

SUNDAY MASSES
(All in Main Church)
Saturday at 5 p.m.
Sunday at 9 & 11 a.m.
Holy Days as announced.

WEEKDAY MASSES
(All in Historic Church)
Monday-Friday at 9 a.m.

PERPETUAL ADORATION
(In Chapel of the Nativity)

RECONCILIATION
(In Main Church)
Friday 8-8:45 a.m.
Saturday 3:30-4:45 p.m.
Any time by appointment.

# Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 8, 2018

Our second reading this weekend is taken from St. Paul's letter to the Corinthians. In this letter, St. Paul talks about "a thorn in the flesh." While he doesn't really say what it is, he tells a lot about the effect that this burden has on his life. St. Paul says that this thorn was given to him to keep him from becoming too elated, too proud or too arrogant. Paul asked the Lord to remove this painful thing from his life, but God willed or permitted it, for reasons that Paul likely discovered once he arrived at the gates of heaven.

I would like to confess that, like St Paul, I too, have a thorn in the flesh. Let me give you a little of the story. . .

My high school graduation picture shows a younger, and more handsome, Deacon Tim with visibly thinning hair. This was somewhat difficult for me to accept at age 18, but it was even more painful for my mother. She cajoled me and nudged me, until I went to a salon that specialized in men's hair replacement; and so I got my first "hair system." As you might imagine, anything that is man-made is never quite as good as the original that God created. Such is true with artificial hair. It covered my progressing baldness nicely, but it never truly looked like real human hair.

At 60 years old, I have been wearing an artificial hair system for most of 40 years. I have suffered the embarrassment of thinning hair on the piece and obvious bald spots. I have suffered the heat in the summer and the eventual bleaching by the sun that always changes the color. I have suffered itching and skin breakouts. In short, this attempt to cover my inherited baldness has been my thorn in the flesh.

I recently decided that it is time to say farewell to my hair system and be content with what the good Lord gave me. I announced to Father Steven my plans to abandon my artificial hair, and he suggested that I tell our parish family about my plan ahead of time, so people are not shocked when I make my first appearance as a mostly bald man.

Each of us has our own thorn. It might be an imperfection, such as a discomfort with the size of our body or some other physical attribute. It might be a persistent pattern of sin that we can't quite overcome; it could be an addiction that has plagued us. These thorns can draw us deeper into our relationship with the Lord by making us more humble and more open to His grace in our lives.

No one seems to know what St. Paul's particular thorn was. It may have been a speech impediment or a physical imperfection. There has been much speculation but no solid answers about what caused St. Paul so much pain. What we know for sure is that God uses all kinds of "thorns" to make us humble. I am well past the age at which I worry a lot about my physical appearance. I now sport the added pounds of later middle age, greying at the temples, and bags under the eyes. I know that our Lord sees past these seeming imperfections and sees me as His beloved child (see Psalm 139).

As for me, I will be appearing without my hair system in the weeks to come. I suspect it will be a bit awkward that first Sunday, but I trust you will accept me and love me as a bald deacon, just as you did when I was a deacon with hair. I am so grateful to each of you for your love and support of me and my family.

I have learned much in these nearly three years, and I know there is much more for me to learn. One of the most important lessons of this earthly life is that of walking in humility. I suspect that God will teach me much through this experience of accepting myself the way He made me.

We are all on a journey in this life that ultimately leads us back to the One who made us. One day all of our mortal "imperfections" will fade, as we stand before the Lord to receive the reward of our earthly life. Let's pray for the courage to accept whatever "thorns" we must endure in our earthly life and for the grace to humbly accept whatever our loving God wills or sends into our lives.

In Christ who teaches us humility,

Deacon Tim





# YOUTH NEWS AND FAITH FORMATION

### **FAITH FORMATION**

#### **Religious Education Registration for 2018 - 2019**

Please remember to register your children for Religious Education for the 2018-2019 year. If you have any questions, please contact the RE office.

#### First Reconciliation and First Communion 2018 - 2019

Please be aware that all children in second grade must prepare for their sacraments at their parish. Even if your child is in a Catholic school, he or she must be registered for the Wednesday night program. If your child is in at least second grade in September of 2018 and you wish to have him or her in the First Reconciliation and First Communion program, please register. Register him/her for the Grade 2 classes. Children must receive the sacrament of Reconciliation prior to First Communion.

# WORKCAMP



On Saturday, July 7, our Workcamp crew left for Vandalia, Illinois. They **VORKCOMP** will be helping less fortunate families in that community with painting,

repairs, yard cleanup, etc., that these families may not be able to do for themselves. Please pray for these young people, as they devote this week to helping others.

# **SEMINARY APPLICATION INFORMATION MEETING**

Are you a High School Senior interested in college seminary? Then please join us on Wednesday, August 15, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., at Saint John Vianney College Seminary, 2110 Selby Avenue, in St. Paul.

This meeting is for men entering their Senior year in High School and are interested in entering seminary formation for the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis and attending Saint John Vianney college seminary. Parents or guardians are also encouraged to attend. Join us for Mass, a light meal, tour of the seminary and discussion of application procedures for Fall 2019 entry. If you have questions, please contact the Office of Vocations at 651-962-6890. Registration is required! Register online at www.10000vocations.org.

#### OFFICE INFORMATION

Father Steven Hoffman: 651-452-4550 Deacon Tim Hennessey: 651-905-4301

Parish Office Hours: Mon - Thur, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Fri, 8 - Noon.

Phone: 651-452-4550

BAPTISMS, NEW PARISHIONERS, WEDDINGS

Call the parish office for more information.

#### PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS

Email Lisa Amos at lamos@stpetersmendota.org, call her at 651-905-4304 or call the parish office.

### FAITHFUL SHEPHERD CATHOLIC SCHOOL AND **TRI-PARISH CENTER**

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look forward to meeting and sharing our school with you!

# **VOCATION CAMPS FOR YOUNG WOMEN**



Quo Vadis is a camp experience QUOYADIS for youth ages 14-17 to learn that nothing is more important than discovering God's will for your

life – and living it! The July 15 to 18 session is for young women. Please join us at St. John Vianney College Seminary on the University of St. Thomas campus.

Each session begins on Sunday, with 4:15 p.m. registration, followed by 5 p.m. Sunday Mass and concludes on Wednesday, at 1 p.m. The camp includes Mass, prayer, talks, field trips to visit religious communities, confession and rosary, along with lots of fun and recreation! Space is limited. For more information and to register, visit www.10000vocations.org.



# **ADMINISTRATIVE NEWS • STEWARDSHIP • COMMUNITY NEWS**

# ACCEPTING FALL FESTIVAL AND COUNTRY STORE ITEMS



The Fall Festival will be a two-day event this year, taking place on October 6 and 7. Please drop off your items at the parish office Monday through Friday. For the silent auction, we accept new or antique items, themed gift baskets, sports tickets, weekend get-aways, gift

cards for restaurants, movies, pedicures, manicures, hotels, etc. For the Country Store, we would love homemade items, such as mittens, hats, quilts, greeting cards, ornaments, jams or jellies. Thanks for helping make our festival successful!

# FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

Thank you to all that joined us in April. We worked with a smaller group, but still packed over 25,000 meals - enough to feed 69 children for a full year. Feed My



Starving Children is trying to pack a million meals a day in 2018 totaling 365 million meals. Won't you join us? We'll try to help them reach that goal!

**Where:** Feed My Starving Children, 990 Lone Oak Road (just east of Lexington), Suite 136, Eagan.

When: Monday, July 9, from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

To sign up or learn more, please contact Paul or Peggy Hirsch at 651-431-1832 or at <a href="mailto:phirsch651@aol.com">phirsch651@aol.com</a>.

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME

We would like to thank Carolyn Rynders, our parish receptionist, for the help and warm greetings that she gave over the past years, while working here at St. Peter's. We wish her well in her retirement. Please pray for a blessed future for Carolyn.

# FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Check out St. Peter's website at www.stpetersmendota.org, our Facebook page at facebook.com/stpetersmendota and Twitter @StPetersMendota.

# HISTORIC CHURCH TOURS



Have you ever wanted to hear more about the history of our parish? Our Historic Church will be open for FREE tours every Sunday, from 12 to 2 p.m., Memorial weekend through Labor Day. Feel free to

stop in and learn about your community's very own historic site!

### **ALPHA**

Alpha is returning to St. Peter's on Tuesdays, beginning September 4. It is a place to develop or deepen a relationship with Jesus and to explore the basics of the Christian faith. Alpha runs from September 4 through November 27, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., in Heritage Center.



Alpha consists of a meal, a talk and small group discussion. It is an open, informal and honest space to explore and discuss life's big questions together, and it is designed to create and/or deepen a personal relationship with Jesus. Alpha is a place for fellowship with others.

One recent participant commented: "Alpha increased my confidence to share my faith!" Another said: "As a new member, Alpha was helpful in making me feel more connected at St. Peter's."

Signups will begin in August. Watch for more information in the bulletin and on the website. In the meantime, mark your calendars and plan to join us! Invite your friends and neighbors! Space is limited. If you have any questions, please call Laurie Reding at 612-419-1709 or email her at lreding 1@aol.com.

# MISSION TRIP TO UGANDA JUNE OF 2019



We will be making a return visit to St. Anthony's parish in Migyera, Uganda, to reconnect with our brothers and sisters in Uganda and do some mission work. The trip is planned for June 6 — 20, 2019. While

there, we will work at the schools where our sponsored children attend, meet with sponsored families and do some work for them, as well as doing some medical mission work, among other things. If you are interested in joining us, or if you have questions, please call Laurie Reding at (612)419-1709 or email her at <a href="mailto:lreding1@aol.com">lreding1@aol.com</a>. Space is limited to 15 people.

# **OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

St. Peter's is here to bring the good news of the Gospel to all, so that every person can have a personal, life changing, life giving relationship with Jesus Christ.

#### **Trustees:**

 Jim Oricchio
 .651-452-3587

 Helen Wilkie
 .651-365-1334

# READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 8

**Sunday:** Ez 2:2-5/Ps 123:1-2, 2, 3-4 [2cd]/2

Cor 12:7-10/Mk 6:1-6a

**Monday:** Hos 2:16, 17b-18, 21-22/Ps 145:2-

3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [8a]/Mt 9:18-26 **Tuesday:** Hos 8:4-7, 11-13/Ps 115:3-4, 5-6,

7ab-8, 9-10 [9a]/Mt 9:32-38

**Wednesday:** Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12/Ps 105:2-3, 4-5,

6-7 [4b]/Mt 10:1-7

**Thursday:** Hos 11:1-4, 8e-9/Ps 80:2ac and 3b,

15-16 [4b]/Mt 10:7-15

**Friday:** Hos 14:2-10/Ps 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-13,

14 and 17 [17b]/Mt 10:16-23

**Saturday:** Is 6:1-8/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5 [1a]/Mt

10:24-33

**Next Sunday:** Am 7:12-15/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-

14 [8]/Eph 1:3-14 or 1:3-10/Mk 6:7

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# **MASS INTENTIONS**

# The following are the intentions offered by the priest at Mass:

Monday, July 9 † Bill Olson Tuesday, July 10 Cheryl Linnell

Wednesday, July 11 † Louis J. Chapdelaine

Thursday, July 12 † Dee Hazuka Friday, July 13 † Kim Linnell

Saturday, July 14 Mass For The People Sunday, July 15, 9 am † Elizabeth Giefer

11 am † Dee Hazuka

# THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR: JUNE

# Monday, July 9

9 am Mass, Historic Church (8:30 Rosary)
 6 pm Feed My Starving Children, Off Campus
 7 pm Boy Scout Troop Meeting, Classroom 10

### Tuesday, July 10

9 am Mass, Historic Church (8:30 Rosary)9:30 am Women's Bible Study, Heritage Center

### Wednesday, July 11

9 am Mass, Historic Church (8:30 Rosary)

#### Thursday, July 12

9 am Mass, Historic Church (8:30 Rosary)

7 pm AA Meeting, Classroom 5

## Friday, July 13

8 am
 9 am
 9:30 am
 Potluck Birthday Breakfast, Heritage Center

#### Saturday, July 14

**9 am** Young Adult Book Club, Classroom 10

9 am & 10:30 am

AA Meeting, Classrooms

10 am Saturday Scripture Study, Conference

Room

3:30 pm Reconciliation, Main Church4:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, Music Room

5 pm Mass, Main Church

**6 pm** Workcamp Pick-up, Gathering Space

#### Sunday, July 15

8:30 am Choir Rehearsal, Music Room

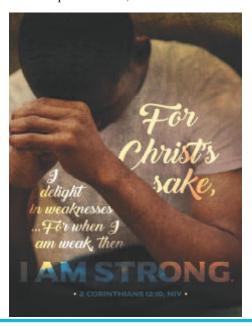
9 am Mass, Main Church

10:30 am Choir Rehearsal, Music Room

10:30 am Rosary for St. Peter's, Adoration Chapel

11 am Mass, Main Church 12 pm Baptism, Main Church

1 pm Baptism Class, Conference Room



# PASTORAL MINISTRY

# **FOLLOWING JESUS**



Jesus is not accepted in his native place and is amazed at the lack of faith of the people in that town. We may face criticism from family, friends or coworkers for our Catholic beliefs. May we always stand firm in our faith,

regardless of what others might say about us.

# **NEIGHBORS, INC.**

School's out for summer! The food shelf always sees an increased number of customers this time of year (and a lot more kids, who come with Mom or Dad). Typically, June and July are the busiest months of the year for food shelf visits, but also some of the lowest for pounds of food coming in. Please remember folks who may not have quite a carefree summer as some.

People ask quite often if we can take fresh garden produce. Yes, we can! You can bring your produce to the food shelf delivery door (big garage door on the lower level of our building), during our normal delivery hours (8:15-12:15 and 1:00-4:30 on weekdays).

I'd like to remind you of the Summer Meals Program, which started at several of our local schools earlier this month. I am still looking for volunteers to help serve breakfast and lunch to hungry kids! The schedule is flexible; you can select as many or as few shifts as you like—even just one! Find more information at www.neighborsmn.org/services/summer-meals-program/.

#### **Food Shelf Needs**

Most needed items at the moment:

- Pancake mix and syrup
- Juice
- Toilet Paper
- Laundry Soap
- Kid-friendly foods (fruit cups, EasyMac, etc.)
- Baking items (flour, oil, sugar, seasonings)

# WOMEN'S CALL TO VOCATION

We are currently taking applications for women interested in Bethany House, for September 2018 to May 2019. Bethany House is a home for women who live in community, pray together, take meals together and discern whether they are called to consecrated life. It is sponsored by the Office of Vocations and is located in North East Minneapolis. Qualities of a good candidate for Bethany House include single women, ages 20 to 27, who are interested in dedicating a year to intentionally discerning a vocation to religious life. If this describes you, we invite you to contact us by completing the interest form at www.10000vocations.org/bethany-house.

# **ADORATION CHAPEL**

If you are uncertain about what an hour in our chapel might mean for you, consider what some of our adorers have to say about their very special time with Jesus. Over the next several weeks, we will be sharing some of their comments with you.



The Adoration Chapel is a place where I can bare my soul to Jesus. It is a place where I can let go and receive answers. It is a place where I can make my special intentions and requests personally to an all present Lord. It is a place where I can learn more about Jesus, with the various spiritual aids that are present in the Adoration Chapel. It is a place where I can fully experience the presence of the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, where I can be surrounded by Him, for Him and with Him. If we fully understood this encounter with an all loving God, there'd be a line out the door to California to see him. It is nice to know all are welcome!

~ Mark Mischke

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The chapel is closed during Masses. If you need a sub for your hour, please refer to our substitute roster to cover your hour in advance. Contact Lisa Amos at 651-905-4304 or at <a href="mailto:lamos@stpetersmendota.org">lamos@stpetersmendota.org</a> to sign up for an hour of adoration. We still need adorers at the following hours:

**Sunday:** 3-4 am, 5 to 6 pm

**Monday:** 2 to 3 am, 3 to 4 am, 11 am to Noon

Tuesday: 11 pm to Midnight Wednesday: 1 to 2 am, 3 to 4 am

**Thursday:** 3 to 4 am

**Friday:** Midnight to 1 am, 1 to 2 am, Noon to

1 pm, 4 to 5 pm, 7 to 8 pm

Saturday: 7 to 8 am

# **CATECHETICAL INSTITUTE**

The Archbishop Harry J. Flynn Catechetical Institute was founded in 2008 to provide ongoing faith formation for Catholic adults of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. The mission of the institute is to further students' spiritual formation and deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith. The heart of the curriculum is based on the four pillars of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* and provides a systematic presentation of the Catholic faith.

Over a course of two years, students will participate in four modules of 11 classes each, plus two formative sessions, during each module. After completing all four modules, students will receive a certificate of completion.

Applications are being accepted now for Fall of 2018. Visit <a href="https://www.cistudent.com/2018-application/">www.cistudent.com/2018-application/</a> to register. The deadline for registration is July 31.



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