



THE SHINING SON

PETERSTOWN TEC

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February 2023

DEACON DAN

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST-

***DEACON DAN**

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WE LOVE WHEAT!**

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What happens in February in the Catholic Church? February has a feast (Presentation of our Lord) that bridges two other seasons (Christmas and Easter)! In addition, the faithful may receive two of the four major public sacramentals that the Church confers during the liturgical year: blessed candles and the blessing of throats.

Also, February is dedicated to the Holy Family. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph are often represented humbly in artwork. Even the glow around their virtuous heads is usually simple, at least when they are represented as the Holy Family. This year Ash Wednesday is on February 22. I hope you can attend mass this day & receive your ashes as we start the Season of Lent.

As we approach our next Boys weekend, March 4-6, TEC #223, please pray for our leader Joe Migliorini. Joe and his team are working hard to prepare for it and they need your help getting candidates for this TEC weekend.

If you can help in the kitchen or in any other way, we would really appreciate your support for the Peterstown TEC program.

God Bless,
Deacon Dan O'Connor

“Apart from the cross, there is no other ladder by which we may go to heaven.”
St. Rose of Lima

LEAD US LORD

It seems like many of the homilies I hear or religious text or videos I hear go in one ear and out the other, but there are other times when I experience something that sticks in my mind, even weeks later. I wanted to share two of those with you. The first deals with evangelization. I know it's everyone's responsibility to share the Good News of Jesus with everyone around us, but sometimes it's hard for me to do. I either don't know what to say or I'm afraid of how it will be received. But I saw a video on the Diocese of Peoria website over a month ago that I can still recall. It was a conversation between Bishop Tylka and Fr. Adam Cesarek from Pontiac. In the interview, Fr. Adam says (and I paraphrase), evangelization doesn't have to be that scary...on Monday, someone at work or at school is going to ask you what you did over the weekend. And our typical response is something like, 'oh, not much'. We could say something as simple as 'I went to Mass with my family'. That's not hard to say, but it's evangelization. They might bite on that and want more information. If you want to hear the entire interview, it's at https://youtu.be/SpgRN_Wf4pk. The part I'm referring to is about 43 minutes into it, in case you don't have time to listen to the whole thing. I have another favorite part that starts at 33:25. It's too difficult to try to describe here, but it's funny, while making you think at the same time.

The second thing that I keep thinking about is the gospel reading of the annunciation. It's in the first chapter of Luke, where the angel Gabriel visits Mary and tells her she will bear a son who will be the Son of God, and her response was "May it be done to me according to your word". She said yes. Did she have any idea what exactly she was saying yes to? Probably not. But she trusted God and said yes. How many times are we faced with a chance to do something new, something we feel an urge or a call to do, but we're too afraid of the unknown, and we say no? Think what Mary would have missed, what the whole world would have missed, if Mary had said no? What is God perhaps calling us to do for our Lord? I hope we all have the courage to say "yes", even when we're not sure exactly what that will mean. Maybe it's helping in some way in our own church. Maybe it's helping with TEC in some new way that we're not accustomed to. Maybe saying "yes" will bring us closer to our Lord, or help bring others closer to our Lord. I pray we can all be more open to hear those subtle calls to do more for our God.

Yours in Christ,
Kim Santman

WELCOME NEW TECITES

WELCOME NEW TECITES OF TEC #222

Peterstown TEC welcomes 6 new TECites who came for the TEC #222 Girls Week that took place December 3-5, 2022. Welcome to the TEC Community Madelyn Becker, Sharia Grisham, Ava Jones, Lilly Leifheit, Ella Martin, and Ryleigh Sondgeroth, along with a new adult member of the TEC community, Kathy Jagiella. 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!



KEEP COMING BACK!

TEC TEAM 223

The team for TEC #223 is almost complete. The first team meeting was on February 1. The Lay Leader is Joe Migliorini, and his two assistants are Will McLachlan and Brian Sherman. The Spiritual Director is Deacon Dan O'Connor, and the weekend's Spiritual Advisor is Father Jeff Windy. The Assistant Spiritual Directors are Phil Grant, Carol McLachlan, and Tom Heitmann. Other team members include Mary Heitmann, David Kasprovicz, Chris Sandoval, and Jonathan Schmidt, and a first-time team member, Jacob McGee. Please keep the team in your prayers as they prepare their reflections and hold their team meetings this month.

KITCHEN NEWS

"I am the vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in me-and I in him-bears much fruit, because apart from me you can accomplish nothing." John 15:5-8. Through prayer, fasting, reading scripture, fellowship with other believers, all these disciplines and more contribute to our ability to rest in the sufficiency of Jesus. It's not easy being a believer. Standing up for what we believe in isn't always popular. Surrounding yourself with other believers gives you the strength and confidence to believe that you are worthy of the love of Christ our Lord. Your TEC community gives you that opportunity to share your faith through service as a team member, wheat team, kitchen crew, and many other choices. Join us for the next TEC. Let us know what you are able help with.

We would like to thank everyone who helped with the last TEC weekend.

Donations:

Water Store/RO Pros - Water and ice

Mendota Knights of Columbus - Pork Chops

Anonymous Angel - Sullivans Gift Card

Kelsey's Kakes - Cupcakes

Kitchen volunteers

With the rising prices of groceries and supplies we encourage you to consider donating gift cards to HyVee, Sullivans, Subway, or Walmart. We also need help in the kitchen. Please contact me with any questions or if you want to help out.

Blessed to be blessed!

Jill Ross

Kitchen Chair

815.866.6889

Rossranch92@gmail.com

Wheat, Wheat, We Wheat!

Hey Tecites! We have been working hard to rebuild the Peterstown TEC program, which includes the WHEAT portion. We can't do it without helping and serving hands. Do you remember how you felt when WHEAT was done for you on your weekend? Let's pass on that feeling of knowing others are helping you to encounter JESUS!!

So until we get our lists and applications built to create strong WHEAT teams we are asking you to consider something a bit different. Could you spare enough time to spend it at the TEC Center for just part of a day? Are you creative and would love to design a gym poster or a Rise Day bulletin board? Are you good at wrapping gifts? Would you like to organize wheat letters and take home packets? Would you like to help with the Stations of the Cross? Would you like to help pass out candles at the Hoot? Would you like to organize some entertainment for the Variety Show? Would you like to help serve meals or escort for the candlelight dinner? Would you like to pray in the chapel for a certain reflection speaker? There are plenty of other little jobs as well.

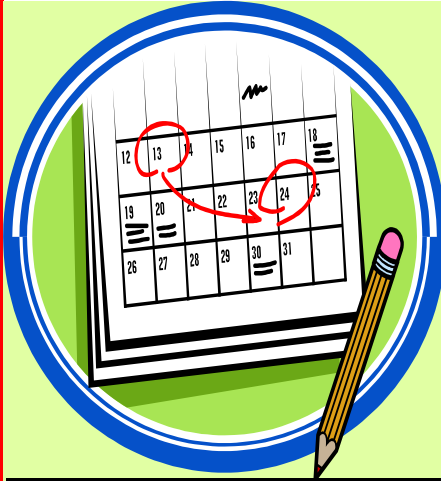
We can't let the WHEAT team portion of our program die out! The only dying that should happen is on Die Day of the TEC weekend as part of the Paschal Mystery!!! There is no program without YOU!

Please let me know if you can spend a morning, afternoon, or evening at the TEC Center for the boys weekend on Mar 4-6 so we can divide and perform some special WHEAT for TEC 223! I'm sure you can spare a small amount of time compared to an entire weekend. Anyone can participate..... previous candidates or team members! Come put some smiles on faces and in hearts! Remember JOY stands for Jesus - Others - Yourself! Christ is counting on you!!

Please contact Wheat Chairman, Brenda Barnickel soon
at
bbarnickel6@gmail.com or 815-973-6606



CLIP AND SAVE IMPORTANT DATES



Please make sure to mark your calendar so that you don't miss out on all the fun we have at the TEC Hilton, spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ.

UPCOMING TEC EVENTS

Tuesday, February 21st –
Core Team Meeting 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, February 22nd –
Peterstown TEC Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.

March 3th - 5th –
Boys TEC #223 Weekend (**REVISED DATES**)

Sunday, March 12th –
Follow-up 5:30 p.m.

April 15th - 17th –
Girls TEC #224 Weekend

June 23rd – 25th –
TEC Conference Young Adult Workshop in Chicago

July 14th – 16th –
TEC Encounter in DeWitt, Michigan, home of TEC's co-founder, Fr. Matt Fedewa

Peterstown TEC Program
1307 Henry St.
Peru, IL 61354

ADDRESS SERVICE
REQUESTED

KEEP PRAYING: CHRIST IS COUNTING ON YOU

Pray for the team of TEC#223 as they prepare for the boy's TEC weekend to be held March 3-5.

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>.

**PRAYER
REQUESTS**

