


*The Salon & Gift Shop*  
at LAKE GASTON

252-676-1493  
CathyRhodesHairstylist@outlook.com  
326 Lizard Creek Rd, Littleton, NC 27850

Color, Upstyles, Brazilian Blowouts,  
Foil Highlights, Corrective Color and more!  
Manicures•Pedicures

Hair Stylist  
**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

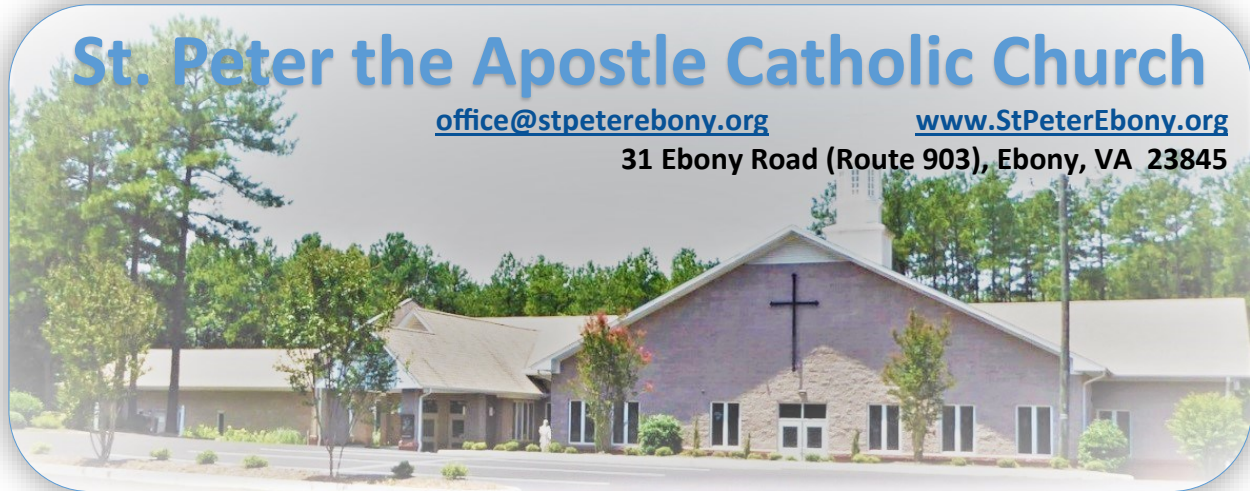


### Council 9309

#### 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**

# Fourth Sunday of Advent—December 24, 2023

## Study of the Readings

### Background on the Gospel

#### Reading Luke 1:26-38

This Sunday we read the story of the angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary about the birth of Jesus. This story is found only in Luke's Gospel. On this fourth Sunday of Advent, the liturgy shifts our attention from John the Baptist to Mary. Both John and Mary serve as important figures for our reflection during the season of Advent; they both played instrumental roles in preparing the way for Jesus. Last week we reflected on John the Baptist's announcement that the Savior was among us, although not yet recognized. This week we reflect upon Mary's example of faith and obedience to God, traits which

permitted her to receive the angel's message that God's Son would be born as a human person, as one of us. It is fitting that we recall how God announced the birth of Jesus as we make our final preparations for our celebration of the Incarnation. The angel Gabriel visited Mary, a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph. Mary greeted the angel's news with awe and wonder and asked how it could be possible that she could give birth to a child. In his reply, the angel Gabriel announced the seemingly impossible reality: the child to be born would be conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and would be God's own Son. The angel reported to Mary another miracle; her relative Elizabeth was also pregnant despite having

been thought to be unable to have a child. Mary's response to the angel, which is called her fiat, is an example of complete faith and obedience to God. The story of the Annunciation calls to our attention God's wondrous action in human history. God chose a human person to give birth to his Son so that all humanity would know God's salvation. Mary, already full of God's grace, was able to cooperate in this great plan for our salvation. Thus Jesus was born as one of us, fully human and also fully divine. This is the mystery we prepare to celebrate at Christmas, the mystery of the Incarnation. In the model of Mary, we pray that we will be people of faith who recognize God's saving plan for us and are able respond with obedience.

### Praying With Next Week's Readings

#### Reading I:

Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3

Responsorial Psalm: 105:1-6,8-9

Reading II: Hebrews 11:8

11-12,17-19

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

### Mass Intentions



Saturday, December 23rd

**Our Parishioners**

Sunday, December 24th

**Our Parishioners**

### Upcoming Events:

**Dec. 22-Jan 1**-Office Closed

**Dec. 24**-Christmas Vigil Mass 7pm

**Dec. 25**-Christmas Day Mass 8 am

**Dec. 26-29-NO DAILY MASS**

**Jan. 1-NO MASS**

**Jan 4**-Holy Hour

**Jan 5**-First Friday

# PARISH NEWS

May the God of Hope fill you with all Joy and Peace as you trust in him.

Romans 15:13



Sending you the warmest wishes for a holiday filled with joy, laughter, and love!  
Merry Christmas!



### Get Your Affairs in Order:

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

You are invited to attend a free, information-only Get Your Affairs in Order: 4 things you family will thank you for Seminar hosted by St. Peter the Apostle on Thursday, January 18, 2024 at 10:30 am in the parish social hall. This seminar will provide education and information to couples and individuals on Wills, Trusts, Catholic Advanced Medical Directives, Funeral Planning, and Estate and Legacy Planning. If you don't have a Will or you need to update yours, please make an effort to join us for this free seminar. Attendees will receive free copies of the Catholic Estate Planning Guide, Catholic Advanced Medical Directives, and the Catholic Funeral Planning Guide. Please RSVP to the Parish Office at 434-636-6277 or office@stpeterebony.org.



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, Jim Perozek

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	\$6,241.86	<b>\$2,818.78</b>

## Online Giving

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

### MASS ATTENDANCE:

**December 16th**  
**56**

**December 17th**  
**76**

## Next Week's Ministry Schedule

	USHERS	READERS	SERVER	BODY OF CHRIST	BLOOD OF CHRIST
Saturday	Jeanne Kurilla	John Husson	Bobby Berndt	Pat Moyles	Jackie Pfindler
	Paul Kurilla	Bettie Berndt			Kathy Husson
Sunday	Marilyn Tuite	George McCall	John Tigmo	Mary Ann Daly	Jay Warfel
	Bob Tuite	Bernice Jiano			Linda Adamos