

Church of St. Peter
1405 Highway 13 PO Box 50679 Mendota MN 55150-0679
May 15, 2016

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**LORD, SEND OUT
YOUR SPIRIT,
AND RENEW THE FACE
OF THE EARTH.**

Reflections from our Deacon

Today we celebrate Pentecost, the powerful outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples. We celebrate what is really the birthday of the Church. God sent the Holy Spirit, the breath of God, to enliven and embolden the flock who would lead, guide and shape the Church on earth. While many institutions have come and gone over the past 2,016 years, the one, holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church, which we profess in our creed, remains vibrant, despite the trials and challenges of our time.

I remember learning about my faith from the good sisters of St. Joseph, during my Catholic school days. They taught us about the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Those who grew up in the 50's and 60's will no doubt remember this commonly used name for the third person of the Trinity. The reality is that most of us can say something about God the Father and Jesus the Son, but we might have a tougher time describing the Holy Spirit.

I taught faith formation to 8th graders for about eight years in my home parish. My job was to prepare them for Confirmation, which usually happened in the spring of their 8th grade year or the following fall, when they would be in 9th grade. I always found it a little challenging to describe the Holy Spirit. The longer I taught, the more I longed for my students to really have an *experience* of the Holy Spirit. Well they did!

I got the idea to bring the students into the chapel for a guided meditation. After being sufficiently chastised about modeling appropriate chapel behavior, the students joined in, albeit somewhat unwillingly. We began the exercise. I read the gospel story of the woman who was healed of the 12 year hemorrhage after touching the hem of Christ's garment. I could see that all eyes were closed. I continued by walking them through a meditation on their own lives, their own physical, mental, and emotional pain. The most powerful moment came when I invited the students to hold out their hand to touch the stole, symbolic of the hem of Christ's garment, as I passed by them. To my surprise (and God's glory), every student reached out his or her hand to touch the stole and receive healing.

After we finished the meditation, I asked the students to open their eyes and share their experiences. Their stories were powerful and moving. To close, being the ever-aspiring educator, I asked them to name what had just occurred. I pointed out that the entire chapel was quiet, with everyone focused on the meditation. One particularly brilliant student shouted out, "It was the Holy Spirit!" Indeed it was. Mission accomplished; lesson learned. The

point of my sharing this story, is to say that I think we can *talk* about the Holy Spirit, but it is really necessary for us to *experience* the Holy Spirit.

Have you ever experienced the Holy Spirit? What was it like? How would you describe it? Perhaps you have been present at Mass, when suddenly and without explanation, you are particularly moved by some part of the Mass. You have this new feeling of the Lord's presence and the accompanying joy it brings. Or you are sitting alone, praying the rosary, when suddenly and unexplainedly, you hear this voice speaking to your heart, a voice that is calm, clear and affirming. Maybe you find yourself in adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, and the hour seems to fly by, because you are so taken up by the emotion that has come over you. What I have just described is the experience of the Holy Spirit in our lives. While words sometimes fail to describe the Holy Spirit, many of us can point to particular moments in our lives when we have had this feeling, this experience, that just seemed to be the Spirit moving in us.

If you have had an experience such as I have described, then you probably have some sense of what the disciples experienced in that upper room. They moved from fear to unimaginable courage. They moved from timidity to boldness. They moved from confusion and inaction to clarity of mission and action.

At every Mass, we have an opportunity to see the Spirit's power as Father Steven prays the part of the Eucharistic Prayer called the "epiclesis". This moment, when the Spirit hovers over the altar and the ordinary elements of bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ, is signaled by the ringing of bells and the deacon assuming a kneeling position.

Jesus ascended to heaven to return to the Father. Before he left this earth, he promised his disciples that he would send the Holy Spirit. Today we celebrate with great joy the gift of the Spirit in our lives.

In the Joy of the Spirit,

Deacon Tim



Wedding Banns

First Proclamation

Kathryn Kaufmann and Ben Wilson

First Proclamation

Lucas Kennedy and Calleigh Brown



Religious Education/ Faith Formation (RE/FF)

Religious Education Preschool through Grade 8

Please remember to register for the 2016 - 2017 school year if you have not yet done so. Please register online by going to St. Peter's website at www.stpetersmendota.org and clicking on the Faith Formation tab. In the drop down box, click on RE/FF Registration for 2016-17 and follow the directions located there. **Registration deadline is May 15. After that, there will be a late fee charged.** Please note that this is only for children ages 3 ½ yrs through Grade 8 in the fall of 2016.

Religious Education Programs (Preschool – Grade 8) for 2016-2017

- **Sunday School:** For ages 3 ½ through Kindergarten. Classes are held on Sunday mornings during the 9:00 a.m. Mass. Classes begin September 25, 2016.
- **Grades 1 - 5:** Classes are held on Wednesdays. There are two sessions: 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Classes begin on September 28, 2016.

First Reconciliation and First Eucharist Preparation

- When you register your child for the Grade 2 class, he/she is in the First Reconciliation and First Eucharist programs.
- The Grade 2 classes are mostly held on Wednesdays and follow the Elementary schedule. However, there are several Tuesday evening classes that both child and parent need to attend.
- Children in Catholic schools must be prepared for the sacraments at their parish. Catholic schools do not prepare the children to receive Reconciliation or First Eucharist.
- If you wish for your child to receive First Eucharist, he/she must first participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- If your child is older than Grade 2 and needs to be prepared for these Sacraments, please contact Kathy Raible.

Grade 6 - 8

Classes are held on Wednesdays, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Classes begin on September 28, 2016.

Reduced Hours for Summer RE Staff

During the summer months, the RE/FF staff will be drastically reduced:

- Beth Newton will be on break from May 16 through August 15.
- Kathy Raible will be on break from June 16 through August 15.
- Elizabeth McCanna is here but her days on site will vary.

Pastoral Ministry

Growing Through Loss

Growing Through Loss Volunteer Opportunity

St. Peter's pastoral care ministry is looking for volunteers who are compassionate listeners. Facilitators for small groups are needed beginning next fall. Professional training, peer support and ongoing supervision will be provided. The ability to travel within the south metro area and some flexibility in scheduling are necessary. If you are interested in finding out how you can help people experiencing grief and loss, please contact Lisa Amos at 651-905-4304 or lamos@stpetersmendota.org.

St. Peter's Group Trip

Grotto of the Redemption in West Bend, Iowa

Join Father Steven and Lisa Amos for our next trip to The Grotto of the Redemption in West Bend, Iowa. The Grotto has been referred to by reviewers and critics as an "eighth wonder of the world" and described as a "miracle in stone." It was placed on the National Register of Historical Places in 2001. Each of nine separate grottos portrays a scene in the life of Christ. The largest man-made grotto in the world, the Grotto of the Redemption



contains the largest collection of precious stones and gems found anywhere in one location.

On Thursday, June 9, we will depart in our coach bus from St. Peter's at 8 a.m. Father Steven will begin our day with thoughts on the rosary and, upon our arrival, celebrate Mass with us in the Saints Peter and Paul Church at the Grotto. We will take a break for lunch at a nearby restaurant and return to the Grotto for tours and exploration. We will leave West Bend at approximately 3 p.m. for our 6:30 p.m. arrival back at St. Peter's.

Reservations are limited, so reserve your spot now by contacting Lisa Amos at 651-905-4304 or lamos@stpetersmendota.org. The cost is \$65 per person, which includes the tour, lunch and bus. Reservation deadline is May 30. Parishioners will receive priority reservations until the deadline has passed or all seats are taken. ALL reservations must be paid in advance by the registration deadline and are non-refundable. I look forward to seeing you there!

St. Peter's Community News

Helpers Needed

Spring Garden Cleanup

We are looking for people who could help us spread mulch or do light gardening and cleanup on Saturday, May 21. There will be a truck full of mulch to spread throughout the gardens here at the parish and a few gardens to prepare for summer. We will meet in the office parking lot at 9 a.m., rain or shine. It would be helpful if you could bring wheel barrows, shovels, rakes, clippers and/or gloves. We will provide donuts and beverages to help you keep up your strength.

CCW Plant Card Sales

Last chance to buy Gerten's Plant Cards

It's time to start thinking of spring plants and summer gardens. May 14 and 15 are the last days that St. Peter's Council of Catholic Women will be selling Gerten plant cards. Stop by the table in the gathering space today to purchase your cards. They will be available after each of the weekend Masses.

Memorial Day Announcements

Historic Church Memorial Fund

May we suggest a gift to the Historic Church Memorial Fund as a gift to remember someone special, living or deceased. Cards are available on the Information Counter in the Gathering Space and the parish office.



Church of St. Peter Cemetery Lots

In 1984, our cemetery was recognized as a historic site. We want our parishioners to know that lots and columbarium niches are available at this time. If you want any further information, please call the parish office at 651-452-4550.

Memorial Day Mass will be celebrated on **Monday, May 30, at 10 a.m. in the Historic Church.** You are invited to come to St. Peter's Cemetery between 11 a.m. and noon for a flag-raising ceremony by the VFW.



**Come as a Guest
Leave as a Friend**

Reception for Deacon Paul Baker

Please join us in celebrating with Deacon Paul Baker. Paul and his family are parishioners here at St. Peter's, and we are excited to congratulate him on this next important step to the priesthood. This Sunday, May 15, following the 11 a.m. Mass, we will serve cake and coffee in Heritage Center. Please continue to pray for Paul as he continues his formation at St. Paul Seminary.

Annual St. Peter's CCW Meeting

The annual meeting of the St Peter's Council of Catholic Women will take place in Heritage Center on June 1, after the 9 a.m. Mass. There will be a brunch, followed by the election of officers and a short board meeting. The women of St Peter's are invited.

Candidates for officers include Patricia Kemper for President, Lisa Brooks for Vice President, Mary O'Neill for Secretary and Connie Powell for Treasurer. Due to recent bylaw changes, the floor will be open for additional nominations at the meeting.

Archdiocesan Prayer Vigil to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Join us on Thursday, June 2, from 7 p.m. to Friday, June 3, at 7 p.m. at the Church of St. Peter, 1405 Hwy 13, in Mendota for a Prayer Vigil to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

This is a time of prayer, penance, and healing for our Archdiocese and our priests. There will be time for Eucharistic Adoration, reflections, and devotions throughout the vigil. The vigil will conclude with 7 p.m. Mass on Friday. For the complete schedule and to sign up for a Holy Hour, please visit www.archspm.org/events.

Hearing and Vision Aids

If you find it hard to hear at Mass, or if your ability to participate is inhibited by difficulty reading the hymnal or worship aid, we can help with that. Please see one of our friendly ushers and let them know of your need. We have hearing devices and magnifiers available for you to use while you're here.

The Week of May 16

Monday, May 16

- 9 am** Mass, Historic Church (8:40 rosary)
6 pm St Paul Civic Symphony, Heritage Center
7 pm Boy Scout Meeting, Ravoux Room

Tuesday, May 17

- 9 am** Mass, Historic Church (8:40 rosary)
9:30 am Adoration Before the Blessed Sacrament until 7 pm, Historic Church
9:45 am Women's Bible Study, Ravoux Room

Wednesday, May 18

- 9 am** Mass, Historic Church (8:40 rosary)
9:45 am Divine Mercy Cenacle, Ravoux Room

Thursday, May 19

- 9 am** Mass, Historic Church (8:40 rosary)
9:45 am Small Faith Group, Ravoux Room
6:30 pm ACCL Meeting, Conference Room 1
7 pm CCW Program, Heritage Center
7 pm AA Meeting, Classroom 5

Friday, May 20

- 8 am** Confessions, Main Church
9 am Mass, Historic Church (8:40 rosary)

Saturday, May 21

- 9 am** Spring Garden Cleanup, St. Peter's gardens
9 and 10:30 am Alcoholics Anonymous, Classrooms 2, 4
10 am Saturday Scripture Study, Community Room
3:30 pm Confessions, Main Church
4:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
5 pm Mass, Main Church
After Mass

Sponsor a Workcamper, Gathering Space

Sunday, May 22

- 8:30 and 10:30 am** Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
9 am Mass, Main Church
10 am Confirmation Sponsor Orientation, Ravoux Room
11 am Mass, Main Church
After Masses
 Sponsor a Workcamper, Gathering Space
6:30 pm Youth Group, Youth Room

Parish Pastoral Council

Lance Miller, Chair.....952-432-6957
 Joseph Towle, Vice-Chair.....651-683-9250
 Paul Hirsch, Secretary.....651-431-1832
 Mary Pat Ferraro.....651-454-1091
 Anne Hallgren.....651-702-6465
 Sarah Larsen.....612-384-1474
 Maria Schwartz.....651-452-1796
 Alice Sheeler.....651-457-8119
 Nancy Stanton.....651-686-9009
 Parish Pastoral Council Voice Mailbox:
651-905-4309

Parish Pastoral Council Email:

ParishPastoralCouncil@stpetersmendota.org

Trustees:

Jim Oricchio.....651-452-3587

Readings for the Week of May 15

Sunday: Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34/Rom 8:8-17/Jn 14:15-16, 23b-26
Monday: Jas 3:13-18/Ps 19:8-10, 15/Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday: Jas 4:1-10/Ps 55:7-11, 23/Mk 9:30-37
Wednesday: Jas 4:13-17/Ps 49:2-3, 6-11/Mk 9:38-40
Thursday: Jas 5:1-6/Ps 49:14-20/Mk 9:41-50
Friday: Jas 5:9-12/Ps 103:1-4, 8-9, 11-12/Mk 10:1-12
Saturday: Jas 5:13-20/Ps 141:1-3, 8/Mk 10:13-16
Next Sunday: Prv 8:22-31/Ps 8:4-9/Rom 5:1-5/Jn 16:12-15

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Mass Intentions

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

Monday, May 16 - †John McQuillan
Tuesday, May 17 - †Joe Schloegl
Wednesday, May 18 - †Joe Schuster
Thursday, May 19 - †Robert LeMay
Friday, May 20 - †George Zirnhelt
Saturday, May 21 - †Margaret Foley
Sunday, May 22 - 9 a.m. - Mass For The People
11a.m. - †Dick Gaworski and
 †Br. Michael Gaworski

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Mass at Faithful Shepherd Catholic School

You are Invited to Mass every Wednesday morning at Faithful Shepherd

Did you know that Faithful Shepherd Catholic School celebrates Mass every Wednesday at 8:15 a.m.? If you've never attended a Mass at Faithful Shepherd, we invite you to come worship with the students and staff of our parish school. A wonderful Mass to attend would be Wednesday, May 25, when Fr. Steven will be presiding over the First Communion Celebration Mass. We would love for you to join us!

New Preschool Program at Faithful Shepherd

We are excited to announce a new partnership with Lake Area Discovery Center to bring a NAEYC-accredited, Parent Aware preschool program (ages 3-5 years old) to Faithful Shepherd Catholic School, beginning in the Fall of 2016! Registration is now open.



Faithful Shepherd Catholic School Discovery Center is designed to meet children's individual needs and learning styles. We believe parents are the first and most important teacher, and we encourage parents to experience the center with their child. Faith is an important component of our curriculum. Lessons built on our Catholic faith are written into our curriculum and children participate in singing and worship.

For more information about the preschool program at Faithful Shepherd, visit www.fscsmn.org/discovery-center-preschool/.

FAITHFUL SHEPHERD CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Dedicated to providing a Catholic education to all who seek one. Learn more about Faithful Shepherd and financial aid options at www.fscsmn.org.



Support Parental Choice in Education

Contact your State Representative and State Senator

The Minnesota Legislature will make an important decision this month that could have a *powerful positive impact* on the lives of thousands of Minnesota children.

Legislators are considering a refundable tax credit to expand educational options for low-income families. This K-12 tuition tax credit will remove some of the financial barriers that limit parental choice in education, helping to ensure that ALL kids have the chance to attend a school where they can flourish. Legislators will make final decisions **before the legislature adjourns on May 23**. We need to let our elected officials know **TODAY** just how important expanding school choice is to Minnesota.

Please contact your State Representative and State Senator to let them know you support expanding the state K-12 tax credit to include private school tuition. You can look up your State Representative and Senator via this link: <http://www.gis.leg.mn/iMaps/districts/> or by calling the Minnesota House at 651-296-2146 and the Minnesota Senate at 651-296-0504.

Fr. Michael Gaitley to speak at University of St. Thomas

Mercy and Mary Weekend Retreats

Immerse yourself in Divine Mercy and Mary with bestselling author and speaker, Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC, for one of ten *Mercy & Mary Weekend Retreats* across the U.S. for the Jubilee Year of Mercy. Spend a weekend in quiet prayer, in an oasis between the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul at the University of St. Thomas on June 10, 11 and 12. Enjoy new talks by Fr. Gaitley, daily Mass, Adoration, comfortable accommodations, meals with the Marian Missionaries, and much more! For more information and to register, go to www.events.marianmissionaries.org/events/mercy-mary-weekend-retreat-saint-paul-mn.

Eucharistic Adoration

Parishioners and friends are welcome for private prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in the Historic Church **on Tuesdays after the 9 a.m. Mass until 7 p.m.**

Jesus said to Peter: "*Could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray.*" (Matthew 26:40-41)

For more information please contact Jane Vasiliou at 651-454-5292 or jvasiliou@comcast.net.

Separated or Divorced Retreat

Christ the King Retreat Center, May 20-22

A retreat for separated or divorced will be held at Christ the King Retreat Center in Buffalo, May 20-22. The retreat begins at 8 p.m. on Friday and concludes at 12:45 p.m. on Sunday. It will be conducted by Father Jim Heneghan.

The theme of the retreat is “*Seasons of Love*.” The suggested donation is \$175 per person (Includes a \$30 deposit to reserve a room). The men and women of this parish are cordially invited to a beautiful, inexpensive, lakeside weekend of wonderful relaxation and spiritual rejuvenation. Please call Jessica Hanson at 763-682-1394 or visit www.kingshouse.com for a registration form and more information.

Holy Angels Future Stars Information Night

All 6th-8th grade families are invited to come to the Holy Angels *Future Stars* Informational Night on Wednesday, May 25. Plan to arrive between 5:30 and 6 p.m. for light refreshments and socializing before learning more about academics, extracurriculars and more. We'll take a tour and end the evening at our Annual Pops Concert at 7 p.m.

The Academy of Holy Angels is located at 6600 Nicollet Avenue South, in Richfield. Please call Meg Angevine at 612-798-0764 or email her at mangevine@ahastars.org with questions.

Interested in Becoming Catholic?

If you or someone you know has been thinking about becoming Catholic, we would very much like to hear from you! To begin, we'd like to get to know you, help you to learn more about the process and have your questions answered.

We look forward to helping those baptized in other Christian traditions, the unbaptized and anyone who may already have made their First Communion as a child, but has not received the sacrament of Confirmation. For more information, or to schedule a private inquiry meeting to discuss your own faith journey, please contact Lisa Amos at 651-905-4304 or email her at lamos@stpetersmendota.org.

Archdiocesan Marriage Day Celebration

Bishop Cozzens invites you to celebrate the beautiful mystery of the mutual self-gift between a man and woman in the Sacrament of Matrimony on Saturday, June 4 at the Cathedral of Saint Paul, at 10 a.m. for Mass, renewal of vows, and a short reception. Couples celebrating their silver, golden and platinum anniversaries will be honored in a special way and are invited to attend. Families and friends of all couples are welcome! For more information, call 651-291-4488 or visit www.archspm.org/events.

Certificates to commemorate the gift of marriage between a man and a woman, signed by Archbishop Bernard Hebda, are available for couples married one or more years. To receive a certificate, please contact the Office of Marriage, Family & Life at 651-291-4488 or mfl@archspm.org.

Cursillo Corner

A More Personal Relationship With Jesus Christ

Would you like to understand what it means to have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ? Please consider attending a Cursillo weekend. A Cursillo is a short course where you will learn what it means to have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and how to deepen your relationship through prayer, study and action. The next Cursillo retreats will be held July 7-10 (for men) and July 14 – 17 (for women) at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, 5071 Eden Avenue in Edina.

The monthly Ultreya meeting for South East Metro will be held on Sunday, May 22, at 7 p.m. in Shamrock Hall at the Church of St. Patrick, 3535 72nd Street East in Inver Grove Heights. Future events include:

- Sunday, June 26, at 7 p.m. South East Metro Ultreya at Church of St Patrick's Inver Grove Heights.
- Sunday, July 31, at 6:30 p.m. (potluck) South East Metro Ultreya at Church of St Patrick, in Inver Grove Heights.

For more information about all Cursillo events and weekend retreats, see www.tc-cursillo.org or contact janemarie.rief@gmail.com or 651-485-7089.



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