

February
2024

The Shining Son

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DEACON DAN

Last December 2-4 we had our Girl's TEC #225 weekend with twelve candidates. Madison Magee was our leader and Fr. Potthoff was our Priest for this weekend. I want to thank Madison, Fr. Potthoff, the ASD's, the team, candidates, kitchen team, and wheat team for this wonderful weekend. And I also want to thank the Holy Spirit for orchestrating this whole weekend.

Brian Sherman is our Leader for the Boys TEC #226 weekend to be held March 2-4th. Brian has his team put together and they already have two team meetings completed. We are really looking forward to this next boy's weekend. Please encourage any young men that you might know to sign up for this weekend.

I encourage you to come to Peterstown for the next Boy's weekend and support this program anyway that you can: help out in the kitchen, bake some cookies, attend

Mass and the Hoot. Most of all, pray to the Holy Spirit for candidates, for our leader, his team and overall success of this TEC program.

One final note, the Season of Lent starts February 14. Lent is a 40-day period of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends at sundown on Holy Thursday. During Lent, we seek Jesus in prayer by reading Sacred Scripture, serve by giving alms, and practice self-control through fasting. It is a time of preparation to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter, serving to deepen the connection with God and prepare hearts and minds for the Paschal Mystery—the journey of Jesus' passion, death, and resurrection. The color purple is traditionally associated with Lent, symbolizing penance, preparation, and sacrifice.

God Bless,

Deacon Dan O'Connor

"Unless there is a Good Friday in your life, there can be no Easter Sunday."

- Venerable Fulton Sheen.

LAY DIRECTOR

What are you doing for Lent this year? It's a common question we are asked this time of year. Maybe you're giving up something, like chocolate or energy drinks. Some people like to give up social media, or Facebook in particular. Those can be effective ways to remind us of Jesus' sacrifice for us on the cross. But there is more to Lent than just giving up something. The three main areas are prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. For prayer, we might try to increase our prayer life by spending more time in prayer, praying the Rosary more often, maybe praying the Liturgy of the Hours or just the morning and evening prayers. Maybe it's reading the Bible more. I know some people who are going to start watching "The Chosen" episodes. If you haven't already watched them, I highly recommend it. The first three seasons are free and available online and on several different phone apps. It presents the lives of the 12 disciples (the chosen) and Jesus, starting with Scripture and adding back-stories that aren't in the Bible, but could have possibly happened. To keep it believable, directors consulted with a Jewish rabbi, a

Protestant minister, and a Catholic priest to have things consistent with the culture of the time. Some of those scenes come to my mind now when I hear Scripture readings at Mass. Watching the shows has made me want to go back to my Bible and do some research. For example, I didn't remember that Mary Magdalene had been possessed (check out Luke chapter 8). And how did Jesus call Judas to be a disciple? (that's not in the Bible, but the show gives an interesting possibility).

For almsgiving, it's not just giving money. It's also giving of our time and talent as well, like helping out at our parish, or volunteering at a homeless shelter or food pantry. Coming back to TEC and helping in the kitchen or providing entertainment at the Hoot counts as well.

Whatever things you decide to do for Lent, I hope that it helps you grow in your faith and leads to a glorious Easter season.

Yours in Christ,

Kim Santman

THANK YOU TO THE CLEAN-UP HELPERS

Thank you to all of the TECites who came out to Peterstown to help clean up after the last TEC on December 4th! Thank you to Jim Hoscheid, Bailey Mekley, Deacon Dan O'Connor, Fr. Scott Potthoff, Jyll Pozzi, Kim and Robin Santman, Rachael Sherman, and Valeria Villagomez. We all spread out and got the Peterstown Hilton in shape for the next TEC weekend!

KITCHEN NEWS

GRACE is when God gives us good things that we don't deserve.

MERCY is when He spares us from bad things we deserve.

BLESSINGS are when He is generous with both.

Truly, we can never run out of reasons to thank Him.

God is good. All the time.

Indeed! Amen!

Thankful for all that helped out in the kitchen for #225! It was another fantastic weekend due to all who supported us with everything from prayers to pancakes!

We ask that you continue to support us so we can continue to bring the light of Christ to our precious TEC family past, present and future.

Encourage the youth to join us for a truly inspiring celebration of faith and friendship.

Sending thanks out to:

Water Store, Peru

Rudy Arteaga, Marchellonis, Mendota - Meat & Cheese tray, and pizzas

Mendota Knights of Columbus - Pork Chops

Donation- Sullivans Gift Card

Linda Kelsey, Kelsey's Kakes - Cupcakes

And everyone else who lent their hands and hearts

Please help us out March 2-4 for #226.

God is Good!

Jill Ross

Kitchen Lady

815.866.6889

WELCOME NEW TECITES OF TEC #225

Peterstown TEC welcomes 12 new TECites who came for the TEC #225 Girls Weekend that took place December 2-4, 2023. Welcome to the TEC Community Addy Allensworth, Andrea Brandner, Greta de Boer, Grace Gahan, Hannah Kunz, Veronika Mack, Lucy Maus, Kara Miars, Ava Mueller, Lisa Myres, Ariana Villava, Sarah Wiesbrock, along with new adult member of the TEC community Susan Real. We pray that you keep the JOY and love of the Lord alive in your heart that you received on your TEC Encounter with Christ and pass the JOY onto others as you go “forth” on your faith journey!



WHAT IS WHEAT?

It has been shared many times that WHEAT is a sacrifice done prayerfully. But what is a sacrifice? The one definition that fits best is 'an act of giving up something valued for the sake of something else regarded as more important or worthy.' Giving up could mean something like not eating chocolate, not listening to music, or not using social media for a period of time. But giving up can also mean offering up time, which is valuable, to do something for the sake of the TEC program, nourishing it to grow. Time to "pass it on" thru letters, prayer, helping in the kitchen, sharing a talent, committing to a team/wheat team, or holding a chairman position. Saying 'yes' to doing WHEAT may mean having to say 'no' to something else. Find the balance in your life as a TECite and pray how you can help keep our program strong. Many hands make light work! Give your time in big and small ways!! It will bring a smile to your heart and to others!

WHEAT, WHEAT, WE LOVE WHEAT!!

THANK YOU WHEATIES!



Thank you, Wheat Team #225!! Thank you for all your hard work behind the scenes and especially for your creativity. The skit at the Hoot was amazing, and you juggled so many schedules to have the right people there at the right times. Those involved were: Brenda Barnickel (Leader), Aaron Schmidt (Asst Leader), Carol McLachlan (Spiritual Leader), Toni Edgcomb, Randy Edgcomb, Karen Goy, Mary Kunkel, Steve Kunkel, Jacob Magee, Lisa Martin, Anne Newhalfen, Robin Santman, and Pat Sondgeroth.

TEC TEAM # 226

The team for TEC #226 is complete, and their first team meeting was on January 31. The Lay Leader is Brian Sherman, and his two assistants are Greg Oseland and Aaron Schmidt. The Spiritual Director is Deacon Dan O'Connor, and the weekend's Spiritual Advisor is Father Bo Schmitt, pastor of St. Patrick, Seneca and St. Patrick, Ransom. The Assistant Spiritual Directors are Tom Heitmann and Kris Klieber. Other team members include Grady Gillan, Jacob & Madison Magee, Nick Mattern, Jack Maus, Jason Maus, Ken Pozzi, Matthew Pozzi, and Jonah Sherman. Please keep the team in your prayers as they prepare their reflections and hold their team meetings this month.

COMING EVENTS

Tuesday, February 13th – Core Team Meeting 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, February 21st – Peterstown TEC Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.

March 2nd - 4th – Boys TEC #226 Weekend

Sunday, March 10th – Follow-up 5:30 p.m.

April 13th - 15th – Girls TEC #227 Weekend

July 12th – 14th – TEC Encounter, Austin TX

TEC ENCOUNTER 2024

Austin, TX
Hosted by TEC of Central Texas

July 12-14, 2024



To learn more, click here:

<https://tecconference.org/get-involved/tec-encounter/>

KEEP PRAYING: CHRIST IS COUNTING ON YOU

Pray for the team of TEC #226 as they prepare for the boy's TEC weekend to be held March 2-4.

Pray for all TECites and their families who are suffering from illness, loss of jobs, and other stressors of life. May God grace them with his healing touch and give their caregivers strength and faith.

Remember all prayer requests may also be submitted on the Peterstown TEC website at <https://www.peterstowntec.com>

