

**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.

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**August 19, 2018**

I love this time of the year in our lectionary cycle. This is where the proverbial rubber meets the road, and we get some concrete instructions on how to follow Jesus. Let's face it; being a true disciple is hard, especially when it's often even hard to decipher what that means for us. Sometimes it even feels like the longer I seek to be a disciple, the less clear the path becomes. The messages we are inundated with throughout our days can be daunting. Just when I think I've found the path, the weeds creep in and suddenly, it's not so clear anymore. The scariest part of losing your way, though, isn't realizing you no longer know where the path is taking you. It's far worse to have known where you were, and when you turn around, you find that the path back is just as covered with weeds as the way forward.

This is a bit like what happened in my own faith story. Like so many Catholic parents, mine put me on the right path on September 13, 1975, the day I was baptized. They taught me how to pull weeds when I was seven; I still remember that, when I went to confession, all my weeds had to do with fighting with my brother. On Mother's Day that same year, I received the True Food and True Drink for the very first time. And, admittedly at the time, the most exciting thing about that day for me was that I would finally be getting my ears pierced the next day.

Somewhere in my teens and into my 20's, I stopped going to Mass. The Holy Spirit had hold of me the whole time I was gone. After a few of my own half-hearted attempts to bring a little religion back into my life, the Holy Spirit led me to the Mass with the eyes of my heart wide open. If you feel like your path, or the path of a loved one, is choked with weeds, don't lose hope. To the Holy Spirit, the way is always clear. The Spirit showed me the way to the Bread of Life, the Mass, the very Source and Summit of our faith.

In the Eucharist, Christ leaves us the very nourishment we require to become and remain disciples. This idea was shocking to many. In fact, many of his early followers seem to have left after falling prey to their own doubt, but Peter and the rest of the disciples remained. After all, it wasn't the first time they'd seen what Jesus can do through the sacraments that he was leaving with his church. Each sacrament takes something very basic in the world and turns

on its sacramental powers. Sins washed away in Baptism by water. Illness, even death, reversed with oil, or sometimes, just a human hand. Now, the simplest of breads and some wine are used as the means for us to deepen our relationship with Jesus. We meet God in this mysterious and dramatic way: God gives himself to us, and we try to shape our lives into a loving gift for Him.

God wants us to approach Him with a hearty, almost starving, appetite. This way we will begin to be formed by the sacrament, not mechanically, but by allowing ourselves to become more and more like Him over the years. I know that everyone's lives get busy and that summer weekends are precious and few here in Minnesota. Mine are like that, too, but I try to eat at this Table, as often as possible. Maybe it's because I spent too many years away from our Church, and I remember how different I feel now than I did when I wandered around, unaware that I was starving to death.

Now that I see the Feast, I can no longer be content to just snack here and there. Try that with a regular diet, especially when you still lead an active life. In little to no time, you will be fatigued and defeated. In the same way, if we don't feast on Christ, we will be ill-prepared to face and overcome the world, and we certainly will not live the life that Christ offers. I know I don't want to lose my way again, so snacking just won't cut it for me.

My prayer for each of us this week is this: That we will... Believe him. Receive him. Taste him. See him. Become him. Amen.

Lisa Amos
Pastoral Associate

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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.

CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION AVAILABLE NOW

Registration information is now available for high school youth seeking to be confirmed in May of 2019. Information regarding confirmation, Perissos and registration materials can be found at the Information Center. Our confirmation year will kick off with a parent meeting on Wednesday, September 5, at 6:30 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact Elizabeth McCanna, Youth Minister, at emccanna@stpetersmendota.org.



ALPHA BEGINS SEPTEMBER 4



Alpha is returning to St. Peter's, beginning September 4. Alpha is a place to develop or deepen a relationship with Jesus and explore the basics of the Christian faith. It will run Tuesday evenings, from September 4 through November 27, from 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. It is designed to create and/or deepen a personal relationship with Jesus and 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."

Online registration has begun at www.stpetersmendota.org/alpha-registration/. Mark your calendars and plan to join us! Invite your friends and neighbors! Space is limited to 45 participants. If you have any questions, please contact Laurie Reding at 612-419-1709 or lreding1@aol.com.

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.

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BUSINESS SPONSORSHIP

This year, our Fall Festival will be a two-day event, with live music, a silent auction, our famous pork dinner, concessions, bingo, Wisconsin cheese curds (in honor of Father Steven), the country store, the “Vikings vs. Packers Quilt Super Bowl,” inflatables, a wine raffle and a \$5,000 raffle. Each year, our festival gets bigger and better with more people attending from our parish and community. If you are a business owner or have connections to a business, please consider sponsoring our festival. See the flyer in the bulletin for more information.

CHILDCARE FOR ALPHA

During our fall Alpha session, we would like to offer childcare, but in order to do this we need volunteers! Alpha will take place Tuesdays, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., September 4 through November 27 (skipping November 20). Volunteers must be already trained and approved to work with children at St. Peter’s, meaning they have already gone through VIRTUS training. If you are interested in helping, please call Laurie Reding at 612-419-1709 or email her at lreding1@aol.com. You may also call Lisa Amos at 651-905-4304 or email her at lamos@stpetersmendota.org.




HAITI COLLECTION

The CCW is collecting these much needed items for Haiti:

- Empty pill bottles (with labels removed—fill bottle with HOT water to loosen the label).
- All sizes of WHITE ONLY sheets and pillow cases.
- All sizes of WHITE ONLY tablecloths.

Please drop off your items in the marked boxes in the coat room. Thank you all for your donations.



Financial Recap
July 1 to August 12, 2018

YTD Actual Collections	\$92,878
YTD Budgeted Collections	\$96,840
Difference	\$ (3,962)

To donate electronically visit www.stpetersmendota.org
and click on Donate Online
or call Chris Seiple in the parish office at 651-905-4307.

BLOOD DRIVE

Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood. Approximately 36,000 units of red blood cells are needed every day in the U.S. You can help! The Red Cross will be holding a blood drive at St. Peter’s on Thursday, September 13, from 1 to 6 p.m., in Heritage Center. Please sign up online at www.redcrossblood.org, or call Sandra or Lynn at 651-452-1844 for an appointment. Thank you.



****New this fall! Everyone who comes to give blood will receive a coupon for FREE CHEESE CURDS at the St. Peter’s Fall Festival!**

PEOPLE ASKING FOR MONEY

Lately many area churches, including St. Peter’s, have seen an increase in the number of people around the church asking for money. The police recommend that when you are confronted by a person asking for money, a very good response is to immediately say “no” and to keep moving. If the person persists, repeat your response of “no,” but briefly communicate to them that we support local charitable organizations, that they may seek help from the parish office during office hours and that you will pray for them.

At no time should you ever reach into your wallet or purse, and you should not give them money. Please let an usher or parish staff member know of their presence. The Mendota Heights Police Department will be contacted, as these individuals may be in unsafe situations and need law enforcement’s help. Please pray for our brothers and sisters in need.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE UGANDA MISSION



Fr. Lawrence Kimbowa visited our parish once again in the latter half of June. During that time, we had many events and fund raisers to support our brothers and sisters in the parish of St. Anthony in Migyera, Uganda. Between the raffle sales, our farm animal fundraiser, the pork dinner and free will donations from parishioners, we raised over \$10,000! In addition, we received an additional 19 child sponsorships! On behalf of Fr. Lawrence and the Uganda Mission team – thank you so much for your support! The funds raised will be used to buy farm animals to support the parish, drums to enhance their liturgies, make improvements to the church building and support catechism programs for the parish children, among many other things. Fr. Lawrence will send us pictures. We will post those in the Uganda display in the gathering space. Thank you again for all you do to support the Uganda Mission through prayer and financial support!

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.....651-260-2420



READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 19

Sunday: Prv 9:1-6/Ps 34:2-3, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15 [9a]/Eph 5:15-20/Jn 6:51-58
Monday: Ez 24:15-24/Dt 32:18-19, 20, 21 [cf. 18a]/Mt 19:16-22
Tuesday: Ez 28:1-10/Dt 32:26-27ab, 27cd-28, 30, 35cd-36ab [39c]/Mt 19:23-30
Wednesday: Ez 34:1-11/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/Mt 20:1-16
Thursday: Ez 36:23-28/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19 [Ez 36:25]/Mt 22:1-14
Friday: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18 [12]/Jn 1:45-51
Saturday: Ez 43:1-7ab/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. 10b]/Mt 23:1-12
Next Sunday: Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b/Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21, 22-23 [9a]/Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32/Jn 6:60-69

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MASS INTENTIONS

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

Monday, August 20	† Patrick (Packie) Griffin
Tuesday, August 21	† Robert Weidner
Wednesday, August 22	Kurian & Pam Cherucheril
Thursday, August 23	† Marian & Leo Reding
Friday, August 24	† Louis J. Chapdelaine
Saturday, August 25	Mass For The People
Sunday, August 26, 9 am	† Jeffrey Weiss
11 am	† Delores Richards

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR: AUGUST 20

Monday, August 20

9 am Mass, Historic Church (8:30 Rosary)
7 pm Boy Scout Troop Meeting, Classroom 10

Tuesday, August 21

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

Wednesday, August 22

9 am Mass, Historic Church (8:30 Rosary)
1 pm Cemetery Meeting

Thursday, August 23

9 am Mass, Historic Church (8:30 Rosary)
6:30 pm Women's Bible Study, Ravoux Room
7 pm AA Meeting, Classroom 5

Friday, August 24

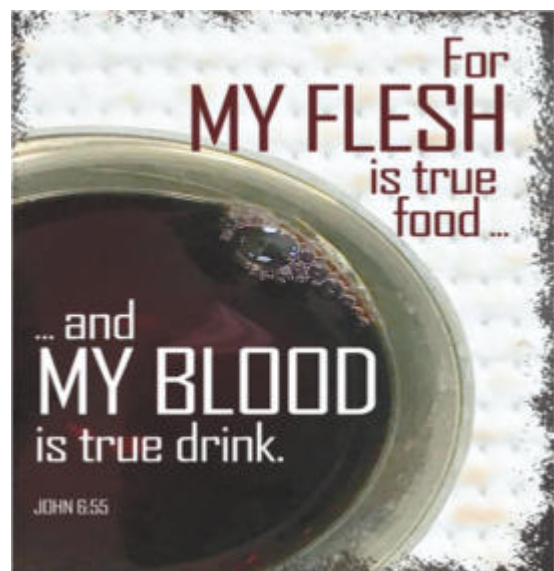
8 am Reconciliation, Main Church
9 am Mass, Historic Church (8:30 Rosary)

Saturday, August 25

9 am & 10:30 am AA Meeting, Classrooms
10 am Saturday Scripture Study, Conference Room 1
3:30 pm Reconciliation, Main Church
4:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
5 pm Mass, Main Church

Sunday, August 26

8:30 am Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
9 am Mass - Commissioning of EMHC, Main Church
10:30 am Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
10:30 am Rosary for St. Peter's, Chapel of the Nativity
11 am Mass - Commissioning of EMHC, Main Church
12 pm Baptism, Main Church



PASTORAL MINISTRY

FOLLOWING JESUS



Our psalm invites us to “taste and see the goodness of the Lord.” We use our five physical senses to experience the world. This weekend, Jesus invites us to develop our spiritual senses which enable us to see beyond the veil into the mystery of Christ made present in the Eucharistic meal.

FIND OUT WHAT DEACONS ARE AND HOW TO BECOME ONE

A Deacon Discernment Day, for men ages 25 to 59, will take place at The St. Paul Seminary, Institute for Diaconate Formation, 2260 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, on Saturday, September 22 or Saturday, November 3, from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. You need only attend one of these days. If you are married, your wife is encouraged to attend also.

Registration is required. Email Shellee Leif at sjleif@stthomas.edu or call 651-962-6891.

*We are where the Archbishop needs us.
We are where the Church wants us.
We are where Jesus is.*

Ordained in the Person of Christ Jesus the Servant

SINCERE SYMPATHY



St. Peter's Parish extends its sympathy to the family and friends of Charlotte King. We invite all to join us in praying that God may make her a sharer in eternal salvation.

A RETREAT FOR CATHOLIC HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

If you work hard to care for others, here is an opportunity to revitalize your spirit and care for yourself.



You are invited to *Living and Working from the Heart of Christ*. The retreat master is Fr. Andrew Jaspers. It takes place the weekend of September 7 to 9, at Christ the King Retreat Center, 621 1st Avenue South, in Buffalo.

To register, go to www.curatioapostolate.com or for more information, contact Mary Anne Frank at 612-699-4221.



*Come as a Guest
Leave as a Friend*

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.



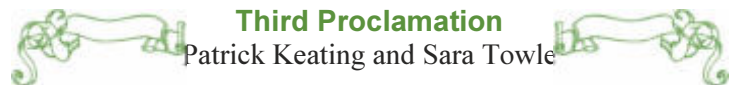
I have three consecutive hours of Adoration in the middle of the night. I love the stillness of this time. People often ask, "What do you do for three hours?" Well, it goes by very fast. I turn out the lights in the Chapel except for the spotlights in front of the altar. I move a kneeler and chair close to the Blessed Sacrament. I spend a lot of time simply talking to Jesus, because the Lord of all creation is right there in front of me. What a blessing and privilege! I just chitchat and say things like any friend would say to another.

I acknowledge His movement in my life and how He orchestrates things so beautifully. I thank Him for things He's done for me and for those I know and love. I tell Him my struggles and the ways in which I need His help. I ask Him to touch the lives of people I know who are in need. I often recite the Jesus Prayer, pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3 AM, and I pray a day in the Mary, Undoer of Knots Novena for seemingly "impossible" intentions. I read passages from Scripture and slowly recite prayers and Psalms that I have memorized. I sometimes read from a book that would help strengthen my prayer life. And, before I know it, my three hours are up and the next person arrives for his time.
~ Anonymous

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 amos@stpetersmendota.org to sign up for an hour of adoration. We still need adorers at the following hours:

Sunday:	3-4 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

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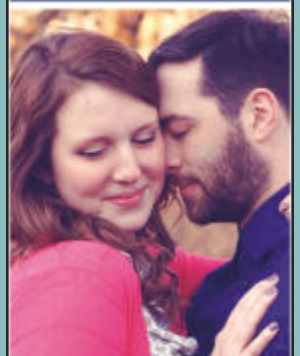
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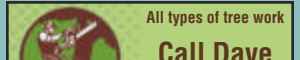
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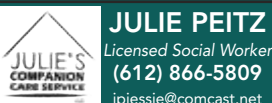
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