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..... 651-905-4313
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Parish Office: 651-452-4550
Office Hours: 8 am-4 pm Monday through Friday
Fax: 651-456-0646
E-mail: church@stpetersmendota.org

Parish School: Faithful Shepherd
651-406-4747
3355 Columbia Drive
Eagan, MN 55121



SUNDAY MASSES
Saturday 5 pm
Sunday 9 am and 11 am (all in the Main Church)

WEEKDAY MASSES
(all in the Historic Church)
9 am Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

HOLY DAYS As announced.
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Saturdays 4 to 4:45 pm or by appointment.
BAPTISMS, NEW PARISHIONERS, WEDDINGS
Call the parish office for more information.

PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS
Peggy Markee 952-322-6479
E-mail: pmarkee@frontier.com

November 18, 2012
Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

OUR VISION
We envision St. Peter's to be a dynamic and growing parish through our: expressions of faith and worship, service to one another and the broader community, welcoming new members, compassion and ministry in pastoral care, and stewardship of God's gifts and blessings.

OUR MISSION
The Church of St. Peter, the first Catholic parish in Minnesota, serves as a cornerstone of faith and heritage, where we welcome all to celebrate and live as the Body of Christ. We embrace our commitment to continue this founding legacy, care for future generations, and advance the Kingdom of God.

From the Pastor's Desk

Last week I began to describe Archbishop Nienstedt's letter to us about an important topic. "*I Believed Therefore I Spoke*": *A Pastoral Letter on the New Evangelization in the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis*. This letter sets out for us what the Archbishop believes we ought to do to play our role in the New Evangelization. The whole letter can be found at <http://thecatholicspirit.com/featured/pastoral-letter-i-believed-therefore-i-spoke/>.

I had gone through a portion of the letter ending with a statement that should come as no surprise: our relationship with God is personal, but it's not meant to be private. Thus we ought to be able to tell others about our experience of Christ's love—evangelization is no more complicated than this. Since we have been given the love of Christ, the greatest gift possible, we are called to share it with others. Each one of us is called, as were the early Christians, to take on the duty of proclaiming that the day of redemption has arrived. In other words, we are called to be evangelists.

St. Francis famously said, "Preach the Gospel. If necessary, use words." This captures the fact that other people ought to see the Gospel being proclaimed by the way a person lives. But this can't be used as an excuse not to speak about Christ. It would be easy not to share the Gospel because of the risk of rejection, but we can't let that risk stop us. People need to hear us describe our personal experience of faith.

If evangelization has always been so central to the Christian faith, then what is the "New Evangelization"? Archbishop Nienstedt says, startlingly, that it "is an evangelization directed at those who have grown up in what were once Christian countries but who have lost their fervor for the faith." He quotes Pope Paul VI, who in *Evangelii Nuntiandi* wrote: "Today there is a very large number of baptized people who for the most part have not formally renounced their Baptism but who are entirely indifferent to it and not living in accordance with it." So the New Evangelization aims to reach all who are indifferent to the faith they once professed, but it also aims to influence the culture "by means of education, pastoral care, and social action," the Archbishop Nienstedt tells us.

Many people close to us may be among those who "have drifted away from the Church and are still searching for meaning in their lives," not realizing that their longings can be fulfilled by a real relationship with Jesus Christ. Many people have stopped going to Mass and stopped seeking sacramental reconciliation with God, and it's up to us, their fellow Catholics, to help them "rediscover the depth and healing path of our Catholic faith." The situation is urgent: one study shows that only 23% of U.S. Catholics attend Mass each week, and that six out of ten who grow up

practicing their faith fall away as young adults. Many people treat religious belief as a private affair but readily accept beliefs that come from the secular culture. Our society sends a strong message that happiness can be found in material things. And we know that our society "idolizes personal freedom and self-gratification." These qualities of secular society make the Church and her teachings seem completely counter-cultural. If we become evangelists, though, we can influence our society.

The Archbishop was good enough to mention our parish in Part IV of his pastoral letter. As examples of the challenges faced in establishing the Church here in this Archdiocese, Archbishop Nienstedt describes the labors of both Fr. Galtier and Fr. Ravoux, the first and second pastors in this oldest parish in the state. He also mentions the heroic efforts of the Sisters of St. Joseph—especially the first group of four sisters. We know that now, the spread of the Gospel belongs to lay people, who can reach those who seldom come to church and need to see the Christian life lived out around them. Today, many people have departed for other Christian faiths, and there are recent immigrants who need to be reached by the loving witness of Catholics. With so many pressing needs when it comes to spreading the Gospel, we must not forget the many opportunities already in place: vibrant parishes, a striking amount of Eucharistic adoration, the work of both the National Evangelization Teams (NET Ministries) and St. Paul's Outreach (SPO), two seminaries, and the Harry J. Flynn Catechetical Institute. Archbishop Nienstedt wishes every parish "to examine itself and ask how it can become a welcoming and evangelizing parish where people can find ways to grow in their faith and learn to share it with others."

Blessed John Paul II called us all to the contemplation and prayer that must precede any apostolic activity, so Archbishop Nienstedt encourages us to have a habit of prayer, of worshiping God at Mass, and of using the sacrament of Penance. He also encourages us to develop a personal testimony of our faith that we can adapt to different circumstances, such as when we might have three minutes to tell our faith story or when we have ten minutes. Works of charity are important for our giving witness to the Gospel, and ecumenical prayer and discussions are also good for our spiritual growth.

The Archbishop closes his pastoral letter with what is most on my mind: "Following the constant encouragement of Pope Benedict XVI that we recognize 'our need to rediscover the journey of faith,' we have been preparing a multi-faceted program entitled 'Rediscover,' which emphasizes the works of evangelization and catechesis." Rediscover is intended to become a way of life for us, beginning this Advent and continuing into the future. This past Thursday here at St. Peter's, people from the entire Archdiocese came to the kickoff event for Rediscover. We will be hearing a great deal more about it soon.

~Fr. Joseph Gallatin

Religious Education/ Faith Formation (RE/FF)

Elementary and Middle School Religious Education Programs

Please remember there will be no elementary classes (grades 1-5) OR middle school classes (grades 6-8) on Wednesday, November 21, due to Thanksgiving weekend. Please contact Kathy Raible at 651-905-4311 if you have any questions.

Sunday, November 25, there will be no Sunday School or Children's Liturgy of the Word.

Christmas Pageant Registration:

Christmas pageant registrations are in the monthly newsletter email. Please remember to register your children. All children ages 4-12 are invited to participate in the pageant OR be in the pageant choir. Rehearsals are December 8, 15, and 22 at 9:30 a.m. for the pageant and/or choir participants. The pageant is on **December 23 after the 9:00 Mass**. If you did not receive a registration slip, please contact Kathy Raible at 651-905-4311. I hope to hear from you!

**First Rehearsal: Saturday, December 8
at 9:30 a.m.
in Heritage Center**

Youth Group Outing—ComedySportz

On Friday, November 30, all high school students are invited to attend our annual youth group outing to ComedySportz in Uptown. ComedySportz is an improv comedy played as a competitive sport, and is funny and family friendly. We'll meet at St. Peter's at 7 p.m. and return at approximately 10 p.m. Cost is \$12. To attend you must reserve your spot by Thursday, November 29. To sign up or to get more info, contact Ed Overell at 651-905-4312 or visit www.spyministry.org.



"Keep Christ in Christmas" Poster Contest

Does your child know why we celebrate Christmas? The Faithful Shepherd Knights of Columbus will be hosting a "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest starting this week. Please submit all entries by Friday afternoon, December 14. **Contest winners** and **all contestants** will receive a gift on December 15 and 16 in Heritage Center. To enter, please see the contest rules posted in the coat room or the classroom hallway on the lower level.

Pastoral Ministry

Giving Tree



Our annual Giving Tree is now in the Gathering Space with its doll "decorations." Each doll represents a specific gift request from one of our families in need. Please take one or more dolls, purchase the gift, wrap it and return to the tree with the doll taped to the package. Please return all your gifts by Sunday, December 9, by the beginning of the 11:00 a.m. Mass.

We can always use help sorting and delivering the gifts. The more the merrier! There is something for adults and young adults to do, and the rewards are huge! Please consider spreading the Christmas spirit by helping with this very important project. Call Carol at 651-453-1345 for more information.

Catholic Coalition for Separated and Divorced

Monday, November 26

"Divorce and the Catholic Church"

Father Tim Wozniak

7 p.m.

St. Thomas Becket

4455 South Robert Trail, Eagan



Contact Karen Maza at 651-683-9808 for more information.

Thanksgiving Day Mass



Thanksgiving Day Mass will be celebrated at St. Peter's on **Thursday, November 22**, 9 a.m. in the Main Church.

We will be collecting donations of nonperishable food for Neighbors, Inc. Please consider bringing items with you when you come to Mass. Thank you!

Parish office hours

Please note the parish office will be **closed** on **Thursday, November 22**, and **Friday, November 23**, in observance of the holiday.

Sincere Sympathy

St. Peter's community extends sincere sympathy to the family and friends of **Emily Renfrew**. We pray through faith that she is enjoying everlasting life.



St. Peter's Community News

Annual Giving

Weekly Contribution Summary

Budget for the period 11/5/12-11/11/12	\$12,765
Actual for the period 11/5/12-11/11/12	\$12,605
Year-to-Date Budget.....	\$323,805
Year-to-Date Actual.....	\$281,493

Liturgical Ministry Postcards

A postcard has been sent out to all liturgical ministers requesting availability dates and preferred ministries. Please return to the parish office, email or call in your requests by Sunday, November 25. If you have not received a postcard but would like to be scheduled, please contact Sara Rogers at 651-905-4308 or srogers@stpetersmendota.org.

The January 2 through April 30 schedules will be available and distributed in mid December. If you have not yet indicated your availability for these months, or no longer are interested in serving in your ministry, please contact Sara Rogers at the phone number or email address above and indicate the dates you are **NOT** available during this time period. **The deadline for indicating unavailable dates is Sunday, November 25.** Thank you!

Boy Scout Wreath Sale

St. Peter's-sponsored Boy Scout troop will be selling Christmas wreaths after the 9 and 11 a.m. Masses on Sunday, November 23 and 30. Thank you for your support!



Eucharistic Adoration

Parishioners and friends are welcome for private prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in the Historic Church on **Tuesdays after the 9 a.m. Mass**

Matthew 26:40-41—Jesus said to Peter: **“Could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray.”**

For more information please contact Jane Vasiliou at 651-454-5292 or jvasiliou@comcast.net.



St. Peter's Reaches Out

Campaign for Human Development Collection this Weekend

“The Church’s love for the poor . . . is a part of her constant tradition” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 2444). The Collection for



the Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) provides funding for groups that create lasting change and uplift the poor in the United States. In the last five years, over 36% of CCHD’s grants have gone toward advancing education, supporting economic development, and improving housing in low-income neighborhoods. You can help participate in this tradition today. **Fight poverty in America. Defend human dignity. Give to the CCHD Collection.**

Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women Advent Event at St. Peter's

The Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (ACCW) will be hosting “Greet Advent as Women of Hope: A Morning of Prayer, Praise Presentation” at St. Peter’s on Saturday, December 1. Our speaker for the event is Minnesota-based Nancy Jo Sullivan, a nationally-known speaker and author of Small Mercies, who will highlight some of the characteristics which Mary, Mother of Jesus, and her cousin Elizabeth shared as women of hope. The event includes morning refreshments, prayer, presentation, and Mass with Archbishop Niensted. Vendors will be on hand to help you with your Christmas shopping. Registration is \$15 by Friday, November 23, and \$20 thereafter. Information and online applications can be found at www.accwarchspm.org/forms/greet-advent-women-hope or by contacting the ACCW office at 651-291-4545.

Partners in Praise Girls Choir Concert

St. Peter's Historic Church.
 Saturday, December 1, 7 p.m.
 There will be no charge for this concert.
 A free will offering will be taken.

The Next Week

Monday, November 19

- 9 am **Mass, Historic Church** (8:40 rosary)
- 6 pm St. Paul Civic Symphony Practice,
Heritage Center

Tuesday, November 20

- 9 am **Mass, Historic Church** (8:40 rosary)
Adoration Before Blessed Sacrament
After the 9 am Mass Until 5 pm
- 9:45 am Women's Bible Study, Ravoux Room
- 1 pm Faithfully Fit forever, Ravoux Room
- 6:30 pm Parish Pastoral Council Meeting,
Conference Room I

Wednesday, November 21

- 9 am **Mass, Historic Church** (8:40 rosary)
- 9:45 am Divine Mercy Cenacle, Conference Room I
- 1 pm A Community Caring for Life Meeting,
Conference Room I
- 7 pm Choir Rehearsal, Main Church

Thursday, November 22

Thanksgiving Day—Parish Office Closed

- 9 am **Mass, Main Church** (8:40 rosary)
- 7 pm Alcoholics Anonymous, Room 5
- 7 pm Al-Anon Meeting, Room 7
- 7 pm Teen Al-Anon Meeting, Room 6

Friday, November 23

Parish Office Closed

- 9 am **Mass, Historic Church** (8:40 rosary)

Saturday, November 24

- 9 and 10:30 am
Alcoholics Anonymous, Rooms 2, 4
- 4 pm **Reconciliation, Main Church**
- 4:30 pm Choir Rehearsal
- 5 pm **Mass, Main Church**

Sunday, November 25—Christ the King

- 8:30 & 10:30 am
Choir Rehearsal, Main Church
- 9 & 11 am **Mass, Main Church**
- After Masses:
Boy Scout Wreath Sale
- 12:30 pm Baptism, Main Church

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 Alice Sheeler, Secretary..... 651-457-8119
 Joanne Rocco Carter, Vice Chair..... 651-454-7853
 David Doty..... 651-330-2129
 Mary Pat Ferraro..... 651-454-1091
 Kelly Garrett 651-340-8963
 Ann Hoey..... 651-994-7870
 Yvonne Houle-Gillard 651-452-5316
 Sarah Larsen 612-384-1474

Parish Pastoral Council Voice Mailbox:
 651-905-4309

Parish Pastoral Council Email:
ParishPastoralCouncil@stpetersmendota.org

Trustees:

Jim Oricchio..... 651-452-3587
 Helen Wilkie..... 651-365-1334

Readings for the Week of November 18

Sunday: Dn 12:1-3/Heb 10:11-14, 18/Mk 13:24-32
Monday: Rv 1:1-4; 2:1-5/Lk 18:35-43
Tuesday: Rv 3:1-6, 14-22/Lk 19:1-10
Wednesday: Rv 4:1-11/Lk 19:11-28
Thursday: Rv 5:1-10/Lk 19:41-44
Friday: Rv 10:8-11/Lk 19:45-48
Saturday: Rv 11:4-12/Lk 20:27-40
Next Sunday: Dn 7:13-14/Rv 1:5-8/Jn 18:33b-37

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Mass Intentions

The following are the intentions remembered by the priest at Mass:

Monday, November 19 - †Jill Taylor

Tuesday, November 20 - †John Holst

Wednesday, November 21 - †William Kramer

Thursday, November 22 - †Mel DeBlauw

Friday, November 23 - †Bob O'Neill

Saturday, November 24 - Mass For the People

Sunday, November 25 - 9 a.m. - †Jeffrey Weiss

11 a.m. - †John Deshler

Immaculate Conception

Saturday, December 8, is the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary and a holy day of obligation. Because it is the national feast day of the United States, December 8—like December 25—is a holy day of obligation every year.



Immaculate Conception

The Church teaches, "...the faithful are obliged to participate in the Eucharist on days of obligation, unless excused for a serious reason (for example, illness, the care of infants) or dispensed by their own pastor. Those who deliberately fail in this obligation commit a grave sin" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church* 2181).

The timing of the holy day could add some complications to your decision about when to come to Mass, as it falls on a Saturday. We will have two options for Mass on this feast of Our Lady: 5:00 p.m. on the eve of the holy day (**Friday, December 7**) and 9:00 a.m. on the holy day itself (**Saturday, December 8**). Both Masses will be celebrated in the Main Church.

The normal 5:00 Mass on the afternoon of Saturday, December 8 will be the Mass of the Second Sunday of Advent.

When will Mass be on the upcoming Holy Days?

For **Christmas**, Mass on the eve of the holy day (Monday, December 24) will be at 4:00 p.m. and at 10:00 p.m. Mass on the holy day itself (Tuesday, December 25) will be at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

For **Mary, Mother of God**, Mass on the eve of the holy day (Monday, December 31, 2012) will be at 4:00 p.m. Mass on the holy day itself (Tuesday, January 1, 2013) will be at 10 a.m.

All Masses will be celebrated in the Main Church.

Bounty Fund

Because of St. Peter's Bounty Fund, many people have benefited from your anonymous financial gifts. The Bounty Fund gives us the opportunity to direct anonymous financial gifts to those in need in our parish or surrounding community. If you wish to contribute to the Bounty Fund, please make a check to St. Peter's and direct it to my attention. God bless you for your generosity and the sharing of your bounty with our sisters and brothers.

Fr. Gallatin

Are You Hurting in Your Marriage

Do you have trouble communicating, frequent arguments or fights, seeing distance between you? Retrouvaille is a relationship-building ministry sponsored by the Catholic Church. Retrouvaille is a three-month program consisting of a weekend and 6 four hour follow-up presentations. The Twin Cities Retrouvaille has weekends scheduled several times a year. Please call (651) 464-5855, or visit www.helpourmarriage.com.

Walk to End Hunger

Give back before giving thanks! Join the Walk to End Hunger on Thanksgiving morning from 7 to 10 a.m. at the Mall of America. Visit www.walktoendhunger.org to start a team, walk, donate, or volunteer. Become a hunger-fighter and together we can end hunger in the Twin Cities.

Neighbors, Inc. is participating in the walk. If those participating designate Neighbors as the recipient of the pledges, they receive 100% of those funds.

The Year of Faith has begun! (October 2012-November 2013)

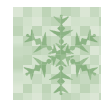
This year commemorates the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council. Tune into our weekly, interactive discussions to discover little-known highlights from the Council as well as helpful ideas to deepen your awareness and renewal in faith.

Go to www.relevantradio.com, keyword "Faith" for more information.
Saint Paul-Minneapolis **1330AM**

"The door of faith is always open...rediscover the joy of believing!" Pope Benedict XVI

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FORWARD IN FAITH
 2013-2015 DEBT REDUCTION CAMPAIGN

CHURCH OF ST. PETER

The campaign invites a new 36-month financial commitment from all registered parishioners. The commitment should be above what you contribute each week or month to support the annual operation of our parish and the tuition/fees for our education programs.

Prioritized Objectives

The following objectives are prioritized and will be completed based on the ability to raise the needed funding.

Priority 1	Fund mortgage principal and interest payments for the next 36 months –	\$1,321,000
Priority 2	Apply additional funds directly to the mortgage principal –	\$200,000
Priority 3	Repay archdiocesan assessments –	\$175,500
Priority 4	Complete the proposed facility repairs and improvements –	\$339,125
	Contingency for <u>possible</u> cost increase (5% of total projects)	\$17,000
	Communications/fundraising expense/fees	\$45,000
	Contingency for <u>possible</u> loss on collected pledge funds (5% of total proposed goal)	<u>\$105,000</u>
	TOTAL 36-MONTH CAMPAIGN GOAL	\$2,202,625

If we can secure \$2,202,625 in commitments over the next three years, we will be able to accelerate payment of the mortgage principal. By paying off our loan principal at a faster pace we can save significant interest expense, and focus our energies on providing resources for parish ministry and NOT servicing our mortgage.

Campaign Cabinet

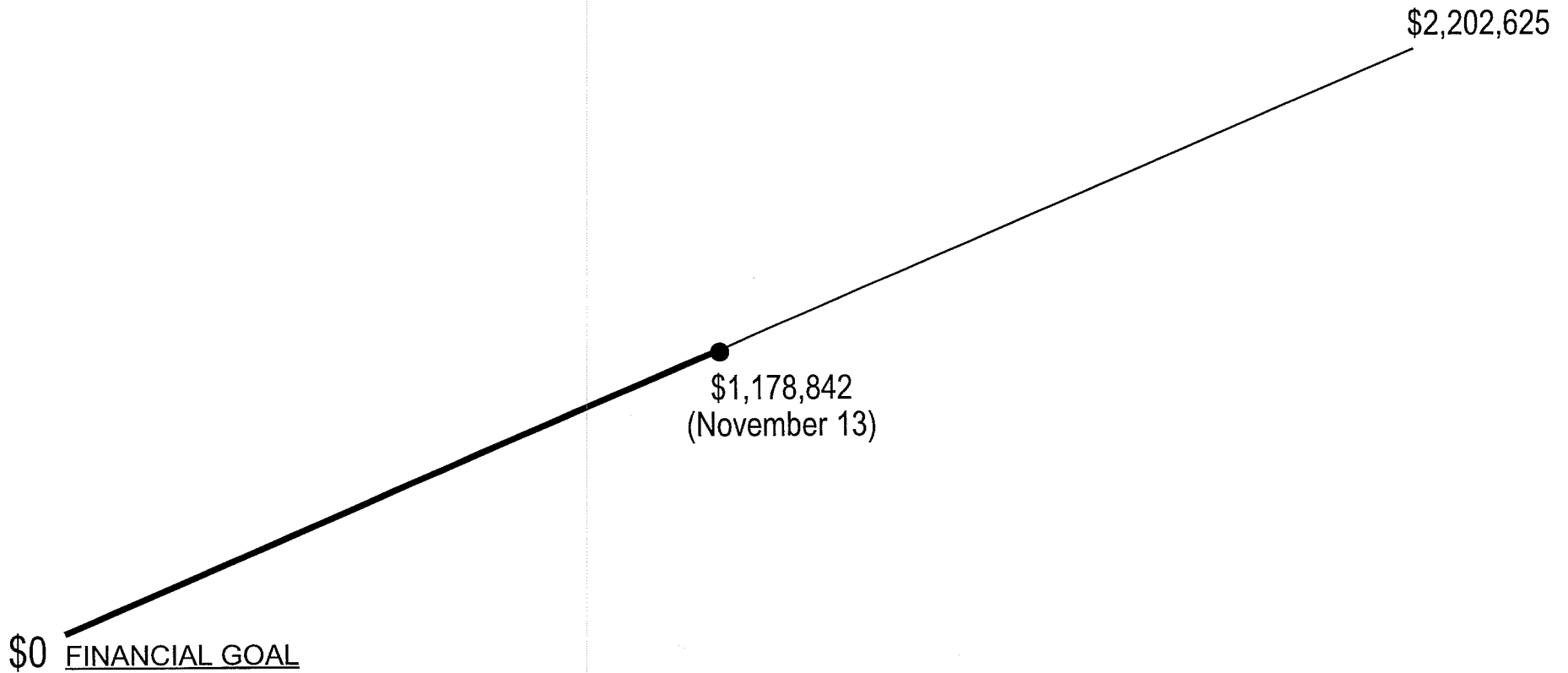
If you have questions about our debt reduction campaign, please feel free to contact the members noted below

- Jim Fink (651) 454-0233
- Fr. Joseph Gallatin (651) 905-4305
- Mary and Dan Garry (651) 454-3261
- Mary Jubenville (651) 905-4307
- Tom O’Neill (651) 454-5128
- Jim Oricchio (651) 452-5295
- Mary Partington (651) 457-5164
- Pat Silgen (651) 681-7962
- Justin Streiff (314) 783-6261
- Helen Wilkie (651) 260-2420

Prayer For Wisdom and Guidance

Gracious God, You have given us the gift of faith through Your Son. You call us to build up the Church of St. Peter through faithful stewardship and discipleship. We pray for guidance and wisdom as we face the challenges and opportunities before us. Help us discern the needs of our community, both the young and the old; help us listen to one another and to You. May we respond to Your call with courage and generosity, as we build on the foundation that has been given to us. Guide us that all of our efforts may give You glory and praise and further Your reign in our midst. St. Peter the Apostle and our Patron, Pray for us! Amen.

YOUR DECISION BRINGS US ONE STEP CLOSER TO OUR AMBITIOUS GOAL.



FORWARD IN FAITH
2013-2015 DEBT REDUCTION CAMPAIGN

CHURCH OF ST. PETER

REFLECT ON YESTERDAY – PRAY FOR TOMORROW – COMMIT TODAY