

**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.

ADORATION

(In Historic Church)

Tuesday 9:30-6 p.m.

RECONCILIATION

(In Main Church)

Friday 8-8:45 a.m.

Saturday 3:30-4:45 p.m.

Any time by appointment.

Fourth Sunday of Lent***MARCH 26, 2017***

"Slow down!" I often tell my husband that; if I had a quarter for every time I said (or yelled) this at our children, we'd both be able to quit our jobs and live a life of lazy luxury. Our youngest two are boys, filled to the brim with movement and noise, and they always seem to be in a hurry. Precious are the moments when one of them is inclined to cuddle in close and simply sit with us.

I imagine that God, loving parent that he is, must feel much the same way at times. We rush through every experience and from one to the next. We are as impatient as children. Sometimes the only difference between adults and children is that we know not to run in the hallway.

Recently, God made it very clear to me the value of time simply spent in the presence of those dear to us. Two weeks ago, after a phone call from my brother at dawn, I found myself frantically booking a flight to Vermont to try to make it in time to say goodbye to my grandmother. She is our mother's mother and one of my favorite people in the world, so it was with a heavy heart that I rushed home. It turns out that she is a very determined woman and stronger than even the doctors suspected. She rallied about a day after I arrived. Knowing that her heart remained very weak, however, I decided to stay the week and spend as much time with her as possible. Gram remained in the hospital for the entire week, and so then did I. We spent hours each day together. We talked some, but she tired easily, so mostly she dozed, and I sat with her. What a gift God gave Gram and I with his urgent cry, "Slow down!"

God is calling us all to this. So important does he believe it to be, that he made it a commandment — not a suggestion, not a hint — a commandment. "Remember the sabbath day—keep it holy. Six days you may labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath of the Lord, your God." (Exodus 20:8-9) The Sabbath day is for both you and for God.

It is given to us because rest is important. It offers respite from all that has happened and strengthens us for what is to come. We need to rest our bodies and our minds, to spend time in quiet places. We need to be still to feel the breath of the Holy Spirit in us. One of the great ironies of our time is that it simultaneously grows harder to set aside time for our own sabbath and easier to be constantly stimulated. The

world comes at us faster and faster, as technology gets more advanced and more readily accessible. We not only work longer hours, but we have allowed the lines between "work" time and "personal" time to blur. We leave the office but take our phones, which means that many of us take the office home with us, in the form of email (I am as guilty of this as many of you. Do me a favor; if I answer your email at night or on a Saturday, call me on it!).

The sabbath is also for God, because he wants us, his beloved, to spend time with him. Like a parent who watches her children with exhaustion at the end of a long day, he revels in the moments when we stop and are content to be in his presence: to simply be loved by him. . . cherished by him.

There is exciting work happening right now to bring the gift of Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration to St. Peter's. So many of you have asked me some terrific questions about this opportunity to be with our Lord. That God has granted this blessing to our parish is a bit like a call to slow down, to rest with him. Many tell me they aren't sure they "can do that" or express their concern that Adoration is something they're not holy enough to participate in. My response is often an assurance that one of the wonders of spending time with Jesus in this way is that we don't have to "do" anything. We can simply show up and be ourselves. God is content with, in fact he longs for, our presence.

We have a few weeks left until Easter. If Lent hasn't slowed you down yet, allow it to. Find a quiet space and power down your electronics and your mind. If you haven't experienced Adoration, maybe now is the time to try. Allow Sunday to be a day of rest. So what if whatever laundry didn't get folded on Saturday has to wait until Monday? Who cares if you don't check your work email as soon as you wake up Sunday morning? Practice sabbath and, as it becomes part of your life, you will thank God for it, and God will rejoice in the time you spend with him.

Pastoral Associate

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YOUTH NEWS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Random Acts of Kindness Cross

The Random Acts of Kindness Cross is in the Gathering Space by the elevator. Each time you perform a random act of kindness — an act you perform because of a “desire to connect, to lend a helping hand and/or to extend ourselves out into the world” — please put a tissue paper flower into the cross. By Easter, we will have a blooming cross of kindness!



Kid's Change For Kids - To Uganda, With Love

During Lent, we are asked to give alms. To encourage our youth and children to follow this Lenten practice, we are sponsoring a child in Uganda. Please have children and youth bring in money that they have earned to help support this child. They may bring the money to their religion class and put it in the can located on the teacher's desk. All proceeds go to support this child. We will continue to collect money throughout Lent.

BUTTERBRAIDS AVAILABLE!



Thank you to everyone who ordered Butterbraids in support of our Workcamp trip to Covington, TN.

They will be available for pick-up after all Masses this weekend, March 25 and 26. If you need to pick your Butterbraids up at a different time, please call Elizabeth McCanna at 651-905-4312 to arrange a time.

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FROM THE DESK OF MIKE RANDALL



As spring comes to Minnesota, here at Faithful Shepherd we are already looking to next fall! As we begin planning for the upcoming school year, I invite you to also look ahead and consider Faithful Shepherd.

Call us to schedule a tour and learn how we provide an environment where faith is shared inside and outside of the classroom and where teachers build a foundation of strong study habits, time management skills and rigorous classes.

Kindergarten is quickly filling up, and we have many new school age students transferring into Faithful Shepherd! Come see for yourself all that Faithful Shepherd offers.

OFFICE INFORMATION

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

Parish Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Phone: 651-452-4550

Email: church@stpetersmendota.org

BAPTISMS, NEW PARISHIONERS, WEDDINGS

Call the parish office for more information.

PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS

Submit via website, to Mary LeClair

(maryleclair62@gmail.com) or call the parish office.

EASTER FLOWERS



We are now accepting donations for Easter flowers in memory or honor of a loved one. If you would like to make a donation, pick up an envelope on the information counter or in the parish office. You can return it through the Sunday collections or to the parish office by Monday, April 10. All names will be listed on a flyer in our Easter bulletin.

COR JESU

Meaning “Heart of Jesus,” Cor Jesu is a moving opportunity to worship Christ in community with the Church through Eucharistic adoration, confession, praise and worship, benediction and fellowship.



Join college age and young adults for these evenings at St. Mary's Chapel at the Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity, 2260 Summit Avenue, in St. Paul, at 8 p.m. on the following first Fridays: April 7 and May 5.

YOUNG ADULTS NEEDED FOR TEACHING THIS SUMMER

Apply to be a team member for the Totus Tuus Summer Catechetical Program. We are in need of college age men and women who feel called to share their Catholic faith with the youth from local parishes around the Archdiocese. Positions are a 2-month commitment (June 2 to July 29), which includes one week of training and a one week break for the 4th of July. Each team member will receive \$2,520 for their work. Find application forms at www.archspm.org/TotusTuus.



*Come as a Guest
Leave as a Friend*

ADMINISTRATIVE NEWS • STEWARDSHIP • COMMUNITY NEWS

UGANDA MISSION TEAM LENTEN FISH DINNER



This year, the Ugandan Mission team will be hosting a tilapia fish dinner on Friday, April 7, from 5 to 7 p.m. The dinner will consist of tilapia, a mild white fish which is a common food in Uganda, Ugandan rice, coleslaw, macaroni and cheese, dinner rolls and a variety of desserts. All food will be provided by the Ugandan Mission team. We will be accepting free will offerings. All funds collected will be used to help fund mission projects, that we will be doing while on our mission to Uganda in June. Mark your calendars now, and please plan to join us!

ACCW 85TH CONVENTION

The 85th Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women Convention will take place on April 21 and 22, at St. Odilia Catholic Church, 3495 Victoria Street North, in Shoreview. Scheduled speakers are Jerry Kronswoski and Jean Stolpestad. Jerry is the founder of Risen Savior Missions. He will talk about the work he and his family are doing to better life in the Philippines for children. Jean is the Director of Marriage, Family and Life for the St. Paul and Minneapolis Archdiocese and will speak on "The Feminine Mystique." Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Hebda on Friday, at 5 p.m.

There will also be a silent auction, marketplace, business meeting, Lay Women Volunteer Awards, Election of Officers and much more. Visit the website at www.accwarchspm.org. for more information.

GRANDPARENTS PROGRAM



The Grand Adventure Ministry will meet on Wednesday, March 29, at 10:30 a.m., in Heritage Center, following the birthday breakfast. Please call Joan Pilney with questions at 651-454-1568.

SAVE THE DATES

Gerten's Plant Card Sale starts April 22.
The CCW Spring Style Show is Saturday, May 20.
Watch for more information, which will be coming in the bulletin and on St. Peter's website!



VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION MEDIEVAL FEAST

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! All ye kings, queens, knights and nobles who have given of their time or talent to St. Peter's, as well as your spouse or guest, thou hath been summoned to join in the festivities of our Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. Join us on Saturday, April 22, from 6 to 8 p.m. for music, merriment, food and libations. Costumes are encouraged, but are not required. Please respond by Sunday, April 16. You may call the church office at 651-452-4550 or email Anne O'Keefe at aokeefe@stpetersmendota.org. We look forward to seeing you there!



ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER FUNDRAISER



Thank you to all who came out to enjoy our St. Patrick's Day Dinner this past week. We had a full house, many more than we had anticipated. Thank you, St. Peter's, for your support! There is a profit of \$2,008 from the dinner, along with direct contributions that will all go to the Perpetual Adoration Chapel project. A special thanks to "Chef" Ralph Dumond, The Catholic Watchmen, The Council of Catholic Women, the Men's Club and individual parishioners who all volunteered their time to make this event successful. We could not have done it without all of you!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS EASTER EGG HUNT

The Knights of Columbus will host the annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 15, beginning at 10 a.m. It takes place on the parish grounds. Children under 10 years old are invited to come and hunt for treats and learn about the origin of the Easter egg.



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

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.

Parish Pastoral Council Email:

ParishPastoralCouncil@stpetersmendota.org

Trustees:

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

Helen Wilkie.....651-365-1334

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 26

Sunday: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-6/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38
 Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-12a, 13b/Jn 4:43-54
 Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16
 Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-15, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30
 Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-23/Jn 5:31-47
 Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-21, 23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
 Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12/Jn 7:40-53
 Next Sunday: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-8/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

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MASS INTENTIONS

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

Monday, March 27	† Joseph Guild
Tuesday, March 28	† Jerry Arvidson
Wednesday, March 29	† Tom Schommer
Thursday, March 30	† Peter Kenneally
Friday, March 31	† Marcie Wohlers
Saturday, April 1	Mass For The People
Sunday, April 2, 9 a.m.	† Sue Huot
11 a.m.	† Don Friedlander

“When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered and said, "Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "I do believe, Lord," and he worshiped him.



THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR: MARCH 20

Monday, March 27

9 am **Mass, Historic Church** (8:30 Rosary)
 6 pm St. Paul Civic Symphony, Heritage Center
 7 pm Boy Scout Meeting, Ravoux Room
 7 pm ENDOW, Youth Room

Tuesday, March 28

9 am **Mass, Historic Church** (8:30 Rosary)
 9:30 am Adoration Before the Blessed Sacrament until 6 pm, Historic Church
 9:30 am Women's Bible Study, Classroom 10
 6:30 pm Lent Speaker Series, Heritage Center

Wednesday, March 29

9 am **Mass, Historic Church** (8:30 Rosary)
 9:30 am Birthday Breakfast, Heritage Center
 9:45 am Divine Mercy Cenacle, Conference Rm 1
 11 am Grandparents' Adventure Meeting, Heritage Center
 4:30 pm RE Grades 1-4, Classrooms
 6:30 pm RE Grades 1-8, Classrooms
 7 pm Choir Rehearsal, Music Room

Thursday, March 30

9 am **Mass, Historic Church** (8:30 Rosary)
 6:30 pm RCIA, Conference Room 1
 6:30 pm Parish Lent Penance Service, Main Church
 7 pm AA Meeting, Classroom 5

Friday, March 31

8 am **Confessions, Main Church**
 9 am **Mass, Historic Church** (8:30 Rosary)
 6 pm **Confessions, Main Church**
 6:30 pm **Stations of the Cross with Benediction and Adoration, Main Church**

Saturday, April 1

9 am AA Meeting, Classrooms
 10 am Saturday Scripture Study, Conf. Rm1
 10:30 am AA Meeting, Classrooms
 3:30 pm **Confession, Main Church**
 4:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
 5 pm **Mass, Main Church**
 6 pm New Parishioner Registration, Gathering Space

Sunday, April 2 - Hospitality Sunday hosted by the CCW

8:30 & 10:30 am Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
 9 am **Mass, Main Church**
 9 am & 11 am Liturgy of the Word for Children, Classroom 10
 9 am Sunday School, Classrooms
 10:20 am **Rosary for St. Peter's Parish, Historic Church**
 11 am **Mass, Main Church**
 12 pm New Parishioner Registration, Gathering Space

PASTORAL MINISTRY

FOLLOWING JESUS

Let's take a spiritual eye exam this week. A parishioner had a saying above her doorway: "There is no such thing as strangers, only friends we have not met." When we encounter people in our daily life, who do we see? Do we see strangers or, as the Gospel invites us, do we see brothers and sisters that we have not met?



MARCH FOOD DRIVE



Thank you for helping Neighbors, Inc. during the March Minnesota FoodShare Drive. Special grocery bags will still be available, as you leave Mass today. The total so far is 3,725 pounds. Please help us make our goal of 4,500. All donations are due by April 2.

A bit of mercy makes the world less cold and more just.

-Pope Francis-

HOLY SATURDAY PRAYER

Join us on Saturday, April 15, from 10 to 11:30 a.m., in the Historic Church, for the celebration of the Office of Readings and Morning Prayer, followed by time for silent meditation. Together, we will prepare ourselves more fully for the Resurrection by first making room in our hearts and our lives for Christ's passion and death.



LENT SPEAKER SERIES



Living by the Power of the Holy Spirit through Faith, Hope, and Love

Our final evening for the Lenten Series will take place on Tuesday, March 28, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., in Heritage Center. We will end the evening with refreshments and fellowship.

Among the gifts given to us in our baptism by the Holy Spirit are three powerful virtues: Faith, Hope and Love. Come and join us, as we set out to deepen our understanding of how to live by these virtues and lean on them in moments of doubt and fear, weakness and discouragement. Everyone is welcome. We invite you to bring a friend!

March 28: The Gift of Hope: Elizabeth Kelly

Childcare will be provided for children ages 6 months to 11 years. *Registration is REQUIRED in advance one week prior to attendance.*

PERPETUAL ADORATION IS COMING TO ST. PETER'S

In parishes with Perpetual Adoration, the disposition of the parish is toward the Divine. As the oldest Catholic parish in the state of Minnesota, it makes sense that St. Peter's would lead by setting an example of the importance of Perpetual Adoration. Once someone begins coming weekly to Perpetual Adoration, it becomes hard to imagine letting that time with the Lord go. Those who commit to an hour a week witness to the real difference it makes in them and in their daily lives. Periodic informational meetings will be hosted. Everyone is welcome! Please consider requesting a time to come to adoration on a weekly basis. Please call Lisa Amos at 651-905-4304 or Mark Mischke at 651-481-6900 for more information.



Meetings are scheduled for the following dates and will be hosted in Heritage Center:

Wednesday, April 5, at 7 p.m.

Thursday, April 27, at 7 p.m.

Saturday, May 20, immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass. More meeting dates will be scheduled and announced in the bulletin.

JOIN ST. PETER'S AT FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

'Lord, when did we see You hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or ill, or in prison, and not minister to your needs?' Matthew 25:44



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

When: Monday, April 10, from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

In January, the St. Peter's community helped pack meals that went to the starving in Haiti. In total, we helped pack over 100 boxes, 22,000 meals, enough to feed 61 children for a year! Join us to see how a little time and a whole lot of love can make a huge difference in the lives of so many children!

To sign up or learn more, please contact Paul or Peggy Hirsch at 651-431-1832, or at phirsch651@aol.com.



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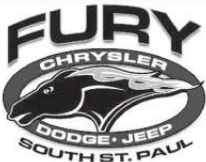
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