

St. Peter Catholic Church
Est. 1843

Dear Parishioners,

It is with great joy that I invite you to open the pages of this handbook and take a look at all the ministries at St. Peter Parish that are just waiting for your YES! As we grow as a parish that embraces *Stewardship as a Way of Life*, we strive each day to live out our baptismal call. We are all learning to share our gifts and talents unconditionally just as God shares His graces and love unconditionally with us.

I want to be very clear – St. Peter Parish needs you! It is my prayer that as a parish family we together ask for God’s help to increase our generosity in serving. With His help, we can be a parish family that is “all in...100%” committed, and ready to say YES to our Lord! As stated in our parish’s mission statement, “in doing this, we glorify God and help realize His reign on earth”. I await eagerly your response to Christ’s invitation to serve His people at St. Peter Parish. Won’t you join us?

Yours in Christ,

Father Otis Young, Jr.

We, the community of St. Peter Parish, are continuing the traditions passed down from generations before us.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

St. Peter Catholic Church	1
HISTORY.....	1
MISSION STATEMENT	1
PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION CHAPEL	1
CONTACT INFORMATION	2
St. Peter Catholic School	2
HISTORY.....	2
MISSION STATEMENT	3
CONTACT INFORMATION	3
Councils.....	3
Finance Council.....	3
Pastoral Council.....	3
Stewardship Council.....	3
Faith Formation	4
Adult Formation	4
Bible Study (Parish)	4
Bible Study (Women).....	4
Parish School of Religion.....	4
Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.....	4
Little Flower Girls Club	5
Liturgy of the Word for Children	5
Mother/Daughter and Father/Son Programs.....	5
Vacation Bible School.....	5
St. Peter Catholic School	6
St. Peter Home School.....	6
That Man Is You!	6
Liturgical	6
Altar Servers	6
Baptismal Hospitality	7
Environment	7
Eucharistic Processions:	7
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC):.....	7

Homebound EMHC	7
Hospital EMHC.....	7
Nursing Home EMHC.....	7
Hospitality	8
Lectors	8
Liturgy Committee	8
Music	8
Ushers.....	8
Marriage and Family Life	8
Annulment Pastoral Care.....	8
Divorce Pastoral Care.....	8
Embrace.....	9
Fiat Friday	9
G.I.F.T	9
In-Home Marriage Preparation.....	9
NAIM	9
Natural Family Planning.....	9
Pro-Life	9
Supper and Substance.....	9
Vocations.....	10
Wedding Coordination	10
Prayer.....	10
Eleventh Hour.....	10
Enthronement of the Sacred Heart.....	10
Eucharistic Adoration.....	10
Prayer Blanket	10
Wednesday Morning Intercessory	11
Sacramental Preparation	11
Confirmation Preparation	11
Parish School of Religion.....	11
RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults).....	11
RCIC (Catechumenate for Children).....	12
Parish Service	12
A Helping Meal	12

Altar Society	12
Bereavement (Food)	12
Emergency Preparedness	12
Gardens.....	12
Meals for New Moms	12
Men’s Association	12
Money Counters	13
Parish Library	13
Parish Receptions	13
Welcoming New Parishioners	13
Social Responsibility	13
Angel Tree	13
Prison.....	13
Youth and Young Adults.....	14
High School Youth (T.O.R.C.H. “Taking On Radical Christian Holiness”).	14
Crusaders for Life (High School Youth T.O.R.C.H.)	14
Jr. High Youth (R.O.C.K. “Really Outrageous Catholic Kids”)	14
Young Adults (Via Christi)	14
Organizations Affiliated with St. Peter Parish	14
Knights of Columbus, Council #12906	14
Society of St. Vincent de Paul	15
Leaving a Legacy.....	16

St. Peter Catholic Church

HISTORY

The first Catholic Church on the Northshore was established in 1843 by Fr. Victor Jouanneault at the request of Bishop Antoine Blanc. This wooden church was located on the west bluff of the Bogue Falaya River. In 1892, Fr. Joseph Koegerl, pastor, who was also a canon of St. Louis Cathedral, built a new church and rectory on the corner of Rutland and Massachusetts Streets. From 1916-1992, Benedictine priests were assigned to the parish from the local monastery, St. Joseph Abbey. The third and present church building was built in 1940 under the pastorate of Father Aemillian Egler, O.S.B. In 1992, Fr. William McGough was appointed pastor by Archbishop Schulte and was the first diocesan assignment to the parish in 76 years. He served for 17 years retiring on Easter Sunday 2009. Fr. Otis Young, Jr. is our present pastor. He is the 28th pastor of St. Peter Parish. Fr. Peter Finney, III presently serves as the parochial vicar.

In the spirit of Fr. Jouanneault's original vision, St. Peter Parish continues to provide Catholic ministry through strong leadership and unyielding dedication from its parishioners.

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the believers of Saint Peter Parish, having our beginnings as the earliest Catholic Church of the Archdiocese of New Orleans on the Northshore, in response to God's call, come together-

to love God and one another,
to worship as a faith community,
to be God's hands, heart, and mind
and to provide for our community's
Spiritual and physical needs.

In doing this, we glorify God and help realize His reign on earth.

While rejoicing in the experience of our pilgrimage, we must ever keep in mind our ultimate destination through our faithful stewardship of time, talent, and treasure. Called to be a prayerful and hospitable Catholic family of living faith, we welcome and invite all people to share in our unique gifts of the Holy Spirit.

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION CHAPEL

St. Peter Parish has a Perpetual Adoration Chapel located on 19th Avenue across from the rectory. All are invited to come spend time with Jesus. To sign-up to

For more information or to sign-up for one or more ministries, please go to our parish website at www.stpeterparish.com, email volunteer@stpeterparish.com, or call the parish office at 985-892-2422.

be a committed adorer, see the Sign-Up Sheet in the Adoration Chapel or call the rectory at (985) 892-2422.

CONTACT INFORMATION

St. Peter Catholic Church

125 East 19th Avenue

Covington, Louisiana 70433

Voice: (985) 892-2422 Fax: (985) 898-1998 Website: www.stpetercov.org.

St. Peter Catholic School

HISTORY

St. Peter Catholic School, the first parochial school in Covington with an enrollment of 30-40 students, was established in 1878 by three Benedictine Sisters. This school remained open for four years and then closed due to lack of funds. In 1890, at the request of Fr. Joseph Koegerl, the Benedictine sisters returned and reopened the school with an enrollment of 28 students. The new church which was built in 1892 served also as the school building until 1910 at which time a new three-room school was built on the lot adjoining the church. This school building was destroyed by a hurricane in September 1915 but was rebuilt soon after. In 1923, a new two-story school was built at a cost of \$17,000. In 1955, during the pastorate of Fr. Stephen Mueller, O.S.B., a new brick school building and cafeteria were erected. This brick school building still remains in use today. St. Peter Catholic School presently accommodates over 700 students.

Today, the campus of St. Peter Catholic School consists of Administrative Offices, Cafeteria, Special Education Room, Math and Reading Tutor Room, Speech Room, Computer Lab, Art Room, Music/Band Room and Early Childhood Building (Pre-K and K Students), Main Building (First through Third Grades), Intermediate Building (Fourth and Fifth Grades), Middle Grades (Sixth through Seventh Grade), Renovation and Enlargement of the library, and an additional playground made possible by the Parents' Club and a private donation.

St. Peter School presently serves children from pre-kindergarten to seventh grade.

For more information or to sign-up for one or more ministries, please go to our parish website at www.stpeterparish.com, email volunteer@stpeterparish.com, or call the parish office at 985-892-2422.

MISSION STATEMENT

In fidelity to the apostolate of Catholic education, we, the leadership of St. Peter School, fully mindful of the primary role of parents, will strive to create an environment where students will be led to grow physically, mentally, and spiritually, according to Gospel principles, as enshrined in our Catholic tradition, thereby glorifying God and giving living witness to the presence of Christ in the world. *St. Peter Catholic School offers enrollment in Pre-K through Seventh Grade. If you are interested or need further information, please contact the school.*

CONTACT INFORMATION

St. Peter Catholic School

130 East Temperance Street

Covington, Louisiana 70433

Voice: (985) 892-1831 Fax: (985) 898-2185 Website: www.stpetercov.org.

Councils

Finance Council: The Financial Council assists the pastor with the financial matters of St. Peter Parish by developing and overseeing the budget and the operational and capital needs of the parish. *Please note: Members are asked by the Pastor of St. Peter Parish to serve in this ministry.*

Pastoral Council: The Pastoral Council is a consultative ministry to the pastor in parish matters. This consultative body provides recommendations for parish objectives in the areas of Worship, Word, Service, Materials Resource, Cooperation, and Vocations through the Catholic Life Parish Pastoral Plan. It also provides a means of communication between the church and school and among the various ministries. *Please note: The St. Peter Pastoral Council consists of six elected members, two appointed members and the Finance Council Chair. The Pastoral Council meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month.*

Stewardship Council: The Stewardship Council promotes through example and instruction, a spirituality of discipleship in our church community through the use of time, talent, and treasure. *Please note: Members are asked by the Pastor of St. Peter Parish to serve in this ministry.*

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Faith Formation

Adult Formation: The members of the St. Peter Parish Adult Formation Committee coordinate opportunities in the parish for adults to be formed in their Catholic faith. *Please note: Members are asked by the Pastor of St. Peter Parish to serve in this ministry.*

Bible Study (Parish): The Parish Bible Study offers an in-depth study of the Word of God. Although emphasis is on Sacred Scripture, explorations are also made into the Catechism of the Catholic Church and the history of the church. The classes are open to teens and adults of all ages. *Please note: Dates of upcoming parish Bible studies may be found in the weekly parish bulletin or on our parish website stpeterparish.com.*

Bible Study (Women): This Bible Study is geared especially to women new to the faith or women who may feel their Catholic education is in need of updating. This ministry provides a framework for women to explore their faith and share their experiences in a receptive and loving atmosphere. Through the reading of the bible and relating its stories to their own life experiences, women are encouraged to explore how God has always acted in His world and continues to do so in their own lives. This ministry meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday morning of each month.

Parish School of Religion: The St. Peter Parish School of Religion assists parents in their role as primary catechetical educators of their children's faith. Supported by prayer and frequent reception of the sacraments, our Parish School of Religion provides a systematic and organic catechesis of the Catholic faith that prepares the student for the Catholic spiritual life on earth, which in turn will prepare him for eternal life in heaven. The St. Peter Parish School of Religion meets on Wednesday evenings from 6pm – 7:30pm for children in grades 1st through 8th. *Please note: Members are asked by the Pastor of St. Peter Parish to serve in this ministry. Subject to Archdiocesan safe environment guidelines, volunteers active in this ministry need to be registered parishioners of St. Peter Parish for at least six months. For more information, please call the Office of Religious Education at (985) 893-2446.*

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd: This is a method of religious formation offered for children that is rooted in the Bible, the Liturgy of the Church and presented through the educational principles, philosophy and methods of Maria Montessori. This ministry is available during the 9:30 AM and 11:30AM Masses. This ministry is for children ages three, four, five and six years old. *Subject to Archdiocesan safe environment guidelines, volunteers*

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active in this ministry need to be registered parishioners of St. Peter Parish for at least six months. For more information, please call the Office of Religious Education at (985) 893-2446.

Little Flower Girls Club: The goal of Little Flowers is to create an environment in which the Catholic faith and virtues are nurtured. Mothers and daughters share this time together by participating in crafts, songs, and fellowship as they work together to grow in virtues. This ministry is for girls five to ten years old. *Subject to Archdiocesan safe environment guidelines, volunteers active in this ministry need to be registered parishioners of St. Peter Parish for at least six months. This ministry takes registrations the first week of August.*

Liturgy of the Word for Children: This ministry provides children with a specially designed time and place to “soak in” the Gospel message on a level that they can understand. The children are sent forth with catechists during the 9:30 AM Mass. This ministry is for all children ages three through six. *Subject to Archdiocesan safe environment guidelines, volunteers active in this ministry need to be registered parishioners of St. Peter Parish for at least six months. Volunteers are needed to serve one weekend a month and serve in teams of two. If interested, please call the Office of Religious Education at (985) 893-2446.*

Mother/Daughter and Father/Son Programs: These ministries with the guidance of the Family Life Apostolate of the Archdiocese of New Orleans, seek to assist parents in providing formation in chastity and timely information regarding sexuality in a positive atmosphere of love, virtue, and respect for the gifts of God, in particular the gift of life. These programs respect the rights of both parents and child, considering different phases of development, privacy and modesty while presenting the truth and beauty of God’s gift of our fertility. *Please note: Members are asked by the Pastor of St. Peter Parish to serve in this ministry.*

Vacation Bible School: This ministry provides a week of summer-time catechesis in the Catholic faith using skits, games, and crafts to help the children learn more about Jesus and His Church. Vacation Bible School is for children in kindergarten through 4th grade. Students in grades 5th through 8th are invited to participate as captains. This is held during the month of June. Subject to Archdiocesan safe environment guidelines, volunteers active in this ministry need to be registered parishioners of St. Peter Parish for at least six months. If you need more information, please call the Office of Religious Education at (985) 893-2446.

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St. Peter Catholic School: St. Peter Catholic School provides students with a challenging academic formation grounded in the spiritual and moral teachings of the Catholic Church. The philosophy of St. Peter Catholic School is as follows: We strive: 1. To provide a favorable environment where children have the opportunity to live a life of faith, hope, and charity – a life marked with love of God and neighbor. 2. To provide a strong academic foundation, not solely for the sake of gaining knowledge, but the sake of using knowledge for the betterment of humanity. 3. To provide teachers and staff who excel professionally and imitate Christ in their personal lives. 4. To assure opportunities for students to develop an awareness of their individual God-given abilities and talents. 5. To involve parents in the educational process in line with their responsibility to nurture the development of their child physically, academically, morally, and spiritually. *Please note: If you would like to register your child or need further information, please call St. Peter School at (985) 892-1831.*

St. Peter Home School: Members of the St. Peter Home School Association help those who are interested in or involved in home education. They support the growth of a Catholic Home School community within St. Peter Parish by providing service and support in the form of education, guidance, and activities. *Subject to Archdiocesan safe environment guidelines, volunteers active in this ministry need to be registered parishioners of St. Peter Parish for at least six months.*

That Man Is You!: That Man Is You! is an interactive men's program focused on the development of men in the modern world. It combines the best research from science with the teachings of the Catholic faith and the wisdom of the saints to develop the vision of authentic men capable of transforming themselves, their families and greater society. This group meets on Thursday mornings from 5:45am-7:15am.

Liturgical

Altar Servers: Altar Servers assist the celebrant and the entire worshipping community during the celebration of the liturgy of the Mass, during special liturgies, and during the celebration of sacraments. All boys in 4th grade and/or nine years old and up are invited to serve in this ministry. Training is provided and essential. *Subject to Archdiocesan safe environment guidelines, volunteers active in this ministry must be registered members of St. Peter Parish for at least six months.*

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Baptismal Hospitality: The members of this ministry create an atmosphere of welcome at the St. Peter Parish monthly community parish Baptisms. They welcome parents, godparents, family members, and visitors alike with a friendly smile and assist as needed.

Environment: The members of this ministry help to prepare and maintain the worship space to reflect the season being celebrated by providing and caring for the plants, flowers, and décor. The purpose is not to decorate but to create an atmosphere for worship that invites the community into prayer.

Eucharistic Processions: The Eucharistic Processions at St. Peter Parish on the Solemnities of Corpus Christi and Christ the King, give witness outwardly of our parish's love of Christ present in the Blessed Sacrament, our desire to proclaim this to others, and our realization that Christ present in the Blessed Sacrament is not just for us, but for the whole world.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC): The members of this ministry assist in the distribution of the Body and Blood of Christ at Mass. *Please note: Members of this ministry are asked by the Pastor of St. Peter Parish to serve in this ministry and must be trained and given delegation by the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Parish training is also required.*

Homebound EMHC: Parishioners who are homebound and unable to attend Mass are brought Holy Communion by Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. This outreach of care and support to our elderly and/or sick of our parish nourishes the person with the Body of Christ and provides a visible connection to our parish community. *Please note: Members of this ministry are asked by the Pastor of St. Peter Parish to serve in this ministry and must be trained and given delegation by the Archdiocese of New Orleans.*

Hospital EMHC: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion bring the Holy Eucharist to the Catholic patients at St. Tammany Parish Hospital. *Please note: Members of this ministry are asked by the Pastor of St. Peter Parish to serve in this ministry and must be trained and given delegation by the Archdiocese of New Orleans.*

Nursing Home EMHC: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion bring Holy Communion to the Catholic residents in the Forest Manor Nursing Home after 8:30 AM Mass on Fridays. The ministers bring the Eucharist to the rooms of Catholic residents who are immobile and assist with the Mass offered for the residents who are mobile or in wheelchairs. *Please note: Members of this ministry are asked by the Pastor of St. Peter Parish to*

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serve in this ministry and must be trained and given delegation by the Archdiocese of New Orleans.

Hospitality: Hospitality Ministers welcome parishioners and visitors alike at our Masses with a friendly smile, assist those in need, help with special liturgies and other events in church, distribute the parish bulletin at the end of Mass, and ensure that the church is left in order after the Masses.

Lectors: The lectors of St. Peter Parish proclaim the Word of God at Mass. Training is required. *Please note: Members are asked by the Pastor of St. Peter Parish to serve in this ministry.*

Liturgy Committee: The members of the liturgy Committee meet monthly with the Pastor and clergy to assist with planning all details pertaining to upcoming liturgies at St. Peter Parish. Following the liturgies, evaluations are conducted. The committee also oversees the scheduling and training of liturgical ministers. *Please note: Members are asked by the Pastor of St. Peter Parish to serve in this ministry.*

Music: The members of the Music Ministry of St. Peter Parish encourage the assembly in song and enhance the prayer life of the community through the beauty and joy of music. Parishioners are invited to participate in the Adult Choir, Gospel Choir, Schola Cantorum (Chant Choir), 9:30 AM Mass Contemporary Choir, Teen Choir, Children's Choir, and Cantor Program. Subject to Archdiocesan safe environment guidelines, volunteers active in the Teen and Children Choirs need to be registered parishioners of St. Peter Parish for at least six months.

Ushers: The members of this ministry pick up the collections, seat people and assist as needed at the weekend Masses.

Marriage and Family Life

Annulment Pastoral Care: This ministry provides pastoral care, guidance, and support as needed for those seeking a church annulment. It offers assistance in obtaining required documents, in filling out forms, and in writing the testimony. *Please note: Members are asked by the Pastor of St. Peter Parish to serve in this ministry.*

Divorce Pastoral Care: This ministry extends a helping hand in charity to assist those carrying the cross of divorce. An hour of adoration before the Blessed Sacrament is offered in the Adoration Chapel from 7:00-8:00 PM each First

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Sunday of the month for marriages having difficulty. *Moving Ahead in God's Ways*, a series of talks that addresses the social, physical, emotional, financial, and spiritual changes that one may experience following a divorce is offered periodically in the parish. This series is followed by the DivorceCare DVD series.

Embrace: Embrace offers prayers, support and consolation to those who have suffered the loss of a child through miscarriage, stillbirth or other infant death. Embrace offers a personal contact and means of memorializing the lost baby. Embrace strives, with the help of St. Catherine of Siena, to provide for some physical, emotional, and spiritual need of those in mourning as they seek a measure of healing.

Fiat Friday: Fiat Friday is a mother's prayer group imitating Mary's "Yes" through prayer and fellowship. Fiat Friday is open to all moms, with childcare available for moms with infants and preschool aged children.

G.I.F.T.: G.I.F.T. is a study group designed to help mothers nurture their families using their God-given gifts. This study will include time with God's Word, time to discover the riches from the heart of the Church for our families, and time to Grow in Faith Together (G.I.F.T.).

In-Home Marriage Preparation: Engaged couples preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage with a priest from St. Peter will be assigned a mentor couple to work closely with them to assist the preparing priest in laying a foundation of faith and knowledge from which to fully enter into marriage and family life. One of the engaged must be a parishioner of St. Peter Parish.

NAIM: This ministry provides spiritual, emotional and social support to those who have lost their spouse to death. The members of NAIM meet once a month.

Natural Family Planning: Natural Family Planning classes offered at St. Peter Parish provide an opportunity for engaged and married couples to learn about God's gift of fertility, and in doing so, help them to acquire an appreciation for His plan for married life regarding family planning.

Pro-Life: The members of the St. Peter Parish Pro-Life Ministry, in response to the Gospel of Life, are committed to prayer, education, and action in defense of life. The members of this ministry foster in our parish community an awareness of the dignity and sanctity of all human life, from conception to natural death.

Supper and Substance: This ministry supports, enriches and strengthens marriages in our parish. Married couples are given the opportunity to spend a

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romantic and affordable evening together enjoying a delicious meal and listening to an inspiring marriage journey presentation.

Vocations: The members of this committee assist in creating an atmosphere in the parish to help identify and assist individuals in discerning their baptismal call to holiness as lived out through a religious vocation in the priesthood, diaconate, sisterhood or brotherhood.

Wedding Coordination: Those who will celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony at St. Peter Parish have the benefit of a Wedding Coordinator who provides guidance according to the liturgical guidelines for Catholic weddings. The coordinator provides assistance as needed but particularly at the rehearsal and wedding.

Prayer

Eleventh Hour: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion offer this ministry for the dying and recently deceased parishioners of St. Peter Parish. When the coordinator of the ministry is informed that there is a dying or recently deceased parishioner, calls are made to three (or more) of the prayer ministers who are asked to pray, in appropriate manner, for the dying or recently deceased person. The Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet are the most frequently used forms of prayer. Prayer ministers additionally offer prayers for all of our deceased members of St. Peter Parish. *If you know a parishioner of St. Peter Parish who is dying or has recently died, please notify the parish office or answering service at 985-892-2422.*

Enthronement of the Sacred Heart: This devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus assists in restoring faith in the merciful love of the Redeemer for those most dear to His Heart- the family. This ministry makes arrangements for parishioners requesting the Mass and an Enthronement of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary in their homes. *If you are interested, please contact the parish office at 985-892-2422.*

Eucharistic Adoration: This ministry offers the opportunity for quiet prayer and reflection in the presence of the Holy Eucharist in the St. Peter Parish Adoration Chapel. *All parishioners are invited and encouraged to sign-up and commit to one hour (the same hour) in the Adoration Chapel each week.*

Prayer Blanket: A ministry of hope for those who are sick and suffering, hospitalized, recovering from illness or surgery, or for any other need for prayer. Each prayer blanket is “stitched in prayer” as it is prepared for the recipient who

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will in turn be “covered in prayer” by members of our parish family interceding for their healing.

Wednesday Morning Intercessory: If you or anyone you know is experiencing problems such as health, financial, family, marriage, emotional, etc., the Wednesday Morning Prayer Ministry provides prayer immediately following the 8:30 AM Mass each Wednesday morning in Church. The prayer team not only prays with those in need, but also prays for any intention that is brought to their attention. If you have special intentions to be prayed for, please meet with the prayer team members after 8:30 am Mass on Wednesday mornings.

Sacramental Preparation

Confirmation Preparation: The St. Peter Parish Confirmation ministry is comprised of three steps: 9th grade PSR, 10th grade PSR, and sacramental preparation for Confirmation. At each step the ministry encourages a fuller participation in the liturgical life of the Church and a growth in personal faith. At the high school level, catechesis focuses on that growth necessary to become an adult Catholic confirmed in the Faith. Subject to Archdiocesan safe environment guidelines, volunteers active in this ministry need to be registered parishioners of St. Peter Parish for at least six months. For more information, please call the Confirmation Office at (985) 893-2047. *Please note: Members are asked by the Pastor of St. Peter Parish to serve in this ministry.*

Parish School of Religion: Receiving Jesus in Holy Eucharist for the first time is a significant highlight in the spiritual life and growth of each Catholic child. Preparation for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion is a two year process. The ongoing catechesis may take place in our Parish Catholic School (SPS), our Parish School of Religion (PSR) or registered homeschooling family. *For more information, please call the Office of Religious Education at (985) 893-2446.*

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults): This ministry is for adults who are unbaptized or baptized in a Christian denomination interested in becoming Catholics or for baptized Catholics in need of First Communion and/or Confirmation. This process culminates in the reception of the Sacraments of Initiation. The RCIA meets on Wednesday evenings. *If you need further information about this ministry, please call the RCIA Office at (985) 898-0346.*

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RCIC (Catechumenate for Children): This ministry is for **children (seven years old or older)** who are unbaptized or baptized in a Christian denomination to prepare to become Catholic. It is also for baptized Catholic children (seven years or older) in need of First Communion who are at least two years behind in catechetical instruction. The RCIC meets on Monday evenings. *Subject to Archdiocesan safe environment guidelines, volunteers active in this ministry need to be registered parishioners of St. Peter Parish for at least six months. If you need further information about this ministry, please see call the RCIA Office at (985) 898-0346.*

Parish Service

A Helping Meal: The members of “A Helping Meal” Ministry serve parishioners of St. Peter Parish who need help on a **short-term basis** with meals. Their hope as they offer a hot meal or several hot meals is that the person will know that they are remembered by their faith family when going through a time of difficulty.

Altar Society: The Altar Society provides Baptismal garments for infants, washes and irons the purificators used at Mass, furnishes the flowers for Our Blessed Mother when needed and donates financially whenever possible.

Bereavement (Food): The members of this ministry offer an outreach of care and support to those who have lost a loved one by providing food for the bereaved families and friends following the funeral.

Emergency Preparedness: The members of the Emergency Preparedness Ministry commit to serve the parishioners by seeking to prepare, develop, implement, and monitor an effective emergency response plan for our parish church, school and community.

Gardens: This ministry provides opportunities for beautifying our gardens around St. Peter Church, the Adoration Chapel, and St. Mary’s Hall. Volunteers in this ministry are asked to “adopt” a small section of the gardens for beautification and upkeep. Open to families or individuals.

Meals for New Moms: This ministry supports expecting families in a very practical way by supplying meals after the birth of a child or when mom experiences complications during the pregnancy.

Men’s Association: This ministry seeks to develop fellowship among the men of the parish, to work in association with the Pastor for the well being of our

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church community, and to draw men closer to God through prayer and various activities. All men in the parish are invited.

Money Counters: Members of the Money Counters Ministry strive to correctly count and reconcile the church collections weekly or as needed, and to prepare the correct and necessary banking and Archdiocesan forms required of this Ministry. *Please note: Members are asked by the Pastor of St. Peter Parish to serve in this ministry.*

Parish Library: Our parish library, which is located in the St. Peter Parish Ministry Center, offers an opportunity for parishioners to check out books, videos, or DVDs for spiritual enrichment. A large inventory is available for adults and children.

Parish Receptions: This ministry plans, coordinates and implements receptions for special parish events providing a warm, welcoming atmosphere for St. Peter parishioners and guests to enjoy fellowship.

Welcoming New Parishioners: The Welcoming New Parishioners Ministry extends a warm welcome to all new members who join our parish family at St. Peter Catholic Church.

Social Responsibility

Angel Tree: This ministry provides a service at Christmas in which parishioners are given the opportunity to reach out to those in need. Gifts, chosen for age and gender appropriateness, are anonymously given and received in the spirit of Christian charity. *If interested in helping someone in need at Christmas, look for the Angel Tree in Church during the Advent Season.*

Prison: Men and women of all Christian denominations are incarcerated at the St. Tammany Parish Jail in Covington, Louisiana. Male inmates are visited once a week for two hours and because of the different faiths, scripture reflections are emphasized. Catholic theology is the basis for interfaith discussions. Catholic and other inmates frequently ask for special prayers and are provided with bibles, holy cards and rosaries. The female inmates are ministered to by Catholic religious and lay ministers from other Northshore parishes. *Please note: Members are asked by the Pastor of St. Peter Parish to serve in this ministry.*

For more information or to sign-up for one or more ministries, please go to our parish website at www.stpeterparish.com, email volunteer@stpeterparish.com, or call the parish office at 985-892-2422.

Youth and Young Adults

High School Youth (T.O.R.C.H. “Taking On Radical Christian Holiness”):

This ministry is for high school students to come together for God and each other to foster the total personal and spiritual development of each young person as they grow in Truth and integrate into the sacramental life and mission of the Church. This ministry is for students 8th through 12th grades. *Subject to Archdiocesan safe environment guidelines, volunteers active in this ministry need to be registered parishioners of St. Peter Parish for at least six months. If interested in the ministry, please call the High School Youth Office at (985) 892-8994.*

Crusaders for Life (High School Youth T.O.R.C.H.): The members of Crusader’s for Life promote respect for life from conception to natural death through prayer, education, and action. *Subject to Archdiocesan safe environment guidelines, volunteers active in this ministry need to be registered parishioners of St. Peter Parish for at least six months. If interested in this ministry, please call the High School Youth Office at (985) 892-8994.*

Jr. High Youth (R.O.C.K. “Really Outrageous Catholic Kids”): This ministry helps to guide the Jr. High Youth of our parish into a deeper relationship with God and to help them to begin to live a life devoted to the teachings of the Catholic Church through Scripture, the Sacraments, Service and Community. This ministry is for students in 5th through 8th grades. *Subject to Archdiocesan safe environment guidelines, volunteers active in this ministry need to be registered parishioners of St. Peter Parish for at least six months. If interested in this ministry, please call the Junior High Youth Office at (985) 892-8994.*

Young Adults (Via Christi): This ministry is open to all young adults married or single (ages 18-40...). It offers opportunities for prayer, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, service and fellowship. Inspired by the lives of Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati and St. Gianna Molla, the members strive to radiate Christ to each other, our families, our Parish and to the world.

Organizations Affiliated with St. Peter Parish

Knights of Columbus, Council #12906: The Knights of Columbus is a national, Catholic, fraternal organization dedicated to promoting the ideas of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism. St. Peter Knights of Columbus Council

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#12906 meets once a month in St. Mary's Hall. It is open to Catholic men age 18 years old and older.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul: The Society of St. Vincent de Paul of St. Peter Parish offers tangible assistance to those in need who reside within our parish boundaries. When an individual or family requests assistance, two members of the Society visit their homes and determine their need. Assistance may include advocacy, intervention, consultation, or often direct dollars or in-kind services. The St. Peter Parish Society meets for prayer and planning on the first and third Thursday of each month.

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Leaving a Legacy

St. Peter Catholic Church

In 2013, our Pastor, Fr. Otis Young, established an endowment fund for St. Peter Catholic Church that will be a source of blessings for generations to come. Any size legacy gift given to the St. Peter Parish Catholic Church Endowment Fund will build and grow to become a constant source of income and benefit to St. Peter Parish ensuring the sustainability of our Church ministry and the advancement of Christ's mission.

St. Peter Catholic School

An endowment fund was established in March, 2008 by our former Pastor, Fr. Bill McGough, for St. Peter Catholic School with the mission to help many students meet tuition costs so they can experience a Catholic education. Legacy gifts to St. Peter Catholic School are critical to the long term sustainability of the School. These gifts build the endowment, a perpetual fund whose income provides essential financial support for students in need of tuition assistance.

Legacy gifts can be made to either one of the above endowments through cash donations, memorials, bequests, insurance policies, trusts, retirement plans or other estate gifts. If you would like additional information concerning planned giving; would like to donate to one of our existing endowments; or to inform the St. Peter Parish Office of Stewardship of your legacy wishes, please contact Paula Souhlas at 985-892-2568 or stewardship@stpeterparish.com. A gift is very personal, all information you provide will be kept in the strictest confidence.

***Together, we can build a solid future for
St. Peter Catholic Parish***

Your gift to the St. Peter Catholic Church or St. Peter Catholic School Endowment Fund is tax deductible.

For more information or to sign-up for one or more ministries, please go to our parish website at www.stpeterparish.com, email volunteer@stpeterparish.com, or call the parish office at 985-892-2422.