



**Crucifixion  
Church  
La Crescent**

**St. Peter's  
Parish  
Hokah**



**Pastor:** Fr. John L. Evans, II [cruxpas@acegroup.cc](mailto:cruxpas@acegroup.cc) Office: 895-4720 Rectory: 895-2207

**Deacon:** Rev. Mr. Gerald Trocinski, [cruxtrocinski@acegroup.cc](mailto:cruxtrocinski@acegroup.cc)

**Faith Formation Director:** Rebecca Schumacher, [cruxffc@acegroup.cc](mailto:cruxffc@acegroup.cc), Office: 895-4720

**Crucifixion Church:** [www.crucifixionchurch.org](http://www.crucifixionchurch.org) Office: 895-4720 [cruxch@acegroup.cc](mailto:cruxch@acegroup.cc)

**Crucifixion Parish Business Manager:** Bonnie Schmitz-Hrabak [cruxch@acegroup.cc](mailto:cruxch@acegroup.cc)

**Crucifixion Cemetery:** Randy Thompson 608-498-2783

**St. Peter's Parish:** [www.stpetershokah.org](http://www.stpetershokah.org) Office: 894-4375 [stpetersparish@acegroup.cc](mailto:stpetersparish@acegroup.cc)

**St. Peter's School/Parish Admin. Assistant:** Camille Withrow [stpetersparish@acegroup.cc](mailto:stpetersparish@acegroup.cc)

**Calvary Cemetery:** Dave Feuerhelm 507-894-4755 **St. Joseph's Cemetery:** Tom Langen 507-894-4704

**Bulletin Submissions:** Tuesday by noon. Email Bonnie at Crucifixion office: [cruxch@acegroup.cc](mailto:cruxch@acegroup.cc)



**Sunday December 25, 2022**

**The Nativity of the Lord**

**Scripture Readings January 1: Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21 (18)**

**Pastor's Message**

As I have reflected on the empty manger within the stable, in the rectory chapel, these past four weeks, I have been struck with the word "surrender." Jesus "surrendered" his divinity to embrace our humanity. He "surrendered" the power of God to be born in a cold barn.

The success of most 12-step programs calls people to "surrender."

- 1) We admitted we were powerless – that our lives had become unmanageable.
- 2) Came to believe that Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.
- 3) Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him.

The Christmas mystery gives us an example of "surrender" that leads us to the serenity / peace that God intends for each one of us, in whatever life situation or trial that we are facing. Fulton Sheen wrote, "What we over-love, we often over-grieve."

Now, we see the manger with Jesus present – present to us, in whatever ways we need to "surrender" in order to experience lives filled with the joy of this holy season.

**Merry Christmas !**

*Fr. Evans*

**The 12 Days of Christmas**

The Partridge in a Pear Tree = JESUS CHRIST

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| 2 Turtle Doves       | = Old and New Testaments  |
| 3 French Hens        | = Faith, Hope and Love  |
| 4 Calling Birds      | = 4 Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John   |
| 5 Golden Rings       | = 1 <sup>st</sup> 5 Books of the Old Testament (Torah, "Pentateuch" or law)   |
| 6 Geese a Laying     | = 6 days of Creation  |
| 7 Swans a Swimming   | = 7-Fold Gifts of the Holy Spirit – Wisdom, Understanding, Council, Fortitude, Knowledge, Piety, and Fear of the Lord (reverence) |
| 8 Maids-a-milking    | = 8 Beatitudes  |
| 9 Ladies dancing     | = 9 Fruits of the Holy Spirit (Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self Control)        |
| 10 Lords-a-leaping   | = 10 Commandments   |
| 11 Pipers piping     | = 11 Faithful Disciples   |
| 12 Drummers drumming | = 12 Point of belief in the Apostle's Creed   |

## MASS SCHEDULE

**Tues Dec 27**      **5:00 pm Crucifixion**  
(Not 5:30pm)  
+Deceased members of Piffner family

**Wed Dec 28**      **8:05 am Crucifixion**  
+Mary Schaffer

**Thurs Dec 29**      **8:25 am St. Peter's**  
+Paul & Betty Von Arx

**Fri Dec 30**      **8:05 am Crucifixion**  
+Marion Ott

**Sat Dec 31**      **5:00 pm Crucifixion (Incense)**  
+Lorraine Farrington

**Sun Jan 1**      **8:00 am St. Peter's (Incense)**  
+For the Intentions of the Parishioners  
**9:30 am Crucifixion (Incense)**  
+ John, Sigrid & Fred Mueller

CONFESSIONS      Sat 4:00-4:40 pm **Crucifixion**  
Sun 7:30-7:50 am **St. Peter's**

*Thank you for all your prayers, support, the many ways that you give yourselves to our community in active service, the witness of your faith, special cards, and generous gifts.      Fr. Evans*

**THANK YOU** to Deacon Gerry Trocinski and all at Crucifixion and St. Peter's Churches who have helped us to celebrate Christmas, especially our liturgical ministers, choirs, and the many people spending countless hours to adorn our beautiful worship spaces.

**RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT COLLECTION** – "Thank you" hardly seems adequate to convey your support for religious sisters who have served our Church over the decades.

**In need of prayers? please contact one of our prayer chains:** At **Crucifixion:** contact Mary Ann Ekern at [mamekern@gmail.com](mailto:mamekern@gmail.com), Rosanne Buehler at 895-2403, or Barb McGuire at 895-6597. At **St. Peter's,** Karen Ott at 608-797-6443 or Teresa Ross at 507-894-4805.



## *Discipleship in Action*

Over 100 boxes of cookies were delivered to the homebound, elderly, and other parishioners last Sunday. Thank you for your donations of a wonderful assortment of holiday cookies. They looked attractive and delicious. Thank you to all of the drivers who delivered the lovely boxes to the recipients. Your contributions made this project a success and brought smiles to many! Parishioners have called the parish office with gratitude for the kindness!

## *Reflection on the Saints*

**St. John, the Apostle** St. John was the only apostle to remain faithfully with Jesus throughout his crucifixion. It was at the cross that Jesus said, "Woman, there is your son." In turn he said to the disciple, "there is your mother." In giving his mother to St. John, he gave his mother to us to intercede and protect us. In the final chapter of John's Gospel, it is John, who points out to Peter the resurrected Christ, "It is the Lord!" The Feast Day of St. John is December 27. The new statue of **ST. JOHN, THE APOSTLE** on the side altar near the crucifix was custom made in Italy in honor of Sr. Lauren Weinandt, OSF, and that of her family who are living and deceased.

**Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration New Year's Eve Celebration:** Evening Prayer with the Exposition for Peace and the Blessing of Time- in Mary of the Angels Chapel at St. Rose Convent, La Crosse, 6:00pm. Use the 901 Franciscan Way Entrance.

**Christmas Flower Memorials:** Thank you to all those who donated funds for flowers to beautify our worship space at both Crucifixion and St. Peter's. The names of those memorialized are noted in the bulletin inserts at each parish.

## Crucifixion

*"A Welcoming Community of Spirit-filled disciples,  
serving others through God's love."*

### Liturgical Schedule Dec 31-Jan 1

#### Sat Dec 31: 5:00 pm

**Euch Ministers:** Lisa Inglett, Mike Trnka

**Lectors:** Tammy Stremcha

**Servers:** need 2

#### Sun Jan 1: 9:30 am

**Euch Ministers:** John & Fran Grupa

**Lectors:** Jerry & Ruth Berns

**Servers:** need 2

The parish office will be closed Monday Jan 2, 2023.

**Script Available** at the Parish Office, Wed Dec 28-noon on Friday Dec 30.

**Food Shelf Sunday Jan 1, 2023.** Help us to start off the new year with food and toiletries on the shelves. Next weekend is Food Shelf Sunday at Crucifixion. The needs are greater than ever and not slowing down. Shopping Hint: The Dollar Tree is a great place to do your shopping, especially for toiletries... toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo. God bless your generosity. Cindy Henry 895-8965 and Jane Darling 895-4553

*A generous person will be blessed, for he gives some  
of his food to the poor. Proverbs 22:9*

**Welcome** to the Crucifixion Parish Family, new members: Kevin and Chelsea Voight and Everly, and Owen and Danielle Yenter, and Jackson.

#### **Mark Your Calendars:**

**Crucifixion Christmas Tree Pickup** on Saturday January 14, after the Feast of the Epiphany. Sign up is available on the Crucifixion website under **Sign Up**, or by calling the Parish Office. Donations benefit the Crucifixion School Library.

Thank you to **Bauer's Market** for the donation of several poinsettias to Crucifixion.

## St. Peter's

### Liturgical Schedule

Sunday January 1, 2023

**Greeter:** Mary Kay Sheehan

**Lector:** Mary Kay Sheehan

**Servers:** Wyatt and Toby Bennett

**Gift Bearers:** Deb and Larry Hanan

**Euch. Minister/Choir:** Deb Hanan, Larry Hanan ©

**Usher:** Mike Schaffer, Don Petersen

**Rosary:** Aaron Franta

For those who may have missed it before, **2,393** dinners were served at this year's Roast Beef Dinner at St. Peter's.

**St. Peter's Church Cleaning 2023** St Peter's renovation was completed May 2015. An ad hoc group of parishioners met one Sunday to discuss a plan to keep the church clean after the renovation. Discussion led to the decision that a fair and workable solution was to ask parish members to sign up by the month for cleaning. This has proven to be a successful solution. We are again asking members to sign up to clean for a month in 2023. A sign up sheet is in the entry way. Directions and cleaning supplies are in the closet under the choir loft stairs in the crying room. Thank you.

#### **Offertory Envelopes: St. Peter's parishioners**

Due to a shortage in staff and supplies the company that supplies our Church offertory envelopes will not have our order complete until mid-January. **We will have blank offertory envelopes available in the pews and in the gathering space. Please use these envelopes and write in your name and envelope number for any donations during Mass for the month of January.** If you have any questions please contact Camille Withrow at 507-894-4375. Thank you for your flexibility!



## Faith Formation

Wednesday, December 28 - NO EDGE MINISTRY  
Wednesday, January 4 - NO EDGE MINISTRY  
Wednesday, January 4 - Catechist Inservice -  
6:30pm in the church  
Sunday, January 8 - Grade Nine/Ten Confirmation  
Session - 9:30am  
Sunday, January 8 - Generations of Faith - 5-7pm  
Wednesday, January 11 - Edge Ministry Resumes -  
6:30pm

## MASS INTENTIONS

A Mass Intention is a person's request for the Mass to be prayed for particular individual(s) living or deceased. It is inspiring to see the number of Mass intentions requested for members of our community at Crucifixion and St. Peter's Parish. May God Bless your efforts and those for whom we are praying. The flip side of receiving so many requests is the backlog which can fill our calendar for many months in advance. **\*Church law requires all priests to fulfill all Mass Stipends within one calendar year.** Any Mass Intentions not fulfilled within the year must be forwarded to priests at our local Seminary, or to other priests in our diocese. At St. Peter's the 2023 calendar is nearly full. We do have openings at Crucifixion in 2023. To be fair to everyone, we must limit mass intentions to 3 per person. We are happy to forward any other mass intentions to the seminary in Winona, so that your intentions are fulfilled in a timely manner.

**FORMED** Go to [Signup.formed.org](http://Signup.formed.org), enter **55947** for **Crucifixion**, or **55941** for **St. Peters**, follow the prompts, and enjoy! Watch "The Chosen Christmas Special, "The Messengers", as well as other Advent and Christmas programs for the entire family.



**Crucifixion School** School Office 420 South 2nd  
St. 895-4402 [www.crucifixionschool.org](http://www.crucifixionschool.org)

**Principal:** Doug Harpenau  
[dharpenu@crucifixionschool.org](mailto:dharpenu@crucifixionschool.org)  
**Adm. Asst.** Kristi Mormann  
[kmormann@crucifixionschool.org](mailto:kmormann@crucifixionschool.org)

**Preschool:** Cheryl Van Atta [cvanatta@crucifixionschool.org](mailto:cvanatta@crucifixionschool.org)  
**Eagle Care:** Rachel Bennett [rbennett@crucifixionschool.org](mailto:rbennett@crucifixionschool.org)  
Staff direct phone 608-615-3140

**End of Year Giving** As we approach the new year, many give thought to end-of-year contributions, and some "seniors" may look at the status of their IRA or retirement accounts. Hopefully, Crucifixion Church and St. Peter's Church are some of your "favorite" charities to consider for an end-of-year gift. Those 70 ½ years old or older, may be able to make a tax-free gift from your IRA directly to Crucifixion and St. Peter's Churches. Making a Qualified Charitable Contribution is not difficult. Here are some pointers: You must be at least 70 ½ at the time of your gift. You may transfer any amount up to \$100,000 directly from your IRA to a qualified charitable organization. However, the check must be made to the organization, not to you, or there will be tax ramifications. If you wish more information about this type of gift, a tax advisor or your IRA plan administrator will provide assistance.

**2022 Sacrificial Giving:** As we approach the end of this calendar year, just a reminder that all donations to the church must be received in our office by December 31, 2022 to be included in your giving report for 2022. Please consider specific gifts to Crucifixion towards our new boiler and to St. Peter's for our new energy efficient windows on the 1950's school addition.

## Do we have your updated contact information?

Please be sure we have your current address, email address and phone in our registry. If you are unsure, please call one of the parish offices. Many have given up their landlines, and the numbers we have at our offices are no longer in service. Thank you!

## St. Peter's School



**School Office** 34 Main Street 894-4375

**Principal:** Doug Harpenau  
[principal@stpetershokah.org](mailto:principal@stpetershokah.org)

**School/Parish Adm. Asst:** Camille Withrow  
[secretary@stpetershokah.org](mailto:secretary@stpetershokah.org)

**Little Saints Daycare:** Kim Sheehan 3K:

Abby Cuhel [littlesaintsdaycare@stpetershokah.org](mailto:littlesaintsdaycare@stpetershokah.org) 608-304-4995