

Society News Spotlight: Holy Name Society News

Our St. Peter Holy Name Society (SPHNS) was established in March 1936, with 126 men joining at its inception. Today, the Society has 17 active members.

The current officers are:

President: Al Edelman

Recording Secretary:

George Kinek

Treasurer: Dave Marcoe

Recently, the Diocese of Allentown recognized the SPHNS for significantly increasing its membership.

Our members are committed not only to honoring the Holy Names of Jesus and God, but also to supporting the parish of St. Peter. Each year, we visit parish shut-ins and provide them with gift cards for Giant grocery store. We also acknowledge the altar servers with a monetary gift on the last Sunday of each month.



The St. Peter Confraternity of the Most Holy Names of God and Jesus (Holy Name Society) is dedicated to promoting reverence for the Sacred Names of God and Jesus Christ. The Holy Name Society is an official organization recognized by the Diocese of Allentown.

The Society's financial support comes from our hoagie sales, which are held three times per year.

We contribute to the parish in many ways, including serving as members of the pierogi team, choir, finance council and parish council; Sunday envelope counters, ushers, St. Peter Festival Picnic organizers and workers, DMI committee members, cantors, lectors, Knights of Columbus and Eucharistic ministers.

Each month, we hold a Mass to honor deceased members of the SPHNS. Our monthly meetings take place immediately following the 10:30 a.m. Mass offered for the Society. All men of the parish are invited to join.

There are no membership dues – just a commitment to be active participants in our church community. If you are interested in joining, please contact any member or reach out to the parish office.



SKILLED AT COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY AND/OR SOCIAL MEDIA?

We are in need of volunteers to help expand our social media presence and communication technology usage. Contact: Kolby 610-698-1105

EMAIL ADDRESSES NEEDED

- Please help us update our parishioner email addresses and phone numbers.
- Scan the QR code
- Visit the "Contact Us" section at stpeterchurchcoplay.com
- Call the office at **610-262-2417**



ST. PETER BY THE NUMBERS

From Oct. 1-Dec. 31, 2025 the following statistics have been recorded:

3 New Members

0 Weddings

3 Baptisms

10 Anointing of the Sick

Mark Your Calendar

FEBRUARY

7 Holy Name Hoagie Pick up 2-6 p.m.
8 Children's Liturgy Mass (St. John) 8 a.m. Mass
8 Whitehall-Coplay Hunger Initiative Bingo 4 p.m.
9 Choir Practice (St. Peter) 6:15 p.m.
10 Flame of Love (Chapel) 6 p.m.
11 Holy Hour w/ Confessions (St. Peter) 6 p.m.
15 Children's Liturgy Mass (St. Peter) 10:30 Mass
15 Altar & Rosary Society Meeting 9 a.m.
16 Choir Practice (St. Peter) Tentative 6:15 p.m.
16-17 Pierogie Making
18 Ash Wednesday (St. Peter) 8 a.m.

18 Ash Wednesday Vigil (St. John) 6:30 p.m.
18 Confirmation at St. Peter 4:30 p.m.
20 Stations of the Cross (St. Peter) 4:30 p.m.
20 Stations of the Cross (St. John) 7 p.m.
22 Holy Name Society Meeting After 10:30 Mass
23 St. Peter Parish Plan Leadership Meeting 7 p.m.
23 Choir Practice (St. Peter) 6:15pm
25 Holy Hour w/Confessions (St. Peter) 6 p.m.
27 Stations of the Cross (St. Peter) 4:30 p.m.
27 Stations of the Cross (St. John) 7 p.m.

MARCH

1 Fellowship Sunday After 10:30 Mass
2 Choir Practice (St. Peter) 6:15pm
3 Flame of Love (Chapel) 6 p.m.
4 Holy Hour w/ Confessions (St. Peter) 6 p.m.
6 Stations of the Cross (St. Peter) 4:30 p.m.
6 Stations of the Cross (St. John) 7 p.m.
8 Children's Liturgy Mass (St. John) 8 a.m.
8 Whitehall-Coplay Hunger Initiative Bingo 2-4 p.m.
9 Choir Practice (St. Peter) 6:15 p.m.
10 Pastoral Council Meeting (St. Peter) 6:30 p.m.
11 Holy Hour w/ Confessions (St. Peter) 6 p.m.
13 Stations of the Cross (St. Peter) 4:30 p.m.
13 Stations of the Cross (St. John) 7 p.m.
15 Children's Liturgy Mass (St. Peter) 10:30 Mass
15 Altar & Rosary Society Meeting 9 a.m.
16-17 Pierogie Making

16 Choir Practice (St. Peter) 6:15 p.m.
17 Confessions at St. John 8:30-930 a.m.
18 Holy Hour w/ Confessions (St. Peter) 6 p.m.
20 Stations of the Cross (St. Peter) 4:30 p.m.
20 Stations of the Cross (St. John) 7 p.m.
23 Choir Practice (St. Peter) 6:15 p.m.
23 Sight & Sound Bus trip Balance due
24 Confessions at St. Peter 8:30-930am
25 Holy Hour w/ Confessions (St. Peter) 6 p.m.
26 Penance Service at St. Peter 6:30 p.m.
27 Stations of the Cross (St. Peter) 4:30 p.m.
27 Stations of the Cross (St. John) 7 p.m.
29 Holy Name Society Meeting After 10:30 Mass
30 St. Peter Parish Plan Leadership Meeting 7 p.m.
30 Choir Practice (St. Peter) 6:15 p.m.

APRIL

2 Holy Hour w/ Confessions (St. Peter) 6 p.m.
2 Holy Thursday Mass at St. Peter 6:30 p.m.
2 Adoration & Night Prayer at St. Peter 10 p.m.
3 Stations of the Cross (St. Peter) 12 p.m.
3 Passion of Our Lord Mass at St. John 3 p.m.
3 Stations of the Cross (St. John) 7 p.m.
4 Blessing of Food at St. John 12 p.m.
4 Easter Vigil Mass at St. Peter 8 p.m.
8 Holy Hour w/ Confessions (St. Peter) 6 p.m.
12 First Holy Communion (St. John) 8 a.m.
12 First Holy Communion (St. Peter) 10:30 a.m.
12 Whitehall-Coplay Hunger Initiative Bingo 2-4 p.m.
13 Choir Practice (St. Peter) 6:15 p.m.

14 Flame of Love (Chapel) 6 p.m.
15 Holy Hour w/ Confessions (St. Peter) 6 p.m.
19 Altar & Rosary Society Meeting 9 a.m.
19 Children's Liturgy Mass (St. Peter) 10:30 Mass
19 Whitehall Lions Club Bingo 2-4 p.m.
20 Choir Practice (St. Peter) 6:15 p.m.
20 Pierogie Making
22 Holy Hour w/Confessions (St. Peter) 6 p.m.
26 Holy Name Society Meeting After 10:30 Mass
27 Choir Practice (St. Peter) 6:15 p.m.
28 Flame of Love (Chapel) 6 p.m.
29 Holy Hour w/ Confessions (St. Peter) 6 p.m.

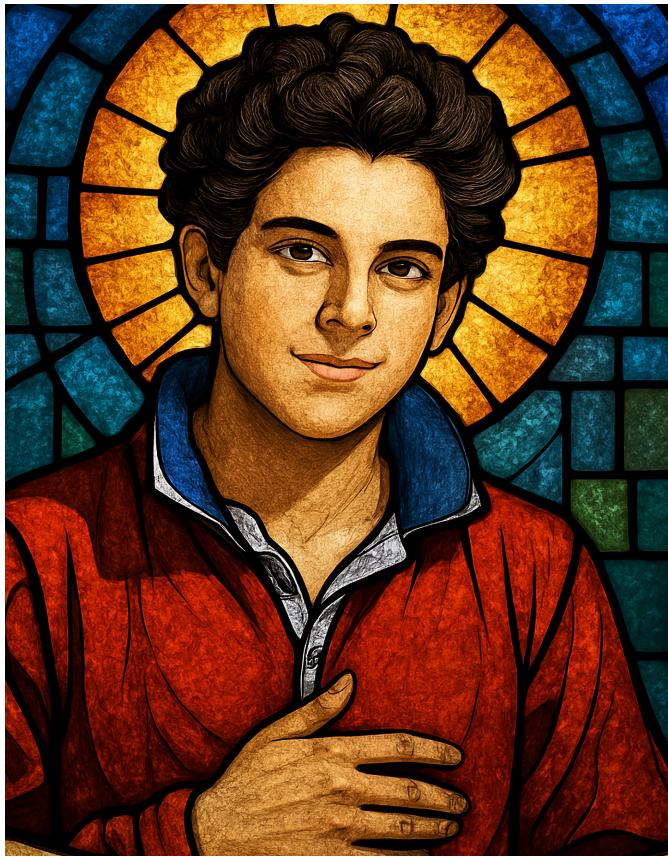
MAY

3 Fellowship Sunday (Msgr. James' Birthday Celebration) After 10:30 Mass

4 Choir Practice (St. Peter) 6:15 p.m.
6 Holy Hour w/ Confessions (St. Peter) 6 p.m.



Look for church dinner dates in the weekly bulletin.



Carlo Acutis Prep

The St. Carlo Acutis Regional Parish Religious Education Program (PREP), is dedicated to forming young disciples who are connected to Christ and wired for heaven. Rooted in the teachings of the Catholic Church and inspired by the life of Saint Carlo Acutis, the first millennial saint, we partner with families to nurture a love for the Eucharist, foster a deep and active faith, and guide children to encounter Jesus in everyday life.

Classes are conducted at the Blessed Carlo Acutis Catholic Education Center, 3008 Ruch St., Whitehall. The program runs from September to the end of April. These classes are necessary for eligibility to receive the Sacraments of Penance, Eucharist, and Confirmation.

Contact: Mrs. Downey 610-261-0144



FLAME OF LOVE

The Flame of Love is a weekly gathering where, through prayer and devotions, we recognize and rely on the intense desire of Mary to help us and intercede for us.

Tuesdays, 6 p.m. | Church Chapel
Contact: Lina 610-262-2417

In The Works... Capital Improvements

AIR CONDITIONING UPGRADE

The Parish Finance Committee recently completed a competitive bid process to upgrade the church air conditioning system. The existing cooling tower chiller was reaching the end of its useful life, and we had difficulty getting spare parts to keep it running.

The scope of work will include:

- Removal and replacement of the cooling tower chiller behind the church
- Replacing the chilled water pump and associated valves, pressure gauges, thermometer, piping systems and electrical power distribution system in the boiler room
- Installing a glycol feeding system
- Provide a variable frequency drive system for the air handlers that serve the church sanctuary
- Fixing leaking piping and insulation in the church social hall.

The variable frequency drive system will stop the screeching sound the air conditioning system makes when it calls for cooling inside the church.

We hired CHA Consulting, Inc. to help us develop the scope of work, evaluate the bids and provide technical support for installation and start-up of the equipment.

The competitive bid process took place Sept./Oct. 2025. We solicited 5 bidders and received three competitive bids. Evaluating the bids for technical and commercial compliance took place Oct./Nov. We secured approval from the Diocese of Allentown Capital Improvement Committee and the Diocese of Allentown Council of Priests Committee during Nov./Dec. to proceed with the project. After incorporating the comments from the Diocese, we contracted with ASL Mechanical, Inc, of Catasauqua, Pa., the low bidder, in December.

The new Cooling Tower and associated work will take place April/May of 2026.

Contact: George 610-533-4394

REMEMBERING THOSE WE LOST

May Perpetual Light shine upon them – may they rest in peace.

| | | | |
|-----------------|-------|---------------------|-------|
| Angeline Meyers | 11/25 | Dorothy Klucharich | 11/19 |
| Helen Pfeiffer | 11/19 | Margaret Shirmacher | 11/27 |

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

USHERS

- Volunteers needed for all Masses
- Contact: Al 484-515-6204

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY FACILITATORS*

- Volunteers needed to help plan lessons and assist at the service
- * NOTE: Please contact Lina 610-262-2417 and she will be happy to assist with the easy process of obtaining proper diocesan clearances.

Contact: Linda 610-349-9423

2026 INACTIVE MEMBER VISITATION ASSISTANCE

- Re-engage, re-energize inactive members
- Contact: Sue 610-730-4655

CHURCH DINNER ASSISTANCE

- Set up
- Food serving
- Clean up

Contact: Paula 610-657-8081

MASS GREETER INDIVIDUALS/FAMILIES

Contact: Sue 610-730-4655



Financial News

PARISH FUNDRAISING:*

\$28,912.95 \$30,451.65 \$31,341.35

October

November

December

*Includes collection, online giving, parish dinners and bingo kitchen revenue

\$14,383.00

Christmas 2025 Collection



ONLINE GIVING is a quick and simple way to donate to our parish. Please scan the QR code or call the office for more information.

Contact: George 610-533-4394

stpeterchurchcoplay.com

The Altar & Rosary Society

The Altar and Rosary society is an organization of parish women assisting in developing the spiritual growth of our parish devotion to the Blessed Mother, praying the rosary, providing flowers, the upkeep of the altar, and altar linens.

- Meetings: 9 a.m. third Sunday of each month (excluding January, July, August and December)
- Holy Rosary is said at 9:50 a.m. prior to the meetings
- Meetings are held to one hour.
- Fundraising:
 - Pierogi Making – typically the third Tuesday of the month, (NOTE: some assistance is needed the Monday prior).
 - Tuesday start is around 7 or 8 a.m. No Minimum time commitment required.

Contact: Beth Ann 610-462-9732

610-262-2417

Planting the Seeds

Over the past year, the DMI Committee has made great strides to reach its goals. Besides this newsletter, the Committee has been reaching out to invite new residents in Coplay and Whitehall Township to join our parish. With the support of the Holy Name Society, the Committee has sent out three postcards to new residents telling them about Saint Peter and Saint John the Baptist Parishes, inviting them to join us. This has borne fruit with new members.

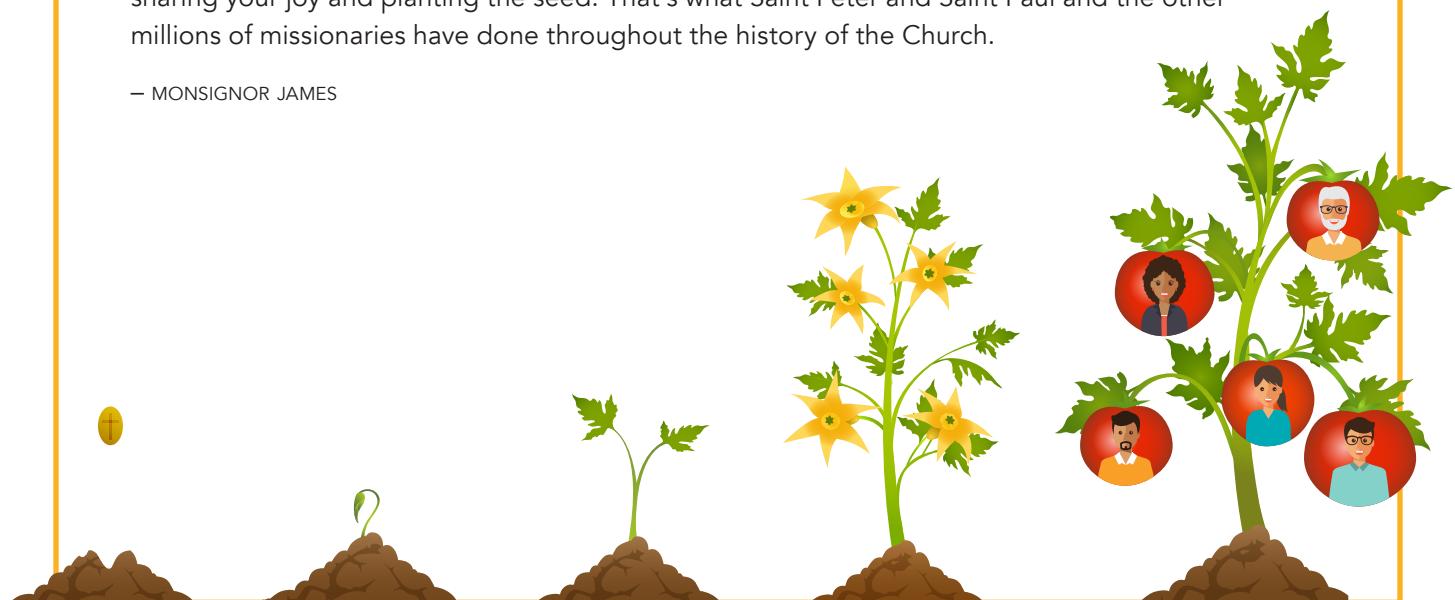
One of the goals for this year is to reach out to those members of the parish who no longer attend Mass or participate in the life of the parish. We need to enlist your help. While the Committee envisions one-on-one contact with inactive members, we need you to plant the seed.

HOW CAN YOU DO THIS?

- First, if you have a family member who no longer participates, please invite them to come back, even if it is only for Ash Wednesday or for Easter.
- Second, keep them informed of what is happening at St. Peter Parish, not just about fundraising but about the opportunities to pray together or to reach out to help those in need. Provide them with a bulletin.
- Third, if you have a neighbor or family member who can no longer attend Mass because of age or infirmity, please let us know. Sadly, many older parishioners become hospitalized, and we don't know about them because of HIPPA regulations, and when they return home can no longer attend Mass. We don't want them to think that we have forgotten about them or don't care.
- Fourth, share the joy that you experience when you attend Mass, receive the sacraments, or participate in some parish activity. Watching Mass on television pales in comparison to the great joy and grace we receive when we participate in the Mass and receive Our Lord in the Holy Eucharist.

Spring is soon upon us. When your mind turns to planning your vegetable and flower seeds, remember to plant a seed of faith in the fertile ground of a soul who is no longer attending Mass. You might be surprised at the beautiful flower of faith and the harvest of charity that your one little seed can produce in the soul of another. This is the secret of evangelization – you sharing your joy and planting the seed. That's what Saint Peter and Saint Paul and the other millions of missionaries have done throughout the history of the Church.

— MONSIGNOR JAMES





St. Peter Roman Catholic Church

4 S.5th St.
Coplay, PA 18037

St. Peter Church

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Lehigh Valley, PA
Permit No. 42



Parish Plan Goal Progress (Disciple Maker Index Survey)

1 INCREASE ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP by an additional:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 21 parishioners Apr.-Dec. 2025 | 30 parishioners Jan.-Dec. 2026 | 32 parishioners Jan.-Dec. 2027 |
|---|---|---|

*Factors include: New Registrants, Movers in/out, Deaths, Active/Inactive Members

2 ESTABLISH TWO RE-EVANGELIZATION INITIATIVES EACH YEAR Jan. 2025 through Dec. 2027 to draw inactive members to the active practice of their faith.

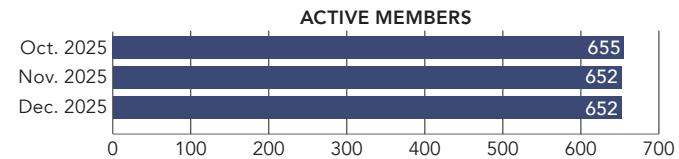
PROGRESS:

Oct.-Dec. 2025: **8** RCIA Candidates for 2026 Sacraments

IMPLEMENTATIONS:

- Monthly fellowship gathering after Sunday 10:30 Mass
- Monthly Children's Liturgy during Sunday 10:30 Mass
- Guest Book
- Suggestion Boxes
- Parish Plan Pew Card

PROGRESS:*



2025 Results - April through December 2025 – Active Members = 48*

*ParishSoft update may have impacted number calculation process

3 ESTABLISH TRANSPARENT COMMUNICATIONS on a quarterly basis, of all key church activities and initiatives by June 30, 2025

PROGRESS:

This is our 3rd publication of the quarterly newsletter. It is available on our website. Your feedback is welcomed. If there is anything you would like to see included in the newsletter, please let the Parish Plan Team know via the suggestion boxes or contact any of the contacts listed in this newsletter.

Contact: Sue 610-730-4655