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**CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF RICHMOND**  
31 EBONY RD  
EBONY, VA 23845  
PHONE: (434) 636-6277  
CELL: (434) 774-9376  
E-mail: ladamos@richmonddiocese.org

**Linda Adamos**  
FSA, St. Peter the Apostle Cemetery, OCFS

*In Loving Memory of our departed families and friends*

**Bettie & Bobby Berndt**  
**The Fitzgerald Family**

*Helpful Hands and Hearts*

If you need transportation to a doctor or pharmacy, call 252-586-3000 for a free ride.



**BRICK MEMORIALS**  
Purchase a brick for St. Peter the Apostle Grotto for \$100. Call the office for details.

Remember donations to our Poor Box, canned food for our food closet, and donations for Hannah's Place.

**Save your aluminum, rinsed cans and place them in the receptacle near the garage.**

## December Birthdays

- 3 **Bob Oravits**
- Bettie Pasco**
- 6 **Jackie Centamore**
- 7 **Maureen Seelinger**
- 10 **Judy Pelletier**
- 11 **Ginnie Driggers**
- 16 **Marc Seelinger**
- 17 **Eileen Griffin**
- Joseph Mullen**
- 19 **Mari Driggers**
- 21 **Michael Couglin**
- David Free**
- 22 **Wilson Youngblood**
- 29 **Peter Legler**
- 30 **John Tigmo**

## Happy Anniversary

- Jean & Edward Maynes**  
December 12, 1964
- Janet & Mark Fracassa**  
December 17, 1988
- Jeanne & Paul Kurilla**  
December 27, 1969

*Create a Legacy of Giving. Please remember St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church in your Estate Plans.*



## Our Lady of the Lake



### Council 9309

#### Officers for 2023-2024

- Chaplain:** Fr. Jong R. Bayta
  - Grand Knight:** Mark Fracassa
  - Deputy Grand Knight:** John Husson
  - Chancellor:** Dave Thomas
  - Recorder:** Bob Hathaway
  - Treasurer:** Jay Warfel, PGK\*
  - Financial Secretary:** Tom O'Neill, PGK\*
  - Advocate:** Bob Oravits
  - Warden:** Paul Kurilla
  - Guards:**
    - Inside: Kip Boisot, PGK\*
    - Outside: Richard Rumprik
  - BOARD OF TRUSTEES:**
    - Trustee One Year:** Chuck Youse
    - Trustee Two Years:** George McCall
    - Trustee Three Years:** Bobby Berndt, \*PGK
- \*PGK-Past Grand Knight

*Catholic men 18 years or older are eligible to join the Knights of Columbus. Please contact Mark Fracassa (804) 305-6175 or Tom O'Neill (252) 308-0493.*

# St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church

[office@stpeterebony.org](mailto:office@stpeterebony.org)

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

31 Ebony Road (Route 903), Ebony, VA 23845



We welcome all visitors & new parishioners to our parish family. Frequent part-time attendees are encouraged to register. Registration forms are located in the narthex.

#### Mission Statement:

We are people of God under the patronage of Saint Peter the Apostle and are called to be active followers of Jesus Christ. As members of the Body of Christ on earth, we gather for worship around the word of God and celebration of the Eucharist. We commit ourselves to each other in Faith, in Hope, and in Love. We, as an adult family of believers, are uniquely positioned in this time of our life with the time, talent and energy to bring the message of Jesus to our Community with the help of the Holy Spirit through testimony, example, hospitality and service.

**Pastor:** Fr. Jong R. Bayta  
[jbayta@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:jbayta@richmonddiocese.org)  
**Rectory:** 434-636-7782  
**Secretary/Bookkeeper:**  
Elizabeth Martin  
434-636-6277

**Pastoral Council:**  
Teri Oswald: 856-889-4760  
**Finance Council:**  
Jerry Beil: 252-586-0635  
**Building & Grounds:**  
Jim Tomazic: 434-636-2993  
**Family Service Advisor:**  
Linda Adamos: 434-774-9376

## Liturgical Schedule

Weekday Masses:  
**Tuesday-Friday: 9:00 am**

Weekend Masses:  
**Saturday—5:30 pm**  
**Sunday—8:00 am**

Holy Hour w/ Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction:  
**First Thursday of the month after Mass**

Reconciliation:  
**First Saturday of the month at 4:30 pm & by appointment**

Blessing of the Sick:  
**Last Tuesday of the month after Mass**

# First Sunday of Advent—December 3, 2023

## Study of the Readings

### Background on the Gospel

#### Reading Mark 13:33-37

Today we begin the season of Advent, which marks the start of a new liturgical year for the Church. This week and next, our readings from Mark's Gospel present two important Advent themes: the Lord's return at the end of time and John the Baptist's preparation for Jesus. Today's Gospel is taken from the end of Mark's Gospel, the chapter that immediately precedes Mark's account of Jesus' Passion. Having been questioned repeatedly by the scribes and the Pharisees, Jesus is now questioned by his disciples, who want details about his prediction of the destruction of the Temple. Jesus

answers with many warnings about the difficulties that the disciples will face. Today's passage comes at the conclusion of Jesus' warnings to his disciples. Jesus emphasizes the need for watchfulness. The Son of Man will come without warning; only the Father knows the exact hour. The disciples must not be caught unprepared when this time comes. Scholars believe that Mark's Gospel was written around the time of the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in A.D. 70. Mark's audience consisted of Christians who were living in difficult social and political times, times of conflict. They were likely beginning to face persecution as followers of Jesus. In this difficult

time, it helped to recall that Jesus had foretold of such difficulties. Early Christian communities took courage from Jesus' warning to remain alert and watchful, and they found in his words a way to persevere through suffering. Today's Gospel reminds us that Advent is about more than our preparation for the Church's celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas. It is also about preparing ourselves for Christ's return in glory at the end of time. Like the disciples and the faithful in Mark's community, we must also stay alert and watchful. Our faithfulness to God, through the good times as well as the difficult times, shows us to be ready for the coming of the Son of Man.

### Praying With Next Week's Readings

Reading I: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11  
 Responsorial Psalm: 85:9-14  
 Reading II: 2 Peter 3:8-14  
 Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

### Mass Intentions



Saturday, December 2nd  
**Our Parishioners**  
 Sunday, December 3rd  
**Our Parishioners**

### Upcoming Events:

- Dec. 6-Pastoral Council
- Dec. 8-Holy Day of Obligation
- Dec. 10-Second Sunday of Advent
- Dec. 11-Reconciliation Service
- Dec. 12-**NO DAILY MASS**
- Dec. 14-Finance Council
- Dec. 16/17-Bambinelli Blessing

# PARISH NEWS



The Angel Tree is up! Wrapped gifts must be returned under the tree by December 17th. Details are posted in the Narthex. Blessings to all of you that choose to participate to make someone's Christmas special! For questions call Susan Hathaway at 252-586-1670.

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, December 8th, is a holy day of obligation. Mass is at 9 am.

The Knights are selling Religious Christmas Cards in the narthex for \$12/ box (10 cards). Checks are made out to the Knights of Columbus 9309. A money box is on the table.



Our Parish Advent Reconciliation Service is December 11th at 7 pm. We will have 3 visiting priests. Consider celebrating this sacrament to begin your holy Advent season.



**St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church Chapter**



Maria Schutte, Rose Gongla, Ann Mogilnicki, Mary Purdy, Tom Eddy, Judy, Kyle, Josh & Emma Pelletier, Carol & Bernie Haefner, Tamara Burns, Lexie Burns, Katie & David Berlin, Megan Quigley, Suzanne & George McCall, Jean Sasscer, Bob & Pat Weise, Cheryl Beebe, Jerry Chini, Virgil Frizzell, Betty Morris, Matt Davis, Patricia Pruden, Mary Jo & Don Bankard, James Caruso, George Wall, Jeri Schottenbauer, Dale Pfindler, Bob Warwick, Zony Carino, Stephanie Hathaway, Peter Hamilton, Dale Litzinger, Robert Purdy, Jan & John Holt, Dave McKenzie

Please contact the office with updates. Contact Mary Ann Daly at 434-577-2660 to receive Holy Communion at home.

## Last Week's Offertory

	Needed	Actual
Offertory:	\$3,423.08	\$2,717.66 <b>(\$705.42)</b>
Votive Stand:		\$27.00
Poor Box:		\$96.00

**Online Giving**  
<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stpeterebonyva>  
 OR  
 Text GIVE to 434-686-6277

### MASS ATTENDANCE:

**November 25th**  
**60**  
**November 26th**  
**69**

## Next Week's Ministry Schedule

	USHERS	READERS	SERVER	BODY OF CHRIST	BLOOD OF CHRIST
Saturday	Jeanne Kurilla	Chuck Youse	Bobby Berndt	Marge Youse	Bettie Berndt
	Paul Kurilla	Bettie Berndt			Jackie Pfindler
Sunday	Lewis Medina	Hart Hagen	Tom O'Neill	Mary Ann Daly	Elizabeth Martin
	VOLUNTEER	Anne O'Neill			Linda Adamos