



# St. Peter's Post

## St. Peter the Apostle Catholic School



December 2025

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***“There are two births of Christ, one unto the world in Bethlehem; the other in the soul, when it is spiritually reborn...This is the second Bethlehem, or the personal relationship of the individual heart to the Lord Christ.”***

— Ven. Fulton Sheen

Dear Families and Friends of St. Peter the Apostle Catholic School,

Throughout the month of November, we focused on the virtue of gratitude. There are countless things to be grateful for, both big and small, from dear friends and family to the simple joys of chocolate, hot water, books, and recess. Gratitude deepens our appreciation for our many blessings and our connection with the Lord, the giver of all good gifts. There is something beautifully fitting about our national celebration of Thanksgiving occurring just before the start of Advent. This spirit of gratitude serves as a strong foundation for our Advent journey, a time to prepare our hearts to most fully receive, with gratitude, love, and joy, the greatest gift of all – God Himself.

The excitement for Christmas is so great, and because of this, the Church reminds us that Advent is a time of waiting – waiting for the celebration of our Lord's first coming in Bethlehem, waiting for his final coming at the end of time, and waiting for him to come more fully into our own hearts. The more fully we wait, the more fully we will be able to enter the joy of Christmastime! The Mass readings throughout the coming weeks that feature the Israelites' longing for the Messiah, John the Baptist's witness, and Joseph's dream. Nativity scenes are set up with an empty manger to remind us to prepare our heart as a fitting home for the Savior. The Advent wreath, with its circular shape representing God's unending love for us, evergreen branches symbolizing the gift of everlasting life, and candles

*Principal, continued on page 2*

Principal, continued from page 1

representing Christ as the light of the world, decorates our church, classrooms, and homes. At school, each classroom has its own Advent wreath which teachers integrate into daily prayer. Classes are also undertaking service projects to answer Christ's call to recognize him in the poor and suffering.

The following events will also help us enter more fully into this season:

- Our Lady of Guadeloupe Parish Celebration – December 12. View flyer with schedule of events at [stpetersboerne.com/announcements](http://stpetersboerne.com/announcements).
- Christmas Caroling Service Opportunity – December 14 @ 4:00 pm, Avir at Boerne (1102 River Rd. Boerne, TX 78006). RSVP at <https://tinyurl.com/caroling-2025>.
- Nativity Play (performed by Theater Club) – Friday, December 19 at 1:30 pm in the Cana Ballroom.

Let us pray that, through our preparations, both those we undertake as a school community and those we live individually, Christmas Day will “find us more and more like him, who at this time became a little child for our sake, more simple-minded, more humble, more holy, more affectionate, more resigned, more happy, more full of God” (St. John Henry Newman, “The Mystery of Godliness”)!



Joyfully in Christ,  
**Ms. Brintnall**, Principal  
St. Peter the Apostle Catholic School  
[mbrintnall@stpetersboerneschool.org](mailto:mbrintnall@stpetersboerneschool.org)



## PARENT INFORMATION

- **Uniform Purchases**  
Purchase in-store or online at [www.flynnohara.com](http://www.flynnohara.com).
- **Follow us on social media!**  
Follow **St. Peter the Apostle Catholic School** on Facebook at [facebook.com/61574173240445](https://facebook.com/61574173240445) and **stpaboerneschool** on Instagram at [instagram.com/stpaboerneschool](https://instagram.com/stpaboerneschool).
- **Parent Information Webpage**  
View our parent information webpage at [stpetersboerneschool.org/parent-information](http://stpetersboerneschool.org/parent-information) for updated information and current newsletters.
- **Scouts BSA Programs**  
Did you know there are several Scouts troops that meet on St. Peter's campuses? If you are interested in joining a Scouts program, please contact Regis Mackrell at [rmackrell@gmail.com](mailto:rmackrell@gmail.com).

## Christmas Concert



# December Virtue of the Month: Respect\*

Also known as: Reverence

Definition of Respect: Speaking and acting according to our own and others' rights, status, and circumstances; expressing regard or deference to another person.

Prayer for Respect:

Dear Jesus, help me to show reverence to people who are in authority over me as I would to You. And help me give all persons the honor they deserve as Your unique creations.

Respect Looks Like:

- Only saying nice things about your siblings and classmates
- Listening attentively to others
- Not laughing at others
- Listening the first time and discontinuing an action when someone asks you to stop
- Bowing before the altar/genuflecting before the tabernacle

Respect Sounds Like:

- Only saying things that are kind, true, and helpful
- *He is really good at...*
- *It is not nice to laugh at people.*
- *I will stop doing that.*
- Silence

\*Material that follows taken from Education in Virtue curriculum from OpenLight Media.

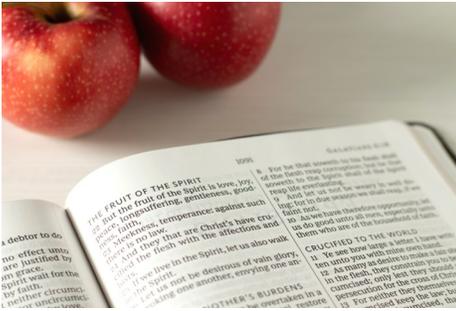
## December Family Faith Challenge: "O Come Let Us Adore Him!" – Adoration

There is something profoundly joyful about hearing the opening chords to "O Come, All Ye Faithful!" at Christmas Mass. When hearing these lyrics, many of us picture the shepherds, wise men, even the stable animals coming to adore Christ in the manger that first Christmas, and perhaps we can even imagine ourselves being present there in their midst. However, with our Lord really and truly present among us in the Eucharist, we are blessed with the opportunity to truly adore him now. As we prepare our hearts to welcome the Christ child in a renewed way this Christmas, our Family Faith Challenge will be to come adore him in the Blessed Sacrament throughout the Advent season. We invite you to sign up for a 15-minute time slot on Wednesdays or Fridays after school in the Day Chapel (sign up at [signupgenius.com/go/10C0E48A8A928AAFE3-58432052-adoration](https://signupgenius.com/go/10C0E48A8A928AAFE3-58432052-adoration)), drop by the tabernacle for 5 minutes after Sunday Mass each week, or commit to incorporating adoration with your family in a new way during the Advent season. Give him whatever time you are able, no matter how small, and see what wonders he works through it!

*"Out of the darkness of my life, so much frustrated, I put before you the one great thing to love on earth: the Blessed Sacrament... There you will find romance, glory, honour, fidelity, and the true way of all your loves on earth..." -J.R.R. Tolkien*

No matter how your family takes on this challenge, we would love to see photos and feature you in a future newsletter! Pictures can be sent to [bulletin@stpetersboerne.com](mailto:bulletin@stpetersboerne.com)!

# November Virtue of the Month Awards: Gratitude



Congratulations to the following students who exemplified the virtue of gratitude throughout the month of November! They were honored during our morning assembly prior to Mass on Wednesday, December 3.

Kindergarten: Cody Bounds	3rd Grade: Preston Newell
1st Grade: Liv Cansler	4th Grade: Francisco Santillan
2nd Grade: Cash Chelkowski	5th/6th Grade: James Winters

## Important Upcoming Events

- Friday, Dec 12**.....Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish Celebration events (details to come)
- Sunday, Dec 14**.....Family Christmas Caroling at 4:00 pm, Avir at Boerne (see Principal's letter)
- Monday, Dec 15** .....Parent Service Organization Open Meeting at 7:00 pm in FLC 151/153
- Wednesday, Dec 17** ....School Board Meeting at 7:00 pm in FLC 151/153
- Friday, Dec 19**.....Nativity Play (performed by Theater Club) at 1:30 pm in Cana Ballroom
- Friday, Dec 19**.....Gingerbread Bash (see parish page)
- Jan 25 – 31, 2026**.....Catholic Schools Week
- Monday, Jan 26**.....Classical Education Night. RSVP and more information at <https://forms.gle/tbGQahiVG3ktehW89>.

**Parent Service Organization:** The next open Parent Service Organization meeting will be Monday, December 15 at 7:00pm in Rm. 151/153. Come learn about what the PSO has accomplished so far this year and how you can become a part of the exciting new traditions being planned for Spring 2026!

**School Board:** With the permission of Archbishop Gustavo, St. Peter the Apostle Catholic School is piloting a new school governance model in the Archdiocese of San Antonio called a Board of Shared Responsibility. On November 19, the board convened for its first official meeting together. From this point forward, meetings will take place approximately monthly through May, with the next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, December 17 at 7:00pm in Rm. 151/153. Our School Board members are as follows:

**Ex Officio Members:** Fr. Norman A. Ermis, Pastor; Melanie Brintnall, Principal; Lysa Termeer, PSO President

**Voting Members:** Thomas Mengler, President; Thomas Price, Vice President; Clarence Kahlig, Secretary; Mark Batis; Dusty Clayton; Mynette Drawe; Bob Elizondo; Deacon Del Eulberg; David Hoyer; Gloria Palomo; Julie Seguin; Melissa Siller

# The Gift of Reading -Book Drive



St. Peter  
*the* Apostle  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

## Two Ways to Support Our New School Library

### 1. Gift a Book

Scan the QR code to open the  
**Book Checklist.**

Choose a title to *gift*,  
purchase it (hardcover  
preferred), and drop it off at  
the school office.

### 2. Follett Library Fund

Scan the QR code to donate.  
Follett will add **10%** to all  
funds for library-ready books.

Drop-off Location: Collection  
box @ School Office  
December 9-19, 2025



Book Checklist



Library Fund





## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

### Our Lady of Guadalupe (OLG)

Friday, December 12, 2025  
Scan QR code to see full flyer



### Parish Las Posadas & Gathering

Monday, December 15, 2025  
7:30 pm in Main Church  
Gathering follows in Cana

### Community Las Posadas

Begin Monday, December 15, 2025 and continue through Wednesday, December 24, 2025  
7:00 pm at different location each day  
See schedule at [stpetersboerne.com/announcements](http://stpetersboerne.com/announcements) and click on "Community Las Posadas" or scan QR code:



### Advent Anointing of the Sick

Thursday, December 18, 2025  
7:00 pm in Main Church

### Gingerbread Bash

Friday, December 19, 2025  
6:00 pm at Upon this Rock Campus  
Go to [stpetersboerne.com/gingerbread-bash](http://stpetersboerne.com/gingerbread-bash) to RSVP and for more information.

### Christmas

OFFICE & CAMPUS CLOSED  
Christmas Eve (Dec 24)  
Christmas (Dec 25)  
Day after Christmas (Dec 26)

# Parish News



[stpetersboerne.com](http://stpetersboerne.com) | (830) 816-2233

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### — Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebrations —

**December 12, 2025**

Las Mañanitas & Gathering  
6:15 am in Main Church, gathering follows in Cana

OLG Mass  
6:30 pm in Main Church, followed by OLG Dinner in Cana

### — Parish Las Posadas —

**December 15, 2025, 7:15 pm**  
in St. Peter's Main Church (immediately after 6:30 pm Mass)  
Gathering follows in Cana Ballroom

All are invited to be participate in a re-enactment of Mary & Joseph trying to find lodging at numerous inns. A gathering for fellowship, pan dulce (sweet bread) and Mexican hot cocoa immediately follows. Scan QR code on left for flyer.

### — Gingerbread Bash —

**December 19, 2025, 6:00 pm**  
at Upon this Rock Campus

Join us for a family fun Christmas party! Dinner, family gingerbread nativity, games, songs and more! It's going to be a BASH! Go to [stpetersboerne.com/gingerbread-bash](http://stpetersboerne.com/gingerbread-bash) to RSVP.

### — Children's Mass —

**3rd Sunday of the month at 9:00 am Mass**

We need readers, ushers and choir members. For more information, or if your child would like to participate, please contact:

Laura Balderrama-Contreras at [laura@stpetersboerne.com](mailto:laura@stpetersboerne.com)

## O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Hymnary.org

1 O come, O come, Immanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel  
shall come to you, O Israel.

2 O come, O Wisdom from on high,  
who ordered all things mightily;  
to us the path of knowledge show  
and teach us in its ways to go. Refrain

3 O come, O come, great Lord of might,  
who to your tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times did give the law  
in cloud and majesty and awe. Refrain

4 O come, O Branch of Jesse's stem,  
unto your own and rescue them!  
From depths of hell your people save,  
and give them victory o'er the grave. Refrain

5 O come, O Key of David, come  
and open wide our heavenly home.  
Make safe for us the heavenward road  
and bar the way to death's abode. Refrain

6 O come, O Bright and Morning Star,  
and bring us comfort from afar!  
Dispel the shadows of the night  
and turn our darkness into light. Refrain

7 O come, O King of nations, bind  
in one the hearts of all mankind.  
Bid all our sad divisions cease  
and be yourself our King of Peace. Refrain

Psalter Hymnal (Gray)



### Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe December 12

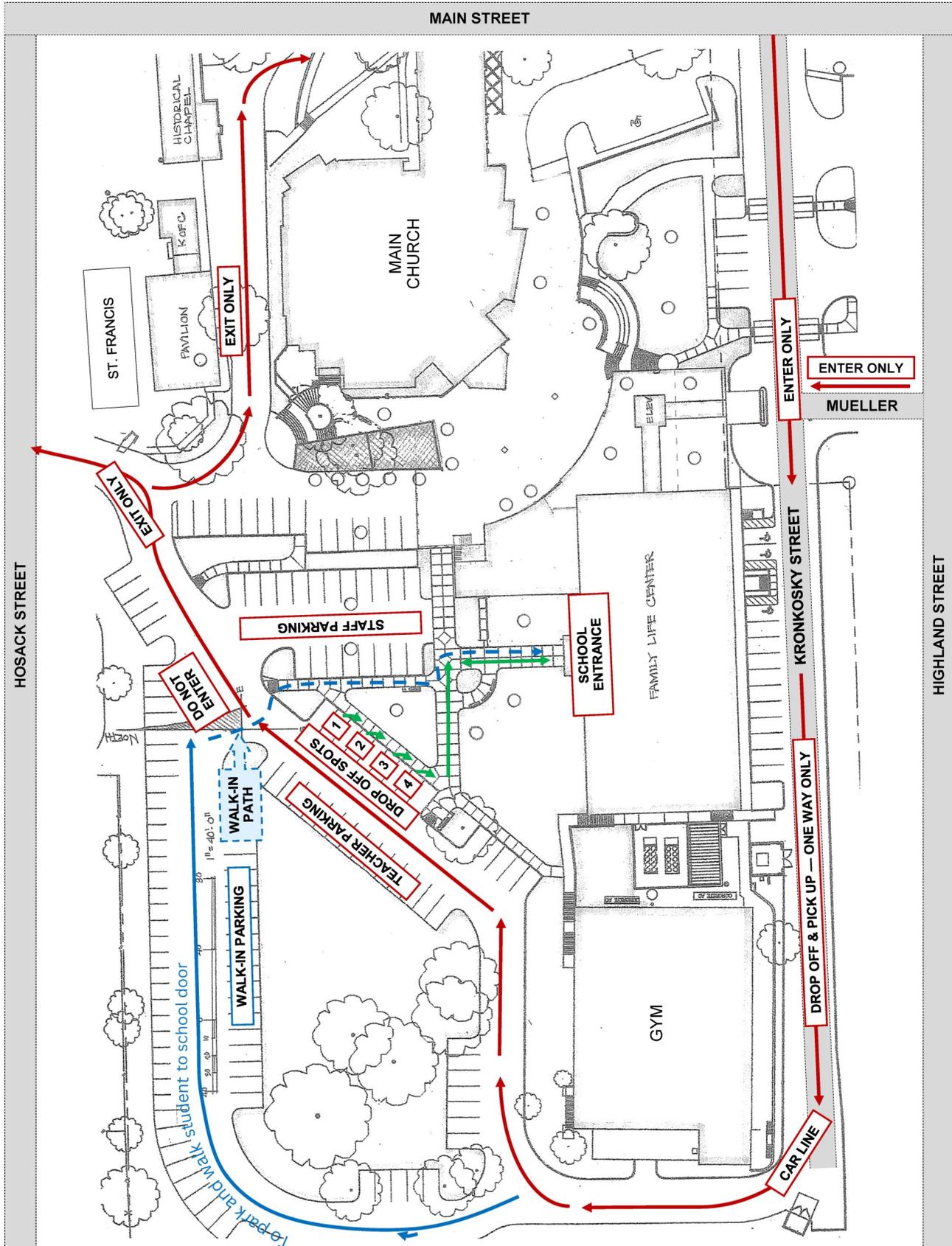
The four apparitions of Our Lady of Guadalupe took place in December 1531, when Juan Diego, an indigenous convert to the Catholic faith, encountered a woman dressed as an Aztec princess on Tepeyac Hill in present-day Mexico City. The woman, who was pregnant, spoke to him in his native language. She identified herself as the Mother of God.

Over the next four apparitions, Our Lady requested that Juan Diego implore the local bishop to build a church on the hill, and performed miracles to prove her identity. Through one of the miracles, she imprinted her image onto Juan Diego's *tilma*, or cloak; the *tilma* bearing that image can still be viewed today at the basilica which now stands on the site of the apparition.

Our Lady of Guadalupe is venerated as the Patroness of the Americas, and she is beloved worldwide as a symbol of motherhood, faith and identity. Her feast day is Dec. 12. ©LPi

# School Parking

Please remember to only park in designated areas. For those who walk their students in, please only park in the area designated "WALK IN PARKING." This is to ensure the safety of all and to reserve a parking area for the parish staff. Thank you!





ST. PETER THE APOSTLE  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL  
**MARDI GRAS GALA**

CELEBRATING  
**THE HEART OF EDUCATION**

HONORING  
**FR. DAVID CHACKO**  
PAROCHIAL VICAR

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2026  
CANA BALLROOM ~ 6:00 PM

A Jazzy Evening of  
Food, Music, Auctions, and Community  
Supporting Catholic Education



All proceeds from the Gala will benefit  
**St. Peter the Apostle Catholic School**,  
directly impacting the lives of our students and  
ensuring a brighter future for our school.



[stpeterscatholicschool.betterworld.org](http://stpeterscatholicschool.betterworld.org)