

# CATHEDRAL of SAINT PETER

## Masses

Saturday	4:00PM Vigil
Sunday	8:00 & 10:30AM, 5:00PM
Monday– Wednesday	6:45AM
Thursday	8:15AM
Friday	6:45AM
Holydays	6:45AM, 12:10PM

## Confessions

Monday-Wednesday	7:15-7:30AM
Thursday	6:00-7:00PM
Friday	7:15-7:30 AM
Saturday	3:00-3:45PM

## Perpetual Help Novena

Tuesday after 6:45AM Mass

## Holy Hour

Thursday	6:00-7:00PM
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Most Reverend Michael G. McGovern, Bishop of Belleville

December 24 - 31, 2023  
The Nativity of the Lord



## THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

“For today in the city  
of David a savior has  
been born for you who  
is Christ and Lord.”  
Lk 2:11

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

200 West Harrison Street, Belleville, IL 62220  
[www.cathedralbelle.org](http://www.cathedralbelle.org) ♦ [receptionist@cathedralbelle.org](mailto:receptionist@cathedralbelle.org) ♦ (618) 234-1166  
Notre Dame Academy (618) 233-6414 ♦ Green Mount Catholic Cemetery (618) 234-4858



## From Fr. Godfrey

**- A CHILD IS BORN TO US.** Sunlight fades each day as darkness envelops the earth. Yet the brilliance of the moon reflects the light, even in darkness. As Jesus is born, far brighter than the sun or moon, even brighter than the star of Bethlehem, shines the Light of the World, newborn, yet ancient, a tiny child,

yet Almighty and Everlasting. The presence of God's Love Incarnate conquers darkness and the sweetness of the Infant shines always upon us. Surrounded by darkness, we gather in the warm light, twinkling on the trees, flickering in the candlelight, glimmering in our souls, sparkling in our hearts, dwelling always among us in charity. Our weeks of waiting have reached their hope. It is no mirage: the Savior dwells among us in the flesh. Christ is born to us. Let us rejoice.

**- JANUARY 1.** We will celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God on January 1, but because it's on a Monday, it is not a day of obligation this year. Masses will be New Year's Eve at 4:00PM (not 5:00PM) and New Year's Day at 9:00AM only.

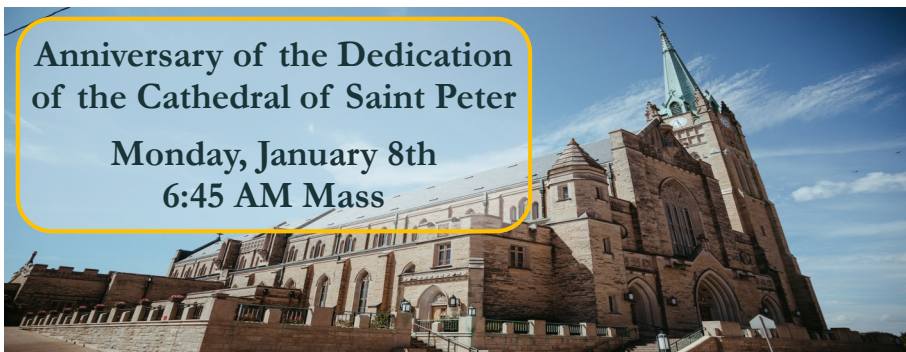
**- CHRISTMAS SEASON.** Don't go taking down that Christmas tree on Tuesday! For us the Christmas season lasts until the Baptism of the Lord – January 8. It takes us time to celebrate such a wondrous event in our life of faith. So don't run too quickly to Ordinary Time. Live it up a bit and remember how blessed we are.

**- THANK YOU** to so many people who have made year-end gifts to the parishes. Those gifts help us. I'll be following up with more precise information, but our finances aren't in great shape. Thanks for helping keep us afloat! God bless you all.

**- NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS.** What if we all made FOUR new year's resolutions along the lines of hospitality, prayer, formation, and service? How will I be more welcoming? How will I pray better? What faith formation will I engage? And how will I offer more generous service? If we head in those directions, I promise we'll be better disciples!

**Anniversary of the Dedication  
of the Cathedral of Saint Peter**

**Monday, January 8th  
6:45 AM Mass**



## Parish Office Hours

Monday-Friday 9:00AM-4:00PM

## Parish Staff

Parish (618) 234-1166  
Cemetery (618) 234-4858  
Notre Dame Academy (618) 233-6414

### Rector

Very Rev. Godfrey Mullen, OSB  
frgodfrey@cathedralbelle.org

### Deacons

Deacon David Fields  
fieldsdavid11@spectrum.net  
Deacon Doug Lugge  
jdlugge@gmail.com  
Deacon Wayne Weiler  
wlweiler@gmail.com

### Director of Religious Education

Sister Theresa Markus, SSND  
tmarkus@ssndcp.org

### Organist/Choirmaster

Mr. Richard Thompson  
rthompjd@gmail.com

### Contemporary Choir

Mr. Paul Lindauer  
pglindauer@gmail.com

### Business Manager

Mrs. Josie Weiler  
businessmanager@cathedralbelle.org

### Facilities Manager

Mr. Daryl Barton  
maintenance@cathedralbelle.org

### Office Manager

Mrs. Sue Pederson  
receptionist@cathedralbelle.org

### Assistant Office Manager

Mrs. Carissa Reitano  
bulletin@cathedralbelle.org

### Parish Trustees

Mrs. Greta Stock  
rngstock@yahoo.com  
Mr. John Schaberg  
johnschaberg@gmail.com

### Notre Dame Academy Principal

Mrs. Linda Hobbs  
linda.hobbs@notredamebelleville.org

### Green Mount Catholic Cemetery

Mrs. Carissa Reitano  
bulletin@cathedralbelle.org  
Mrs. Diane Walsh  
cemetery200@gmail.com

### Wedding Coordinator

Mrs. Aldara Henderson  
anthrochicaldara@gmail.com

**Sexual Abuse Hotline  
(800) 640-3044**



# MUSIC FOR DECEMBER 23/24 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



**4:00 PM, 8:00 AM, & 10:30 AM Mass**

## Prelude

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel,*  
Paul Manz (1919-2009)

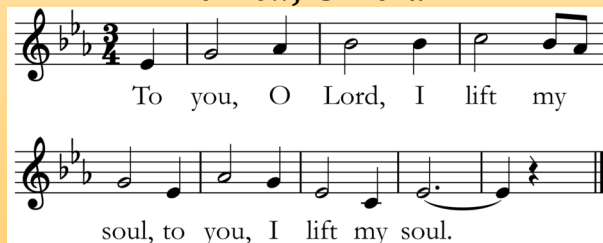
**10:30 AM: *Advent Prelude for Flute & Organ,* Charles Callahan (b. 1951)**

## Entrance

**#39 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel***

## Psalm

***To You, O Lord***



Marty Haugen. Copyright © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc.  
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## Gospel Acclamation

**#948 *Advent Gospel Acclamation***

## Offertory

**#52 *The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came***

**10:30 AM Choir: *Come Now Savior of the Nations,* Michael Burkhardt (b. 1957)**

## Communion

**#65 *Litany for Advent***

**10:30 AM Choir: *Ave, Maris Stella* trad.,  
Anon. IX cent.**

## Communion Thanksgiving

**#476 *Holy Darkness* Verses 4 & 5**

## Recessional

***Awake, Awake! And Greet the New Morn,*  
Marty Haugen (b. 1950)**

1. A - wake! a - wake, and greet the new morn, For  
2. To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -  
3. In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, When  
4. Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, Though

an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing, Sing out your joy, for  
man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, His hum - ble song is  
all the world is de - spair - ing, As morn - ing light so  
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, The ris - ing sun shall

now he is born, Be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.  
qui - et and near, Yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;  
qui - et and free, So warm and gen - tle and car - ing.  
crown you with light, Be strong and lov - ing and fear - less;

Come as a ba - by weak and poor, To bring all hearts to -  
Mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul And hymns of lov - ing  
Then shall the mute break forth in song, The flame shall leap in  
Love be our song and love our prayer, And love, our end - less

geth - er, He o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door And  
kind - ness, The thun - der of his an - thems roll To  
won - der, The weak be raised a - bove the strong, And  
sto - ry, May God fill ev - 'ry day we share, And

lives now in - side us for ev - er.  
shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.  
weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.  
bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Text: Marty Haugen, b.1950  
Tune: REJOICE, REJOICE, 9 8 9 8 8 7 8 9; Marty Haugen, b.1950  
© 1985, GIA Publications, Inc.

## Postlude

***Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming,*  
Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)**

MUSIC FOR  
THE NATIVITY OF  
THE LORD  
DECEMBER 24/25



December 24, 10:00 PM & December 25, 9:00 AM Mass

10:00PM Preludes

Brass Choir

*Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light*

Congregational Carol

#85 *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

Choir

*Before the Marvel of this Night,*  
Carl Schalk (1929-2021)

Brass Choir

*While, By My Sheep*

Choir

*Sussex Carol*, arrg. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

Congregational Carol

#93 *God Rest, Ye Merry Gentlemen*

Choir

*Christmas Night*, John Rutter (b. 1945)

Congregational Carol

#76 *Away in a Manger*

Choir

*Little Road to Bethlehem,*  
Michael Head (1900-1976)

Congregational Carol

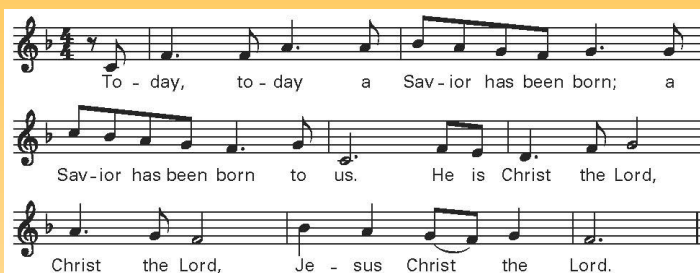
#106: *Once In Royal David's City*

Entrance

#99 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Psalms

*Today, Today*



Offertory

10 PM: *A Child Is Born*, Leo Nestor  
(1948-2019)

9 AM: #85 *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

Communion

10 PM Choir: *In the Bleak Mid-Winter*,  
Harold Darke (1888-1976)

10 PM: #81 *Silent Night*

9 AM: #88 *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

Recessional

#102 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*,  
Verses 1 & 3

Postludes

Brass Choir

*Fum, Fum, Fum*

Organ

*Toccata on O Come, All Ye Faithful*,  
Richard Purvis (1913-1944)

MUSIC FOR  
THE MOST  
HOLY FAMILY  
DECEMBER  
30/31ST



4PM, 8AM, & 10:30 AM

Prelude

Organ:

*What Child Is This?*, Richard Purvis

10:30 AM Choir:

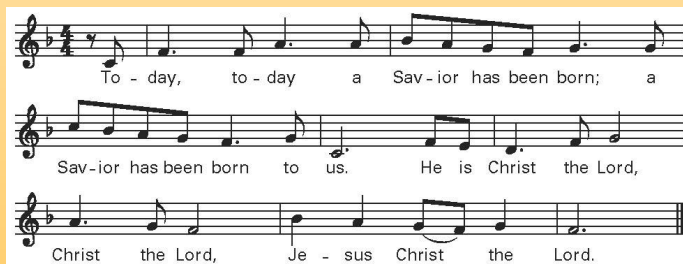
#106: *Once in Royal David's City*

Entrance

#102: *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

Psalm

*Today, Today*



Offertory

4 PM & 8 AM: #52 *The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came*

10:30 AM: *Before the Marvel of This Night*,  
Carl Schalk (1929-2021)

Communion

#97 *What Child Is This?*

10:30 AM Choir:

*The Little Road to Bethlehem*,  
Michael Head (1900-1976)

#81 *Silent Night*

Recessional

#86 *Joy to the World*

Postlude:

Toccata on *O Come, All Ye Faithful*,  
Richard Purvis (1913-1944)

MUSIC FOR  
THE  
SOLEMNITY OF  
MARY  
JANUARY 1



9:00 AM

Prelude

*What Child Is This*, Richard Purvis  
(1913-1994)

Entrance

#87 *Angels We Have Heard On High*

Psalm

*Today, Today* (see left)

Offertory

#97 *What Child Is This*

Communion

#81 *Silent Night*

Recessional

#86 *Joy to the World*

Postlude

*Joy to the World*,  
Robert Edward Smith (b. 1946)

# WORSHIP

Our Cathedral worship - especially the holy Mass - is directed to the Father, through the Son, in the unity of the Holy Spirit.

## Mass Intentions

### Sunday, December 24: Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 am Rob Allison

10:30 am Joyce Lehr

### Sunday, December 24: Christmas Vigil Mass

4:00 pm Deceased of Bier, Louis, & Jenks Families

10:00 pm Mullen & Boss Families

### Monday, December 25: The Nativity of the Lord

9:00 am Helen Kloess

### Tuesday, December 26: St. Stephen

6:45 am Stephen & Lynn Deputy

### Wednesday, December 27: St. John

6:45 am Fred Wachtel

### Thursday, December 28: The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

8:15 am Jack Hagarty

### Friday, December 29: Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

6:45 am Thomas Renner

### Saturday, December 30: Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

4:00 pm Oliver Wehmeyer

### Sunday, December 31: Feast of the Holy Family

8:00 am Richard Wright

10:30 am Molly Kem

### Sunday, December 31: Vigil of Mary, Mother of God

**\*Please note: Mass for December 31, is at 4pm ... Not 5pm.**

4:00 pm Living & Deceased of Cathedral Parish

### Monday, January 1: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

6:45 am Rose Marie Sheer

### Tuesday, January 2: Sts. Basil The Great & Gregory Nazianzen

6:45 am Deacon Joseph & Elizabeth Stock

### Wednesday, January 3: The Most Holy Name of Jesus

6:45 am Deceased of Tony & Audrey Augustine Family

### Thursday, January 4: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

8:15 am Margaret & Robert McGlynn

### Friday, January 5: St. John Neumann

6:45 am Marcia Richardson

### Saturday, January 6: Vigil Mass— St. Andre Bessette

4:00 pm Rev. Gary Paul Gummersheimer

### Sunday, January 7: The Epiphany of the Lord

8:00 am Living & Deceased of Cathedral Parish

10:30 am Marie Woodward

5:00 pm Gloria Cox

Liturgical Ministries				
December 30th/31st				
	4:00 PM Dec 30	8:00 AM Dec 31	10:30 AM Dec 31	4:00 PM Dec 31
EMHC	D Schaefer	J Jacquot	C Augustine	A Henderson
	B McCormack	J Hill	A Beatty	P Segert
	S McCormack	S Cerny	S Augustine	P Robison
	B Barbieri	S Cutler	A Augustine	S Szewczyk
	G Schwartz	D Crawford	M Konradt	D Schaefer
Lector	J Haar	J Lebryk	Cynthia Brennemann	L Lindauer
Offertory	J & J Goedelman	J Jacquot & J Mason	Igbo Family	T & P Segert

Liturgical Ministries				
January 6th/7th				
	4:00 PM Jan 6	8:00 AM Jan 7	10:30 AM Jan 7	5:00 PM Jan 7
EMHC	Sr. Tess	L Horn	C Augustine	P Storment
	G Schwartz	P Schilling	M Garcia	M Storment
	P Jenks	L Kania	Cynthia Brennemann	J Schaberg
	J Goedelman	D Crawford	Christianne Brennemann	J McQuillan
	J Goedelman	M Rodriguez	S Brennemann	P Robison
Lector	C Becker	N & G Weissert	D Schaefer	H & J Ritter
Offertory	L & P Flynn	J Hill	S Pederson	Bean Family



## FAITH FORMATION

For believers, faith formation is life-long - children, teens, young adults, singles, married, families, seniors - everyone at Cathedral.

### Notre Dame Academy (NDA) at Cathedral Campus

All of us at Notre Dame Academy wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We are thankful for all your support and prayers throughout the year. We look forward to a wonderful and exciting 2024!

We return to class on Wednesday, Dec. 3rd.

Linda Hobbs  
Principal



### Parishes' School of Religion (PSR) at St. Augustine Campus

A Very Blessed Christmas to all of our families in the Parishes' School of Religion. May your time spent with family and friends be blessed. Let us all rejoice in the Lord, for our Savior has been born in the world. Today, true peace has come down to us from heaven.

A Blessed New Year to you. As we begin a New Year, let us give thanks for His goodness to us in the past year. There is NO CLASS thru December 31 for the Parishes' School of Religion. We will return to class Wednesday, January 3 from 6:00 – 7:30 P.M. Thank you to each of you for your support of the Parishes' School of Religion. We appreciate your continued cooperation.

Sister Theresa Markus, S.S.N.D.  
Coordinator of the Parishes' School of Religion

## STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship is a way of life which allows the disciple of Jesus to respond appropriately, with gratitude and generosity, to the gifts that God so readily gives. At the Cathedral of Saint Peter, we are embracing this proven way of living our faith.

### Your Sunday Contributions

Your contributions may be made by any of the following:

- **Drop off** your envelope during Mass or in the mail slot at the front door of the Rectory.
- **Mail** your contribution to: Cathedral of St. Peter, 200 W. Harrison St., Belleville, IL 62220
- **Give online:** To set up an online account, go to <https://www.osvhub.com/cathedralbelle/funds> register and set up your preferences. This is a secure site used by thousands of parishes throughout the USA.
- **Send a "check" directly from your bank or credit union.** Contact your bank, either by phone or online, for your contribution to be sent via check to: Cathedral of St. Peter, 200 W. Harrison St. Belleville, IL 62220.

If you have any questions, please call 618.234.1166.

## IRA CONTRIBUTIONS

The Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) is another means by which to contribute to your Parish. A QCD is a direct transfer of funds from your IRA, payable directly to a qualified charity, as described in the QCD provision in the Internal Revenue Code. Amounts distributed as a QCD can be counted toward satisfying your RMD for the year, up to \$100,000. The QCD is excluded from your taxable income.

Funds must be transferred directly from your IRA custodian to the qualified charity. This is accomplished by requesting your IRA custodian to issue a check from your IRA payable to the charity. You can then request that the check be mailed directly to the charity, or forward the check to the charity yourself.

If this parish is your charity of choice, checks are to be made payable to St. Peter's Roman Catholic Cathedral.

Please contact your broker for further details on how to facilitate this type of contribution.

### Your Gifts to God And Parish

**\*\*Stewardship for December 16-31 is not available due to an early bulletin deadlines.**

	BUDGETED	ACTUAL
December 2/3	\$14,420	\$17,539.30
December 9/10	\$14,420	\$17,293.99
December 16/17	\$14,420	
December 23/24	\$14,420	
December 30/31	\$14,420	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$72,100</b>	<b>\$34,833.29</b>

# Christmas Memorial Flowers



*In Memory and Honor of...*



Mr. & Mrs. Lambert Abell Family  
 Lewis & Claudine Abbott  
 Paul & Gert Amann  
 Audrey & Tony Augustine Family  
 Patrick & Adeline Bann  
 Mary Ann Baer  
 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Barbieri  
 Mrs. Lillian Barbieri  
 Tom & Marcie Bedell  
 Maddie Best  
 Marie & Engelbert Bier  
 Joan Bonnot  
 Charles Bruss  
 Drusilla Bruss  
 Leonard Buescher  
 Linda Buescher  
 Chester, Ruth, Mark &  
 Randy Burton  
 Rick Clifton  
 Dr. & Mrs. Arthur Clyne  
 Tony & Jeanette Dalechek  
 Celia Fain  
 Daniel Feldmann  
 Mark & Leona Feldmann  
 Rose & Jim Flynn  
 Mr. & Mrs. Emil Gerkin  
 Joseph Gilmer  
 Deceased Members of Gimenez &  
 Jamison Families  
 Ralph & Mary Guthrie  
 Mary Catherine Hawthorne  
 Anna & George Hlavek  
 Doris & Tony Holdener, Sr  
 Trish Holdener  
 Jane & Joe Hromadka Family  
 Indy Huettner  
 Audrey Jackson  
 Ormond Jackson  
 Bill Jenks  
 Doris & Willis Jenks  
 Benjamin Jordan Sr.

Jama Hall & Vicki Keller  
 Donald & Carol Keller  
 Fred & Dorothy Keller  
 Frederick, Caroline, & Frieda Keller  
 Sr. Aurelia, & Sr. Frederick Keller  
 Frank Koch  
 Stanley & Rita Konradt  
 Clayton & Leona LeSaulnier  
 Wayne E. Lanter  
 Ben & Catherine Louis  
 George & Fern Louis  
 Duvard Lowe  
 Joe & Luvenia Lowe  
 Leo & Marcina Maes  
 Joan McAvoy  
 Eugene Missel  
 Martha Missel  
 Jim Monken  
 Omer & Louise Monken  
 Ethel, Lawrence & Judy Montroy  
 Tim & Helen Mooney  
 Constance & Kelley Mullen  
 Bob & Joyce Oravec  
 Jerome Ott  
 Casmir Pavlak  
 Joseph & Virginia Pees  
 Bishop & Jo Ann Radcliff  
 Marilyn Reinhardt  
 John Sr. & Nancy Reitano  
 Mr. & Mrs. Russell Richards  
 John Richardson  
 Marcia Richardson  
 Delmar Riess  
 David Rolstadt  
 Tommy Wayne Sadler Jr.  
 Lawrence Schaefer  
 Virginia Schaefer  
 Adelaine Scheller  
 Wesley Scheller  
 Alfred H. & Mary Schilling  
 Edwin Schilling

Gladys, Jean, Bruce & Bill Schnieder  
 Aletha & Jim Schon  
 Branden Schrader  
 Patrick Schwartz  
 Martin & Pauline Semrau  
 Robert Howard Sheer  
 Rose Marie Sheer  
 Harrison Siddall  
 Karen Siddall  
 Henry & Clara Siekmann  
 Lloyd & Patrica Jo Smith  
 Robert Speichinger  
 Al & Elaine Spizzo  
 Matt & Rusty Steckler  
 Gerald Steiger  
 Julie & Gus Steinkoenig  
 Deacon Joseph & Elizabeth Stock  
 Don & Verna Stock  
 Lucille "Pat" Stolberg  
 Stephen Trentmann  
 Nancy Troutmann  
 Fred Wachtel  
 Marcy Wachtel  
 Kathleen Walthes  
 Ellen Lowe Watts  
 Harry Watts  
 Magie & Wayne Weaver  
 Marilyn & Oliver Wehmeyer  
 Raymond & Hazel Weiler  
 Marie Weissert  
 Peter & Erwina Wesolik  
 Mrs. Francis Westbrook  
 Odile & Marion Wilkinson  
 Harold Wright  
 Richard Wright  
 Bernard & Arleen Wuebbels  
 Linda Wuebbels  
 Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Young  
 Anna & Anthon Yovandich  
 Max & Julia Yovandich



## OUTREACH

Cathedral parishioners are called to look beyond our own needs—to our neighborhoods, our city, our diocese— and to all the worlds.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

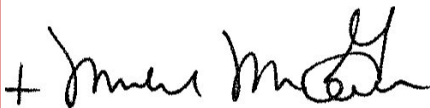
During the holy season of Advent, we prepare for the celebration of the birth of Christ and look forward with hope to his Second Coming at the end of time. Christ came to help all people, especially those who are most vulnerable and in need. During Advent, as faithful disciples of Christ, we prepare our hearts and the world for the coming of Emmanuel, God with us.

An important way of proclaiming the good news of our Savior's birth is by imitating Christ's love for the poor and serving those most in need among us. I ask your support for our 46th Annual Diocesan Christmas Collection which will be taken up at our Christmas Masses. One hundred per cent (100%) of the money collected through this fund stays in our Diocese to help people with emergency utility assistance, shelter, food, transportation, burial expenses and countless other forms of crisis aid. During the past year, approximately \$35,000.00 has been distributed to those in need in southern Illinois through your gifts to the Christmas Collection.

Our Annual Diocesan Christmas Collection has been a much-needed source of help for many. Envelopes for this special collection are in your regular envelope packet; the collection will be taken up at all Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. You may also make your donation electronically through your parish on-line giving. Another option is to make your gift on-line by visiting the Diocesan website at [www.diobelle.org](http://www.diobelle.org). Please know I am most grateful for any support you are able to give.

A blessed Christmas to you and your loved ones.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Most Reverend Michael McGovern  
Bishop of Belleville



### Vocations

Today we again hear God's asking of Mary to be the Mother of the "Son of the Most High". Her total self-giving reply of "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word" is the greatest example of "listening" to the Lord's call. Do you hear a call from the Lord to be a sister or priest? In this season of giving, "give" some time to quiet reflection and "hear" what the Lord is asking of you.

### Resources for You

- **Bishop's Library:** located in the far right of the North entrance. Catholic books & films are available to borrow, please return them when finished.
- **Flag Repository:** Need to retire your American Flags? This repository box is just outside the Bishop's Library in the North Nave.
- **Restrooms:** a single handicap restroom is located inside the ramp entrance, additional restrooms may be accessed downstairs through the right door, near the entrance to the Marian chapel.

### 2023 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal

*"The one who does justice  
will live in the presence of the Lord." - Psalm 15*

The true joy of Christmas is in the everlasting love of Christ. May you find His peace, love and joy now and in the coming New Year.

With deepest gratitude for your prayers and generosity,

-Bishop Michael McGovern &  
Ministries and Programs Funded  
by The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal

### RESPECT FOR LIFE

"Dearest St Joseph... Help us to faithfully commit ourselves to the service and defense of human life — especially where it is vulnerable or threatened. Obtain for us the grace to do the will of God in all things."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities  
A Prayer to St. Joseph, Defender of Life  
([www.respectlife.org/prayer-to-st-joseph](http://www.respectlife.org/prayer-to-st-joseph))

*TO ALL THE PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS  
OF THE CATHEDRAL OF SAINT PETER,*

may the greatest gift of God's perfect love overflow your hearts with inexpressible joy during this brief, but powerful season of Christmas.

May you encounter the exhilarating new life of the Christ-child in the celebration. During the days that follow, may you sense the strong presence of the living Christ walking alongside you.

*The King of kings is born to us.*

*Let us rejoice and be truly glad.*

**Merry Christmas!**

**-Bishop McGovern, Father Godfrey, & the Cathedral Staff**

**BECOMING CATHOLIC**

On the Second Sunday of Advent, nineteen young women and men were introduced to and welcomed by the Christian faithful of the Catholic parishes of the City of Belleville. Of the nineteen, nine of them are from our Cathedral parish. This was a significant milestone on their pilgrimage toward "Becoming Catholic." Those not baptized were entering into the Catechumenate, and those previously baptized in another Christian tradition became candidates for the Full Communion of the Catholic Church.



The Becoming Catholic gatherings have been coming together weekly since late September on Thursday evenings in the Undercroft. These first months of this journey have proven to be for them enlightening and time well spent. They have focused on how throughout time God has sought a relationship with His most cherished creation—all of us, and how He continues to do so even today in the midst of our still trouble world.

In January, our catechumens will continue their trek toward Baptism, Confirmation, and the Holy Eucharist. The candidates will be confirmed and make their first Holy Communion. As a side note, if there is anyone who, for whatever reason, has not received the sacrament of Confirmation, now would be an opportune time to take advantage of the formation being offered in the Becoming Catholic gatherings. All are welcome on Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM in the Undercroft. Please contact the parish office for details.

All of those walking this Becoming Catholic journey are being richly fed by the good work of the team of presenters who share their spiritual insights, and stories of their own faith journeys. These are all enhanced by the material presented via the streaming platform FORMED.org. If you've not yet enjoyed your FREE subscription to the amazing selection of faith-filled productions, do yourself a favor this Christmas and join your 260 plus parishioners who are already doing so. The programs are as close as your smartphone—where they all may be found.

This Christmas and beyond, please keep these young women and men in your prayers as they continue this spirit-filled journey. May the coming of Emmanuel rest peacefully in your hearts this Christmas and into the New Year.

Deacon Wayne Weiler  
Becoming Catholic Coordinator

*So much good happens at the Cathedral of Saint Peter. With Jesus, at the center at the center of all that we do, we too strive to give all that we have for the building up of the church, and the good of the world.*

*Our ministries are all designed to give glory to God.*

*If you had not had the chance to sign up for any of our ministries, please consider doing so, even now.*

*The ministries of our Parish are one of the chief ways that we get to know each other and build the community that we so long for.*

*To all who have volunteered for these ministries, thank you very much.*

*And those who are waiting for the invitation, here it is.*

### **Parish Ministries**

#### **Liturgical Ministries**

Adult Altar Servers  
Adult Sacristans  
Altar Servers  
Cantors  
Choir  
Contemporary Choir  
Church Decorating  
Exposition of the Holy Eucharist  
Extraordinary Ministers of  
Holy Communion  
Gift Bearers for Sunday Mass  
Greeters  
Lectors  
Ushers

#### **Service**

Adopt-A-Spot  
Boy Scouts of America  
Caring Contact  
Cemetery Care Crew  
Cub Scouts  
Dessert Disciples  
Fun-Raising Committee  
Funeral Luncheon Girl Scouts  
Heavenly Helpers  
Knights of Columbus  
Holy Communion to the  
Sick & Homebound  
Music Library  
Photography Ministry  
Pro-Life Activities  
Rosary Makers Guild  
Sacred Heart Prayer Chain  
St. Vincent de Paul Society  
Tour Guides  
Wednesday Work Crew  
Welcoming Committee

#### **Faith Formation**

Adult Faith Formation  
Planning Committee  
Bishop's Library  
Youth Ministry  
Cursillo in Christianity  
Notre Dame Academy Parents' Club  
Becoming Catholic  
Secular Franciscan Order St. Peter  
Fraternity  
Serra Club  
Sponsor Couple  
Young Adult Initiative

*If you are interested in joining or learning more about these ministries, please contact the parish office at 618-234-1166.*

## ***Join our Parish Family!***

Are you interested in becoming a registered member of the Cathedral of Saint Peter? If so, we welcome you joyfully. Your presence here makes us more truly ourselves.

**Scan the following QR code to register as a member of our parish or visit:**

**<https://cathedralbelle.org/join-the-parish/>**

**SCAN HERE**

