

**Saint Peter  
School News  
April, 2025**

Dear Parents,

As April approaches, we continue through our Lenten journey, reverencing the sacred days of Holy Week. This special time in the Church is the perfect opportunity to draw closer to Jesus in prayer, thereby nurturing and growing our own spiritual life. We continue to remember Our Holy Father in prayer and he continues to inspire us with one of his Lenten messages: "God has not grown weary of us. Let us welcome Lent as the great season in which he reminds us: "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery". Lent is a *season of conversion, a time of freedom*. Jesus himself, as we recall each year on the first Sunday of Lent, was driven into the desert by the Spirit in order to be tempted in freedom. For forty days, he will stand before us and with us: the incarnate Son. Unlike Pharaoh, God does not want subjects, but sons and daughters. The desert is the place where our freedom can mature in a personal decision not to fall back into slavery. In Lent, we find new criteria of justice and a community with which we can press forward on a road not yet taken.... It is time to act, and in Lent, *to act also means to pause*. To pause in prayer, in order to receive the word of God, to pause like the Samaritan in the presence of a wounded brother or sister. Love of God and love of neighbor are one love. Not to have other gods is to pause in the presence of God beside the flesh of our neighbor. For this reason, prayer, almsgiving and fasting are not three unrelated acts, but a single movement of openness and self-emptying, in which we cast out the idols that weigh us down, the attachments that imprison us. Then the atrophied and isolated heart will revive. Slow down, then, and pause! The contemplative dimension of life that Lent helps us to rediscover will release new energies. In the presence of God, we become brothers and sisters, more sensitive to one another: in place of threats and enemies, we discover companions and fellow travelers. This is God's dream, the promised land to which we journey once we have left our slavery behind.... To the extent that this Lent becomes a time of conversion, an anxious humanity will notice a burst of creativity, a flash of new hope. Allow me to repeat what I told the young people whom I met in Lisbon last summer: 'Keep seeking and be ready to take risks. At this moment in time, we face enormous risks; we hear the painful plea of so many people. Indeed, we are experiencing a third world war fought piecemeal. Yet let us find the courage to see our world, not as being in its death throes but in a process of giving birth. not at the end but at the beginning of a great new chapter of history. We need courage to think like this' Such is the courage of conversion, born of coming up from slavery. For faith and charity take hope, this small child, by the hand.

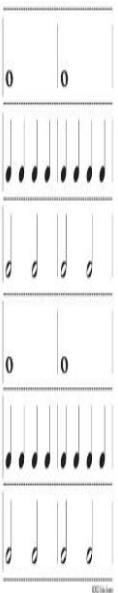


They teach her to walk, and at the same time, she leads them forward. I bless all of you and your Lenten journey."

**Gloria Singers**

Saint Peter School will have 47 students from grades 4-8 participating in this wonderful event at Berks Catholic on Sunday, April 6. We are so grateful for our music teacher Mrs. Moffatt for organizing this choir and exposing our students to professional musicians and opportunity to perform with them.

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|----------------------|------------------------|
| Elijah Castillo(4)   | Alejandro Cruz (6)     |
| Euriel Garcia (4)    | Diangelys Garcia (6)   |
| Shan Haynes-Ali(4)   | Maily Garcia (6)       |
| Gabriela Mendez (4)  | Cameron Merritt (6)    |
| Ashley Polanco (4)   | Naleigha Merritt (6)   |
| Monica Ramirez (4)   | Yolenny Moronta (6)    |
| Max Valerio (4)      | Kiara Navarette (6)    |
| Jennifer Arevalo (5) | Edlyannie Ortiz (6)    |
| Kayleeh Avila (5)    | Grace Otto (6)         |
| Alyvia Barreto (5)   | Mariangel Polanco (6)  |
| Missael Fernandez(5) | Naiyaliz Rodriguez (6) |
| Denian Garcia (5)    | Lejend Spradley (6)    |
| Ninel Lina Rossis(5) | Abigail Tejada (6)     |
| Samantha Martinez(5) | Jotxiel Caraballo (7)  |
| Jacob Pedroza (5)    | Nyleah Connor (7)      |
| Areli Perez (5)      | Adalis De La Cruz(7)   |
| Natalia Piñeda (5)   | Adanis Flores (7)      |
| Rita Ramirez (5)     | Khalaya Johnson (7)    |
| Jesus Reyes (5)      | Diego Nuñez (7)        |
| Elias Santiago (5)   | Hadassa Perez (7)      |
| Damian Solorio (5)   | Mia Rubio (7)          |
| Valerie Torres (5)   | Valery Mendez (8)      |
| Scarlett Bueno (6)   | Olivia Rodriguez (8)   |
|                      | Chris Yopez (8)        |



**Declamation Competition**

We are in the midst of preparing our four orators for the famous Berks County Declamation Competition to be held at Berks Catholic on Friday, April 4 at 5:00pm. We wish the best to our competitors:

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|--------------------|----------------------|
| Janellys Abreu (8) | Janelle Abreu (7)    |
| David Zavala (8)   | Nicholas Carmona (7) |



**Skating Party**

We will have a Skating Party on Thursday, April 10 from 6:30pm- 8:30pm at Skate-away on Lancaster Pike.



**Spring Bingo**

Come for an afternoon of food, fun, and Family Bingo from 11:00am to 3:00 in the Social Hall on Saturday, April 26.

