



# St. Peter Catholic Church

1840 Marshall Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022

Fr. Bernard-Mary Ayo Oniwe, O.P., Pastor



[www.stpeteretown.org](http://www.stpeteretown.org)

Email: [frboniwe@hbgdiocese.org](mailto:frboniwe@hbgdiocese.org)

717-367-1255

Fifth Sunday of Easter ~ May 3, 2026



*I am going to*  
**THE FATHER**  
JOHN 14:28

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Friday Closed  
Telephone: 717-367-1255 Fax: 717-367-1270

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Thursday 5:15 pm - 5:30 pm Saturday 3:30pm - 4:00pm  
By Appointment

### MASS SCHEDULE

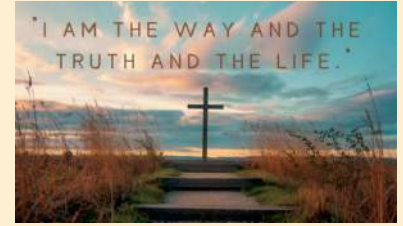
Saturday Evening Vigil - 4:30 pm - Church  
Sunday - 8:30 am & 10:30 am - Church

### DAILY MASS ~ HISTORIC CHURCH & CHURCH

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 8:00 am HC  
Thursday 6:00pm Church 5:30 pm Rosary C

Beloved in Christ,

Jesus says to his disciples: "In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?" (John 14:2). Prior to his ascension to heaven, Jesus taught his disciples of his divine identity, his heavenly destination, and his plan to have them follow in his path: "I will come again and take you to myself, that where I am you may also." He also adds, "and you know the way where I am going." Thomas expresses our uncertainty about our ultimate end or destination, and how to get there. Jesus answered him: "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me" (John 14:6). The goal of Jesus' teaching here is to assure his followers that they will be rewarded with eternal covenantal communion with the Father after a lifetime of loving God and their neighbor. We all must long for the presence of the Father in heaven, where Jesus has gone ahead of us, as we say in the Creed, to sit at the right side of the Father. All our life on earth must be devoted to knowing Jesus and longing to follow in his way to the Father's house, where he has gone ahead to prepare a place for each and every believer.



Pope St. John Paul II imbibed and lived the faith in his lifelong longing for God's eternal presence. According to Vatican News, Pope John Paul II's last words at his bedside indicate his knowledge of Jesus as the way to the Father. Pope John Paul II's last words, spoken in Polish around 3:30 pm on April 2, 2005, on the vigil of Divine Mercy Sunday, were "Pozwolcie mi odejść do domu Ojca" ("Let me go to the house of the Father"). To get to the Father's house, to experience the beatific vision on the other side of the world, we must come to know Jesus. Jesus says, "If you had known me, you would have known my Father also, henceforth you know him and have seen him" (John 14:7). Jesus and the Father are equal in essence, substance, and nature. Hence, to know Jesus is to know the Father since Jesus is the incarnate Word of the Father. Now, how do we know Jesus? Apparently, spending a long time with him is no guarantee, as we see with Thomas and the other disciples. To know Jesus is to have absolute faith in Him and do His works. We must be in union and communion with him to know and follow where he has already gone ahead of us.

So, the question arises: Do I know Jesus? Do I know the promise he made about coming to take those who believe, know him, and do his work to the Father's house? Do we recognize our identity as a part of "the holy priesthood" called "to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ", a chosen people called "to announce God's praise"? (1 Peter 2:5,9). What we must do is to revisit our followership and faith in Jesus. Are we totally submissive to him? Do we love Him with everything we have, with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength? It is clear from Jesus' dialogue with Thomas that being a follower of Jesus does not necessarily mean one "knows" Jesus well enough to be assured of being on a sure path to truth and life. Jesus is the sole way to happiness and the presence of God. Do we know this to be true and live by our conviction? Let us review and renew our commitment to our baptismal promises, renouncing Satan and worldly allurements in order to fully commit to a deep daily longing for "the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction" (Pope Benedict XVI, *Deus Caritas Est*, 1). Having this encounter, described by Pope Benedict XVI, is what it means to be a Christian, a follower of the Way, the truth, and the Life.

We have come to yet another opportunity to strengthen our devotion to Mary, the Mother of Jesus, the Queen of Heaven, who intercedes for all her children, all who believe and follow Jesus closely. May is the Month of Mary. When our religious education students crown the statue of Mary this Sunday, they indicate to us Mary's special role as Queen of Heaven and Earth. Mary is the Queen Mother who intercedes on behalf of all who love and are devoted to her. The act of crowning Mary, dating back to a 13th-century custom, will hopefully inspire us to express our love for the Mother of Jesus more deeply by praying her Rosary and imitating her virtues. Most canonized saints are known for their devotion to Mary and praying the Rosary. Let us join in that procession of embracing the Blessed Virgin Mary as our mother, crowning her with the rosary's rose beads.

In Jesus and Mary,  
Fr. Alayode, OP

### **Fifth Sunday of Easter - May 3, 2026**

*"Whoever believes in Me will also do the works that I do." (John 14:12)*

Jesus calls us to remain in Him, allowing His love to flow through our lives. In sacramental marriage, couples are like branches rooted in Christ, growing together and bearing fruit for His kingdom through love, support, and service to one another. Pray for guidance in nurturing your vocation and encourage others to recognize God's call.

### **Sanctuary Candles Illuminate This Week:**



**~ Historic Church ~**  
**In Loving Memory of**  
**Anthony Carbone**  
From Annette Eckinger and Family

**~ Church ~**  
**In Loving Memory of**  
**Geraldine Richard**  
From The Richard Family



## Mass Intentions

- SAT MAY 2 FIRST SATURDAY**  
8:00 AM Special Intentions of Fr. Grab (C) Azzalina Family  
4:30 PM + Kevin Williams (C) Jeanne & Lear Williams
- SUN MAY 3 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
8:30 AM Our Parish Family (C)  
10:30 AM Special Intentions of Dcn Joseph Anders (C) Joanne Idzik  
1:00 PM All College Students (College Mass HC)
- MON MAY 4**  
8:00 AM + Chris Klinger (HC) Klinger Family
- TUE MAY 5**  
8:00 AM + Doug and Megan Pfautz (HC) Liz Pfautz
- WED MAY 6**  
8:00 AM + Mary Ann Waleff (HC) Azzalina Family
- THU MAY 7**  
6:00 PM Vocations (C)
- FRI MAY 8**  
8:00 AM + Dcn Richard Ryan (HC) Klinger Family
- SAT MAY 9**  
4:30 PM Our Parish Family (C)
- SUN MAY 10 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
8:30 AM + Jeff & Lisa Rosenberger (C) Deb Savage  
10:30 AM Special Intentions of Mr. and Mrs. Will Paterson (C) Azzalina Family



## Scripture Readings

For the week of May 3, 2026

- Sunday Fifth Sunday of Easter**  
Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; 1 Pt 2:4-9;  
Jn 14:1-12
- Monday** Acts 14:5-18; Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16; Jn 14:21-26
- Tuesday** Acts 14:19-28; Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21;  
Jn 14:27-31a
- Wednesday** Acts 15:1-6; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5; Jn 15:1-8
- Thursday** Acts 15:7-21; Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10; Jn 15:9-11
- Friday** Acts 15:22-31; Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12; Jn 15:12-17
- Saturday** Acts 16:1-10; Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5; Jn 15:18-21
- Sunday Sixth Sunday of Easter**  
Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20; 1  
Pt 3:15-18; Jn 14:15-21

## ~ Altar Flowers ~



### The Front Altar Flowers

*In Loving Memory of  
Ed Barr  
From Mary and Cindy*

### The Main Altar Flowers

*In Loving Memory of  
Louise Schmalhofer  
From Bev and Joe Schmalhofer*

### The Blessed Mother Flowers

*In Loving Memory of  
Mary Schlosser  
From The Schlosser Family*

### The Saint Joseph Flowers

*In Loving Memory of  
Agnes Haggarty  
From Eileen Hill*



## PARISH ADORATION

Please join us for Monthly Adoration  
**Monday, May 4 at 6pm**

## ~ In Memoriam ~

~ Loretta Zsido ~  
Mother of Georgann Azzalina

*"Eternal Rest Grant Unto Her, O Lord, and Let Perpetual  
Light Shine Upon Her. May All of the Faithful Departed,  
Through the Mercy of God, Rest in Peace. Amen."*



## PENTECOST SUNDAY REVIVAL 2026 *Mark Your Calendars*

Sunday, May 24, 6:00 pm Parish Hall

An evening of Teaching, Praise, Prayer  
and Healing. Featuring our very own  
Gospel Music Band, **Forgven.**  
Come ready to be ignited by the living  
flame of the Holy Spirit!



## Stewardship

**April 25/26, 2026**

SUNDAY ONLINE	\$ 2,815.00
SUNDAY ENVELOPES	\$ 10,604.75
YOUTH	\$ 83.00
TOTAL SUNDAY GIVING	\$ 13,502.75
CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL	\$ 1,586.00
SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL	\$ 261.00

### **May Second Collections**

May 10	Historic Church
May 17	Ascension of the Lord
May 25	Pentecost Collection (to fund education of future priests and care of sick priests)

### **2026 DAC "Faithful Stewards"**

Goal: \$81,743  
Total gifts & pledges: \$ 62,233  
Need: \$ 19,510

*Do not let a day pass without doing some good during it.*  
- St. Philip Neri



### **Join the Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic School Team!**

We are hiring for the 2026–2027 school year:

- Full-Time Middle School Science & Math Teacher
- Part-Time Advancement Position

To apply or learn more please visit  
<https://bit.ly/SSBVMCAREERS> Questions?  
Contact SSBVM School Principal Mrs. Angela  
Warner at [awarner@ssbvm.org](mailto:awarner@ssbvm.org)

## Foster Parents Needed



Consider opening your heart and home to a foster child. If you can provide a loving home, we will provide the support that you need. Please contact Catholic Charities Specialized Foster Care at (717) 564-7115 or [gpfeifer@cchbg.org](mailto:gpfeifer@cchbg.org) for more information and to register for our virtual Information/Orientation session on May 7, 2026, from 5:30-7:00 pm.

There is a need for volunteers at the Clothing Barn, which is one of the United Churches Elizabethtown UCEA programs. Volunteer opportunities include sorting donations, helping clients to shop, and being a floater (who can restock, help in the shopping area, or sort donations as needed). If you might be interested in any of these volunteer opportunities, or know someone who might be interested, please contact Dave Fritchman at [cpowvolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:cpowvolunteers@gmail.com) or text 717-829-4733.



Are you, or someone you know, discerning a vocation and need a direction? Then Quo Vadis and Fiat Days are for you. These two incredible weekends, one for young men and one for young women aged 15-25, will fill your souls and bodies with the Holy Spirit to guide each and every one of you in a very special way on your path to Jesus and his great mercy and love. Jesus has a path set for each of you, whether it be in religious life or another vocation. Now go and find yours at Quo Vadis and Fiat Days. A card will be in the pews with the contact information needed to sign up. If you need help paying the cost, the Vocation Ministries will help. Contact the Parish Office at 717-367-1255.

### **OFFICE CLOSED**

Monday, May 4

The office will be closed from 10:00am - 1:00pm for a funeral. Thank you for your understanding.

### **LANCASTER CATHOLIC CROSS COUNTRY**

All boys and girls who will be in grades 7-12 at Lancaster Catholic High or a parochial school in the fall, and their parents, are invited to attend a no-obligation informational meeting for the Fall 2026 LCHS Cross Country season. The meeting will be held on Sunday, May 17th at 4:00 p.m. in room 24 of the high school. Contact Coach Simpson at [tsimpson@lchsyes.org](mailto:tsimpson@lchsyes.org) with questions or for more information.



# Celebrate Mother's Day

**Pancakes and Sausage**  
May 10, 8:30am to 12:00pm  
Parish Hall  
All You Can Eat!

**Moms eat FREE**  
\$5/person or \$15/family (3 or more)

Bring a canned food for Food Pantry  
and receive \$5 off/family

Sponsored by our Knights of Columbus  
& Men's Club



*St. Peter Church*

*Forty Hours Devotions*

*Sunday, May 17, 2026*

*Through*

*Tuesday, May 19, 2026*

*Services Every Evening 7:00pm*



## GUEST HOMILIST

Rev. Benjamin Kwaghgba, OP

PASTORAL VICAR  
CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH,  
CHAMBERSBURG, PA

The Blessed Sacrament will remain exposed  
in our main Church for your personal visits:

Sunday – Noon to 7:00 pm

Monday – 9am to 7:00 pm

Tuesday – 9am to 7:00 pm Closing  
Devotions

The Blessed Sacrament must not be left  
alone. Sign-up sheets in the Narthex, please  
stop by the table and sign-up to spend  
some special time with our  
Eucharistic Lord.





## Parish Calendar

### Saturday, May 2

2:00 pm Handmaids Outing to Udder Bliss

### Sunday, May 3 DONUT SUNDAY

10:30 am May Crowning

7:00 pm Men's Club Meeting PH

### Monday, May 4

6:00 pm Adoration

7:30 pm CCW Chalk Talk Event

### Tuesday, May 5

### Wednesday, May 6

7:00 pm Choir

### Thursday, May 7

### Friday, May 8

### Saturday, May 9

### Sunday, May 10 MOTHER'S DAY

8:30 - 12:00 Pancake Breakfast PH

### Mass Attendance April 25/26

4:30 PM = 132

8:30 AM = 184

10:30 AM = 159

**TOTAL = 475**

### God's Housekeepers

#### Saturday ~ May 9

**Gerald & Sue Smith, Marilyn Kroesen, Betty O'Neill,  
Theresia Tredway and Anita Paynter**

Please join the CCW on Monday, May 4th at 7:30 pm in the Parish Hall for an evening with the "Chalk Talk Lady." Engage your senses through music, storytelling, and the amazing chalk artistry of Elva Hurst. Elva is doing her part to revive the old-time art of Chalk Talk. Her live drawings are an experience you will never forget! Contact Terry Martin at 223-216-0727 or Jennifer Miller at 717-433-0643 with any questions. See you there!



### PARISH PILGRIMAGE MAY 16, 2026

Save the Date! This year we will be travelling to Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA. We will be departing by bus from St. Peter's by 7:30 am and return by 5 pm. The day includes a guided tour, movie about the Shrine, private prayer time, gift shopping, and daily Mass at 11:30, followed by an opportunity for Adoration. We will have lunch at the Shrine's Buffet. The cost per person is \$25. We hope you can join us. If you have any questions please contact Vicky Kern at kpts@comcast.net.

### SAVE THE DATE



The St. Peter Men's Club Annual Golf Tournament will be Friday, June 26, 2026. The proceeds from the tournament support Catholic Education here at St. Peter Church. **Registration forms are on the board in the Narthex.** Please contact Mike Rider at 717-599-8114 or Steve Cook at 717-609-2972 with any questions.


  
**THE DIOCESE OF HARRISBURG**

## Marian Scavenger Hunt

**SATURDAY, MAY 16TH**

**10:30am**



**ST. JOHN NEUMANN CHURCH PAVILION**


**601 E DELP RD  
LANCASTER, PA**



**BRING A  
PICNIC LUNCH  
FOR YOUR FAMILY**




RSVP to catholic.families.lanc@gmail.com

### 2026 MEN'S CLUB CALENDAR WINNERS

**Chris & Early Kroesen, Rosanne King,  
Sylvia Spagnold, Jim & Georgann Cornell  
Linda Garrity, and Marianne Fye**

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**Saint Peter Men's Club**

A parish Ministry dedicated to fostering the spiritual and social development of the men of Saint Peters through fellowship and service to the parish community.

For membership or information, call Mike at 717-367-5370

**WHITE FAMILY DENTAL**

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