

ST. PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH

700 ODDSTAD BLVD., PACIFICA, CA 94044



Contact Information

Parish Office	650-359-6313
Facsimile	650-359-2262
Elementary Religious Education	650-359-5000
7th & 8th Grade Confirmation	650-359-7178
E-mail	stpeterpacifica@comcast.net
Website	https://stpeterpacifica.org
Facebook	www.facebook.com/stpeterpacifica

Sacrament of Eucharist

Mass Schedule

Weekend Mass

Saturday: 4:30 P.M.

Sunday: 8:30 A.M. and 11:00 A.M.

Weekday Mass

Monday: 5:30 P.M.

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Fridays: 8:30 A.M.

Holy Day Mass

Vigil: 4:00 P.M. Day: 8:30 A.M. & 7:30 P.M.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:30 P.M. — 4:00 P.M., or by appointment.

Sacrament of Baptism

Contact Sister Hilda Sandoval, 2 months in advance.

Sacrament of Marriage

Contact the Parish Office, 6 months in advance.

January 4, 2026

The Epiphany of the Lord

All nations are invited to sing the Lord's praises for they have been called to hear the good news and worship the long-awaited Messiah and King with the gift of their lives.

ST. PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH

PARISH STAFF

REVEREND JEROME P. FOLEY, Pastor.

SISTER HILDA SANDOVAL, M.F.P., Pastoral Associate and Director of Faith Formation,
hilsandoval63@gmail.com.

MR. ANTONIO EIRAS, Director of Music Ministry, tonyeiras@mac.com.

MS. VERA GONZALEZ, Office Manager, stpeterpacifica@comcast.net.

Mr. Tim Durkin, OUTREACH TO THE ELDERLY AND HOMEBOUND

PARISH COUNCIL

Mrs. Kathleen Bissell, Chair

LITURGY COMMITTEE

Mrs. Eileen Barsi, Chair

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Dale Fajardo, Chair

MASS INTENTIONS

JANUARY 5 — 11, 2026

MASS READINGS

Mon	5	5:30 P.M.	† Kyle Jackson
Tue	6	8:30 A.M.	† Maria Ascura
Wed	7	4:00 P.M.	† The Gomes Family
Thu	8	7:30 P.M.	† The Branco Family
Fri	9	8:30 A.M.	† Valentina Letova
Sat	10	4:30 P.M.	† Lou Russo
Sun	11	8:30 A.M.	† Denise Madrigal-Martinez
		11:00 A.M.	People of St. Peter

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		<i>Saint John Neumann, Bishop</i>
Mon	5	Reading 1 <i>John</i> 3:22—4:6 Responsorial Psalm <i>Psalms</i> 2:7b-8,10-12a Gospel <i>Matthew</i> 4:12-17,23-25
		<i>Saint André Bessette, Religious</i>
Tue	6	Reading 1 <i>John</i> 4:7-10 Responsorial Psalm <i>Psalms</i> 72:1-4,7-8 Gospel <i>Mark</i> 6:34-44
		<i>Saint Raymond of Penyafort, Priest</i>
Wed	7	Reading 1 <i>John</i> 4:11-18 Responsorial Psalm <i>Psalms</i> 72:1-2,10,12-13 Gospel <i>Mark</i> 6:45-52
Thu	8	Reading 1 <i>John</i> 4:19—5:4 Responsorial Psalm <i>Psalms</i> 72:1-2,14,15bc,17 Gospel <i>Luke</i> 4:14-22a
Fri	9	Reading 1 <i>John</i> 5:5-13 Responsorial Psalm <i>Psalms</i> 147:12-15,19-20 Gospel <i>Luke</i> 5:12-16
Sat	10	Reading 1 <i>John</i> 5:14-21 Responsorial Psalm <i>Psalms</i> 149:1-6a,9b Gospel <i>John</i> 3:22-30
		<i>The Baptism of the Lord</i>
Sun	11	Reading I <i>Isaiah</i> 42:1-4,6-7 Responsorial Psalm <i>Psalms</i> 29:1-4,3,9-10 Reading II <i>Acts</i> 10:34-38 Gospel <i>Matthew</i> 3:13-17

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 4, 2026

As our celebration of Christmas continues, today we observe the great feast of The Epiphany of the Lord. The word “epiphany” comes from Greek and means manifestation or appearance. The stewardship way of life is one in which we live in grateful response to God’s countless manifestations in our lives.

And as Christian stewards, we are all called to manifest God’s love to each other in the sharing of our gifts. St. Paul describes this beautifully in our second reading in his letter to the Ephesians, saying, “You have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for your benefit.” We have all been given unique and wonderful gifts from our good and generous God. He wants us to share these gifts to benefit others and so to give Him glory.

Our Gospel passage, from Matthew, also has much to teach us about stewardship — through the actions of the magi. These three kings from ancient days display many aspects of stewardship spirituality which we can apply as modern-day stewards right now.

First, we observe that their overriding priority is on honoring the long-awaited King. The magi travel a great distance in search of him. Upon arrival in Jerusalem, they immediately begin to ask others where this King may be found, unashamedly declaring that they “have come to do him homage.” Is honor and worship of God our highest priority? Do we order our lives so that Sunday Mass is the most important act of the week for ourselves and our families no matter what else is going on?

Second, we observe that the magi, as good stewards, were watching for manifestations of God’s presence in their lives. “We have seen the star at its rising,” they say. Good stewards are keenly aware of the “star” of God’s presence and His gifts in their lives. It is this awareness that fills them with gratitude and the desire to both worship God and share His gifts with others.

Third, we observe in the magi that a stewardship journey is not without its difficulties, its twists and turns. Herod tried to take advantage of their goodness, feigning a desire to join them in worshipping the newborn Jesus, in order to hide his deadly intentions. Yet God protected and guided them along their way, and through their cooperation with God’s plan, He accomplished great things through them.

Fourth, we observe that the magi, upon seeing the manifestation of God’s presence in their lives, “were overjoyed.” Good stewards, who live with the awareness of God’s presence and gifts to them, simply can’t help but be filled with joy — not necessarily the fleeting and superficial kind of joy that the world promises if we just obtain enough wealth or power or comfort — but rather, the deep, unalterable joy that only God can give.

Finally, we observe that the magi were so filled with awe upon encountering the newborn Jesus, that they prostrated themselves before him. To prostrate oneself is to make a total offering of one-self in humility, recognizing the greatness of the One before them; it is an act of worship. And as a further act of worship, they “opened their treasures and offered him gifts.” This is precisely why good stewards generously share their material gifts — as a loving act of worship to an extravagantly loving God.

Let us rejoice in God’s manifestations in our lives and be watchful for the new ways He is calling us to share ourselves and our gifts in gratitude to our King in the year ahead.

THE CASE FOR SPIRITUAL CONFIDENCE

By Vinita Hampton Wright

October 5, 2024

One day I said to God, "Lord, I've been with you all these years. If I haven't been transformed by now, when honestly desiring and working toward that, then what's the point? This belief system is worthless to me."

I had a theological problem. Jesus stated in [John 14](#) that he would send the Advocate, who would teach believers. St. Paul said in [Romans 8](#): "If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also, through his Spirit that dwells in you."

I had been walking with Jesus for decades, which meant that the Holy Spirit had been dwelling in me for decades. So why was I such a failure at spiritual growth? Had the Holy Spirit failed to work in my life? If the Holy Spirit and I had failed for decades, then it would make sense to give up the faith.

Or — and it took me a while to ask this question — had the Holy Spirit been working in my life all along, but I expected the results to look different? Was I so conditioned by a middle-class, white, American religious culture that I could not see my own spiritual progress? By cultural standards, my spirituality was not successful enough, happy enough or trouble free enough. It was not productive enough or attractive enough. My Christian character was not extroverted enough.

Maybe the spiritual failure was this: My awareness of God's work had been prevented by specific expectations and a perverted concept of humility. Perhaps in my habitual inclination to go running back to a place of fear and condemnation (again, hear Paul say, "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus"), I had equated humility with self-loathing, albeit clothed in self-righteousness, and with a refusal to acknowledge divine work in my life. Wasn't it wrong to speak well of myself, arrogant to claim myself transformed, a person within God's approval?

I can identify only a couple of Christians over the years who were willing and happy to celebrate their ongoing process of spiritual vitality and maturing. More typical is for people to rejoice in something going well only to quickly interject that they had nothing to do with it because they were just sinful humans and relied on God to do everything.

If this was the way I saw myself — an empty human who must wait for God to send worthy contents by the day and hour — then it made sense that I not have confidence in myself as a holy work-in-progress.

Somehow, I had lost the concept that almighty God has, from the very beginning, invited humans to participate in divine deeds and Christlike character. How often I've quoted that we are "made in God's image"; yet how habitually I've acted like someone still in need of the divine stamp. From there it's a natural progression to spiritual passivity and helplessness.

Furthermore, it was lunacy to keep returning, in my perception, to a starting point of faith, as if every day I must begin all over again. We don't do this with school children, but keep building on what they have learned. We pass them into the next grade when it's time. As a writer, I need not review basic grammar when I sit down to write because decades of writing have made that unnecessary.

ST. PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH

Yet, in my spiritual life, I seemed to believe that every experience must start with I-am-a-sinner-and-can-go-no-further-until-I-confess, that God insists on taking me through the baby steps although I was well past babyhood.

I chose to stay in the faith, but that meant that I must reject the former way of thinking. I'm still learning how to acknowledge and enjoy the wisdom that has grown in my life, the healthy qualities that become more developed every year I live. When I face a problem or hardship, I am more likely to ask, "Okay, Spirit, what have I already learned that I need to remember now? How have you prepared me for this moment?" than to send a desperate "Help! Give me something!"

I'm getting better at noticing my own spiritual growth. I'm getting better at trusting my spiritual growth, also my spiritual intuition. At any moment, I have far more interior resources than I need — because God has made a home in me.

I call this spiritual confidence. I trust that God's dwelling in me makes a difference every moment of every day. I continue to learn how to discern the best thing to do and to be free and willing to do it — that's my participation. But my capacity to learn is created by the Spirit already active in mind, heart, body and soul. Spiritual confidence does not lead to arrogance — it leads to gratitude. I generally don't suffer an inflated view of my own importance because I don't have to try to be important. I am God's beloved, so why would I need to strive for importance or power or fame? In becoming more secure in that belovedness, I am simply grateful. Furthermore, I can look forward to this day, and the next. I don't have to fear failure or store up shame or generate false humility; my task is to pay attention and collaborate with the divine, who is faithfully at work in me.

Spiritual confidence does not lead to arrogance — it leads to gratitude.

I'll take this a step further. Given that Jesus' life, death and Resurrection accomplished what God intended, and given that God dwells among us and in us through the Holy Spirit, why not expect that things will go well? Unless I rebel and actively turn away from God's ways, I should look forward to a life that both God and I enjoy. I can assume that I am always moving toward God's eternal perfection and peace. A mistake here and there, a rough patch because the world has its problems, some lost time because I stayed in a mood for a while — none of that budes the compass needle off true north.

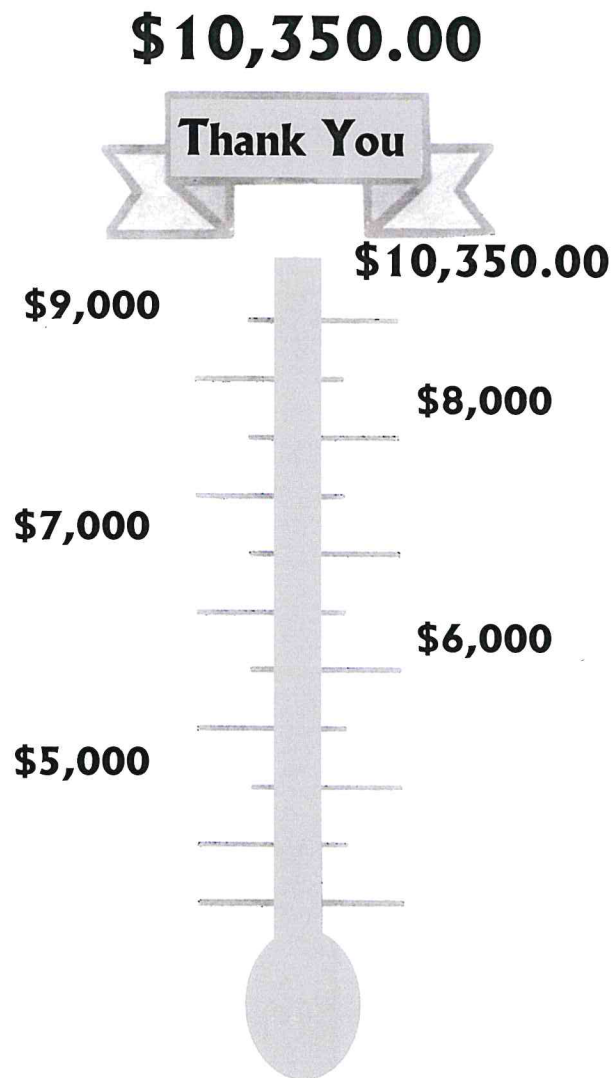
Spiritual confidence is my trust that God is relentlessly at work. More specifically, I can be spiritually confident that the Holy Spirit is always speaking to me, working within me, developing all manner of wonderful spiritual qualities and enabling me to see all things with the eye of my soul. Within myself to live and grow wisdom, truthfulness, discernment, goodness, gentleness, righteousness and hope because this is what happens to a person in whom God's Spirit dwells.

When I speak as if I'm just a sinner and a constant spiritual failure, I insult the Holy Spirit. I count Jesus' work as nothing. I deny a profound truth grounded in healthy theology. I refuse to embrace what God has given me: the Advocate who teaches me, helps me remember what I have learned so far and continually builds character that is becoming a person in Christ.

Perhaps the most important confession I can make is that I have often failed to acknowledge this interior re-creation. I still grieve my capacity for self-centeredness. But now I confess how much I have grieved the Holy Spirit in me by remaining blind to the daily grace of indwelling. How sorrowful life becomes when I am silent and joyless in the presence of this stunning reality.

ST. PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH

Double the Donation Fund Raising *Challenge*



A member of our parish recently made a generous donation of \$5,000.00 to our parish fund.

We challenged our members of the parish to help us double this donation.

The Parish Collected \$5,350.00

A total of \$10,350.00 for the 2025 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal.

As always, your support is greatly appreciated and needed.

Thank you!

**The 2025 AAA CHALLENGE
was a success thanks to all of YOU!**

ST. PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH

SUNDAY COLLECTION | DECEMBER 25, 28, 2025

Christmas \$22,898.77

Annual Appeal \$3,864.00

Offertory \$4,406.00

2025 ARCHDIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Assessment: \$62,962.00

Collected: \$42,629.00 Balance: \$20,333.00

The 2025 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal Status Balance Report will be received mid-February 2026.

PARISH SOFT ONLINE COLLECTION DECEMBER 20-26, 2025 | \$3,820.50

Offertory \$1,089.59

Christmas \$2,377.66

Maintenance Fund \$248.90

Church Roof Fund \$9.01

Special Donation \$95.34

To sign up for *St. Peter Parish Soft Online Giving*, please go to our website at <https://stpetrpacifica.org>.

At the Home Page go to Giving, go to Support Your Parish and click on the box that says Online Giving, click on Sign-In, click Create Account, and input your information.

Parish Soft Online Giving—877-316-0260. option 2.

PARISH CALENDAR JAN. 5 — 11, 2026

MON 5

3:00 P.M. Chaplet of Divine Mercy

5:30 P.M. Evening Mass

TUE 6

8:30 A.M. Daily Mass

3:00 P.M. Chaplet of Divine Mercy

3:45 P.M. Religious Education

3:45 P.M. Confirmation

7:00 P.M. OCIA

WED 7

8:30 A.M. Daily Mass

3:00 P.M. Chaplet of Divine Mercy

3:00 P.M. Religious Education

3:00 P.M. Confirmation

7:00 P.M. Confirmation

7:00 P.M. Choir Practice

THU 8

8:30 A.M. Daily Mass

3:00 P.M. Chaplet of Divine Mercy

FRI 9

8:30 A.M. Daily Mass

3:00 P.M. Chaplet of Divine Mercy

SAT 10

3:00 P.M. Chaplet of Divine Mercy

3:30 P.M. Sacrament of Reconciliation

4:30 P.M. Mass

SUN 11

8:30 A.M. Mass

11:00A.M. Mass

GIFT CARD YEAR-ROUND FUNDRAISER

The **St. Peter Gift Card Fundraiser** takes place year-round. The gift cards are very popular and are used with popular stores, including a Visa Gift Card that may be used at any retail store.

Gift Cards are sold after all weekend masses and at the Parish Office, Monday—Friday, 9 A.M.—5 P.M.

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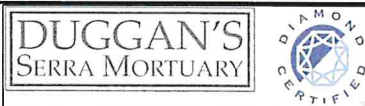
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