, Becky Gray, Marguerite Hufker, Dan McRae, Mary Overton, Maxine Calhoon, Gloria Matthews, Diane Morin, Vi Perkhiser, Robert and Pauline Lange, Elli Wiemers, Christine Scheffel, Toni Stanford, Tim Phillips, Kennedy Stalcup, William Henderson, Helen Nagy, Peggy Ruhmann, Mike Byers, Bea Albarado, Lyla Ross, Debra Walker, Audrey Wolff, Marie DeClue, Renee Harshbarger, Lisa Curtis. **For prayer requests in the bulletin, call the parish office, 377-6519. For prayer requests to be added to the email prayer chain, send requests to Marie at re-joy128@gmail.com**

Mass Schedule



Christmas, December 24-25:

Friday, Dec. 24: 4:30 pm, 9:00 pm

Saturday, Dec. 25: 9:00 am

Sunday, December 26:

8:30 am, 10:30 am

Solemnity of Mary, December 31

4:30 pm

Saturday-Sunday, January 1-2

4:30 pm, 8:30 am, 10:30 am

Notes: 1) **NO 4:30 pm Mass on December 25**
2) **Only ONE Mass for the Solemnity of Mary and it is NOT a holy day of obligation.**

Dear Parishioners,

God so loved the world that He sent His only begotten Son to be one of us in all things but sin. What a great act of LOVE! What a great act of MERCY! What a great act of HOPE for all of us at this special time of the year. Christmas is a time of blessing in so many ways, and I pray that this Christmas will be a blessed and joyful time for all of us here at Our Lady Queen of Peace. We have seen and heard many secular symbols of Christmas for several weeks in the world that surrounds us, like lights and candy canes, and elves, and many more, but none of those things can match up to the actual celebration of the birth of Our Lord Jesus. As the saying goes "Jesus is the reason for the season". I think that we could add that He is the ONLY reason for the season. May the blessings of God be with each of you as you celebrate the birth of the Christ Child, the Babe of Bethlehem, and may Our Lord Jesus be in your hearts throughout the coming New Year of Grace.

Father Tom



SCRIP For Christmas—Last Call!

If you need any last minute gift cards, check with the parish office. We are here Monday and Tuesday of this week. Questions, give us a call, 377-6519.

Catholic Children's Home

The mission of the Catholic Children's Home is to aid, protect and care for the needs, education and welfare of dependent, neglected, abused or otherwise hurting children and families without regard to poverty, riches, race, religion or national origin.

Every year we depend on the Christmas Day collection as the most important part of our fundraising. What better day to remember the children who, through no fault of their own, are less fortunate than our own. Your monetary donation to the Catholic Children's Home is a wonderful way to ensure that we will continue to bring help to the most needy children and ensure that they have a brighter hope for the future.

Parish Office Hours

Dec. 20, 21: Open, 8:30—4:00 pm

Closed Dec. 22, 23, 24

Dec. 27, 28: Open 8:30—4:00 pm

Closed Dec. 29, 30, 31

Resume regular hours/days January 3, 2022.

Liturgical Ministries

4:30 pm **Friday, Dec. 24**

Lector
E. Ministers
Ushers
Music Praise Team

9:00 pm **Friday, Dec. 24**

Lector
E. Ministers Joe Grabowski
Ushers
Music Adult Choir

9:00 am **Saturday, Dec. 25**

Lector
E. Ministers
Ushers
Music Craig Stark

8:30 am **Sunday, December 26**

Lector
E. Ministers

Ushers

Music Folk Group

10:30 am **Sunday, December 26**

Lector
E. Ministers
Ushers Diane Waldo, Kathy Wilson
Music Praise Team

PLEASE HELP IF YOU CAN:

Many volunteers are still needed for the above dates. To help out, please call Brenda Tebbe, 618-407-0233 or the parish office, 377-6519. **THANK YOU!!**

Detecting Divinity in the Ordinary

Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste..... Luke 1:39

Mary's visit to Elizabeth is one of the few times in Scripture where two women share the center stage. On the surface, some could see this encounter as very ordinary, going so far as to dismiss Mary as "too young" to matter anymore. (Shouldn't she and Zachariah be looking for a retirement community?) Yet we believers know this meeting is anything but ordinary.

Both women are pregnant—under different yet God-ordained circumstances. At the very sound of Mary's greeting, the child in Elizabeth's womb dances for joy. Elizabeth calls Mary "blessed among women," extolling her for daring to believe that God's word spoken to her would be fulfilled. This simple story is a reminder for all of us to look beneath the surface of ordinary people and ordinary events—because Divinity is at work there.

Sr. Melannie Svoboda, S.N.D.
 Living Faith, Oct., Nov., Dec.

A Reflection on the Readings

You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah, . . . from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel. (Micah 5:1)

Did you know that there are more than three hundred verses in the Old Testament pointing to Jesus as the Messiah? In today's first reading, for instance, the prophet Micah says that a great ruler will come from Bethlehem, the village where David was born (5:1). That aligns with other prophecies that the Messiah would come from the line of David (2 Samuel 7:16; Isaiah 11:1)

Yet Micah's words were written centuries before Jesus was born. For the Jews of Jesus' time, living under Roman occupation, that was a long time of waiting, watching, and praying for God to fulfill his promises.

But now the wait is over, and Mary and Elizabeth know it. That's why, in today's Gospel, they are so joyful. Elizabeth greets Mary with a loud cry, and even the young John the Baptist leaps with joy in her womb (Luke 1:44).

Maybe for you, Advent has seemed like a long time of waiting. Maybe you've been waiting for Jesus to speak to you, and you hear nothing but silence. Maybe you've been waiting a long time for him to answer a prayer, and you want to be reassured that he hears you. Maybe your waiting will continue, even after Advent is over.

Unlike the Jews before Jesus' coming, you don't have to wait for the Messiah to appear. And whatever else you are waiting for, you don't have to wait for him to draw close to you. He loves you so much that he offers you his own Body and Blood in the Eucharist. This is what he came to do—to save you and unite himself to you.

So even if you find yourself still waiting on the Lord, know that he always fulfills his promises. Today he is waiting for you to receive him, and that alone is reason to rejoice!

"Lord, fill me with joy, today and at your coming on Christmas Day."

**Word Among Us
 Advent Issue**

Parishioner Information

(New Members & Changes)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

Please check the appropriate item(s):

_____ New Parishioner _____ Send Envelopes

_____ New Phone—Email _____ New Baby

_____ Change of Address _____ Leaving Parish

_____ Wish Father to call _____ Illness in Family

NAME: Our Lady Queen of Peace Church
132 Butcher Street, P.O. Box 100
Bethalto, IL 62010

PHONE: 618-377-6519

CONTACT: Terri Zykan

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Please add this address to our mailing list: ilv3cats@att.net

Please email this bulletin to all of our parishioners, whose email addresses previously provided, and **send 450 printed copies. Thank you. Questions, call Terri Zykan, 618-978-2986**