



SS. Peter & Paul Catholic "Connection"

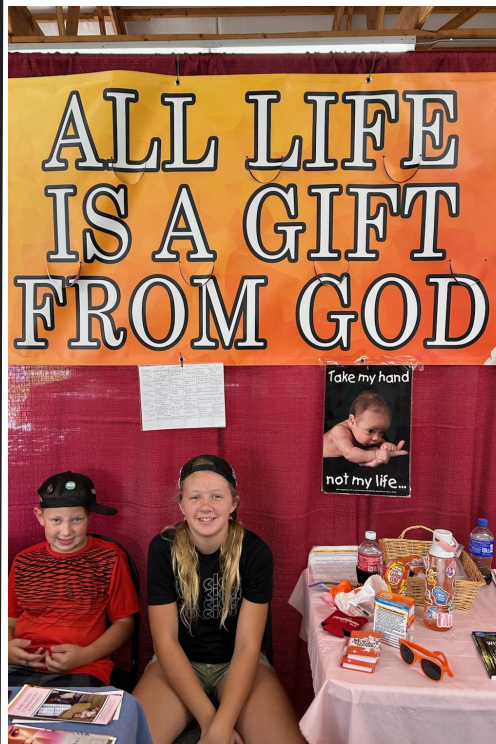
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SSPeterPaulWega@gmail.com SSPeterPaulChurch.org

SEPTEMBER 2024

*Feed your Faith - and your
fears will starve to death.*

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Sep 2 – Parish Office Closed–Labor Day
Sep 5 – Adoration & Confession after
9am Mass
Sep 8 – KC's Meeting at 9:00am
Sep 8 – Spanish Mass –2:00pm
Sep 12 – Finance Council Meeting at 6pm
Sep 14 – St. Anne's Meeting at 5:30pm
Sep 15 – Faith Formation Kick-off–Class
at 9:00am and Potluck after Mass
Sep 18 – Encounter Youth Gr. 6:30-8pm
Sep 19 – Diocesan Holy Hour after 9:00am
Mass
Sep 20-21–Barn Sale 8am-4pm



County Fair - Pro Life Booth

Thank you to all the people who helped out at the Pro-Life booth at the Waupaca County Fair! The booth was very well received and people thanked us for being there!



Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament is happening more and more around our diocese and throughout the United States–thanks be to God! How encouraging it is to see faithful souls devoted to a weekly or monthly Holy Hour! Even so, many Catholics still aren't sure what it is or what to do when they are in the Presence of the Eucharistic Jesus.

In my early years in the seminary, we would have a Holy Hour at 10 pm every first Thursday of the month on our knees praying for vocations to the priesthood and for priests. I had a great passion to spend my time in the church before the Blessed Sacrament. The first ten minutes were the most difficult. I was constantly thinking of sleeping or time with my parents as I was only 16 years of age and away from home.

As the years passed, my mind began to clear and I grew into a deeper realization of where I was–in the Presence of Almighty God. His Presence revealed my selfishness. In fact, when I really began to grasp that I was before His Divine Majesty, the formation house became, for me, like my home and place of grace.

Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament is a time we Catholics (or anyone with a prayerful heart) can take to worship the Triune God in the Person of Jesus Christ really and truly present in the Eucharistic host. This practice of making a Holy Hour is to honor Jesus' heartfelt request to His closest disciples during His lonely agony in the garden, "Could you not spend one hour with me?"

Perhaps you've stayed for a few moments of Adoration in the past and then left, or maybe you pondered spending a few minutes before Mass. Your big question may have been what am I going to do for an hour?!

Here is a simple acronym to follow–**ACTS**.

Adoration: Don't worry about what you are to say, simply sit or kneel (whatever you're comfortable with)! Pray or just be quiet in the presence of Jesus.

Confession: Call to mind your sins or sufferings and ask Jesus to have mercy on you. Great healing is available to those who come to Jesus in Adoration.

Thanksgiving: Are you thankful for anything? Think of the people and things and blessings in your life you have re-

ceived. Thank Jesus for them.

Scripture: Adoration is a wonderful time to read and ponder on the Sacred Scriptures. Pause quietly to think in your heart what it means. The Holy Rosary and our Blessed Mother can be very helpful when doing this. Remember the Word of God is living and active! Listen to what Jesus is saying to you. After all, He is truly present in front of you and in His Word!

The Catechism of the Catholic Church tells the beautiful short story of St. John Vianney who was amazed that one of his parishioners would spend such long hours in front of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. He said to him, "What do you do during Adoration?" The man simply responded, "I look at Him and He looks at me."

Lastly, may I remind you to be like Mary (of the two sisters) who chose the better part–she sat and listened to Jesus! So, I invite each of you to join us for Adoration on the third Sunday of every month beginning at 9:30am and followed by Mass at 10:30 am.

- Fr Kris



Faith FORMATION

Begins
Sept 15th

The 2024-2025 Faith Formation year begins on September 15th. Registration material should have arrived to you in the mail. If you are new or haven't received any yet, please contact Steph at 920-277-8844 or hansensteph@yahoo.com and she will send you information. You may also pay and register ONLINE from our website—you'll need to complete both the Online Registration and the Online Liability Form found under Youth Faith Formation.

SSPeterPaulChurch.org/Youth-Faith-Formation/



Diocesan Holy Hour
Thursday, Sept 19th
after the 9:00am Mass.
A great opportunity for
adoration & confession!

WEYMONT FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Food Pantry for the month of August. Totals will be tallied up and shared in a later bulletin.

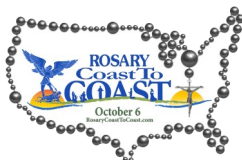


La Misa en Español

8 de septiembre de 2024

ROSARY COAST TO COAST

Join in simultaneously praying a Rosary with a multitude of prayer warriors worldwide!



When: Saturday Oct. 6th

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: SS. Peter & Paul Parish

Bring your rosary and a lawn chair if you'd like to sit. Also, you may bring signs or banners to let the public know what we are praying for.

Parish Rummage Sale

Our youth in the Squires and St. Lucy groups will be having a huge barn sale to raise money for local charities and parish youth activities.

When: Friday and Saturday, September 20-21, 8 am - 4 pm. (The days of the city Rummage-O-Ramma)

Where: N1548 Anklam Rd. Weyauwega (Just 1-2 miles out of town near the zoo)

What: There is something for everyone (tools, toys, kitchen supplies, furniture, holiday decorations, home décor, and much more that you must have!) and the youth will be selling refreshments/goodies too!

Donations: If you are willing to donate any items, you can bring them right to the barn the days of the sale. If you need any large items to be picked up please call Richard Wagner at 715-281-7032. THANK YOU!!



St Teresa of Calcutta—Sept 5th
“We need to find God and he cannot
be found in noise and restlessness.
God is a friend of silence.”



Youth Group Encounter

We will be meeting **Wednesday, September 18** at 6:30pm. All 6th -12th grade students are invited for a fun and inspirational evening of games, snacks, connecting with others, a talk, discussion and prayers. Invite your friends of all faiths. All are welcome!



If you know of someone in need of prayers, or you would like to be a Prayer Warrior (on the prayer chain) Call the church office at 920.867.2179

To have someone (or yourself) remembered in prayer during General Mass Petitions, sign the book on the narthex stand.

Ss Peter and Paul Catholic Church

Financial Statement

Fiscal Year-End 3 year History

2023/2024	2022/2023	2021/2022
Actual	Actual	Actual

Statement of Financial Position

Bank Accounts
Property and Equipment
SFX Investment
Total Assets
Designated Funds (Bldg Fund)
Spiritual Growth Fund
Other Liabilities
Total Liabilities
Total Fund Balance
Total Liabilities & Fund Balance

Statement of Activity

Revenue

Church Support
Liturgy and Worship
Other Revenue
Faith Formation
Fundraising
Investment Income - SFX
Total Revenue

Operating Expenses

Salaries and Wages
Payroll Taxes, Ins, Benefits
General Office
Faith Formation
Pastoral Care and Outreach
Liturgy and Worship
Buildings and Grounds
Diocesan Assessment
Other Payments
Total Payments

Restricted Donation Income
Restricted Donation Expense

Restricted Inc for Cap Outlay
Restricted Exp for Cap Outlay

Net Excess(Deficit)	28,492	51,786	39,484
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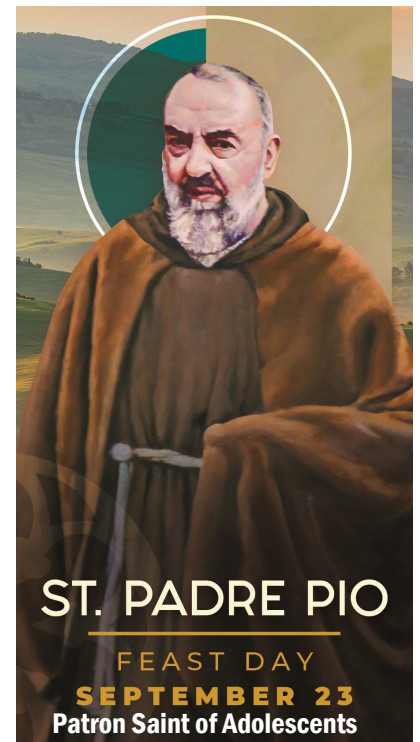
St. Pius of Pietrelcina | Sep 23

Best known as Padre Pio, St. Pius was born Francesco Forgione in 1887 in Pietrelcina, Italy. As a young boy he suffered many illnesses including typhoid. He joined Capuchin Franciscans at 15 and took the name of Pius or "Pio" in honor of Pope Pius I. He was ordained in 1910, and at this time he received the marks of stigmata, the wounds of Christ, but they eventually healed. Frequent illnesses continued to plague him as a young man.

Padre Pio served in the Italian Medical Corps during World War I, but he was discharged early because of illness, which was likely tuberculosis. He was assigned to the friary in San Giovanni Rotondo. In 1918, while continuing to serve at the friary, the stigmata appeared again, and this time remained until his death.

Many faithful came to see him at the friary, his days were long, beginning with Mass at 5 a.m. then hearing confessions all day with breaks to bless the sick. A simple man, content to do God's will on earth and with the ardent desire to serve the sick and poor in whom he saw Christ, he urged a hospital, Casa Sollievo della Sofferenza (House for the Relief of Suffering), to be built in San Giovanni Rotondo. It opened in 1956.

Padre Pio died at the age of eighty-one in 1968 and in 2002 Pope John Paul II proclaimed him "St. Pio of Pietrelcina."





Mother Teresa on Love begins at Home

(Taken from the book Thirsting for God)

Let us make our homes real places of love so that we can overcome any hatred. Love begins at home--everything depends on how we love one another at home. Do not be afraid to love until it hurts because this is how Jesus loved.

Our homes will be what we make them, fervent or tepid, fruitful branches or dry branches. Help one another live in God's love and you will spread the fragrance of his love everywhere.

We forget, sometimes, that we are called to give God's love and compassion first to our families, those are the very life of our life. So often, in our heart, there is bitterness; on our tongue, there are ugly words; in our attitude, there is pride. To think that in that very heart Jesus comes; so on that very tongue we receive Jesus; and that attitude is so unworthy of us who are called to belong to Christ.

Much of the hurt in our homes comes from uncontrolled use of words, said anywhere, in front of other people. Let us open our eyes to the harm we do.

Very often, small misunderstandings repeated over and over become the cause of so much suffering. **Bring love to all you do and you will fulfill your vocation.**

Find at least one good point in the other person and build from there. In the family, you should **thank each other, mentioning the good you have seen others do.** In short, an understanding love a love that sees the good in others will be our goal.

More and more, make your homes places of love and peace. Don't let the devil cheat you by his evil ways, tempting you to be unkind and harsh to one another. **Enjoy each other. Love one another as Jesus has loved you.** See how they love each other, Jesus said. Let us be faithful to his teaching. Do not spoil the work of God by your unkindness.

How can you love Jesus in others unless you love him in your own family? We must make a real effort to make our families one heart of love. This is really the sign of Jesus with us.

Jesus wants us to love each other as the Father has loved him. There is no greater love than the love for one another in our families but there is so much hurt instead of love, so much bitterness instead of sweetness, so much noise instead of silence.

If there is no love in our home, first let us examine our prayer life. Is it faithful, is it true, is it constant, is it full, is it so real that in the silence of our hearts we can hear him speak? If we only knew the art, the joy, the fruitfulness of silence, our homes would become the sunshine of God's love, the burning flame of God's love in action.

Steubenville Catholic Youth Conference

2024 Reflections



"The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it."

John 1:5



Pictured: Back: Jake, Josh, Caleb, Stephen (friend from St. Paul), Mauricio (friend from Green Bay). Middle row: Laura, Jackie, Luz, Steph, Bethany, Bailey, Grace. Front Row: Vicky, Dari, Alexis, Brynn (friend from Wild Rose), and Teresa (friend from Hortonville)

I loved everything about this years' conference. From the first session to the last, **I felt the spirit flowing through me** and helping me to learn more about my relationship with God. All the speakers this year were very moving and were always speaking straight to everyone's heart, including mine. Father Agustino was always very good at telling the stories to give us examples to fully understand. I would say that I want to change the way I read my Bible now. I want it to become an everyday part of my life.

What stood out to me was adoration. It was so moving to see everybody's reaction to Jesus being so close to them. **Confession changed my life and I will try to go more often.**

I really enjoyed the men's talk. It was very inspirational to see so many strong Catholic men all serious about the faith. I grew in my faith by being close to Jesus in adoration and also seeing the people adore Christ. **I am planning on getting better at daily prayer and making a specific time to pray.**

I learned so much about how to deepen my relationship with God through surrounding myself with faith and people who will support me. I need to focus on God and God alone to get this close relationship. **I want to follow whatever God tells me to and I need a close relationship to have that.**

This was my second year going to the Steubenville Conference and I absolutely amazing!! (again) I learned a lot with all the speakers like **"if he doesn't kneel, it's no deal"** [describing Fr. Agustino's advice on only dating a guy who worships God] and "describe the relationship". I wouldn't change anything in this experience, definitely going next year. God is so good for everything, meeting new friends and seeing old ones. PRAISE JESUS.

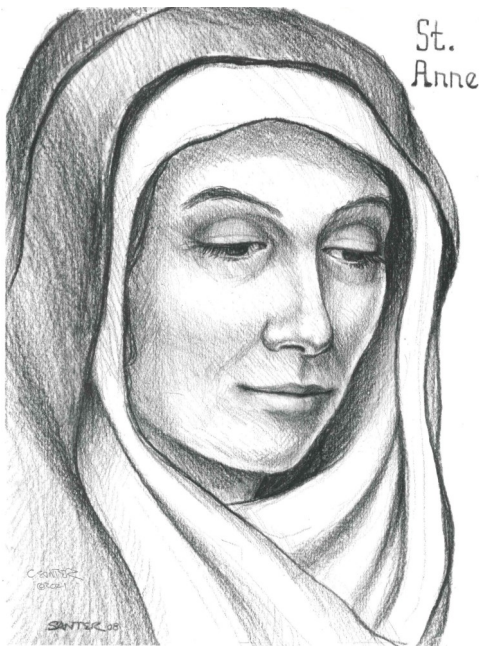
This year's Steubenville conference was **an incredible experience**. The music, the worship, and the laughs shared is something I will never forget. The talks were inspiring, what stood out to me is when Sr. Karolyn said "To be a little less like Eve and a little more like Mary today." One of the speakers said that there is no need to compete against each other if we all won. I grew in my faith just by just being present with Jesus and allowing him into my heart. I also grew in my faith just by seeing how many people were all touched by the end of the conference. **I want to start putting Jesus first**, many times I put other things in front of him being sports or even school. This weekend was so beautiful because **I didn't have to worry about anything and I could just be present with God**.

The adoration really stood out to me because when Father Augustino was carrying around the monstrance **I felt like I could see God as a friend instead of someone who I only look up to**. When he was carrying it around it almost reminded me of the crucifix and was a reminder to me that each one of my sins hurt God. I learned that praise and worship can be done in prayer. I really liked when we just got to all sing together to worship God. I thought it was really cool Sunday morning when the host invited us all to stand up when we were ready to commit our lives to God. I thought it was really cool to see so many people who all went here to get closer in their faith all standing up to praise God. Something I will start doing after the weekend is finding more set times to talk and pray to Jesus

I really thought everything was great, I consider myself a lover of Catholic retreats and this was one of the best I have attended, I don't know if it was because maybe I am older and I understood things better but I really liked it... Among my favorite things and that I consider amazing was the number of priests present at the conference, it was really great to see how they accompanied their groups and to see them all enter during the moment of the mass, another thing that I liked a lot was the presence of the **relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis because when I saw it I identified with him since he was a young man like me and it made me think about the call to holiness that we all have** no matter what age or time we are in, and that was wonderful. I think that to a certain extent I had forgotten to work on my faith, I got to the point where I think I stagnated but during this weekend it undoubtedly grew a lot, each of the speakers, the band, the Eucharist and the priest who I had for confession helped make this happen. **I remembered how important I am to God** and above all I remembered to trust in the Believe, Wait and Trust. One of the things I feel most willing to do is constant praying and vocational discernment, I hope to work and improve my spiritual life.

Something that stood out was the story **Father Augustino told about when his dad died and he was mad that he didn't go because he had a mass but then found out that, that day he had saved a woman's life**. After this experience, I feel overall a lot closer to God than when I first got there. I think I'm going to read my bible more consistently and start praying more often maybe go to adoration or reconciliation more often as well.

The Steubenville conference this year was really fun. I got to hang out with some amazing people from our group, as well as meet people from different groups. not just that, but also being in this very spiritual environment was very eye opening, and, just like Alive in You, got me thinking intensely about my faith. All throughout the weekend, I prayed to God asking for me to truly feel his presence in my heart, and by the time Saturday night adoration rolled around, **I could finally feel the holy spirt burn in my heart, and I wept thinking about lucky and privileged I am to be raised in a household that practices and cares about Catholicism** every Sunday, rather than a household of practical atheists. I guess this weekend helped me realize how much I have to be grateful for in my life. Overall, this was a very fun year and I can't wait to do it again next year.



GOOD NEWS!

To: **All women** of our parish, SS Peter and Paul, Weyauwega

St. Anne's Parish Council of Catholic Women (P.C.C.W.) is **YOUR** organization.

NO DUES are required. This group is formed by **EVERY** woman of this parish.

The P.C.C.W. supports the parish physically, socially, financially and spiritually through various functions and activities. We do funeral dinners; fundraisers and we get to know the women of our parish better.

A CHALLENGE FOR YOU...

Many women of the parish do not know they belong to St Anne's, but are involved in many other ways with the parish, but we need your help! Our challenge is for you to please fill out the below survey and attend a meeting! We want to see how we can help get more women interested in our group. We do not want to have to disband the group due to lack of interest and support.

WHAT WE NEED NOW

Please pray for the women in our church and pray we can continue on as an asset to our parish.

Please answer a few questions and give us some feedback on how we can generate interest in the P.C.C.W. **PLEASE DROP OFF THIS FILLED OUT FORM IN THE NEXT COLLECTION BASKET.**

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT ST. ANNE'S?

YES

NO

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN COMING TO OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS?

YES

NO

WHEN WOULD BE THE BEST TIME FOR YOU TO ATTEND A MEETING?

.... Some ideas: WITH SATURDAY MASS (BEFORE OR AFTER) WITH SUNDAY MASS (BEFORE)

WITH A TUESDAY OR THURSDAY MORNING MASS (AFTER), ON A WEEKNIGHT

How can we get you interested in becoming involved? Attending meetings are not mandatory.

If we have no interest in St. Anne's we might be forced to quit being a group in our church.

AGAIN, PUT YOUR RESPONSES IN THE NEXT COLLECTION BASKET, if not possible you can mail to the church @ P O Box 548, Weyauwega or just drop off at the Parish Office.

Do you want to be on our text message group?

Name and cell phone number: _____

Do you want to be contacted by e-mail:

email: _____

If you want more information, how should we contact you: _____

GENERAL COMMENTS AND IDEAS: Please note below

28 2024
SEPTEMBER
SAT

4 **EVER** **25**
Strong



5K 4 TK RUN/WALK

**Registration includes
T-shirt and walk**

- **ADULT - \$30**
- **YOUTH - \$25**
(10 AND UNDER)



Scan QR code or register at
www.4ever25strong.org

Last day to register 9/11/2024

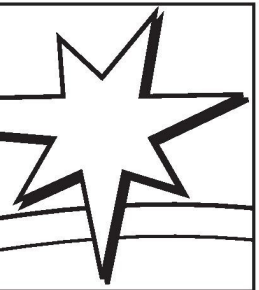


WHAT TO EXPECT

Basket Raffles
Auction Items
Selfie Station
Merchandise Sale
A&W Food Truck

**THE FUNDRAISING EVENT
FOR THE TAYLOR KENNEDY
FOLK SCHOLARSHIP
FOUNDATION WILL BE HELD
AT WOLF RIVER CROSSING
PARK @11 AM**

Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

September 2024

S.S. Peter & Paul and Sacred Heart Parishes



Thoughtful Moments

St. Peter Claver

Born into a farming family in Spain in 1580, St. Peter joined the Jesuit Order at the age of twenty. While serving in Colombia in 1610, St. Peter was horrified by the slave trade. He rushed to each arriving slave ship, bringing water, medicine, food, and clothing to the captives, and teaching them about God. This made him enemies among the slave traders, but he persevered in his mission, ultimately baptizing nearly 300,000 enslaved people.



Patience is a gift

Patience is a form of almsgiving. It's easy to only see things about people that bother us and assume the worst. Everyone needs to be loved. When we try to be patient, courteous, and friendly, we're giving them a gift: we're showing them the face of Christ.

"Wash the plate, not because you have to, but out of love for the person who will use it next." – St. Teresa of Calcutta



Heaven is for children

Jesus said, *"Unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven"* (Matthew 18:3).

Children are confident, simple, honest, ready to forgive,

and humble — a good description of the heart of a disciple. By nurturing and reinforcing these virtues, we can guide children toward Heaven:

Confidence in God's goodness:

Children know when they're loved. When we spend time with God in prayer, Mass, and receive the Sacraments frequently, we become more aware of how He loves us.

Simplicity: Gratitude for what we have and focusing on the moment are central to this virtue. Celebrate the good moments of each day with your children and thank God for them. This practice

will help them experience joy and peace more often.

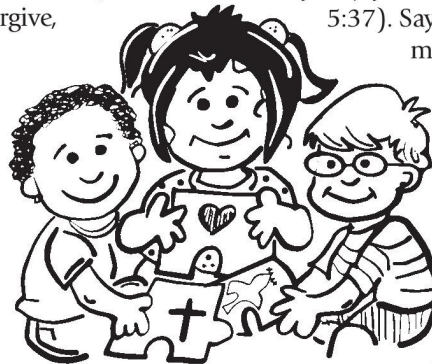
Honesty: Jesus tells us, *"Let what you say simply be 'Yes' or 'No'"* (Matthew 5:37). Say what you mean and

mean what you say. If children say they'll do something, ensure they follow through.

Readiness to forgive: As children, friends can fight in the morning and be friends that

afternoon. Scripture encourages us to forgive quickly: *"Do not let the sun go down on your anger"* (Ephesians 4:26).

Humility: An excellent measure of humility is how we handle mistakes. Children aren't upset when they make mistakes and aren't afraid of looking foolish. They may try to improve but won't waste time feeling bad about themselves.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

In Hebrew, the word "amen" shares the same root as the word "believe," and expresses trustworthiness and faithfulness. Jesus sometimes said the word "Amen," twice in a row to emphasize the

Why do Catholics say "Amen" at the end of prayers?



trustworthiness of His teaching. For example, *"Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you"* (John 6:53). When we say "amen," we express our faith that God will hear our prayers.

Finding time for quality time

As fall schedules get busy, staying connected as a family can be challenging. Still, there can be simple and practical ways to make the most of the time you have together:

Connect with each child daily: If time is tight, find moments during car rides, meal preparation, cleaning up after dinner, or at bedtime. Express appreciation for chores done, ask about anything interesting or funny that happened during the day, offer a compliment, or give a gentle pat on the back. Children need to know they're loved beyond expectations.



Schedule regular family nights: Aim for fun and low-stress activities like board games, after-dinner walks, or family sing-alongs. Try to set aside work and worries during this time. Don't feel pressured to make everything "perfect." Just enjoy being together.

Set up an "I need to talk" box: Create a box in which children can leave notes about subjects they don't feel comfortable sharing at the dinner table. Check the box regularly and take the time to listen and solve problems together.

Scripture LESSON

Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48, Discipleship duties

The disciples were jealous of an unfamiliar man who was healing in Jesus' name. They seemed more concerned about losing the spotlight than about the healing itself. Yet, we often do the same when we refuse to participate in good works because the people are unfamiliar, those in charge don't do things the way we'd like, or we fear our efforts won't be recognized. Competitiveness and ego have no place in the Christian community.

Jesus was very clear: we must be ruthless in removing sin from our lives.



Giving up a relationship, job, or habit that keeps us from God may feel as painful as cutting off a hand, but the consequences of our choices last forever. Being lukewarm toward Jesus is impossible. **What can a parent do?**

Teach children that being a disciple comes with commitments. If we promise to follow Jesus, we must give up whatever tempts us away from Him. Remind children that everyone on Jesus' side shares the same goal: to build up the kingdom of God. The work of the kingdom must come first.

Parent TALK

Sunday Mass is non-negotiable

After Tessa turned ten years old, getting her to attend Mass on Sundays became a challenge. She loves Communion but said the rest of the Mass is boring and resists going. We frequently wrestled to get there on time. However, weekly Mass is non-negotiable in our household. So, how could I help her love it as much as I do?

I thought we would try different Masses. We usually go to the 9:00 am Sunday Mass because the priest is very kind and delivers inspiring homilies. However, at the 5:30 pm Saturday vigil Mass, children are involved in the readings and act as ushers. Tessa found that appealing.

Now, we take turns choosing the Mass we attend. When it's Tessa's turn, she always picks the children's Mass because she enjoys lectoring, ushering and handing out bulletins afterward. The joy and grace she receives from participating in Mass, rather than resisting it, are invaluable.



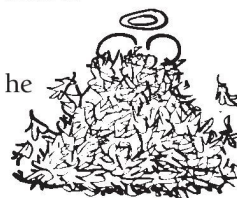
Feasts & Celebrations

Sept. 5 - St. Teresa of Kolkata (1997). Gonxha Agnes Bojaxhiu joined the Loreto nuns and taught in India. Shocked by the poverty and suffering she witnessed, she founded the Missionaries of Charity to help her to "serve [Christ] in the poorest of the poor."

Sept. 14 - Exaltation of the Holy Cross (c.326). St. Helena (mother of Emperor Constantine) discovered what is believed to be the True Cross while on pilgrimage in Jerusalem. On that site, Constantine built the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher.

Sept. 17 - St. Robert Bellarmine (1621). A Jesuit, St. Robert was a scholar devoted to studying and writing about Church history, Scripture, and the Fathers of the Church, aiming to explain and defend Church doctrine. Although a cardinal and counselor to Pope Clement VIII, he lived a simple life.

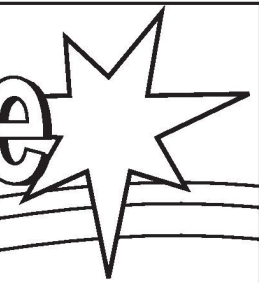
Sept. 21 - St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist (1st Century). Also called Levi, he was a notorious tax collector. St. Matthew left everything when he was called to discipleship (Luke 5:27).



Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children
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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible.)

Compañeros en la fe



Ayudando a nuestros hijos a crecer en la fe católica

Septiembre de 2024

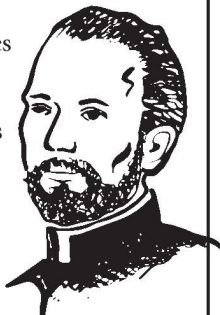
S.S. Peter & Paul and Sacred Heart Parishes



Momentos para pensar

San Pedro Claver

Nacido en una familia de agricultores en España en 1580, san Pedro ingresó en la Compañía de Jesús a la edad de veinte años. Destinado a Colombia en 1610, san Pedro quedó horrorizado por el tráfico de esclavos. Cuando llegaban los barcos negreros, acudía con agua, medicinas, comida y ropa para los cautivos y les hablaba de Dios. Esto le creó enemigos entre los traficantes de esclavos, pero él perseveró en su misión bautizando a casi 300.000 esclavos.



La paciencia es un don

La paciencia es un tipo de beneficencia. Es fácil ver sólo las cosas que nos molestan de las personas y pensar lo peor. Pero todos necesitamos ser amados. Cuando procuramos ser pacientes, corteses y amables entregamos un don: estamos mostrando el rostro de Cristo.

"Lava el plato no porque debas hacerlo, sino por amor a quien lo use a continuación". Santa Teresa de Calcuta.



El cielo es para los niños

Jesús dijo: *"Les aseguro que si ustedes no cambian o no se hacen como niños, no entrarán en el Reino de los Cielos"* (Mateo 18:3). Los niños son confiados, sencillos, honrados, dispuestos a perdonar y humildes: una buena descripción del corazón de un discípulo. Al nutrir y reforzar estas virtudes, podemos guiar a los niños hacia el cielo:

Confianza en la bondad de Dios: Los niños saben cuándo son amados.

Cuando pasamos tiempo con Dios en oración, en la misa, y recibimos los sacramentos con frecuencia, somos más conscientes de cuánto nos ama Dios.

Sencillez: Sentir gratitud por lo que tenemos y concentrarnos en cada momento, son aspectos centrales de esta virtud. Celebren los buenos momentos de cada día con sus hijos y den gracias a Dios por ellos. Así ayudarán a sus hijos a sentir

alegría y paz más a menudo.

Honradez: Jesús nos dice *"Cuando ustedes digan 'sí', que sea sí, y cuando digan 'no', que sea no"* (Mateo 5:37).

Digan lo que piensan y piensen lo que digan. Si sus hijos dicen

que harán algo, cerciórense de que lo cumplan.

Disposición a perdonar: En la niñez, los amigos pueden reñir por la mañana y ser amigos otra vez por la tarde. La Sagrada Escritura nos anima a perdonar

con presteza: *"Si se enojan, no se dejen arrastrar al pecado ni permitan que la noche los sorprenda enojados"* (Efesios 4:26).

Humildad: Una excelente medida de la humildad es la manera en la que gestionamos los errores. Los niños no se disgustan cuando cometen errores y no temen al ridículo. Pueden tratar de mejorar, pero no perderán tiempo sintiéndose mal por sí mismos.



¿Por qué hacen eso los católicos?

En hebreo la palabra "amén" significa "en verdad", tiene la misma raíz que la palabra "creer" y expresa fiabilidad y lealtad. A veces Jesús decía "amén" dos veces seguidas para enfatizar la fiabilidad de sus enseñanzas. Por ejemplo:

¿Por qué dicen "Amén" los católicos al final de las oraciones?

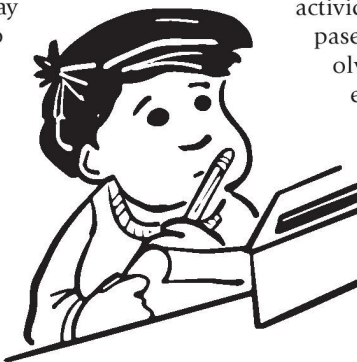


"En verdad, en verdad les digo que si no comen la carne del Hijo del hombre y no beben su sangre, no tendrán vida en ustedes" (Juan 6:53). Cuando decimos "amén" expresamos nuestra fe en que Dios escuchará nuestras oraciones.

Tiempo para el tiempo de calidad

Al llegar el otoño los horarios se complican y mantener la conexión familiar puede ser un reto. Sin embargo, hay formas sencillas y prácticas de aprovechar al máximo el tiempo que pasan juntos:

Comuníquense con cada hijo a diario: Si tienen poco tiempo, encuentren momentos durante viajes en el auto, preparación de comidas, al recoger después de la cena o a la hora de acostarse. Agradézcan las tareas que han hecho, pregunten por algo interesante o divertido que haya sucedido ese día, ofrezcan un cumplido, o den una palmada cariñosa en la espalda. Los niños necesitan saber que se les quiere por encima de todo.



Programen noches en familia con regularidad: Hagan actividades amenas y relajantes como juegos de mesa, paseen después de cenar o canten en familia. Procuren olvidarse del trabajo y las preocupaciones durante estos momentos. No se empeñen en que todo sea "perfecto". Disfruten simplemente de estar juntos.

Preparen una caja de "Necesito hablar":

Creen una caja en la que los niños puedan dejar notas sobre temas que les resulta incómodo comentar durante la cena. Miren en la caja con regularidad y dediquen tiempo para escuchar y resolver los problemas.

Lecciones de las Escrituras

Marcos 9:38-43, 45, 47-48, Deberes del discipulado

Los discípulos sentían celos de un hombre desconocido que sanaba en nombre de Jesús. Se preocupaban más de dejar de ser el centro de atención que de la sanación misma. Nosotros hacemos lo mismo cuando no participamos en buenas obras porque no conocemos a la gente o porque los encargados no hacen las cosas a nuestro gusto, o porque tememos que no se reconozcan nuestros esfuerzos. La competitividad y el ego no caben en la comunidad cristiana.

Jesús fue muy claro: debemos ser implacables a la hora de eliminar el pecado



de nuestra vida. Dejar una relación, un empleo o una costumbre que nos aleja de Dios puede parecer tan doloroso como cortarnos una mano, pero las consecuencias duran para siempre. Es imposible ser tibios respecto a Jesús.

¿Qué pueden hacer los padres? Enseñen a sus hijos que ser un discípulo conlleva obligaciones. Si prometemos seguir a Jesús debemos abandonar todas las tentaciones que nos alejan de él. Recuerden a los niños que quien está con Jesús comparte la misma meta: reforzar el reino de Dios. La obra del reino es lo primordial.

Hablan los padres

La misa dominical no es negociable

Cuando Tessa cumplió diez años, era todo un reto conseguir que fuera a misa los domingos. Le encanta la comunión, pero decía que el resto de la misa era aburrido. A veces nos costaba llegar a tiempo. Sin

embargo, en nuestro hogar no es negociable la misa semanal. Así que, ¿de qué forma podía ayudarla a que amara la misa tanto como yo?

Probamos con misas diferentes. Normalmente vamos a misa de 9 los domingos porque el sacerdote es muy bondadoso y sus homilias son edificantes. Sin embargo, en la misa de 5:30 los sábados por la tarde, los niños participan en las lecturas y como acomodadores. Esto le atraía a Tessa.

Ahora elegimos por turnos la misa a la que asistimos. Cuando es el turno de Tessa, siempre elige la misa de los niños porque disfruta acompañando a la gente y repartiendo boletines después. El gozo y la gracia que recibe al participar en la misa, en lugar de resistirse a ella, no tienen precio.

Nuestra misión

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Fiestas y celebraciones

5 de septiembre – Santa Teresa de Calcuta (1997). Gonxha Agnes Bojaxhiu se unió a las monjas de Loreto y enseñó en la India. Conmovida por la pobreza y el sufrimiento que veía a su alrededor, fundó las Misioneras de la Caridad para que la ayudaran a "servir a Cristo en los más pobres de los pobres".

14 de septiembre – Exaltación de la Santa Cruz (c. 326). Santa Helena (madre del emperador Constantino) descubrió lo que se cree que es la verdadera Cruz en una peregrinación a Jerusalén. Constantino construyó la basílica del Santo Sepulcro en ese lugar.

17 de septiembre – San Roberto Belarmino (1621). San Roberto fue un erudito jesuita dedicado a estudiar y a escribir sobre la historia de la Iglesia, la Sagrada Escritura y los Padres de la Iglesia a fin de explicar y defender la doctrina de la Iglesia. Aunque fue cardenal y consejero del papa Clemente VIII, vivió una vida sencilla.

21 de septiembre – San Mateo, apóstol y evangelista (siglo I). Llamado también Leví, era un conocido recaudador de impuestos. San Mateo lo dejó todo cuando fue llamado al discipulado (Lucas 5:27).

