

**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.

Palm Sunday***APRIL 9, 2017***

Everyone loves a good two-fer, right? We all love a good deal and appreciate value, or at least the idea, of getting more for the same or less investment.

In that case, unless you're the rare bird that doesn't care for added value, Holy Week is for you.

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion -- the full title of the feast we observe today -- includes two Gospels, in effect, and the possibility of two homilies. While for some, that prospect can bring on cold sweats, the messages we hear today contain perhaps 70% of the core story of the life of Jesus. This "Paschal Mystery" (the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, the Lamb [Pascha] of God) is the foundation of our salvation and the basis for our hope of salvation.

In the Gospel read at the gathering for the procession with palms, the vivid account of Jesus' heroic entrance into the city of Jerusalem is proclaimed. The Jewish people wildly, passionately and (ultimately) hypocritically acclaim Jesus as their king, believing this meant impending liberation from Roman rule and a rise in politico-military stature. The Jews lay down their cloaks in the road to make a path on which Jesus can enter, waving palms in the air and shouting exulting praise to Jesus, though in a short time, they will forsake their praise and call for his execution.

The polar change in the response to Jesus is experienced within the span of a half hour or so in this pivotal Liturgy. Before we cast stones, though, we would do well to recall that it often takes us only half a minute to make that same change in tune.

We embark this week on our annual commemoration of the pivotal moment in human history. We will walk alongside Jesus' way to the place of his crucifixion. We will be present at his death and, at some level, will be shouting along with the crowds, "Let his blood be upon us and our children!" How deeply we need that very thing and how shallow our sentiment, as we reject his message of Divine friendship and love.

This is the holiest week of the year, every year. It is my favorite week, despite its demands.

Our Lenten sacrifices reach their apex as we anticipate the Mass of the Lord's Supper, wherein Jesus' own sacrifice includes his very flesh as our food and his own self-emptying service to wash us clean. Our response, appropriately, is

humble quiet after we sing out the mystery of his very presence with us.

In the celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday, we are offered a privileged place among all who look to the cross and find there Jesus, the Lord. He is the sign lifted up in this desert for all the ailing, sin-sick and soul-sore to look upon to receive healing. His blood indeed be upon us! He is the Passover Lamb whose blood marks God's chosen, and we are the pilgrim people setting out for our heavenly homeland.

All of Saturday, we live in the quiet of the tomb in those mysterious hours alone given the knowledge of the very moment of Jesus' rising. To celebrate this mystery, we retrace the steps of the plan devised by God through which he would grant us pardon, freeing us from the bonds of sin. We retell the story, singing of his goodness at every turn, breaking into glorious acclamation, then calling to mind the Baptism that unites us to the Lord. We cry out in jubilant praise just before remembering the death blow dealt to death itself.

This time of Liturgical year is so very rich, so dense with meaning. I challenge you to take in the sights, the sounds, the words and the rites, and rather than appreciating them for their beauty or merely observing them, digest them. Let us each find ourselves in the story of the Paschal Mystery. Whose shoes do you fit in, as you think on the narrative? Whose voice is yours, as we read from two different Passion accounts? What trivial thing have you taken for granted that the Easter Proclamation (the Exsultet -- the long, extended chant at the Easter Vigil) declares as holy? Whose footsteps do you trace, as the disciples race to the tomb?

Please enjoy this most holy season. This is the week during which all the language we hear used throughout the year is exposed for all of its depth, if we have eyes to see and ears to hear.

David Dunst
Music Director

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YOUTH NEWS

NO RELIGIOUS ED CLASS

There will be no religious education class on Wednesday, April 12. Classes will resume on 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 that 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.

FAITHFUL SHEPHERD PIZZA BINGO

Join the Faithful Shepherd Community on Friday, April 21, for a FUN family event! Pizza and Bingo Night will be held in the Faithful Shepherd Catholic School gym from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Come for the FUN, with lots of great games and prizes, including a cash grand prize! The cost is \$5/person or \$20/family, plus pizza, snacks and drinks for cash or check purchase. We hope to see you there!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Interested in attending or volunteering at Vacation Bible School this year? Registration can be found at: <https://vbspro.events/p/events/sjnvbs2017>. Stay tuned for more info!

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 May 5.



*Come as a Guest
Leave as a Friend*

ADMINISTRATIVE NEWS • STEWARDSHIP • COMMUNITY NEWS

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.

SAVE THE DATE

Gerten's Plant Card Sale starts April 22.

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!



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.

CINCO DE MAYO PIZZA BINGO

Come join us on Friday, May 5, at 6 p.m. for a pizza feast and bingo! We will have the regular kids' prizes and adult prizes, but the cover all at 7:30 will be a \$50 plant gift card to Gerten's for the adults, and a \$25 Barnes and Noble gift card for the kids. If we have multiple winners, we will have a drawing. So bring your appetite and join us for a family friendly good time! We will have a sign up sheet in the



gathering space on the weekends of April 22/23 and April 29/30, so we can estimate how much food to buy. You can also contact Anne O'Keefe at aokeefe@stpetersmendota.org or at 651-905-4308 with your RSVP.

K OF C PIZZA NIGHT AT SOLOS



The Knights of Columbus are hosting a Pizza Night at Solos Pizza in the Eagan Promenade, 1270 Promenade Place. Simply print the flyer from the K of C website at eaganknights.com, then come in to Solos on Wednesday, April 12, between 4 and 9 p.m. Thirty (30%) of your purchase will be donated to the Knights to benefit the good work being done in our community. Thank you for your support.

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.

ST. PETER'S GOLF LEAGUE

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 Edgumbe 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.



ST. PETER'S PHOTO DIRECTORY

The time has come to update our photo directory. As you look around you today, you will see that we have new families, there have been weddings and babies, and kids who are young adults now. We're changing, and a new photo directory will help us capture these changes. We will have photographers here on May 22 and 23 and June 1 through June 10. Our directory won't be complete without you. Watch our bulletin and website for more information in the coming weeks.

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 9

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
Monday: Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1-3, 13-14/Jn 12:1-11
Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15, 17/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34/Mt 26:14-25
Thursday Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper:
Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15
Friday: Is 52:13--53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-17, 25/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1--19:42
Saturday: Vigil: Gn 1:1--2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12-14, 24, 35 or Ps 33:4-7, 12-13, 20-22/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 16:5, 8-11/Ex 14:15--15:1/Ex 15:1-6, 17-18/Is 54:5-14/Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13/Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-6/Bar 3:9-15, 32--4:4/Ps 19:8-11/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3-4 or Is 12:2-6 or Ps 51:12-15, 18-19/Rom 6:3-11/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Mt 28:1-10
Next Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10 or Lk 24:13-35

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MASS INTENTIONS

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

Monday, April 10	† Richard & Patty Dugan
Tuesday, April 11	† Ray Schloegl
Wednesday, April 12	† Mary Chapdelaine
Thursday, April 13	Mass For The People
Friday, April 14	No Mass
Saturday, April 15	Mass For The People
Sunday, April 16, 9 a.m.	† George Zirnheld
11 a.m.	† Marcie Wohlers

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR: APRIL 3

Monday, April 10

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

Tuesday, April 11

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
10:30 am Mobile Meals, Off Campus
6 pm Baptism, Main Church

Wednesday, April 12

9 am Mass, Historic Church (8:30 Rosary)
9:30 am Sharing and Caring Hands, Off Campus
9:45 am Divine Mercy Cenacle, Conference Rm 1
5:30 pm Perissos, Heritage Center
6 pm Confession, Main Church
7 pm Choir Rehearsal, Music Room

Thursday, April 13

9 am Mass, Historic Church (8:30 Rosary)
9:30 am Small Faith Group, Conference Room 1
7 pm Holy Thursday Mass, Main Church
7 pm AA Meeting, Classroom 5

Friday, April 14

8 am Confessions, Main Church
7 pm Good Friday, Passion of the Lord, Main Church

Saturday, April 15

9 am AA Meeting, Classrooms
10 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer, Historic Church
10 am Easter Egg Hunt, Outdoors
10:30 am AA Meeting, Classrooms
7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
8:30 pm Easter Vigil Mass, Main Church

Sunday, April 16 - Easter Sunday

8:30 & 10:30 am
Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
9 am Mass and Baptism, Main Church
11 am Mass and Baptism, Main Church



PASTORAL MINISTRY

FOLLOWING JESUS

When we gather each Friday to meditate devoutly on the Stations of the Cross, each station ends with a verse from the hymn Stabat Mater. One of the verses that has always deeply moved me is: "At the Cross her station keeping, stood the mournful mother weeping, close to Jesus to the last." Let us resolve this week to imitate Mary, bearing patiently with love all hardship and suffering in union with Jesus.



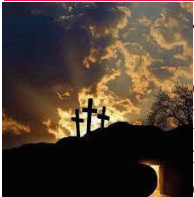
MINNESOTA FOODSHARE

We have our final total for the Food Drive! The total number of pounds/dollars collected is 6,146. Thank you for your participation in this year's Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign. Once again, your generosity towards helping those in need has been overwhelming.

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



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.

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.

1:30 p.m. - Confession with 5 priests available

2 p.m. - Exposition – Reflections – Prayer

3:15 p.m. - Benediction and Reposition

Our Lord said to St. Faustina, "Whoever approaches the Fountain of Life on this day will be granted complete forgiveness of sins and punishment."

We will continue our parish rotation of this feast next year at St. John Neumann in Eagan.



NO ROSARY ON EASTER

There will be no rosary between the Masses on April 16, due to Easter. May God bless you in a special way during this season of hope and joy.

CATHOLIC WATCHMEN MONTHLY EVENING



All men are encouraged to attend the Catholic Watchmen monthly evening on Thursday, April 20, at 6:30 p.m. in Heritage Center. Fr. Echert's talk will be on Discipline

#7, "Build fraternity and evangelize men in monthly parish gatherings," and how to be a band of brothers.

The mission of the Catholic Watchmen is to assist men to live up to their duty to be protectors, providers and leaders of their families. Join us for the talk, discussion over dinner and beverages, as well as optional adoration and confession. To learn more about this initiative go to www.thecatholicwatchmen.com.

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.

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

GROWING THROUGH LOSS

AN INTERDENOMINATIONAL COALITION OF SOUTH SUBURBAN CHURCHES PRESENTS THE FIRST IN A FIVE-WEEK SERIES: GROWING THROUGH LOSS

The speaker will be Ted Bowman, Trainer, Consultant, Educator and Author. Ted will speak on *"Loss and Grief: It's a Busy Intersection,"* on Tuesday, April 18, at the Church of St. Joseph, 13900 Biscayne Avenue, in Rosemount.

Registration begins at 6:30 p.m.; the speaker starts at 7 p.m.; support groups (facilitated by trained leaders), will begin at 8.

A freewill offering will be gratefully accepted.

This program is offered to any adult experiencing a loss or major crisis and to Pastoral Ministers, i.e., Befrienders and Stephen Ministers. For additional information, call 651-452-8261 or e-mail at growingthroughloss@gmail.com.

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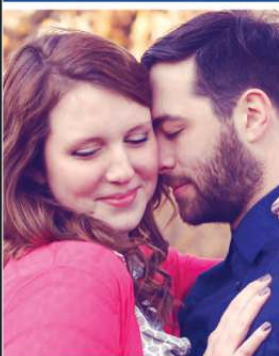
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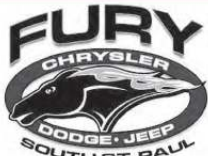


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