

ST. PETER CLAVER

SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“That is why the kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who decided to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the accounting, a debtor was brought before him who owed him a huge amount. Since he had no way of paying it back, his master ordered him to be sold, along with his wife, his children, and all his property, in payment of the debt.”
MATTHEW 18:23–25



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: spclex.org
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
ADMIN.
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 (DRE)
Maria Fischer-Boothe • (859) 227-2319
mgfischerboothe2012@gmail.com
YOUNG ADULTS

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, M.S.S.C. • Danumba@cdlex.org
Deacon
Deacon James Weathers • jweathers@cdlex.org
Weekday Mass Schedule
Tuesday & Wednesday: 5 p.m.
NEW MASS Thursday: Noon • 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
Bobby Gantley, James Keene, Amy Smith, Hilary Jones, Maureen Peters, Tim Gaillard.
FUNDRAISING/FINANCE MEMBERS
James Keene, Amy Smith, Hilary Jones, Timothy Gaillard, Maureen Peters.
KNIGHTS & LADIES OF 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 **September 27, 2026** bulletin, please submit information **before or by noon on Friday, September 18, 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 (2026-2027)
Elmer Ellis, John Gerton, Charlene Young, Felecia LaPrelle-Leach, D'Jakarta Ellis, Elnoel Akwa, Ima Ebong, Steve Cocanougher, James Gerton, David Young.

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 Maria Fischer-Boothe at (859) 227-2319, email mgfischerboothe2012@gmail.com

ONLINE GIVING:
Offertory, Building Fund, St. Peter Claver Legacy Tree of Life, Christmas Outreach Donation.
Go to our website spclex.org, click on the DONATE button to go to the Donation page. 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

Mary Theodore Williams Established an Enduring Black Catholic Congregation Devoted to Education and Child-Centered Ministry

Mother Mary Theodore Williams, foundress of the *Franciscan Handmaids of the Most Pure Heart of Mary*.

Elizabeth Williams was born February 11, 1868, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. She received her education from the Ladies of the Sacred Heart and the Sisters of the Holy Family, second oldest society of African-American Catholic religious in the United States. At 19, Williams entered the Sisters of Saint Francis' convent in Louisiana. When that order disbanded in 1912, she entered the novitiate of the Oblate Sisters of Providence in Baltimore where she was given the name Sister Mary Theodore.

The Franciscan Handmaids of the Most Pure Heart of Mary are a historically Black Catholic congregation of Religious Sisters co-founded by Mary Theodore Williams and Ignatius Lissner, S.M.A., in 1916. They follow the Rule of the Third Order Regular of St. Francis. Their primary mission has always been education, primarily of children of the African-American community.

Around that time, a bill in the Georgia legislature proposed to forbid white teachers from instructing black children. It threatened the closure of schools co-founded by Ignatius Lissner in Georgia and staffed by Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Conception. When the two African-American congregations, the Oblate Sisters of Providence and the Holy Family Sisters, could supply no help, Lissner decided to form a new one. In 1915, while working at Trinity College in Washington, DC, Williams learned that Lissner, provincial of the Society of African Missions, needed a religious to found a congregation

of black sisters in Savannah. On October 15, 1916, received the habit of the new order and took the name of Mother Mary Theodore.

The Georgia bill never passed, and the new sisters found little support. They taught by day and, to supplement their meagre earnings, ran a laundry business at night and begged along the waterfront on weekends. Thus, the sisters decided in 1924 to move the motherhouse of the congregation to Harlem in northern Manhattan, where it remains.

By 1925, there were sixteen members, eventually including women from the West Indies. In 1930, Williams had the congregation enrolled in the Franciscan family as members of the Third Order Regular, thus becoming the Franciscan Handmaids of the Most Pure Heart of Mary. During the Depression, the sisters established a soup kitchen. Mother Mary Theodore Williams died at the age of 63, in New York, in August 1931.

From 1952 to 2003 the sisters ran a summer camp on Staten Island, providing summer getaways for thousands of youth from New York City and North and South Carolina.

At its height in the 1960s, the congregation counted 80 sisters. As of 2010, there were 18 sisters, mostly age sixty or older. In 2014, the order's closing was anticipated, but encouraged by Pope Francis, the sisters extended their outreach to other parts of the United States, the Caribbean, and Africa. In 2017, there were twenty-four sisters, with seven in formation. The sisters then put the Harlem motherhouse up for sale, as there were only three sisters living there.

The sisters continue to operate St. Benedict's Day Nursery. Founded in 1923 at the request of Patrick Cardinal Hayes, it celebrated its 85th anniversary in 2008. Initially providing custodial care, it became one of the first pre-school educational programs in the United States.

The St. Edward Food Pantry is another of the ministries of the sisters. The order has operated a food pantry on Staten Island since 1928. The food pantry collects food, clothing, gifts and toys for distribution during the Christmas season. The sisters serve in Harlem, Staten Island, Yonkers and Owerri, Nigeria.



Mother Mary Theodore Williams



Motherhouse in New York City

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE: September 13–19, 2026 • Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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.....	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

TODAY! Sunday, September 13, 2026: *Home coming Celebration of St. Peter Claver’s Feast Day* at St. Peter Claver.

Saturday, September 19, 5:30 p.m.: *Night of Light* An evening benefiting the Patricia Stewart Catholic education fund for Eastern Kentucky (Bellefonte Country Club, Ashland, KY) (see ad on page 7 for more information).

October 13–14, 2026: *SPC pictorial directory sessions* (see ad on page 6 for more information).

Saturday, November 7, 2026, 5 p.m.: Catholic Diocese of Lexington’s *Wedding Anniversary Mass and Reception* (Cathedral of Christ The King) (see ad on page 6 for more information).

Thursday, November 12, 2026, 11 a.m.: *A Faith-Centered Grief Care Workshop* at St. Peter Claver (see ad on page 7 for more information).

NEXT WEEKEND LITURGY SCHEDULE: September 19–20, 2026 • Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, September 19: 4:30 p.m. Vigil Mass	Sunday, September 20: 10 a.m. Gospel Mass
Presiders: <i>Fr. Art Molina, Pam Johnson</i>	Presiders: <i>Fr. Art Molina, Pam Johnson</i>
Eucharistic Ministers: <i>Sharon Smith, Cheryl Bogarty</i>	Eucharistic Ministers: <i>Beth Ross, Ami Hillenmeyer</i>
Ushers: <i>Alice Graves, Cheryl Bogarty</i>	Ushers: <i>Linda Lewis, Chuck Bond, Sharon Searcy, Stephanie Hogan</i>
Server: <i>Eli Blair</i>	Servers: <i>Austin Riggle, Alex Riggle, Thérèse Boothe,</i>
Lector: <i>Christy Rickert</i>	Lectors: <i>Bill Kiefer, Kim Riggle</i>
Response: <i>Missy Leverette</i>	Response: <i>Missy Leverette</i>
	Gift Bearers: <i>Elmer & Djakarta Ellis</i>

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, September 12: *Parish* • **Sunday, September 13:** *Parish* • **Tuesday, September 15:** *Mary Fogle*

FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTION TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS



Painting by Fr. Norman Fischer

Friday, October 2, 2026

St. Peter Claver observes the **First Friday Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus** on the first Friday of the month.
10 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Please sign up for your hour. The sign-up sheet is on the table in the Narthex.
You can also sign up online. Go to this link or scan the QR code using your smart phone:
[Spclex.org/adoration](https://spclex.org/adoration)



FIRST SATURDAY MASS & ROSARY

October 3 at 9 a.m.
with the Rosary following.



ST. PETER
CLAV
CATHOLIC
church

SAVE THE DATE

Father Damian & Saint Peter Claver invite you to:

AN EVENING OF
Christmas Elegance

Saturday, December 5, 2026
6–10 p.m.

SAINT PETER CLAVER • FR. NORMAN A. FISCHER JR. FELLOWSHIP HALL

Join us for a night full of Holiday Cheers for a special all-inclusive cocktail party with hors d’oeuvres

Music by Renowned Jazz Artist Benny J.

More Details to Follow



ST. PETER
CLAV
CATHOLIC
church

"Look to Christ!... Listen to his offer of love and become his one family: in the one Christ, we are one." -Pope Leo XIV

2026 Diocesan Annual Appeal

SCAN HERE TO GIVE
ONLINE TODAY!



One In Christ



Ministries Supported By the Diocesan Annual Appeal

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Catholic Charities | Catholic Schools | Clergy Support |
| Campus Ministries | Hispanic Ministry | Permanent Diaconate |
| Seminarians & Vocations | Stewardship | Technology |

ENCOUNTER • LIVE • SHARE



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF LEXINGTON

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY *Mass and Reception*

• WITH BISHOP JOHN PRESIDING •



**SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 7TH, 2026**
CATHEDRAL OF CHRIST THE KING

AT
5PM



FOR COUPLES CELEBRATING THEIR
10TH, 25TH, 40TH, 50TH, AND 50TH+
ANNIVERSARIES IN 2026

SCAN TO
REGISTER!



REGISTER AT [CDLEX.ORG/FAMILY](https://cdlex.org/family)



OR CALL CLAUDIA BY OCT. 30TH AT
(859) 253-1993 x 1004.

*St. Peter Claver
parishioners, please
mark your calendars!*

SPC is doing a new pictorial directory!
We want everyone to get a new picture
made so that our directory will be complete.
Photo dates: October 13–14, 2026.

You can make your
appointment online by
scanning this QR code
or call the office at (859)
254–0030.



You will have a profes-
sional photography
session, see your proofs,
and have the opportu-
nity to purchase extra
portraits for family and
friends.



Remember **CHURCH
DIRECTORIES**

SECOND COLLECTION

**Today, Sunday,
September 13**

*Collection for Formation of
Ordained and Lay Ministers*



Today we will take up the **Collection
for Formation of Ordained and Lay
Ministers.**

Funds from this collection will
support formation opportunities for
diaconate program as well as con-
tinuing education programs for our
priests, deacons and lay ministers.
Please be generous and pray for our
Ordained and Lay Ministers.
Thank you!

YOU'RE INVITED TO

Night of Light

AN EVENING BENEFITING

THE PATRICIA STEWART CATHOLIC EDUCATION FUND

for Eastern Kentucky

Saturday, September 19th

BELLEFONTE COUNTRY CLUB
208 COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE
ASHLAND, KY

5:30 PM COCKTAILS | 7:00 PM DINNER

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND
TICKET PURCHASES VISIT
[CEOFLEX.ORG](https://ceoflex.org)

*Enlightening Hope.
Inspiring Futures.*

Sponsored by the St. Peter Claver Health Ministry and the St. Peter Claver Golden Ministry

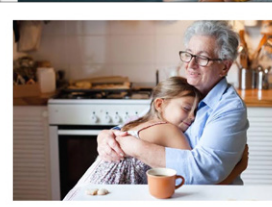
BLUEGRASS
care
navigators
Expert. Connected. Care.

FINDING HOPE THROUGH GRIEF

*A Faith-Centered Grief Care
Workshop*



Join us for a compassionate
workshop created especially for
older adults navigating loss.
Together, we will make space for
reflection, connection, and healing -
grounded in faith and guided by
caring professionals.



WHERE: St. Peter Claver
Catholic Church

WHEN: Thursday, November
12, 2026

TIME: 11:00 AM

*Light refreshments will be
provided.*

For more information, feel free to contact Martha Crumbie @ 859-396-5178.

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

HEALTH MINISTRY

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

Contact persons:

Martha Crumbie • mjcrumbie@aol.com • (859) 396–5178

Kris Miller • ck2304@aol.com • (859) 351–4253

SUPPORT

St. Peter Claver and
promote your business at the same time.

**Advertise your business
in the bulletin today!**

For more information or to place
an ad, please call our office at
(859) 254–0030 or email us at
stpeterclaver@cdlex.org



St. Peter Claver's "March of the House" Offering

St. Peter Claver's offertory custom
is for our parishioners to bring
their gifts to the Altar. We call
it "**March of the
House**" Offering.
We encourage all
our new members
and parishioners
to participate in
this custom.





CRHP Welcome Retreat Weekend

October 10–11, 2026

NOTE:

**Registration closes on
Friday, September 18, 2026
at 5 p.m.**

Dear Sister in Christ,

I would like to invite you to the ***CRHP/Welcome Women's Renewal Weekend***, which is being held on October 10 and 11. The retreat is overnight so that you may truly relax uninterrupted for the weekend, and it is also a lot of fun! You will get a chance to meet and get to know a lot of good women. We get together with the Holy Spirit to become closer to God.

What is CRHP/Welcome? **Christ Renews His Parish / Welcome**

Learning how to be a faithful follower of Christ is the heart of most believers. Too many distractions of our modern life distance God and His love from us. The truly Good News is God is Alive. He loves us deeper than we could ever know and He longs for our return.

This process is just one way to stop our busy lives, see past the pains and lies, and know God, not just experience Him.

So in the words of our Savior we too, invite you to "Come and you will see," John 1:39. It is very difficult for most of us to take the time to recognize God's influence in our daily lives. Believe me, this weekend will change your life for the better and will build relationships with God and fellow women that will last forever. You may also gain a few pounds because the food is fantastic!

If you don't feel comfortable around groups of people, have no worries. All we ask of you is your name, and you will be among friends. If you have something to say, you can speak up, or not, the choice is yours.

If you have any questions, please call Landrea Miriti (859) 313–5263, C/W 11 Communications Coordinator.

Thank you for answering the call!

Peace and Blessings,

The Sisters of CRHP/Welcome #11

Registration form

- 1) Name (First and Last): _____
- 2) Home Address (street, city, state, zip): _____
- 3) Cell phone: _____ 4) Email address: _____
- 5) Special dietary needs: _____

- 6) Health concerns: _____
- 7) Spouse's Name, if unmarried your Best Friend's name: _____
- 8) Emergency Contact information* (not in the same household) Name, Address (street, city, state, zip), Cell, Email:

- 9) Birthday (Month/Day): _____ T-shirt size (in men's size): _____