

**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.

Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time***AUGUST 27, 2017***

If you have ever watched a house being built, you know that the first order of business, after the hole is dug, is to set the foundation. In our part of the country, that foundation is usually a course of bricks set one on top of the other to create a solid foundation for the wooden structure that will be the frame of the home. Here in Minnesota, we sometimes retreat to that lower level of the home and the protection of that foundation when tornadoes or thunderstorms cross our path.

In our gospel this weekend, Jesus refers to Peter as the rock. Peter is the foundation upon which Jesus built the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church. Jesus knew he would need a rock-solid foundation upon which to build his Church. Jesus knew that the winds would blow, earthquakes would shake and the evil of the world would press in upon the Church. The Church has suffered much in the two thousand years since Jesus founded her. Jesus promised that the Church he founded would still be standing long after he left this earth. In fact, Jesus gives us a guarantee when he says, "...and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it." This has been true for over two thousand years, and it continues to be a truth we can hold on to today.

I don't know about you, but I get a little discouraged at times. I read stories in the news about the evil that pervades so much of our society. I read the predictions of the end of the world that seem to flood the news media when things begin to look bleak. It is easy for you and me to get caught up in all the hoopla and propaganda that comes our way these days.

This weekend, Jesus reminds us that he built the Church on the rock-solid foundation of the faith of the apostles. Bad weather will come, and, at times, things may seem pretty dark in this world. We can hold on to Jesus' promise to lead us through these challenges, by our participation in the Church that he founded on this earth. It is here, in the gathering of believers, that we will find the strength we need to surmount our worries and fears.

I just returned from a week up north with my family. We rented a spacious cabin at a wonderful resort. All of our adult children were with us, except for our oldest son, who lives out of state. The great blessing for Anne and me was to have our six grandchildren with us for the week. With

three recent arrivals, we all had a special time assisting in the care of the babies. I personally logged several hours of baby-holding, so the parents could get a little break and enjoy the amenities.

I reflected this week on what a blessing it is to hold a sleeping infant. There is something so sweet, innocent and peaceful about a sleeping baby. I reflected on how busy my life is, at times. Each week brings another list of things to do and the worries that come with trying to get everything done. It is a natural inclination for me to be "doing" something; it is a challenge for me to be "still." God is teaching me to slow down a little. My own recent health issues and this week away with our family have helped me see the need to be still and to just open my eyes to the presence of God in every moment of the day.

I reflected on one of my favorite psalms one afternoon, when I volunteered for baby duty. The girls were off shopping and the boys had gone golfing. Psalm 131 is a beautiful meditation on the quiet trust in God, which uses the image of a child at the mother's breast:

"O Lord, my heart is not lifted up, my eyes are not raised too high;

I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvelous for me.

But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a child quieted at its mother's breast;

Like a child that is quieted is my soul. O Israel, hope in the Lord from this time forth and for evermore."

We can trust that God has built a solid foundation for us, one that will not crumble or decay despite the storms of this world. At the end of a stressful day, it is good to place ourselves in the strong and sheltering arms of our loving Father. He will quiet and still our restless hearts and help us remember that we are his precious children.

In Christ,

Deacon Tim

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YOUTH NEWS

BACK TO SCHOOL 2017-2018



Back to School

PLEASE REMEMBER TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD FOR FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

Classes will begin the end of September and we need to have all registrations turned in, so that we can finish planning for the year. Please contact a religious education staff person OR go to St. Peter's website to register on line. Click on the Faith Formation tab and go to Religious Education Registration.

Catechists Needed!

Religious Education/Faith Formation classes are starting in just a few weeks, and our children need you.

Teachers are given training and full support by the RE/FF staff. You will find your own faith life growing and strengthening, as you share your faith with others. For more information, please contact any RE/FF staff member. Thank you for sharing your time and talents.

Teacher Training

Catechist training for those teaching grade 2 will take place on Tuesday, September 12, at 6:30 p.m. in the Religious Education Office.

Catechist training for those teaching Grades 1, 3, 4 and 5 will take place on Wednesday, September 13, at 6:30 p.m., in the Religious Education Office.

Teacher Commissioning will take place on Sunday, September 17, at the 9 and 11 a.m. Masses.

Liturgy of the Word for Children (LWC)

LWC will resume on September 10, at the 9 and 11 a.m. Masses, if we have enough adult volunteers. You do not need to register your child for this program. All children ages 6 through 12 are invited to join us to share God's Word in a format designed for children. This is a ministry that requires many adult volunteers. **We need more volunteers at both the 9 and 11 a.m. Masses.** It is a very enjoyable, rewarding and easy ministry. Please contact Kathy Raible at 651-905-4311 or at kraible@stpetersmendota.org, for more information or to volunteer your time.

Baptism Preparation Class

Please be aware that our next Baptism Class is scheduled for Sunday, September 17, at 12:30 p.m. in Conference Room 1. If you are interested in having your baby baptized, please contact Kathy Raible for more information. Parents that are expecting the birth of their child in the next few months are encouraged to attend a class prior to the birth of the baby. Parents must attend a baptism class before their child is baptized.

OFFICE INFORMATION

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

Parish Office Hours: Mon - Thurs, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Fri, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Phone: 651-452-4550

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.

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PERISSOS-CONFIRMATION

Perissos/Confirmation

Do you have a high school teen looking to be involved in our high school youth group, Perissos? Paper registration forms are available on the information counter or can be downloaded from our website. All high school youth are welcome to participate and **active participation is required for those preparing for Confirmation in June of 2018.** More information about preparing for confirmation will be available at our confirmation parent-candidate meeting on Wednesday, September 13, at 6:30 p.m.

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.



*Come as a Guest
Leave as a Friend*

SIGN UP FOR ALPHA



Alpha is coming to St. Peter's in September. Alpha is a series of sessions exploring the basics of the Christian faith. It will run from September 18 through December 11, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., in Heritage Center.

Alpha consists of a meal, a talk and small group discussion. It is an open, informal and honest space to explore and discuss life's big questions together. It is designed to create and/or deepen a personal relationship with Jesus.

Sign up today on St. Peter's website at www.stpetersmendota.org/alpha-registration. You may also sign up in the Gathering Space after all Masses this weekend.

Mark your calendars and join us! Space is limited to 50 participants. If you have any questions, please contact Laurie Reding at 612-419-1709 or at lreding1@aol.com.

ST. PAUL DEANERY COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

The first quarterly meeting of the St. Paul Deanery will be held on Thursday, September 21, at St. John the Baptist Church, 835 - 2nd Avenue Northeast, in New Brighton. The cost is \$13. Registration begins at 8:15, with coffee and refreshments. The meeting begins at 9 a.m.

The program is entitled, "A Morning of 'I didn't know that.'" Those who attended our national convention in Dallas will share what they learned. Our commission chairs will share their "hopes." Debbie Keller will share what it means to her to serve as president of the ACCW. Lucy Johnson will explore "Critical Conversations" with us.

We will hold a white elephant sale to benefit the Kitui Dormitory Project. Bring what you would like to sell and come to buy that one of a kind treasure.

Reservations must be received no later than Monday, September 18. Please call Cathy Evans at 651-481-1012 or Jane Rosner at 651-261-2534 to register.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

St. Peter's Women's Bible study meets on Tuesdays, 9:45 to 11:30 a.m., in the Ravoux Room, beginning on **September 19**. With our first study of the year, we'll open ourselves to Mary's special grace with "Queen of Heaven: Mary's Battle for You." It's a great opportunity to grow spiritually through God's Word and connect with other women. If you are interested in joining or have any questions about this study, please contact Jennifer Vogel at 612-709-1835 or jennifervogel@comcast.net or Sandy Rabuse at 651-681-9258. New members are welcome!

FALL FESTIVAL

ST. PETER'S FALL FESTIVAL

Sunday, October 1
ONE MASS AT 10 A.M.
Festival—11:15 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Highlight - \$5,000 Raffle

Only 1,000 tickets will be sold.
\$25 per ticket.

\$5,000 Grand Prize
\$2,000 First Place Winner
\$1,000 Second Place Winner



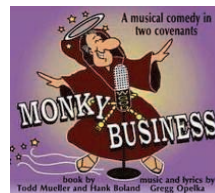
Fall Festival

Tickets go on sale today. We will sell them every weekend after Mass until the festival or until they are sold out!

Buy your tickets today!

If you are interested in volunteering or in making a donation, please call Gail Barta at 651-454-9552. Thank you!

ST. PETER'S GROUP TRIP



Our next group trip is scheduled! Join us on Friday, September 15, from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. We will spend the afternoon at Day Trippers Theater in Bloomington, where we will enjoy a beautiful lunch and take in the matinee showing of "*Monky Business: A Musical Comedy in Two Covenants*."

The fun-loving monks of Saint Bernard's Monastery are in a jam. Abbot Costello and his four beleaguered brethren have just learned that a real-estate developer is about to turn their monastery into a gambling hall called Bernie's Casino Royale. Unless the merry Men in Brown can raise \$250,000 dollars by midnight, they are done for. Luckily, the Brothers have a divine plan. Good and evil race to beat a midnight deadline in this hilarious hit musical.

Cost per person is \$55; space is limited. To register, please stop by the office or contact Lisa Amos, Pastoral Associate, at 651-905-4304 or lamos@stpetersmendota.org.

ST. PETER'S BLOOD DRIVE

According to the American Cancer Society, more than 1.69 million people are expected to be diagnosed with cancer in 2017. Many of them will need blood, sometimes daily, during their chemotherapy treatment. You can help! The Red Cross will be holding a blood drive at St. Peter's on Thursday, September 14, from 1 to 6 p.m., in the Ravoux Room. Please sign up online at www.redcrossblood.org or call Sandra or Lynn at 651-452-1844 for an appointment. Thank you.

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 AUGUST 27

Sunday: Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-3, 6, 8/Rom 11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20
Monday: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b/Mt 23:13-22
Tuesday: 1 Thes 2:1-8/Ps 139:1-6/Mk 6:17-29
Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13/Ps 139:7-12ab/Mt 23:27-32
Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13/Ps 90:3-5a, 12-14, 17/Mt 24:42-51
Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8/Ps 97:1, 2b, 5-6, 10-12/Mt 25:1-13
Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11/Ps 98:1, 7-9/Mt 25:14-30
Next Sunday: Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2-6, 8-9/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27

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MASS INTENTIONS

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

Monday, August 28	Jean Terres
Tuesday, August 29	Cory Holien
Wednesday, August 30	† Bill Bordenave
Thursday, August 31	† George Zirnhelt
Friday, September 1	† Bill Bordenave
Saturday, September 2	† Jack Conway
Sunday, September 3, 9 am	Mass For The People
11 am	James Duray

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR: AUGUST 28

Monday, August 28

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

Tuesday, August 29

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

9:30 am Adoration Before the Blessed Sacrament until 6 pm, Historic Church

10:30 am Mobile Meals, Off Campus

Wednesday, August 30

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

Thursday, August 31

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

9:30 am Potluck Birthday Breakfast, Heritage Center

7 pm AA Meeting, Classroom 5

Friday, September 1

8 am Confession, Main Church

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

9:30 am Anointings, Historic Church

Saturday, September 2

9 am & 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 Fall Festival Raffle Ticket Sales, Gathering Space

Sunday, September 3

8:30 am Choir Rehearsal, Music Room

9 am Mass, Main Church

10 am Fall Festival Raffle Ticket Sales, Gathering Space

10:30 am Rosary for St. Peter's Parish, Historic Church

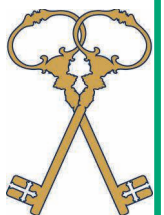
10:30 am Choir Rehearsal, Music Room

11 am Mass, Main Church

12 pm Fall Festival Raffle Ticket Sales, Gathering Space



Jesus said to him in reply, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven."



PASTORAL MINISTRY

FOLLOWING JESUS



Jesus asks his disciples what they believe about him. Peter answers, "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God." This faith became the foundation of Peter's life and the rock on which the church was built.

This week, let us receive this question of Jesus put to us personally, and let us answer with the faith of Peter so that we can stand on the same foundation.

RESOURCE CENTER

Anytime you are looking for resources to encourage you and help you grow in faith, consider checking out the Resource Center, located in the Gathering Space. You will find CD's and pamphlets about a variety of issues. In addition, you will be able to choose spiritual reading you can trust, recommended by Fr. Steven, Lisa Amos and Elizabeth McCanna (yes- there are even books for teens and young people!).

This center is self-funded, so we would ask that those who are able to donate, do so. If it's possible, please consider donating \$5/CD, \$1/pamphlet and the list price of the books you choose (usually on the back cover). Because we want everyone to be able to enjoy these resources, whether they can donate or not, we also welcome generous donations above these suggestions. There is a slot for donations in the center itself. If you are unable to donate, please take a resource anyway!

Thank you and may God bless your every effort to grow in faith and love.

UGANDA MISSION PIG ROAST

PIG



ROAST

Join the Ugandan mission team for a pig roast after the 5 p.m. Mass on Saturday, September 9. Fr. Lawrence Kimbowa and Fr. Charles Muyimba will be visiting to thank you for your support and to provide an update on mission activities. Free will donations will be gratefully accepted. One hundred percent of these donations will be given to the mission.

HELP NEEDED WITH LOAVES AND FISHES: FEEDING THE HOMELESS

Every other month, parishioners prepare and serve a hot meal to those who most need it.

We are still looking for new cooking team members. Please consider becoming part of our ministry team!

If you are looking for new ways to be involved in caring for God's beloved poor, contact Lisa Amos at 651-905-4304. You will have plenty of training and guidance!

ST. PETER'S PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL



The Council of Trent declared that Christ should be worshipped now in the Eucharist no less than He had been in first century Palestine. Why? Because in the Blessed Sacrament "it is the same God Whom the apostles adored in Galilee." (Decree on the Holy Eucharist, chapter 5) The adorableness of the Eucharistic Christ, therefore, is an article of the Catholic faith. What has become increasingly clear is that Christ in the Eucharist is not only adorable but entreatable. He is not only to be adored, like Thomas did, by addressing Him as, "My Lord and my God." He is also to be asked for what we need, like the blind man who begged, "Lord, that I may see," or approached like the woman who said to herself, "If I can even touch His clothes, I shall be well again."

By now, countless believers have begged the Savior in the Eucharist for what they needed and have come close to Him in the tabernacle or on the altar. Their resulting experience has profoundly deepened the Church's realization of how literally Christ spoke when He promised to be with us until the end of time. The experience has been mainly spiritual: in giving light to the mind and strength to the will, in providing graces for oneself and others, in enabling weak human nature to suffer superhuman trials, in giving ordinary people supernatural power to accomplish extraordinary deeds.

You have an opportunity to spend time with this Eucharistic Heart of Jesus here at St. Peter's! All are welcome and encouraged to participate. To schedule your hour at adoration, please contact Lisa Amos at 651-905-4304 or Mark Mischke at 651-481-6900, or you can complete a registration card found in the Gathering Space.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA)

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 and help you to learn more about the process. We will answer any questions you may have. 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.

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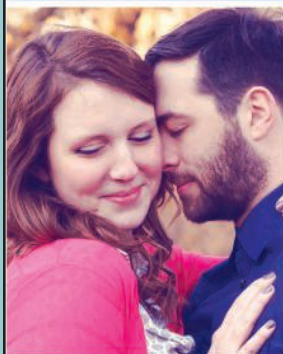
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