

**MARY,
THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
January 1, 2023**

*Please pray for the repose of the soul of
Richard Howard, may he rest in peace,
Amen!*

THANK YOU

The 2023 calendars have arrived at St. John's and Holy Family Churches, compliments of Courtney Funeral Home in Walton. When you see Cal, please remember to thank him.

FAITH FORMATION

The next Family Faith Formation class will be Sunday, January 8th at 8:30 am at St Peter's and 10:00 am at St John's. The topic: Eucharist, Real Presence

MARRIAGE MOMENTS by Susan Vogt

As we transition to a new year, many people make resolutions to start new positive habits. Maybe you're already satisfied with your marriage, but there's always room for deepening your love. Pick 1 new action – perhaps a daily honest compliment, a favor, praying together...OK, even if only once a week feels doable, DO IT.

**PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING SOULS ON THE
ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR PASSING**

Jan 2 - Joseph Kolanowski, Madeline Olson
Jan 3 - Susan Tassitano
Jan 4 - Deacon Thomas O'Connell
Jan 5 - Angela Ballato, Rose Ballato, Agnes Haye, John Harrigan
Jan 6 - Bernard McGill, Ruth Green
Jan 7 - Elizabeth Curran, Alice Reese, Alice Chase, Isabelle Cahill, Peter Matray
Jan 8 - James Cirillo, Nancy Condon, Michael C. Benson

ST PETERS RECTORY RENOVATIONS

The renovation of the floors and downstairs bathroom located in St. Peter's rectory has begun. The upstairs bathrooms are available. Thank you for your cooperation and patience.

COMMUNION TO THE SICK

Communion to the sick, hospital and shut-in visits. If you have a family member who needs Communion taken to them, please call St. Peter's parish office at 607-746-2503

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Agnes, Joan Nerney, Jerry Hanley, Robert Fasanaro, John Sterchak, Stephen Ball, Vernon Wildenstein, Greg Froehlich, Burneda Ford, Mary Jane Mehegen, Claire Hanley, Maryann Stanczyk, Thomas O'Leary, George Ostrowski, Roberta Lacey, Carl Carro,

ST. PETER'S OFFICE CLOSED

The parish office at St. Peter's is temporarily closed. For all bulletin announcements, to schedule a Mass, for prayer chain requests and any other questions or services kindly contact Teresa O'Leary, the administrative assistant at St. John the Baptist in Walton. Teresa can be reached at 607-865-7394 ext 1, or email at stjohnthebaptistwalton@gmail.com

GRIEF MINISTRY

Mission Statement: To provide a listening ear, compassion and possible recommendations and/or direction for a positive life journey moving forward with the help of our Faith! For more information contact Kathy Scribani at 607-376-1633

MONEY MATTERS

The general collection amounts for December 24 & 25 are: Holy Family, \$654.00, St. John's \$6,388.00 and St. Peter's Church, \$3,935.00. Thank you for your generosity.

**SECOND COLLECTION
NEXT WEEKEND**

Next weekend we will take up the parish collection to help defray the cost of utilities and heat. These costs have risen dramatically for each of the parishes. Please be as generous as your means will allow. Thank you.

USCCB WORD OF LIFE

"O Blessed Mother, you received the good news of the incarnation of Christ, your Son, with faith and trust. Grant your protection to all pregnant mothers facing difficulties. Guide us as we strive to make our parish communities places of welcome and assistance for mothers in need. Help us become instruments of God's love and compassion." USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "A Prayer for Pregnant Mothers

FIRST FRIDAY

You are invited to join us at Mass on First Friday, January 6. Mass at St. Peter's is at 8:00 am and at St. John's at 9:30 am.

A REQUEST FROM POPE FRANCIS

This week, during the general audience, Pope Francis confided that Pope emeritus Benedict XVI was seriously ill, and asked that we pray for him.

"I want to ask you all for a special prayer for Pope Emeritus Benedict who sustains the Church in his silence. He is very sick... We ask the Lord to console and sustain him in this witness of love for the Church to the very end."—Pope Francis

We entrust Benedict XVI to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, whom we ask to accompany us now and at the hour of our death.

Hail Mary, full of grace,

THIS WEEK'S DAILY SCRIPTURES

Monday: 1Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28
Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors of the Church
Tuesday: 1John 2:29-3:6; Jn 1:29-34
The Most Holy Name of Jesus
Wednesday 1John 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
Thursday: 1John 3:11-21; Jn 1:43-51
St. John Neumann, Bishop
Friday: 1Jm 5:5-13; Mk 1:7-11
St. Andre Bessette, Religious
Saturday: 1John 5:14-21; John 2:1-11
St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest
Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12
The Epiphany of the Lord

KNOWING YOUR FAITH

How can we sin against the respect due to others?
The fifth commandment forbids harming not only the body of others but also their souls by carelessly giving scandal - such as when by word, deed or omission we become an occasion of sin for others. Certainly, it would be sinful to lead others into a sinful situation, particularly the young, innocent, or uninitiated in the ways of evil. About the scandal of bad example, Jesus said, "If anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea. Woe to the world because of scandals... Woe to that man through whom they come" (Mt 18:6-7). By giving scandal people help the devil to destroy souls for whom Christ died. The scandal-giver also shares in the sins which grow out of the scandal. "He (the devil) was a murderer from the beginning...He is a liar and the father of lies" (Jn 8:44). Do not become a soul-destroyer by giving bad example and keep away from those who do this harm. "You have heard that your ancestors were warned: 'You shall not kill, and anyone who does so will be subject to judgment.' But I say this to you: Anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment" (Mt 5:21-22). And also, "Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him" (1 Jn 3:15). - Knowing Your Faith, All Basic Catholic Beliefs by Rev. Raymond B. Fullam, S.J.

