

ST. PETER CLAVER CHURCH

Vision Statement: *“Saint Peter Claver Church will engage, energize and empower the people of God to grow and evolve spiritually.”*

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST SCHEDULE

Saturday Evening: 4:00 p.m.

Sundays: 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m.

Holy Days: See Liturgy of the Eucharist schedule inside

Weekdays: See Liturgy of the Eucharist schedule inside

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. on Saturday or anytime by appt.

BAPTISM

Appointment with the priest or deacon for preparation is necessary. Call during pregnancy or as soon as possible after the child is born.

MARRIAGE

Contact the priest at least six (6) months in advance.

FUNERAL

Contact the parish office **BEFORE** making arrangements with a funeral home.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Friday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Grades K-7 – Saturday from 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Meet in the parish school.

WEBSITE : www.stpeterclaverneworleans.org

NEW PARISHIONERS:

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH COMMUNITY!

We ask that you please call the office to register in the parish.



1923 St. Philip Street
New Orleans, LA 70116
Office (504) 822-8059
Fax (504) 822-9251
Credit Union (504) 988-1182
Misaada Center (504) 827-0707

Rev. J. Asare-Dankwah
Pastor

DEACONS:

Lawrence Houston
Allen Stevens

PASTORAL STAFF

Mrs. Alena Boucree
Director of Religious Education

Ms. Margie Brown
Business Manager

Mrs. Veronica Downs-Dorsey
Director of Music

Mrs. Marinda Lee-Houston
Youth Ministry

Mrs. Edith B. Reed
Executive Secretary

St. Peter Claver School

1020 N. Prieur Street
New Orleans, LA 70116
504-822-8191
Deacon Lawrence Houston
Principal

MISSION STATEMENT

St. Peter Claver Catholic Church is a vibrant, spirit-filled, evangelizing community that is grounded in the Eucharist and celebrates the culture and traditions of our African-American heritage. Strengthened by our belief in Jesus Christ and trusting in God's Word, we transform our community through acts of justice by caring for the spiritual and physical needs of His people.

NATIVITY OF THE LORD

December 24, 2017

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE:

My Sisters and Brothers in the Lord:

“Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

The sacred text on Midnight Liturgy, announces to us the Birth of Jesus Christ, the Emmanuel, the “God with us”. It is truly a blessing that we join Christians everywhere to welcome in our world the Prince of Peace who has come to make his dwelling among us, so that all God’s people can experience his peace and walk in perfect harmony with our sisters and brothers. On this night, simple shepherds of Bethlehem were the first to pay homage and announced the birth of Christ. The joy of God’s presence on this night filled the whole earth with countless other angelic beings singing songs of praise of God’s glory. We live in a culture of violence, murder and racism where people do not always experience God’s peace. Therefore, I challenge each one of you to become an instrument of God’s peace, love and justice so that together, we can transform our culture of violence into a civilization of love. I would like to thank you for making St. Peter Claver Parish your spiritual home. I truly appreciate the ways you continue to share the gifts of your time, talents and treasures so generously with our parish community. Your generosity enables us to minister to the spiritual and social needs of our community. I also pray that like our mother Mary, you will love, trust and submit yourself to God’s providential care and fully participate in God’s plan. Like Mary, let us live a Christ-centered life so that we can always offer a true and acceptable sacrifice to our love and living God whenever we gather as a community. May the Holy family; Jesus, Mary and Joseph strengthen your family and bless you with peace, love, joy and happiness throughout the New Year. You and your loved ones will be remembered in a very special way in all the Holy Masses I will celebrate during this Christmas season.

Wishing you a Blessed Christmas, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. J. Asare-Dankwah
Pastor



Father Asare and Staff
Wish Everyone a
Very Merry Christmas
and a Healthy,
Prosperous & Safe
New Year

PRAYER FOR THOUGHT....



The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. Today in the city of Bethlehem is born our savior **CHRIST the LORD**; For unto us a child is born unto us a son is given. Nothing is impossible with GOD; Be it done to me according to your word. *Glory to God in the Highest*; Let the earth be opened and bring forth a Savior.

**STEWARDSHIP**
a way of life

Our Stewardship for Sunday, December 17, 2017 was **\$10,170.86**; **\$18,827.00** is NEEDED to balance the budget weekly. Shortfall for December 17, 2017 is **\$8,656.14**; **Second Collection: Building Fund: \$425.68.**

Thanks for your generosity.

New Mass Schedule

After some prayerful reflections, with consultation of the Parish's Leadership Team and the Archbishop, we are consolidating our 9:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Masses to be held at 10:00 a.m. This New Mass Schedule would take effect on **Sunday, February 18, 2018**. Based on the direction and vision that we have for our church we have decided to try this for one year. This would allow for more participation in ministries, family participation and fellowship following Masses. This was a very difficult decision for us to make, but one that we believe will encompass our Vision Statement, "St. Peter Claver will Engage, Energize & Empower the People of God to Grow and Evolve Spirituality." Thanks very much for your faithfulness, dedication, your love of God and neighbor. May we continue to pray and work together to advance the Mission and Vision of our Parish.

*God Bless You,
Fr. Asare*



RCIA
*Rites of Christian
Initiation for Adults*

Are you interested in becoming a member of the Catholic Church or know someone who is?

- A) Unbaptized adults who wish to learn more about the Catholic faith with the possibility of becoming Catholic;
- B) Baptized Christians from other denominations who would like to learn more about the Catholic Church;
- C) Baptized Catholic adults who would like to prepare for First Communion & Confirmation

For more information concerning the RCIA Program please contact the Parish Office, 504-822-8059.



December 24-31, 2017

Sunday, December 24, 2017

7:30 a.m. Parishioners of St. Peter Claver
Mr. James Smith, III
In Thanksgiving—Ms. Geri Gant
Mr. Michael A. Graham, II

10:00 a.m. Mr. Alfred Page
Ms. Jade Gibson
Michelle, Caden & Cylie McCullum
Mr. Percy Walker
Edward & Edna Walker
Ms. Angela McWilliams
Ms. Ida Bartholomew
Ms. Vivian Delaney
Living & deceased members of the
Crusto, Fleury, Graham, Prevost,
Saulney and Wilson families
Alvin, Mable, George and Gwendolyn
Kellman

Monday, December 25, 2017

Christmas Day Mass

10:00 a.m. Parishioners of St. Peter Claver

Tuesday, December 26, 2017

7:30 a.m. Mass-Rectory

Thursday, December 28, 2017

7:30 a.m. Mass-Rectory

Saturday, December 30, 2017

4:00 p.m. Mr. Edgar Chase, Jr.
Ms. Marion LeBlanc



The Parish Office will be closed from Tuesday, December 26, 2017 thru Tuesday, January 2, 2018 in observance of the Christmas and New Year's Holiday. The Office will re-open on Wednesday, January 3, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.



St. Peter Claver Homebound and Sick Parishioners

Please pray for the following parishioners and friends who are homebound or ill:

Edith Henry, Alice Allen, Gwendolyn Rocque, Verna Mae Martin, Joycelyn Johnson, Stanley & Beatrice Grant, Myra Harrell, Pearl Dupart, Joan Diaz, Aaron LaCabe, Bernice Stein, Joyce Evans, Javette and Michael Garner, John & Claire Bidol, Demetria Bernard, Gladys Shief, Jerald LaPierre, Robert "RJ" LaPierre, Doris Finister, Marie Walker, Shirley Walker, Chris Price, Shirley Walton, Antoinette Johnston, Cindy Armstrong, Ralph Walker, Albert & Miriam Boucree, Herman Philip, Jr., Audrey Evans, Vint Barney, Lydia Broyard, Yvette Brown, Shirley Pratt, Grace Jones, Lorraine Bowman, Zelinda Lawrence, Troylyn Lawrence, Ruby Perry, Yolanda Green, John Aguillard, Barbara Phillips, Lyndia Faust, Diane Blanks, Inaclaire Buckley, Kevin Boyd, Louise Jenkins, Toki Joseph, Joseph Williams, Gerard Robinson, Sr., Emelda Petit, Johnnie Petit, Scarlett Crawford, Vivian Plessy, Debra Gray, Frederick Gray, Lionel and Marion Evans, Gerald Stone, Sr. Janet Pruitt, Jerry Queen, Verlyn Malloory, Marva Batiste, Bronson Lee, John Parker, Maureen Nutting, Cynthia Bluford, Barbara Montague, Victoria Leslie, Lorraine Bart, Walter Amadee, Katrina Green, Myrtle Dorsey, Zelma Evans.

Prayer for Christmas Giving



Come, Lord Jesus come
Fill our gift-giving with generosity, making us aware of the true gifts we have to share with loved ones. Deepen our sense of joy, making us ever-grateful for the small gifts others bestow upon us. Enlarge our capacity for compassion, making us mindful of how we might give to those in need of sustenance and consolation. Come into our hearts and homes this Christmas, Lord Jesus, making us people of joyful generosity and gratitude. **AMEN!**

Religious Education News



Parents of children preparing for the Sacraments of First Penance and Holy Eucharist in the spring, please save the date for a parent and child meeting following the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday, January 21, 2017 in the School Cafeteria.

Family Faith Sharing Time: while the children are on Christmas break from School is a great time for Family Faith time. Read bible stories of Biblical heroes that can help them grow in faith. Teach how to pray the rosary or learn the many names of Jesus, example, Wonder Counselor, Prince of Peace, God Hero, Messiah, Savior. You might use the beautiful Christmas Carols and songs to begin the conversation or perhaps take a walk through our Church and talk about the symbols and signs of faith you see. This is indeed a time for educating our children about our faith.

Youth Reflections on Archdiocesan World Youth Day Event

I had never been to World Your Day prior to going with St. Peter Claver. Admittedly at first, I was worried it would not be fun. I was extremely wrong. I enjoyed every moment at World Youth Day. I became closest with some members in the group and I got to see a whole new side of young Christians. I found myself moved by the passion for Jesus other people may age had that day. Yes, some moments were quirky, but ever moment was fulfilling and enlightening for my faith. Overall, I enjoyed World Youth Day a lot. I learned new ways to view God and myself, and it made me closer to God and others in the process.

Kristin Larche

December 30, 2017

December 31, 2017

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS



4:00 p.m. **Cynthia Smothers**, Verita Thomas, Reginald Vicks, Leonetta Terrell, Claudette Vicks, Christian Odum

7:30 a.m. **Ellen Lee**, Keith Darby, William Broyard, Monique Hardy, Nona Webb

9:00 a.m. **Michelle Kendrick**, Keith Darby, Alcie Grooms, Debra Smith, Ida Butler

Balcony: **Mark Foster**, Kionne Lear, Cynthia Gilbert

11:30 a.m. **Emelda Watts**, Denise Nicholl, Dwight Duplessis, Thomas Nash, Arthur Johnson

Balcony: **Tina Ellsworth**, Marvelle Perrin, Kayla Houston

LECTORS

4:00 p.m. Lester Arnaud * Verita Thomas

7:30 p.m. Tonya Bernard

9:00 a.m. Cynthia Gallo * Bennetta Horne

11:30 a.m. Kenneth Sears * Tony Faciane

The Principles of KWANZAA



Come celebrate the Spirit of **UJAMAA!** Join St. Peter Claver Church and the National Association of Black Social Workers in song, dance, spoken word and fellowship as we celebrate **KWANZAA**, Wednesday, December 27, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the School Hall. In the Spirit of Kwanzaa pot luck dishes are welcomed. What is Kwanzaa? It is a holiday to celebrate African American Culture. It was created by Dr. Maulana Karenga in 1966. The name of the holiday is taken from the Swahili expression, “matunda ya kwanzaa or the first fruits of the harvest.



Weekly Ministry

Schedule

December 25-, 2017

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS

Mon. 10:00 a.m. Mass-Church

Tues. 7:30 a.m. Mass-Rectory

Wed. 7:30 a.m. Mass-Rectory

Thurs. 7:30 a.m. Mass-Rectory

Sat. 4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass-Church

NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS

Sun. 7:30 a.m. Sunday Mass—Church

9:00 a.m. Sunday Mass-Church

11:30 a.m. Sunday Mass-Church

NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS

Mon. 10:00 a.m. Mass-Church

OUR FAMILY PRAYER

Loving and faithful God, through the years the people of our archdiocese have appreciated the prayers and love of Our Lady of Prompt Succor in times of war, disaster, epidemic and illness.

We come to you,

Father, with Mary our Mother, and ask you to help us in the battle of today against violence, murder and racism.

We implore you to give us your wisdom that we may build a community founded on the values of Jesus, which gives respect to the life and dignity of all people.

Bless parents that they may form their children in faith. Bless and protect our youth that they may be peacemakers of our time. Give consolation to those who have lost loved ones through violence.

Hear our prayer and give us the perseverance to be a voice for life and human dignity in our community.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Our Lady of Prompt Succor, hasten to help us.

Mother Henriette Delille, pray for us that we may be a holy family



Scripture Readings for:
December 25-31, 2017

Monday-12/25/17 *Isaiah 52:7-10*
Christmas Day *Hebrews 1:1-6*
 John 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Tuesday-12/26/17 *Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59*
 Matthew 10:17-22

Wednesday-12/27/17 *1 John 1:1-14*
 John 20:1a, 2-8

Thursday -12/28/17 *1 John 1:5-2:2*
 Matthew 2:13-18

Friday-12/29/17 *1 John 2:3-11*
 Luke 2:22-35

Saturday-12/30/17 *1 John 2:12-17*
 Luke 2:36-40

Sunday -12/31/17 *Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 or*
 Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3
 Colossians 3:12-21 or 3:12-
 17 or Hebrews 11:18, 11-12,
 17-19
 Luke 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

FATIMA ROSARY

Monday, December 25, 2017
5:30 p.m. St. Ann Apartments
in the Chapel

Rosary

Hosted By: Residence of St. Ann



SANCTUARY LIGHT

Will burn in memory for:

Michael A. Graham, II
(10th Anniversary)

Requested by: Deborah Graham,
his mother



Visit St. Ann's Shrine
(2100 Block of
Ursulines Avenue)

Open
Tuesdays & Saturdays
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

St. Peter Claver Church Health Corner



HIV/AIDS AWARENESS

HIV stands for human immunodeficiency virus. It kills or damages the body's immune system cells. **AIDS** stands for acquired immunodeficiency syndrome. It is the most advanced stage of HIV infection. HIV **most often spreads** through unprotected sex with an infected person. It may also spread by sharing drug needles or through contact with the blood of an infected person. Women can give it to their babies during pregnancy or childbirth. The **first signs** of HIV infection may be swollen glands and flu-like symptoms. These may come and go a month or two after infection. **Severe symptoms** may not appear until months or years later. There is no cure, but there are many medications to fight both HIV infection and the infections and cancers that come with it. People can live with the disease for many years with proper treatment.

A blood test can tell if you have HIV infection. For testing see your health provider, Tulane Community Health (Orleans Avenue & Broad Street), Odyssey House or call the national referral hotline at 1-800-CDCV-INFO (24 hours a day, 1-800-232-4636 in English and en Español; 1-888-232-6348

References: National Institute of Health; PubMed; Mayo Clinic

If you need more information about HIV/AIDS or help scheduling an appointment call the Health & Wellness Ministry located in the Missada Center.

Office Hours:
Tues. 10:00a.m.-12:00 noon;
Phone: 504-822-8059

ST. PETER CLAVER CHURCH

DECEMBER, 2017

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1	2 4:00 pm Vigil Mass
3 7:30 am Mass 9:00 am Mass 11:30 am Mass	4 REVIVAL 7:00 p.m.	5 REVIVAL 7:00 p.m.	6	7	8 Immaculate Conception 8:30 am Mass 4:00 pm Social Concerns 6:00 pm Mass	9 4:00 pm Vigil Mass
10 7:30 am Mass 9:00 am Mass 11:30 am Mass	11 3:00 pm Senior Citizens'	12 6:00 pm Christmas Prac- tice 7:00 p.m. Nia-Imani	13 8:30 am School Mass 6:00 pm McMain Concert	14 6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	15 6:00 pm Boy Scouts 6:00 pm Jr. Daughters Gala	16 12:00 noon Legal Clinic 4:00 pm Vigil Mass 5:00 p.m. Boy Scouts Honor
17 7:30 am Mass 9:00 am Mass 11:30 am Mass	18 6:00 pm Lake Area School Con- cert	19 Fr. Asare Birthday 6:00 pm SPC School Play	20 5:00 pm Church Clean- ing & Decorat- ing	21 6:00 pm McDonogh 35 Concert	22	23 4:00 pm Vigil Mass
24 7:30 am Mass 10:00 am Mass Christmas Eve 6:00 p.m. Mass Midnight Mass	25 Christmas Day 10:00 am. Mass	26 OFFICE CLOSED	27 6:00 p.m. Kwanzaa Celebration	28 NO MEETINGS	29 NO MEETINGS	30 4:00 pm Vigil Mass
31 7:30 am Mass 9:00 am Mass 11:30 am Mass						

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

St. Peter Claver Church #784950
1910 Ursulines Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70116

TELEPHONE

504 822-8059

CONTACT PERSON

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