

**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.

Fifth Sunday of Lent***APRIL 2, 2017***

The call came in the middle of an otherwise ordinary day. Sandy picked up the phone. The caller was clearly upset and wanted to make herself understood. "Are you Mrs. Henderson?" Sandy tried to understand what was being said as she was told that her husband of 32 years had been rushed to the hospital, and she needed to get there quickly. No details were given, but Sandy knew, from the tone of the caller's voice, that it couldn't be good. She tried to reach her two adult children, but had no luck. As she rounded the corner to the emergency room, she was met by a team of medical staff accompanied by the hospital chaplain. Mike had died of a massive heart attack. Sandy was too late for any goodbyes.

The funeral was exactly what Mike would have wanted. The choir sang beautifully, and the music was moving. Family and friends gathered around to pay their respects and offer their support to Sandy and the kids. Her son Jeffrey, now 28 years old, was having a hard time holding it together. Jeffrey was not only grieving the loss of his dad, but was also painfully aware that his latest drug charges would soon cost him his freedom. This day was a mix of grief over his father's untimely death and regret over the direction of his life.

The next few months were filled with trying to help Jeffrey. Sandy got back to her job, which filled her days. Evenings and weekends were spent trying to help Jeffrey mount a legal defense to his latest drug-related crime. A dear friend had talked her out of taking out a second mortgage on the house to pay for a private attorney for Jeffrey. Ultimately, Jeffrey went to prison for 36 months, followed by treatment for his addiction. She had done what she could, and now God had to take care of the rest.

Sandy had buried her grief over Mike's death. It seemed impossible to mourn the loss of her husband and focus on her son at the same time. So Sandy chose to handle her son's crisis. Grief doesn't remain still while life goes on, but instead gets buried deep in the heart. She had buried her grief where she thought it would never be found. Sandy was wrong. Her grief came back in waves almost a year after Mike had died.

In our gospel story this weekend, Jesus' dear friend Lazarus

dies. Mary and Martha are heartbroken. How could Jesus allow their brother to die? Jesus prays to the Father to raise his friend from the dead. He shouts, "Lazarus, come out." As Lazarus emerges from the tomb, casting off his burial cloths, Jesus says, "Untie him and let him go."

Like Sandy, many of us bury our "Lazarus" in the tomb of our heart. For Sandy, it was the pain of her husband's untimely death and the guilt she felt about not being with him when he died. You and I may bury painful memories or shameful experiences that we choose not to bring into the light of day. Like Lazarus, these difficult things hold us bound in a tomb of sadness, grief and despair.

Martha and Mary knew that Jesus had the power to raise Lazarus from the dead. Jesus knew that in raising Lazarus, he was building the faith of those who would witness this miracle. Jesus also has the power to help us raise our "Lazarus" and set free that which is bound up in our hearts, so that we can receive fully all that Jesus longs to give us.

Jesus knew what he was going to do when he arrived in Bethany that day. Martha and Mary were caught up in the grief and sadness they felt that Jesus was not there when they needed him. Martha and Mary allowed Jesus to take their pain, and placing all their trust in Him, their brother was miraculously raised from the dead.

What "Lazarus" do you and I need Jesus to raise for us? What painful life event have we buried in the depths of our hearts, hoping that it would just go away? As we approach our celebration of the Resurrection, let's ask Jesus to bring to light those things that are held in the darkest places of our hearts. Just as he did for Lazarus, Jesus can raise these painful memories from the darkness and bring them into His light where they can be healed. Jesus says "I am the Resurrection and the Life." Those of us who believe in Him must never fear the darkness. Jesus, the Light of the World, conquers even death!

"Lazarus, come out!"

In Christ who heals,
Deacon Tim

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YOUTH NEWS

NO RELIGIOUS ED FOR GRADES 1-8

There will be no religious education classes on April 5 or 12. Classes resume on Wednesday, April 19, at both the 4:30 and 6:30 p.m. sessions.

REGISTRATION FOR 2017-2018

All families should have received registration information via email for the 2017-2018 religious education classes. Information is also available on the information counter in the Gathering Space. Remember the registration deadline is May 15. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy at 651-905-4311 or Elizabeth at 651-905-4312.

FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST COMMUNION 2017-2018

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 register for the Wednesday night program. If your child is in second grade next year and you wish to have him or her in the First Reconciliation and First Communion program, please register prior to May 15. Register him/her for the Grade 2 classes. Children must receive the sacrament of Reconciliation prior to First Communion.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Random Acts of Kindness Cross

The Random Acts of Kindness Cross in the Gathering Space is filling in with color. Thank you for all your acts of kindness. 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.

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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.

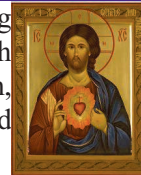
EASTER FLOWERS



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 this 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 trip to Uganda in June. Please plan to join us!

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. Weather permitting, it will take place on the parish grounds. In case of rain, it will be held inside. Children under 10 years old are invited to come and hunt for treats and learn about the origin of the Easter egg.



GROUNDS CLEAN UP

Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 29, as outdoor clean up day. Volunteers will be needed to help “freshen up” the grounds from the winter season.

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!

ST. PETER’S GOLF LEAGUE STARTS IN MAY

Ladies, you have an opportunity to join a very friendly group known as St. Peter’s Women’s Golf League. We will have a get acquainted lunch on Thursday, May 4. Our first golf date is Thursday, May 11. We play every Thursday until September 14, at Highland 9 Golf Course, 1797 Edgcumbe Road, in St. Paul. The first tee time is 8:48 a.m.



Please call Judy Hillstead at 651-454-2775, or Joan Schlagel at 651-454-4745 for more information and to sign up for the lunch.

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!



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.

SACRAMENTS FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Many in our community wish to join us for Mass but are unable to do so. If you or a loved one has mobility limitations, or if declining health makes it difficult to participate in the sacramental life of the church, please contact our pastoral associate to learn of the ways we can help. Often, many go without, simply because we are not made aware of their needs. To add yourself or someone you love to our outreach ministry or to hear about the many opportunities, contact Lisa Amos at 651-905-4304 or lamos@stpetersmendota.org.

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.

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 APRIL 2

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
Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps 23:1-6/Jn 8:1-11
Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-21/Jn 8:21-30
Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52-56/Jn 8:31-42
Thursday: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-9/Jn 8:51-59
Friday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-7/Jn 10:31-42
Saturday: Ez 37:21-28/Jr 31:10-12abcd, 13/Jn 11:45-56
Next Sunday: Mt 21:1-11/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24/Phil 2:6-11/Mt 26:14-27:66 or 27:11-54

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MASS INTENTIONS

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

Monday, April 3	† Julian Kaeder
Tuesday, April 4	† Rose & Frank Ziegler
Wednesday, April 5	Leeann McGinnis
Thursday, April 6	† Sherman Isham
Friday, April 7	† Mark Ginder
Saturday, April 8	† Tom Pahl
Sunday, April 9, 9 a.m.	† Richard Gangl
11 a.m.	Mass For The People



He cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them, "Untie him and let him go."



THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR: APRIL 3

Monday, April 3

9 am Mass, Historic Church (8:30 Rosary)
9:30 am Eucharistic Minister Training, Main Church
6 pm St. Paul Civic Symphony Rehearsal, Heritage Center
6 pm Cub Scout Den Meeting, Classroom 4
6:30 pm Boy Scout Committee Meeting, Conference Room 1
7 pm Boy Scout Meeting, Ravoux Room
7 pm ENDOW, Youth Room

Tuesday, April 4

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

Wednesday, April 5

9 am Mass, Historic Church (8:30 Rosary)
9:30 am CCW Board Meeting, Classroom 9
9:45 am Divine Mercy Cenacle, Conference Rm 1
7 pm Perpetual Adoration Information Meeting, Heritage Center
7 pm Choir Rehearsal, Music Room

Thursday, April 6

9 am Mass, Historic Church (8:30 Rosary)
6:30 pm RCIA, Conference Room 1
7 pm AA Meeting, Classroom 5

Friday, April 7

8 am Confessions, Main Church
9 am Mass, Historic Church (8:30 Rosary)
9:30 am Anointings, Historic Church
5 pm Ugandan Fish Dinner, Heritage Center
6 pm Confessions, Main Church
6:30 pm Stations of the Cross with Benediction and Adoration, Main Church

Saturday, April 8

9 am AA Meeting, Classrooms
10 am Saturday Scripture Study, Conference Rm. 1
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 Homebound Flower Pickup, Gathering Space

Sunday, April 9 - Palm Sunday

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
10:20 am Rosary for St. Peter's Parish, Historic Church
11 am Mass, Main Church
After 9 & 11 am Masses Homebound Flower Pickup, Gathering Space
April 7—9 Perissos Spring Retreat, Camp Courage, Maple Lake

PASTORAL MINISTRY

FOLLOWING JESUS

What a difference Jesus makes! Where we see this powerfully is in the tragic experience of death. In our Gospel, Jesus says, "I am the Resurrection and the Life. Whoever believes in me, even though he dies, shall live." Have you lost a loved one in your life, or are you troubled by the thought of your own death? This week, let us open these places of sorrow and fear to this promise and hopeful message of Jesus.



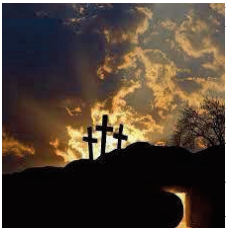
MINNESOTA FOODSHARE

Thank you for your participation in the 2017 Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign. Once again, your generosity towards helping those in need has been overwhelming. As of this date, the total number of pounds/dollars collected is 5,413. We have exceeded our goal of 4,500!

Neighbors, Inc. thanks you for your generosity. Please continue to donate when you are able throughout the year. Collection bins are always available at St. Peter's.

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

HOLY SATURDAY PRAYER



Please 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 more fully prepare ourselves for the Resurrection by first making room in our hearts and our lives for Christ's passion and death.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

This year, our collaborative Divine Mercy Sunday devotions will be hosted by St. Joseph's Catholic Church in West St. Paul on Sunday, April 23. Devotions begin at 1:30 p.m. and will include the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and confessions. All are welcome.



PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL

In life, there is a spiritual solution for every problem. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus said that if we keep our eyes on Him and the Kingdom of God first, He will provide all we need and more. The Lord always provides for all of our needs, one way or another. The Lord has also said in the Scriptures that He would "be with us until the end of time." He is with us in many ways, even when we are not aware of this.



One very special way He is fully present to us in Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity is in the Blessed Sacrament. Perpetual Adoration at St. Peter's will ensure that we, and others, can be in His presence in a special way at any time. In the future when our Perpetual Adoration Chapel opens, please come and just "**be**" in the presence of our loving God, Who cares for you more than you know. All are welcome! Our next information meeting is on Wednesday, April 5, at 7 p.m. in Heritage Center. Please come to learn more about what is happening and how you, too, can be a part of it!



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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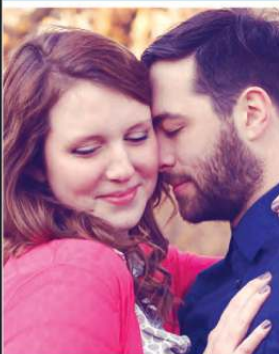
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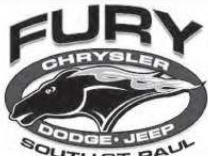


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