

**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.

PERPETUAL ADORATION
(In Chapel of the Nativity)**RECONCILIATION**
(In Main Church)

Friday 8-8:45 a.m.

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

Any time by appointment.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe***NOVEMBER 26, 2017***

Thanksgiving is one of my favorite holidays. I've had to adjust my expectations over the years, because my life and the lives of my loved ones have changed tremendously. Some people we love are no longer with us, so we've added elements of remembrance to our celebrations. Some people have joined us because of births, marriages and new friendships, so we've added joy. Through all these changes, however, there remains something deeply touching about days spent in gratitude.

I think, for us here at St. Peter's, there is a great awareness of how our relationship with the Native American tribes, who first called this land home, shapes us. We have always valued this very special history. Considering this, I decided to dig a bit deeper into the history of this 392-year-old tradition, looking this time from the perspective of the indigenous people who played a role, the people of the Wampanoag nation, the Mashpee.

The true history of Thanksgiving started with a treaty. The leader of the Wampanoag nation, Yellow Feather Oasmequin, made a treaty with John Carver, the first governor of the colony, upon the settlers' arrival. They were still under the jurisdiction of King James I, so the treaty was between two nations, England and the Wampanoag Nation. In the treaty the Wampanoag nation agreed to let them stay, and that each would protect the other from their enemies. In time, they would collaborate on jurisdictions and create a system, so that they could live together.

We have all heard the stories of that first Thanksgiving meal in Massachusetts in 1621. When the Mashpee tell their own stories of this first Thanksgiving meal, it's told a little differently. The pilgrims were celebrating their first harvest. They were shooting guns as a celebration, which alarmed the Mashpee, because they didn't know why the pilgrims were shooting. So Yellow Feather gathered up about 90 warriors and showed up at Plymouth, prepared to engage, if needed, for the protection of the pilgrims.

When they arrived, they were told of the reason for the celebration, but having some reservations, they decided to camp nearby for a few days. They were sensitive to the fact that the colonists were fearful partly because of their numbers (only 23 Pilgrims had survived the journey) and also because of their uncertainty in a new land that held new creatures and even new trees. Many of the early colonists' journals contain recollections of the nervousness and fear they lived with daily. This put much strain on them. Unfortunately, the Mashpee

knew, through experience, that when settlers were under that kind of stress, they could become aggressive. And so, they waited and watched.

The Mashpee also share a story of that first Thanksgiving meal. The two peoples did eat together occasionally, but not in what is portrayed as "the first Thanksgiving." They lived in close proximity and were in each other's villages often. The differences in how they behaved, how they ate, how they prepared things were significant. There was always focus on food, because people had to work hard to gather and forage for food; it was certainly not the way it is now.

At the end of their time of watching, the Mashpee are said to have joined the celebration before heading home and that there was mutual gratitude. When comparing the two societies, one very young and just beginning to forge its way and the other ancient and steeped in history, express those grateful feelings, one sees great similarity. Yes, but there's another element to this that needs to be noted as well. The Pilgrims believed in God. They were listening for His directions on a daily basis and trying to figure out how to live in ways that pleased God. So, for Americans, there's a Christian element to Thanksgiving. Our prayers are filled with gratitude to God for His generosity and abundance, and some families even formalize sharing what they are grateful for, before or during their meal. In Mashpee families, they make offerings of tobacco and give thanks to their first mother - their human mother - and to Mother Earth. Then they pass their gratefulness into the tobacco without necessarily speaking out loud, but inwardly holding up that gratitude in mind and spirit.

A heartfelt Thanksgiving is very important. It's wonderful that we set apart this one day, just to express our thanks to the God who gives us so much. And, beyond that, thanksgiving must be a state of being. One way to do that is to use the creativity that the Creator gave us. We listen for Him to tell us what gifts we've been given, and we use them for the sake of His Kingdom. That gives thanks in action.

I pray that you and your loved ones have much to be grateful for this year, that your heart is ever open to His love for you and that your thanksgiving is with you every day of the year.

God bless you.

Lisa Amos
Pastoral Associate

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YOUTH NEWS

FAITH FORMATION

November 29

Grade 2

Please bring all Grade 2 children to their classroom at their regularly scheduled time, 4:30 or 6:30 p.m.

Grades 1, 3, 4, & 5

Christos - Meet in your homes. Continue working in the children's books. Please contact Kathy if you would like any additional help or ideas for the lesson.

Grade 6-8

Meet in your classrooms at your regular times.



Christmas Pageant Registration



Christmas pageant registrations were sent to you in the November email. Please remember to register your children. All children, ages 4 and older, are invited to participate in the pageant OR be in the pageant choir. Rehearsals are on December 2, 9 and 16, at 9:30 a.m. for the pageant and/or choir participants. The pageant is on **December 17, after the 9 a.m.**

Mass. If you did not receive a registration slip, please contact Kathy Raible at 651-905-4311. I hope to hear from you!

The first rehearsal is Saturday, December 2, at 9:30 a.m. in the Main Church.

BREAKFAST WITH ST. NICHOLAS

The Knights of Columbus will host a Breakfast with St. Nicholas in Heritage Center on Sunday, December 3, after both Masses. Come enjoy a wonderful breakfast of eggs, sausage and pancakes, while meeting this great saint.



OPEN HOUSE AT FAITHFUL SHEPHERD CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Faithful Shepherd Catholic School invites you to join us for an open house on Wednesday, December 6, from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Stop in anytime during our open house for a personal tour with current parents and students. Meet our staff and teachers. Experience our wonderful school in action during a typical day. For more information or to set up a private tour, call Jen Claude at 651-262-2898.

OFFICE INFORMATION

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

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

Phone: 651-452-4550

BAPTISMS, NEW PARISHIONERS, WEDDINGS

Call the parish office for more information.

PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS

Email Lisa Amos at lamos@stpetersmendota.org, call her at 651-905-4304 or call the parish office.

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PARISH PHOTO DIRECTORY

The St. Peter's Photo Directories are ready to be picked up! If you had your picture taken for the photo directory, you can pick up your copy in the parish office Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please call the parish office at 651-452-4550, if you have questions.



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 books, CD's and pamphlets about a variety of subjects. In addition, you will be able to choose spiritual reading that 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. We would ask that those who are able to do so, please donate \$5/CD, \$1/pamphlet and the list price of the books you choose (usually listed on the back cover). Because we want everyone to be able to enjoy these resources, whether they can contribute or not, we welcome any additional donations, above these suggestions. There is a slot in the center to place your donation. 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.

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT



Would you like a nice dinner out? Do you need more time for Christmas shopping? Bring your kids (ages 6 months to 12 years) to St. Peter's Parents' Night Out!

On Friday, December 15, from 5 to 8 p.m., you are welcome to drop your children off in Heritage Center and have a few hours to yourself. This event is FREE, although we do accept free-will offerings, to help cover costs.

Supper will include pizza, carrots, apple slices and milk or water. You are welcome to bring a different dinner for your child, if they won't or are unable eat ours.

We hope you can take advantage of this event! RSVP's are **strongly encouraged**. For more information or to RSVP, contact Anne O'Keefe at aokeefe@stpetersmendota.org or 651-905-4308.

Help Support Young Families at St. Peter's!

We are looking for people to help us care for kids, during our Parents' Night Out event on Friday, December 15. **We could really use your help!** All volunteers will need to have Virtus training, as well as a background check. If you are interested, please contact Anne O'Keefe via the information above. Thank you!

COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

GERTEN GIFT CARDS

It's time to start thinking about Christmas! The CCW will be selling Gerten Plant Cards after all Masses on December 2 and 3. The CCW will NOT be taking orders for poinsettia plants this year. Instead, stop at the CCW table in the Gathering Space and buy your Gerten Plant Card. You may purchase Christmas trees, greenery and/or poinsettias with this card. Have a blessed Christmas Season!

HAITI COLLECTION

The CCW is collecting these much needed items for Haiti:

- Empty pill bottles (with labels removed—fill bottle with HOT water to loosen the label).
- All sizes of WHITE ONLY sheets and pillow cases.
- All sizes of WHITE ONLY tablecloths.

Please drop off your items in the marked boxes in the coat room.

We would like to thank John Kemper for transporting our past collection of bottles and sheets to Rochester.

Thank you all for your participation.



GIVING TREE



If you have chosen to purchase a gift listed on one of the Giving Tree dolls, please note that the UNWRAPPED gifts must be here at St. Peter's by Sunday, December 3, at noon. It is very important to return the gifts by the deadline, or we may not get the gifts to the recipients in time for pickup. Thank you for your generosity. Questions about specific gift requests can be directed to Lisa Amos at lamos@stpetersmendota.org or at 651-905-4304.

Helpers are needed. The more the merrier! There are small tasks with limited time commitments for adults and young adults, and the rewards are huge. Please consider spreading some Christmas cheer by helping with this very important project! Call Carol at 651-356-2970 to volunteer to help or for more information. Thank you!

WINE: WOMEN IN THE NEW EVANGELIZATION



Storytime isn't just for kids - we could all use some wonder and joy in our lives! Join us on December 7, for *Women, WINE, & Wisdom*, as Catholic singer and storyteller ValLimar Jansen fills an unforgettable evening with music, storytelling, Scripture, reflection and poetry!

The peaceful presence of this storyteller will draw you into a passionate presentation on the stories of mystics, martyrs and models of the faith. Spanning 4,000 years in one hour, ValLimar's wisdom will equip you to live your faith with confidence, conviction, and hope.

Join the women of WINE for an inspiring winter's evening from 7 to 9 p.m., on Thursday, December 7, at Kellerman's Event Center, 2222 4th Street in White Bear Lake.

Register online at www.longstoryshort2017.eventbrite.com. The cost is \$40 per person. There is reserved seating for groups of 10! For more information, visit www.CatholicVineyard.com.

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.

Trustees:

Jim Oricchio.....651-452-3587
Helen Wilkie.....651-365-1334

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 26

Sunday:	Ez 34:11-12, 15-17/Ps 23:1-3, 5-6/1 Cor 15:20-26, 28/Mt 25:31-46
Monday:	Dn 1:1-6, 8-20/Dn 3:52-56/Lk 21:1-4
Tuesday:	Dn 2:31-45/Dn 3:57-61/Lk 21:5-11
Wednesday:	Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28/Dn 3:62-67/Lk 21:12-19
Thursday:	Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8-11/Mt 4:18-22
Friday:	Dn 7:2-14/Dn 3:75-81/Lk 21:29-33
Saturday:	Dn 7:15-27/Dn 3:82-87/Lk 21:34-36
Next Sunday:	Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37

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MASS INTENTIONS

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

Monday, November 27	Jeff & Audrea McGee
Tuesday, November 28	Bernice Zink
Wednesday, November 29	† Virginia McCanna
Thursday, November 30	† Louis J Chapdelaine
Friday, December 1	† Joe Schuster
Saturday, December 2	† Jean Barta
Sunday, December 3, 9 am	Mass For The People
11 am	† Bernie & Mary Jean Warner

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR: NOVEMBER 27

Monday, November 27

9 am Mass, Historic Church (8:30 Rosary)
6:30 pm Alpha, Heritage Center

Tuesday, November 28 - Staff on retreat

9 am Mass, Historic Church (8:30 Rosary)
9:45 am Women's Bible Study, Ravoux Room
6:30 pm RCIA, Conference Room

Wednesday, November 29

9 am Mass, Historic Church (8:30 Rosary)
9:45 am Divine Mercy Cenacle, Ravoux Room
4:30 pm Grade 2 meet in their classrooms, Grades 1, 3, 4 & 5 meet in their homes.
5 pm Finance Committee Meeting, Parish Office
6:30 pm Grade 2 and 6-8 meet in their classrooms, Grades 1, 3, 4 & 5 meet in their homes.
6:30 pm Perissos, Heritage Center

Thursday, November 30

9 am Mass, Main Church (8:30 Rosary)
9:30 am Potluck Birthday Breakfast, Heritage Center
10:30 am Grandparents Meeting, Conference Rm
3:30 pm Uganda Team Meeting, Conference Rm
6:30 pm Liturgy Committee Meeting, Conference Room
7 pm AA Meeting, Classroom 5

Friday, December 1

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

Saturday, December 2

9 am & 10:30 am AA Meeting, Classrooms
9:30 am Christmas Pageant Rehearsal, Main Church
10 am Saturday Scripture Study, Conference Room
3:30 pm Confession, Main Church
4:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
5 pm Mass, Main Church
6 pm CCW Gerten Card Sales, Gathering Space
6 pm Partners in Praise Girls Choir, Historic Church

Sunday, December 3

8:30 am Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
9 am Mass, Main Church
9 am Liturgy of the Word for Children, Ravoux Rm
9 am Sunday School, Classrooms
10 am to 1 pm Breakfast with St. Nicholas, Heritage Center
10 am & 12 pm CCW Plant Card Sales, Gathering Space
10:30 am Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
10:30 am Rosary for St. Peter's Parish, Chapel of the Nativity (our new adoration chapel)
11 am Mass with Rite of Acceptance and Welcoming, Main Church
11 am Liturgy of the Word for Children, Ravoux Rm



PASTORAL MINISTRY

FOLLOWING JESUS



In the Gospel, Jesus said, Whatever we do to another person, that person receives it as being done unto him. As disciples of Jesus, we are called to see our neighbor in this light. As a way to foster this attitude of faith, as we think of the people in our life let us say these words of Jesus, “. . . you did it to me, you did it to me, you did it to me.”

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: December 1, February 2, March 2, April 6 and May 4.

THE GRAND ADVENTURE: A CALL TO GRANDPARENTING

Grand
Adventure



The next Grand Adventure meeting is on Thursday, November 30, at 10:30 a.m. in the Conference Room, following the 9 a.m. Mass and the potluck breakfast.

We ask that you reread the “Introduction” from Fr. John Forliti's book, Ten Anchors. We will discuss Anchor 1, which talks about compassion.

Grandparents can be a blessing and an anchor in a family. They often have time that parents do not have for special one-on-one interaction.

SUNDAY ROSARY

Join us for a rosary for St. Peter's Parish at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday in the Perpetual Adoration Chapel.

“In the spiritual journey of the Rosary, based on the constant contemplation – in Mary's company – of the face of Christ, this demanding ideal of being conformed to him is pursued through an association which could be described in terms of friendship. We are thereby enabled to enter naturally into Christ's life and as it were to share his deepest feelings,” says St. John Paul II.”

ST. PETER'S PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL



What, or better who, is the reality of which we speak when we talk about the real Presence? This reality is the totus Christus, the whole Christ: body and blood, soul and divinity. This is not a rhetorical expression nor a verse of poetry. It is an article of the undivided Catholic Faith. Once the words of consecration have been pronounced by a validly ordained priest, what used to be bread and wine are no longer bread and wine. Only the appearances and external physical properties of the former elements remain. On the altar now is Jesus Christ, true God and true Man, full God and full Man.

Does this mean that Jesus is present in the Eucharist? Yes. Is it Jesus in His divine nature? Yes. Is it Jesus in His human nature? Yes. The Jesus of history is then present in the Eucharist: the one who was conceived of His Mother, Mary, at Nazareth; who was born in a stable at Bethlehem; who lived for thirty years in Palestine; and who walked and talked and wept and slept and ate and drank; who shed real, red blood on the cross and who rose from the grave and, after His resurrection, had the incredulous disciples put their fingers into His pierced side. Why not experience Him now, today? All are welcome!

Our new Perpetual Adoration Chapel is now open and the Lord is waiting for you!

The Chapel is closed for regularly scheduled Masses; Monday through Friday, from 8:45-10 a.m., and from Saturday at 4:45 p.m. to Sunday at 1 p.m. Even if there are others in the chapel when it's time to close, the scheduled adorer in that hour has been instructed that they must close the tabernacle. The chapel will also close during Holy Day Masses. Those hours will be posted outside the chapel when appropriate.

Please contact Lisa Amos to sign up at 651-905-4304 or lamos@stpetersmendota.org. We still especially need adorers at the following hours:

Early Morning		Daytime		Evening	
Monday	2-3 am	Sunday	2 to 3 pm	Sunday	5 to 6 pm
Saturday	3-4 am	Monday	2 to 3 pm	Thursday	6 to 7 pm
Saturday	4-5 am	Friday	11am-Noon	Friday	7 to 8pm
Saturday	5-6 am	Friday	Noon to 1 pm	Friday	8 to 9pm



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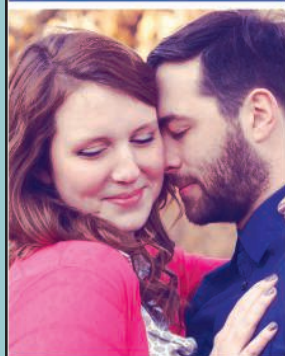
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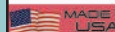
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