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326 Lizard Creek Rd, Littleton, NC 27850

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**CATHY R.HODES**

 **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

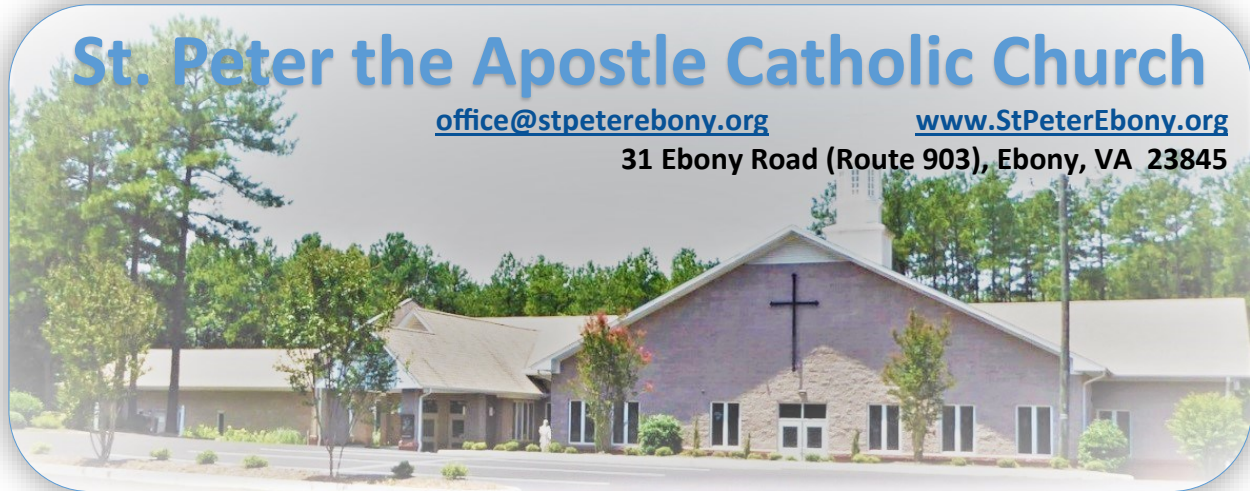


### Council 9309

#### 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)519-3050.*



# 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**

# Second Sunday of Advent—December 10, 2023

## Study of the Readings

### Background on the Gospel

#### Reading Mark 1:1-8

Mark's description of the appearance of John the Baptist highlights John's continuity with the Jewish prophetic tradition. Mark combines quotations from the Old Testament books of Malachi, Isaiah, and Exodus. His description of John as an ascetic, living in the desert, clothed in camel hair, and eating locusts and wild honey, is reminiscent of the description of the prophet Elijah found in Second Kings. The people of Judea and Jerusalem flock to him, listening to his message of repentance and forgiveness, and come to him to be baptized. Mark's Gospel is clear, however, that John

the Baptist's role is only to prepare the way for another who will come, one who is greater than John. Scholars believe that the Gospels reflect the tension that likely existed between followers of John the Baptist and disciples of Jesus. The four Gospels report on John's preaching and baptizing and emphasize the importance of Jesus' baptism by John. They also explain that John was sent to preach in preparation for another. In the Gospel of Luke, the question is raised as to whether John the Baptist was himself the Messiah. Just as in today's Gospel, however, John speaks quite explicitly that the Messiah was to come after him. In today's Gospel we hear John the

Baptist contrast his baptism of repentance with the baptism that Jesus will inaugurate. John says that he has baptized with water, but that the one who is to come will baptize with the Holy Spirit. John's baptism was not yet a Christian baptism, but a preparation for the Sacrament of Baptism through which sins are forgiven and the gift of the Holy Spirit is received. John the Baptist is presented to us as a model during Advent. We, too, are called upon to prepare a way for the Lord. Like John the Baptist, we are messengers in service to one who is greater than we are. Our Baptism commissions us to call others to life as disciples of Jesus.

### Praying With Next Week's Readings

#### Reading I:

Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11

Responsorial Psalm:

Luke 1:46-50, 53-54

#### Reading II:

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

### Mass Intentions



Saturday, December 9th

**Our Parishioners**

Sunday, December 10th

**Our Parishioners**

### Upcoming Events:

**Dec. 11-**Reconciliation Service

**Dec. 12-**NO DAILY MASS

**Dec. 14-**Finance Council

**Dec. 16/17-**Bambinelli Blessing

**Dec. 17-**Third Sunday of Advent

**Dec. 17-**Return gifts for Angels

# PARISH NEWS

## Christmas Flower Donations in Memory/Honor of:



### Deceased members of the Arena & Moyles families

**The Carino & Warwick Families**

**Andrea Colon**

**Robert Fiefhaus**

**Luci Gray**

**George Houston**

**Margaret Husson**

**Jim & Shirley Jones**

**Elizabeth Kambeitz**

**Tom Kambeitz**

**Wendell Kambeitz**

**Ronald Karpinski**

**Billy Keipe**

**Nathan Keipe**

**Elizabeth & Herbert Kerth**

**Joanne Lang**

**Jose & Luz Medina**

**Josephine & Wadyslaw Nitkowski**

**Andrea Ortiz**

**Judie Phillips**

**Deceased members of the Quinn & Foran families**

**Bob & Doll Vasisko**

**Ida & Maynard Warfel**

**James & Mary Lillian Winfield**



### Get Your Affairs in Order:

**4 things you family will thank you for Seminar**

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.

Hosted by St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church  
When: Thursday, January 18, 2024 at 10:30 am with lunch to follow.  
More details to follow soon.



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 Pfenfender, 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	\$3,313.66 <b>(\$109.42)</b>
Christmas Flowers:	\$659.30

## Online Giving

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

### MASS ATTENDANCE:

**December 2nd**  
**45**

**December 3rd**  
**72**

## Next Week's Ministry Schedule

	USHERS	READERS	SERVER	BODY OF CHRIST	BLOOD OF CHRIST
Saturday	Barbara Oravits	Mark Fracassa	Bobby Berndt	Jeanne Kurilla	Teri Oswald
	Robert Oravits	Bettie Berndt			Marge Youse
Sunday	Carol Warfel	Wilson Youngblood	Bob Hathaway	Mary Ann Daly	Myrna Rodriguez
	Jay Warfel	Debbie Youngblood			Olvin Rodriguez