

**SUNDAY MASSES**

(All in Main Church)

Saturday at 5 p.m.

Sunday at 9 &amp; 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.

**Sixth Sunday of Easter****May 6, 2018**

Dear beloved in Christ,

As we share together in the joy of all the children who are making their first holy communion today, we are reminded of how blessed we are, by the gift of Jesus in the Eucharist. While it is difficult to find words to express our heartfelt gratitude for so great a Gift, sometimes we are blessed to encounter someone who can speak on our behalf, like Cardinal Van Thuan, who died in 2002.

Cardinal Van Thuan was born in Vietnam and served the Catholic Church there, under the Communist Regime. In April of 1975, Pope Paul VI named him Archbishop of Saigon. Three months later, on August 15, the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Communists arrested him. They held the Cardinal in prison for 13 years; nine of these were spent in solitary confinement. When he realized that this ordeal could last a long time he said to himself, "I will not spend my time waiting, looking forward to what may never happen. No, I will live in the present moment, filling each moment to the brim with love."

When the Cardinal was released 13 years later, people naturally asked him how he survived and what sustained him all those years. "My only strength," he said, "was the Eucharist." On the day he was arrested, he was forced to leave quickly, with only the clothes on his back. The next day he was able to make a request in writing for necessities. Along with clothes and toothpaste, he asked the addressee for a bit of medicine for "a bad stomach." The faithful, of course, understood what he meant and sent him a bottle of wine for Mass, which they labeled "stomach medicine." They also sent some communion bread, sealed in a flashlight to protect it from humidity. With these precious items, he was able to celebrate Mass. During his years in solitary confinement, he celebrated the Mass every day around 3 p.m., the hour of Jesus' agony and death on the Cross. Outside of Mass he always carried a small particle of the Blessed Sacrament in his shirt pocket, carefully wrapped in cigarette paper. At 9 p.m. each night, he would make an hour of adoration.

In the prison camps, the prisoners were divided into groups of fifty. In the bunk houses where they slept, they each had a space only 20" wide. In the Cardinal's bunk, there were five Catholics, and so they always tried to sleep near each other. When the lights went out at 9:30 p.m., he would curl up on his bed. With three drops of wine and a drop of water in the palm of his hand and small pieces of bread, he would celebrate Mass, always from memory. He would distribute communion to the other prisoners, by reaching under the mosquito netting that covered them. At night, the prisoners took turns for adoration, passing to each other the Blessed Sacrament that the Cardinal kept reserved in containers made of cigarette boxes. When there were breaks

during the day, they would pass the Blessed Sacrament to each other or to other prisoners from the other groups. "We all knew Jesus was with us," said the Cardinal. "Jesus helped us in a tremendous way with his silent presence. Many Christians regained the fervor of their faith during those days, even Buddhists and other non-Christians converted. The strength of Jesus' love is irresistible. The darkness of prison became light."

Sharing his story years later after his release, he said: "Jesus began a revolution from the cross. (Our) revolution must begin from the Eucharistic table and has to be carried forward from there. In this way, (we) will be able to renew humanity. Jesus is my first example of radical love for the Father and for souls. Jesus gave everything; he loved us to the end—up to the very moment when he said, 'It is finished.' I have resolved to become a silent offering. I shall serve as an instrument in the Father's hands. I will offer my sacrifice, moment by moment, through my love for the Church."

When Cardinal Van Thuan later committed his story to writing, he included this prayerful reflection, which came to him one day in his prison cell: "Beloved Jesus, this evening, sitting toward the back of my cell, without light, without a window, in the stifling heat, I think with overwhelming nostalgia of my pastoral life. Once I used to celebrate the Eucharist with a golden-plated paten and chalice; now I hold your Precious Blood in the palm of my hand. Once I used to visit you in the tabernacle; now I carry you night and day in my shirt pocket. I used to celebrate Mass for thousands of faithful; now in the darkness of night, I give communion under a mosquito net. I am happy here in this cell where white mushrooms are growing on my sleeping mat, because you are with me, because you want me to live here with you. I have spoken much in my lifetime; now I speak no more. It is your turn to speak to me, Jesus. So I sing of your mercy in the darkness, in my weakness, in my annihilation. I accept my cross, and I plant it with my own two hands in my heart. If you were to permit me to choose, I would change nothing because you are with me! I am no longer afraid; I have understood. I am following you in your passion and in your resurrection."

Inspired by such a deep Eucharistic faith, may God deepen our own faith in the Lord's humble, yet powerful presence in the Eucharist.

God love you,

Fr. Steven

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## YOUTH NEWS AND FAITH FORMATION

### SUMMER STRETCH IS BACK!

Summer Stretch is back again this summer for middle school participants and high school teen leaders! All those entering grades 6-12 in the Fall of 2018 are welcome to join us on Thursdays this summer as we grow in our relationship with God through service and fellowship. More information and sign-ups are available on the information counter. Questions? Contact Elizabeth McCanna at [emccanna@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:emccanna@stpetersmendota.org) or at (651) 905-4312.



### FAITH FORMATION

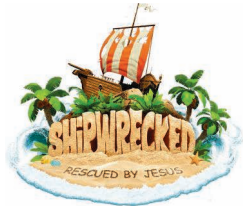
#### Religious Education Registration for 2018 - 2019

Please remember the registration deadline is May 15. If you have any questions, contact the RE office at 651-905-4311.

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

Please be aware that all children in second grade must prepare for their sacraments at their parish. If your child will be in at least second grade in September 2018, and you wish to have him/her in the First Reconciliation and First Communion program, please register prior to May 15. Register him/her for the Grade 2 classes.

### GET SHIPWRECKED! REGISTER FOR VBS 2018



Vacation Bible School will be held at Faithful Shepherd Catholic School June 18 - 22, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Children entering Kindergarten through Grade 6 are invited to attend. The cost for the program is as follows:

1 Child - \$45

2 Children - \$80

3+ Children - \$100

\*The cost of the CD (sold separately) is \$10.

For those families who will have at least one parent volunteering for the FULL week of VBS, we are happy to offer a discount:

2 children with adult volunteer - \$40

3+ Children with adult volunteer - \$60

#### We Need Volunteers

We are seeking help from adults and teens in Grades 7 through 12, to lead crews and run stations. Please see the online registration for more details.

VBS is co-sponsored by St. Peter's and St. John Neumann. For more information, contact Maria Schwartz at [maria.schwartz@outlook.com](mailto:maria.schwartz@outlook.com) or Tonya Brost at [tmaebie@gmail.com](mailto:tmaebie@gmail.com). You may also register online at <https://vbspro.events/p/events/c2195f>.

### OFFICE INFORMATION

Father Steven Hoffman: 651-452-4550

Deacon Tim Hennessey: 651-905-4301

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

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](mailto: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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### SCREENAGERS EVENT

Please join us on Tuesday, May 22, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., at Faithful Shepherd School, for the film Screenagers: Growing up in a Digital Age. This film is recommended for grades five and up to be seen with their parent(s).



Pizza & popcorn will be provided by the Home & School Association. This event is open to the public. Reservations are required and space is limited. RSVP to Jen Claude at [jclaude@fscsmn.org](mailto:jclaude@fscsmn.org).

### HISTORIC CHURCH TOUR MEETING

The Historic Church will be open this summer on Sundays, from 12 to 2 p.m., June 3 - September 2. We'd love to have a team of tour guides to be available in the Historic Church during these times on a rotating basis. No experience is necessary; we will provide the history! If you are interested, please attend our information meeting on **Wednesday, May 16, at 7 p.m.** in Conference Room 1, or contact Anne O'Keefe at 651-905-4308 or at [aokeefe@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:aokeefe@stpetersmendota.org).

### CADET CONNECTIONS EVENT

Please join us on Monday, May 14, at 6 p.m., at Saint Thomas Academy Middle School. We invite you to learn more about our "school-within-a-school," a unique program which is small enough so every student is known by the teachers and staff, yet large enough to offer an enriched curriculum, activities and athletics for many interests. Stay after the event to attend the Cadet Lacrosse game vs. Cretin-Derham Hall at 7 p.m.. This spotlight event features a Fathers' Club cookout!

Please RSVP at [www.cadets.com/Connections](http://www.cadets.com/Connections). If you have questions, call 651-683-1516.

**FR. MICHAEL ARMS' 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS ORDINATION**



I am so very thankful to Father Steven and all of you in the parish, for being so gracious in inviting me to celebrate a "Mass of Thanksgiving," on Sunday, May 27, at 9 a.m., for my 50 plus years in the priesthood. I look forward to praying that

"prayer of thanks" in the Holy Eucharist with you, for you have helped me to become the person and priest that I am today, as I served as the pastor here at St. Peter's from 1977 to 1989.

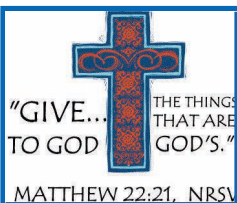
I would ask that NO gifts be given to me. The presence of your company is your gift. If you wish to make a contribution, please do so to a local food shelf, your favorite charity or to St. Peter's. Thank you!

I look forward to visiting with you after Mass, while sharing coffee and a treat in Heritage Center. Thank you so much.

Yours in Jesus' love,  
Father Mike Arms

**A BIG THANK YOU**

The St. Peter Council of Catholic Women would like to thank all who attended the Spring Style Show on Saturday. Special thanks to Dave Peterson and Keith Stanton for helping clear the tables, to the lunch committee for preparing a delicious luncheon and to those who provided the raffle wine basket. Sue Bolger, a member of St. John Neumann, was the lucky winner of this basket. A nice touch this year was the narrative by Pat Peterson about each model and their connection to St Peter's Church. Thank you to Mainstreet Boutique for providing the clothing. Everyone did a great job in making it a very enjoyable afternoon!



**Financial Recap**  
July 1 to April 29, 2018

YTD Actual Collections:	\$800,151
YTD Budgeted Collections:	\$776,666
Difference:	\$23,485

To donate electronically visit [www.stpetersmendota.org](http://www.stpetersmendota.org) and click on Donate Online or call Mary in the parish office at 651-905-4307.

**ST. PETER'S GROUNDS CLEAN UP DAY**

We are looking for volunteers to assist with the St. Peter's spring grounds clean up. It will take place Saturday, May 12, from 9 to 11:00 a.m., weather permitting. Please bring work gloves, rakes, brooms, pruning shears or other tools that may help out with our project. Make sure your name or identification is on your tools, so you get them back. Donuts and bottled water will be provided. If you can come for an hour or two, it will really help us get the parish grounds spruced up for the spring and summer months. It is also a good opportunity to meet other St. Peter's parishioners. Thank you! ~ Mike Berndt



**FALL FESTIVAL MEETING**



Even though we are all yearning for spring weather, the Fall Festival Committee has been busy planning this upcoming October's event. This year, we will have a two-day festival, taking place on October 6 and 7. The pork dinner will be Saturday. We will serve concessions on Sunday. We would like to have music both days, as well. The Fall Festival Committee is looking for more people to join them. We are in need of the following positions:

- advertising leading up to the festival
- a co-chair to the silent auction
- people who would be willing to solicit silent auction items
- one or several people to take the lead on our raffle

If you are interested in joining our committee, or if you have a new idea for the festival, please join our meeting on Wednesday, May 9, at 7 p.m. in the Conference Room. If you can't make the meeting but are interested in helping, please call Gail Barta at 651-454-9552 or e-mail Anne O'Keefe at [aokeefe@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:aokeefe@stpetersmendota.org).

**MOTHER'S DAY FLOWERS**



This Mother's Day, treat your mother to flowers. You can choose between long stem roses for \$5 or mini roses, begonias or African violet plants for \$8 per plant. The flowers will be available in the Gathering Space, after both Masses on Mother's Day. All proceeds will benefit pro-life causes.

**WEDDING BANNERS**

**Second Proclamation**  
Steven Brummer and Julia Lewandowski



## 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 MAY 6

**Sunday:** Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [cf. 2b]/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17  
**Monday:** Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 15:26--16:4a  
**Tuesday:** Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 [7c]/Jn 16:5-11  
**Wednesday:** Acts 17:15, 22--18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/Jn 16:12-15  
**Thursday:** Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20  
**Friday:** Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [8a]/Jn 16:20-23  
**Saturday:** Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10 [8a]/Jn 16:23b-28  
**Next Sunday:** Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20 [19a]/1 Jn 4:11-16/Jn 17:11b-19

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## MASS INTENTIONS

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

Monday, May 7	Ann Hoey
Tuesday, May 8	† Brendan Suel
Wednesday, May 9	† Louis J. Chapdelaine
Thursday, May 10	Jim Joey
Friday, May 11	† Martha Smith
Saturday, May 12	† Carl Becherer
Sunday, May 13, 9 am	Mass For The People
11 am	† Marian Reding

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR: MAY 7

### Monday, May 7

**9 am** Mass, **Historic Church** (8:30 Rosary)  
**6:30 pm** Alpha, Heritage Center  
**7 pm** Boy Scout Scout PLC and Committee Meeting, Classroom 10

### Tuesday, May 8

**9 am** Mass, **Historic Church** (8:30 Rosary)  
**10 am** Women's Bible Study, Heritage Center  
**10:30 am** Mobile Meals, Off Campus  
**6:30 pm** Prayer of the Heart Workshop, Heritage Center

### Wednesday, May 9

**9 am** Mass, **Historic Church** (8:30 Rosary)  
**9:45 am** Divine Mercy Cenacle, Ravoux Room  
**10 am** Prayer of the Heart Workshop, Heritage Center  
**6:30 pm** Perissos, Heritage Center  
**7 pm** Fall Festival Meeting, Conference Room

### Thursday, May 10

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

### Friday, May 11

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

### Saturday, May 12

**9 am & 10:30 am** AA Meeting, Classrooms  
**9 am** St. Peter's Grounds Clean Up Day  
**10 am** Saturday Scripture Study, Conference Rm  
**3:30 pm** Reconciliation, **Main Church**  
**4:30 pm** Choir Rehearsal, Music Room  
**5 pm** Mass, **Main Church**  
**6 pm** Mother's Day Flower Sale for MCCL, Gathering Space  
**6 pm** Baby Bottle Collection for Wakota Life, Gathering Space

### Sunday, May 13 - Mother's Day

**8:30 am** Choir Rehearsal, Music Room  
**9 am** Mass - Teaching Parish Sunday, **Main Church**  
**10 am** Baby Bottle Collection for Wakota Life, Gathering Space  
**10 am** Mother's Day Flower Sale for MCCL, Gathering Space  
**10:30 am** Rosary for St. Peter's, Chapel of the Nativity  
**10:30 am** Choir Rehearsal, Music Room  
**11 am** Mass - Teaching Parish Sunday, **Main Church**  
**12 pm** Baby Bottle Collection for Wakota Life, Gathering Space  
**12 pm** Mother's Day Flower Sale for MCCL, Gathering Space  
**12 pm** Baptism, **Main Church**

# PASTORAL MINISTRY

## FOLLOWING JESUS



In the Gospel today, Jesus gives new form to the old testament commandment to love our neighbor. He says to His disciples, "Love one another, as I have loved you." The most important word in that command is "as," for Jesus is now the measure for how we love: a humble, self-giving, sacrificial love unto death. As disciples of Jesus, let us pray for the grace this week to reflect this kind of love with everyone we encounter.

## ST. PETER'S YOUNG ADULTS

*"Singing belongs to one who loves."*  
~ St. Augustine of Hippo



We are excited to announce the St. Peter's Young Adults Ministry. It was formed by young adults to both serve the unique spiritual needs of those in their 20's and 30's and to offer these same young people opportunities to give back to the entire community.

St. Peter's Young Adults will be hosting "praise and worship" the first Sunday of each month, at 6 p.m. in the Historic Church, beginning today, May 6. All ages are invited to come join us for an evening of fellowship, as we lift our voices as one to God!

Calling new members! If you are a young adult in your 20's or 30's and are looking to become a part of a Catholic community seeking to grow in faith together, please contact Lisa Hursin ([lisahursin@gmail.com](mailto:lisahursin@gmail.com)) or Michael Hoff ([michaelthoff@gmail.com](mailto:michaelthoff@gmail.com)) to learn more about SPYA and get involved!

## SINCERE SYMPATHY



**St. Peter's Parish extends its sympathy** to the family and friends of Brother Michael J. Callahan, FSC and Ronald Horsnell. We invite all to join us in

praying that God may make them sharers in eternal salvation.

## FORMED

FORMED has come to St. Peter's! Now every parishioner can enjoy a free subscription to [formed.org](http://formed.org) - the incredible online gateway to the best Catholic content, all in one place! With FORMED, you can:

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## ADORATION CHAPEL

As we move into our seventh full month of adoration in our new chapel, we continue to make changes and adjust to make the experience better for everyone.



Our new HVAC system is in and running now. It immediately made the chapel a more comfortable place to spend time with Christ. Thank you to all who remained flexible during the work, and a very special thank you to our team, especially our hourly coordinators, who have been truly put to the test to keep up with the communication needs. They have worked very hard to make sure prayer team members knew about closures through two late snowstorms and several closings for ventilation work.

Another change is to our security procedures. The outside doors will now lock at 9 p.m., beginning May 13. Adorers scheduled between 9 p.m. and 5 a.m. will need keycards to get into the building. If you are scheduled during these hours and do not yet have a keycard, please contact Lisa Amos. All 9 p.m. adorers have new keycards available to pick up in the parish office.



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 [lamos@stpetersmendota.org](mailto:lamos@stpetersmendota.org) to sign up for an hour of adoration. We still need adorers at the following hours:

<b>Sunday:</b>	2 to 3 pm, 4 to 5 pm, 5 to 6 pm
<b>Monday:</b>	2 to 3 am, 3 to 4 am
<b>Tuesday:</b>	None
<b>Wednesday:</b>	1 to 2 am, 3 to 4 am
<b>Thursday:</b>	12 to 1 am
<b>Friday:</b>	1 to 2 am, 12 to 1 pm, 4 to 5 pm, 7 to 8 pm
<b>Saturday:</b>	3 to 4 am, 7 to 8 am

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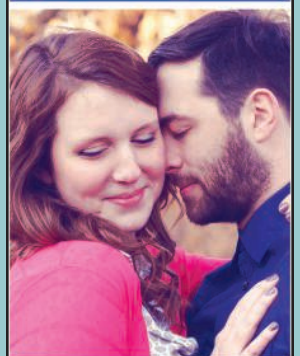
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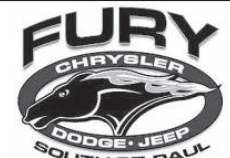
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# Congratulations and Blessings To Our First Communicants

Whoever loves me will keep  
my word, says the Lord,  
and my Father will love him  
and we will come to him.

JN 14:23

Will Carpenter  
Erin Conoryea  
Dane Garrett  
Ava Grams  
Emma Jensen  
Evan Johnson  
Nicholas Larrive  
Lillian Larsen  
Theodore Larson  
Juliana Lynick  
Kelly Madden  
Leah Madden  
Samantha Madden  
Sarah McCoy  
Charlotte McKnight  
Lauren Miller  
Carly O'Brien  
Monty Schmid  
Brooke Schultz  
Emmalin Smock  
Adeline Stoick  
Avery Sturgell  
Everett Virnig  
Fiona Wilson  
Cecilia Wynia  
Gabriela Zabala

