

ST. PETER CLAVER

JANUARY 4, 2026

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



ST. PETER CLAVER CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

At St. Peter Claver we are a community of faith made up of parishioners who uphold the Catholic tradition. We believe in a community, which supports families and children, transcending racial, economic, and geographic boundaries for the purpose of worship, religious education, outreach and fellowship. St. Peter Claver promotes a worship environment that is visually and spiritually Afrocentric. The Eucharist is the source of the energy that moves us to community service and evangelization. This is done in concert with other Christian communities under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

ST. PETER CLAVER CATHOLIC CHURCH

485 West Fourth Street
Lexington, KY 40508
Phone: (859) 254-0030
Web: cdlex.org/stpeterclaver
Email: stpeterclaver@cdlex.org



Office Hours

Tuesday – Friday: 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

After-hours Emergency

Fr. Damian Anumba • (609) 457-0034

ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

Bishop John Stowe, OFM Conv.

1310 West Main Street
Lexington, KY 40508
Phone: (859) 253-1993 • Web: cdlex.org



PARISH STAFF

BUSINESS MANAGER

Christina Weathers • cweathers@cdlex.org

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Karen Baumgartner • kbaumgartner@cdlex.org

PARISH LIFE DIRECTOR & LITURGY

Deacon James Weathers • jweathers@cdlex.org

SCRIPTURE STUDY

Deacon Eddie Grider • (859) 312-7860
egrider@cdlex.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (INTERIM DRE)

Christy Rickert • (859) 333-5240
cmrick00@gmail.com

YOUNG ADULTS

Brenna Carpenter

SACRAMENTS

Infant Baptism

If you're interested in having your infant or child baptized, please contact the office at (859) 254-0030 for parent preparation class information. Classes are held as needed.

Anointing of the Sick

The Sacrament of the Sick can be received periodically at the Sunday Liturgy and upon request. For emergencies, please call Fr. Damian Anumba at (609) 457-0034. Please notify the parish office for visits or communion calls to the sick and shut-ins.

Address Change

If you have moved or changed your phone number in the last six months, please give this information to the parish office (859) 254-0030. It's important to keep our data current.

Liturgy Ministers Attire

MALES: Suit or shirt & tie
FEMALES: Pant suit, suit, skirt & blouse or dress.
Please, no miniskirt, low back, or spaghetti strap dresses.

Pastor

Fr. Damian Anumba • Danumba@cdlex.org

Deacon

Deacon James Weathers • jweathers@cdlex.org

Weekday Mass Schedule

Tuesday & Wednesday: 5 p.m.
Holy Days: 5 p.m.

Weekend Mass Schedule

1st, 2nd, 3rd & 5th Saturdays: 4:30 p.m. Vigil Mass
4th Saturday: (No Mass)
Sunday: 10 a.m. Gospel Mass; 1 p.m. (Congolese Mass)

MASS LIVE STREAM

<https://tinyurl.com/yhj4ea67>



YOUTH CYO EVENTS

ElNoel Akwa

CHOIR MUSICIANS

Michael Elery (Choir Leader: (859) 619-8502)
Charles Little, Xana Plum

FINANCE COUNCIL

Jerry Cheatham (Chair)
Committee Members: **Sarah Turley, David Young, Amy O. Daniel, Christina Weathers**

FUNDRAISING/FINANCE MEMBERS

James Keene, Ned Benson

KNIGHTS & LADIES OF ST. PETER CLAVER

David Young (Grand Knight)
Valerie Jenkins (Grand Lady)

Marriage

Parishioners planning to be married at St. Peter Claver should contact the parish office at least six months in advance.

RCIA/OCIA

Wednesday: 6-7:15 p.m.

This is a process open to adults and children interested in joining the Catholic Faith.

If interested, contact Deacon James Weathers at (859) 254-0030 or jweathers@cdlex.org or Beth Ross • rossbt2@gmail.com
Maria Fischer-Boothe • mgfischerboothe2012@gmail.com

Birthdays & Anniversaries

First Sunday of each month, we recognize individuals and couples with birthdays or anniversaries for the month.

Eating & Drinking Policy

Your worship space is sacred and important to all of us. Eating and drinking is not permissible inside of church sanctuary.

No Smoking Policy

All churches in the diocese have a No Smoking policy. Please smoke only in the designated areas outside.

Confessions

Tuesday and Wednesday: 4:30-4:45 p.m.

Sunday: 9:15-9:45 a.m.

1st, 2nd & 3rd Saturdays: 3:45-4:15 p.m.

Other times by appointment

Mass Intentions

Mass stipends are \$5 each. Call the parish office.

Bulletin Information

Send your information via Email to:

jweathers@cdlex.org

BULLETIN DEADLINE SCHEDULE:

To be included in the **January 18, 2026** bulletin, please submit information **before or by noon on Friday, January 9, 2026.**

(We reserve the right to edit your ad size.)

NULLITY FIELD ADVOCATES

Fr. Damian Anumba • Danumba@cdlex.org
Deacon James Weathers • jweathers@cdlex.org
Nita Clarke • (859) 317-3719
nitaclarke06@gmail.com

PROPERTY

Chris Weathers, Elmer Ellis, David Young, John Gerton

FACILITY MANAGER

Greg Gerton

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS (2025)

James Keene (Chair), **Priscilla Johnson, Amy O. Smith, Elmer Ellis, John Gerton, Charlene Young, Felecia LaPrelle-Leach, Djakarta Ellis, ElNoel Akwa, Ima Ebong**

PARISH REGISTRATION

Registration forms may be obtained by contacting the parish office or through the website. Active membership is determined by the following:

- 1) Completed registration form.
- 2) Faithful attendance at Mass on Sunday and Holy days.
- 3) Support of the parish through time, talent and treasure.

CCD SACRAMENTAL PREP

Please contact Deacon James Weathers at (859) 254-0030 or jweathers@cdlex.org or Nita Clarke at (859) 317-3719 or nitaclarke06@gmail.com

ONLINE GIVING (Offertory, Building Fund & St. Peter Claver Legacy Tree of Life)

Go to our website www.cdlex.org/stpeterclaver click on DONATE and follow the easy directions. Or go directly to <https://tinyurl.com/3zd3vddf> You may also use your smart phone to scan in the QR code.

If you have any questions or need assistance in setting up your online giving, please contact our Business Manager, Christina Weathers at (859) 254-0030.



MAKING HISTORY

King Balthazar

“Balthazar” in the Bible refers to two figures: the legendary wise man (Magi) who visited baby Jesus, traditionally a black king bringing myrrh, and Belshazzar, the Babylonian king in the Book of Daniel known for the “writing on the wall” incident before his kingdom fell.

Although the Gospel of Matthew does not give individual names to this regal trio, we know them as Balthasar, Caspar and Melchior, thanks to a Greek manuscript from AD500. It was in the middle ages, too, that they were promoted from astronomers to kings. And a text attributed to the Venerable Bede, the historian monk from Northumbria, makes Balthasar black. Despite Bede’s assertion, there are very few images of a black Balthasar before 1400, possibly because medieval Europeans had so little concept of Africans. It was only with the dawning of the Renaissance that Balthasar’s color began to be emphatically depicted. In fact, the trumpeting, joyous festive subject of “the adoration” inspired some of the richest portrayals of black people in European art.

The Christmas exhibition of the National Gallery in London, which creates an entire soundscape to enhance The Adoration of the Kings, the wonderfully detailed painting by Jan Gossaert of the Low Countries. Amid the lowing of oxen and the ringing of bells, Balthasar speaks: a poem by the British-Nigerian writer Theresa Lola gives a voice to this black king, a stranger in a strange land. Lola imagines him dwelling on how different, how self-conscious he feels. “The ground seems to be opening its teeth, either to bite or to kiss me — my eyes feel foreign. I guess to know deeply, one must look deeply.”

Our attention is directed to the pensive eyes and melancholy face of Balthasar in Gossaert’s scene, painted at the start of the 16th century. At times, though, all these aural additions are as much distraction as enhancement: you look at screens instead of the work, amid a digital environment that’s not quite vivid enough, certainly not as vivid as the painting. Yet this celebration of Balthasar highlights something new and revolutionary that happened in Renaissance art, something that still makes the black magus haunting today, as his image appears on millions of Christmas cards sent around



THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE: January 4–10, 2026 • The Epiphany of the Lord

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| African Attire..... | First Sunday of each month | Youth Group/Choir..... | Seasonal |
| Bible Study..... | Thursday, 5:45–7 p.m. | Knights of Peter Claver..... | First Sunday, after 10 a.m. Mass |
| Liturgy Committee..... | Quarterly | Ladies of Peter Claver..... | First Sunday, after 10 a.m. Mass |
| Parish Council..... | (NEW TIME) Fourth Thursday, 4:30 p.m. | RCIA/OCIA..... | Every Sunday, 8:30–9:40 a.m. |
| Adult Choir & Men’s Choir..... | Thursday, 7 p.m. | CCD/CYO..... | First & Third Wednesdays, 6–7 p.m. |

IMPORTANT DATES

Sunday, January 4, 2026, after the 10 a.m. Mass: *Blood Pressure check* at St. Peter Claver (see the announcement on page 7 for more information).

Monday, January 19, 2026: *Unity Breakfast* at the Central Bank Center (see the announcement on page 4 for more information).

NEXT WEEKEND LITURGY SCHEDULE: January 10–11, 2026 • The Baptism of the Lord

Saturday, January 10 (4:30 p.m. Vigil Mass)

Presiders: *Fr. Damian Anumba, Dcn. Eddie Grider*
 Eucharistic Ministers: *Christy Rickert, Maryanne Vasiloff*
 Ushers: *Cheryl Bogarty, Maryanne Vasiloff*
 Server: *Eli Blair*
 Lector: *Ernie Vasiloff*
 Response: *NA*

Sunday, January 11 (10 a.m. Gospel Mass)

Presiders: *Fr. Damian Anumba, Dcn. Eddie Grider, Pam Johnson*
 Eucharistic Ministers: *Sharon Grider, Mary Jo Quinn*
 Ushers: *Ingrad Bisseh, Amy Smith, Chuck Bond, James Gerton, James Keene*
 Servers: *Natalia Brooks, Aarabella Floyd, Kamella Brooks*
 Lectors: *Dave Baumgartner, Priscilla Johnson*
 Response: *Greg Gerton*

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 1/3: Parish • **Sunday, 1/4:** Parish

EDUCATION FOUNDATION
ALPHA BETA LAMBDA CHAPTER

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.
MLK
JANUARY 19, 2026
UNITY BREAKFAST

EMBRACING LOVE, PEACE AND RESPECT

CONTACT: Karen King-Jones • mkingjones@gmail.com

ABL FOUNDATION KY.COM **DOORS OPEN @ 7:30AM -- PROGRAM @ 8:30AM**

Are you committed to daily prayer?

Join Catholics across the Diocese of Lexington in the use of the Pilgrims Trail Scriptural Rosary.

Pray daily, meditate as you read the scripture with your family, friends or by yourself.

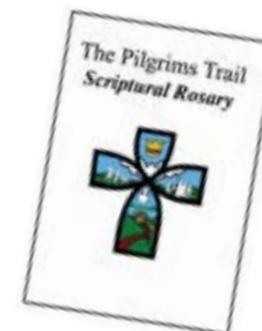
Be astonished by what scripture reveals to you and as you pray the Scriptural Rosary.

You don't need a booklet if you have a smart phone, computer or iPad. Just LOG IN

<https://cdlex.org/the-pilgrims-trail/>

to download The Pilgrims Trail Scriptural Rosary.

CLICK ON TOP RIGHT CORNER AND SAVE TO YOUR DESKTOP FILES OR TABS

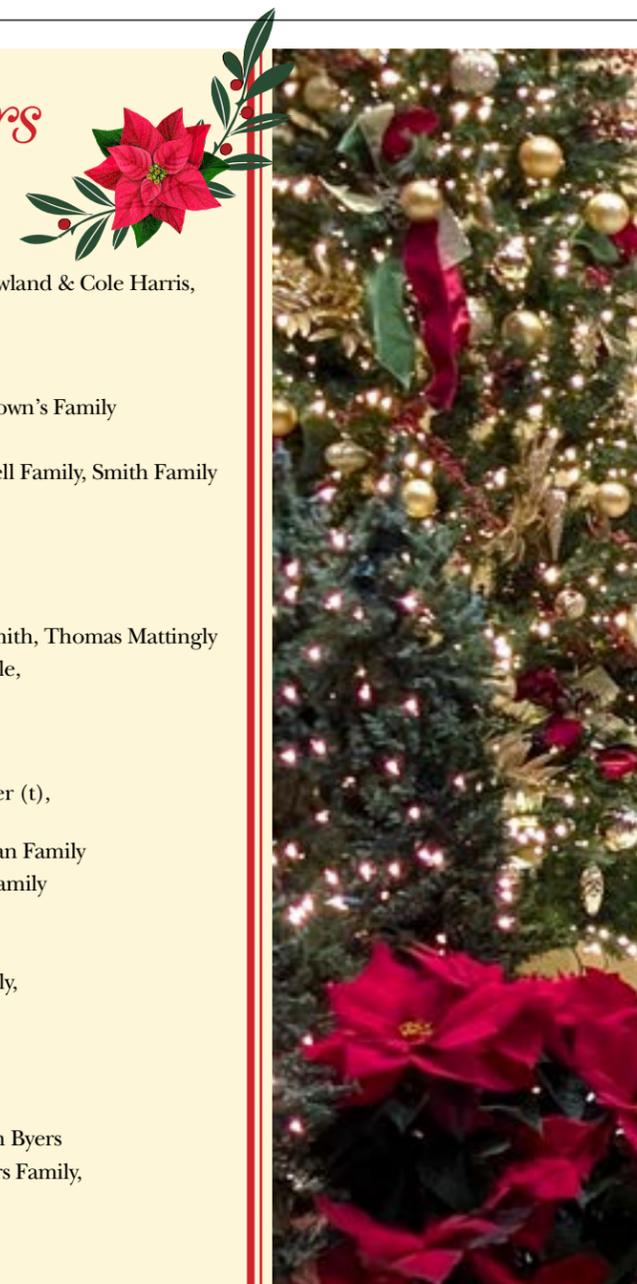


2025 Christmas Flowers

FROM

IN MEMORY/HONOR OF

| | |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Drs. Denis Alikier & Ima Ebong.....</i> | Helen Adderley-Ebong, Richard Acana, Helen Alikier, Eleanora Alikier |
| <i>Mr. & Mrs. David Baumgartner.....</i> | Henry & Doris Waits, Mary Mitchell, Rowland & Cole Harris, Paul Baumgartner |
| <i>Margaret Bessette.....</i> | Brandon Callofello |
| <i>Wayne Bond.....</i> | Mr. & Mrs. Bennie Bond |
| <i>Mary Margaret Brown.....</i> | Emily Lou Washington, Mary Coffey, Brown's Family |
| <i>Mr. Jerry Cheatham.....</i> | Karen Cheatham |
| <i>Mr. & Mrs. Steve Cocanougher.....</i> | Cocanougher Family, Grundy Family, Bell Family, Smith Family |
| <i>Mr. & Mrs. Richard Crumbie.....</i> | Brown & Wright Family |
| <i>Mr. & Mrs. Michael Elery.....</i> | Juana Barbosa |
| <i>Mr. & Mrs. Billy Fryer.....</i> | Anna Mae Fryer, Gladys Wheatley |
| <i>Bobby Gantley.....</i> | Cellina Gantley |
| <i>Alyce Graves.....</i> | Betty Thornton, Kate Mattingly, Rose Smith, Thomas Mattingly |
| <i>Priscilla Johnson.....</i> | John Fogle, Charles Givens, George Fogle, George Biggerstaff, Fr. Norman Fischer |
| <i>Nancy Marks.....</i> | Fr. Norman Fischer |
| <i>Mr. & Mrs. Dirk Morris.....</i> | Amos C. Williams, Sr., Susan George |
| <i>Mr. & Mrs. Robert Murray.....</i> | Walker A. Murray (t), Fr. Norman Fischer (t), Dc. James & Christina Weathers, Choir |
| <i>Mr. & Mrs. John Phillips.....</i> | Langford Family, Phillips Family, Bowman Family |
| <i>Mary Jo Quinn.....</i> | Quinn Family, Taylor Family, Leonard Family |
| <i>Sheryl Rice.....</i> | John H. Rice Jr., Zelma Sharkey |
| <i>Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Smetanko.....</i> | Smetanko Family |
| <i>Amy Smith.....</i> | Raphael B. & Lois O'Daniel, Craig Family, Mary Mitchell, James & Lucille Smith |
| <i>Drs. Amanda Sokan.....</i> | Parish |
| <i>Elizabeth Vaughn.....</i> | Parish |
| <i>Diane Viert.....</i> | Niemaszy K. & Viert Families |
| <i>Mrs. Mary Walker.....</i> | Walker, Tipler & Riggie Families, Sharon Byers |
| <i>Dc. James & Christina Weathers.....</i> | Linda Higgins, Betty Thurman, Weathers Family, George Thompson, Sr. |
| <i>Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Weathers.....</i> | Alton & Louise Weathers |
| <i>Mr. & Mrs. David Young.....</i> | Parish |



OUR CHURCH IN *Action*

St. Peter Claver's volunteers
decorating for Christmas



Photos by Beth Ross

ORDINATION

Deacon John Becerra
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF LEXINGTON



Ordination of Deacon John Becerra
Saturday, January 31 • 10:30 a.m.
Cathedral of Christ the King

ALL ARE INVITED TO THIS CELEBRATION

At this time, Deacon John continues his service
at Mary Queen of the Holy Rosary Parish.
Please keep Deacon John, and all the other men
in formation for service in our Diocese, in your prayers.



ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE
OF LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

BUILDING FUND REPORT



Every member of our parish community of faith is being asked to:

*Reflect on how great God has blessed us as a parish.
Be thankful for our individual blessings and prayerfully
consider how your gift can reflect your gratitude to God and
SPC. May we be filled with the same Spirit as we work to fund
the cost of our new parking lot addition.*

PARKING LOT PROJECT

Projected Parking Lot Expenses: \$400,000

MEETINGS

GOLDEN MINISTRY

Meetings are on Thursday • St. Peter Claver, Church Hall

1st Thursday: Community Service off site.

2nd Thursday: 10:30 a.m. – Noon

3rd and 4th Thursday: 1:30 – 3 p.m.

If there's a 5th Thursday: 10:30 a.m. or a planned
outside activity.

Contact person: Patricia Laprelle
Patricia.laprelle1@icloud.com
(859) 321-8124 call or text

St. Peter Claver Golden Ministry Mission Statement:

*The Golden Ministry of St. Peter Claver is a seasoned group
of men and women, age 55 and older. We aspire to bring the
golden community together through fellowship, companionship
and sharing of our faith while planning and participating
in activities of fun, adventure and helping others with the
strength of God and Christian faith.*

HEALTH MINISTRY

Blood Pressure checks on the First Sunday of every
month; **January 4, 2026** (Diane), after the 10 a.m. Mass.

Contact persons:
Martha Crumbie • mjcrumbie@aol.com • (859) 396-5178
Kris Miller • ck2304@aol.com • (859) 351-4253

St. Peter Claver Health Ministry's Mission:

*St. Peter Claver Health Ministry's Mission is to support the
vision and ministry of the church by providing resources,
information, health fairs, and other programs. To empower
individuals to take active roles in managing their health and
modifying their behaviors to live longer.*

Purpose:

*To Promote Health as a part of faith and to care for our
congregation and surrounding community by advocating for
optimal health and wellness. To promote preventative health
measures to help the congregation and community maintain
overall health through initiatives such as:*

- Exercise Programs
- Blood Pressure and other Screenings
- Health awareness/education
- Volunteer activities and outreach
- Support group formation
- Informational Speakers



EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Contact information: SPCECKY@gmail.com
Jason Akwa, Elnoe Akwa, Morgan Lincoln, Mayce
Brothers, Keylan Joyce, Tate Sams, Martha Crumbie



PLANNING AHEAD:

BUILDING A TOOLKIT TO HELP PREPARE YOU FOR CHANGES THAT ARISE IN LIFE

About this series:

Join Maranda Brooks and special guests in 2025 throughout this 6-month series as they help prepare you for changes that arise in life. As you learn you will build a toolkit that will keep all your resources accessible and in one place! Light refreshments will be provided.

Cost:

\$10.00 for the series

Location:

Fayette County Extension Office
1140 Harry Sykes Way, Lexington, KY 40504

Registration:

Register on-line:
<https://fayette.ca.uky.edu/classregistration>
OR call the extension office at 859-257-5582

Series Schedule:

 **Final Wishes**
Thursday, January 8th, 5:30-7:30p

Cooperative Extension Service

Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

Information provided through Cooperative Extension Service of people regardless of race or ethnicity will not be distributed on the basis of race, ethnicity, origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, marital status, genetic information, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, childbirth or related conditions, age, sexual orientation, or ancestry. This program is provided on a non-discriminatory basis. If you have any questions or need accommodations, please contact the program coordinator. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, UK, Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Cooperative Extension Services, KY 40506



Accessibility accommodations available upon request.



VILLAGES STUDY: A COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

You are being asked to participate in a survey about your experiences using or providing resources or services for older adults. What we learn from this survey will help researchers and community partners understand what types of services are needed and used in our community.

YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IF YOU:

- Are an older adult (50+) and/or identify as having a disability
- Live in Lexington

HOW DO I PARTICIPATE AND WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?:

- If you are interested, please scan the QR code below to access the survey
- If you choose to participate, you will complete a brief survey (10-15 minutes)
- Please reach out to Lynden Bond with any questions or to learn more

PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ENTERED TO WIN A \$100 GIFT CARD

Contact Information:

Lynden Bond, PhD, MSW
College of Social Work
Lynden_bond@uky.edu
859-257-1294



 University of Kentucky
Research
An Equal Opportunity University



Scan the QR code to access the consent and survey

LEGACY TREE OF LIFE (Donor Tree)



When you make a donation to the **Legacy Tree of Life**, your name and or personalized message will be engraved on a Bronze Leaf.

Bronze Leaf:
\$125 (cash or check);
\$130 (debit or credit card).

Leaves are approximately 4" wide x 1.56" high. Each leaf will be personalized up to 2 lines, 20 characters per line (including punctuation and blank spaces).

To make your donation, go to <https://tinyurl.com/7wz35p5e>
You may also use your smart phone to scan in the QR code.



If you have any questions, please contact the parish office at (859) 254-0030.